



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

**Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings**

**Dydd Mercher, 24 Medi 2008
Wednesday, 24 September 2008**

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

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

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 12.30 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd (Dafydd Elis-Thomas) yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 12.30 p.m. with the Presiding Officer (Dafydd Elis-Thomas) in the Chair.*

Y Llywydd: Galwaf y Cynulliad i drefn.

The Presiding Officer: I call the Assembly to order.

Cwestiynau i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Tŷ Questions to the Counsel General and Leader of the House

Law Officers

Swyddogion Cyfraith

Q1 Leanne Wood: Will the Counsel General make a statement on discussions that he has had with law officers elsewhere? OAQ0108(CGE)

C1 Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cynnal gyda swyddogion cyfraith mewn manau eraill? OAQ0108(CGE)

Q2 Joyce Watson: What discussions has the Counsel General held with the law officers of the other UK administrations? OAQ0107(CGE)

C2 Joyce Watson: Pa drafodaethau mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol wedi'u cynnal gyda swyddogion cyfraith gweinyddiaethau eraill y DU? OAQ0107(CGE)

The Counsel General and Leader of the House (Carwyn Jones): During the last 12 months, I have had meetings with the Attorney General of the UK Government and the Lord Advocate of the Scottish Government.

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Carwyn Jones): Yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf, yr wyf wedi cael cyfarfodydd â Thwrnai Cyffredinol Llywodraeth y DU ac Arglwydd Adfocad Llywodraeth yr Alban.

Leanne Wood: Could you tell us what discussions you have had regarding the oath of allegiance and allowing members of parliamentary bodies to swear an oath to their constituents or to the people as opposed to swearing an oath to the monarch? Two members from your party in Wales have signed a motion in the House of Commons in favour of changing the rules. As you know, the Northern Ireland Assembly has different rules regarding the oath of allegiance, which could mean that there is potential to change the rules here. Would you support a change in the rules regarding the oath of allegiance? If so, will you agree to discuss the matter with the relevant law officers?

Leanne Wood: A allech ddweud wrthym pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael ynghylch y llw o deyrngarwch a chaniatáu i aelodau cyrff seneddol dyngu llw i'w hetholwyr neu i'r bobl yn hytrach na thyngu llw i'r frenhines? Mae dau aelod o'ch plaid yng Nghymru wedi llofnodi cynnig yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin o blaid newid y rheolau. Fel y gwyddoch, mae gan Gynulliad Gogledd Iwerddon reolau gwahanol ynghylch y llw o deyrngarwch, a allai olygu bod modd newid y rheolau yma. A fydddech yn cefnogi newid y rheolau ynghylch y llw o deyrngarwch? Os felly, a wnewch gytuno i drafod y mater gyda'r swyddogion cyfraith perthnasol?

Carwyn Jones: It is not something that has been discussed, nor is it something on which the Government has a view. It would take changes to legislation at Westminster for the change to happen. It is unclear to me what the view of the entire Assembly would be on this issue.

Carwyn Jones: Nid yw'n rhywbeth a drafodwyd, ac nid yw'n rhywbeth y mae gan y Llywodraeth farn yn ei gylch. Byddai'n golygu newidiadau i ddeddfwriaeth yn San Steffan er mwyn rhoi'r newid ar waith. Nid yw'n amlwg imi beth fyddai barn y Cynulliad yn ei gyfarwydd ynghylch y mater hwn.

Joyce Watson: As the Assembly seeks greater legislative competence, what role do you think Welsh universities will have in building legal capacity and developing Welsh legal jurisdiction?

Carwyn Jones: It is never an attractive argument to say that the world needs more lawyers, I suppose, but we have a number of law departments within our universities. We have plenty of lawyers; in fact, we have too many law graduates being churned out. It is true that, as we develop our capacity here in terms of drafting legislative competence Orders and Measures that are legally sustainable, we will need to build up legal expertise within the Assembly Government, but I do not think that it is necessary to increase the number of lawyers and law graduates.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats (Michael German): Given the general atmosphere of the referendum campaign and what the Government of Wales Act 2006 provides for, many people are saying that the National Assembly has been provided with full legal powers. However, the Act simply states that powers will be provided in the fields determined in the Act. Have you had any discussions with other law officers in parts of the United Kingdom on seeking an extension to the number of fields or on extending the fields beyond the range in the Act at present?

Carwyn Jones: No. That would be beyond my responsibilities as Counsel General, as it is a political matter rather than a legal matter. There would need to be far more discussion to ensure that there was support for extending those fields—widening devolution rather than deepening it. That is not a matter that I have discussed in my capacity as Counsel General.

Awdurdodaeth Gyfreithiol yng Nghymru

C3 Nerys Evans: Pa drafodaethau mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol wedi'u cynnal gyda

Joyce Watson: Wrth i'r Cynulliad geisio rhagor o gymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, pa swyddogaeth fydd gan brifysgolion Cymru yn eich barn chi o ran meithrin gallu cyfreithiol a datblygu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol yng Nghymru?

Carwyn Jones: Nid yw dweud bod angen rhagor o gyfreithwyr ar y byd byth yn ddadl ddeniadol, mae'n debyg, ond mae gennym nifer o adrannau cyfraith yn ein prifysgolion. Mae gennym ddigonedd o gyfreithwyr; mewn gwirionedd, yr ydym yn cynhyrchu gormod o raddedigion cyfraith. Wrth inni ddatblygu ein gallu yma o ran drafftio Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol a Mesurau sy'n gyfreithiol gynaliadwy, mae'n wir y bydd angen inni feithrin arbenigedd cyfreithiol yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ond nid wyf yn meddwl ei bod yn angenrheidiol cynyddu nifer y cyfreithwyr a graddedigion cyfraith.

Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): O ystyried awyrgylch cyffredinol yr ymgyrch refferendwm a'r hyn mae Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 yn darparu ar ei chyfer, mae llawer o bobl yn dweud bod pwerau cyfreithiol llawn wedi'u trosglwyddo i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Fodd bynnag, y cyfan a ddywed y Ddeddf yw bod pwerau yn y meysydd a bennir yn y Ddeddf wedi'u trosglwyddo. A ydych wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau gyda swyddogion cyfraith mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig ynghylch ceisio estyn nifer y meysydd neu estyn y meysydd y tu hwnt i'r ystod sydd yn y Ddeddf ar hyn o bryd?

Carwyn Jones: Nac ydwyf. Byddai hynny'n mynd y tu hwnt i'm cyfrifoldebau fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol, gan ei fod yn fater gwleidyddol yn hytrach na mater cyfreithiol. Byddai angen llawer mwy o drafodaethau i sicrhau bod cefnogaeth ar gyfer estyn y meysydd hynny—ehangu datganoli yn hytrach na'i ddyfnhau. Nid yw hwnnw'n fater yr wyf wedi'i drafod yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol.

Welsh Legal Jurisdiction

Q3 Nerys Evans: What discussions has the Counsel General held with law officers

swyddogion cyfraith mewn mannau eraill ynghylch datblygu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol yng Nghymru? OAQ0106(CGE)

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf, fel rheol, yn siarad am yr hyn yr wyf wedi ei drafod gyda swyddogion cyfreithiol eraill yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Yr wyf yn gwybod ei bod yn bosibl y bydd dadl yn y dyfodol ynglŷn ag awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol i Gymru, ond, yn fy marn i, nid yw'n rhywbeth y dylem ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd.

Nerys Evans: Gall y Cynulliad basio Mesurau yn awr, a gobeithio y caiff y pwerau deddfu hynny eu hehangu wrth inni gael senedd yn y blynyddoedd nesaf. Deallaf fod llysoedd Cymru yn awr yn cael eu gweinyddu ar lefel genedlaethol, a bod awydd o fewn y byd cyfreithiol i ddatblygu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol Gymreig. Beth fyddai'r camau cyntaf i sefydlu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol i Gymru? Nid wyf yn meddwl am ddiwygio'r system bresennol o awdurdodaeth Cymru a Lloegr, ond am system sy'n benodol i Gymru.

Carwyn Jones: Ni chredaf y byddai'r cwestiwn yn codi cyn y trosglwyddir pwerau deddfu sylfaenol i Gymru, ac nid yw hynny'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd.

Legal Agreements or Structures

Q4 Alun Davies: Will the Counsel General make a statement on the legal agreements or structures in place that govern the relationship between the Welsh Assembly Government and different Whitehall departments? OAQ0109(CGE)

Carwyn Jones: In addition to the memorandum of understanding that sets out the principles underlying relations between the UK Government and the devolved administrations, the Assembly Government has concordats with the Whitehall departments, and there are other important agreements relating to the handling of Welsh legislation that help govern relationships with Whitehall.

Alun Davies: It is fair to say that there is general agreement in the Chamber that many of these agreements and concordats have

elsewhere regarding the development of a Welsh legal jurisdiction? OAQ0106(CGE)

Carwyn Jones: As a rule, I do not discuss my conversations with other legal officers in the United Kingdom. I know that there could be an argument in the future for Welsh legal jurisdiction but, in my opinion, that is not something that we should be considering at the moment.

Nerys Evans: The Assembly can obviously now pass Measures, and hopefully those legislative powers will be expanded with the establishment of a parliament in the next few years. I understand that Welsh courts are now administered at a Welsh level, and that there is a will in the legal world to develop Welsh legal jurisdiction. What would be the first steps in establishing such jurisdiction for Wales? I am not thinking of an amendment to the current system of jurisdiction for England and Wales, but of a specific Welsh system.

Carwyn Jones: I do not think that the question would arise before primary legislative powers were transferred to Wales, and that is not the case at present.

Cytundebau neu Strwythurau Cyfreithiol

C4 Alun Davies: A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am y cytundebau neu'r strwythurau cyfreithiol sydd ar waith sy'n llywodraethu'r berthynas rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac adrannau gwahanol yn Whitehall? OAQ0109(CGE)

Carwyn Jones: Yn ogystal â'r memorandwm cyd-ddealltwriaeth sy'n nodi'r egwyddorion sy'n sail i'r berthynas rhwng Llywodraeth y DU a'r gweinyddiaethau datganoledig, mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad goncordatau ag adrannau Whitehall, a cheir cytundebau pwysig eraill sy'n delio â'r ffordd yr ymdrinnir â deddfwriaeth Gymreig sydd yn helpu i reoli'r berthynas â Whitehall.

Alun Davies: Mae'n deg dweud bod y Siambr, at ei gilydd, yn cytuno bod nifer o'r cytundebau a'r concordatau hyn wedi

worked well in previous years. However, I sense that there is also a growing feeling that this might be the time to launch a review of them. As the Assembly accrues additional powers, and as Whitehall departments plan and develop their legislative proposals, there are new and different ways to encompass additional powers for the Assembly in UK legislation. I often get a sense, in some of our legislative committees, that the Welsh Assembly Government is not plugged into these legislative developments in Whitehall and, as a result, is missing out on opportunities to accrue new powers or to make bids for additional powers through primary legislation rather than going through the legislative competence Order process. Is it, therefore, time for us to review the concordats to ensure that the Welsh Assembly Government is more closely linked into legislative development proposals?

Carwyn Jones: These matters are kept constantly under review. For example, we have recently seen devolution guidance notes 9 and 16, which deal with the handling of Welsh clauses in UK Bills and with the handling of legislative competence Orders. Therefore, reviews take place as the Assembly's powers change. It is also true to say that where there is an appropriate Bill passing through the UK Parliament, the easiest way of achieving something is to jump on that Bill, as it were. Where that is not possible, LCOs offer an opportunity that we did not have before 2007 to seek those powers ourselves. Where new powers are devolved and new procedures are put into place, there is a review of the relationship between Wales and Westminster to ensure that the relationship works as smoothly as possible.

Helen Mary Jones: Have any specific lessons been learned about the effectiveness of those systems, given the complexity of developing the Welsh language LCO?

Carwyn Jones: First, devolution guidance note 9 was recently revised to take account of the Assembly Government's ability to seek

gweithio'n dda mewn blynyddoedd blaenorol. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn synhwyro bod mwy a mwy yn teimlo mai dyma'r adeg iawn efallai i lansio adolygiad ohonynt. Wrth i'r Cynulliad gael pwerau ychwanegol, ac wrth i adrannau Whitehall gynllunio a datblygu eu cynigion deddfwriaethol, ceir ffyrdd newydd a gwahanol o gwmpasu pwerau ychwanegol ar gyfer y Cynulliad yn deddfwriaeth y DU. Byddaf yn aml yn synhwyro, yn rhai o'n pwyllgorau deddfwriaethol, nad yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'i chysylltu'n uniongyrchol â'r datblygiadau deddfwriaethol hyn yn Whitehall ac, o ganlyniad i hynny, ei bod yn colli cyfleoedd i gael pwerau newydd neu i wneud cais am bwerau ychwanegol drwy ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol yn hytrach na mynd drwy'r broses Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. A yw'n amser, felly, inni adolygu'r concordatau i sicrhau bod gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyswllt agosach â chynigion datblygu deddfwriaethol?

Carwyn Jones: Caiff y materion hyn eu hadolygu'n gyson. Er enghraifft, yn ddiweddar gwelsom nodiadau cyfarwyddyd datganoli 9 ac 16, sy'n delio ag ymdrin â chymalau Cymreig ym mesurau'r DU ac â Gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Felly, cynhelir adolygiadau wrth i bwerau'r Cynulliad newid. Mae'n wir dweud hefyd, pan fydd Mesur priodol yn mynd drwy Senedd y DU, mai'r ffordd hawsaf o gyflawni rhywbeth yw neidio ar y Mesur hwnnw, fel petai. Os nad yw hynny'n bosibl, mae Gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn cynnig cyfle nad oedd gennym cyn 2007 i geisio'r pwerau hynny ein hunain. Pan ddatganolir pwerau newydd a phan roddir gweithdrefnau newydd ar waith, adolygir y berthynas rhwng Cymru a San Steffan i sicrhau bod y berthynas yn gweithio mor llyfn ag sy'n bosibl.

Helen Mary Jones: A ddysgwyd unrhyw wersi penodol am effeithiolrwydd y systemau hynny, ac ystyried cymhlethdod datblygu'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar yr iaith Gymraeg?

Carwyn Jones: Yn gyntaf, diwygiwyd nodyn cyfarwyddyd datganoli 9 yn ddiweddar i ystyried gallu Llywodraeth y

framework powers in Bills. Devolution guidance note 16 is new, as it deals with LCOs, which are methods of seeking powers that we did not have in the past. Where we see the situation changing, we review how we regulate our relationships with Westminster.

However, it is fair to say that the LCO system has been shown to work. We must remember that we are in our first year of LCOs. There were some who doubted whether legislative competence Orders would amount to anything or devolve us any real power, but it is fair to say that they have.

12.40 p.m.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs

Promoting Welsh Food and Drink

Q1 William Graham: Will the Minister outline Welsh Assembly Government support for promoting Welsh food and drink? OAQ(3)0430(RAF)

The Minister for Rural Affairs (Elin Jones): The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to supporting the food and drink industry in Wales. High profile events, such as Welsh food fortnight and the British cheese festival, which is to be held this weekend and finds its new home in Cardiff castle, present the opportunity to promote the excellent produce that we have in Wales.

William Graham: Will you join me in congratulating the organisers, exhibitors and visitors who made the tenth Abergavenny food festival such a resounding success last weekend? A number of local Welsh companies exhibited a wide variety of produce at the fair, such as ciders and perries, wines, meat and dairy produce, emphasising the quality of the produce that can be promoted to consumers. All the products were made in Wales.

Elin Jones: I congratulate them on their

Cynulliad i geisio pwerau fframwaith mewn Mesurau. Mae nodyn cyfarwyddyd datganoli 16 yn newydd, gan ei fod yn delio ag LCO, sy'n ddulliau o geisio pwerau nad oedd gennym yn y gorffennol. Pan fyddwn yn gweld y sefyllfa'n newid, yr ydym yn adolygu sut yr ydym yn rheoleiddio ein perthynas â San Steffan.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n deg dweud y gwelwyd bod y system LCO yn gweithio. Rhaid inni gofio ein bod ym mlwyddyn gyntaf LCO. Yr oedd rhai a oedd yn amau a fyddai Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol o unrhyw werth ac na fyddent yn datganoli pŵer go iawn i ni, ond mae'n deg dweud eu bod wedi llwyddo i wneud hynny.

Hybu Bwyd a Diod o Gymru

C1 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu cefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer hybu bwyd a diod o Gymru? OAQ(3)0430(RAF)

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig (Elin Jones): Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwymo i gefnogi'r diwydiant bwyd a diod yng Nghymru. Mae digwyddiadau uchel eu proffil, megis pythefnos bwyd o Gymru a gŵyl gawsiau Prydain, a gynhelir y penwythnos hwn yn ei gartref newydd yng nghastell Caerdydd, yn rhoi cyfle i hybu'r cynnyrch gwych sydd gennym yng Nghymru.

William Graham: A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch y trefnwyr, yr arddangoswyr a'r ymwelwyr a gyfrannodd at sicrhau bod degfed gŵyl fwyd y Fenni yn llwyddiant mor ddigamsyniol y penwythnos diwethaf? Yr oedd nifer o gwmnïau o Gymru wedi arddangos ystod eang o gynnyrch yn y ffair, megis seidrau a gellygwinoedd, gwinoedd, cynnyrch llaeth a chig, gan bwysleisio ansawdd y cynnyrch y gellir ei hybu i ddefnyddwyr. Yr oedd yr holl gynnyrch yn cael ei wneud yng Nghymru.

Elin Jones: Yr wyf yn eu llongyfarch ar eu

success and on the festival's reaching its tenth anniversary. I am glad to hear that it was such a success. I was not able to attend this year, but I attended last year and I have attended previous to that. It is an excellent showcase for Welsh produce and an event that draws people from all over Wales and from outside Wales. On behalf of the Welsh food and drink industry, I commend them on their work.

Joyce Watson: In the current economic climate, with input, delivery and storage costs rising, it can be especially tough for smaller food producers to compete and thrive in a competitive market. Minister, how are you working with other industry bodies to ensure that those small businesses that could really benefit from the new £7 million rate relief package are encouraged to apply for business support?

Elin Jones: Business support exists in many forms. It may come from the Assembly Government or other sources. In particular, in terms of the food industry, the schemes under the rural development plan, the processing and marketing grants, and the supply chain efficiency programme can give support to small businesses in Wales to develop their sustainability and their markets. However, as you say, the recently announced business rate relief package is an avenue that some businesses might well be able to take advantage of.

Nerys Evans: Yr wyf yn ymwybodol y cafodd y Llywodraeth gyfle ychydig o wythnosau yn ôl i hybu bwyd a diod Cymru yn ystod Treialon Cŵn Defaid y Byd yn Llandeilo. Yr oedd yn ddigwyddiad hynod o lwyddiannus ac yr oedd sylw'r byd ar Landeilo. A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch y pwyllgor a drefnodd y treialon mewn ffordd mor arbennig? Yr oedd yn ddigwyddiad y gall y trefnwyr, y Cynulliad a phobl Cymru fod yn falch ohono.

Elin Jones: Mae'n ffrind fawr i longyfarch trefnwyr y digwyddiad hwnnw. Yr oedd yn ddigwyddiad o bwys mawr i Ddinefwr ac i Gymru. Yr wyf yn llongyfarch y pwyllgor a aeth ati i drefnu digwyddiad a chystadleuaeth a oedd mor llwyddiannus. Pinacl hynny i gyd, wrth gwrs, oedd y ffaith mai Cymro,

llwyddiant a bod yr ŵyl wedi cael ei chynnal ers 10 mlynedd. Mae'n falch gennyf glywed y bu'n llwyddiant ysgubol. Nid oeddwn yn gallu bod yno eleni, ond yr oeddwn yno'r llynedd ac yr wyf wedi bod cyn hynny. Mae'n gyfle gwych i arddangos cynnyrch o Gymru ac yn ddigwyddiad sy'n denu pobl o bob cwr o Gymru a thu hwnt. Ar ran y diwydiant bwyd a diod yng Nghymru, yr wyf yn eu canmol am eu gwaith.

Joyce Watson: Yn yr hinsawdd economaidd bresennol, gyda chostau mewnbwn, danfon a storio'n codi, gall fod yn arbennig o anodd i gynhyrchwyr bwyd llai gystadlu a ffynnu mewn marchnad gystadleuol. Weinidog, sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda chyrrff eraill yn y diwydiant i sicrhau bod y busnesau bach hynny a allai elwa o'r pecyn rhyddhad ardrethi newydd gwerth £7 miliwn yn cael eu hannog i wneud cais am gymorth busnes?

Elin Jones: Ceir nifer o wahanol fathau o gymorth busnes. Gall ddod gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad neu o ffynonellau eraill. Yn benodol, o ran y diwydiant bwyd, mae'r cynlluniau dan y cynllun datblygu gwledig, y grantiau prosesu a marchnata a'r rhaglen effeithlonrwydd cadwyn cyflenwi yn gallu rhoi cymorth i fusnesau bach yng Nghymru i ddatblygu eu cynaliadwyedd a'u marchnadoedd. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedwch, mae'r pecyn rhyddhad ardrethi busnes a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar yn llwybr y gallai rhai busnesau ei ddilyn.

Nerys Evans: I am aware that the Government had an opportunity a few weeks ago to promote Welsh food and drink during the World Sheepdog Trials in Llandeilo. It was an extremely successful event and it placed the focus of the world on Llandeilo. Will you join me in congratulating the committee that so successfully organised the trials? It was an event that the organisers, the Assembly and the people of Wales can be proud of.

Elin Jones: It is a great privilege to congratulate the organisers of that event. It was a very important event for Dinefwr and also for Wales. I congratulate the committee that organised such a successful event and competition. The highlight of this, of course, was the fact that it was a Welshman, Aled

Aled Owen, a enillodd y gystadleuaeth, i ddod yn bencampwr y byd o ran treialon cŵn defaid. Wrth gwrs, fel rhan o'r digwyddiad pwysig hwnnw, cefais gyfle i ymweld â'r pafiliwn bwyd a gweld cynnyrch lleol. Yr oedd yn rhoi llwyfan rhyngwladol i fwydydd a diod o Gymru ac yr oedd yn agwedd bositif iawn ar y penwythnos cyfan a oedd yn llwyddiannus iawn.

Lesley Griffiths: Minister, earlier this year in my constituency of Wrexham, I attended Food for Thought, which was a local showcase for north Wales food producers. The event was a huge success, and the organisers can be proud of providing such a wonderful display case for north Wales food and the excellent producers that we have locally, in and around Wrexham. I know that the Government does a great deal to promote Welsh food on the world stage, but would you consider providing further help to local showcasing events, such as that which we have in Wrexham?

Elin Jones: Yes. We have a role in promoting Welsh food outside Wales, as you have mentioned, but also in looking at the local sourcing of Welsh food. We have a commitment on farmers' markets, and we want to ensure that there is an ability to link consumers with producers of food at a local level, and also to look to work with the public sector, as it sources its food, and to see how it can source more and more of its food from local producers, so that the money involved is retained in the local economy and is of benefit to Welsh businesses.

Sandy Mewies: To ask a question along much the same lines, Mold held its annual food festival at the weekend. Once again it was a runaway success; more and more visitors from all over the country came to visit it. That shows what a good story we have to tell in Wales about our food, drink and produce. However, like Lesley Griffiths, I ask you to consider ways in which the Assembly Government can continue to support these festivals. They are not just flying-the-flag exercises—they boost tourism, agriculture and the food industry in general.

Owen, who won the competition, to become the sheepdog trials world champion. Of course, as part of that important event, I had an opportunity to visit the food pavilion, which was exhibiting local produce. It gave the Welsh food and drink an international platform and it was a very positive aspect of the whole weekend, which was very successful.

Lesley Griffiths: Weinidog, yn gynharach eleni yn fy etholaeth yn Wrecsam, ymwelais â digwyddiad Cnoi Cil, a oedd yn llwyfan lleol ar gyfer cynhyrchwyr bwyd o'r gogledd. Yr oedd y digwyddiad yn llwyddiant ysgubol, a gall y trefnwyr ymfalchio yn y ffaith eu bod wedi darparu llwyfan mor wych ar gyfer bwyd o'r gogledd a'r cynhyrchwyr gwych sydd gennym yn lleol, yn Wrecsam a'r ardal gyfagos. Gwn fod y Llywodraeth yn gwneud llawer iawn i hybu bwyd o Gymru ar lwyfan y byd, ond a fydddech yn ystyried darparu rhagor o gymorth i ddiwyddiadau arddangos lleol, megis hwnnw a gawson yn Wrecsam?

Elin Jones: Byddwn. Mae gennym swyddogaeth o ran hybu bwyd o Gymru y tu allan i Gymru, fel yr ydych wedi'i grybwyll, ond hefyd o ran edrych ar brynu bwyd o Gymru yn lleol. Mae gennym ymrwymiad ar farchnadoedd ffermwyr ac mae arnom eisiau sicrhau bod gallu i gysylltu defnyddwyr â chynhyrchwyr bwyd ar lefel lleol, ac edrych ar weithio gyda'r sector cyhoeddus, wrth iddo brynu ei fwyd, a gweld sut y gall brynu mwy a mwy o'i fwyd gan gynhyrchwyr lleol, fel bod yr arian dan sylw yn cael ei gadw yn yr economi leol a'i fod yn fuddiol i fusnesau yng Nghymru.

Sandy Mewies: Gan ofyn cwestiwn ar hyd yr un llinellau fwy neu lai, cynhaliodd yr Wyddgrug ei gŵyl fwyd flynyddol dros y penwythnos. Unwaith eto yr oedd yn llwyddiant ysgubol; daeth mwy a mwy o ymwelwyr o bob cwr o'r wlad i ymweld â hi. Mae hynny'n dangos pa mor dda yw'r stori sydd gennym i'w hadrodd yng Nghymru am ein bwyd, ein diod a'n cynnyrch. Fodd bynnag, fel Lesley Griffiths, gofynnaf ichi ystyried ffyrdd y gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad barhau i gefnogi'r gwyliau hyn. Nid ymarferion chwifio'r faner yn unig ydynt—maent yn hwb i dwristiaeth, i

amaethyddiaeth, ac i'r diwydiant bwyd yn gyffredinol.

Elin Jones: I agree that festivals play an important role—in the summer and winter months—in providing a showcase for local produce, as well as an ability for new businesses, and more established businesses, to gain new customers and new links to customers. We have a programme of support for food festivals. We also have a particular commitment to develop farmers' markets throughout Wales, and there is a close link between food festivals and farmers' markets. I will be making an announcement soon on the support to meet the 'One Wales' commitment to support farmers' markets.

Elin Jones: Cytunaf fod gwyliau'n chwarae rhan bwysig—yn ystod misoedd yr haf a'r gaeaf—o ran darparu cyfle i arddangos cynnyrch lleol, yn ogystal â bod yn ffordd i fusnesau newydd, a busnesau sydd wedi hen ennill eu plwyf, ddenu cwsmeriaid newydd a chreu chysylltiadau newydd â chwsmeriaid. Mae gennym raglen gefnogi ar gyfer gwyliau bwyd. Mae gennym hefyd ymrwymiad penodol i ddatblygu marchnadoedd ffermwyr ledled Cymru, a cheir cysylltiad agos rhwng gwyliau bwyd a marchnadoedd ffermwyr. Byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad maes o law ar y gefnogaeth er mwyn bodloni un o ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un', sef cefnogi marchnadoedd ffermwyr.

The Fisheries Strategy

Y Strategaeth Pysgodfeydd

Q2 Alun Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's fisheries strategy? OAQ(3)0438(RAF)

C2 Alun Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am strategaeth pysgodfeydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ(3)0438(RAF)

Elin Jones: Lansiais strategaeth bysgodfeydd gyntaf erioed Cymru ar 29 Gorffennaf yn Aberystwyth. Bydd y strategaeth yn cefnogi datblygiad pysgodfeydd hyfyw a chynaliadwy yng Nghymru, y gronfa pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd newydd, a'm penderfyniad i ysgwyddo pob cyfrifoldeb am reoli a gorfodi pysgodfeydd môr.

Elin Jones: I launched Wales's first ever fisheries strategy on 29 July in Aberystwyth. The strategy will support the development of viable and sustainable fisheries in Wales, the new European fisheries fund, and my decision to assume full responsibility for sea fisheries management and enforcement.

Alun Davies: You may have been in the Chamber yesterday when I asked for a statement on water quality in the Carmarthen bay area. You will be aware that, before the summer recess, there was considerable debate about the future of cockle fisheries and cockle gatherers in that area. Over the summer recess, I met a number of different people—fishermen and others—who are concerned about the future of fisheries in the coastal waters and rivers of Carmarthenshire. Do you agree that it is now possibly time to have a more comprehensive review of the health of fisheries around the Carmarthenshire area—the rivers and the coastal waters—to see what is causing the real problems that fishermen are facing there?

Alun Davies: Efallai eich bod yn y Siambr ddoe pan ofynnais am ddatganiad am ansawdd dŵr yn ardal bae Caerfyrddin. Byddwch yn ymwybodol y cafwyd cryn ddadlau, cyn toriad yr haf, am ddyfodol pysgodfeydd cocos a chasglwyr cocos yn yr ardal honno. Dros doriad yr haf, cyfarfûm â nifer o wahanol bobl—pysgotwyr a phobl eraill—sy'n bryderus ynghylch dyfodol pysgodfeydd yn nyfroedd arfordirol ac afonydd sir Gaerfyrddin. A ydych yn cytuno ei bod yn awr, o bosibl, yn amser cael adolygiad mwy cynhwysfawr o iechyd pysgodfeydd o amgylch ardal sir Gaerfyrddin—yr afonydd a'r dyfroedd arfordirol—i weld beth sy'n achosi'r problemau gwirioneddol mae'r pysgotwyr yn eu hwynebu yno?

Elin Jones: I understand those concerns, which several people have raised with me. The cockle industry is significant and important in south-west Wales, in particular, as well as in other parts of Wales. I will take away this issue and consider it carefully.

Alun Cairns: You will have received representations from numerous fishing associations across Wales highlighting the importance of their sport. It makes an important contribution to tourism, as well as to activity among a range of people, from the youngest and to the oldest. That representation will also have expressed concern over the lack of fisheries enforcement officers in Wales. For example, in the area from Aberystwyth to Llantwit Major—the south-west region—there are six fisheries enforcement officers. Given the importance of fishing to the economy of rural Wales, as well as the investment that many of these people make in licences, equipment, permits and fish stocks in supporting their sport, what consideration have you given to this? Do you believe that six fisheries enforcement officers are sufficient, or do you believe that their number should be expanded to ensure that those who pay for permits and licences and fish legally are protected, and that those who fish illegally are punished?

Elin Jones: I understand your point completely. The enforcement of fisheries legislation is important to allow legal fishing to carry on, and to ensure that we retain the stocks in rivers throughout Wales. The Environment Agency has been undertaking a review of its enforcement processes and procedures in Wales, and I am expecting to receive a report from the agency on its current enforcement practice and its plans for the future. I will consider the points that you have made as I look at the findings of that review.

12.50 p.m.

Mohammad Asghar: I was pleased to hear of the successful open day held by the Black Rock Lave Net Fishermen, after the

Elin Jones: Deallaf y pryderon hynny, y mae llawer o bobl wedi'u codi gyda mi. Mae'r diwydiant cocos yn hollbwysig yn ne-orllewin Cymru, yn benodol, yn ogystal ag mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru. Byddaf yn mynd â'r mater hwn ymaith i'w ystyried yn ofalus.

Alun Cairns: Byddwch wedi derbyn sylwadau gan nifer o gymdeithasau pysgota ledled Cymru yn nodi pwysigrwydd eu chwaraeon. Mae'n gwneud cyfraniad pwysig i dwristiaeth, yn ogystal â bod yn weithgaredd i amrywiaeth o bobl, o blant ifanc i bobl hŷn. Bydd y sylwadau hynny hefyd wedi mynegi pryder am y diffyg swyddogion gorfodi pysgodfeydd yng Nghymru. Er enghraifft, yn ardal Aberystwyth i Lanilltud Fawr—ardal y de-orllewin—ceir chwe swyddog gorfodi pysgodfeydd. O ystyried pwysigrwydd pysgota i economi Cymru wledig, yn ogystal â'r buddsoddiad mae llawer o'r bobl hyn yn ei wneud mewn trwyddedau, offer, caniatadau a stociau pysgod er mwyn cefnogi eu chwaraeon, pa ystyriaeth yr ydych wedi'i rhoi i hyn? A ydych yn credu bod chwe swyddog gorfodi pysgodfeydd yn ddigon, ynteu a ydych yn credu y dylid ehangu'r nifer er mwyn sicrhau bod y rheini sy'n talu am ganiatadau a thrwyddedau ac yn pysgota'n gyfreithlon yn cael eu hamddiffyn, a bod y rheini sy'n pysgota'n anghyfreithlon yn cael eu cosbi?

Elin Jones: Deallaf eich pwynt yn llwyr. Mae gorfodi deddfwriaeth pysgodfeydd yn bwysig er mwyn caniatáu i bysgota cyfreithiol barhau, ac er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn cadw'r stociau mewn afonydd ledled Cymru. Mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi bod yn cyflawni adolygiad o'i phrosesau gorfodi a gweithdrefnau yng Nghymru, ac yr wyf yn disgwyl cael adroddiad gan yr asiantaeth ar yr ymarfer gorfodi presennol a'i chynlluniau ar gyfer y dyfodol. Byddaf yn ystyried y pwyntiau yr ydych wedi'u gwneud pan fyddaf yn edrych ar ganfyddiadau'r adolygiad hwnnw.

Mohammad Asghar: Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed i'r diwrnod agored a gynhaliodd Pysgotwyr Rhwydi Gafll Black Rock fod yn

uncertainty over whether or not these fishermen could carry on to practice their extraordinary fishing skills on the Severn estuary. I am also glad of the interest shown in the issue by the Minister, who met the representatives, as I did. Has the situation now been resolved?

Elin Jones: I am informed that, thankfully, the issue of the Black Rock fishery and its engagement with the Environment Agency has been resolved, and I am glad to hear that the fishermen held a successful open day. Heritage fisheries such as Black Rock fishery are important to me and to all of us in Wales, but we need to marry the importance of the heritage fisheries to the need to protect our fish stocks, and I am pleased that there has been a resolution to this issue between the fishermen on the Severn estuary and the Environment Agency.

Bluetongue

Q3 Kirsty Williams: Will the Minister give an update on bluetongue? OAQ(3)0411(RAF)

Elin Jones: I refer you to the statement that I made yesterday. Farmers should think carefully about from where they source their animals, especially if the animals originate from a bluetongue-infected area. Importing animals from such an area could endanger their livelihoods and the industry as a whole. The only means of protection is vaccination.

Kirsty Williams: Your advice to think carefully about where animals are being imported from was certainly endorsed by members of Brecon and Radnorshire National Farmers Union at its county meeting on Monday night. Those members felt that it would help to concentrate farmers' minds if they knew that imported stock found to be harbouring disease would be automatically slaughtered without compensation. You said yesterday that you were keeping that under consideration, but could you give further details about under what circumstances you would consider ensuring that all animals of that type that were found to be harbouring disease would be slaughtered, thereby completely eliminating the risk to Welsh

llwyddiannus, ar ôl yr ansicrwydd ynghylch pa un a allai'r pysgotwyr hyn barhau i ymarfer eu sgiliau pysgota eithriadol yn aber Hafren. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch o'r diddordeb a ddangosodd y Gweinidog, a gyfarfu â'r cynrychiolwyr, yn y mater, fel y gwneuthum innau. A yw'r sefyllfa wedi'i datrys bellach?

Elin Jones: Caf ar ddeall, diolch byth, bod mater pysgodfa Black Rock a'i chysylltiad ag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi'i datrys, ac yr wyf yn falch o glywed bod y pysgotwyr wedi cynnal diwrnod agored llwyddiannus. Mae pysgodfeydd treftadol fel pysgodfa Black Rock yn bwysig i mi ac i bawb ohonom yng Nghymru, ond mae angen inni gyfuno pwysigrwydd y pysgodfeydd treftadol â'r angen i ddiogelu ein stociau pysgod, ac yr wyf yn falch bod y mater rhwng pysgotwyr aber Hafren ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi'i ddatrys.

Y Tafod Glas

C3 Kirsty Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y tafod glas? OAQ(3)0411(RAF)

Elin Jones: Fe'ch cyfeirïaf at y datganiad a wneuthum ddoe. Dylai ffermwyr ystyried yn ofalus o le maent yn cael eu hanifeiliaid, yn enwedig os yw'r anifeiliaid yn tarddu o ardal sydd wedi'i heintio gan y dafod las. Gallai mewnfario anifeiliaid o ardal o'r fath beryglu eu bywoliaeth a'r diwydiant yn gyffredinol. Yr unig ffordd o'u hamddiffyn yw drwy frechu.

Kirsty Williams: Yr oedd aelodau Undeb Ffermwyr Cenedlaethol Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed yn eu cyfarfod sirol nos Lun yn sicr yn cymeradwyo eich cyngor ar ystyried yn ofalus o le mae'r anifeiliaid yn cael eu mewnfario. Teimlai'r aelodau hynny y byddai'n help i ffermwyr ganolbwytio ar hyn pe baent yn gwybod y byddai stoc wedi'i fewnfario a chanddo glefyd yn cael ei ladd yn awtomatig heb iawndal. Dywedasoeh ddoe eich bod yn parhau i ystyried hynny, ond a allech roi rhagor o fanylion ynghylch o dan ba amgylchiadau y byddech yn ystyried sicrhau y byddai pob anifail o'r math hwnnw a chanddo'r clefyd yn cael ei ladd, ac felly'n dileu'r risg i ffermwyr da byw yng Nghymru yn llwyr?

livestock farmers?

Elin Jones: The three animals in Ruthin that tested positive for bluetongue were at negligible risk of transmission of infection, so I did not order the slaughter of those animals. However, I have retained the right to look at each individual case on its merits and on the basis of the risk to the wider stock, and if animals that test positive for bluetongue pose a risk to the wider animal community, the Government retains the right to slaughter those animals and will not pay compensation.

Janet Ryder: As was said yesterday, the vaccine available is for BTV 8 and does not cover all strains of bluetongue, so what are you doing to take a longer-term view and form a strategy to recognise the threats that all strains of the disease represent to the industry? Will you also confirm what you are doing to ensure that the relevant authorities at a European level immediately take proactive steps to more adequately control the movements of animals between high and low risk bluetongue virus zones?

Elin Jones: In addition to bluetongue strain 8, the immediate concern lies around bluetongue strain 1, which is present in some areas of France. Currently, animals cannot be moved from a bluetongue strain 1 protection zone into Wales; there is no movement of animals on that basis. However, the import of animals from areas that surround those areas is currently allowed. Currently, there is no authorised vaccine for sale against bluetongue strain 1 in the UK, although companies are developing that vaccine. There is also research being undertaken by the companies on a combined vaccine that would tackle numerous strains of the bluetongue vaccine. It is of concern to farmers, me and others, that many strains of this disease exist, and we need to ensure that, ultimately, we have protection against all strains.

Brynle Williams: To press you a little harder on bluetongue strain 1, the arguments surrounding the cattle that came to Rhuthin

Elin Jones: Yr oedd y risg y byddai'r tri anifail a gafodd brawf positif am y dafod las yn Rhuthun yn trosglwyddo'r haint yn isel iawn ac felly ni orchmynais i'r anifeiliaid hynny gael eu lladd. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi cadw'r hawl i edrych ar bob achos unigol ar wahân ac ar sail y risg i'r stoc ehangach, ac os bydd anifeiliaid sy'n cael prawf positif am y dafod las yn peri risg i'r gymuned anifeiliaid ehangach, mae'r Llywodraeth yn cadw'r hawl i ladd yr anifeiliaid hynny ac ni fyddant yn talu iawndal.

Janet Ryder: Fel y dywedwyd ddoe, mae'r brechlyn sydd ar gael yn ymwneud â BTV 8 ac nid yw'n cwmpasu pob math o'r tafod glas, felly beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i gymryd golwg tymor hwy a ffurfio strategaeth er mwyn cydnabod y bygythiadau y mae pob math o'r clefyd yn eu cyflwyno i'r diwydiant? A wnewch hefyd gadarnhau beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod yr awdurdodau perthnasol ar lefel Ewropeaidd yn cymryd camau rhagweithiol ar unwaith i reoli symudiadau anifeiliaid rhwng ardaloedd tafod glas risg uchel a risg isel yn fwy digonol?

Elin Jones: Yn ogystal â math 8 o'r dafod las, mae'r ystyriaeth gyntaf yn seiliedig ar fath 1 y dafod las, sydd mewn rhai ardaloedd yn Ffrainc. Ar hyn o bryd, ni ellir symud anifeiliaid o barth amddiffyn rhag math 1 y dafod las i Gymru; ni cheir symud anifeiliaid ar y sail honno. Fodd bynnag, caniateir mewnfario anifeiliaid o ardaloedd cyfagos i'r ardaloedd hynny ar hyn o bryd. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes brechlyn awdurdodedig ar werth yn erbyn math 1 y dafod las yn y DU, er bod cwmnïau'n datblygu'r brechlyn hwnnw. Mae'r cwmnïau hefyd yn cynnal gwaith ymchwil ar frechlyn cyfun a fyddai'n delio ag amryw o fathau o'r brechlyn. Mae'n achosi pryder i ffermwyr, i minnau ac i eraill, bod cynifer o fathau o'r clefyd hwn yn bodoli, ac mae angen inni sicrhau bod gennym, yn y pen draw, amddiffyniad yn erbyn pob math.

Brynle Williams: Gan roi rhywfaint mwy o bwysau arnoch ynghylch math 1 tafod glas, mae'r dadleuon ynghylch y gwartheg a

have been well rehearsed. They are from the Limoges area, which is close to a BTV 1 area. I heard what you said about vaccine for BTV 1, but have you had or are you likely to have any discussions with Fort Dodge, the pharmaceutical company, for example, which is currently running trials on BTV 1? If there is no other form of defence, will you have discussions with your counterparts in France and with the pharmaceutical company about trying to get this vaccine into the United Kingdom? As you pointed out, there is no safeguard against BTV 1.

Elin Jones: We are aware that vaccine is being developed by some companies to combat BTV 1. My officials are aware of that and are in constant discussion with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and other devolved administrations about discussions with potential suppliers of vaccine and the progress in the development of vaccine. As I said, there is no market authorisation for a BTV 1 vaccine from any company in the United Kingdom currently. However, I have no doubt that that will have to change, and will change, as companies develop the vaccine and as the demand for vaccine possibly becomes a real one in the United Kingdom.

Electronic Sheep Tagging

Q4 The Leader of the Opposition (Nick Bourne): Will the Minister outline the implications of electronic sheep tagging for Welsh farmers? OAQ(3)0415(RAF)

Elin Jones: I do not support the introduction of compulsory electronic sheep tagging. However, the EU regulation currently gives us no option but to introduce it. I have a meeting with the industry tomorrow to discuss electronic identification and I also hope to meet the EU commissioner in the near future to discuss a number of animal health issues, including electronic identification.

Nick Bourne: I am not surprised by the content of the Minister's response. I know that over the summer—if you will pardon the metaphor—she had her ear bent on the issue,

ddaeth i Ruthun wedi'u trafod yn drylwyr. Maent yn dod o ardal Limoges, sy'n agos at ardal BTV 1. Clywais yr hyn a ddywedasocho am frechlyn ar gyfer BTV 1, ond a ydych wedi cael, neu'n bwriadu cael, unrhyw drafodaethau gyda Fort Dodge, y cwmni fferyllol, er enghraifft, sy'n cynnal treialon ar BTV 1 ar hyn o bryd? Os nad oes ffordd arall o amddiffyn, a wnewch gynnal trafodaethau gyda'ch cymheiriaid yn Ffrainc a chyda'r cwmni fferyllol ynghylch ceisio cael y brechlyn hwn i'r Deyrnas Unedig? Fel y dywedasocho eich hun, nid oes ffordd o amddiffyn yn erbyn BTV 1.

Elin Jones: Yr ydym yn ymwybodol bod rhai cwmnïau'n datblygu brechlyn i frwydro yn erbyn BTV 1. Mae fy swyddogion yn ymwybodol o hynny ac yn cynnal trafodaethau parhaus gydag Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig a gweinyddiaethau datganoledig eraill ynghylch trafodaethau gyda chyflenwyr posibl y brechlyn. Fel y dywedais, nid yw'r farchnad yn awdurdodi brechlyn BTV 1 gan unrhyw gwmni yn y Deyrnas Unedig ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, nid oes gennyf amheuaeth y bydd yn rhaid i hynny newid, ac y bydd yn newid, wrth i gwmnïau ddatblygu'r brechlyn ac wrth i'r galw am y brechlyn ddod yn un gwirioneddol yn y Deyrnas Unedig.

Tagio Defaid yn Electronig

C4 Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Nick Bourne): A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu goblygiadau tagio defaid yn electronig i ffermwyr yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0415(RAF)

Elin Jones: Nid wyf o blaid gorfodi ffermwyr i roi tagiau electronig ar eu defaid. Fodd bynnag, nid yw rheoliad yr UE yn rhoi unrhyw ddewis arall inni ar hyn o bryd ar wahân i'w gyflwyno. Mae gennyf gyfarfod â'r diwydiant yfory i drafod adnabod defaid yn electronig a gobeithiaf hefyd gyfarfod comisiynydd yr UE yn y dyfodol agos i drafod nifer o faterion iechyd anifeiliaid, gan gynnwys adnabod defaid yn electronig.

Nick Bourne: Nid wyf wedi fy synnu gan gynnwys ymateb y Gweinidog. Gwn dros yr haf—os gwnewch esgusodi'r trosiad—ei bod wedi cael sylwadau ar hyn hyd at ei

just as I did, going around agricultural shows. Given that the current system works so well, and given the disproportionate cost to Welsh farmers, particularly in mid and north Wales where there are so many sheep, is the Minister looking at a subsidy, which is being given in Spain and France, or is that being looked at on a UK level? Also, is the Minister doing anything in terms of pushing the case for a derogation?

Elin Jones: Some ground was gained on derogation in the discussions in the early summer with the European Commission, but the European Commission is clear that this regulation has to be implemented in the United Kingdom from the beginning of 2010. The regulation itself has existed since 2003. The UK Government's position is similar to mine, but the United Kingdom, and possibly the Republic Ireland, are lone voices on this in the European Union, and other member states are keen for this to be introduced throughout the European Union, including the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. It was one of the regulations that was introduced post foot and mouth disease in 2001 and therefore relates back to that period. I have said that I will continue to make my views on the need for electronic sheep tagging clear and I intend to raise the issue directly with the commissioner. I understand that the UK Secretary of State also intends to do that soon.

I have a meeting tomorrow with all industry representatives to discuss the practicalities, in which, no doubt, cost will feature. It is a matter to which I will give further consideration in the light of that meeting. I currently do not have a planned budget for any support for the introduction of electronic sheep tagging in Wales, although I will look at working with the industry on the practicalities of implementation, because I know that they will be quite considerable in a number of cases.

The Farming Industry

chlustiau, fel y cefais innau, wrth fynd o amgylch sioeau amaethyddol. Ac ystyried bod y system bresennol yn gweithio cystal, ac wrth ystyried y gost anghymesur i ffermwyr yng Nghymru, yn enwedig yn y canolbarth a'r gogledd lle ceir cynifer o ddefaid, a yw'r Gweinidog yn ystyried cymhorthdal, sy'n cael ei roi yn Sbaen ac yn Ffrainc, neu a ystyrir hynny ar lefel y DU? Hefyd, a yw'r Gweinidog yn gwneud unrhyw beth o ran gwthio'r achos ar gyfer rhanddirymiad?

Elin Jones: Enillwyd rhywfaint o dir o ran rhanddirymiad yn ystod y trafodaethau gyda'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd a gynhaliwyd ar ddechrau'r haf, ond mae'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd wedi nodi'n glir bod yn rhaid rhoi'r rheoliad hwn ar waith yn y DU ar ddechrau 2010. Mae'r rheoliad ei hun yn bodoli er 2003. Mae sefyllfa Llywodraeth y DU yn debyg i f'un innau, ond mae'r Deyrnas Unedig, a Gweriniaeth Iwerddon o bosibl, ar eu pen eu hunain ar y mater hwn yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, ac mae aelod-wladwriaethau eraill yn awyddus i gyflwyno hyn ledled yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, gan gynnwys y Deyrnas Unedig a Gweriniaeth Iwerddon. Yr oedd yn un o'r rheoliadau hynny a gyflwynwyd ar ôl clwy'r traed a'r genau yn 2001 ac felly mae'n dyddio'n ôl i'r cyfnod hwnnw. Yr wyf wedi dweud y byddaf yn parhau i leisio fy marn yn glir am yr angen i dagio defaid yn electronig ac yr wyf yn bwriadu codi'r mater yn uniongyrchol â'r comisiynydd. Caf ar ddeall bod Ysgrifennydd Gwladol y DU hefyd yn bwriadu gwneud hynny'n fuan.

Mae gennyf gyfarfod yfory gyda holl gynrychiolwyr y diwydiant i drafod yr elfennau ymarferol, a bydd ystyried y gost yn sicr yn rhan o hyn. Mae'n fater y byddaf yn ei ystyried ymhellach ar ôl y cyfarfod hwnnw. Nid oes gennyf gyllideb wedi'i chynllunio ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer unrhyw gefnogaeth er mwyn cyflwyno cynllun tagio defaid yn electronig yng Nghymru, er y byddaf yn ystyried gweithio gyda'r diwydiant o ran pa mor ymarferol yw eu rhoi ar waith, oherwydd gwn y byddant yn eithaf sylweddol mewn nifer o achosion.

Y Diwydiant Ffermio

Q5 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister make a statement on the farming industry in Wales? OAQ(3)0414(RAF)

Elin Jones: The farming industry in Wales faces a number of challenges this year, including rising costs and the threat of animal disease, while this year's wet summer has made harvesting very difficult.

1.00 p.m.

On a positive note, the price of milk, beef and lamb remains strong. I am working closely with industry representatives to develop a new farming strategy to deliver longer term sustainability and profitability for agriculture.

Nick Bourne: I am grateful for that tour d'horizon from the Minister. I wish to ask about the draft pesticides directive, which, as you will be aware, will have a serious impact on the costs of production and crop yields if brought in in its current form. The draft directive is about to get its Second Reading in the European Parliament, so I wonder what representations the Minister has made at Westminster and European levels on the draft directive, which could have serious implications for Welsh farmers.

Elin Jones: I am aware that one of the farming unions in particular has a view on the implementation of this directive and its potential harmfulness for the productivity of crops. This directive is being introduced for many reasons. I have not made any direct representations to date, but I will take away the issue and consider it with representations that I may have received from the farming unions on the introduction of this directive and give it further consideration.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Diolch am yr ymateb i'r cwestiwn hwn ac i'r cwestiwn blaenorol, Weinidog. Mae'n dda gweld bod gennym Weinidog sy'n deall y diwydiant; mae ganddi hyder y diwydiant oherwydd ei hymateb dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf i nifer o argyfyngau.

C5 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y diwydiant ffermio yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0414(RAF)

Elin Jones: Mae'r diwydiant ffermio yng Nghymru yn wynebu nifer o sialensiau eleni, gan gynnwys costau uwch, y bygythiad o glefydau anifeiliaid, a'r haf gwlyb sydd wedi gwneud cynaeafu'n anodd.

Ar nodyn cadarnhaol, mae pris llaeth, cig eidion a chig oen yn dal yn gryf. Yr wyf yn gweithio'n agos gyda chynrychiolwyr o'r diwydiant er mwyn datblygu strategaeth newydd ar gyfer ffermio i sicrhau proffidioldeb a chynaliadwyedd yn y tymor hwy i amaethyddiaeth.

Nick Bourne: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y trosolwg cyffredinol hwnnw gan y Gweinidog. Hoffwn holi am fersiwn ddrafft y gyfarwyddeb plaladdwyr, a gaiff, fel y gwyddoch, effaith ddifrifol ar gostau cynhyrchu a chynnyrch cynydaus os caiff ei chyflwyno ar ei ffurf bresennol. Mae'r gyfarwyddeb ddrafft ar fin cael ei Hail Ddarlleniad yn Senedd Ewrop. Felly, tybed pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u gwneud ynghylch y gyfarwyddeb ddrafft ar lefel San Steffan ac ar lefel Ewropeaidd—cyfarwyddeb a allai olygu goblygiadau difrifol i ffermwyr Cymru.

Elin Jones: Gwn fod gan un o undebau'r ffermwyr yn benodol farn am weithredu'r gyfarwyddeb hon ac am sut y gallai o bosibl niweidio cynhyrchedd cynydaus. Ceir amryw o resymau dros gyflwyno'r gyfarwyddeb hon. Nid wyf wedi gwneud dim sylwadau uniongyrchol hyd yn hyn, ond derbyniasf y mater a byddaf yn ei ystyried gyda sylwadau yr wyf efallai wedi'u cael gan undebau'r ffermwyr ynghylch cyflwyno'r gyfarwyddeb hon, ac yn ei hystyried ymhellach.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Thank you for your response to this question and the previous question, Minister. It is good to see that we have a Minister who understands the industry; she has the confidence of the industry because of her response over the past year to a number of crises.

Mae costau ychwanegol o fewn y diwydiant yn creu problem sylfaenol i'r diwydiant ac i gynhyrchwyr. Mae llawer o arian wedi'i fuddsoddi dros y naw mlynedd diwethaf i hybu cynnyrch o Gymru ond nid oes arwyddion fod hynny wedi arwain at farchnata a gwerthiant go iawn ac nid oes unrhyw arwyddion fod cynnyrch o Gymru, sy'n cyrraedd y safonau uchaf, yn cael ei gydnabod o fewn y farchnad; cyfeiriasoch at hynny yn eich ymateb i Nick Bourne. A oes gennych gynlluniau penodol i sicrhau bod cynnyrch o Gymru yn sicrhau'r gwerth sylfaenol hwnnw o fewn y farchnad, gan gydnabod safonau cynhyrchu Cymru?

Elin Jones: Yr ydym yn ymwybodol ein bod yn cynhyrchu cig coch a chynhyrchion amaethyddol eraill o ansawdd uchel iawn, ond mater arall i'w ystyried yw a ydym yn canu'n clodydd yn ddigon uchel ac yn gwneud y gorau o hynny o ran marchnata. Mae'n siŵr y bydd y mater hwn yn cael ei ystyried, a byddaf yn gofyn iddo gael ei ystyried, gan Hybu Cig Cymru wrth iddo edrych ar ei strategaeth ar gyfer y diwydiant cig coch yn y dyfodol.

Fel y dywedasoch, mae cig coch wedi'i farchnata'n sylweddol drwy Hybu Cig Cymru dros y blynyddoedd, ac mae'n aneglur weithiau beth yw'r ymateb a beth yw gwerth uniongyrchol hynny i ffermwyr. Mae'n aneglur hefyd pa fath o effaith negyddol, o bosibl, fyddai peidio â hysbysebu yn ei gael ar y diwydiant. Yr ydym yn gyfarwydd â gweld hysbysebion am gig oen o Gymru mewn nifer o gylchgronau, ond yr ydym hefyd yn gweld hysbysebion am gig oen o Loegr, Seland Newydd a'r Alban. Heb hysbysebion am gig oen o Gymru—sy'n aml yn well hysbysebion—byddai ffermwyr Cymru dan anfantais.

Financial Support

Q6 Andrew R.T. Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on financial support for the agriculture industry in South Wales Central? OAQ(3)0417(RAF)

Elin Jones: Information is not available at a regional level. The common agricultural policy single payment scheme provides some £220 million annually in the form of direct

The additional costs within the industry create a fundamental problem for the industry and producers. A great deal of money has been invested over the past nine years to promote Welsh produce, but there are no signs that that has led to real marketing and sales, and there are no signs that Welsh produce, which is of the highest quality, is recognised within the market; you referred to that in your response to Nick Bourne. Do you have any specific plans to ensure that Welsh produce secures that basic value within the market, and that the production standards in Wales are recognised?

Elin Jones: We are aware that we produce red meat and other agricultural produce of a very high quality, but it is another matter to consider whether we are blowing our own trumpet loudly enough and making the most of that in terms of marketing. I am sure that that issue will be considered, and I will request that it is considered, by Hybu Cig Cymru as it considers its strategy for the red meat industry in the future.

As you said, red meat has been strongly marketed through Hybu Cig Cymru over the years, and it is unclear on occasion what the response to that is and what the direct value of that is to farmers. It is also unclear what possible negative impact there would be on the market if that promotion work does not take place. We are used to seeing adverts for Welsh lamb in a number of magazines, but we also see adverts for lamb from England, New Zealand and Scotland. If there were no adverts for Welsh lamb—which are often better adverts—Welsh farmers would be at a disadvantage.

Cefnogaeth Ariannol

C6 Andrew R.T. Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gefnogaeth ariannol i'r diwydiant amaethyddiaeth yng Nghanol De Cymru? OAQ(3)0417(RAF)

Elin Jones: Nid oes gwybodaeth ar gael ar lefel ranbarthol. Mae cynllun taliad sengl y polisi amaethyddol cyffredin yn darparu oddeutu £220 miliwn i ffermwyr yn

payments to farmers. Under the rural development plan of 2007-13, some £99 million annually is directed at farmers under axis 1 and axis 2 measures.

Andrew R.T. Davies: My supplementary question is similar to my leader's question on the thematic strategy emanating from Brussels, which will have a detrimental impact on farmers in my region of South Wales Central. The support that the Government could offer to farmers, and to arable land farmers in particular, in my area, goes beyond financial support and into research. If the thematic strategy is implemented as laid out by the European Union, it will have a massive impact on the ability of arable land farmers to produce combinable crops that meet market expectations and costs. What measures, if any, has the Minister undertaken, given that plant health is a devolved issue? Has she commissioned research into alternative usage that arable land farmers can tap into once the pesticides, as proscribed in this directive, are outlawed for use in the arable sector?

Elin Jones: I have not commissioned any research on the part of the Assembly Government. However, I know that my officials are working with Defra officials on the impact of the directive were it to come into force. I accept that this is a matter that needs to be kept under review and that could have a significant impact on arable land farmers in Wales and elsewhere. Therefore, I have given an undertaking to look at the representations made to me before deciding what further action I need to take in Wales.

Leanne Wood: I know that you agree that farmers' markets and food festivals such as the one to be held in Cowbridge next month are valuable to local economies. Would you consider making an assessment of the effect of the recent bad weather on farmers' markets and local organic food growers in South Wales Central? Will you support Jill Evans MEP in her campaign to allow flexibility in the European Union guidelines to allow the promotion of locally produced food?

flynyddol ar ffurf taliadau uniongyrchol. Dan y cynllun datblygu gwledig ar gyfer 2007-13, caiff oddeutu £99 miliwn y flwyddyn ei gyfeirio at ffermwyr dan fesurau echel 1 ac echel 2.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Mae fy nghwestiwn atodol yn debyg i gwestiwn fy arweinydd ynghylch y strategaeth thematig sy'n deillio o Frwsel, a gaiff effaith andwyol ar ffermwyr yn fy rhanbarth i, Canol De Cymru. Gallai'r Llywodraeth gynnig llawer mwy o gymorth na chymorth ariannol i ffermwyr, ac i ffermwyr tir â'r yn benodol yn fy ardal—gallai gynorthwyo drwy gyfrwng ymchwil. Os bydd y strategaeth thematig yn cael ei gweithredu fel y'i hamlinellwyd gan yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, caiff effaith aruthrol ar allu ffermwyr tir â'r i gynhyrchu cynydu cynaeafu sy'n bodloni costau a disgwyliadau'r farchnad. A chofio bod iechyd planhigion yn bwnc datganoledig, pa gamau, os o gwbl, y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cymryd? A yw wedi comisiynu ymchwil ar ddulliau amgen y gall ffermwyr tir â'r eu defnyddio ar ôl cael eu gwahardd rhag defnyddio plaladdwyr yn y sector â'r, gan fod y gyfarwyddeb hon yn gwahardd hynny?

Elin Jones: Nid wyf wedi comisiynu ymchwil ar ran Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, gwn fod fy swyddogion yn gweithio gyda swyddogion Defra ar effaith y gyfarwyddeb pe câi ei gweithredu. Derbyniad fod hwn yn fater y mae angen ei adolygu'n gyson, ac y gallai gael effaith aruthrol ar ffermwyr tir â'r yng Nghymru ac mewn mannau eraill. Felly, yr wyf wedi ymrwymo i edrych ar y sylwadau a gyflwynwyd imi cyn penderfynu pa gamau pellach y mae angen imi eu cymryd yng Nghymru.

Leanne Wood: Gwn eich bod yn cytuno bod marchnadoedd ffermwyr a gwyliau bwyd, megis yr un a gaiff ei chynnal yn y Bont-faen fis nesaf, yn werthfawr i economïau lleol. A fydddech yn ystyried asesu effaith y tywydd gwael diweddar ar farchnadoedd ffermwyr ac ar dyfwyr bwyd organig lleol yng Nghanol De Cymru? A gefnogwch Jill Evans ASE gyda'i hymgyrch i ganiatáu hyblygrwydd o fewn canllawiau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd er mwyn caniatáu hyrwyddo bwyd a gynhyrchir yn lleol?

Elin Jones: I will not give you an undertaking to make an assessment of the summer's bad weather on the organic food growers of South Wales Central, but I think that we all know that the bad weather and harvest of the summer have had a direct impact on anyone who is dependent on good weather in harvesting their land. It is important that we remember that food production is, in the main, a natural production that is dependent on all kinds of external factors that can have quite devastating impacts on farmers, on the way that they produce food and on the amount of food that they produce. This year has been a reminder to us all of how dependent upon and closely related to nature our farming industry is. Our ability to produce food depends upon our natural environment. The role that farmers' markets and food festivals play in making a direct link between the production of food and consumers is important as it enables those producing food to tell consumers about the very real challenges that they face in the production of that food.

Cefnogaeth i Deuluoedd sy'n Ffermio

C7 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gefnogaeth i deuluoedd sy'n ffermio yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0409(RAF)

Elin Jones: Fy amcan o fewn fy mhortffolio yw creu fframwaith ar gyfer diwydiant amaethyddiaeth a fydd yn ei wneud yn gynaliadwy a phroffidiol, ac yn ddeniadol i genedlaethau o deuluoedd sy'n ffermio, heddiw ac yfory. Mae'n bwysig llunio polisiau sy'n diogelu rôl y fferm deuluol Gymreig draddodiadol gan mai hi o hyd yw asgwrn cefn y diwydiant.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf yn falch o glywed hynny a gwn eich bod yn gwneud eich gorau. Mae straen aruthrol, fel y gŵyr pawb, ar deuluoedd sy'n ffermio, yn enwedig y rheini sydd ag anifeiliaid sy'n dioddef o afiechydon megis y diciâu. Maent yn dioddef straen emosïynol yn ogystal â straen economaidd, a all fod yn ddifrifol iawn. A ydych yn cytuno â mi? Os ydych, sut y gallwch roi mwy o gymorth, yn enwedig o gofio'r materion eraill a ddaeth i'r golwg yn

Elin Jones: Nid ymrwymaf i asesu tywydd gwael yr haf ar y tyfwyr bwyd organig yng Nghanol De Cymru, ond credaf y gwyddom oll fod tywydd a chynhaeaf gwael yr haf wedi effeithio'n uniongyrchol ar unrhyw un sy'n ddibynol ar dywydd da i gynaeafu'u tir. Mae'n bwysig inni gofio bod cynhyrchu bwyd, yn gyffredinol, yn gynhyrchu o fath naturiol sy'n ddibynol ar bob math o ffactorau allanol a all gael effaith pur ddifrodus ar ffermwyr, ar y modd y maent yn cynhyrchu bwyd ac ar faint o fwyd a gynhyrchant. Mae'r flwyddyn hon wedi atgoffa pob un ohonom o'r cysylltiad agos rhwng natur â'n diwydiant ffermio a pha mor ddibynol yw'r diwydiant ar natur. Mae ein gallu i gynhyrchu bwyd yn dibynnu ar ein hamgylchedd naturiol. Mae swyddogaeth marchnadoedd ffermwyr a gwyliau bwyd yn bwysig gan eu bod yn creu cyswllt uniongyrchol rhwng cynhyrchu bwyd a phrynwyr, ac mae hyn yn galluogi'r rheini sy'n cynhyrchu bwyd i ddweud wrth brynwyr am yr heriau gwirioneddol y maent yn eu hwynebu wrth gynhyrchu'r bwyd hwnnw.

Support for Farming Families

Q7 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement on support for farming families in Wales? OAQ(3)0409(RAF)

Elin Jones: Within my portfolio, the aim is to provide the framework for a sustainable and profitable agriculture industry that is attractive for current and future generations of farming families. It is important to shape policies that secure the role of the traditional Welsh family farm that remains the backbone of the industry.

Eleanor Burnham: I am glad to hear that and I know that you are doing your best. As everyone knows, there is huge pressure on farming families, particularly those whose animals have suffered from diseases such as TB. They suffer emotional pressure as well as economic pressure, which can be highly detrimental. Do you agree with me? If so, how can you offer more assistance, particularly with regard to the other issues that have emerged during the summer?

yستod yr haf?

Elin Jones: Mae cynnal diwydiant amaeth sy'n gweld dyfodol iddo'i hun ac sy'n gweld cysylltiad clir gyda'r farchnad a chynhyrchu bwyd, ac sy'n cael ei ddiogelu rhag y peryglon sy'n wynebu'r rhai sy'n cadw anifeiliaid a chnydau, yn flaenoriaeth i mi. Dyna pam yr wyf wedi dechrau ymgynghoriad ar greu strategaeth gyflawn ar gyfer dyfodol y diwydiant amaeth, er mwyn ei wneud yn ddiwydiant a fydd yn gynaliadwy ac yn broffidiol fel y gallwn barhau i ffermio a chynhyrchu bwyd yng Nghymru ac fel bod ein ffermwyr yn gweld dyfodol o ran gwneud hynny a bod ganddynt rywfaent o hyder yn y dyfodol.

1.10 p.m.

Helen Mary Jones: Weinidog, a gytunwch â mi fod sicrhau bod teuluoedd ffermio yn gallu aros gyda'i gilydd a byw yn agos at ei gilydd ar y fferm yn rhan bwysig o gefnogi ffermydd teuluol yng nghefn gwlad Cymru? A gytunwch y bydd y newidiadau sydd ar y gweill i nodyn cyngor technegol 6 yn ei gwneud yn haws i ddatblygu tai yng nghefn gwlad—lle mae hynny'n angenrheidiol—ac yn helpu i gadw teuluoedd ffermio gyda'i gilydd?

Elin Jones: Un o'r rhwystredigaethau sydd wedi wynebu teuluoedd fferm yng nghefn gwlad dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf yw'r gallu i gael tai digonol i gynnal cenedlaethau o ffermwyr. Dyna pam mae'r Llywodraeth yn ymgynghori ar gynnwys newidiadau posibl i TAN 6, i sicrhau'r gallu i adeiladu tŷ ychwanegol ar ffermydd a fydd yn caniatáu i aelodau eraill o'r teulu sy'n gysylltiedig ag amaethyddiaeth fyw yn agos at yr amaethu yn hytrach na gorfod chwilio am dŷ a chartref y tu hwnt i'r fferm mewn pentref neu dref nad yw gerllaw. Bydd hynny'n cryfhau'r uned amaethu, sydd mor bwysig i'n patrwm ffermio ni.

Paul Davies: Fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, mae'r Rhwydwaith Argyfwng Ffermio yn darparu cymorth arbennig i deuluoedd sy'n ffermio. Mae'n cynnig help i ffermwyr mewn amseroedd anodd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n mynd yn anos i sefydliadau o'r fath weithredu, oherwydd diffyg arian. O ystyried

Elin Jones: Maintaining an agriculture industry that sees a future for itself and a clear connection with the market and food production, and that is safeguarded from the dangers facing those keeping livestock and those who plant crops, are priorities for me. That is why I have begun a consultation on the establishment of a comprehensive strategy for the future of the agriculture sector, making it a sector that will be profitable and sustainable so that we can continue to farm and produce food in Wales and so that our farmers will see a future in doing that and have some confidence in that future.

Helen Mary Jones: Minister, do you agree with me that ensuring that farming families are able to stay together and live close to each other on the farm is an important part of supporting family farms in rural Wales? Do you agree that the proposed changes to technical advice note 6 will make it easier to develop houses in rural areas—where that is necessary—and help to keep farming families together?

Elin Jones: One of the frustrations that farming families in rural areas have faced over the past few years is the inability to have an adequate number of homes to sustain generations of farmers. That is why the Government is consulting on possible changes to TAN 6, to ensure that additional housing can be built on farms, which would allow other members of the family who are linked to the agricultural business to live nearby rather than having to look for a home outside the farm in a village or town that is not close by. That will strengthen the agricultural unit, which is so important to our farming patterns.

Paul Davies: As the Minister knows, the Farm Crisis Network provides excellent support for farming families. It offers support to farmers at difficult times. However, it is getting more difficult for such organisations to operate because of a lack of funding. Given those circumstances, can you tell us

amgylchiadau o'r fath, a allwch ddweud wrthym a oes gan y Llywodraeth gynlluniau penodol i gynnig cymorth ariannol ychwanegol i grwpiau fel y Rhwydwaith Argyfwng Ffermio, sy'n gwneud gwaith pwysig iawn?

Elin Jones: Derbyniaf fod gwaith pwysig yn cael ei wneud i gynghori a rhoi cymorth i ffermwyr ac eraill o dan straen penodol. Yn ystod cyfnod clwy'r traed a'r genau y llynedd, ymatebodd y Llywodraeth i'r galw penodol bryd hynny pan gefais dystiolaeth fod mwy o angen cymorth yng Nghymru nag mewn unrhyw wlad arall yn y Deyrnas Gyfunol. Cyfrannodd y Llywodraeth £100,000 bryd hynny ar gyfer y gofynion ychwanegol yr oedd y Sefydliad Amaethyddol Brenhinol Llesionol yn eu hwynebu bryd hynny. Mae hwn, felly, yn fater sy'n achosi pryder. Nid oes gennyf gyllideb ychwanegol ar hyn o bryd, ond mae'n siŵr y byddwch chi ac eraill am wneud sylwadau pellach ar hynny.

Short-rotation Forestry

Q8 William Graham: Will the Minister make a statement on short-rotation forestry in Wales? OAQ(3)0431(RAF)

Elin Jones: The 'One Wales' programme commits the Assembly Government to exploring the desirability of a grant scheme to encourage the establishment of energy crops, including the potential use of short-rotation forestry. This is currently under consideration.

William Graham: I was hoping for something more definite, because you will know that, given current high energy prices and credit restrictions, more and more people will turn to wood burning this winter. You will know that short rotation forestry has a small profit margin, but has considerable environmental benefits, particularly given that trees sequester carbon dioxide during growth. Could you be more specific on when you think grants will be available?

Elin Jones: I cannot be more specific than saying that they are currently under consideration. The review of the axis 2

whether the Government has specific plans to offer additional financial assistance to groups such as the FCN, which do such important work?

Elin Jones: I accept that important work is done in advising farmers and others who are facing specific pressures. During the foot and mouth disease outbreak last year, the Government responded to the specific demand at that time when I heard evidence that there was a greater need for assistance in Wales than in any other part of the United Kingdom. The Government contributed £100,000 at that time to meet the additional needs that the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution had at that time. Therefore, this is a matter of concern. I do not have additional funding available to me at present, but I am sure that you and others will want to make further comments on this issue.

Coedwigaeth Cylchdro Byr

C8 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am goedwigaeth cylchdro byr yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0431(RAF)

Elin Jones: Mae rhaglen 'Cymru'n Un' yn ymrwymo Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i edrych ar fanteision cynllun grant er mwyn annog sefydlu cnydau ynni, gan gynnwys posibilrwydd defnyddio coedwigaeth cylchdro byr. Mae hyn yn cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd.

William Graham: Yr oeddwn yn gobeithio am rywbeth mwy pendant, oherwydd gwyddoch y bydd mwy a mwy o bobl yn troi at losgi coed y gaeaf hwn, yn sgil y prisiau ynni uchel a'r cyfyngiadau credyd a geir ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n siŵr y gwyddoch mai ychydig o elw a wna coedwigaeth cylchdro byr, ond bod iddo fanteision sylweddol i'r amgylchedd, yn enwedig wrth gofio bod coed yn atafaelu carbon deuocsid wrth dyfu. A allech fod yn fwy penodol ynghylch pryd yr ydych yn meddwl y bydd grantiau ar gael?

Elin Jones: Ni allaf fod yn fwy penodol na dweud eu bod yn cael eu hystyried ar hyn o bryd. Caiff yr adolygiad o gynlluniau echel 2

schemes under the rural development plan will be announced in the near future and energy crop issues will feature in that review. That is as specific as I can be at this point.

Tackling Bovine Tuberculosis

Q9 Nick Ramsay: Will the Minister update us on her policies for tackling bovine TB? OAQ(3)0403(RAF)

Elin Jones: An update on progress to date of the TB eradication programme was given as part of my statement yesterday.

Nick Ramsay: My question was clearly pre-empted by your written statement yesterday. On that statement, and specifically on the TB healthcheck Wales section, you say that you intend to test an additional 3,500 herds by December 2009, which is an ambitious target. Such herds would normally take four years to test. Can you assure us that that deadline can be met and that, as part of that process, herd-keepers will be able to play their part in delivering that without too onerous a burden being put on them?

Elin Jones: This is a considerable upscaling of the amount of cattle testing that will happen in Wales—3,500 additional herds is a significant amount. We undertook a review of veterinary capacity, surveying private veterinarians in Wales to ascertain their capacity to meet this level of upscaling. We were pleased to hear that they believed that the capacity existed. We have put contingency measures in place with the Animal Health and Welfare agency should the private vets in some areas be unable to undertake this work. We have a commitment to test every herd in Wales within one year so that we can define and scope the extent of this disease, particularly in those areas that are clean or cleaner. Therefore, the potential pressure will be in those areas that are currently not subject to annual but to four-year testing.

Gareth Jones: Mae fy nghwestiwn yn

dan y cynllun datblygu gwledig ei gyhoeddi yn y dyfodol agos a rhoddir sylw i gnydau ynni yn yr adolygiad hwnnw. Dyna pa mor benodol y gallaf fod ar hyn o bryd.

Mynd i'r Afael â TB mewn Gwartheg

C9 Nick Ramsay: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni am ei pholisïau ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â TB mewn gwartheg? OAQ(3)0403(RAF)

Elin Jones: Rhoddwyd yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y cynnydd a wnaethpwyd hyd yma ar y rhaglen i ddileu TB fel rhan o'r m datganiad ddoe.

Nick Ramsay: Mae'n amlwg i'ch datganiad ysgrifenedig ddoe achub y blaen ar fy nghwestiwn. Parthed y datganiad hwnnw, ac adran Cymru ar gyfer archwilio cyflwr TB yn benodol, yr ydych yn dweud y bwriadwch gynnal profion ar 3,500 gyr ychwanegol erbyn Rhagfyr 2009. Mae hwnnw'n darged uchelgeisiol. Byddai angen pedair blynedd i gynnal profion ar yrroedd o'r fath fel rheol. A allwch ein sicrhau y gellir bodloni'r terfyn amser ac y gall ceidwaid gyrr, fel rhan o'r broses honno, chwarae eu rhan yng ngwaith darparu hynny heb roi baich rhy drwm arnynt?

Elin Jones: Mae hyn yn golygu codi cryn dipyn ar y lefelau profi gwartheg yng Nghymru—mae 3,500 gyrr ychwanegol yn nifer sylweddol. Gwnaethom gynnal adolygiad o gapasiti milfeddygaeth, gan arolygu milfeddygon preifat yng Nghymru i ganfod eu gallu i fodloni'r lefel brofi hon. Yr oeddem yn falch o glywed eu bod yn credu bod y capasiti'n bodoli. Yr ydym wedi rhoi mesurau wrth gefn ar waith gyda'r asiantaeth Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid rhag ofn na fydd y milfeddygon preifat mewn rhai ardaloedd yn gallu cyflawni'r gwaith hwn. Mae gennym ymrwymiad i brofi pob buches yng Nghymru mewn blwyddyn er mwyn inni allu diffinio a chwmpasu hyd a lled y clefyd hwn, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd hynny sy'n lân neu'n lanach. Felly, mae'n bosibl mai ar yr ardaloedd hynny lle nad oes rhaid profi bob blwyddyn, ond yn hytrach pob pedair blynedd, y bydd y pwysau posibl.

Gareth Jones: My question relates to the

ymwneud â phrofi anifeiliaid. Mae'n amlwg y byddwch, maes o law, yn gallu meintoli'r afiechyd hwn drwy Gymru gyfan ac yn darganfod faint o her fydd ei drin mewn gwirionedd. A fydd yn achosi newid yn yr iawndaliadau a delir i ffermwyr, ac a ydych yn bwriadu ariannu neu baratoi cynlluniau ariannol ar gyfer hynny?

Elin Jones: Os byddwn yn profi 3,500 o fuchesi ychwanegol, mae'n debygol y byddwn yn gweld cynnydd yn y tymor byr yn nifer y gwartheg y byddwn yn gorfod eu lladd oherwydd TB ac felly'n gorfod talu iawndal amdanynt. Yn y tymor byr, fel yr wyf wedi'i ddweud o'r blaen, mae'n bosibl y bydd lefel yr iawndal y bydd y Llywodraeth yn gorfod ei dalu yn cynyddu, ond, yn y pen draw, y nod yw gostwng hynny'n sylweddol wrth i'r rhaglen fynd yn ei blaen. Gan ein bod wedi rhagweld y cynnydd hwn yn lefel yr iawndal, yr ydym wedi gallu cyllido ar ei gyfer.

Mick Bates: Along with the rest of the industry, we welcome your statement yesterday, and I am certain that most will do everything possible to ensure that it is a success. This disease is now very extensive. In your statement, you said that it had increased again by 20 per cent or so over the past quarter. As it affects more and more cattle, there is increasing frustration at some of the worst aspects of this disease, namely the removal of reactors from the farm and the amount of time taken to inform farmers that an animal that they have purchased is from a farm that has since been placed under restriction. Can you give us an assurance today that the aim of removing reactors from farms within 20 days will be met, and that, as part of the scheme, you will reduce the length of that target? It is obvious to everyone that having an infected animal on a farm has the potential to transmit the disease to other animals. Therefore, what will you do to meet that target and reduce it?

Elin Jones: First, I want to meet it. The 20-day target for the removal of reactors needs to be met, and it has not been in some places, especially in areas of south-west Wales where we are identifying more and more cattle and we are putting increasing pressure

testing of animals. It is obvious that you will, in time, be able to quantify the extent of this disease across Wales, and will discover just how much of a challenge it poses in reality. Will it have any impact on the amount of compensation payments given to farmers, and do you intend to finance or make financial plans for that event?

Elin Jones: If we are testing an additional 3,500 herds, it is likely that, in the short term, we will see an increase in the number of cattle slaughtered because of TB and therefore required to be compensated for. In the short term, as I have said previously, it is likely that the level of the compensation payable by the Government will have to increase, but, ultimately, the aim is to reduce that significantly as the programme gets under way. Given that we were able to predict that increase in the compensation payments, we have also been able to budget for that.

Mick Bates: Ynghyd â gweddill y diwydiant, croesawn y datganiad a roesoeh ddoe, ac yr wyf yn bendant y bydd y rhan fwyaf yn gwneud popeth posibl i sicrhau ei fod yn llwyddiant. Mae'r clefyd hwn yn helaeth erbyn hyn. Yn eich datganiad, dywedasoeh ei fod wedi cynyddu oddeutu 20 y cant eto dros y chwarter diwethaf. Gan ei fod yn effeithio ar fwy a mwy o wartheg, teimlir mwy a mwy o rwystredigaeth at rai o agweddau gwaethaf y clefyd hwn, sef gwaredu adweithyddion o'r fferm a'r amser a gymerir i roi gwybod i ffermwyr bod anifail y maent wedi'i brynu yn dod o fferm sydd, ers hynny, wedi wynebu cyfyngiadau. A allwch ein sicrhau heddiw y cyflawnir y nod o gael gwared ag adweithyddion o ffermydd o fewn 20 diwrnod, ac y byddwch, fel rhan o'r cynllun, yn gostwng hyd y targed hwnnw? Mae'n amlwg i bawb bod gan anifail sydd wedi'i heintio ar fferm botensial i drosglwyddo'r clefyd i anifeiliaid eraill. Felly, beth a wnewch i gyrraedd y targed hwnnw a'i leihau?

Elin Jones: I ddechrau, mae arnaf eisiau ei gyrraedd. Mae angen bodloni'r targed o waredu adweithyddion o fewn 20 diwrnod, ac nid yw wedi cael ei fodloni mewn rhai lleoedd, yn arbennig mewn ardaloedd yn y de-orllewin, lle yr ydym yn canfod mwy a

on Animal Health and Welfare to remove them. We have identified it as a part of our TB eradication programme that needs to be improved, and we are providing further resources for those offices that are under pressure to enable them to improve on their performance in meeting the target. Once we meet the 20-day removal target, I will consider reducing the length of it even further.

Mick Bates: I welcome that answer, but I think that the proof of the pudding will be in the eating, and the whole industry is waiting to see that 20-day target met and a reduction in its length. As more farms are placed under restriction, the economic pressures will rise, and a big frustration is the inability to sell stock in a live market. Over the border, there are what are termed 'red markets' where farmers can take their livestock to an auction to sell and go to slaughter, but there are no such markets in mid Wales. What plans do you have to alleviate some of this economic pressure by providing a red market where farmers in mid Wales can sell their livestock?

1.20 p.m.

Elin Jones: I have received no direct representations on the establishment of red markets for the purposes of eradicating TB. However, I would consider this to be one of the issues that the regional TB eradication boards might well want to consider as part of their recommendations to me. The boards are meeting for the first time today in south-west, north, and south-east Wales. They are best placed to give advice on how the economics of farming continues despite the restrictions that farmers find themselves under to contain this disease. Restricting the movement of animals and other restrictions on farms play a key part in ensuring that this disease is controlled and eradicated, and in ensuring that it certainly does not move to areas that are currently free from this disease.

New Entrants to Farming

Q10 Kirsty Williams: Will the Minister make a statement on support for new entrants

mw y o wartheg sy'n adweithyddion ac yr ydym yn rhoi pwysau cynyddol ar yr asiantaeth Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid i'w gwaredu. Yr ydym wedi nodi hyn fel rhan o'n rhaglen i ddileu TB y mae angen ei gwella, ac yr ydym yn darparu ychwaneg o adnodaau i'r swyddfeydd hynny sydd dan bwysau er mwyn eu galluogi i wella eu perfformiad wrth gyrraedd y targed. Ar ôl inni fodloni'r targed gwaredu 20 diwrnod, byddaf yn ystyried ei ostwng eto.

Mick Bates: Croesawaf yr ateb hwnnw, ond credaf mai wrth ei flas mae profi pwddin, ac mae'r diwydiant cyfan yn aros i weld y targed 20 diwrnod hwnnw'n cael ei fodloni ac yn cael ei ostwng. Wrth i gyfyngiad gael ei roi ar fwy o ffermydd, bydd y pwysau economaidd yn cynyddu, ac un peth rhwystredig iawn yw methu gallu gwerthu stoc mewn marchnad fyw. Dros y ffin, ceir yr hyn a elwir yn 'farchnadoedd coch', lle gall ffermwyr fynd â'u da byw i arwerthiant i'w gwerthu ac i fynd i'w lladd, ond ni cheir marchnadoedd o'r fath yn y canolbarth. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i leddfu rhywfaint o'r pwysau economaidd hwn drwy ddarparu marchnad goch lle gall ffermwyr y canolbarth werthu'u da byw?

Elin Jones: Nid wyf wedi cael dim sylwadau uniongyrchol am sefydlu marchnadoedd coch at ddibenion dileu TB. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn ystyried bod hyn yn un o'r materion y byddai'r byrddau dileu TB rhanbarthol am eu hystyried fel rhan o'u hargymhellion imi. Mae'r byrddau'n cwrdd am y tro cyntaf heddiw yn y de-orllewin, yn y gogledd ac yn y de-ddwyrain. Hwy sydd yn y sefyllfa orau i roi cyngor ynghylch sut y mae economeg ffermio yn parhau er y cyfyngiadau a roddir ar ffermwyr er mwyn atal y clefyd hwn. Mae cyfyngu symud anifeiliaid a chyfyngiadau eraill ar ffermydd yn rhan allweddol o sicrhau bod y clefyd hwn yn cael ei reoli a'i ddileu, ac o sicrhau na fydd yn bendant yn symud i ardaloedd nas effeithir arnynt gan y clefyd hwn ar hyn o bryd.

Newydd-ddyfodiaid i Ffermio

C10 Kirsty Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gefnogaeth i newydd-

to farming? OAQ(3)0404(RAF)

Elin Jones: I am currently consulting on proposals to support young entrants to farming and thus meet delivery on a key commitment under my portfolio within 'One Wales'. The consultation will end on 10 October.

Kirsty Williams: I am sure that you will agree that it is encouraging to think that there are young people who still want to go into the industry and who see a positive future for themselves and their families in farming. However, there are examples in my constituency of new entrants who have applied to the national reserve for assistance in helping to set up their business only to find that it is now closed and that they cannot access any single farm payment. What are you doing to look at this situation and to help those who are newly established in the agricultural industry?

Elin Jones: I understand the point, of course. In the economics of running a farm, the single farm payment plays a role for many, and any disincentive in that system to young farmers is a matter of concern. I am sure that this matter will be raised as part of the consultation by interested parties. I will look at the matter to see where I have powers to influence it in any way. I will need to look at it at that stage, dependent on the ideas that come forward to me.

Sea Fisheries

Q11 Ann Jones: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to ensure the effective management of sea fisheries in Welsh waters? OAQ(3)0426(RAF)

Elin Jones: I recently announced that the Assembly Government will assume full responsibility for sea fisheries management in Wales. This is part of an integrated approach to fisheries, which includes the transfer of Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Marine and Fisheries Agency officers to the Assembly Government and the creation of a Welsh fisheries zone.

ddyfodiaid i ffermio? OAQ(3)0404(RAF)

Elin Jones: Yr wyf ar hyn o bryd yn ymgynghori ar gynigion i gefnogi newydd-ddyfodiaid i ffermio ac felly bodloni un ymrwymiad allweddol sy'n rhan o'm portffolio yn 'Cymru'n Un'. Daw'r ymgynghoriad i ben ar 10 Hydref.

Kirsty Williams: Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch ei bod yn galonogol meddwl y ceir pobl ifanc sy'n dal yn dymuno mynd i'r diwydiant ac sy'n gweld dyfodol cadarnhaol i'w hunain ac i'w teuluoedd mewn amaethyddiaeth. Fodd bynnag, ceir enghreifftiau yn fy etholaeth lle mae newydd-ddyfodiaid wedi gwneud cais i'r gronfa genedlaethol am gymorth i helpu i sefydlu eu busnes, dim ond i ganfod ei bod bellach ar gau ac nad oes modd iddynt gael gafael ar ddim un taliad sengl. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i edrych ar y sefyllfa hon ac i helpu'r rheini sydd newydd sefydlu'u hunain yn y diwydiant amaeth?

Elin Jones: Deallaf y pwynt, wrth gwrs. O ran yr economeg sy'n gysylltiedig â rhedeg fferm, mae'r taliad sengl yn rhan o hynny i lawer, ac mae unrhyw beth nad yw'n cymell ffermwyr ifanc yn y system honno yn destun pryder. Yr wyf yn siŵr y codir y mater hwn fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad gan bartïon sydd â diddordeb. Edrychaf ar y mater i weld lle mae gennyf bwerau i ddylanwadu arno mewn unrhyw ffordd. Bydd angen i mi edrych arno ar y cam hwnnw, yn dibynnu ar y syniadau a gyflwynir imi.

Pysgodfeydd Môr

C11 Ann Jones: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n ei wneud i sicrhau bod pysgodfeydd môr yn cael eu rheoli'n effeithiol yn nyfroedd Cymru? OAQ(3)0426(RAF)

Elin Jones: Yn ddiweddar, cyhoeddais y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ysgwyddo cyfrifoldeb yn llwyr dros reoli pysgodfeydd môr yng Nghymru. Mae hyn yn rhan o ymagwedd integredig at bysgodfeydd, sy'n cynnwys trosglwyddo swyddogion Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig ac Asiantaeth y Môr a Physgodfeydd i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad a chreu parth pysgodfeydd Cymru.

Ann Jones: You have announced that it will come in-house, but proposals contained in the draft Marine Bill would produce an inshore fishery conservation authority, with a clear remit and duties for the management and enforcement of fisheries. How will your in-house fisheries committee co-ordinate across the England/Wales border, and how can that be achieved with different management approaches to fisheries?

Elin Jones: We have taken a different approach to that which is likely to be undertaken under the Marine Bill in England, which will see the establishment of inshore fishery conservation associations—or IFCA's, as they are becoming known. I have decided to manage fisheries in Wales directly.

With regard to cross-border issues, I do not foresee any problems; the relationship between the Assembly Government and those IFCA's that border our area will continue, just as though we had taken the decision to have an IFCA for Wales. The relationship and the need for discussion will remain, because we share the seas that surround us.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i'r Gweinidog am ateb y cwestiynau, yn enwedig yr un olaf hwnnw.

Ann Jones: Yr ydych wedi cyhoeddi y daw dan adain y Llywodraeth, ond byddai cynigion sydd yn y Mesur Morol drafft yn cynhyrchu awdurdod gwarchod pysgodfeydd y glannau, gyda chylch gwaith a dyletswyddau clir ar gyfer rheoli a gorfodi pysgodfeydd. Sut y bydd eich pwyllgor pysgodfeydd mewnol yn cydlynu ar draws y ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr, a sut y gellir cyflawni hynny gyda gwahanol ymagweddau at bysgodfeydd?

Elin Jones: Yr ydym wedi arddel ymagwedd wahanol i'r un sy'n debygol o gael ei gweithredu dan Fesur Morol Lloegr. Bydd hwnnw'n gweld sefydlu asiantaethau diogelu pysgodfeydd y glannau—neu IFCA's, fel y'u gelwir erbyn hyn. Yr wyf wedi penderfynu rheoli pysgodfeydd Cymru'n uniongyrchol.

O ran materion trawsffiniol, nid wyf yn rhagweld dim problemau; bydd y berthynas rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r IFCA's sy'n ffinio â'n hardal ni yn parhau, yn union fel petaem wedi penderfynu cael IFCA ar gyfer Cymru. Bydd y berthynas a'r angen i drafod yn parhau oherwydd ein bod yn rhannu'r moroedd sy'n ein hamgylchynu.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the Minister for answering all of those questions, particularly that last one.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai Questions to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing

Key Policy Areas

Q1 Andrew R.T. Davies: Will the Minister explain how her key policy areas will positively impact on the lives of residents in South Wales Central? OAQ(3)0487(ESH)

The Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing (Jane Davidson): My key policy areas will benefit the residents of South Wales Central and the rest of Wales by contributing to the delivery of the 'One Wales' agenda and all national and international obligations.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I direct you to your

Prif Feysydd Polisi

C1 Andrew R.T. Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog egluro sut y bydd ei phrif feysydd polisi yn cael effaith gadarnhaol ar fywydau trigolion Canol De Cymru? OAQ(3)0487(ESH)

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai (Jane Davidson): Bydd fy mhrif feysydd polisi o fudd i breswylwyr Canol De Cymru a gweddill Cymru oherwydd y bydd yn cyfrannu at gyflawni agenda 'Cymru'n Un' a phob rhwymedigaeth genedlaethol a rhyngwladol.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at eich

planning portfolio responsibility. I know that you cannot comment on a specific planning case, but I have received representations from a constituent, Jean Underdown, about her ability to take her fight to the House of Lords. If a decision goes in your favour at the council meeting or at the appeals stage, everyone has won and everyone is on your side. If the decision goes against you, you will seek recourse through other avenues. I have looked into Mrs Underwood's case and, in my humble opinion, she has grounds on which to proceed. However, like many people who want to take things to the next level, she finds that the financial implications of going to the House of Lords are prohibitive and act as a barrier to her proceeding to seek redress.

Do you have the means within your portfolio responsibilities to offer advice to Mrs Underwood and are you giving consideration to setting up a scheme that would give my constituents financial assistance should they decide to seek redress from the House of Lords on planning matters?

Jane Davidson: As you said at the beginning of your contribution, I cannot comment on individual cases. We can sometimes draw messages from individual cases and, if you were to write to me about Mrs Underwood's case, my department would look into the matter and we would respond accordingly.

Chris Franks: Minister, you will be aware of the complaints by Treforest residents regarding the impact on their community of the large numbers of students in the area. The Deputy Minister, Jocelyn Davies, and I met with resident representatives. We heard their concerns and were told of the problems that are often caused by the failure of landlords to act responsibly. Residents are concerned about the loss of family homes and the rise in environmental and social problems that stem from a decline in the sense of community. What positive assurances can you give to Treforest residents?

Jane Davidson: I must say that, in my capacity as the Assembly Member for Pontypridd, I sit on the Treforest forum.

cyfrifoldeb dros y portffolio cynllunio. Gwn na allwch roi sylwadau ar achos cynllunio penodol, ond yr wyf wedi cael sylwadau gan etholwr, Jean Underdown, am ei gallu i fynd â'i brwydr i Dŷ'r Arglwyddi. Os bydd penderfyniad yn mynd o'ch plaid yng nghyfarfod y cyngor neu yn ystod y cam apêl, bydd pawb wedi ennill a phawb yn eich cefnogi. Os bydd y penderfyniad yn mynd yn eich erbyn, byddwch yn ceisio atebolrwydd drwy lwybrau eraill. Yr wyf wedi edrych ar achos Mrs Underwood ac, yn fy marn gyffredin i, mae ganddi sail i barhau â'r achos. Fodd bynnag, fel llawer o bobl sydd am fynd â phethau i'r lefel nesaf, mae'n gweld bod y goblygiadau ariannol o fynd i Dŷ'r Arglwyddi yn waharddol ac yn rhwystr rhag dal ati a cheisio iawn.

A yw'r modd gennych yng nghyfrifoldebau eich portffolio i gynghori Mrs Underwood ac a ydych yn ystyried sefydlu cynllun a fyddai'n rhoi cymorth ariannol i fy etholwyr petaent yn penderfynu ceisio iawn gan Dŷ'r Arglwyddi yng nghyswllt materion cynllunio?

Jane Davidson: Fel y dywedasoeh ar ddechrau'ch cyfraniad, ni chaf roi sylw ar faterion unigol. Gallwn weithiau lunio negeseuon o achosion unigol, a phetaech yn ysgrifennu ataf am achos Mrs Underwood, byddai fy adran yn edrych ar y mater ac yn ymateb yn briodol.

Chris Franks: Weinidog, gwyddoch am gwynion preswylwyr Trefforest ynghylch yr effaith y mae nifer uchel y myfyrwyr yn yr ardal yn ei chael ar eu cymuned. Cyfarfu'r Dirprwy Weinidog, Jocelyn Davies, a minnau gyda chynrychiolwyr o blith y preswylwyr. Clywsom eu pryderon a dywedwyd wrthym am y problemau a achosir yn aml gan fethiant landlordiaid i weithredu mewn ffordd gyfrifol. Mae'r preswylwyr yn bryderus am y ffaith bod cartrefi teuluoedd yn cael eu colli ac am y cynnydd mewn problemau amgylcheddol a chymdeithasol sy'n deillio o ddirywiad yn yr ymdeimlad o gymuned. Sut y gallwch dawelu meddwl preswylwyr Trefforest?

Jane Davidson: Rhaid i mi ddweud, yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel yr Aelod Cynulliad dros Bontypridd, yr wyf yn eistedd ar fforwm

Trefforest.

Jenny Randerson: Minister, fuel poverty should be at the top of your agenda; it is certainly at the top of the agenda for the Welsh Liberal Democrats. Have you had discussions with the UK Government yet, following its recent announcement about a number of energy-saving measures? Can you give us an approximate or precise figure of how much of that money should be devolved to Wales? Can you also give us an idea of how you plan to spend that money so that it is not only targeted at energy saving but also at the poorest?

Jenny Randerson: Weinidog, dylai bod tlodi tanwydd ar frig eich agenda; mae'n bendant ar frig agenda Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru. A ydych wedi cael trafodaethau gyda Llywodraeth y DU eto, yn dilyn ei chyhoeddiadau diweddar am nifer o fesurau arbed ynni? A allwch roi ffigur bras neu gywir inni o faint o'r arian hwnnw a ddylai gael ei ddatganoli i Gymru? A allwch hefyd roi syniad inni o'r ffordd y bwriadwch wario'r arian hwnnw er mwyn sicrhau y caiff ei dargedu at y bobl dlotaf yn ogystal ag at arbed ynni?

Jane Davidson: The announcement by the UK Government came after consideration by all four nations in the UK as part of an interministerial advisory group. We met in July. We have also been working very closely with Ofgem, the regulator, to take the agenda forwards. The vast proportion of the investment comes from the energy suppliers, under the carbon emission reduction targets, the CERT arrangements. I continue to meet the energy suppliers in Wales to obtain figures on how much of that CERT investment will come to Wales. However, since we are in a liberalised market and individuals can choose any energy supplier, that information is not easily available.

Jane Davidson: Daeth y cyhoeddiad gan Lywodraeth y DU ar ôl i bedair gwlad y DU ystyried y mater fel rhan o grŵp cynghori rhyngweinidogol. Cyfarfuom ym mis Gorffennaf. Yr ydym hefyd wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gydag Ofgem, y rheolydd, i fynd â'r agenda rhagddi. Daw'r rhan helaeth o'r buddsoddiad gan gyflenwyr ynni, dan y targedau gostwng allyriadau carbon, y trefniadau CERT. Yr wyf yn dal i gyfarfod â'r cyflenwyr ynni yng Nghymru i gael gafael ar ffigurau ynghylch faint o'r buddsoddiad hwnnw gan CERT a ddaw i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, gan ein bod yn farchnad ryddfrydol ac y gall unigolion ddewis unrhyw gyflenwr ynni, nid yw'n hawdd cael gafael ar yr wybodaeth honno.

The Pitt Report

Q2 Nick Ramsay: What assessment has the Minister made of the recommendations of the Pitt report on the 2007 summer floods? OAQ(3)0480(ESH)

Jane Davidson: In my written response to Sir Michael's report in June, I welcomed his findings and announced that I would consider the report, developing additional actions in those areas where further improvements could be made. My officials are preparing an action plan and I shall be responding to the report formally in November.

Nick Ramsey: Thank you for that response. Minister. The Pitt report and its recommendations have become even more significant in light of this summer's severe

Adroddiad Pitt

C2 Nick Ramsay: Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud o argymhellion adroddiad Pitt ar lifogydd haf 2007? OAQ(3)0480(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Yn fy ateb ysgrifenedig i adroddiad Syr Michael ym mis Mehefin, croesawais ei ganfyddiadau a chyhoeddi y byddwn yn ystyried yr adroddiad, gan ddatblygu camau ychwanegol yn y meysydd hynny lle gellid gwneud mwy o welliannau. Mae fy swyddogion yn paratoi cynllun gweithredu a byddaf yn ymateb i'r adroddiad yn ffurfiol fis Tachwedd.

Nick Ramsey: Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae adroddiad Pitt a'i argymhellion yn fwy arwyddocaol byth yng ngoleuni llifogydd difrifol yr haf hwn. Yr

floods. I want to ask you about one specific aspect of flooding, which you have been asked about previously in this Chamber, namely surface run-off. It is an area that hitherto has been neglected. We often talk about coastal flooding and flooding from rivers, but, during the summer, I visited an estate in my constituency that had been severely affected by surface run-off. The people living on that estate felt that their problems had been overlooked for too long when it came to the action required to be taken by the relevant parties. Can you tell us how your policies will deal with the problem of surface run-off in light of the recommendations of the Pitt report, and when do you expect to implement those recommendations fully?

1.30 p.m.

Jane Davidson: It is a critical issue. I have said in the Chamber many times before that we are likely to see an increase in flooding. We have seen a 20 per cent increase in run-off, and we are likely to see a 1m rise in sea levels over the next century. As was the case last summer, this summer has demonstrated that Wales can be the victim of sudden storms that deliver a large amount of rainfall over a short period of time. Topographically, south Wales is particularly at risk. Sometimes, there can be as little as 15 minutes' notice between the problems of rain and the difficulty in terms of the water escaping. Therefore, it is difficult to look at an individual strategy that would tackle all of the issues of surface water flooding. However, we have an integrated surface water management group that brings all of the key players together. There are, of course, critical issues about making sure that all of the drains and culverts are kept clean and free of debris.

The Pitt report talks about clarifying responsibilities and making sure that the agents responsible for fluvial flooding or sea flooding are also responsible for surface water flooding. We support all of these issues strongly. I visited the incident room at the Environment Agency to hear from those at the sharp end about how the flooding this summer was managed. Although you used the word 'severe', we have not had the

wyf am eich holi am un agwedd benodol ar lifogydd—agwedd yr ydych wedi cael eich holi amdani yn y gorffennol yn y Siambr hon, sef dŵr ffo. Mae'n faes sydd wedi cael ei esgeuluso hyd yn hyn. Byddwn yn sôn yn aml am lifogydd arfordirol a llifogydd o afonydd ond yn ystod yr haf, ymwelais â stad yn fy etholaeth yr effeithiwyd yn ddifrifol arni gan ddŵr ffo. Teimlai'r bobl a oedd yn byw ar y stad honno bod eu problemau wedi cael eu hesgeuluso ers gormod o amser o ran y camau yr oedd angen i'r partion perthnasol eu cymryd. A allwch ddweud wrthym sut y bydd eich polisiau'n ymdrin â phroblem dŵr ffo yng ngoleuni argymhellion adroddiad Pitt, a phryd y disgwyliwch weithredu'r argymhellion hynny yn llawn?

Jane Davidson: Mae'n fater tyngedfennol. Yr wyf wedi dweud yn y Siambr droeon o'r blaen ein bod yn debygol o weld cynnydd mewn llifogydd. Yr ydym wedi gweld cynnydd o 20 y cant mewn dŵr ffo, ac yr ydym yn debygol o weld lefel y môr yn codi 1m dros y ganrif nesaf. Fel a ddigwyddodd yr haf diwethaf, mae'r haf hwn wedi dangos y gall Cymru ddiodeff stormydd sydyn sy'n dod â llawer iawn o law dros gyfnod byr o amser. Yn dopograffigol, mae de Cymru'n wynebu risg arbennig. Weithiau, gall fod cyn lleied â 15 munud o rybudd rhwng problemau glaw ac anawsterau ar ffurf y dŵr yn dianc. Felly, mae'n anodd edrych ar un strategaeth a fyddai'n mynd i'r afael â holl faterion llifogydd dŵr wyneb. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym grŵp integredig rheoli dŵr wyneb sy'n dod â'r holl chwaraewyr allweddol ynghyd. Mae yna, wrth gwrs, faterion tyngedfennol o safbwynt gwneud yn siŵr fod pob draen a chwlfert yn cael ei gadw'n lân, heb falurion ynddo.

Mae adroddiad Pitt yn sôn am egluro cyfrifoldebau a gwneud yn siŵr fod yr asiantau sy'n gyfrifol am lifogydd afonol neu lifogydd o'r môr hefyd yn gyfrifol am lifogydd dŵr wyneb. Yr ydym yn cefnogi'r holl faterion hyn yn gryf. Ymwelais â'r ystafell ddigwyddiadau yn Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd i glywed gan y rhai sy'n gweithio ar lawr gwlad am sut yr ymdriniwyd â'r llifogydd yr haf yma. Er ichi ddefnyddio'r

severity of flooding in Wales seen across the border this year or last year, and our defences did not fail.

Janet Ryder: One of the Pitt report's recommendations was to increase the further roll-out of an opt-out telephone flood warning system. The Environment Agency has, for some time, operated an opt-in system in Wales. Over the summer, I was contacted by someone who thought that they had opted in to the Floodline warning, only to receive a strange letter from Floodline telling them that they had checked the register and assumed that these people no longer dwelt in that property, and that they should contact it if they wanted to remain on the register. This seems to be a very strange system. Obviously, Floodline was trying its best to get people to opt in, but it alarmed people and made them wonder why they were registered as not dwelling in that property. Minister, are you satisfied that sufficient people are taking up the ability to get that Floodline help number? If not, what can we do to increase the number of people who have that number?

Jane Davidson: That is an absolutely critical question, and I am absolutely not satisfied that sufficient people are registered with Floodline. In those communities that are at risk—and people can see whether their community is at risk by looking at Environment Agency information on the website—people need to be registered for Floodline information. I will be looking at what we can do in Wales in my response to the Pitt report in November. However, it is critical that every single Assembly Member makes sure that residents in areas that could be affected by flooding can use the Floodline information.

Kirsty Williams: On 5 September, following heavy rainfall, properties were flooded in Brecon, Felinfach, Aberyscir, and Cradoc in my constituency. That led to the widespread damage of minor roads and the collapse of culverts. Indeed, Pontfaen bridge was swept

gair 'difrifol', nid ydym wedi cael llifogydd mor ddifrifol â'r hyn a welwyd dros y ffin eleni na'r llynedd, ac ni fethodd ein hamddiffynfeydd.

Janet Ryder: Un o argymhellion adroddiad Pitt oedd cynyddu ymhellach y ddarpariaeth i raddol gyflwyno system rhybuddio am lifogydd dros y ffôn, y mae modd eithrio ohoni. Mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi gweithredu system dewis ymuno yng Nghymru ers tro. Dros yr haf, cysylltwyd â mi gan rywun a oedd yn credu iddo ddewis ymuno â rhybuddion y Llinell Llifogydd, dim ond iddo gael llythyr rhyfedd gan y Llinell Llifogydd yn dweud eu bod wedi edrych ar y gofrestr ac wedi tybio nad oedd y bobl hyn yn byw yn yr eiddo mwyach, ac y dylent gysylltu â'r llinell os oeddent am aros ar y gofrestr. Mae hon yn ymddangos yn system ryfedd iawn. Yn amlwg, yr oedd y Llinell Llifogydd yn gwneud ei gorau i gael pobl i ddewis ymuno, ond cododd ofn ar bobl gan wneud iddynt feddwl pam nad oeddent wedi cael eu cofrestru fel pobl a oedd yn byw yn yr eiddo hwnnw. Weinidog, a ydych yn fodlon fod digon o bobl yn manteisio ar y gallu i gael rhif cymorth y Llinell Llifogydd? Os nad ydych, beth allwn ni ei wneud i gynyddu'r nifer o bobl sydd â'r rhif hwnnw?

Jane Davidson: Mae hwnnw'n gwestiwn cwbl dyngedfennol, ac nid wyf yn fodlon o gwbl fod digon o bobl wedi cofrestru gyda'r Llinell Llifogydd. Yn y cymunedau hynny sydd mewn perygl—a gall pobl weld a oes perygl i'w cymuned drwy edrych ar wybodaeth Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar y wefan—mae angen i bobl fod wedi cofrestru i gael gwybodaeth gan y Llinell Llifogydd. Byddaf yn ystyried beth y gallwn ei wneud yng Nghymru yn fy ymateb i adroddiad Pitt ym mis Tachwedd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n hollbwysig fod pob un Aelod Cynulliad yn gwneud yn siŵr fod trigolion mewn ardaloedd y gallai llifogydd effeithio arnynt yn gallu defnyddio gwybodaeth y Llinell Llifogydd.

Kirsty Williams: Ar 5 Medi, yn dilyn glaw trwm, cafwyd llifogydd mewn eiddo yn Aberhonddu, Felin-fach, Aberysgir a Cradoc yn f'etholaeth. Arweiniodd hynny ar ddfrod eang i is-ffyrdd ac at gwlfertau yn dymchwel. Yn wir, cafodd pont Pontfaen ei chario

away minutes after a minibus full of primary school children had crossed it. This has left Powys County Council with a large clean-up and repair bill. Will you be making additional resources available to councils such as that in Powys, via the Bellman formula, to help them with the cost of clearing up and repairing the damage caused by those floods?

Jane Davidson: Following an event such as that which we have had, one of the critical issues is to ensure that we get evidence of the actions undertaken, of where the responsibility lies and, therefore, of where the investment lies. We put large increases into the flood budgets, details of which I sent to all Members earlier this year. In addition to that, there is money in the rate support grant for councils in terms of their obligations. We would always look at working in partnership with councils to ensure that the response is correct and proportionate and that the appropriate body picks up the cost.

Datblygiadau Ynni

C3 Nerys Evans: Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael am ddatblygiadau ynni dros 50 MW? OAQ(3)0525(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Mae trafodaethau wedi'u cynnal dros gyfnod o flynyddoedd rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant, fel ag yr oedd bryd hynny, a Swyddfa Cymru ar drosglwyddo'r drefn ar gyfer caniatáu gorsafoedd ynni. Yr oedd fy ymateb i Bapur Gwyn Llywodraeth y DU ar gynllunio yn dadlau'n gryf o blaid datganoli pwerau caniatáu ynni i Weithrediaeth Cymru.

Nerys Evans: O siarad â phobl ar hyd a lled canolbarth a gorllewin Cymru, yr wyf wedi darganfod bod llawer o ddryswch o ran ym mhle mae'r penderfyniadau ynglŷn â datblygiadau ynni dros 50 MW yn cael eu gwneud. A ydych yn cytuno ei fod yn hanfodol, er mwyn datblygu strategaeth gynhwysfawr yn y maes datblygu ynni adnewyddadwy, fod penderfyniadau strategol yn cael eu gwneud mewn un lle ac mai senedd Cymru dylai'r lle hwnnw fod? A

ymaith funudau ar ôl i fws mini yn llawn plant ysgol gynradd ei chroesi. Mae hyn wedi gadael Cyngor Sir Powys â bil glanhau ac atgyweirio mawr. A fyddwch yn darparu adnoddau ychwanegol i gynghorau fel yr un ym Mhowys, drwy fformiwla Bellman, i'w helpu gyda'r gost o glirio ac atgyweirio'r difrod a achoswyd gan y llifogydd hyn?

Jane Davidson: Yn dilyn digwyddiad fel yr un yr ydym newydd ei gael, un o'r materion tyngedfennol yw sicrhau ein bod yn cael tystiolaeth o'r camau gweithredu a roddir ar waith, o ble mae'r cyfrifoldeb yn gorffwys ac, felly, ymhle mae'r buddsoddiad yn gorffwys. Yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r cyllidebau llifogydd yn sylweddol, ac anfonais fanylion am hynny at yr holl Aelodau yn gynharach eleni. Yn ychwanegol at hynny, mae arian yn y grant cynnal ardrethi i gynghorau o safbwynt eu rhwymedigaethau hwy. Byddem bob amser yn ceisio gweithio mewn partneriaeth â chynghorau i sicrhau bod yr ymateb yn gywir ac yn gymesur ac mai'r corff priodol sy'n wynebu'r gost.

Energy Developments

Q3 Nerys Evans: What discussions has the Minister had regarding energy developments over 50 MW? OAQ(3)0525(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Discussions have taken place over several years between the Assembly Government and the then Department of Trade and Industry and the Wales Office on the transfer of power station consenting regime. My response to the UK Government on the planning White Paper strongly set out the case for the executive devolution of energy consents powers to the Wales Executive.

Nerys Evans: From speaking to people throughout mid and west Wales, I have found that there is a great deal of confusion about where the decisions about energy developments over 50 MW are made. Do you agree that, in order to develop a comprehensive strategy in the area of renewable energy, strategic decisions need to be made in one place and that that place should be the Welsh parliament? Can you give us an update on the process of devolving

allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni ynglŷn â'r broses o ddatganoli'r penderfyniadau pwysig hyn o Lundain i Gaerdydd a rhoi amserlen i ni ar gyfer y gwaith?

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf yn cytuno y byddai'n well pe bai'r penderfyniadau'n cael eu gwneud yng Nghymru. Yr wyf wedi bod yn dweud hynny ers llawer dydd. Fodd bynnag, ar hyn o bryd, nid yw'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain yn cefnogi'r ddadl honno.

Nick Bourne: Minister, as you know, the position is slightly more confused than you just indicated because the UK Government asked us to request that power in 2002. It may not be supporting it now, but it originally asked for that power to be transferred. The First Minister has been highly critical of its blocking of it. I have tried to find information using the Freedom of Information Act 2000, but the stuff that comes back is like the stuff that you would have got during the war if you had asked about troop movements; it is a mass of black with a 'Dear Sir' at the beginning and a 'Yours faithfully' at the bottom. Could you indicate what precisely you are doing to seek to end this logjam, some six years after we were asked to request the power? My party, and I think the whole Assembly, have supported the transfer of this power.

Jane Davidson: It is ironic that we were offered a power that we were very keen to take up, but once we started indicating that we were keen to take it up, the decision was reviewed. At the end of the day, these powers remain with the UK Government. I continue to argue that all planning consents for power generating capacities over 50 MW, including nuclear, should come here. I think that it is anomalous that the power station consenting regime is the only major infrastructure development in Wales that is not the responsibility of the Assembly Government. Now that we have an integrated GB electricity grid, we believe that we should have strong consent powers, similar to those held by the Scottish Parliament. I seem to remember that when I put this to the shadow secretary of state for Wales from the

these important decisions from London to Cardiff and give us a timetable for the work?

Jane Davidson: I agree that it would be better if decisions were made in Wales. I have been saying that for a long time. However, at present, the Government in London does not support that argument.

Nick Bourne: Weinidog, fel y gwyddoch, mae'r sefyllfa ychydig yn fwy dryslyd nag yr ydych newydd ei nodi oherwydd gofynnodd Llywodraeth y DU inni ofyn am y pŵer hwnnw yn 2002. Efallai nad yw yn ei gefnogi yn awr, ond yn wreiddiol gofynnodd am i'r pŵer hwnnw gael ei drosglwyddo. Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi bod yn hynod feirniadol o'r Llywodraeth am iddi rwystro hynny. Yr wyf wedi ceisio canfod gwybodaeth drwy ddefnyddio Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, ond mae'r deunydd sy'n dod yn ôl yn debyg i'r deunydd y byddech wedi'i gael yn ystod y rhyfel pe baech wedi holi ynglŷn â symudiadau milwyr; mae'n swp o ddu gydag 'Annwyl Syr' ar y dechrau ac 'Yr eiddoch yn gywir' ar y gwaelod. A allech nodi beth yn union yr ydych yn ei wneud i geisio rhoi terfyn ar y dagfa hon, rhyw chwe mlynedd ar ôl y cais ar inni ofyn am y pŵer? Mae fy mhlaid i, a'r Cynulliad cyfan mi gredaf, wedi cefnogi trosglwyddo'r pŵer hwn.

Jane Davidson: Mae'n eironig y cynigiwyd inni bŵer yr oeddem yn awyddus iawn i ymgymryd ag ef, ond unwaith y dechreusom ddangos ein bod yn awyddus i ymgymryd ag ef, cafodd y penderfyniad ei adolygu. Ar ddiwedd y dydd, mae'r pwerau hyn gyda Llywodraeth y DU o hyd. Yr wyf yn dal i ddadlau y dylai pob caniatâd cynllunio am gapasiti cynhyrchu o fwy na 50 MW, yn cynnwys niwclear, ddod yma. Credaf ei bod yn afreolaidd mai'r gyfundrefn i ganiatáu gorsafoedd trydan yw'r unig ddatblygiad seilwaith mawr yng Nghymru nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gyfrifol amdano. Gan fod gennym bellach grid trydan integredig i Brydain Fawr, credwn y dylai fod gennym bwerau caniatáu cryf, tebyg i'w rhai sydd gan Senedd yr Alban. Yr wyf fel petawn yn cofio, pan ddywedais hyn wrth

Conservative Party, she was not supportive of the idea that those powers should come to Wales. I would be grateful for clarification from the Conservative Party.

Michael German: Of course, Minister, you can be reassured that our party, at both ends of the M4, will be supportive of your case for transferring those powers. A question remains, however, Minister. You have the support of the whole Chamber for the transfer of powers, and you have expressed the worthiness of that case, so it is now a matter of determination and of seeing how best to move forward to seek those powers. I wonder whether the time has now come for the Assembly as a whole to make a formal application to the UK Government, to put it to the test to see whether it will turn it down. That would be a symbol of the National Assembly's determination to seek what we believe is best for Wales and would demonstrate a level of independence of thought that is also essential. Would you agree that we now need to push this process much harder than before, particularly in the light of the fact that the UK Government is now seeking independent bodies to oversee what will essentially be nuclear power generation in Wales? Do you agree that we need to make these decisions for ourselves? What sort of resolution do you think we now need from the whole National Assembly?

1.40 p.m.

Jane Davidson: I think that you will find that the previous Labour Government in the Assembly and the current Labour-Plaid Cymru coalition Government have argued the case extremely strongly. I am delighted that your party has supported this at both ends of the M4. The difficulty that we have at the moment is that we do not have the support of all parties at the end of the M4, including my party and yours. If we were, for example, to hear Conservatives at Westminster making this case, it would put continued pressure on the UK Government on this issue. It is fundamental that we have these powers transferred to Wales. We have a major renewable energy agenda that we need to

ysgrifennydd gwladol yr wrthblaid dros Gymru o'r Blaid Geidwadol, nad oedd yn cefnogi'r syniad y dylai'r pwerau hyn ddod i Gymru. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am eglurhad gan y Blaid Geidwadol.

Michael German: Wrth gwrs, Weinidog, gallwch fod yn dawel eich meddwl y bydd ein plaid ni, ar y naill ben a'r llall o'r M4, yn cefnogi eich cais o blaid trosglwyddo'r pwerau hyn. Erys cwestiwn, fodd bynnag, Weinidog. Mae gennych gefnogaeth y Siambr gyfan i drosglwyddo'r pwerau, ac yr ydych wedi mynegi teilyngdod yr achos hwnnw, felly mater o benderfynu yw yn awr ac o weld pa un yw'r ffordd orau o symud ymlaen i geisio'r pwerau hynny. Tybed a yw'r amser wedi dod yn awr i'r Cynulliad cyfan wneud cais ffurfiol i Lywodraeth y DU, i roi hyn ar brawf i weld a wnaiff hi ei wrthod. Byddai hynny'n symbol o benderfyniad y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i geisio'r hyn sydd orau i Gymru yn ein tyb ni a byddai'n dangos lefel o annibyniaeth meddwl sydd hefyd yn hanfodol. A fydech yn cytuno bod angen bellach inni wthio'r broses hon lawer yn galetach na chynt, yn enwedig yn wyneb y ffaith fod Llywodraeth y DU wrthi yn awr yn ceisio cyrff annibynnol i oruchwylio'r hyn a fydd yn ei hanfod yn gynhyrchu niwclear yng Nghymru? A ydych yn cytuno bod angen inni wneud y penderfyniadau hyn drosom ein hunain? Pa fath o benderfyniad dybiwch chi y mae ei angen arnom yn awr gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol cyfan?

Jane Davidson: Credaf y byddwch yn canfod bod y Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol yn y Cynulliad a Llywodraeth glymblaid bresennol Llafur-Plaid Cymru wedi dadlau'r achos yn eithriadol o gryf. Yr wyf wrth fy modd fod eich plaid wedi cefnogi hyn y naill ben a'r llall o'r M4. Yr anhawster sydd gennym ar y funud yw nad oes gennym gefnogaeth yr holl bleidiau ar ben yr M4, yn cynnwys fy mhlaid i a'ch un chi. Pe baem ni, er enghraifft, i glywed Ceidwadwyr yn San Steffan yn dadlau'r achos hwn, byddai'n rhoi pwysau cyson ar Lywodraeth y DU ar y mater hwn. Mae'n fater sylfaenol fod y pwerau hyn yn cael eu trosglwyddo i Gymru. Mae gennym agenda o bwys o ran ynni

deliver in a strategic way. It is because of the renewable energy agenda that I have previously sought to have these powers transferred to Wales.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I am happy to call another Conservative spokesperson, rather than having the Conservatives make so much noise from their seats.

Alun Cairns: Will the Minister recognise that William Hague started the process of devolving this power when he was Secretary of State for Wales and, were it not for the change of Government in 1997, the process would be complete by now, and the power would be devolved to Cardiff?

Jane Davidson: That is rewriting history. There would not even be an Assembly in Wales in which to debate this issue had there not been a change of Government at Westminster in 1997. I would be more grateful if your shadow secretary of state for Wales would write to me confirming that a Government at Westminster led by the Conservatives would devolve these powers to Wales. Let us see whether you will do that.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I allowed Members to intervene in order to avoid this barracking nonsense.

Community Recycling

Q4 Lorraine Barrett: Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Assembly Government initiatives to support community recycling? OAQ(3)0501(ESH)

Jane Davidson: The Assembly Government supports Cylch, the Wales community recycling network, to promote community-based recycling initiatives such as those promoting re-use, recycling, composting, waste minimisation and public education. I have recently provided an additional £3 million to develop a re-use sector fund, including furniture re-use.

Lorraine Barrett: That initiative is greatly

adnewyddadwy y mae angen inni ei rhoi ar waith mewn ffordd strategol. Yr agenda ynni adnewyddadwy yw'r rheswm pam yr wyf wedi ceisio cael y pwerau hyn wedi'u trosglwyddo i Gymru cyn hyn.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf yn barod i alw llefarydd Ceidwadol arall, yn hytrach na chael y Ceidwadwyr yn gwneud cymaint o sŵn o'u seddau.

Alun Cairns: A wnaiff y Gweinidog gydnabod i William Hague ddechrau'r broses o ddatganoli'r pŵer hwn pan oedd yn Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru a, phe na bai am y newid Llywodraeth ym 1997, byddai'r broses wedi cael ei chwblhau erbyn hyn, a byddai'r pŵer wedi cael ei ddatganoli i Gaerdydd?

Jane Davidson: Ailysgrifennu hanes yw hynny. Ni fyddai hyd yn oed Gynulliad yng Nghymru lle gellir trafod y mater hwn pe na byddem wedi cael newid Llywodraeth yn San Steffan ym 1997. Byddwn yn fwy diolchgar pe bai eich ysgrifennydd gwladol chi fel gwrthblaid dros Gymru yn ysgrifennu ataf yn cadarnhau y byddai Llywodraeth yn San Steffan dan arweiniad y Ceidwadwyr yn datganoli'r pwerau hyn i Gymru. Gadewch inni weld a wnewch chi hynny.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Caniateais i Aelodau ymyrryd er mwyn osgoi'r nonsens gweiddi ar draws hwn.

Ailgylchu Cymunedol

C4 Lorraine Barrett: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynlluniau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gefnogi ailgylchu cymunedol? OAQ(3)0501(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cynorthwyo Cylch, rhwydwaith ailgylchu cymunedol Cymru, i hyrwyddo cynlluniau ailgylchu seiliedig yn y gymuned fel y rheini sy'n hyrwyddo ailddefnyddio, ailgylchu, compostio, lleihau gwastraff ac addysg gyhoeddus. Yr wyf yn ddiweddar wedi darparu £3 miliwn ychwanegol i ddatblygu cronfa sector ailddefnyddio, yn cynnwys ailddefnyddio dodrefn.

Lorraine Barrett: Mae'r cynllun hwnnw i'w

welcomed. Will you do all that you can to urge local authorities to work in partnership with their local community recycling initiatives, perhaps taking a social benefit approach to their waste management policies, to increase the share of contract work that might be won by the third sector in this area?

Jane Davidson: I am happy to endorse some very successful third sector models for community recycling in Wales. I meet local authorities regularly to discuss the waste issue, and I strongly encourage them to take forward these kinds of opportunities. I am also considering setting a statutory re-use target in our review of the waste plan, which I will bring forward shortly. It is important that we recycle every possible material.

Darren Millar: I am also fully supportive of community recycling. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Welsh local authorities on reaching their targets on reducing the volume of biodegradable waste sent to landfill. There has been an enormous effort on the part of local authority officers and a large amount of goodwill on the part of members of the public in participating in recycling schemes in their communities.

However, do you accept that the goodwill of the people of Wales is being eroded by the local authorities that are forcing communities to accept the fortnightly collection of residual waste against their will? Given that many Welsh local authorities have achieved their targets without the fortnightly collection of residual waste, will you now support my party's call for weekly bin collections to be protected for all households in Wales?

Jane Davidson: No, I will not—for two reasons. First, as I have pointed out to you before, your party has already introduced fortnightly collections in some English local authority areas. They are some of the most successful recycling authorities in the country, and I hope that your party will also talk to those authorities that are less successful and encourage them to change

groesawu'n fawr. A wnewch chi bopeth a allwch i annog awdurdodau lleol i weithio mewn partneriaeth â'u cynlluniau ailgylchu cymunedol lleol, gan ymdrin efallai â'r polisiau rheoli gwastraff mewn ffordd sy'n dod â budd cymdeithasol, er mwyn cynyddu'r gyfran o waith contract a allai gael ei hennill gan y trydydd sector yn y maes hwn?

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf yn hapus i gefnogi rhai modelau trydydd sector hynod o lwyddiannus o ran ailgylchu cymunedol yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn cwrdd ag awdurdodau lleol yn rheolaidd i drafod mater gwastraff, ac yr wyf yn eu hannog yn gryf i fwrw ymlaen â'r mathau hyn o gyfleoedd. Yr wyf hefyd yn ystyried pennu targed statudol ar gyfer ailddefnyddio yn ein hadolygiad o'r cynllun gwastraff, y byddaf yn ei gyflwyno'n fuan. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn ailgylchu pob defnydd posibl.

Darren Millar: Yr wyf finnau'n llwyr gefnogi ailgylchu cymunedol. Hoffwn achub ar y cyfle hwn i longyfarch awdurdodau lleol Cymru ar gyrraedd eu targedau o ran lleihau'r swmp o wastraff bioddiraddadwy a anfonir i safleoedd tirlenwi. Cafwyd ymdrech enfawr ar ran swyddogion awdurdodau lleol a llawer iawn o ewyllys da ar ran aelodau'r cyhoedd yn cymryd rhan mewn cynlluniau ailgylchu yn eu cymunedau.

Fodd bynnag, a ydych yn derbyn bod ewyllys da pobl Cymru yn cael ei erydu gan yr awdurdodau lleol sy'n gorfodi cymunedau i dderbyn casglu gwastraff gweddilliol bob pythefnos yn erbyn eu hewyllys? O ystyried bod llawer o awdurdodau lleol Cymru wedi cyrraedd eu targedau heb gasgliadau gwastraff gweddilliol bob pythefnos, a wnewch chi yn awr gefnogi galwad fy mhlaid i ar i gasgliadau bin wythnosol gael eu diogelu i bob aelwyd yng Nghymru?

Jane Davidson: Na wnaaf—a hynny am ddau reswm. Yn gyntaf, fel yr wyf wedi dweud wrthyhch o'r blaen, mae eich plaid eisoes wedi cyflwyno casgliadau bob pythefnos yn ardaloedd rhai awdurdodau lleol yn Lloegr. Maent yn rhai o'r awdurdodau ailgylchu mwyaf llwyddiannus yn y wlad, a gobeithiaf y bydd eich plaid hefyd yn siarad â'r awdurdodau hynny sy'n llai llwyddiannus ac

their practice. Secondly, when you recycle as much as possible of your household waste, you get left with very little; my household produces less than one bin bag a week now. Therefore, most of the houses in the village where I live would easily be able to store rubbish for more than one week.

Some authorities have been brave enough to introduce a fortnightly collection—I should point out, however, that is not really a fortnightly collection; the fortnightly collection is of residual waste that cannot be recycled. What we do so say as an Assembly Government, and have said many times to you, but you do not listen, is that food waste should be collected weekly. It is food waste about which people are concerned, and food waste should be collected weekly. Authorities are making major strides on food waste, collecting it weekly, with substantial extra investment from the Assembly Government. I challenge your party to be serious about recycling: do not have vans collecting residual waste that does not need to be collected, but put your money behind the collection of food waste.

Darren Millar: I am delighted that you recognise that the local authorities that are performing best on the environment are Conservative ones. As we have devolution in Wales, the Welsh Conservatives have decided to take a different view on this matter from some of our counterparts in England, something that you, above all, should recognise, given your previous comments.

You mentioned fortnightly collections. The fact of the matter is that, while they have been trumpeted as being good for the environment, both you and I know that they are leading to an epidemic of fly-tipping across Wales. As a result of the introduction of fortnightly collections, fly-tipping is up 20 per cent in Conwy, in my constituency, when you compare the figures for 2005-06 with those for 2006-07, with the number of fly-tipping incidents in Wales exceeding 60,000 in the 12 months up to March 2008. What are you doing to stop this menace on our streets,

yn eu hannog i newid eu hymarfer. Yn ail, pan ydych yn ailgylchu cymaint â phosibl o'ch gwastraff cartrefi, ychydig iawn sydd gennych ar ôl; mae fy aelwyd i yn cynhyrchu llai nag un bag bin yr wythnos erbyn hyn. Felly, gallai'r rhan fwyaf o'r tai yn y pentref lle'r wyf fi'n byw storio sbwriel am fwy nag un wythnos yn hawdd.

Mae rhai awdurdodau wedi bod yn ddigon dewr i ddechrau casglu bob pythefnos—dylwn nodi, serch hynny, nad casgliad pythefnosol mohono mewn gwirionedd; gwastraff gweddilliol na ellir ei ailgylchu yw'r hyn a gesglir bob pythefnos. Beth yr ydym yn ei ddweud fel Llywodraeth Cynulliad, ac wedi ei ddweud wrthyh lawer gwaith, ond nad ydych chi'n gwranddo, yw y dylid casglu gwastraff bwyd yn wythnosol. Gwastraff bwyd sy'n peri pryder i bobl, a dylid casglu gwastraff bwyd bob wythnos. Mae awdurdodau'n cymryd camau breision gyda gwastraff bwyd, yn ei gasglu'n wythnosol, gyda buddsoddiad ychwanegol sylweddol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Heriaf eich plaid i fod o ddirif ynglŷn ag ailgylchu: peidiwch â chael faniau'n casglu gwastraff gweddilliol nad oes angen ei gasglu, ond rhowch eich arian y tu ôl i gasglu gwastraff bwyd.

Darren Millar: Yr wyf wrth fy modd eich bod yn cydnabod mai awdurdodau lleol Ceidwadol yw'r rhai sy'n perfformio orau ar yr amgylchedd. Gan fod gennym ddatganoli yng Nghymru, mae Ceidwadwyr Cymru wedi penderfynu edrych ar y mater hwn o safbwynt gwahanol i rai o'n cymheiriaid yn Lloegr, rhywbeth y dylech chi, yn anad dim, ei gydnabod, o gofio'ch sylwadau blaenorol.

Soniasoch am gasgliadau pythefnosol. Y gwir yw, er gwaethaf y datganiad clodforus eu bod yn llesol i'r amgylchedd, gwyddoch chi a mi ein dau eu bod yn arwain at epidemig o dipio anghyfreithlon ledled Cymru. Yn sgîl cyflwyno casgliadau pythefnosol, mae tipio anghyfreithlon wedi cynyddu 20 y cant yng Nghonwy, yn f'etholaeth i, pan gymharwch ffigurau 2005-06 â rhai 2006-07, gyda thros 60,000 o achosion o dipio anghyfreithlon yng Nghymru yn y 12 mis hyd at Fawrth 2008. Beth yr ydych chi'n ei wneud i atal y felltith hon ar ein strydoedd, ac oni chytunech y

and would you not agree that weekly collections would help to resolve the problem?

Jane Davidson: No, I would not. You said that the best-performing authorities in terms of the environment are Conservative ones; I did not say that. What I said was that the most effective authorities in England, in terms of recycling, are those with fortnightly collections. I am pleased for you to learn from the fact that a large number of those are Conservative authorities. They have fortnightly collections because it enhances recycling. That is the message that I wish to get over to your party: to take action that enhances recycling.

Fly-tipping is a major problem, which is why we have put extra investment into combating it. We now have a far larger database on fly-tipping, and far better capture arrangements than we have ever had before. What happens when you really start to tackle an issue is that the incidents go up, because you have a far better record of them, as well as far more effective arrangements for dealing with them. In terms of our support for European requirements, that will increase dramatically over the next year or so.

Bethan Jenkins: The Minister may be aware of the success of redeemable deposit schemes for drink containers in many countries around the world, including in Scandinavian nations and in North America. In Norway, for example, in 2005, 93 per cent of all recyclable bottles and 80 per cent of all drink cans were returned to the deposit and recycling system, following the introduction of a redeemable deposit scheme. I am aware that the Assembly Government is seeking legislative competence on environmental matters. Will the Minister support my call for the introduction of a redeemable deposit scheme on drink containers in Wales?

Jane Davidson: It is interesting, is it not, how we are starting to return to our childhoods? Older Members will remember. I am interested in the concept of redeemable deposit schemes, but I am not sure how

byddai casgliadau wythnosol yn help i ddatrys y broblem?

Jane Davidson: Na chytunwn. Dywedasoeh mai awdurdodau Ceidwadol yw'r rhai sy'n perfformio orau o safbwynt yr amgylchedd; ni ddywedais innau hynny. Yr hyn a ddywedais i oedd mai'r awdurdodau mwyaf effeithiol yn Lloegr, o ran ailgylchu, yw'r rhai sydd â chasgliadau pythefnosol. Yr wyf yn falch i chi ddysgu oddi wrth y ffaith mai awdurdodau Ceidwadol yw nifer fawr o'r rheiny. Maent yn casglu bob pythefnos am fod hynny'n hyrwyddo ailgylchu. Dyna'r neges yr wyf yn dymuno'i chyfleu i'ch plaid: gweithredu sy'n hyrwyddo ailgylchu.

Mae tipio anghyfreithlon yn broblem fawr, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi rhoi buddsoddiad ychwanegol i weithio yn ei erbyn. Erbyn hyn mae gennym gronfa ddata lawer mwy ar dipio anghyfreithlon, a threfniadau dal llawer gwell nag a fu gennym erioed o'r blaen. Beth sy'n digwydd pan ewch ati o ddifrif i fynd i'r afael â phroblem yw y gwelir cynnydd yn yr achosion, oherwydd bod gennych gofnod llawer gwell ohonynt, yn ogystal â threfniadau llawer mwy effeithiol ar gyfer delio â hwy. O ran ein cefnogaeth i ofynion Ewropeaidd, bydd hynny'n cynyddu'n ddramatig dros y flwyddyn nesaf yn fras.

Bethan Jenkins: Efallai y gŵyr y Gweinidog am lwyddiant y cynlluniau blaendal ad-daladwy am gynwysyddion diodydd mewn llawer o wledydd o gwmpas y byd, gan gynnwys gwledydd yn Llychlyn ac yng Ngogledd America. Yn Norwy, er enghraifft, cafodd 93 y cant o boteli ailgylchadwy ac 80 y cant o ganiau diod eu dychwelyd i'r system ailgylchu, yn dilyn cyflwyno cynllun blaendal ad-daladwy. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol fod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ceisio cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar faterion amgylcheddol. A wnaiff y Gweinidog gefnogi fy ngalwad am gyflwyno cynllun blaendal ad-daladwy ar gynwysyddion diodydd yng Nghymru?

Jane Davidson: Diddorol, onid e, yw'r modd yr ydym yn dechrau dychwelyd i'n plentyndod? Bydd Aelodau hŷn yn cofio. Mae gennyf ddiddordeb yng nghysyniad cynlluniau blaendal ad-daladwy, ond nid wyf

effectively they would work. I have previously asked officials to look at this issue in the context of our waste review.

Eleanor Burnham: Do you agree that a levy on plastic bags in Wales would provide sufficient funds to encourage more community recycling? When will you complete legislation to give us power in Wales to introduce a levy on plastic bags?

Jane Davidson: We have already said that we are keen to take action on single-use plastic bags in Wales. Substantial community initiatives have taken place. I first said that when I became Minister, and my colleague Carwyn Jones had also said that previously, in terms of looking at a number of places in Wales becoming plastic bag-free. The legislation is going through the final stages, I hope, in the context of the liaison with the UK Government, and when that is complete we will bring forward proposals to be discussed in the Assembly.

1.50 p.m.

Housing Provision

Q5 William Graham: Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of current economic pressures upon housing provision in Wales? OAQ(3)0478(ESH)

The Deputy Minister for Housing (Jocelyn Davies): We remain committed to providing 6,500 affordable homes over the four-year term of the Assembly. As we are now less likely to obtain properties through the planning system, we are looking at the targeted purchase of unsold private sector houses and sites to boost supply, along with other measures.

William Graham: I thank the Deputy Minister for Housing for her reply. I do not suppose that she will agree with me, but she will know that the main reason why so many new homes are not being built is the inability of the Labour Government in Westminster to cope with the current credit constraints. Will

yn siŵr pa mor effeithiol y byddent yn gweithio. Yr wyf wedi gofyn o'r blaen i swyddogion edrych ar y mater hwn yng nghyd-destun ein hadolygiad gwastraff.

Eleanor Burnham: A ydych yn cytuno y byddai treth ar fagiau plastig yng Nghymru'n darparu cyllid digonol i annog mwy o ailgylchu cymunedol? Pa bryd y gwnewch chi gwblhau deddfwriaeth i roi grym i ni yng Nghymru i gyflwyno treth ar fagiau plastig?

Jane Davidson: Yr ydym wedi dweud eisoes ein bod yn awyddus i weithredu ynghylch bagiau plastig untro yng Nghymru. Mae mentrau cymunedol arwyddocaol wedi digwydd. Dywedais hynny gyntaf pan ddeuthum yn Weinidog, ac yr oedd fy nghyd-Weinidog Carwyn Jones wedi dweud hynny o'r blaen hefyd, yn nhermau edrych ar sicrhau bod nifer o lefydd yng Nghymru'n mynd yn llefydd di-fag plastig. Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth yn mynd trwy'r camau olaf, gobeithio, sef y cyswllt â Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig, a phan fydd hynny wedi'i gwblhau fe ddeuwn â chynigion ymlaen i'w trafod yn y Cynulliad.

Darparu Tai

C5 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am effaith y pwysau economaidd presennol ar ddarparu tai yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0478(ESH)

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai (Jocelyn Davies): Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo o hyd i ddarparu 6,500 o gartrefi fforddiadwy dros dymor pedair blynedd y Cynulliad. Gan ein bod yn llai tebygol bellach o gael eiddo trwy'r drefn gynllunio, yr ydym yn edrych ar dargedu tai a safleoedd sydd heb eu gwerthu yn y sector preifat i'w prynu er mwyn cynyddu'r cyflenwad, ynghyd â mesurau eraill.

William Graham: Diolch i'r Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai am ei hateb. Mae'n debyg na wnaiff hi gytuno â mi, ond fe ŵyr mai'r prif reswm pam nad yw cymaint o gartrefi newydd yn cael eu hadeiladu yw anallu'r Llywodraeth Lafur yn San Steffan i ymdopi â'r cyfyngiadau credyd cyfredol. A wnewch

you offer any way in which local authorities may assist in this provision, particularly in respect of affordable homes for which there is a crying need in Wales?

Jocelyn Davies: We are already doing a number of things. On a UK level, I think that we would all welcome the fact that people on income support can access mortgage interest payments within nine weeks rather than 39 weeks. We should welcome that. We have increased the social housing grant budget by £30 million. We know that private developers have been in touch with housing associations and have offered them properties and so on, and over the summer officials carried out a survey of housing associations to see what had been offered. To give you an idea, they have been offered 450 completed units, 1,030 units that are currently under construction, and land equivalent to approximately 4,330 units. The total number of units that had been offered, including the land, was 5,826. Not all of those will be in the right place or will be the right type of accommodation, and some will not be of the standard that we would expect. I have told housing associations that if they purchase existing properties, those properties do not have to meet the Welsh housing quality standard—we are prepared to relax that. If the housing is to remain permanently in the social rental sector, it will have to be brought up to standard within a reasonable time. In terms of brand new properties, if housing associations were to purchase brand new properties that are not quite of the standard that we would expect, we are prepared to be flexible on that, but not if the properties are to remain permanently within the stock. We hope that when market circumstances change, housing associations will dispose of those properties, probably on homebuy terms. I think that you will be pleased to hear that that message has been well received by housing associations.

Val Lloyd: Several areas in my constituency were highlighted in the 2008 Welsh index of multiple deprivation. These are communities in which pre-existing financial pressures will be exacerbated by the current economic climate. You have touched on some of the issues in your response to William, but what in particular can the Welsh Assembly

chi gynnig unrhyw fodd i awdurdodau lleol allu cynorthwyo yn y ddarpariaeth hon, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â chartrefi fforddiadwy, y mae angen dirfawr amdanynt yng Nghymru?

Jocelyn Davies: Yr ydym eisoes yn gwneud nifer o bethau. Ar lefel y Deyrnas Unedig, credaf y byddem i gyd yn croesawu'r ffaith y gall pobl ar gymhorthdal incwm gael gafael ar daliadau llog morgais o fewn naw wythnos yn hytrach na 39 wythnos. Dylem groesawu hynny. Yr ydym wedi ychwanegu £30 miliwn at gyllideb y grant tai cymdeithasol. Gwyddom fod datblygwyr preifat wedi bod mewn cysylltiad â chymdeithasau tai ac wedi cynnig eiddo iddynt ac ati, a thros yr haf gwnaeth swyddogion arolwg o gymdeithasau tai i weld beth a gynigiwyd. I roi syniad ichi, maent wedi cael cynnig 450 o unedau wedi'u cwblhau, 1,030 o unedau sy'n cael eu hadeiladu ar hyn o bryd, a thir cyfwerth ag oddeutu 4,330 o unedau. Cyfanswm nifer yr unedau a oedd wedi'u cynnig, gan gynnwys y tir, oedd 5,826. Ni fydd pob un o'r rheiny yn y lle iawn, neu ni fyddant y math iawn o lety, a bydd rhai yn brin o'r safon a ddisgwyliem. Yr wyf wedi dweud wrth gymdeithasau tai os prynant dai sy'n bodoli, nad oes raid i'r tai hynny gyrraedd safon ansawdd tai Cymru—yr ydym yn barod i lacio honno. Os yw'r tai i aros yn barhaol yn y sector rhentu cymdeithasol, bydd yn rhaid eu codi i'r safon o fewn amser rhesymol. Gyda thai newydd sbon, pe bai cymdeithasau tai'n prynu eiddo newydd sbon sydd heb fod o safon lawn cystal ag y disgwyliem, yr ydym yn barod i fod yn hyblyg ar hynny, ond nid os yw'r eiddo i aros yn barhaol o fewn y stoc. Pan fydd amgylchiadau'r farchnad yn newid, ein gobaith yw y bydd cymdeithasau tai'n gwerthu'r tai hynny, a hynny ar delerau cymorth prynu, mae'n debyg. Yr wyf yn meddwl y byddwch yn falch o glywed bod y neges honno wedi cael derbyniad da gan gymdeithasau tai.

Val Lloyd: Tynnwyd sylw at sawl ardal yn f'etholaeth i ym mynegai amddifadedd lluosog Cymru 2008. Cymunedau yw'r rhain lle gwaethygir pwysau ariannol a oedd yn bodoli eisoes gan yr hinsawdd economaidd gyfredol. Yr ydych wedi cyffwrdd ar rai o'r materion yn eich ymateb i William, ond beth yn arbennig y gall Llywodraeth Cynulliad

Government do to ensure that houses are affordable for the first-time buyers and existing homeowners who live in those areas of social and economic deprivation, as well as to ensure that the social housing sector in those localities remains buoyant?

Jocelyn Davies: The homebuy scheme has been very popular in the past, and those who have been able to access it have been helped a great deal, although I have currently not made any allocations for it from Government funds because of the significant problems that were highlighted by an independent report into homebuy. We are about to consult on the future of homebuy, and I hope that the consultation will go out by the end of the October. We will be targeting different people from those that have been targeted in the past. I would hope that first-time buyers will be targeted. We want to ensure that the scheme targets those who are in some kind of housing need in any case.

That was one of the problems with the previous scheme: the people who accessed it were not in any particular housing need, often bought properties that were larger than they needed and in more expensive areas, and would have purchased a house in any case. Therefore, we are retargeting the scheme. I hope that you will respond to that consultation, Val. Hopefully, when the homebuy scheme returns, it will be a much better scheme and it will meet the needs of today.

Peter Black: As you know, Minister, there are just under 18,000 empty properties in Wales, which could be homes for someone if they were brought back into use. What is the Assembly Government doing to try to bring those properties back on to the market and make them available to families who are seeking accommodation?

Jocelyn Davies: That figure is the estimate provided by the commission set up by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to look at housing in rural Wales. So that is the estimate of the empty properties in rural Wales alone. Strategies on empty properties are a matter for local authorities, some of which are much

Cymru ei wneud i sicrhau bod tai'n fforddiadwy i brynwyr tro cyntaf a pherchenogion tai presennol sy'n byw yn yr ardaloedd hynny o amddifadedd cymdeithasol ac economaidd, yn ogystal â sicrhau bod y sector tai cymdeithasol yn yr ardaloedd hynny'n parhau'n fywiog?

Jocelyn Davies: Mae'r cynllun cymorth prynu wedi bod yn boblogaidd iawn yn y gorffennol, ac mae'r rhai sydd wedi gallu manteisio arno wedi cael help mawr iawn, er nad wyf ar hyn o bryd wedi gwneud unrhyw ddyraniadau iddo o gronfeydd y Llywodraeth oherwydd y problemau arwyddocaol a amlygwyd gan adroddiad annibynnol ar y cynllun. Yr ydym ar fin ymgynghori ynghylch dyfodol y cynllun cymorth prynu, a gobeithiaf yr eir allan i ymgynghori erbyn diwedd Hydref. Byddwn yn targedu pobl wahanol i'r rhai a dargedwyd yn y gorffennol. Yr wyf yn gobeithio y targedir prynwyr tro cyntaf. Mae arnom eisiau sicrhau bod y cynllun yn targedu rhai sydd mewn rhyw fath o angen am dai beth bynnag.

Dyna oedd un o'r problemau gyda'r cynllun blaenorol: nid oedd y bobl a fanteisiai arno mewn unrhyw angen arbennig am dai, yn aml prynent dai mwy nag yr oedd arnynt ei angen ac mewn ardaloedd drutach, a buasent wedi prynu tŷ beth bynnag. Felly, yr ydym yn aildargedu'r cynllun. Gobeithio y gwnewch chi ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw, Val. Gyda lwc, pan ddychwela'r cynllun cymorth prynu, bydd yn gynllun llawer gwell a bydd yn ateb anghenion heddiw.

Peter Black: Fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, mae ychydig dan 18,000 o dai gwag yng Nghymru, a allai fod yn gartrefi i rywun pe deuid â hwy yn ôl i ddefnydd. Beth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i geisio dod â'r tai hynny'n ôl ar y farchnad a sicrhau eu bod ar gael i deuluoedd sy'n chwilio am rywle i fyw?

Jocelyn Davies: Y ffigur hwnnw yw'r amcangyfrif a ddarparwyd gan y comisiwn a sefydlwyd gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree i edrych ar dai yn y Gymru wledig. Felly dyna'r amcangyfrif o'r tai gwag yn y Gymru wledig yn unig. Mater i awdurdodau lleol yw strategaethau eiddo gwag, ac mae rhai'n

better than others. I have had discussions with several local authorities and I have seen some interesting schemes. In Powys, for example, the local authority offered small grants to private landlords in return for nomination rights when the properties were brought back into use. I know that, in Cardiff, empty properties are not tolerated for long before pressure is brought to bear on the owners. I see that you have tabled an amendment this afternoon stating that the Assembly Government should fully fund bringing all empty properties back to use, but I think that that would be a ridiculous use of Government money.

Peter Black: That figure is from the local government data unit, not than from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. I think that the Government should perhaps use a bit of the stick to encourage the owners of such private properties to bring those properties into use. Will you consider, for example, amending legislation so as to enable councils to vary council tax rates on empty properties and penalise those owners who are not prepared to bring their properties back into use and so perhaps encourage them to put them on the market?

Jocelyn Davies: Some time ago, the Minister previously responsible for housing gave powers to local government in the form of empty dwelling management orders, and my officials tell me that they are not aware of one single order ever being issued by councils in Wales. Therefore, it is not a matter of empowering councils, because they have powers in relation to empty properties. We need to have a dialogue with councils to discover why they are not using those particular powers, or whether there are better ways to deal with the issue. From my discussions with the Cabinet member for housing in Cardiff council I have learned that, often, when the council gets in touch with those who own empty properties, it is able to encourage them to bring the properties back into use. As I said, Powys County Council has used a different tactic: in return for being able to nominate the tenants that go in, the authority provided small grants. Therefore, there are several ways of tackling this issue without penalising, necessarily, the people who own those

llawer gwell na'i gilydd. Yr wyf wedi cael trafodaethau gyda sawl awdurdod lleol ac yr wyf wedi gweld ambell gynllun diddorol. Ym Mhowys, er enghraifft, cynigiodd yr awdurdod lleol grantiau bach i landlordiaid preifat yn gyfnewid am hawliau enwebu pan ddeuid â'r tai yn ôl i ddefnydd. Gwn, yng Nghaerdydd, na oddefir eiddo gwag am hir cyn dechrau pwysu ar y perchenogion. Gwelaf eich bod wedi cyflwyno gwelliant y prynhawn yma'n dweud y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ddarparu cyllid llawn i ddod â phob tŷ gwag yn ôl i ddefnydd, ond yr wyf fi o'r farn y byddai hynny'n wastraff gwrthun ar arian y Llywodraeth.

Peter Black: Oddi wrth uned data llywodraeth leol y daw'r ffigur hwnnw, nid oddi wrth Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree. Credaf y dylai'r Llywodraeth efallai ddefnyddio ychydig ar y ffon i annog perchenogion eiddo preifat o'r fath i ddod â'r tai hynny i ddefnydd. A wnewch chi ystyried, er enghraifft, diwygio'r ddeddfwriaeth er mwyn galluogi cynghorau i amrywio cyfraddau treth cyngor ar eiddo gwag a chosbi'r perchenogion hynny nad ydynt yn barod i ddod â'u heiddo yn ôl i ddefnydd a'u hannog efallai i'w rhoi ar y farchnad felly?

Jocelyn Davies: Dro yn ôl, rhoddodd y Gweinidog a oedd gynt yn gyfrifol am dai bwerau i lywodraeth leol ar ffurf gorchmynion rheoli anheddau gwag, a dywed fy swyddogion wrthyf nad ydynt yn ymwybodol o un gorchmyn yn cael ei gyhoeddi gan gyngor yng Nghymru erioed. Felly, nid mater o roi grym i gynghorau ydyw, oherwydd mae ganddynt bwerau mewn perthynas ag eiddo gwag. Mae angen inni gael deialog gyda chynghorau i ganfod pam nad ydynt yn defnyddio'r pwerau arbennig hynny, neu a oes gwell ffyrdd i ddelio â'r mater. O'm trafodaethau gyda'r aelod Cabinet dros dai yng nghyngor Caerdydd yr wyf wedi dysgu bod y cyngor yn aml, pan aiff i gysylltiad â'r rhai sy'n berchen ar eiddo gwag, yn llwyddo i'w hannog i ddod â'r tai'n ôl i ddefnydd. Fel y dywedais, mae Cyngor Sir Powys wedi defnyddio tacteg wahanol: yn gyfnewid am allu enwebu'r tenantiaid a aiff i mewn, darparodd yr awdurdod grantiau bach. Felly, mae sawl ffordd o ddelio â'r mater hwn heb gosbi, o reidrydd, y bobl sydd biau'r tai hynny.

properties.

Peter Black: There is, in fact, one empty dwelling management order in process in Swansea. You know as well as I do that orders have not been used because the restrictions around them mean that they are only suitable for use with a very few properties. Will you consider looking at the powers that local authorities have in relation to empty properties so that they have effective tools that they can use, instead of these empty dwelling management orders, which do not seem to be doing the business at all?

Jocelyn Davies: I know that there is an example of good practice in Carmarthen, and you will also see examples in Sue Essex's review. There is a good example in that document of a local authority that is in partnership with the National Landlords Association and which contacts absent owners. Often, as I said, owners can then be pressured into bringing their properties back into use. No local authority has asked me for the powers that you suggest.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I congratulate the Minister on the initiative that she has introduced to help people seeking entry into the housing market. In Wales, I think that we have managed to do that, in accordance with the 'One Wales' commitments, to a greater extent than other parts of the United Kingdom. Will you accept that we are now facing a situation in which home owners face severe financial pressures? Many of them are finding it difficult to meet their mortgage repayments and face negative equity. In such cases, we see, as has happened recently in south Wales, companies coming in to buy the property at 70 per cent or less of the value of the property, while allowing the previous owners to remain in the house and rent the accommodation.

2.00 p.m.

However, when those companies go into liquidation, those people lose not only the finance, but their homes. Will she agree to meet me to discuss the possibility of a

Peter Black: Y mae, mewn gwirionedd, un gorchymyn rheoli annedd wag ar y gweill yn Abertawe. Gwyddoch gystal â mi nad yw gorchymynion wedi cael eu defnyddio oherwydd bod y cyfyngiadau o'u cwmpas yn golygu mai dim ond gyda nifer fach iawn o dai y maent yn addas i'w defnyddio. A wnewch chi ystyried edrych ar y pwerau sydd gan awdurdodau lleol mewn perthynas ag eiddo gwag fel y gallant gael arfau effeithiol y gallant eu defnyddio, yn lle'r gorchymynion rheoli anheddau gwag hyn, nad ydynt fel pe baent yn gwneud y tro o gwbl?

Jocelyn Davies: Gwn fod enghraifft o ymarfer da yng Nghaerfyrddin, ac fe welwch enghreifftiau hefyd yn adolygiad Sue Essex. Mae enghraifft dda yn y ddogfen honno o awdurdod lleol sydd mewn partneriaeth gyda Chymdeithas Genedlaethol y Landlordiaid ac sy'n cysylltu â pherchenogion absennol. Yn aml, fel y dywedais, gellir pwysu ar berchenogion wedyn i ddod a'u heiddo yn ôl i ddefnydd. Nid oes yr un awdurdod lleol wedi gofyn i mi am y pwerau a awgrymwch chi.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Llongyfarchaf y Gweinidog ar y fenter y mae hi wedi'i chyflwyno i helpu pobl sy'n ceisio cael mynediad i'r farchnad dai. Yng Nghymru, yr wyf yn meddwl ein bod wedi llwyddo i wneud hynny, yn unol ag ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un', i raddau mwy na rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. A wnewch chi dderbyn ein bod yn awr yn wynebu sefyllfa lle mae pobl sy'n berchen ar eu cartrefi'n wynebu pwysau ariannol difrifol? Mae llawer ohonynt yn ei chael yn anodd talu eu had-daliadau morgais ac yn wynebu ecwiti negyddol. Mewn achosion o'r fath, gwelwn, fel sydd wedi digwydd yn ddiweddar yn y De, gwmnïau'n dod i mewn i brynu'r eiddo am 70 y cant neu lai o werth yr eiddo, tra'n caniatáu i'r perchenogion blaenorol aros yn y tŷ ar rent.

Fodd bynnag, pan fydd y cwmnïau hyn yn cael eu diddymu, nid y trefniant ariannol yn unig y bydd y bobl hyn yn ei golli, ond eu cartrefi hefyd. A wnaiff hi gytuno â mi i

charitable organisation helping these homeowners to face the financial pressures of the moment and to ensure that they are in a position to retain their homes in this difficult financial situation?

Jocelyn Davies: Of course, Rhodri. If you contact the private office, I will be happy to meet you to discuss whether charities could help. The idea of selling your property to a company or private landlord and renting it back is new and is the result of the current economic climate. It is an option that some people will consider. For some, particularly if they are able to have a contract with a good landlord, it can be an ideal solution, because they get some money for the property and are able to continue living in the property that they want to live in and do not have to move. People in this situation should consider contacting a housing association, through which their tenancy would be much more secure. People must understand that if the deal they are being offered sounds too good to be true, it probably is too good to be true. If you are offered a good price for the house and the rent afterwards is to be very low, it is unlikely that the landlord is going to be able to sustain their mortgage on the property and you could end up being evicted, which is the situation that you are trying to avoid in the first place.

Just last week, I had two leaflets through my letterbox offering me this deal. Any company that puts leaflets through people's doors is probably not credible. People in this situation should take independent advice. I suggest that they go to Shelter or Citizens Advice, and if they are about to enter into a contract, they should certainly consult a solicitor to ensure that what they are signing up to is actually the deal that they have been offered. If charities in Wales are prepared to step in, I would be happy to meet you to discuss this.

Sustainable Energy Generation

Q6 Brynle Williams: Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities for increasing sustainable energy generation in north Wales? OAQ(3)0520(ESH)

drafod y posibilrwydd y gallai sefydliad elusennol gynorthwyo'r perchnogion tai hyn i wynebu'r pwysau ariannol presennol a sicrhau eu bod mewn sefyllfa i gadw'u cartrefi yn y sefyllfa ariannol anodd hon.

Jocelyn Davies: Wrth gwrs, Rhodri. Os cysylltwch â'r swyddfa breifat, byddaf yn falch cyfarfod â chi i drafod a allai elusennau fod o gymorth. Mae'r syniad o werthu'ch eiddo i gwmni neu i landlord preifat a'i rentu yn ôl yn un newydd ac yn ganlyniad i'r hinsawdd economaidd presennol. Mae'n ddewis y bydd rhai pobl yn ei ystyried. I rai, yn enwedig os llwyddant i gael contract gyda landlord da, gall fod yn ateb delfrydol, oherwydd cânt rywffaint o arian am yr eiddo a gallant barhau i fyw yn y tŷ lle maent yn dymuno byw heb orfod symud. Dylai pobl yn y sefyllfa hon ystyried cysylltu â chymdeithas tai, ac wedyn byddai eu tenantiaeth yn fwy diogel o lawer. Rhaid i bobl ddeall, os yw'r fargen a gynigir iddynt i'w gweld yn rhy dda i fod yn wir, mae'n debygol ei bod yn rhy dda i fod yn wir. Os cynigir pris da ichi am y tŷ a'r rhent wedyn i fod yn isel iawn, go brin y bydd y landlord yn gallu cynnal y morgais ar yr eiddo, ac yn y pen draw gallech gael eich troi allan, sef y sefyllfa yr ydych yn ceisio'i hosgoi yn y lle cyntaf.

Dim ond yr wythnos diwethaf, cefais ddwy daflen drwy'r drws yn cynnig y fargen hon imi. Go brin bod unrhyw gwmni sy'n rhoi taflenni drwy ddrysau pobl yn un credadwy. Dylai pobl yn y sefyllfa hon geisio cyngor annibynnol. Awgrymaf iddynt fynd at Shelter neu at Gyngor ar Bopeth, ac os ydynt ar fin llofnodi contract, dylent yn sicr ymgynghori â chyfreithiwr er mwyn sicrhau mai'r fargen a gynigwyd iddynt mewn gwirionedd yw'r hyn y maent yn ymrwymo iddo. Os yw elusennau yng Nghymru'n barod i gamu i'r adwy, byddwn yn falch cyfarfod â chi i drafod hyn.

Cynhyrchu Ynni Cynaliadwy

C6 Brynle Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer cynhyrchu rhagor o ynni cynaliadwy yn y gogledd? OAQ(3)0520(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Welsh Assembly Government policy for the whole of Wales was laid out for consultation in the renewable energy route-map in February this year. The route-map outlined the fact that Wales could generate more electricity than it uses within 20 years by harnessing our natural resources.

Jane Davidson: Eglurwyd polisi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer Cymru gyfan ar gyfer ymgynghori yn y trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy ym mis Chwefror eleni. Yr oedd y trywydd yn dangos y gallai Cymru o fewn 20 mlynedd gynhyrchu mwy o drydan nag y mae'n ei ddefnyddio drwy ffrwyno'n hadnoddau naturiol.

Brynle Williams: Biomass energy has the potential to be used in Wales for schemes from large-scale generators right down to those for individual households. You will be aware that I have written to you about a constituent of mine who has been left in a state of limbo because he cannot use a grant awarded to him through the low-carbon building programme. The only locally approved installer refuses to carry out the work on his wood-pellet boiler because there is not enough profit in it. Do you not agree that the situation is rather absurd? What do you intend to do to close this loophole that is currently undermining the efforts of householders to install microgeneration technology?

Brynle Williams: Gellid defnyddio ynni biomas yng Nghymru ar gyfer cynlluniau'n amrywio o eneraduron ar raddfa fawr i'r rheini a ddefnyddir ar gyfer aelwydydd unigol. Gwyddoch imi ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn ag un o'm hetholwyr sydd wedi'i adael yn nhir neb am na all ddefnyddio grant a ddyfarnwyd iddo drwy gyfrwng y rhaglen adeiladu carbon-isel. Mae'r unig gwmmi lleol sydd wedi'i gymeradwyo i osod y rhain yn gwrthod gwneud y gwaith ar ei fwyler pelenni-pren am nad oes digon o elw i'w wneud. Oni chytunwch fod y sefyllfa'n hurt braidd? Beth y bwriadwch ei wneud i gau'r bwlch hwn sydd ar hyn o bryd yn tanseilio ymdrechion deiliaid tai i osod technoleg microgynhyrchu?

Jane Davidson: I am not aware that I have seen that correspondence yet. Officials will be putting their minds to ensuring that the way in which I respond to you or anyone else demonstrates the fact that we are strongly in support of biomass in Wales. We will be producing a biomass action plan to that effect.

Jane Davidson: Nid wyf yn ymwybodol imi weld yr ohebiaeth honno eto. Bydd swyddogion yn canolbwyntio ar sicrhau bod y ffordd y byddaf yn eich ateb chi neu unrhyw un arall yn dangos ein bod yn gadarn o blaid biomas yng Nghymru. Byddwn yn cynhyrchu cynllun gweithredu biomas i'r perwyl hwnnw.

Gareth Jones: Mae fy nghwestiwn yn ymwneud â chynllun Gwynt-y-Môr. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o fy mhryderon ynglŷn â'r bygythiad real i economi dwristiaeth fregus y gogledd. Mewn llythyr gennyh ar ran Llywodraeth y Cynulliad at Lywodraeth San Steffan mae cyfeiriad at y posibilrwydd o ardrawiad negyddol ar dwristiaeth yn un o brif ganolfannau ymwelwyr Cymru, sy'n dweud ei fod yn fater i'w ddwys ystyried. O ganlyniad, a fydddech yn ail-asesu'r farn gyhoeddus drwy ymgynghoriad ffurfiol ar gynllun Gwynt-y-Môr, yn enwedig yn awr, gan ein bod yn gweld beth sy'n digwydd wrth i'r fferm wynt ar wastadeddau Rhyl gael ei hadeiladu?

Gareth Jones: My question relates to the Gwynt-y-Môr project. I am sure you are aware of my concerns regarding the real threat to the fragile tourism industry in north Wales. In a letter by you on behalf of the Assembly Government to the Westminster Government, reference is made to the possibility of a negative impact on tourism in one of Wales's most important tourist destinations, saying it should be given serious consideration. As a result, will you reassess public opinion by undertaking formal consultation on the Gwynt-y-Môr project, bearing in mind particularly what we are seeing with regard to the Rhyl flats project?

Jane Davidson: The Assembly Government is strongly in favour of renewable energy, including wind energy, and wants to ensure that that policy is supported by putting windfarm projects in the right locations. It is important, which is why we have supported the call for a public inquiry with regard to the Gwynt-y-Môr project. However, going back to my previous answer, projects of over 50 MW are the responsibility of the UK Government.

Alternative Energy Production

Q7 Lesley Griffiths: What steps is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to support alternative forms of energy production in Wales? OAQ(3)0526(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Welsh Assembly Government policy for the whole of Wales was laid out for consultation in the renewable energy route-map in February of this year. The route-map outlined that Wales could generate more electricity than it uses within 20 years by harnessing our natural resources, that is the alternative forms of energy production.

Lesley Griffiths: In my constituency of Wrexham, there is an innovative plan to produce electricity via cow manure and the process of anaerobic digestion; while we may not have huge resources of oil in Wales, we certainly have no short supply of cow manure. This scheme is going ahead without Government backing, so will you pledge to look into how we can not only capitalise on alternative forms of energy production, but also actively encourage and support people like the farmer in my constituency in his efforts to generate green electricity?

Jane Davidson: We are happy to look at ways in which we can encourage people to generate green electricity. It is true to say that anaerobic digestion has now reached a point where it is properly commercial. We had an additional fund this year to bring projects up to a commercial standard, but it is unlikely to be supported subsequently, because it is

Jane Davidson: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gadarn o blaid ynni adnewyddadwy, gan gynnwys ynni'r gwynt, ac mae'n awyddus i sicrhau bod y polisi'n cael ei gefnogi drwy osod prosiectau ffermydd gwynt yn y mannau iawn. Mae'n bwysig, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi cefnogi'r cais am ymchwiliad cyhoeddus gyda golwg ar brosiect Gwynt-y-Môr. Fodd bynnag, i fynd yn ôl at fy ateb blaenorol, cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth y DU yw prosiectau dros 50 MW.

Cynhyrchu Ynni Amgen

C7 Lesley Griffiths: Pa gamau mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i gefnogi ffurfiau amgen o gynhyrchu ynni yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0526(ESH)

Jane Davidson: Eglurwyd polisi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer Cymru gyfan yn y ddogfen ymgynghori—y trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy—ym mis Chwefror eleni. Yr oedd y trywydd yn dangos y gallai Cymru, o fewn 20 mlynedd, gynhyrchu mwy o drydan nag y mae'n ei ddefnyddio drwy ffrwyno'n hadnoddau naturiol, hynny yw cynhyrchu ynni drwy ffurfiau amgen.

Lesley Griffiths: Yn fy etholaeth i yn Wrecsam, mae cynllun arloesol i gynhyrchu trydan drwy ddefnyddio tail gwartheg a phroses treulio anaerobig; efallai nad oes gennym adnoddau olew enfawr yng Nghymru, ond yn sicr nid ydym yn brin o dail gwartheg. Mae'r cynllun hwn yn mynd rhagddo heb gefnogaeth y Llywodraeth, felly, a wnewch chi addo edrych ar y ffordd y gallwn nid yn unig fanteisio ar gynhyrchu ynni drwy ffurfiau amgen, ond hefyd annog a chefnogi'n frwd bobl fel y ffermwr yn fy etholaeth i wrth iddo ymdrechu i gynhyrchu trydan gwyrdd?

Jane Davidson: Yr ydym yn barod i edrych ar ffyrdd i annog pobl i gynhyrchu trydan gwyrdd. Mae'n wir dweud bod treulio anaerobig bellach wedi cyrraedd pwynt lle mae'n wir yn fasnachol. Yr oedd gennym gronfa ychwanegol eleni i godi prosiectau at safon fasnachol, ond nid yw'n debygol o gael cefnogaeth ar ôl hyn, oherwydd mae'n

sufficiently commercial. We are keen that anaerobic digestion is used as much as possible across Wales for appropriate wastes. Therefore, there is a strong message from the Assembly Government, at the individual level and at the community level, on supporting renewable energy through whatever source.

Mark Isherwood: I was also invited to visit the same farm to look at the same technology. I understand that the farm has been seeking Assembly Government support but that the Assembly Government stated that it was not prepared to look at old technology, believing that it is based on an existing scheme established some 18 years ago in Powys. The farm wants to stress that it is based on the latest German technology; I understand that Germany is already exhausting its food waste and looking for alternatives.

The positive spin-off of these smaller scale schemes, as well as providing heat and energy for the farm and possibly for adjacent communities, as we heard from Lesley, is that waste from the process can be pumped straight onto the farm land as fertiliser, unlike larger scale, more centralised schemes. Are you prepared to engage directly with this project and its supporters and developers to see how, working together in partnership with them, we can ensure that this Welsh-made technology becomes the world-beater that it has the potential to be?

Jane Davidson: I am interested in anaerobic digestion operating effectively in Wales—I am a strong advocate for it, as are you and Lesley. However, none of us would pretend to have the scientific expertise for determining whether one application is better than another; we have experts for that. As a Minister who works on the basis of evidence, I listen to the experts' view. Therefore, I expect expert panels to determine whether or not any particular process is appropriate for Assembly Government funding.

ddigon masnachol. Yr ydym yn awyddus i weld cymaint o ddefnydd ag y bo modd ar dreulio anaerobig ledled Cymru ar gyfer mathau priodol o wastraff. Felly, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn anfon neges gref, ar lefel unigolion, ac ar lefel y gymuned, ynglŷn â chefnogi ynni adnewyddadwy drwy ba ffynhonnell bynnag.

Mark Isherwood: Fe'm gwahoddwyd i hefyd i ymweld â'r un fferm i edrych ar yr un dechnoleg. Deallaf fod y fferm wedi bod yn ceisio cael cymorth gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ond bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi dweud nad oedd yn barod i edrych ar hen dechnoleg, gan gredu ei bod wedi'i seilio ar gynllun a oedd yn bodoli eisoes ac a oedd wedi ei sefydlu oddeutu 18 mlynedd yn ôl ym Mhowys. Mae'r fferm am bwysleisio mai ar y dechnoleg ddiweddaraf o'r Almaen y mae wedi'i seilio; deallaf fod yr Almaen eisoes yn dihybyddu ei gwastraff bwyd ac yn chwilio am wastraff amgen.

Sgil-fantais rhai o'r cynlluniau llai hyn, yn ogystal â darparu gwres ac ynni ar gyfer y fferm ac o bosibl ar gyfer cymunedau cyfagos, fel y clywsom gan Lesley, yw bod modd pwmpio gwastraff y broses wedyn yn syth ar dir y fferm fel gwrtaith. Mae hyn yn wahanol i'r cynlluniau ar raddfa fwy sydd wedi'u canoli'n fwy. A ydych yn barod i ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â'r prosiect hwn a'i gefnogwyr a'i ddatblygwyr er mwyn gweld sut y gallwn, drwy gydweithio mewn partneriaeth â hwy, sicrhau bod y dechnoleg hon a wnaethpwyd yng Nghymru yn curo gweddill y byd, gan fod potensial iddi wneud hynny?

Jane Davidson: Mae gweld treulio anaerobig yn gweithio'n effeithiol yng Nghymru o ddiddordeb imi—yr wyf yn lladmerydd cryf drosto, fel yr ydych chithau a Lesley. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddai'r un ohonom yn esgus bod gennym yr arbenigedd gwyddonol i benderfynu a yw'r naill gais yn well na'r llall; mae gennym arbenigwyr i wneud hynny. A minnau'n Weinidog sy'n gweithio ar sail tystiolaeth, byddaf yn gwrandao ar farn yr arbenigwyr. Felly, yr wyf yn disgwyl i baneli o arbenigwyr benderfynu a yw un broses benodol yn briodol i gael nawdd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ai peidio.

Leanne Wood: I recently met some people from the transition towns movement in Pembrokeshire who made strong representations to me regarding the planning process when it comes to microgeneration applications. What action is the One Wales Government taking to ensure strong planning support for microgeneration?

Jane Davidson: We consulted earlier in the year on lifting the restrictions on permitted development on microgeneration and I am keen to take that forward as quickly as possible. My understanding is that we are ready to bring regulations before the Assembly in the early part of next year to do that.

Mick Bates: One neglected type of alternative energy is energy from waste, which is an energy form that is often beleaguered by waste definitions and Environment Agency regulations. For example, glycerol, which is a by-product of biodiesel production from used vegetable oil, is classified as a waste product despite being treated and reprocessed to create a new product, which is a sustainable fuel of marketable value. Do you have any plans to clarify these regulations to allow sensible utilisation of this co-product, and other related co-products, which can play such an important part in helping us to reduce our carbon emissions?

2.10 p.m.

Jane Davidson: Energy from waste is absolutely not an area that does not currently receive attention. It is crucial that we get energy-from-waste issues right in going out to consultation with our 'Wise About Waste' review. I will seek expert advice on the issue of reclassification that you have raised today.

Homeowners and First-time Buyers

Q8 Mohammad Asghar: Will the Minister give an update on Welsh Assembly Government measures to help homeowners

Leanne Wood: Cyfarfûm yn ddiweddar â phobl o'r mudiad trefi trawsnewid yn Sir Benfro a oedd yn cwyno'n ddifrifol wrthyf am y broses gynllunio ar gyfer ceisiadau microgynhyrchu. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un yn eu cymryd i sicrhau cymorth cynllunio cadarn ar gyfer microgynhyrchu?

Jane Davidson: Buom yn ymgynghori'n gynharach eleni ynglŷn â chodi'r cyfyngiadau ar ddatblygu a ganiateir ar gyfer microgynhyrchu, ac yr wyf yn awyddus i fwrw ymlaen â hynny cyn gynted ag y bo modd. Yn ôl a ddeallaf, yr ydym yn barod i ddod â rheoliadau gerbron y Cynulliad ddechrau'r flwyddyn nesaf er mwyn gwneud hynny.

Mick Bates: Un math o ynni amgen sy'n cael ei esgeuluso yw ynni o wastraff. Dyma un ffurf ar ynni sy'n aml yn wynebu rhwystrau oherwydd y ffordd y diffinnir gwastraff ac oherwydd rheoliadau Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd. Er enghraifft, mae glyserol, sef un o sgil-gynhyrchion cynhyrchu biodisel o olew llysiau sydd wedi'i ddefnyddio, yn cael ei ddiffinio'n wastraff er ei fod wedi'i drin a'i ailbroseu er mwyn creu cynnyrch newydd, a hwnnw'n danwydd cynaliadwy a gwerth iddo ar y farchnad. A oes gennych gynlluniau o gwbl i wneud y rheoliadau hyn yn fwy eglur fel y gellir defnyddio'r cyd-gynnyrch hwn a chyd-gynhyrchion eraill mewn ffordd gall, oherwydd gallant chwarae rhan mor bwysig o ran ein helpu i leihau ein gollyngiadau carbon?

Jane Davidson: Yn wir i chi, nid yw ynni o wastraff yn faes nad yw'n cael sylw ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n hollbwysig inni sicrhau ein bod yn cael trefn iawn ar faterion yn ymwneud ag ynni o wastraff wrth inni ymgynghori ynglŷn â'n hadolygiad 'Yn Gall gyda Gwastraff'. Byddaf yn ceisio cyngor arbenigwyr ar y mater ail-gategoreiddio yr ydych wedi'i godi heddiw.

Perchnogion Tai a Phrynwyr Tro Cyntaf

C8 Mohammad Asghar: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am fesurau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i

and first-time buyers in Wales?
OAQ(3)0504(ESH)

Jocelyn Davies: Good progress is being made on the 'One Wales' commitment to provide grants for first-time buyers. We have introduced a pilot scheme that will provide grants for energy efficiency purposes in declared renewal areas where the house-price-to-income ratio is above the national average.

Mohammad Asghar: I was pleased that Wales led the way in providing help for homeowners having difficulties with their mortgages and for first-time buyers. I congratulate the Deputy Minister on taking this action. What interest has been shown by local authorities in the energy efficiency pilot scheme for first-time buyers?

Jocelyn Davies: This is the first year of the pilot scheme and, as I mentioned, the grants are available to first-time buyers in declared renewal areas in the local authority areas that have above-average affordability. The nine local authorities that qualified all made bids, and Pembrokeshire's was the most ambitious. I visited Haverfordwest last week, where they are keen and have secured £120,000 of grant aid from the £500,000 available for this year.

Paul Davies: I want to pursue Peter Black's earlier line of questioning. I notice from your written statement last week that you intend to respond to the credit crunch by tackling empty private housing. Indeed, freeing up more empty homes is one of the recommendations in the Essex report. I met a constituent last week who wanted to regenerate an empty property. He was told that grants would be available to support his project, but when he started the project, he was told that that was not the case. Given those circumstances, can you tell me what grants will be available from the Assembly Government through local authorities to help constituents like mine to regenerate property?

helpu perchnogion tai a phrynwyr am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0504(ESH)

Jocelyn Davies: Mae cynnydd da'n cael ei wneud o ran ymrwymiad 'Cymru'n Un' i ddarparu grantiau ar gyfer prynwyr tro cyntaf. Yr ydym wedi cyflwyno cynllun peilot a fydd yn darparu grantiau at ddibenion effeithlonrwydd ynni mewn ardaloedd a ddynodwyd yn ardaloedd adnewyddu, lle mae'r gymhareb prisiau-tai-i-incwm yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd cenedlaethol.

Mohammad Asghar: Yr oeddwn yn falch fod Cymru ar flaen y gad yn cynnig cymorth i berchnogion tai sy'n cael anhawster gyda'u morgeisiau, ac i'r rheini sy'n prynu am y tro cyntaf. Llongyfarchaf y Dirprwy Weinidog ar gymryd y camau hyn. Pa ddi-ddordeb y mae awdurdodau lleol wedi'i ddangos yn y cynllun peilot effeithlonrwydd ynni i brynwyr tro cyntaf?

Jocelyn Davies: Hon yw blwyddyn gyntaf y cynllun peilot, ac fel y crybwyllais, mae'r grantiau ar gael i brynwyr tro cyntaf yn yr ardaloedd a ddynodwyd yn ardaloedd adnewyddu yn yr ardaloedd awdurdod lleol lle mae fforddiadwyedd yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd. Gwnaed cais gan y naw awdurdod lleol a oedd yn gymwys i -wneud cais, a chais sir Benfro oedd y mwyaf uchelgeisiol. Ymwelais â Hwlfordd yr wythnos diwethaf, lle mae cryn frwdfrydedd a lle maent wedi sicrhau £120,000 o gymorth grant o'r £500,000 sydd ar gael ar gyfer eleni.

Paul Davies: Yr wyf am fynd ar drywydd cwestiynau Peter Black gynnau. Sylwais o'ch datganiad ysgrifenedig yr wythnos diwethaf eich bod yn bwriadu ymateb i'r wasgfa gredyd drwy fynd i'r afael â thai preifat gwag. Yn wir, rhyddhau mwy o gartrefi gweigion yw un o argymhellion adroddiad Essex. Cyfarfûm ag etholwr yr wythnos diwethaf a oedd am adfywio eiddo gwag. Dywedwyd wrtho y byddai grantiau ar gael i'w gynorthwyo gyda'i brosiect, ond pan gychwynnodd arno, dywedwyd wrtho nad oedd hynny'n wir. O gofio'r amgylchiadau hynny, a allwch ddweud wrthyf pa grantiau a fydd ar gael gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad drwy'r awdurdodau lleol i helpu etholwyr megis fy etholwyr i, i adfywio eiddo?

Jocelyn Davies: I have not idea about that case—who he spoke to and why he or she changed their mind. So, I cannot give you an answer on that.

Money is available to local authorities, which can provide grants through their renovation grant systems. If it is a strategic priority for that local authority, it could be that it will provide grants in order to make empty properties available. It appears that the number of empty properties is being underestimated. Many local authorities cannot tell you how many empty properties that they have in their area. We are encouraging all of them to have empty properties strategies. We are also looking at what we can do to ensure that this resource is no longer wasted. It is one of the recommendations of Sue Essex's review that we consider empty properties along with underoccupied properties. However, I cannot tell you that grants will be directly available from the National Assembly for this. We already supply resources to local authorities for renovation plans and this might be a priority for them.

The Presiding Officer: I call Irene James.

Irene James: Thank you for calling me, Presiding Officer, but I think that things have gone a bit askew, because I thought that my question, question 12, was going to be grouped with Lesley Griffiths's earlier question. My question is: will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to promote and develop more renewable sources of energy?

Jocelyn Davies: That is for Jane Davidson.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Irene James, you indicated that you wished to be called.

Irene James: No, I did not.

The Presiding Officer: Then I apologise. Your question 12 was not grouped with an earlier question. I call Alun Davies.

Jocelyn Davies: Ni wn ddim am yr achos hwnnw—â phwy y siaradodd a pham y newidiodd ei feddwl. Felly, ni allaf roi ateb ichi am hynny.

Mae arian ar gael i awdurdodau lleol er mwyn iddynt roi grantiau drwy eu systemau grantiau adnewyddu. Os yw'n flaenoriaeth strategol i'r awdurdod lleol hwnnw, efallai y bydd yn rhoi grantiau er mwyn i adeiladau gwag fod ar gael. I bob golwg, mae mwy o eiddo gwag ar gael nag a dybir. Mae llawer o awdurdodau lleol na allant ddweud wrthyhch faint o eiddo gwag sydd ganddynt yn eu hardal. Yr ydym yn eu hannog i gyd i gael strategaeth ar gyfer eiddo gwag. Yr ydym hefyd yn ystyried yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i sicrhau na chaiff yr adnodd hwn ei wastraffu rhagor. Un o argymhellion adolygiad Sue Essex yw ein bod yn ystyried eiddo gwag ochr yn ochr ag eiddo sy'n rhannol wag. Fodd bynnag, ni allaf ddweud wrthyhch y bydd grantiau ar gael yn uniongyrchol gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar gyfer hyn. Yr ydym eisoes yn rhoi adnoddau i awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer cynlluniau adnewyddu, a gallai hyn fod yn flaenoriaeth iddynt.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar Irene James.

Irene James: Diolch ichi am fy ngalw, Lywydd, ond credaf fod pethau wedi mynd o chwith braidd, oherwydd yr oeddwn yn meddwl y byddai fy nghwestiwn i, cwestiwn 12, yn cael ei grwpio gyda chwestiwn blaenorol Lesley Griffiths. Fy nghwestiwn yw: a wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n ei wneud i hyrwyddo a datblygu ffynonellau ynni mwy adnewyddadwy?

Jocelyn Davies: I Jane Davidson y mae hwnnw.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Irene James, dywedasoeh eich bod yn dymuno cael eich galw.

Irene James: Naddo.

Y Llywydd: Ymddiheuraf felly. Ni chafodd eich cwestiwn 12 ei grwpio gyda chwestiwn blaenorol. Galwaf ar Alun Davies.

Alun Davies: As you will be aware, I represent some of the parts of Wales that are least affordable for first-time buyers and we have rehearsed many of the figures and arguments around that in the Chamber. Can you update us on the actions that you have taken over the summer recess and your plans over this term to review the future of the homebuy scheme and to direct help at first-time buyers?

Jocelyn Davies: Officials are preparing a consultation document on the future of homebuy that will go out before the end of October. An independent review of the previous homebuy scheme found that it was not being targeted in all instances at those in housing need. It helped people a great deal, but the question was whether it was helping the right people. We certainly want to target first-time buyers, and if we could target current social housing tenants, that would release a property that could go to someone else on the waiting list. Therefore, we will look at a new homebuy scheme that will be properly targeted. If it is targeted in the right way, it would represent good value for money.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr am ateb y cwestiynau.

Alun Davies: Fel y gwyddoch, yr wyf yn cynrychioli rhai o'r rhannau lleiaf fforddiadwy hynny o Gymru i bobl sy'n prynu am y tro cyntaf, a thrafodwyd llawer o'r ffigurau a'r dadleuon yn ymwneud â hynny yn y Siambr. A allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am y camau a gymerwyd gennych dros doriad yr haf, a'ch cynlluniau yn ystod y tymor hwn i adolygu dyfodol y cynllun cymorth prynu ac i anelu cymorth at brynwyr tro cyntaf?

Jocelyn Davies: Mae swyddogion yn paratoi dogfen ymgynghori ynglŷn â dyfodol y cynllun cymorth prynu a aiff allan cyn diwedd mis Hydref. Darganfu adolygiad annibynnol o'r cynllun cymorth blaenorol nad oedd yn cael ei dargedu ym mhob sefyllfa at bobl sydd ag anghenion ym maes tai. Yr oedd o gymorth mawr i bobl, ond y cwestiwn oedd a oedd yn cynorthwyo'r bobl iawn. Yr ydym yn sicr am dargedu prynwyr tro cyntaf, a phetaem yn gallu targedu'r sawl sy'n denantiaid tai cymdeithasol ar hyn o bryd, byddai hynny'n rhyddhau eiddo i rywun arall ar y rhestr aros. Felly, byddwn yn edrych ar gynllun cymorth prynu newydd a gaiff ei dargedu'n iawn. O'i dargedu yn y ffordd iawn, byddai'n rhoi gwerth da am arian.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you for answering those questions.

Datganiad am Gwpan Ryder Statement on the Ryder Cup

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Ar 1, 2 a 3 Hydref 2010, cynhelir deunawfed gornest ar hugain Cwpan Ryder yng ngwesty'r Celtic Manor Resort yng Nghasnewydd. Yn y seremoni a gafwyd i ddod â'r ail ornest ar bymtheg ar hugain i ben ddydd Sul diwethaf yn Valhalla, ger Louisville, Kentucky, cafodd y cyfrifoldeb dros ornest y Cwpan Ryder ei drosglwyddo o Kentucky i mi ar ran Cymru. Eleni oedd y tro cyntaf ers naw mlynedd i dîm golff yr Unol Daleithiau fod yn fuddugol.

Er bod yr ymweliad wedi golygu y bûm yn absennol o'r seremoni a gynhaliwyd i groesawu ein tîm arbennig o lwyddiannus yn

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): On 1, 2 and 3 October 2010, the thirty-eighth contest for the Ryder Cup will take place at the Celtic Manor Resort hotel in Newport. At the closing ceremony of the thirty-seventh Ryder Cup on Sunday last at Valhalla, near Louisville, Kentucky, I accepted the handover of responsibility from Kentucky to Wales for the Ryder Cup. This year was the first time in nine years for the American golf team to win it.

Although my visit meant that I had to miss the triumphant return of our exceptionally successful team of athletes from the

ôl o'r Gemau Paralympaidd yn Beijing, yr oedd y siwrnai yn gyfle heb ei ail i weld a dysgu sut oedd talaith Kentucky, ardal ddinesig Louisville, a Chymdeithas Golffwyr Proffesiynol America, yn berchnogion y cwrs, wedi gallu trefnu gornest mor groesawgar a chyfeillgar ac eto mor broffesiynol. Trefnwyd a pharatowyd popeth i'r dim, er y bu i gorwynt Ike chwythu sawl colfen i lawr ar y cwrs a ger y cwrs, gan greu llanast o'r gwifrau a'r cyflenwadau trydan ychydig ddyddiau cyn i'r golff ddechrau.

The Deputy First Minister, who attended the opening ceremony, and I both undertook intensive business programmes while in the USA and capitalised on the superb opportunity provided by the Ryder Cup to host key guests and hold key meetings in and around Valhalla. Team Wales had the best chance in a generation to promote not just golf tourism in Wales but also to develop inward investment opportunities, to promote trade, and to forge relationships between Wales and significant stakeholders in the United States. We believe that these relationships will deliver valuable dividends in due course.

We hosted guests from the business and tourism sectors and had formal, face-to-face and one-on-one meetings with a large number of these vital leads. We made important contacts with other guests at wider events around the Ryder Cup, including visiting the United States distributor for Penderyn whisky. We held meetings with the governors of Kentucky and Oklahoma and met officials from UK Trade and Investment in Washington DC. In all, we undertook about 40 formal engagements, each one promoting Wales to a wide and varied audience of key decision makers and influencers. Major events that sold Wales to large audiences included receptions at the Muhammad Ali Centre in downtown Louisville, and at Churchill Downs, the home of the Kentucky Derby.

The Ryder Cup was a massive magnet for the American business community. We hosted almost 40 inward investment guests from the

Paralympic Games in Beijing, the trip was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to look and learn about how the state of Kentucky, the Louisville metropolitan area and the Professional Golfers Association of America, as course owners, had managed to organise such a welcoming and friendly event that was also so professional. The preparations had been planned meticulously to the very last detail, despite Hurricane Ike disrupting power supplies and blowing trees down on and near the course a few days before the golf began.

Ymgwymerodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, a aeth i'r seremoni agoriadol, a minnau â rhaglenni busnes dwys yn UDA gan fanteisio ar y cyfle rhagorol a gynigid gan y Cwpan Ryder i groesawu gwsteion allweddol a chael cyfarfodydd allweddol yn Valhalla a'r cyffiniau. Dyma'r cyfle gorau mewn cenhedlaeth i Dîm Cymru hyrwyddo nid yn unig twristiaeth golff yng Nghymru, ond hefyd i ddatblygu cyfleoedd mewnfuddsoddi, i hyrwyddo masnach, ac i greu perthynas rhwng Cymru a rhanddeiliaid allweddol yn yr Unol Daleithiau. Credwn y bydd y cysylltiadau hyn yn dwyn ffrwyth gwerthfawr maes o law.

Croesawyd gwsteion o'r sector busnes a'r sector twristiaeth gennym a chawsom gyfarfodydd ffurfiol, wyneb-yn-wyneb ac un-ac-un gyda nifer fawr o'r cysylltiadau hollbwysig hyn. Crëwyd cysylltiadau pwysig â gwsteion eraill mewn digwyddiadau ehangach yng nghyswllt y Cwpan Ryder, gan gynnwys ymweld â dosbarthwr whisgi Penderyn yn yr Unol Daleithiau. Cynhaliwyd cyfarfodydd gyda llywodraethwyr Kentucky ac Oklahoma a chyfarfod â swyddogion Masnach a Buddsoddi'r DU yn Washington DC. Drwyddi draw, cawsom oddeutu 40 o gyfarfodydd ffurfiol, bob un ohonynt yn hyrwyddo Cymru i gynulleidfa eang ac amrywiol o benderfynwyr a dylanwadwyr allweddol. Rhai o'r prif ddigwyddiadau a gynhaliwyd i werthu Cymru i gynulleidfa oedd mawr oedd derbyniad yng Nghanolfan Muhammad Ali yng nghanol Louisville, a derbyniad yn Churchill Downs, cartref y Kentucky Derby.

Roedd y Cwpan Ryder yn fagned enfawr i gymuned fusnes America. Trefnwyd inni groesawu bron 40 o fewnfuddsoddwyr o'r

United States and Europe, some of them existing inward investors to Wales and considering further investment here, and others considering Wales as an investment location for the first time. Without exception, existing investors were very positive about their experiences in Wales and were confident of making further investments here despite current credit market conditions. I am confident of positive announcements in the near future in at least some cases. Other announcements may be for the medium term, and, as with all marketing opportunities, some leads look promising but do not in the end turn into successful decisions in our favour.

2.20 p.m.

As with the Ryder Cup two years ago in Ireland, our discussions with clients are confidential, but I am sure that in the months ahead, as we experienced in Ireland, we will see significant outputs in the form of new inward investments and new jobs for Wales.

The promotion of Wales as a tourism destination for golf and for general tourism was an integral objective for us. Our travel operator guests, one-on-one meetings with travel operators, involvement in the travel writers' event and media interviews with the likes of Forbes and Reuters all combined to present Wales in the best possible light in a vast market that offers Wales considerable tourism opportunity. That message was pressed home during a meeting with the Deputy Secretary for Tourism, Arts and Heritage and with the Secretary of Commerce of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The most visible benefit, although it would be classed as being intangible, is the massive increase in the awareness of Wales—from a business, tourism and general perspective—that hosting Ryder Cup No. 38 is enabling us to achieve. Wales's presence in Kentucky, with the Welsh flag proudly flying, lit a light bulb in the consciousness of everyone we met. The 150,000 spectators, the businesspeople, the travel writers, the politicians, the media generally and at least

Unol Daleithiau ac o Ewrop, rai ohonynt sydd eisoes yn buddsoddi yng Nghymru ac yn ystyried buddsoddi rhagor yma, ac eraill yn ystyried Cymru fel lleoliad i fuddsoddi am y tro cyntaf. Yn ddieithriad, yr oedd y rhai a oedd eisoes yn buddsoddi yma'n gadarnhaol iawn ynglŷn â'u profiadau yng Nghymru, ac yn hyderus y byddent yn buddsoddi rhagor yma er gwaethaf cyflwr y farchnad gredyd ar hyn o bryd. Yr wyf yn hyderus y cawn gyhoeddiadau cadarnhaol yn y dyfodol agos mewn ambell achos o leiaf. Efallai mai rhai ar gyfer y tymor canolig fydd cyhoeddiadau eraill, ac fel sy'n wir am bob cyfle i farchnata, ni fydd pob cysylltiad sy'n edrych yn addawol yn troi'n benderfyniad llwyddiannus o'n plaid yn y pen draw.

Fel gyda'r Cwpan Ryder ddwy flynedd yn ôl yn Iwerddon, mae ein trafodaethau gyda chleientau'n gyfrinachol, ond yr wyf yn sicr yn y misoedd i ddod, fel y gwelsom yn Iwerddon, y gwelwn ganlyniadau o bwys ar ffurf mewnfuddsoddiadau newydd a swyddi newydd i Gymru.

Un o'n hamcanion hanfodol oedd hyrwyddo Cymru fel cyrchfan dwristiaeth ar gyfer golff ac ar gyfer twristiaeth yn gyffredinol. Yr oedd croesawu cwmnïau teithio, cael cyfarfodydd un-i-un gyda hwy, cymryd rhan yn y digwyddiad i awduron teithio a chynnal cyfweiliadau i'r cyfryngau gyda Forbes a Reuters a'u tebyg i gyd yn gyfleoedd i gyflwyno Cymru ar ei gorau mewn marchnad anferth sy'n cynnig cyfle sylweddol i Gymru ym maes twristiaeth. Pwysleisiwyd y neges honno mewn cyfarfod gyda'r Dirprwy Ysgrifennydd dros Dwristiaeth, y Celfyddydau a Threftadaeth a chydag Ysgrifennydd Masnach Talaiith Kentucky.

Y fantais fwyaf amlwg, er y byddai'n cael ei diffinio'n fantais haniaethol, yw bod croesawu Cwpan Ryder Rhif 38 yn ein galluogi i sicrhau cynnydd anferth yn ymwybyddiaeth pobl o Gymru—o safbwynt busnes, o safbwynt twristiaeth ac o safbwynt cyffredinol. Yn sgil presenoldeb Cymru yn Kentucky, gyda baner Cymru'n chwifio'n falch, taniwyd ymwybyddiaeth pawb y cyfarfuwyd â hwy. Mae'r 150,000 o wylwyr, y bobl fusnes, yr awduron teithio, y

some of the hundreds of millions in the global television audience now know what and where Wales is in a way that they did not before, and they are interested enough to find out more about our country.

Of the key lessons learned, one is that Kentuckians generally enjoy hosting visitors, and the welcoming attitude shown by everyone—nothing was too much trouble—is one that is partly ingrained and then reinforced by welcome-host type training. Volunteering to be at the Ryder Cup and even paying for the privilege of being a volunteer is popular in the USA. They turned away 2,000 would-be volunteers, who were willing to pay, but there was no room for them. That is a pretty staggering statistic, and that is how they cleared away the debris of hurricane Ike so quickly. The Valhalla course is a single course facility, extending over 450 acres, only 180 acres of which is the golf course. The other 270 acres were for the back-up area, for catering, the media centre, corporate hospitality and the huge shuttle bus operation and so on, which was mind-boggling.

The closing ceremony event had a strong Welsh flavour, with the massive stage presence of Bryn Terfel—to whom I am enormously grateful—very much to the fore. That event was viewed by a global audience, and, while it is impossible to put a value on that once-in-a-lifetime exposure, the results of it will come through in the months and years ahead, culminating in Wales's successful hosting, I am sure, of Ryder Cup No. 38 in 2010, in 737 days' time.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i'r Prif Weinidog am ei frwdfrydedd.

Paul Davies: I thank the First Minister for his statement. I am sure that everyone in the Chamber is delighted that Wales will be hosting the next Ryder Cup. It is an excellent achievement, and I am sure that it will be another great opportunity to showcase the world-class facilities that Wales has to offer.

gwleidyddion, y cyfryngau'n gyffredinol a rhai o leiaf o'r cannoedd o filiynau yn y gynulleidfa deledu fyd-eang yn gwybod erbyn hyn beth yw Cymru ac ymhle mae hi mewn ffordd nad oeddent yn gwybod o'r blaen, ac mae ganddynt ddigon o ddiddordeb i gael gwybod rhagor am ein gwlad.

O blith y gwersi pwysig a ddysgwyd, un yw bod pobl Kentucky yn gyffredinol yn mwynhau croesawu ymwelwyr, ac yr oedd yr agwedd groesawgar gan bawb—nid oedd dim yn ormod o drafferth—yn rhan o'u natur i raddau a hynny wedyn yn cael ei atgyfnerthu drwy ddarparu hyfforddiant tebyg i'r Cynllun Croeso. Mae gwirfoddoli ar gyfer y Cwpan Ryder, gan dalu hyd yn oed am y fraint o fod yn wirfoddolwr, yn boblogaidd yn UDA. Gwrthodwyd 2,000 o ddarpar wirfoddolwyr, a oedd yn barod i dalu, am nad oedd lle iddynt. Mae'r ystadegyn hwnnw'n ddigon syfrdanol, a dyna sut y llwyddwyd i glirio llastr corwynt Ike mor gyflym. Cyfleuster un cwrs yw cwrs Valhalla, sy'n ymestyn dros 450 erw, a 180 o erwau'n unig o'r tir hwnnw yw'r cwrs golff. Defnyddiwyd y 270 erw arall ar gyfer gwasanaethau, ar gyfer arlwy, y ganolfan gyfryngau, croeso corfforaethol, y bysiau gwennol di-ri, ac ati. Yr oedd yn syfrdanol.

Yr oedd blas Cymreig cryf ar y seremoni gloi, gyda phresenoldeb enfawr Bryn Terfel yn amlwg iawn ar y llwyfan. Yr wyf yn hynod o ddiolchgar iddo. Gwelodd cynulleidfa fyd-eang y digwyddiad hwnnw, ac er ei bod yn amhosibl rhoi gwerth ar y sylw unwaith-mewn-oes hwnnw, daw'r canlyniadau i'r golwg yn y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod, gan gyrraedd penllanw pan fydd Cymru'n croesawu Cwpan Ryder Rhif 38, yn 2010, ymhen 737 o ddiwrnodau, gan wneud hynny'n llwyddiannus, yr wyf yn siŵr.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the First Minister for his enthusiasm.

Paul Davies: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ddatganiad. Yr wyf yn siŵr fod pawb yn y Siambr wrth ei fodd fod Cymru i groesawu'r Cwpan Ryder y tro nesaf. Mae'n llwyddiant penigamp, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn gyfle gwych arall i ddangos y cyfleusterau sydd gan Gymru i'w cynnig, cyfleusterau sydd

I am sure that we would all offer our best wishes to the European team for 2010, and hope that they are successful in regaining the cup.

The competition will bring a vast number of visitors to Wales, from the UK and much further afield, and that will generate a great deal of revenue in and around Wales. It is vital that we market the country's other attractions to the full, ensuring that the benefits are felt throughout the country.

In your statement, First Minister, you mentioned that some leads look promising with regard to marketing opportunities. Perhaps you would be kind enough to give us the Assembly Government's overall marketing strategy for the event in 2010. Linking in to that is the importance of ensuring an integrated transport infrastructure so that visitors to the event in 2010 can move around easily and quickly. What is the Assembly Government doing to achieve an integrated transport infrastructure? It is essential that we get these issues right so that Wales can host the best ever Ryder Cup.

The First Minister: Thank you, Paul, for the spirit in which you asked those questions.

The maximisation of visitor numbers might be assisted by the fact that the Americans won this year, for the first time in four Ryder Cup competitions. In one way, it is a pity that we do not physically have the Ryder Cup as a piece of gold or silver—or whichever metal it is made of—to take around Wales to generate interest. On the other hand, since the Americans have it, it is far more likely that more Americans will want to travel to Wales, because the Americans do not like losing something four times on the trot as would have been the case had Europe won. Therefore, it is a balance of advantage and disadvantage.

We have to ensure that packages are sold that fill the hotels as much as possible in Wales, although it is inevitable that the sheer numbers involved mean that hotels in Bristol, Gloucester, and Herefordshire will probably also benefit. In the Louisville area, because

gyda'r gorau yn y byd. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddem i gyd yn cynnig ein dymuniadau gorau i ddim Ewrop ar gyfer 2010, gan obeithio y llwyddant i adennill y cwpan.

Daw'r gystadleuaeth â nifer enfawr o ymwelwyr i Gymru, o'r DU ac ymhell y tu hwnt, a bydd hynny'n creu llawer iawn o refeniw yng Nghymru a'r cyffiniau. Mae'n hollbwysig inni farchnata atyniadau eraill y wlad i'r eithaf, gan sicrhau bod y wlad i gyd ar ei hennill.

Yn eich datganiad, Brif Weinidog, soniech fod ambell gysylltiad yn edrych yn addawol o ran cyfleoedd marchnata. Efallai y byddech mor garedig ag esbonio strategaeth farchnata gyffredinol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad inni ar gyfer y digwyddiad yn 2010. Yn gysylltiedig â hynny y mae pwysigrwydd sicrhau seilwaith trafndiaeth integredig er mwyn i'r rhai sy'n ymweld â'r achlysur yn 2010 allu symud o gwmpas yn rhwydd ac yn gyflym. Beth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i sicrhau seilwaith trafndiaeth integredig? Mae'n hanfodol inni sicrhau bod y pethau hyn yn iawn er mwyn i Gymru groesawu'r Cwpan Ryder gorau erioed.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch ichi, Paul, am ofyn y cwestiynau hynny yn yr ysbryd hwnnw.

Gallai'r ffaith mai'r Americanwyr a enillodd eleni, am y tro cyntaf mewn pedair cystadleuaeth Cwpan Ryder, olygu y bydd mwy o ymwelwyr yn dod yma. Mewn un ffordd, mae'n drueni nad yw'r Cwpan Ryder yn ein dwylo fel darn o aur neu arian—neu pa fetel bynnag sydd ynddo—er mwyn inni ei gludo o gwmpas Cymru i ennyn diddordeb. Ar y llaw arall, gan ei fod yn nwylo'r Americanwyr, mae'n llawer mwy tebygol y bydd mwy o Americanwyr yn awyddus i deithio i Gymru, oherwydd nid yw'r Americanwyr yn hoffi colli rhywbeth bedair gwaith yn olynol, fel y byddai wedi digwydd petai Ewrop wedi ennill. Felly, mae manteision ac anfanteision yn hyn.

Rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn gwerthu pecynnau sy'n llenwi'r gwestai gymaint ag y bo modd yng Nghymru, er ei bod yn anochel oherwydd y niferoedd, y bydd gwestai ym Mryste, yng Nghaerloyw ac yn Swydd Henffordd yn elwa hefyd. Yn ardal

they hold the Kentucky Derby every year — and I have to use the American pronunciation of ‘derby’, as I am sure you understand—it was probably not involving many hotels beyond the couple of counties around Louisville and those in Louisville itself.

Louisville is a massive logistics centre. It is home to the headquarters of the United Parcel Service and so on, but it does not have a railway station. Imagine a city of 1 million people without a railway station. However, that is not the case with Newport, and so we have some advantages that it does not. We are also very close to the M4, the M5 and A449 main road to the midlands. However, that was one subject discussed extensively by Gwent Police. Two officers went out—the new chief constable and one of his key officials—to discuss the matter with the 42 different levels of police and other regulatory bodies dealing with this on the US side.

Logistics are absolutely critical. They had 48 shuttle bus points to take people to and from Louisville; we will have 130, because the hotel pattern will be far more dispersed in our case. Their hotels usually have around 1,000 beds; we do not have 1,000-bed hotels in the UK, other than those near the London airports. That makes for easier shuttling. However, we have a railway station, which is a key part of it. We mentioned this yesterday, and I will mention it again now. The rebuilding of Newport station and the completion of all of the relevant signalling modernisation in the Newport area is absolutely critical. A couple of months’ redundant time have been built in, which we hope we will not need. The rebuilding of Newport station, which will create Britain’s first space-age station, should be finished by June, which is three months before the Ryder Cup opens. However, you are right to say that it is absolutely critical if we are to have happy visitors that we ensure that people are not stuck in car parks and that they have efficient shuttle buses. There are park-and-ride facilities at Llanwern, which we hope will also run smoothly, despite St Modwen and the urban regeneration housing-led scene having to slow down because of credit

Louisville, oherwydd eu bod yn cynnal y Kentucky Derby bob blwyddyn—a rhaid imi ddefnyddio’r ynganiad Americanaidd wrth ddweud ‘derby’, fel yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn deall—go brin bod llawer o westai y tu hwnt i’r ychydig siroedd o gwmpas Louisville a’r rheini yn Louisville ei hun wedi’u defnyddio.

Mae Louisville yn ganolfan logisteg anferth. Mae’n gartref i bencadlys yr United Parcel Service ac ati, ond nid oes ganddi orsaf drenau. Dychmygwch ddinas o filiwn o bobl heb orsaf reilffordd. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny’n wir am Gasnewydd, ac felly mae gennym rai manteision nad oes ganddi hi. Yr ydym hefyd yn agos iawn at yr M4, yr M5 a phriffordd yr A449 i ganolbarth Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, dyna un pwnc a drafodwyd yn helaeth gan Heddlu Gwent. Aeth dau swyddog allan—y prif gwnstabl newydd ac un o’i swyddogion allweddol—i drafod y mater gyda’r 42 o wahanol lefelau heddlu a chyrrff rheoleiddio eraill sy’n ymwneud â hyn ar ochr yr UD.

Mae logisteg yn hollbwysig. Yr oedd ganddynt 48 o fannau codi i’r bysiau gwennol gludo pobl yn ôl ac ymlaen i Louisville; bydd gennym ni 130, oherwydd bydd patrwm y gwestai’n fwy gwasgaredig o lawer yn ein hachos ni. Gan amlaf mae gan eu gwestai hwy oddeutu 1,000 o welyau; nid oes gennym westai 1,000-gwely yn y DU, heblaw’r rheini wrth ymyl meysydd awyr Llundain. Mae hynny’n golygu ei bod yn haws cludo pobl yn ôl ac ymlaen. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym orsaf drenau, sy’n elfen allweddol. Crybwyllwyd hyn ddoe, ac fe’i crybwyllaf eto’n awr. Mae ailadeiladu gorsaf Casnewydd a chwblhau moderneiddio’r signalau perthnasol i gyd yn ardal Casnewydd yn gwbl hanfodol. Mae ychydig fisoedd dros ben wedi’u cynnwys yn yr amserlen, gan obeithio na fydd eu hangen. Dylai’r gwaith ailadeiladu yng ngorsaf Casnewydd, a fydd yn creu’r orsaf oes-y-gofod gyntaf ym Mhrydain, fod wedi’i gwblhau erbyn mis Mehefin, dri mis cyn dechrau’r Cwpan Ryder. Fodd bynnag, yr ydych yn llygad eich lle ei bod yn gwbl hanfodol, er mwyn i’n hymwelwyr fod yn hapus, inni sicrhau na fydd pobl yn cael eu dal mewn meysydd parcio a bod bysiau gwennol effeithiol ar gael ar eu cyfer. Ceir

conditions. Visitors should not be stuck in car parks, on shuttle buses, and on motorways, but should be able to get to the course easily, enjoy what is on offer, and enjoy a bit of the urban life of Newport, Cardiff, or wherever they are staying afterwards.

Mohammad Asghar: First Minister, I congratulate you and Ieuan Wyn Jones on promoting Wales to such a great extent to a superpower. Talk of the positive effects on inward investment, tourism, jobs, and the economy is music to my ears. Achieving all of those things would be a real hole in one. You have done a wonderful job.

It is a great honour for Newport, where I come from, to host the Ryder Cup in 2010. I am confident that our team will regain the trophy on home soil. I welcome the assurance that the railway service between Ebbw Vale and Newport will be in operation in time for this great event, to show visitors how beautiful our valleys are. The two roads, the dual carriageway, the river, and the train go side by side from Cross Keys to Abertillery. It is one of the most scenic views that can be enjoyed by tourists anywhere in the world.

This event will attract golfers from all over the world—and not only golfers, but other tourists. This will be the best opportunity for us to promote Wales. This will be the thirty-eighth Ryder Cup, and I am sure that, in 38 months' time, we will probably have a parliament here. Will the First Minister join me in welcoming this boost for tourism in Wales? Will he also join me in hoping that there will be sufficient accommodation and facilities for the thousands of visitors who will visit our homeland?

2.30 p.m.

The First Minister: To answer you and a point made by Paul Davies, which I forgot to answer, it is a question of striking a balance between the impact of the Ryder Cup during

cyfleusterau parcio a theithio yn Llan-wern, a gobeithiwn y bydd y rheini hefyd yn rhedeg yn hwylus, er bod cynllun St Modwen a'r cynllun adfywio trefol yn seiliedig ar ddatblygu tai wedi gorfod arafu oherwydd y sefyllfa gredyd. Ni ddylai ymwelwyr gael eu dal mewn meysydd parcio, nac ar fysiau gwennol, nac ar draffyrdd, ond dylent allu cyrraedd y cwrs yn rhwydd, mwynhau'r hyn a gynigir, a mwynhau rhywfaint o fywyd trefol Casnewydd, Caerdydd, neu ba le bynnag y byddant yn aros wedyn.

Mohammad Asghar: Brif Weinidog, yr wyf yn eich llongyfarch chi a Ieuan Wyn Jones ar hyrwyddo Cymru i'r fath raddau i un o bwerau mawr y byd. Mae sôn am effeithiau cadarnhaol ar fewnfuddsoddi, twristiaeth, swyddi a'r economi yn codi fy nghalon. Byddai cyflawni'r pethau hynny i gyd yn dwll mewn un go iawn. Yr ydych wedi gwneud gwaith rhagorol.

Mae'n anrhydedd fawr i Gasnewydd, fy ninas i, groesawu'r Cwpan Ryder yn 2010. Yr wyf yn hyderus y bydd ein tîm yn adennill y tlws ar ei domen ei hun. Croesawaf y sicrwydd y bydd y gwasanaeth trenau rhwng Glynebwy a Chasnewydd ar waith mewn pryd ar gyfer y digwyddiad mawr hwn, er mwyn dangos i ymwelwyr mor hardd yw ein cymoedd. Mae'r ddwy ffordd, y ffordd ddeuol, yr afon a'r trê'n yn rhedeg ochr yn ochr o Cross Keys i Abertyleri. Mae'n un o'r golygfeydd harddaf yn y byd i dwristiaid ei mwynhau.

Bydd yr achlysur hwn yn denu golffwyr o bob cwr o'r byd—ac nid golffwyr yn unig, ond twristiaid eraill. Dyma'r cyfle gorau inni hyrwyddo Cymru. Hwn fydd y deunawfed Cwpan Ryder ar hugain, ac mae'n siŵr gennyf, ymhen 38 mis, y bydd gennym senedd yma. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ymuno â mi i groesawu'r hwb hwn i dwristiaeth yng Nghymru? A wnaiff ymuno â mi hefyd i obeithio y bydd digon o lety a chyfleusterau ar gael i'r miloedd ymwelwyr a ddaw i ymweld â'n mamwlad?

Y Prif Weinidog: I'ch ateb chi a phwynt a godwyd gan Paul Davies yr anghofiais ei ateb, y gamp fydd sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng effaith y Cwpan Ryder yn ystod y

the event itself, in 737 days, and the advantages gained before and after the event—the pre-legacy and legacy, namely people wanting to come to Wales on golf packages because they have heard about Wales, and they are re-rating Wales. Previously they would have thought of Scotland first, as the home of golf, and Ireland second, since they would know that a previous Ryder Cup event was held there and they would know of its association with golf. There was also huge investment in golf courses in Ireland using Objective One funding. Golfers will now start to think of Scotland, Ireland and Wales. That is important.

Secondly, I am told that, strangely enough, courses in north Wales will be the main beneficiaries of this promotion, even though they are the furthest from Newport. There are golfing packages available to Conwy, Maesdu, Caernarfon, Bull Bay, Nefyn, Harlech, St Davids and so on. They provide a golfing experience in six or seven days that an American golfer would never get playing golf in 500 courses in the USA in terms of scenery, different links, courses, parkland and so on. American golf tourists are looking for something different, and we provide it.

On logistics, there will be close co-operation with Newport. The new leader of Newport council, Councillor Matthew Evans, and Gwent Police attended to reinforce that message. I hope that our system will be somewhat simpler than the system over there that involved 42 bodies, including the city police, the county police, the FBI, and God knows what other levels of police and other regulatory bodies. We like to think that it will be simpler here in Wales. There will be around 45,000 people attending every day. For them, that is a relatively easy number to deal with. It is a smaller number than the number that attend the Kentucky Derby every year. We gained experience during the World Cup in 1999 and will gain further experience from the test match next year. On practice days, there may be 25,000 to 30,000 people. The crunch day is always the Friday, which is the first day's play and is also a working day. We have a motorway and we have the A449, and we trust that all railway stations will be

digwyddiad ei hun, ymhen 737 diwrnod, a'r manteision a sicrheir cyn y digwyddiad ac wedyn—y cyn-waddol a'r gwaddol, sef bod pobl yn dymuno dod i Gymru ar becyn golff am eu bod wedi clywed am Gymru, ac am eu bod yn ailraddio Cymru. O'r blaen, byddent wedi meddwl am yr Alban yn gyntaf, fel cartref golff, ac Iwerddon yn ail, gan eu bod yn gwybod bod y Cwpan Ryder wedi ei gynnal yno o'r blaen ac yn gwybod am ei chysylltiad â golff. Cafwyd buddsoddiad anferth hefyd mewn cyrsiau golff yn Iwerddon drwy ddefnyddio arian Amcan Un. Bydd golffwyr yn awr yn dechrau meddwl am yr Alban, Iwerddon a Chymru. Mae hynny'n bwysig.

Yn ail, caf ar ddeall, yn rhyfedd ddigon, mai cyrsiau'r gogledd a fydd yn elwa fwyaf o'r hyrwyddo hwn, er mai hwy yw'r pellaf o Gasnewydd. Mae pecynnau golff ar gael ar gyfer Conwy, Maes-du, Caernarfon, Porth Llechog, Nefyn, St David's yn Harlech, ac ati. Maent yn cynnig profiad golff mewn chwe neu saith diwrnod na fyddai golffiwr o America byth yn ei gael yn chwarae golff ar 500 o gyrsiau yn UDA o ran golygfeydd, gwahanol feysydd golff, cyrsiau, parcedir ac ati. Mae twristiaid golff o America yn chwilio am rywbeth gwahanol, ac yr ydym ni'n ei ddarparu.

O ran logisteg, bydd cydweithredu agos â Chasnewydd. Daeth arweinydd newydd cyngor Casnewydd, y Cynghorydd Matthew Evans, a Heddlu Gwent yno i ategu'r neges honno. Gobeithio y bydd ein system fyfryn yn symlach na'r system yno, lle'r oedd 42 o gyrff yn cymryd rhan, gan gynnwys heddlu'r ddinas, heddlu'r sir, yr FBI, a Duw a wŷr pa lefelau eraill o'r heddlu a chyrrff rheoleiddio eraill. Hoffem feddwl y bydd yn symlach yma yng Nghymru. Bydd oddeutu 45,000 o bobl yn dod yno bob dydd. Iddynt hwy, mae'r nifer hwnnw'n lled hawdd ymdopi ag ef. Mae'n llai na'r nifer sy'n mynd i'r Kentucky Derby bob blwyddyn. Enillwyd profiad wrth gynnal Cwpan y Byd yn 1999 a chawn fwy o brofiad eto'r flwyddyn nesaf wrth gynnal y gêm brawf. Ar ddiwrnodau ymarfer, efallai y bydd 25,000 neu 30,000 o bobl. Y diwrnod problemus bob amser yw'r dydd Gwener, sef diwrnod cyntaf y chwarae sydd hefyd yn ddiwrnod gwaith. Mae gennym draffordd ac mae gennym yr A449, a

in full use. Saturday and Sunday will be a breeze since people are not in work on the whole. However, when it is a day of work and the event clashes with commuter traffic, you might have problems. It is about ensuring that the Friday is right. The first day's play makes a big impression on everybody. It is the first day of really big crowds and people are still working. That is the critical day when problems become apparent. We must ensure that Friday works really well.

As you say, it is an enormous honour, but we must ensure that the honour is turned into pounds, shillings and pence.

Peter Black: Thank you for your statement. We are all looking forward to the Ryder Cup coming to Wales and to the Celtic Manor, and to the Europeans regaining the cup from the Americans after what happened last week. This may be one of the few occasions when even the Conservatives are in favour of Europe.

In your reply to Mohammad Asghar, you outlined the issues surrounding transport. When we have held large events in the past, in Cardiff in particular, though a lot of work has gone into transport arrangements in the city, the rail companies have not always played ball, particularly in scheduling rail works that coincided with events. I am keen to have your assurances that, in this instance, they are fully aware of the significance of the Ryder Cup and of the impact that it will have on south Wales, and that they will ensure that we have a full rail service for the duration of the cup event in Newport. Unless they are on board, they may schedule rail works or close the Severn tunnel at an inopportune time. None of us would want to see that happen.

On the investment that is going into this event, Ryder Cup Ltd has an annual budget of around £3.5 million, and £6.5 million is being invested in infrastructure

hyderwn y bydd pob gorsaf drenau'n cael ei defnyddio i'r eithaf. Bydd dydd Sadwrn a dydd Sul yn rhwydd am nad yw pobl yn gweithio ar y cyfan. Fodd bynnag, ar ddiwrnod gwaith pan fydd y digwyddiad yn cyd-daro â thraffig cymudwyr, gallai problemau godi. Y gamp fydd sicrhau bod y dydd Gwener yn iawn. Mae'r diwrnod chwarae cyntaf yn creu argraff fawr ar bawb. Dyna'r diwrnod cyntaf pan fydd y tyrfaoedd yn wirioneddol fawr a phobl yn dal i weithio. Dyna'r diwrnod hollbwysig pan ddaw problemau'n amlwg. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod pethau'n mynd yn wirioneddol hwylus ar y dydd Gwener.

Fel y dywedwch, mae'n anrhydedd aruthrol, ond rhaid inni sicrhau bod yr anrhydedd yn troi'n bunnoedd, yn sylltau ac yn geiniogau.

Peter Black: Diolch am eich datganiad. Yr ydym i gyd yn edrych ymlaen at gael y Cwpan Ryder yng Nghymru ac yn y Celtic Manor, ac at weld Tim Ewrop yn adennill y cwpan oddi ar yr Americanwyr ar ôl yr hyn a ddigwyddodd wythnos diwethaf. Efallai fod hwn yn un o'r achlysuron prin pan fydd hyd yn oed y Ceidwadwyr o blaid Ewrop.

Yn eich ateb i Mohammad Asghar, soniech am y materion yn ymwneud â thrafnidiaeth. Wrth inni gynnal digwyddiadau mawr yn y gorffennol, yng Nghaerdydd yn benodol, er bod llawer o waith wedi'i wneud o ran trefniadau trafniadaeth yn y ddinas, nid yw'r cwmnïau trenau bob amser wedi cydweithredu, yn enwedig wrth iddynt amserlennu gwaith ar y rheilffyrdd a oedd yn cyd-daro â'r digwyddiadau. Yr wyf yn awyddus i gael sicrwydd gennych eu bod, yn y cyswllt hwn, yn gwbl ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd y Cwpan Ryder a'r effaith a gaiff ar dde Cymru, ac y byddant yn sicrhau bod gennym wasanaeth trenau llawn drwy gydol digwyddiad y cwpan yng Nghasnewydd. Oni cheir ymrwymiad ganddynt, fe allent drefnu gwaith ar y rheilffyrdd neu gau twnnel Hafren ar adeg anhwylyd. Ni fyddai neb ohonom am weld hynny'n digwydd.

O ran y buddsoddi yn y digwyddiad hwn, cyllideb flynyddol Ryder Cup Ltd yw oddeutu £3.5 miliwn, ac mae £6.5 miliwn yn cael ei fuddsoddi i wella'r seilwaith o

improvements around Newport. I am pleased to hear from your report of your time in Kentucky that there are American companies that are keen to invest in Wales as a result of the Ryder Cup coming here. I am interested to know what projections you have made of the return on that investment, in terms of future investment and revenue coming into south Wales. Have you had to revise those projections in the light of the recent economic downturn? How are you taking that into account? Although we are all keen to see the Ryder Cup here and to see the European team triumph, we are also keen to see that we get value for money, and that we get our money back in terms of the investment that we are putting into this.

The First Minister: You mentioned sporting events involving Cardiff, but after last night's football, I will draw a veil over sporting events involving Cardiff.

On the question of the financial partnership that we have formed with Sir Terry Matthews, the proprietor of the Celtic Manor resort, it involves us spending a lot of money, and it involves him spending a lot of money. He looks after the expenditure on the new course—I dare not inquire how much he has spent on designing the new course specifically for the Ryder Cup and on the large, new clubhouse needed for the course. We have been spending at the level of £3 million to £3.5 million a year, and then there is the one-off expenditure on the temporary access road from the A449 to avoid there being too much congestion at the junction with the M4 at Langstone. That has been quite a significant sum: £6.5 million. There is some overspend, but I am not sure what the final bill will be. There is also significant expenditure on the reconstruction of Newport rail station—that is a £20 million contract. You could say that Newport station is important as a rail gateway into south Wales, and we are funding that jointly with Network Rail.

Then there is the question of how you rate what you get in return for that, and you have to try to measure intangibles as well as tangibles. For example, how do you measure

gwmpas Casnewydd. Yr wyf yn falch clywed yn eich adroddiad ar eich cyfnod yn Kentucky fod yna gwmnïau o America sy'n awyddus i fuddsoddi yng Nghymru oherwydd bod Cwpan Ryder yn dod yma. Byddai cael gwybod beth yw eich rhagamcanion ar gyfer yr enillion a ddaw yn sgil y buddsoddi hwnnw o ddiddordeb i mi o ran y buddsoddi a'r refeniw a ddaw i dde Cymru yn y dyfodol. A ydych wedi gorfod adolygu'r rhagamcanion hynny yng ngoleuni'r dirywiad economaidd diweddar? Sut yr ydych yn cymryd hynny i ystyriaeth? Er ein bod i gyd yn awyddus i weld y Cwpan Ryder yma a gweld tîm Ewrop yn fuddugol, yr ydym hefyd yn awyddus gweld ein bod yn cael gwerth ein harian ac yn cael ein harian yn ôl o ran ein buddsoddiad yn hyn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Soniech am ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon yn gysylltiedig â Chaerdydd, ond ar ôl y bêl-droed neithiwr, tynnaf len dros ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon yn gysylltiedig â Chaerdydd.

O ran y bartneriaeth ariannol yr ydym wedi'i ffurfio gyda Syr Terry Matthews, perchennog Celtic Manor Resort, mae'n golygu ein bod yn gwario llawer o arian, ac mae'n golygu ei fod yntau'n gwario llawer o arian. Mae'n gofalu am y gwariant ar y cwrs newydd—ni feiddiaf ofyn faint y mae wedi'i wario ar gynllunio'r cwrs newydd yn arbennig ar gyfer y Cwpan Ryder ac ar y clwb mawr newydd y bydd ei angen ar gyfer y cwrs. Yr ydym wedi bod yn gwario rhwng £3 miliwn a £3.5 miliwn y flwyddyn, ac wedyn mae'r gwariant untro ar y ffordd fynediad dros dro o'r A449 er mwyn osgoi gormod o dagfeydd ar y gyffordd â'r M4 yn Langstone. Mae'r swm hwnnw wedi bod yn eithaf sylweddol: £6.5 miliwn. Mae rhywfaint o orwario wedi bod, ond nid wyf yn siŵr faint fydd y bil terfynol. Gwerir swm sylweddol hefyd ar ailadeiladu gorsaf drenau Casnewydd—mae hwnnw'n contract gwerth £20 miliwn. Gallech ddweud bod gorsaf Casnewydd yn bwysig fel porth trenau i dde Cymru ac yr ydym yn talu am hynny ar y cyd â Network Rail.

Wedyn mae'r cwestiwn sut mae mesur yr hyn a gewch yn ôl am hynny, a rhaid ichi geisio mesur y manteision haniaethol yn ogystal â'r rhai diriaethol. Er enghraifft, sut mae mesur y

the greater recognition of Wales and what that will mean? It is difficult, but we will draw up a balance sheet when the Ryder Cup is over.

You mentioned current credit conditions and the downturn, and the impact upon inward investment in Wales. That was a question that we kept asking of the clients that we were hosting and, by and large, the kinds of clients that we met—even the ones who worked in financial services—were not particularly deterred from considering serious investment in Wales, despite hurricane Ike blowing through the financial services industry on Wall Street and elsewhere. We were deeply comforted by that. They were mostly self-selecting—people who thought that they could come through the downturn, people working in industries like aerospace, and people in rock-solid financial services. They may even gain business because of the less-solid investments dropping like ninepins on Wall Street and elsewhere.

You also mentioned agreements with the major infrastructure providers, such as the Highways Agency in England, regarding the Severn bridges, and Network Rail, regarding the Severn tunnel, and so on. That was one of the meetings that we had out there, strangely enough—Gwent Police assured us that the Highways Agency has agreed that there will be no work done around either of the Severn bridges, or on the other side of them, during that period. There will be no work that is not absolutely necessary because of a short-term crisis. The same is true of the tunnel. There will be no maintenance work on any key infrastructure that could cause any delay during the Ryder Cup. We are ensuring that it is right. Obviously, we cannot allow for emergencies, but in all other respects there will be no routine maintenance holding up traffic by rail or road at that time.

Alun Davies: I welcome both the statement and the work that the Government has already done on this. We all enjoyed the

ffaith fod mwy o bobl yn ymwybodol o Gymru a beth fydd hynny'n ei olygu? Mae'n anodd, ond byddwn yn llunio mantolen pan ddaw'r Cwpan Ryder i ben.

Soniecch am y sefyllfa gredyd ar hyn o bryd a'r dirywiad, a'r effaith ar fewnffuddsoddi yng Nghymru. Dyna gwestiwn a ofynnwyd droeon i'r cleientau yr oeddem yn eu croesawu, a gan mwyaf nid oedd y math o gleientau y cyfarfuasom â hwy—hyd yn oed y rhai a oedd yn gweithio ym maes gwasanaethau ariannol—i'w gweld yn arbennig o gyndyn o ystyried buddsoddi'n ddifrifol yng Nghymru, er bod corwynt Ike yn chwythu drwy'r diwydiant gwasanaethau ariannol ar Wall Street ac mewn mannau eraill. Yr oedd hynny'n gysur mawr inni. Pobl a oedd yn eu dethol eu hunain oeddent gan mwyaf—pobl yn credu y gallent ddod drwy'r dirywiad, pobl yn gweithio mewn diwydiannau megis y diwydiant aerofod, a phobl mewn gwasanaethau ariannol sy'n gadarn fel y graig. Mae'n bosibl y byddant hyd yn oed yn ennill busnes oherwydd bod y buddsoddiadau llai cadarn yn disgyn fel dail ar Wall Street ac mewn mannau eraill.

Soniecch hefyd am gytundebau gyda'r darparwyr seilwaith mawr, megis yr Asiantaeth Priffyrdd yn Lloegr, gyda golwg ar bontydd Hafren, a chyda Network Rail gyda golwg ar dwunnel Hafren, ac ati. Yn rhyfedd ddigon, dyna un o'r cyfarfodydd a gawsom yno—fe'n sicrhawyd gan Heddlu Gwent bod yr Asiantaeth Priffyrdd wedi cytuno na wneir dim gwaith yng nghyffiniau'r un o bontydd Hafren, nac ar yr ochr draw, yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw. Ni wneir dim gwaith oni bai ei fod yn gwbl angenrheidiol oherwydd argyfwng tymor byr. Mae'r un peth yn wir am y twunnel. Ni wneir dim gwaith cynnal a chadw ar unrhyw seilwaith allweddol a allai achosi unrhyw oedi yn ystod y Cwpan Ryder. Yr ydym yn sicrhau y bydd hyn yn iawn. Mae'n amlwg na allwn osgoi argyfwng, ond ym mhob cyswllt arall, ni fydd dim gwaith cynnal a chadw rheolaidd yn arafu'r traffig, nac ar y rheilffyrdd nac ar y ffyrdd yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw.

Alun Davies: Croesawaf y datganiad a'r gwaith y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'i wneud eisoes ar hyn. Mwynhaodd pawb yr arlwy o'r

coverage from the United States over the weekend and, right across the Chamber, we were particularly pleased to see the way in which the Deputy First Minister and the First Minister worked so well together in representing and promoting Wales. One of the things that I have taken away from the weekend is the importance of using this event to promote Wales as a place in which to do business. I heard Sir Terry Matthews happily say that Wales will outdo Valhalla in two years' time, and I share his confidence. I certainly share his confidence after hearing the replies that the First Minister has given to a number of the questions this afternoon. It is clear that the Government has a clear handle on the organisational aspects of the event. I hope, First Minister, that we will continue to ensure that Visit Wales and International Business Wales work closely together and use this opportunity to promote Wales as a place where people can live, work and do business.

2.40 p.m.

The First Minister: Yes, I think that that is right. I do not use the phrase 'outdo Valhalla', because that tends to downplay the fact that every Ryder Cup is an event in and of itself in the host country. The thirty-seventh Ryder Cup was very much a Kentucky Ryder Cup and the thirty-eighth Ryder Cup will be a Welsh Ryder Cup, which was the point that we were trying to get over. To be fair, none of the reporting about the host nation following No. 37, as we move over to No. 38, said anything like 'it is in the UK, in this place that we are not quite sure about in terms of what it is'—namely Wales—but it is over there in England somewhere'. It was not like that at all. It was about Wales, Wales and Wales every time. Every commentator seemed to have got the message that the host nation was Wales; that the host nation was not 'a part of the UK' but Wales. That is the first time that we think that that has happened in any sort of US coverage of something happening in Wales. It took a lot of effort, but they did it. Terry Matthews is from a more competitive business background than I am, but I decided that we should be emphasising the Welshness of the thirty-eighth Ryder Cup and that, therefore, we should not consider who is

Unol Daleithiau dros y penwythnos, ac yr oedd pawb o bob cwr o'r Siambr yn arbennig o falch gweld y ffordd yr oedd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Prif Weinidog yn cydweithio mor dda wrth gynrychioli a hyrwyddo Cymru. Un o'r pethau yr wyf wedi'u dysgu o'r penwythnos yw pwysigrwydd defnyddio'r digwyddiad hwn i hyrwyddo Cymru fel lle i wneud busnes. Clywais Syr Terry Matthews yn dweud yn hapus y bydd Cymru'n gwneud yn well na Valhalla ymhén dwy flynedd, ac yr wyf fi mor hyderus ag yntau. Yr wyf yn sicr yr un mor hyderus ag ef ar ôl clywed yr atebion y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi'u rhoi i nifer o'r cwestiynau y prynhawn yma. Mae'n amlwg fod gan y Llywodraeth afael dda ar drefniadaeth y digwyddiad. Gobeithio, Brif Weinidog, y byddwn yn dal i sicrhau bod Croeso Cymru a Busnes Rhyngwladol Cymru yn cydweithio'n agos ac yn defnyddio'r cyfle hwn i hyrwyddo Cymru fel lle i bobl fyw, gweithio a chynnal busnes.

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf fod hynny'n iawn. Nid wyf yn defnyddio'r ymadrodd 'gwneud yn well na Valhalla', oherwydd bod hynny'n tueddu i ddibrisio'r ffaith fod pob Cwpan Ryder yn ddigwyddiad unigryw yn y wlad sy'n ei gynnal. Cwpan Ryder Kentucky, i raddau helaeth iawn, oedd yr ail Gwpan Ryder ar bymtheg ar hugain, a Chwpan Ryder Cymru fydd y deunawfed ar hugain, a dyna'r pwynt yr oeddem yn ceisio'i gyfleu. I fod yn deg, wrth inni symud drosodd i Rif 38, nid oedd dim o'r adroddiadau am y wlad a fyddai'n croesawu'r gystadleuaeth nesaf ar ôl Rhif 37, yn dweud dim byd tebyg i hyn: 'yn y DU y mae, rywle nad ydym yn sicr iawn ble beth ydyw'—sef Cymru—'ond mae draw fan acw rywle yn Lloegr'. Nid felly yr oedd hi o gwbl. Sôn am Gymru, Cymru a Chymru yr oeddent bob tro. I bob golwg, yr oedd pob sylwebydd wedi deall y neges mai Cymru oedd y wlad a fyddai'n croesawu'r cwpan ac nad 'rhan o'r DU oedd hi' ond Cymru. Credwn mai dyna'r tro cyntaf i hynny ddigwydd mewn unrhyw fath o ymdriniaeth yn yr UD â digwyddiad yng Nghymru. Bu'n gryn ymdrech, ond bu'n llwyddiant. Daw Terry Matthews o gefndir busnes mwy cystadleuol na mi, ond penderfynais y dylem fod yn pwysleisio Cymreictod y deunawfed

outdoing who but we should just try to ensure that what comes out of No. 38 is a Welsh Ryder Cup.

There are some things that I think that we have in common with Kentucky, and one of those is friendliness to visitors. Louisville has the Kentucky Derby every year, which is the longest-running continuously held sporting event anywhere in the USA, so the people there are used to visitors. It is very much ingrained in them to be welcoming, even though they are off the tourist track. I think that the same is probably true for us in Wales. We are not on the main tourist track—we are not on the milk run, as they call it, of Anne Hathaway's cottage, the Tower of London, Edinburgh Castle and so on; we are slightly different to that, even though we have a lot to offer. I think that we go out of our way, because we are not on the milk run, not to be blasé about visitors, but to really get stuck in and to try to help. What I noticed was that every time you asked something, although it might have been a difficult question or request, they never said, 'No, we cannot do that'; they always said, 'Hang on a minute, and we will find somebody who can help you do that'. It might have taken them 20 minutes instead of their being able to do it at that moment in time, but they never said 'no'. Nothing was too much trouble. That attitude is ingrained, whether you are talking to taxi drivers, bus drivers or ordinary people when asking directions. That is what we need to do. I am sure that we can do it, and I am sure that we will do it in our own Welsh way.

William Graham: I agree with you, First Minister; I am sure that we can do it and do it in a wonderful way. I noted the comments made by Nick Faldo that were not exactly overly helpful; they included, 'Bring your mac'. I acknowledge that we may have slightly more precipitation in south-east Wales than in Kentucky, but we have nowhere near what we are rumoured to have. It remains nice and green in any case.

I ask you to bring forward, at a later date, further statements on this important event in

Cwpan Ryder ar hugain, ac felly ni ddylem feddwl pwy sy'n gwneud yn well na phwy, ond yn hytrach dylem geisio sicrhau mai Cwpan Ryder Cymru fydd Rhif 38.

Credaf fod gennym ambell beth yn gyffredin â Kentucky, ac un o'r rheini yw ein hagwedd gyfeillgar at ymwelwyr. Bydd Louisville yn cynnal y Kentucky Derby bob blwyddyn, a hwnnw yw'r ddigwyddiad chwaraeon hynaf i gyd yn UDA i'w gynnal yn ddi-fwlch. Felly, mae'r bobl yno'n gyfarwydd ag ymwelwyr. Mae bod yn groesawgar yn eu gwaed, er nad ydynt ar y prif lwybr twristiaeth. Mae'n siŵr fod yr un peth yn wir amdanom ni yng Nghymru. Nid ydym ar y prif lwybr twristiaeth—nid ydym ar y rownd laeth, ys dywedir, sef bwthyn Anne Hathaway, Tŵr Llundain, Castell Caeredin, ac ati; yr ydym fymryn yn wahanol i hynny, er bod gennym lawer i'w gynnig. Credaf ein bod yn gwneud ymdrech arbennig, oherwydd nad ydym ar y rownd laeth, i beidio â chymryd ymwelwyr yn ganiataol, ond i fynd ati o ddifrif a cheisio'u helpu. Yr hyn y sylwais arno oedd bob tro wrth ofyn rhywbeth, er bod y cwestiwn neu'r cais o bosibl yn un anodd, na fyddent byth yn dweud, 'Na, ni allwn wneud hynny'. Yr ateb bob tro oedd, 'Arhoswch funud, ac fe ddown o hyd i rywun i'ch helpu i wneud hynny'. Gallai gymryd 20 munud iddynt efallai, yn hytrach na'u bod yn gallu datrys y peth yn y fan a'r lle, ond ni fyddent byth yn dweud 'na'. Nid oedd dim yn ormod o drafferth. Mae'r agwedd honno'n rhan o'u natur, p'un a fyddwch yn siarad â gyrwyr taci, gyrwyr bysiau ynteu bobl gyffredin wrth ofyn am gyfarwyddiadau. Dyna y mae angen i ni ei wneud. Yr wyf yn siŵr y gallwn wneud hynny, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnawn hynny yn ein ffordd Gymreig ein hunain.

William Graham: Cytunaf â chi, Brif Weinidog; yr wyf yn siŵr y gallwn wneud hynny a'i wneud mewn ffordd ragorol. Sylwais ar sylwadau llai nag adeiladol gan Nick Faldo; gan gynnwys 'Dewch â'ch mac'. Yr wyf yn cydnabod ein bod efallai'n cael mwy o law yn y de-ddwyrain nag a gânt yn Kentucky, ond dim byd tebyg i'r hyn a awgrymir. Mae'n cadw'r borfa'n hyfryd o las beth bynnag.

Gofynnaf ichi gyflwyno datganiadau eto yn y dyfodol ynglŷn â'r digwyddiad pwysig hwn

the history of Wales, if I can put it as strongly as that. The person who had the initial vision to construct the course and to spend such a large amount of money on making it a wonderful facility is Terry Matthews.

I learned from the Conservative leader of Newport City Council how extensive were the trips that you and Ieuan Wyn Jones had to undertake in the course of a few days. I acknowledge the importance of that to Wales and the importance of bringing Newport and south-east Wales, in particular, to the notice of most of the world. You, rightly, dwell on what happened in America, but we all know how interested people in the far east—in Japan specifically, and, in time, Korea—are in golf. The packages that you have described will be important not only to Wales but to the United Kingdom as a whole.

I ask you to assure us on something. I seem to remember that, at one stage, it was suggested that 20,000 beds would be needed, which is even more than the number required for your party's conference or mine. You said that the visitors would need to be accommodated within a reasonable travelling distance. Your assurance on that would be greatly appreciated.

The First Minister: You mentioned Nick Faldo's remarks. At the closing ceremony, the highpoint, undoubtedly, was Bryn Terfel singing 'We'll Keep a Welcome in the Hillside', and the low point—fortunately, it was not my speech—was Nick Faldo's somewhat crass remarks about bringing your waterproofs. Humour is not his strong suit, shall we say, although he was a wonderful golfer. That is all that I can say about that remark.

We had a huge schedule of meetings, but I managed to see six shots struck in anger, which were the opening three pairs on the Sunday morning in the one-on-ones—the singles. However, apart from that, it was pretty much wall-to-wall meetings, receptions, speeches, or whatever. The same is true of the Deputy First Minister. He had the privilege—and I am very jealous about this—of meeting Muhammad Ali, who came

yn hanes Cymru, os caf ddefnyddio geiriau mor gryf â hynny i'w ddisgrifio. Yr un a gafodd y weledigaeth wreiddiol i adeiladu'r cwrs a gwario cymaint o arian i'w wneud yn gyfleuster rhyfeddol yw Terry Matthews.

Cefais ar ddeall gan arweinydd Ceidwadol Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd faint o deithiau y bu'n rhaid i chi a Ieuan Wyn Jones eu gwneud mewn ychydig ddyddiau. Yr wyf yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd hynny i Gymru a phwysigrwydd dod â Chasnewydd a deddwyrain Cymru, yn benodol, i sylw'r rhan fwyaf o'r byd. Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle yn rhoi'r pwyslais ar yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yn America, ond gwyddom i gyd faint o ddiddordeb sydd gan bobl yn y dwyrain pell—yn Japan yn benodol, ac ymhen amser yn Corea—mewn golff. Bydd y pecynnau yr ydych wedi'u disgrifio yn bwysig nid yn unig i Gymru ond i'r Deyrnas Unedig drwyddi draw.

Gofynnaf ichi gadarnhau un peth. Credaf fy mod yn cofio, ar un adeg, awgrym y byddai angen 20,000 o welyau, sy'n fwy hyd yn oed nag y bydd eu hangen ar gyfer cynhadledd eich plaid chi neu fy mhlaidd i. Dywedasoeh y byddai angen lletya'r ymwelwyr o fewn pellter teithio rhesymol. Byddwn yn gwerthfawrogi cadarnhad gennych ynghylch hynny.

Y Prif Weinidog: Soniech am sylwadau Nick Faldo. Yn y seremoni gloi, yr uchafbwynt yn ddiamau oedd Bryn Terfel yn canu 'We'll Keep a Welcome in the Hillside', a'r isafbwynt—yn ffodus, nid fy araith i ydoedd hwnnw—oedd y sylwadau twp braidd gan Nick Faldo ynglŷn â dod â dillad glaw. Nid ei hiwmor yw ei nodwedd gryfaf, gadewch inni ddweud, er ei fod yn golffiwr rhagorol. Dyna'r cyfan y gallaf ei ddweud am y sylw hwnnw.

Yr oedd gennym gyfarfodydd di-rif i'w mynychu, ond llwyddais i weld chwe ergyd ddig, sef y tri phâr agoriadol ar y bore Sul yn y cystadlaethau un-i-un—y gemau sengl. Fodd bynnag, ar wahân i hynny, dan do y buom y rhan fwyaf o'r amser, mewn cyfarfodydd, derbyniadau, areithiau, ac yn y blaen. Mae'r un peth yn wir am y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog. Cafodd ef y fraint—ac yr wyf yn eiddigeddus iawn ohono—o gyfarfod

to the gala dinner; I was not present at that dinner. Muhammad Ali does not go out often these days; I believe that it was his first public appearance for some two years. He is now back living at home in Louisville, and we all wish him well with his severe medical problems.

On the number of hotel rooms, when we made the bid in 1999-2000, which is a long time ago now—I believe that we won the bid in 2000—part of the bid process was to pre-book hotel rooms for 2009. That was the date on which the Ryder Cup was originally going to be held here, before the events of 9/11, which caused a delay of a year. The Ryder Cup has now moved from being held during odd-numbered years to even-numbered years. I think that we had to pre-book 5,000 hotel rooms within 50 or 60 miles of the Celtic Manor Resort, which was done. Those bookings have remained firm, even though they had to be rolled on from the original date of 2009 to 2010. I am not sure where that other figure has come from, but the pre-bookings were for the people that the big tour packages have to cover. There will be other hotel bookings outside of the main tour packages, and that may be the reason for the discrepancy.

Bryn Terfel made a massive contribution, and we are eternally grateful to him. He was appointed to accompany the father of the current President—the former President, George Bush—in a golf cart around the course. It is not bad for a President of the United States to be going around in a golf cart with Bryn Terfel, or not bad for Bryn Terfel to be going around a golf course with a former President of the USA. That was another high point. However, Bryn Terfel's presence was massive, and I am eternally grateful to him. He was a part of Team Wales. The Team Wales presence there was big and united, it promoted Wales in every respect, and I believe that we did a successful job. However, having done a successful job

Muhammad Ali, a ddaeth i'r cinio mawreddog. Nid oeddwn i yn y cinio hwnnw. Ni fydd Muhammad Ali yn mynd allan yn aml y dyddiau hyn; credaf mai hwn oedd ei ymddangosiad cyhoeddus cyntaf ers tua dwy flynedd. Erbyn hyn mae wedi dychwelyd i fyw yn ei gartref yn Louisville, ac yr ydym i gyd yn dymuno'n dda iddo gyda'i broblemau meddygol difrifol.

O ran nifer yr ystafelloedd gwesty, pan wnaethom y cais ym 1999-2000, sydd amser maith yn ôl erbyn hyn—credaf ein bod wedi ennill y cais yn y flwyddyn 2000—rhan o'r broses o wneud y cais oedd archebu ystafelloedd gwesty ymlaen llaw ar gyfer 2009. Dyna pryd yr oedd cystadleuaeth y Cwpan Ryder i gael ei chynnal yma yn wreiddiol, cyn digwyddiadau 9/11, a arweiniodd at ei gohirio am flwyddyn. Mae cystadleuaeth y Cwpan Ryder wedi newid yn awr o gael ei chynnal yn ystod blynyddoedd odrif i'w chynnal yn ystod blynyddoedd eilrif. Credaf ei bod yn ofynnol inni wneud archeb ymlaen llaw am 5,000 o ystafelloedd gwesty o fewn 50 neu 60 milltir i Westy Hamdden Celtic Manor, a gwnaethpwyd hynny. Nid yw'r trefniadau hynny wedi newid, er bod y dyddiad gwreiddiol, sef 2009, wedi newid i 2010. Nid wyf yn siŵr o ble y daeth y ffigur arall, ond yr oedd yr archebion ymlaen llaw ar gyfer y bobl y mae'n rhaid i'r pecynnau teithio mawr ddarparu ar eu cyfer. Archebir ystafelloedd eraill mewn gwestai gan bobl y tu allan i'r prif becynnau teithio, ac efallai mai hynny sy'n gyfrifol am yr anghysondeb.

Gwnaeth Bryn Terfel gyfraniad aruthrol, ac yr ydym yn hynod ddiolchgar iddo. Penodwyd ef i fynd o amgylch y cwrs mewn bygi golff gyda thad yr Arlywydd presennol, y cyn-Arlywydd George Bush. Mae'n dipyn o anrhydedd i un o Arlywyddion yr Unol Daleithiau gael mynd o gwmpas mewn bygi golff gyda Bryn Terfel, ac yn dipyn o anrhydedd i Bryn Terfel gael mynd o amgylch cwrs golff gydag un o gyn-Arlywyddion Unol Daleithiau America. Yr oedd hwnnw'n uchafbwynt arall. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd presenoldeb Bryn Terfel yn aruthrol, ac yr wyf yn hynod ddiolchgar iddo. Yr oedd yn rhan o Dîm Cymru. Yr oedd presenoldeb Tîm Cymru yno'n gryf ac yn unedig. Yr oedd yn hyrwyddo Cymru ym

there, we now have 737 days to deliver a classic Welsh Ryder Cup in 2010.

mhob ffordd, a chredaf ein bod wedi gwneud gwaith llwyddiannus. Fodd bynnag, ar ôl gwneud gwaith llwyddiannus yno, mae gennym yn awr 737 o ddiwrnodau i baratoi ar gyfer cystadleuaeth Cwpan Ryder heb ei hail yng Nghymru yn 2010.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd (Rosemary Butler) i'r Gadair am 2.47 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) took the Chair at 2.47 p.m.*

**Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol ar Gynigion
Ymgynghorol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ynghylch Strwythur y GIG yng
Nghymru**

**The Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee's Report on the
Inquiry into the Assembly Government's Consultation Proposals on the
Structure of the NHS in Wales**

Jonathan Morgan: I propose that

Jonathan Morgan: Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

notes the report of the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee on the Assembly Government's consultation proposals on the structure of the national health service in Wales, which was laid in the Table Office on 10 June 2008. (NDM4004)

yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol ar gynigion ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar strwythur y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 10 Mehefin 2008. (NDM4004)

I am delighted to open this debate on our committee report, which examined the Government's proposals for the restructuring of the national health service in Wales. On 2 April, the Minister for Health and Social Services announced a three-month consultation on major changes to the structure of the NHS, which are perhaps the biggest set of changes that we will witness. Central to these changes were, at the time, a reduction in the number of local health boards from 22 to eight, the possibility of establishing an NHS board for Wales to fund NHS trusts and LHBs, and the issue of whether any board should be established in the civil service as an advisory board or a special health authority. There were also proposals to transfer the management and the provision of community services from NHS trusts to LHBs, on the constitution and membership of the new health boards and NHS trusts, on how services, such as procurement and legal services, would be shared and that estates advice should be provided to health bodies across Wales.

Yr wyf yn falch iawn cael agor y ddadl hon ar adroddiad ein pwyllgor, a fu'n edrych ar gynigion y Llywodraeth i ailstrwythuro'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru. Ar 2 Ebrill, cyhoeddodd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ymgynghoriad o dri mis ar newidiadau sylweddol yn strwythur y GIG, y set fwyaf o newidiadau yr ydym yn debygol o'i gweld, hwyrach. Craidd y newidiadau hyn, ar y pryd, oedd gostwng nifer y byrddau iechyd lleol o 22 i wyth, y posibilrwydd o sefydlu bwrdd GIG ar gyfer Cymru er mwyn ariannu ymddiriedolaethau GIG a BILlau, ac ystyried a ddylid sefydlu bwrdd yn y gwasanaeth sifil fel bwrdd cynghori neu awdurdod iechyd arbennig. Yr oedd cynigion hefyd yn ymwneud â throsglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb dros reoli a darparu gwasanaethau cymunedol o ofal ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG i BILlau, cyfansoddiad ac aelodaeth y byrddau iechyd a'r ymddiriedolaethau GIG newydd, sut y byddai gwasanaethau, megis gwasanaethau caffael a gwasanaethau cyfreithiol, yn cael eu rhannu, ac y dylid darparu cyngor ar ystadau i fyrddau iechyd ledled Cymru.

These were significant proposals, and the committee agreed that we should conduct a short inquiry to examine them. We wanted to get a clearer understanding of the Government's proposals, and its process for considering and implementing them. I do not claim that our inquiry on this occasion was an extensive or in-depth examination of the Government's proposals—that was not its purpose. Its aim was to simply identify and highlight significant issues, without our being seen merely as consultees to the Government's public consultation exercise. Although this was a short inquiry, we took evidence from the chief executive of the NHS in Wales, community health councils, and the NHS Confederation, which represents NHS trusts and LHBs. Taken together, these represent significant strands of opinion from within the national health service. Committee members understood from this evidence—as our report concludes—that the proposed changes would have far-reaching implications for the NHS in Wales.

2.50 p.m.

Therefore, our report highlighted a range of issues that the Government needed to think through carefully in arriving at its final proposals for the future shape of the NHS. Among the issues that we flagged up were the role and the responsibilities of the members of any national board, the scope of ministerial responsibility and accountability for operational decision-making, how a strong community focus would be maintained in the absence of 22 locally-based LHBs, how service delivery and the need to continue improving services would be maintained during an inevitably disruptive period of change, and the risks of introducing change according to what is, to the say the very least, a challenging timescale of April of next year.

Our concerns on these issues and others are set out in the report, and I do not intend to rehearse them in detail now. This is partly because on 16 July the Minister made an oral statement in Plenary announcing a further consultation on even more fundamental

Yr oedd y rhain yn gynigion pwysig iawn, a chytunodd y pwyllgor y dylem gael ymchwiliad byr i edrych yn fanylach arnynt. Yr oeddem yn awyddus i gael dealltwriaeth gliriach o gynigion y Llywodraeth, a'i phroses ar gyfer ystyried y cynigion hyn a'u rhoi ar waith. Nid wyf yn honni bod ein hymchwiliad y tro hwn yn archwiliad cynhwysfawr na manwl o gynigion y Llywodraeth—nid dyna'i bwrrpas. Ei nod, yn syml iawn, oedd nodi a thynnu sylw at faterion pwysig, heb inni gael ein gweld fel dim mwy na phobl i ymgynghori â nhw yn ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus y Llywodraeth. Er mai ymchwiliad byr oedd hwn, clywsom dystiolaeth gan brif weithredwr y GIG yng Nghymru, cynghorau iechedd cymuned, a Chyddfederasiwn y GIG, sy'n cynrychioli ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG a BILlau. Mae'r rhain, o edrych arnynt gyda'i gilydd, yn mynegi safbwyntiau pwysig yn y gwasanaeth iechedd gwladol. Deallodd aelodau'r pwyllgor o'r dystiolaeth hon—fel y dengys casgliad ein hadroddiad—y byddai'r newidiadau arfaethedig yn arwain at oblygiadau pellgyrhaeddol i'r GIG yng Nghymru.

Felly, yr oedd ein hadroddiad yn tynnu sylw at nifer o wahanol faterion yr oedd angen i'r Llywodraeth eu hystyried yn ofalus cyn cyflwyno'i chynigion terfynol ar gyfer ffurf y GIG yn y dyfodol. Tynnwyd sylw gennym at nifer o faterion, gan gynnwys rôl a chyfrifoldebau aelodau unrhyw fwrdd cenedlaethol, cwmpas cyfrifoldeb gweinidogion ac atebolrwydd am wneud penderfyniadau gweithredol, sut y cynhelid ffocws cymunedol cryf heb 22 Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol, sut y cynhelid y broses o ddarparu gwasanaethau a'r angen i ddal i wella gwasanaethau yn ystod cyfnod o newid sy'n sicr o amharu ar drefniadau, a risgiau ceisio cyflwyno'r newidiadau cyn Ebrill y flwyddyn nesaf, sy'n amserlen dynn iawn, a dweud y lleiaf.

Mae ein pryderon ynglŷn â'r materion hyn ac eraill wedi eu gosod allan yn yr adroddiad, ac nid wyf yn bwriadu mynd drwyddynt yn fanwl yn awr. Un rheswm am hyn yw bod y Gweinidog wedi gwneud datganiad llafar yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 16 Gorffennaf ac wedi

changes to the NHS. She told us that she intends to consult on whether or not to scrap local health boards and NHS trusts entirely, and replace them with seven health organisations that will take on their functions. She also told us that she intends to consult on the future number and role of community health councils, and the Minister also outlined to the Assembly that she intended to use the summer period to reflect further on the model of a national board that will be established under her initial proposals. Taken together, these proposals represent one of the biggest changes to the organisation of the NHS in Wales in the past 20 years. Therefore, I accept that the Minister's statement on 16 July has somewhat overtaken some of the issues flagged up in our report.

However, it is almost six months since the Minister made her initial announcement, and over two months since she outlined her additional proposals. Therefore, it is timely that we should have this debate and consider some of the evidence and the work that the committee was able to do. I hope that the Minister will take this opportunity to outline how her thinking has developed over the summer and to put some flesh on the bones of the specific proposals on which she intends to consult further. I hope that she will be able to tell us whether or not it is still the Government's aim to implement the changes by April 2009. There may be different opinions expressed by Members this afternoon, but that is an extremely tight timescale. I would not mind if there was slippage in that implementation date, because I know, from speaking to colleagues on this side of the Chamber, that we want to see this work properly. We know that when structural changes have been rushed through in the past, they have not worked, and I know that many in the Chamber would like to see a deadline that is realistic and which allows clinicians, managers and patients to see this change through effectively.

We also want to see service stability and

cyhoeddi y byddai ymgynghoriad arall yn cael ei gynnal ar fwy fyth o newidiadau sylfaenol yn y GIG. Dywedodd wrthym ei bod yn bwriadu ymgynghori ynglŷn â'r cwestiwn a ddylid dileu byrddau iechyd lleol ac ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG yn gyfan gwbl, a chyflwyno saith sefydliad iechyd i gyflawni eu swyddogaethau yn eu lle. Dywedodd wrthym ei bod yn bwriadu ymgynghori ynglŷn â nifer a rôl y cynghorau iechyd cymuned yn y dyfodol, a chrybwyllodd wrth y Cynulliad hefyd ei bod yn bwriadu edrych yn fanylach yn ystod yr haf ar fodel y bwrdd cenedlaethol a gaiff ei sefydlu dan ei chynigion gwreiddiol. Mae'r cynigion hyn, gyda'i gilydd, ymhlith y newidiadau mwyaf y mae trefniadaeth y GIG yng Nghymru wedi'i weld yn ystod yr 20 mlynedd diwethaf. O ganlyniad, derbyniaf fod datganiad y Gweinidog ar 16 Gorffennaf wedi ennill y blaen i ryw raddau ar rai o'r materion y tynnir sylw atynt yn ein hadroddiad.

Fodd bynnag, mae bron i chwe mis wedi mynd heibio ers i'r Gweinidog wneud ei chyhoeddiad cychwynnol, ac mae dros ddau fis ers iddi amlinellu ei chynigion ychwanegol. Felly, mae'r amser yn briodol inni gael y ddadl hon ac ystyried rhywfaint o'r dystiolaeth a'r gwaith y llwyddodd y pwyllgor i'w wneud. Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn manteisio ar y cyfle hwn i amlinellu sut y mae ei barn wedi datblygu yn ystod yr haf, ac i roi rhywfaint o gnawd ar esgryn y cynigion penodol y bwriada ymgynghori ymhellach yn eu cylch. Gobeithio y bydd yn gallu dweud wrthym a yw'r Llywodraeth yn dal i fwriadu gweithredu'r newidiadau cyn Ebrill 2009. Efallai y bydd y safbwyntiau a fynegir gan yr Aelodau y prynhawn yma'n amrywio, ond mae'r amserlen hon yn un dynn iawn. Ni fyddai gwahaniaeth gennyf pe bai'r dyddiad gweithredu hwnnw'n cael ei newid, oherwydd gwn, o siarad â chyd-Aelodau yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, ein bod yn dymuno gweld hyn yn gweithio'n iawn. Gwyddom nad yw newidiadau strwythurol sydd wedi cael eu cyflwyno ar ras yn y gorffennol wedi gweithio, a gwn y byddai nifer yn y Siambr yn hoffi gweld dyddiad sy'n realistig ac sy'n caniatáu i glinigwyr, rheolwyr a chleifion gwblhau'r newid hwn yn effeithiol.

Yr ydym yn awyddus hefyd i weld

continuing service improvement at the same time as the implementation of these structural changes. It is important for people to have continuity in how services are delivered, and that clinicians can have confidence that the NHS will continue to provide good levels of service to patients while these big changes are taking place. I also hope that the Minister will tell the Assembly what arrangements she intends to make to allow the Assembly to debate and further scrutinise Government proposals. I accept that we are having a statement on the Minister's proposals next week, but the changes that she is recommending are so substantial that it is right for this Assembly to spend more time examining these proposals as the Government announces the detail.

On that last point, I found it disappointing as Chair of the committee that, after almost six months, the Government had not managed to schedule a debate on the proposals in Government time. I accept that a great deal of consultation is taking place, but I hope that the Government will reflect on the past six months and find opportunities in the future for the Assembly to have fuller debates on those detailed proposals.

The other disappointment that I felt—and I hope that the Minister will take this in the spirit in which it is meant—was that as committee members spent time considering this report, the Minister did not formally respond to the report. I express that disappointment, Minister, because, as I am sure that you will appreciate, I see the Assembly's Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee as not just part of the consultation process but as a formal part of what the Assembly is here to achieve. Therefore, I had hoped that our opinions and consideration of this particular work would have had a priority that would have seen the Minister respond to the committee report in the usual way.

This debate is on a committee report, but I am sure that it will also focus on the substantial political concerns that Members

sefydlogrwydd mewn gwasanaethau a gwelliannau parhaus mewn gwasanaethau ochr yn ochr â gweithredu'r newidiadau strwythurol hyn. Mae'n bwysig cael dilyniant yn y ffordd y darperir gwasanaethau i bobl, ac mae'n bwysig i glinigwyr fod yn ffyddiog y bydd y GIG yn dal i ddarparu gwasanaeth o safon uchel i gleifion tra bydd y newidiadau mawr hyn yn cael eu cyflwyno. Yr wyf yn gobeithio hefyd y bydd y Gweinidog yn dweud wrth y Cynulliad pa drefniadau y mae'n bwriadu eu gwneud i ganiatáu i'r Cynulliad gael dadl ar gynigion y Llywodraeth a chraffu arnynt ymhellach. Derbyniaf y byddwn yn cael datganiad ar gynigion y Gweinidog yr wythnos nesaf, ond mae'r newidiadau y mae'n eu hargymell mor fawr fel ei bod yn briodol i'r Cynulliad hwn dreulio mwy o amser yn edrych ar y cynigion hyn wrth i'r Llywodraeth gyhoeddi'r manylion.

Ar y pwynt olaf hwnnw, yr oeddwn yn siomedig fel Cadeirydd y pwyllgor nad oedd y Llywodraeth, ar ôl bron i chwe mis, wedi llwyddo i drefnu amser ar gyfer dadl ar y cynigion yn ystod amser y Llywodraeth. Derbyniaf ei bod yn ymgynghori llawer iawn, ond gobeithio y bydd y Llywodraeth yn edrych yn ôl ar y chwe mis diwethaf ac yn dod o hyd i gyfleoedd yn y dyfodol i'r Cynulliad gael dadleuon llawnach ar y cynigion manwl hynny.

Y siom arall a gefais—a gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn derbyn hyn yn yr ysbryd y'i bwriadwyd—oedd bod aelodau'r pwyllgor wedi treulio amser yn ystyried yr adroddiad hwn, ac eto na chafwyd ymateb ffurfiol i'r adroddiad gan y Gweinidog. Yr wyf yn mynegi'r siom honno, Weinidog, oherwydd, fel yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn deall, yr wyf yn gweld Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol y Cynulliad fel rhan o'r broses ymgynghori, a hefyd fel rhan ffurfiol o'r hyn y mae'r Cynulliad yma i'w gyflawni. Felly, yr oeddwn wedi gobeithio y byddai ein barn ni a'n hystyriaeth o'r gwaith arbennig hwn wedi cael blaenoriaeth, ac y byddai'r Gweinidog wedi ymateb i adroddiad y pwyllgor yn y ffordd arferol.

Mae'r ddadl hon yn ymwneud ag adroddiad pwyllgor, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn canolbwyntio hefyd ar y pryderon

have about the way in which the national health service will be structured.

I have one particular issue to raise from my own perspective in the time that I have available, and that is in relation to the delivery of social services and social care. That has been excluded from the consideration of NHS reorganisation. I know that health and social care have separate structures but we all know, through the work that we have done, that the future of health and social care will be together. They will not be separate and will have to be considered together strategically and delivered together. I pay tribute to the NHS Confederation, which, when it gave evidence to us, raised this particular issue that we were looking at the national health service in isolation and that we should also have been looking at social care and social services within this particular review.

From my own perspective as a member of this committee and as an Assembly Member, I want to see a national health service that is more streamlined. We need a national health service that is not as bureaucratic and less costly to administrate. We have some very good managers working within the national health service in Wales, but we need to see managers working with our clinicians to ensure that we use the expertise that we have in Wales—not just the clinical expertise, but managerial expertise—in ensuring that NHS solutions reflect the desire and need for the NHS to develop locally according to patient needs.

There are some significant challenges for the future of the national health service, not just in terms of how the NHS is structured but in how new technologies will be developed and how we will see new treatments and therapies being delivered by pharmaceutical companies and by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence. That will have to be delivered and paid for by the Assembly and the national health service in future. It will become more costly and challenging, and the national health service has to be more innovative in the way that it responds to those

gwleidyddol sylweddol sydd gan yr Aelodau ynglŷn â'r ffordd y caiff y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol ei drefnu.

Mae gennyf un mater penodol i'w godi o'm safbwynt fy hun yn yr amser sydd ar gael i mi, ac mae'n ymwneud â darparu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a gofal cymdeithasol. Nid yw hynny wedi ei gynnwys yn yr ystyriaeth o ailstrwythuro'r GIG. Gwn fod gan iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol strwythurau ar wahân, ond gwyddom bob un, oherwydd y gwaith yr ydym wedi'i wneud, y bydd iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol yn mynd gyda'i gilydd yn y dyfodol. Ni fyddant ar wahân a bydd yn rhaid eu hystyried gyda'i gilydd yn strategol a'u darparu gyda'i gilydd. Hoffwn roi teyrnged i Gydffederasiwn y GIG, a gododd y mater penodol hwn, wrth roi tystiolaeth i ni, ein bod yn edrych ar y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol ar wahân i bob dim arall ac y dylasem hefyd fod yn edrych ar ofal cymdeithasol a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn yr adolygiad penodol hwn.

O'm safbwynt i fel aelod o'r pwyllgor hwn ac fel Aelod Cynulliad, hoffwn weld gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol symlach. Mae arnom angen gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol sydd â llai o fiwrocratiaeth ac sy'n llai costus i'w weinyddu. Mae rhai rheolwyr da iawn yn gweithio yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru, ond mae angen i'r rheolwyr weithio gyda'n clinigwyr er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn defnyddio'r arbenigedd sydd gennym yng Nghymru—arbenigedd rheolaethol yn ogystal â chlinigol—i sicrhau bod atebion y GIG yn adlewyrchu'r dyhead a'r angen i'r GIG ddatblygu'n lleol yn unol ag anghenion cleifion.

Mae rhai o'r heriau y bydd y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yn eu hwynebu yn y dyfodol yn rhai mawr iawn, nid yn unig o ran y ffordd y mae'r GIG yn cael ei drefnu, ond hefyd o ran y ffordd y bydd technolegau newydd yn cael eu datblygu a sut y byddwn yn gweld triniaethau a therapïau newydd yn cael eu darparu gan gwmnïau fferyllol a chan y Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Iechyd a Rhagoriaeth Glinigol. Bydd yn rhaid i'r Cynulliad a'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol fod yn gyfrifol am ddarparu hynny a thalu amdano yn y dyfodol. Bydd mwy o gostau a

challenges.

In concluding, I thank those committee members who contributed to our deliberations for the way in which the work was conducted. I also thank all of those who gave evidence. One of the witnesses from whom we took evidence described the Minister's proposals as 'back to the future'. I hope that the Minister, in her contribution today, will be able to tell us clearly what her vision of the future of the national health service in Wales is so that we can see a real debate begin in Wales on how the NHS will be structured for the future.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Edwina Hart): On 16 July, as the Chair indicated, I made an oral statement to Plenary following the consultation on the proposals in the NHS consultation paper, 'Proposals to Change the Structure of the NHS in Wales'. I confirm that I agreed to the emerging consensus that it should consider establishing one body to undertake the functions of a local health board and an NHS trust in each of the health communities, and that there would be one north Wales body in the place of the two that were originally proposed. That would result in seven NHS local bodies in Wales.

I also agreed that I wished to consider which model I would prefer to establish for the national board. My final comment was about the importance of maintaining a relationship with local communities and the need to strengthen the role of community health councils in Wales. I added that I would be consulting on the proposal to create community health councils coterminous with local authority boundaries. Also, during the course of the debate the whole issue of Powys and the two bodies that existed in Powys was raised by the leader of the opposition, which has also formed part of my thoughts during the summer months. I concluded by saying that during the summer months I would be reflecting further on those issues and would announce my conclusion

mwy o her, a rhaid i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol ymateb i'r her honno mewn ffordd fwy arloesol.

I gloi, hoffwn ddiolch i'r aelodau hynny o'r pwyllgor a gyfrannodd i'n trafodaethau am y ffordd y cyflawnwyd y gwaith. Hoffwn ddiolch hefyd i bawb a gyflwynodd dystiolaeth. Disgrifiwyd cynigion y Gweinidog gan un o'r tystion a roddodd dystiolaeth inni fel mynd 'yn ôl i'r dyfodol'. Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn gallu dweud yn glir wrthym, yn ei chyfraniad heddiw, beth yw ei gweledigaeth ar gyfer dyfodol y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru, fel y gallwn weld dadl go iawn yn dechrau yng Nghymru ynglŷn â'r ffordd y caiff y GIG ei drefnu ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Edwina Hart): Ar 16 Gorffennaf, fel y dywedodd y Cadeirydd, gwneuthum ddatganiad llafar i'r Cyfarfod Llawn yn dilyn yr ymgynghori ar y cynigion ym mhapur ymgynghori'r GIG, 'Cynigion i Newid Strwythur y GIG yng Nghymru'. Cadarnhaf fy mod wedi cytuno â'r consensws a oedd yn datblygu, sef y dylai ystyried sefydlu un corff i ymgymryd â swyddogaethau bwrdd iechyd lleol ac ymddiriedolaeth GIG ym mhob un o'r cymunedau iechyd, ac y byddai un corff yng ngogledd Cymru yn hytrach na'r ddau a gynigiwyd yn wreiddiol. Byddai hynny'n golygu bod gan y GIG saith corff lleol yng Nghymru.

Cytunais hefyd fy mod yn dymuno ystyried pa fodel y byddai'n well gennyf ei sefydlu ar gyfer y bwrdd cenedlaethol. Yr oedd fy sylw olaf yn ymwneud â phwysigrwydd cynnal perthynas â chymunedau lleol a'r angen i gryfhau rôl cynghorau iechyd cymuned yng Nghymru. Ychwanegais y byddwn yn ymgynghori ynglŷn â'r cynnig i sefydlu cynghorau iechyd cymuned a fyddai â'r un ffiniau ag awdurdodau lleol. Yn ychwanegol at hyn, codwyd mater Powys a'r ddau gorff a oedd yn bodoli ym Mhowys yn ystod y ddadl gan arweinydd yr wrthblaid, ac yr wyf wedi bod yn meddwl am hynny hefyd yn ystod misoedd yr haf. Terfynais drwy ddweud y byddwn yn ystyried y materion hynny'n fanylach yn ystod misoedd yr haf ac yn cyhoeddi fy nghasgliad ar ôl y toriad. Yr

after the recess. The report that has been prepared by the committee has been part of what I have been looking at over the summer months.

In terms of your contribution as Chair of the committee in particular, Jonathan, I thank you for your comments about the timescale. It is a difficult timescale, but I am reassured by your comments that you would like to see this done properly rather than rushed. That is enormously helpful to the Government side. We have to be realistic. I think that the timetable is achievable but I will be taking further advice on that. It is also essential that, at the same time as I am undertaking these changes, I maintain service stability. Therefore, that also has to feature in the equation.

3.00 p.m.

It is possible that legislation will have to come before the Assembly in due course and there would then be the necessary scrutiny of that legislation. I am sorry that you were disappointed that I did not formally respond, but it was a matter of time and where we were in terms of the further consultations that I was looking at. It was not intended to be disrespectful to the committee; it was just the way the cookie crumbled on this occasion with regard to the way in which I was dealing with NHS reorganisation.

With regard to social services and social care, my Deputy Minister and I have been discussing this point over the past few months. There are issues with regard to the links between the NHS and the delivery of social care within local authority areas. It is an issue to which we will return after the NHS reorganisation, because there are issues around that. I also think that local government—I look to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government on this—is actively looking at what arrangements should be put in place if we make new arrangements and what new relationships should come about.

As you know, I will be making a statement in Plenary on 30 September, when my response

oedd yr adroddiad a baratowyd gan y pwyllgor yn rhan o'r hyn y bûm yn edrych arno yn ystod misoedd yr haf.

O ran eich cyfraniad chi, fel Cadeirydd y pwyllgor yn benodol, Jonathan, hoffwn ddiolch ichi am eich sylwadau am yr amserlen. Mae'n amserlen anodd, ond mae eich clywed yn dweud y byddai'n well gennych weld hyn yn cael ei wneud yn iawn na chael ei ruthro yn tawelu fy meddwl. Mae hynny o gymorth mawr i ochr y Llywodraeth. Rhaid inni fod yn realistig. Credaf y gallwn gwblhau'r gwaith o fewn yr amserlen, ond byddaf yn gofyn am gyngor pellach ynglŷn â hynny. Mae'n hanfodol hefyd, wrth imi ymgymryd â'r newidiadau hyn, imi gadw sefydlogrwydd gwasanaethau. Felly, mae hynny hefyd yn fater i'w ystyried.

Mae'n bosibl y bydd yn rhaid dod â deddfwriaeth gerbron y Cynulliad maes o law, ac wedyn byddai angen craffu ar y ddeddfwriaeth honno. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf eich bod yn siomedig na roddais ymateb ffurfiol. Yr oedd amser yn brin ac yr oeddem ar ei hôl hi gyda'r ymgynghoriadau eraill yr oeddwn yn edrych arnynt. Nid oeddwn yn bwriadu bod yn amharchus o'r pwyllgor; yn anffodus, dyna sut y digwyddodd pethau y tro hwn o ran y ffordd yr oeddwn yn ymdrin ag ad-drefnu'r GIG.

O ran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a gofal cymdeithasol, mae fy Nirprwy Weinidog a minnau wedi bod yn trafod y pwynt hwn yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf. Mae yna broblemau'n ymwneud â'r cysylltiadau rhwng y GIG a darparu gofal cymdeithasol mewn ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol. Mae'n broblem y byddwn yn dychwelyd ati ar ôl ad-drefnu'r GIG, oherwydd mae yna broblemau'n ymwneud â hynny. Credaf hefyd fod llywodraeth leol—trof at y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol ynglŷn â hyn—yn ystyried pa drefniadau y dylid eu sefydlu os byddwn yn gwneud trefniadau newydd, a pha gysylltiadau newydd y dylid eu creu.

Fel y gwyddoch, byddaf yn gwneud datganiad yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 30 Medi ac

to the substantive issues will be made. At this stage, I am not really prepared to say what my statement will confirm, but I am happy to comment on the committee's report. I am grateful to the committee for taking time in its schedule to consider the proposals in the consultation paper. The committee's report has raised several important points for me, including the fact that the new arrangements should maximise public accountability, which is the key in this area. With fewer local health bodies, it is also important to ensure that new organisations maintain a strong community focus and are able to link effectively with the communities that they serve. This is a particularly important point, because I do not think that we have achieved that standard of accountability and relationships with local communities under the existing structures. Therefore, that will have to be strengthened.

Another key area, which goes to the heart of the social care agenda, is the importance of not losing the existing partnership working arrangements between local health boards and local authorities. They are mixed; they are like the proverbial curate's egg, but, at the end of the day, they have worked very well in some areas and there has certainly been an interest on the part of local government in some areas in really making these arrangements work. The committee also concentrated on the issue of the importance of hearing the patient's voice. The views of community health councils and patients need to be heard and clearly understood when reaching decisions following the consultation. In looking at the role of patients and citizens in particular, we need to reflect carefully on the evidence that the committee took on some of these issues and the conclusions that this should lead to for Government. We must also reflect on the very important role of the voluntary sector, which, in many cases, has considerable service user expertise, to ensure that there are responsive and appropriate organisational structures and services to deal with the voluntary sector. Only today, I have been reviewing the relationship of the voluntary sector through service level agreements with local health boards. This is exceptionally patchy. Only one has had three-year agreements; others have one-year agreements

yn cyhoeddi fy ymateb i'r prif faterion. Ar hyn o bryd, nid wyf yn barod mewn gwirionedd i ddweud beth y bydd fy natganiad yn ei gadarnhau, ond yr wyf yn fodlon sôn am adroddiad y pwyllgor. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r pwyllgor am neilltuo amser i ystyried cynigion y papur ymgynghori. Mae adroddiad y pwyllgor wedi codi nifer o bwyntiau pwysig i mi, gan gynnwys y ffaith y dylai'r trefniadau newydd sicrhau mwy o atebolrwydd cyhoeddus, sy'n hollbwysig yn y maes hwn. Gyda llai o gyrff iechyd lleol, mae'n bwysig sicrhau hefyd fod sefydliadau newydd yn cadw ffocws cymunedol cryf ac yn gallu cysylltu'n effeithiol â'r cymunedau y maent yn eu gwasanaethu. Mae hwn yn bwynt pwysig iawn, oherwydd ni chredaf ein bod wedi cael y math hwnnw o atebolrwydd a chysylltiad â chymunedau lleol dan y strwythurau presennol. Felly, bydd yn rhaid cryfhau hynny.

Maes pwysig arall, sy'n rhan ganolog o'r agenda gofal cymdeithasol, yw pwysigrwydd peidio â cholli'r trefniadau gweithio mewn partneriaeth sy'n bodoli ar hyn o bryd rhwng byrddau iechyd lleol ac awdurdodau lleol. Maent fel rhyw wy curad; mae'r drwg a'r da yn gymysg, ond yn y pen draw maent wedi gweithio'n dda iawn mewn rhai ardaloedd, ac mae llywodraeth leol yn sicr wedi dangos diddordeb mewn rhai ardaloedd mewn gwneud i'r trefniadau hyn weithio'n iawn. Canolbwyntiodd y pwyllgor hefyd ar fater pwysigrwydd clywed llais y claf. Mae angen i farn cynghorau iechyd cymuned a chleifion gael ei chlywed a'i deall yn glir pan wneir penderfyniadau'n dilyn yr ymgynghori. Wrth edrych ar rôl cleifion a dinasyddion yn fwyaf arbennig, mae angen inni bwysu a mesur yn ofalus y dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd i'r pwyllgor ar rai o'r materion hyn, a'r casgliadau y dylai'r Llywodraeth eu gwneud yn dilyn hyn. Rhaid inni hefyd ystyried rôl bwysig iawn y sector gwirfoddol sydd, mewn llawer achos, â gwybodaeth arbenigol dda iawn fel defnyddwyr gwasanaethau, er mwyn sicrhau gwasanaethau a strwythurau cyfundrefnol ymatebol a phriodol i ymdrin â'r sector gwirfoddol. Heddiw ddiwethaf, yr wyf wedi bod yn adolygu perthynas y sector gwirfoddol drwy gytundebau lefel gwasanaeth â byrddau iechyd lleol. Mae'r berthynas hon yn amrywio'n fawr. Un yn unig sydd wedi cael cytundebau tair blynedd;

and the approach is very piecemeal.

If there are new structures in place, we will also have to define our relationship with the voluntary sector much better in terms of how we deal with it financially and how we deal with services. These are very important issues that I have been considering and I am anxious to ensure that as many voices as possible are heard during the process. The consultation process has included many consultation events at which these voices have had an opportunity to express their views.

In order to ensure that the views of other stakeholders are heard in taking these proposals forward to implementation, the head of the Department for Health and Social Services has established an NHS/DHSS change programme board. The board will oversee the projects, which include the NHS Wales reform project board taking forward the work on the external NHS reform; the NHS reform project board taking forward the work on the internal reform; and the unified public health board taking forward the work on the unified public health system, which is also key to discussions, because we must get the public health agenda right in this area. At the end of the day, the important issues are the public health agenda, the preventative agenda and the primary care agenda. We also need to look at other issues such as mental health in that context and at what is important in the delivery of services in Wales.

Community health councils, the third sector, trade unions, local government, clinicians and senior managers are represented on the programme board and the NHS Wales reform project board. Therefore, all of those voices are being heard and being listened to. I have been particularly pleased by the engagement of clinicians at this level, which has proven to be very useful when looking at the direction of travel in the NHS. Jonathan talked about service stability and the important fact that, at the end of the day, this reform is about improving services, getting rid of bureaucracy and the other issues and ensuring the standard of front-line services.

cytundebau blwyddyn sydd gan eraill ac mae'r dull yn amrywio'n fawr.

Os cyflwynir strwythurau newydd, bydd yn rhaid inni hefyd ddiffinio'n perthynas â'r sector gwirfoddol lawer yn well, o ran sut y byddwn yn ymdrin â'r sector yn ariannol a sut y byddwn yn ymdrin â gwasanaethau. Yr wyf wedi bod yn ystyried y materion hynod bwysig hyn, ac yr wyf yn awyddus i sicrhau bod cynifer o leisiau ag sy'n bosibl yn cael eu clywed yn ystod y broses. Mae'r broses ymgynghori wedi cynnwys nifer o ddigwyddiadau ymgynghori lle rhoddwyd cyfle i'r lleisiau hyn fynegi eu barn.

Er mwyn sicrhau bod barn rhanddeiliaid eraill yn cael ei chlywed wrth ddatblygu'r cynigion hyn ar gyfer eu gweithredu, mae pennaeth yr Adran Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wedi sefydlu bwrdd rhaglen newidiadau i'r GIG/AIGC. Bydd y bwrdd yn goruchwyllo'r prosiectau, sy'n cynnwys bwrdd prosiect diwygio GIG Cymru i fynd ymlaen â'r gwaith ar ddiwygiadau allanol y GIG; bwrdd prosiect diwygio'r GIG i fynd ymlaen â'r gwaith ar y diwygio mewnol; a'r bwrdd iechyd cyhoeddus unedig i fynd ymlaen â'r gwaith ar y system iechyd cyhoeddus unedig. Mae hwn hefyd yn bwysig iawn i'r trafodaethau, oherwydd rhaid inni gael yr agenda iechyd cyhoeddus yn iawn yn y maes hwn. Yn y pen draw, y materion pwysig yw'r agenda iechyd cyhoeddus, yr agenda ataliol a'r agenda gofal sylfaenol. Mae angen inni hefyd edrych ar faterion eraill megis iechyd meddwl yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, ac ar yr hyn sy'n bwysig wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau yng Nghymru.

Cynrychiolir cynghorau iechyd cymuned, y trydydd sector, undebau llafur, llywodraeth leol, clinigwyr ac uwch reolwyr ar fwrdd y rhaglen ac ar fwrdd prosiect diwygio GIG Cymru. Felly, mae'r lleisiau hynny i gyd yn cael eu clywed ac yr ydym yn gwrandao arnynt. Mae rhan y clinigwyr ar y lefel hon wedi fy mhlesio'n fawr, ac mae wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol iawn wrth edrych i ba gyfeiriad y mae pethau'n mynd yn y GIG. Soniodd Jonathan am sefydlogrwydd gwasanaethau a'r ffaith bwysig fod y diwygiadau hyn, yn y pen draw, yn ymwneud â gwella gwasanaethau, dileu biwrocratiaeth a'r problemau eraill a sicrhau safon

gwasanaethau rheng flaen.

I am also pleased to say that Sir Ian Carruthers OBE, chief executive of NHS South West, has agreed to act as an adviser to the programme board. It has been exceptionally useful to have a different pair of eyes looking in at what we are doing and giving advice. As he is so well respected in his field, everyone—from administrators to clinicians—feels happy that he is engaged in the project.

The unified public health system is being constituted this month and I will be making my mind up on the issue of the one mental health trust. We have had a very good consultation on that, although there are still some remaining issues, but whatever happens in that agenda we must look at how we protect funds for certain services if new structures come about. There is a fear, if you move to reorganise the structure, about what voices will be predominant. Everyone worries that it will be secondary care, but we all know that, if we are to get the health of the people of Wales right, it must be about primary care and mental health issues; the voices of their representatives must be heard.

I do not think that I can add anything further at this stage. The timing of this is not ideal, because I am due to make a statement next week. I thank the committee for its contribution to this discussion, which I have valued, along with the open and frank discussion about the future structure of the NHS. I am grateful to the committee Chair for his comments, particularly about the timescale issue.

Nick Ramsay: As a member of the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee, I am pleased to contribute to this debate on the committee's report into the Assembly Government's proposals for the restructuring of the health service. I also join with the Minister in congratulating the committee's Chair and staff for the work that they have done in delivering this report.

As Jonathan Morgan said, the purpose of the committee's inquiry was to highlight significant issues raised by the Assembly

Yr wyf hefyd yn falch dweud bod Syr Ian Carruthers OBE, prif weithredwr GIG De-orllewin Lloegr, wedi cytuno i fod yn gynghorydd i fwrdd y rhaglen. Mae cael pâr arall o lygaid i edrych ar yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud ac i gynnig cyngor wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol iawn. Gan ei fod mor uchel ei barch yn ei faes, mae pawb—yn weinyddwyr a chlinigwyr—yn falch ei fod yn ymwneud â'r prosiect.

Mae'r system iechyd cyhoeddus unedig yn cael ei sefydlu y mis hwn, a byddaf yn penderfynu mater cael un ymddiriedolaeth iechyd meddwl i peidio. Bu ymgynghori da iawn ynglŷn â hynny, er bod rhai problemau i'w datrys o hyd, ond beth bynnag a ddigwydd yn yr agenda honno, rhaid inni ystyried sut i ddiogelu arian ar gyfer gwasanaethau penodol os cyflwynir strwythurau newydd. Mae yna ofn, os penderfynwch ad-drefnu'r strwythur, pa leisiau fydd gryfaf. Mae pawb yn poeni mai gofal eilaidd fydd hwnnw, ond gwyddom i gyd, os ydym i gael iechyd pobl Cymru yn iawn, ei bod yn rhaid canolbwyntio ar ofal sylfaenol a materion iechyd meddwl; rhaid i leisiau eu cynrychiolwyr hwy gael eu clywed.

Ni chredaf y gallaf ddweud mwy ar hyn o bryd. Nid yw amseriad hyn yn ddelfrydol, oherwydd yr wyf i fod i wneud datganiad yr wythnos nesaf. Hoffwn ddiolch i'r pwyllgor am ei gyfraniad i'r drafodaeth hon. Yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi'r cyfraniad, ynghyd â'r drafodaeth agored a gonest ar strwythur y GIG yn y dyfodol. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Gadeirydd y pwyllgor am ei sylwadau, yn enwedig ynglŷn â'r amserlen.

Nick Ramsay: Fel aelod o'r Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol, yr wyf yn falch cyfrannu at y ddadl hon ar adroddiad y pwyllgor ar gynigion y Llywodraeth ar gyfer ailstrwythuro'r gwasanaeth iechyd. Hoffwn ategu geiriau'r Gweinidog drwy longyfarch Cadeirydd y pwyllgor a'r staff am y gwaith caled y maent wedi'i wneud wrth lunio'r adroddiad hwn.

Fel y dywedodd Jonathan Morgan, pwrpas ymchwiliad y pwyllgor oedd tynnu sylw at faterion pwysig a godwyd gan gynigion

Government's proposals for reorganisation. That has largely been achieved. I hope that the Minister agrees and that she will take on board the recommendations.

I echo Jonathan Morgan's disappointment that we have not had a properly scheduled debate from the Assembly Government on this issue and that we have not had a formal response from the Minister. However, I accept that she has spoken today and I listened with interest to the large number of issues that she mentioned in her speech.

It has been a long summer for those people working in the NHS and for those using it, waiting for the Minister to put some meat on the bones of the proposals made in April and the rather well-timed statement made at the end of the last Plenary session before the recess. The NHS is close to many people's hearts and an important service for us in Wales and we look forward with interest to the content of your statement.

We are looking at an ambitious, courageous and even frighteningly short timescale to deliver what is, by any measure, a substantial structural reorganisation of the health service. If the Minister intends to keep to that timescale, it will be difficult. As she has heard from this side of the Chamber, it is best that we know at an early stage if that timescale is not going to be met. The changes need to be made in the best possible way and should not be rushed. I am pleased that the Minister spoke about the need to maintain stability during the process, because it is important during any reorganisation that the people involved have a degree of stability in carrying out their jobs and that patients carry on receiving their treatment.

The abolition of the local health boards and the creation of the proposed new NHS board are some of the biggest changes seen in the NHS in Wales in a long time. Given that the NHS is such an important part of our daily lives and is something that we all rely on at some point in our lives, these changes will have a big bearing on every one of us.

Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer ad-drefnu. Mae hynny wedi ei wneud i raddau helaeth. Gobeithio bod y Gweinidog yn cytuno ac y bydd yn derbyn yr argymhellion.

Yr wyf fi, fel Jonathan Morgan, yn siomedig nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi trefnu dadl briodol ar y mater hwn ac nad ydym wedi cael ymateb ffurfiol gan y Gweinidog. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn derbyn ei bod wedi siarad heddiw, a gwrandewais yn astud ar y materion niferus y cyfeiriodd atynt yn ei haraith.

Mae wedi bod yn haf hir i'r bobl hynny sy'n gweithio yn y GIG ac i'r rheini sy'n ei ddefnyddio, wrth iddynt aros i'r Gweinidog roi rhywfaint o gig ar esgyrn y cynigion a wnaethpwyd ym mis Ebrill, a'r datganiad wedi'i amseru'n dda a wnaethpwyd ar ddiwedd y Cyfarfod Llawn olaf cyn y toriad. Mae'r GIG yn agos at galon llawer o bobl. Mae'n wasanaeth pwysig i ni yng Nghymru, ac edrychwn ymlaen yn fawr at glywed cynnwys eich datganiad.

Yr ydym yn edrych ar amserlen uchelgeisiol, ddewr a brawychus hyd yn oed i gyflawni'r hyn sydd, sut bynnag yr edrychwch arno, yn ad-drefniad strwythurol sylweddol yn y gwasanaeth iechyd. Os yw'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu cadw at yr amserlen honno, bydd yn anodd. Fel y clywodd gan yr ochr hon o'r Siambr, mae'n well inni gael gwybod yn fuan os na chedwir at yr amserlen honno. Mae angen gwneud y newidiadau yn y ffordd orau posibl, ac ni ddylid eu rhuthro. Yr wyf yn falch fod y Gweinidog wedi siarad am yr angen i gadw sefydlogrwydd yn ystod y broses, oherwydd mae'n bwysig yn ystod unrhyw ad-drefnu i'r bobl sy'n rhan ohono gael rhywfaint o sefydlogrwydd wrth gyflawni eu gwaith a bod cleifion yn dal i gael eu triniaeth.

Mae diddymu'r byrddau iechyd lleol a chreu'r byrddau GIG newydd arfaethedig ymhlith y newidiadau mwyaf a welwyd yn y GIG yng Nghymru ers amser maith. O gofio bod y GIG yn rhan mor bwysig o'n bywydau pob dydd ac yn rhywbeth y mae pob un ohonom yn dibynnu arno ar ryw adeg yn ystod ein bywydau, bydd y newidiadau hyn yn cael effaith sylweddol arnom bob un.

I listened to your response to the committee Chair, Minister, and was pleased with some of the issues that you raised, particularly on the role of the voluntary sector, which needs to be considered, as does the importance of maintaining partnership working between local authorities and whatever new health structure might exist at that level. As you said, this change will include many different elements, which will hopefully result in a change for the better. The bottom line is that people outside the Chamber need to be confident that the changes are properly thought through. Unlike the last reckless reorganisation that set up the ill-fated LHBs back in 2003, these changes need to be ultimately sustainable.

Gwrandewais ar eich ymateb i Gadeirydd y pwyllgor, Weinidog, ac yr oeddwn yn falch clywed rhai o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gennych, yn enwedig y pwynt ynglŷn â rôl y sector gwirfoddol, y mae angen ei ystyried, yn ogystal â phwysigrwydd cadw'r trefniadau gweithio mewn partneriaeth rhwng awdurdodau lleol a pha bynnag strwythur iechyd newydd a allai fodoli ar y lefel honno. Fel y dywedech, bydd y newid hwn yn cynnwys nifer o wahanol elfennau, a fydd yn arwain gobeithio at newid er gwell. Y pwynt sylfaenol yw bod angen i bobl y tu allan i'r Siambr fod yn ffyddiog fod y newidiadau'n cael eu hystyried yn briodol. Yn wahanol i'r ad-drefnu difeddwl diwethaf a sefydlodd y BILlau anffodus yn 2003, mae angen i'r newidiadau hyn fod yn gynaliadwy yn y pen draw.

3.10 p.m.

Helen Mary Jones: As other speakers have already acknowledged, the debate on these issues has moved on since our committee did its work and wrote its report. However, as the Chair and others have said, much of the committee's recommendations are still relevant to the decisions that the Minister will shortly make. I will confine most of my remarks to some specific issues, two of which are addressed in our report and one of which the Minister has already mentioned today, but which was not specifically addressed in the report.

Helen Mary Jones: Fel y mae siaradwyr eraill wedi ei gydnabod eisoes, mae'r ddadl am y materion hyn wedi symud ymlaen ers i'n pwyllgor wneud ei waith ac ysgrifennu ei adroddiad. Fodd bynnag, fel y mae'r Cadeirydd ac eraill wedi'i ddweud, mae llawer o argymhellion y pwyllgor yn dal yn berthnasol i'r penderfyniadau y bydd y Gweinidog yn eu gwneud cyn hir. Yr wyf am gyfyngu'r rhan fwyaf o'm sylwadau i faterion penodol, dau y rhoddir sylw iddynt yn ein hadroddiad, ac un y mae'r Gweinidog wedi cyfeirio ato heddiw, ond na roddwyd sylw penodol iddo yn yr adroddiad.

First, on the idea of a national board and what model that should take, Members will be aware that the committee did not come to a view on that. However, we were clear that, whatever structure the Minister puts in place, we did not want to undermine democratic accountability and the Minister's accountability for decisions made in the health sector. Therefore, my comments about the possibility of a national board should be taken as my own and my group's views, rather than those of the committee.

Yn gyntaf, o ran y syniad o fwrdd cenedlaethol a pha fodel y dylid ei ddefnyddio, bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol na fynegwyd barn benodol gan y pwyllgor ynglŷn â hynny. Fodd bynnag, yr oeddem yn bendant, ni waeth pa strwythur a gyflwynir gan y Gweinidog, nad oeddem am danseilio atebolrwydd democrataidd ac atebolrwydd y Gweinidog am benderfyniadau a wneir yn y sector iechyd. Felly, dylid ystyried fy sylwadau ynglŷn â phosibilrwydd bwrdd cenedlaethol fel fy marn i a'm grŵp, yn hytrach na barn y pwyllgor.

It is imperative that, whatever decision the Minister makes, we do not see the establishment of another unaccountable quango. It is my belief that the Minister

Mae'n hollbwysig, ni waeth pa benderfyniad a wneir gan y Gweinidog, na welir sefydlu cwango anatebol arall. Yr wyf fi'n credu bod ar y Gweinidog angen cyngor proffesiynol ac

needs professional advice and that successive Ministers will need high-class professional advice. It is our preference to see the Minister establishing an advisory board. The question could then rightly be posed as to how we ensure that future Ministers listen to advice given by professionals. Most of us would agree that that is not a concern with this Minister, but we have to set up robust structures that do not rely on the goodwill of individuals. One way in which this could be addressed—the Minister may want to consider this when she makes final decisions—is that the advice given by any advisory board could be reported and made public, after a delayed length of time. In that case, Assembly Members and the public generally could then scrutinise a Minister who, for whatever reason, was persistently disagreeing with the advice that he or she was given. Such a model would retain clear democratic accountability, but would also make Ministers accountable for whether or not they were taking professional advice.

The other issue in the report that I wanted to raise is that of localism, to which the Chair and the Minister have already referred. There is some good practice. Many of us have been disappointed that we did not see more co-operative working between health and social services across Wales under the local health board model. However, where there is good practice, the model that is put in place must ensure that it is replicated rather than disposed of.

Another issue that we touch on in the report, as the Minister has already mentioned, is the relationship with local authorities, specifically with social services. In the report, we ask Ministers to consider—the Minister has indicated that these matters are under consideration—where social services will properly sit in the longer term in light of these new health arrangements. This is an ongoing concern—it was a concern when I was a professional working in the field and it has been a concern for many of us here for the last 10 years. I would not want to anticipate the decision, but it is clear that the current situation is not acceptable in terms of

y bydd ar Weinidogion olynol angen cyngor proffesiynol o safon uchel. Byddai'n well gennym ni weld y Gweinidog yn sefydlu bwrdd cynghori. Byddai'n briodol gofyn wedyn sut y byddwn yn sicrhau bod Gweinidogion y dyfodol yn gwranddo ar gyngor a roddir gan bobl broffesiynol. Byddai'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn cytuno nad yw hynny'n broblem gyda'r Gweinidog hwn, ond rhaid inni sefydlu strwythurau cadarn nad ydynt yn dibynnu ar ewyllys da unigolion. Un ffordd y gellid rhoi sylw i hyn—efallai y byddai'r Gweinidog yn hoffi ystyried hyn wrth wneud penderfyniadau terfynol—yw sicrhau y gellid cyflwyno adroddiad am y cyngor a roddir gan gorff cynghori a'i wneud yn gyhoeddus, ar ôl hyn a hyn o amser. Pe bai hynny'n cael ei wneud, gallai Aelodau Cynulliad a'r cyhoedd yn gyffredinol graffu ar waith Gweinidog a fyddai, am ba bynnag reswm, yn anghytuno byth a beunydd â'r cyngor a roddid iddo ef neu hi. Byddai model o'r fath yn cadw atebolrwydd democrataidd clir, ond byddai hefyd yn gwneud Gweinidogion yn atebol am dderbyn neu wrthod cyngor proffesiynol.

Y pwynt arall yn yr adroddiad yr oeddwn yn dymuno'i godi oedd cadw pethau'n lleol, ac mae'r Cadeirydd a'r Gweinidog wedi cyfeirio at hyn yn barod. Mae yna rai arferion da. Mae llawer ohonom yn siomedig na welsom fwy o gydweithio rhwng gwasanaethau iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru dan batrwm y byrddau iechyd lleol. Fodd bynnag, lle mae arferion da yn bodoli, rhaid i'r model a gyflwynir sicrhau bod yr arferion da'n cael eu hefelychu yn hytrach na'u colli.

Mater arall sy'n cael ei grybwyll yn yr adroddiad, fel y mae'r Gweinidog eisoes wedi'i ddweud, yw'r berthynas ag awdurdodau lleol, yn enwedig gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Yn yr adroddiad, rydym yn gofyn i Weinidogion ystyried—mae'r Gweinidog wedi dweud bod y materion hyn yn cael eu hystyried—ble'n union y bydd y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn ffittio yn y darlun hirdymor o ganlyniad i'r trefniadau newydd hyn ym maes iechyd. Mae hwn yn fater sy'n dal i beri pryder—yr oedd yn peri pryder pan oeddwn i'n weithiwr proffesiynol yn y maes a bu'n peri pryder i lawer ohonom yma yn ystod y 10 mlynedd diwethaf. Ni

the delivery of social services to our most vulnerable. We will need to consider how that can be improved under the Minister's new structures.

I was pleased to hear the Minister mention the issue of mental health and to know that she is considering where it may best sit. I was also pleased to hear her assurance that, whatever structural decisions are made about where decision making on mental health sits, mental health will be made a priority and that sufficient resources will be made available to transfer service delivery from the community to the tertiary level. I mention this, in my role as Chair of the Children and Young People Committee, particularly with regard to services for children and young people, which, as children's commissioners have consistently told us, are a national disgrace, despite some good practice. I know that these matters are under consideration, but whatever decision she comes to, I urge the Minister to ensure that it is possible to have a seamless move between community and tertiary services. That move has often been a problem, particularly when talking about the transition between age groups for children and young people.

I am pleased to see the Minister bringing into effect one of our key 'One Wales' commitments, namely the dismantling of market structures in health. One might submit that these were never more than a polite fiction in Wales because, for many GPs for example, it was never really an option to purchase services from any other hospital than their local one. However, I am pleased to see the Minister taking down what has been complex and costly bureaucracy, and refocusing on patient services. I also echo what has been said about the timing. If we are trying to put structures in place that will last a generation—and I am sure that that is the aspiration of us all—a shadowing arrangement may be more appropriate than putting the formal structures in place next April.

fynnwn ddarogan pa benderfyniad a gaiff ei wneud, ond mae'n amlwg nad yw'r sefyllfa bresennol yn dderbyniol o ran darparu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i'r bobl sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymdeithas. Bydd angen inni ystyried sut y gellir gwella hynny dan strwythurau newydd y Gweinidog.

Yr oeddwn yn falch clywed y Gweinidog yn cyfeirio at fater iechyd meddwl a gwybod ei bod yn ystyried ble allai ffitio orau. Yr oeddwn hefyd yn falch ei chlywed yn ein sicrhau, ni waeth pa benderfyniadau strwythurol a wneir ynglŷn â ble y bydd penderfyniadau'n ymwneud ag iechyd meddwl yn cael eu gwneud, y bydd iechyd meddwl yn cael blaenoriaeth, ac y bydd digon o adnoddau ar gael i drosglwyddo darparu gwasanaethau o'r gymuned i'r lefel drydyddol. Cyfeiriai at hyn, yn fy rôl fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc, yn enwedig o safbwynt gwasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc, sydd, fel y mae comisiynwyr plant wedi dweud wrthym yn gyson, yn gywilydd i'r genedl, er bod rhai arferion da. Gwn fod y materion hyn yn cael eu hystyried, ond beth bynnag fydd ei phenderfyniad, anogaf y Gweinidog i sicrhau ei bod yn bosibl trosglwyddo'n rhwydd rhwng gwasanaethau cymunedol a gwasanaethau trydyddol. Mae'r symud hwnnw'n aml wedi bod yn broblem, yn enwedig wrth sôn am symud rhwng grwpiau oed i blant a phobl ifanc.

Yr wyf yn falch gweld y Gweinidog yn dod ag un o brif ymrwymïadau 'Cymru'n Un' i rym, sef dileu'r strwythurau marchnad ym maes iechyd. Gellid awgrymu na fu'r rhain erioed yn fwy na stori dylwyth deg yng Nghymru, oherwydd i lawer o feddygon teulu, er enghraifft, nid fu dewis erioed ond prynu gwasanaethau o unrhyw ysbyty ar wahân i'w hysbyty lleol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n dda gennyf weld y Gweinidog yn datgymalu biwrocratiaeth a fu'n gymhleth a chostus, ac yn ailganolbwyntio ar wasanaethau i gleifion. Ategaf hefyd yr hyn a ddywedwyd am yr amseru. Os ydym yn ceisio sefydlu strwythurau a fydd yn para cenhedlaeth—ac yr wyf yn siŵr mai dyna'n dyhead i gyd—gallai trefniant cysgodi fod yn fwy priodol na gosod y strwythurau ffurfiol yn eu lle fis Ebrill nesaf.

Jenny Randerson: The neutral tone of this report probably masks some significantly different positions that we may finally take on the Minister's detailed proposals, but I want to highlight key issues that this neutral report covers in general terms. The first is the model for the national board. I remind the Minister that almost all the evidence that we received in committee as well as the comments that were made to us outside committee emphasised the importance of the arm's-length relationship. I feel strongly about that. I also feel strongly that, whichever model the Minister adopts for the national board, it is crucial that patients' voices are represented on it.

I do not like to remind the Government of internal grief, but Health Commission Wales and the recent report on it provide a stark example of what can go wrong. That report highlighted as a key issue that the commission was too close to Government. It was inside Government, there were no clear lines of accountability and no clear rules on transparency.

To turn to localism, that has been a successful feature of local health boards, and, whatever comes next, Minister, you need to maintain that strong community focus and spell out how that will be implemented at the first possible opportunity. I want to emphasise the community roots and strong links with local authorities at this point. You have indicated since we did this report that you are minded to amalgamate trusts and LHBs, but I emphasise to you that that should not and must not mean the son of trusts or the new generation of trusts, whether in their structure, their personnel or their priorities, because where we have gone wrong over the years in Wales is by tilting the balance of spending towards secondary care. That has almost certainly been because the mass of targets—almost all of them—have been secondary care targets, and the money inevitably follows the targets. If we are to have the primary community-focused health service that we want, with the emphasis on prevention, more has to be spent on primary and community care. We will not get that if

Jenny Randerson: Mae'n debyg fod goslef niwtral yr adroddiad hwn yn cuddio cryn wahaniaethau yn y safbwyntiau terfynol a all fod gennym tuag at gynigion manwl y Gweinidog, ond mae arnaf eisiau tynnu sylw at faterion allweddol y mae'r adroddiad niwtral hwn yn eu cynnwys mewn termau cyffredinol. Y cyntaf yw'r model ar gyfer y bwrdd cenedlaethol. Hoffwn atgoffa'r Gweinidog fod y dystiolaeth a gawsom yn y pwyllgor yn ogystal â'r sylwadau a wnaed wrthym y tu allan i'r pwyllgor bron i gyd yn pwysleisio pwysigrwydd y berthynas hyd braich. Teimlaf yn gryf ynglŷn â hynny. Teimlaf yn gryf hefyd, pa bynnag fodel a fabwysiadir gan y Gweinidog ar gyfer y bwrdd cenedlaethol, ei bod yn hollbwysig cynrychioli lleisiau cleifion arno.

Nid wyf yn hoffi atgoffa'r Llywodraeth am adfyd mewnol, ond mae Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru a'r adroddiad diweddar arno'n darparu enghraifft noeth o'r hyn a all fynd o'i le. Problem allweddol yr oedd yr adroddiad hwnnw'n tynnu sylw ato oedd bod y comisiwn yn rhy agos at y Llywodraeth. Yr oedd y tu mewn i'r Llywodraeth; nid oedd dim llinellau atebolrwydd clir na dim rheolau clir ynghylch eglurder.

I droi at leoldeb, bu hynny'n nodwedd lwyddiannus yn y byrddau iechyd lleol, a beth bynnag a ddaw nesaf, Weinidog, mae angen ichi gadw'r ffocws cymunedol cryf hwnnw ac amlinellu sut y gweithredir hynny gynted â phosibl. Mae arnaf eisiau pwysleisio'r gwreiddiau yn y gymuned a chysylltiadau cryf ag awdurdodau lleol yn y fan hon. Yr ydych wedi awgrymu ers inni lunio'r adroddiad hwn eich bod yn ystyried uno ymddiriedolaethau a byrddau iechyd lleol, ond pwysleisiaf wrthyich na ddylech ac nad oes wiw ichi olygu cenedlaeth newydd o ymddiriedolaethau, boed o ran eu strwythur, eu personél na'u blaenoriaethau, oherwydd lle'r ydym wedi mynd ar gyfeiliorn dros y blynyddoedd yng Nghymru yw wrth ogwyddo cydbwysedd gwariant tuag at ofal eilaidd. Digwyddodd hynny bron yn sicr oherwydd bod y lliaws o dargedau—bron bob un ohonynt—wedi bod yn dargedau gofal eilaidd, ac mae'r arian yn anochel yn dilyn y targedau. Os ydym i gael y gwasanaeth iechyd cymuned-ganoledig sylfaenol yr ydym yn ei ddeisyfu, a'r pwyslais ar atal, rhaid

the same people who have been running the trusts are running the new bodies.

If we are to emphasise localism, community health councils are of key importance. To me, it is crucial that we keep the status quo in geographical terms but develop the remit, strength and resources of community health councils. There must be no amalgamations of CHCs; they need to stay at their present, very local level. They have worked at that level, and they need to be strengthened and enabled, not amalgamated and disenfranchised.

Helen Mary Jones: I agree strongly with what you have said. Do you agree that the Government should be looking to resource community health councils effectively, because they will have an enhanced role to play in protecting localism?

3.20 p.m.

Jenny Randerson: I do agree. In fact, I used the term 'resources' just now. They need to be strengthened in their resources as well as in their powers. Unless they have more staff, more powers and more money, they will not be able to do the new, bigger job that they need to do if we are to have that strong local base.

Finally, the big questions for the future for you, Minister, are not just those about where you go now in implementing the integration of health and social care in day-to-day terms or in any other future way; there is also the key issue of getting on with it while providing stability of service delivery. I already see signs of LHBs and trusts stalling on decision making. You need to give them clear guidelines that they should not do so, and you need to get on with it but without undue haste.

William Graham: It is vital that we reiterate the importance of ensuring that, with a move to fewer structures, the new organisation not only maintains a strong community focus and

gwario mwy ar ofal sylfaenol a chymunedol. Ni chawn hynny os yr un bobl a fu'n rhedeg yr ymddiriedolaethau a fydd yn rhedeg y cyrff newydd.

Os ydym i bwysleisio'r lleol, mae cynghorau iechyd cymuned o bwysigrwydd allweddol. I mi, mae'n hollbwysig inni gadw'r sefyllfa fel y mae yn nhermau daearyddol, ond gan ddatblygu cylch gwaith, cryfder ac adnoddau cynghorau iechyd cymuned. Rhaid peidio â chyfuno cynghorau iechyd cymuned; mae angen iddynt barhau ar eu lefel bresennol, leol iawn. Maent wedi gweithio ar y lefel honno, ac mae angen eu cryfhau a'u galluogi, nid eu cyfuno a'u difreinio.

Helen Mary Jones: Cytunaf yn gryf â'r hyn yr ydych wedi'i ddweud. A ydych yn cytuno y dylai'r Llywodraeth geisio darparu adnoddau i gynghorau iechyd cymuned mewn modd effeithiol, oherwydd y bydd ganddynt fwy o rôl yn gwarchod yr agwedd leol?

Jenny Randerson: Ydwyf. Yn wir, defnyddiais y term 'adnoddau' gynnu. Mae angen eu cryfhau yn eu hadnoddau'n ogystal ag yn eu pwerau. Oni chânt fwy o staff, mwy o bwerau a mwy o arian, ni fyddant yn gallu gwneud y swydd newydd, fwy y mae angen iddynt ei gwneud os ydym i gael y sylfaen leol gref honno.

Yn olaf, y cwestiynau mawr i'r dyfodol i chi, Weinidog, yw nid yn unig i ble yr ewch yn awr i weithredu integreiddio gofal iechyd a chymdeithasol o ddydd-i-ddydd neu mewn unrhyw ffordd arall yn y dyfodol; mae gennych hefyd y cwestiwn mawr o fynd ymlaen â hi tra byddwch yn darparu sefydlogrwydd wrth gyflwyno'r gwasanaeth. Gwelaf arwyddion eisoes fod byrddau iechyd lleol ac ymddiriedolaethau'n oedi gyda phenderfyniadau. Mae angen ichi roi canllawiau clir iddynt na ddylent wneud hynny, ac mae angen ichi fwrw ati ond heb frys gormodol.

William Graham: Mae'n hollbwysig inni ailddatgan pwysigrwydd sicrhau, wrth symud at lai o strwythurau, fod y corff newydd nid yn unig yn cadw ffocws cymunedol cryf a'i

its ability to link effectively with the communities that it serves, but that the emphasis on moving towards improved partnership working between the health service and local authorities is not adversely affected.

As has previously been referred to in this debate, public accountability must remain paramount. I know that the Minister is well aware of this, particularly in relation to the former speaker's comments on Health Commission Wales. Fortunately, I have great confidence in the Minister, and I am sure that this is one matter on which she will successfully reach a conclusion. However, she must acknowledge the need to hear, listen and respond to patients' individual needs, as she must acknowledge that the voluntary sector has a most important role to play in representing patients' views. It has considerable service user experience, and it can best be used to ensure responsive and appropriate organisational structures and services.

One issue that has exercised the committee in the past and the Minister in particular is that of the Royal Gwent Hospital's accident-and-emergency department. Although not referred to specifically in this report, the underlying concerns remain. I know that the local health board highlighted the continuing failure to meet the target of dealing with patients within four hours on a sustainable basis, and I acknowledge the immense capital investment made in that hospital. Can the Minister, at some appropriate point, clarify the comments of the LHB's chief executive—that lack of information on inappropriate attendance at accident and emergency makes it difficult to understand how to address this problem—with a simple answer?

Health professionals and managers, together with patients throughout south-east Wales, are also awaiting a decision on the proposed specialist and critical care centre. I acknowledge the complexity of the considerations on this specialist and critical care centre, but current levels of service and facilities require upgrading to meet stronger standards of patient care.

allu i gysylltu'n effeithiol â'r cymunedau a wasanaethir ganddo, ond nad effeithir yn andwyol ar y pwyslais ar symud tuag at well gweithio mewn partneriaeth rhwng y gwasanaeth iechyd ac awdurdodau lleol.

Fel y soniwyd gynt yn y ddadl hon, rhaid i atebolrwydd cyhoeddus fod yn bennaf o hyd. Gwn fod y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol iawn o hyn, yn enwedig yng nghyswllt sylwadau'r cyn lefarydd ar Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru. Yn ffodus, mae gennyf hyder mawr yn y Gweinidog, ac yr wyf yn siŵr fod yma un mater y daw hi i gasgliad llwyddiannus yn ei gylch. Fodd bynnag, rhaid iddi gydnabod bod angen clywed, gwrandao ac ymateb i anghenion unigol cleifion, fel y mae'n rhaid iddi gydnabod bod gan y sector gwirfoddol ran dra phwysig wrth gynrychioli llais cleifion. Mae ganddo gryn brofiad ym maes defnyddwyr gwasanaethau, a gellir ei ddefnyddio orau i sicrhau strwythurau trefniadaeth a gwasanaethau ymatebol a phriodol.

Un mater sydd wedi peri penbleth i'r pwyllgor yn y gorffennol ac i'r Gweinidog yn arbennig yw sefyllfa'r adran ddamweiniau ac achosion brys yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Gwent. Er na chyfeirir ato'n benodol yn yr adroddiad hwn, mae'r pryderon sylfaenol yn dal yno. Gwn fod y bwrdd iechyd lleol wedi tynnu sylw at y methiant parhaus i gyrraedd y targed o ddelio â chleifion cyn pen pedair awr ar sail gynaliadwy, a chydnyddaf y buddsoddiad cyfalaf aruthrol a wnaed yn yr ysbyty hwnnw. A all y Gweinidog, ar ryw bwynt priodol, egluro sylwadau prif weithredwr y bwrdd iechyd lleol—sef bod diffyg gwybodaeth am ymweliadau amhriodol â'r adran ddamweiniau ac achosion brys yn ei gwneud yn anodd deall sut i ddelio â'r broblem hon—gydag ateb syml?

Mae rheolwyr a gweithwyr iechyd proffesiynol, ynghyd â chleifion trwy'r deddwyrain i gyd, yn disgwyl ateb hefyd am y ganolfan ofal arbenigol a chritigol arfaethedig. Yr wyf yn cydnabod cymhlethdod yr ystyriaethau o'r ganolfan ofal arbenigol a chritigol hon, ond mae angen uwchraddio'r lefelau gwasanaeth a'r cyfleusterau presennol i gyrraedd safonau

cryfach o ofal i gleifion.

The committee referred to many of these things almost obliquely and, frankly, on a particularly local level. I ask therefore that more consideration be given to the measures needed to upgrade services and to confirmation that this investment will not impact detrimentally on future service provision. I know that the Minister has been somewhat exercised by complaints from Members across the Chamber regarding the present boards, but how that is resolved in the new year, hopefully, will be a measure of the success of this report and of how it has aimed certain arrows, shall we say, or at least has indicated to the Minister the way in which she should act in future.

Minister, I acknowledge your determination, and I trust that, with the support of the committee, which will no doubt scrutinise but also support your important decisions, we can make sure that we deliver, as an Assembly, the best healthcare possible within the confines of the budget.

Eleanor Burnham: Likewise, I am delighted that we have a robust Minister who I believe has a vision. I am sure that she has the authority to make this happen. As a North Wales regional Member, I am absolutely delighted that, having had the opportunity to meet and speak with many key senior players, eventually, we will have a much more coherent and clear position. After all, all we want is the best support and delivery for the patient. Patient-centred care should be uppermost in our minds, and I am sure that it is in the Minister's mind.

All the issues that Jenny Randerson mentioned are pertinent. It is extremely important that we start at the bottom end, so to speak, by looking at the community level in among all the other services, such as preventative measures, primary care, mental health services, children's services as well as the public health agenda. I trust that this will happen sensitively and in a logical manner, because I do not think that there has been much logic in the case of Health Commission Wales. I am sure that the Minister will then tackle the cost of pharmacology, rationing,

Cyfeiriodd y pwyllgor at lawer o'r pethau hyn bron wrth basio, ac i ddweud y gwir, ar lefel arbennig o leol. Gofynnaf felly am roi mwy o ystyriaeth i'r mesurau angenrheidiol i uwchraddio gwasanaethau, ac i gadarnhau na chaiff y buddsoddiad hwn effaith niweidiol ar ddarparu gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol. Gwn fod y Gweinidog wedi cael ei llethu braidd gan gwynion gan Aelodau ar draws y Siambr ynglŷn â'r byrddau presennol, ond bydd y modd y caiff hynny ei ddatrys yn y flwyddyn newydd, gobeithio, yn fesur o lwyddiant yr adroddiad hwn ac o'r modd y mae wedi anelu ambell saeth, dyweder, neu o leiaf wedi mynegi i'r Gweinidog ba ffordd y dylai hi weithredu yn y dyfodol.

Weinidog, cydnabyddaf eich penderfyniad, a hyderaf, gyda chefnogaeth y pwyllgor, a fydd, mae'n siŵr, yn craffu ar eich penderfyniadau pwysig, ond hefyd yn eu cefnogi, y gallwn wneud yn siŵr ein bod, fel Cynulliad, yn darparu'r gofal iechyd gorau posibl o fewn terfynau'r gyllideb.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf fi hefyd wrth fy modd fod gennym Weinidog cadarn a chanddi, mi gredaf, weledigaeth. Yr wyf yn siŵr fod ganddi'r awdurdod i beri i hyn ddigwydd. Fel Aelod rhanbarthol dros y Gogledd, yr wyf ar ben fy nigon, wedi cael y cyfle i gyfarfod a siarad â sawl ffigur allweddol, y bydd gennym maes o law sefyllfa lawer mwy cydlynol ac eglur. Wedi'r cwbl, y cyfan a fyynnwn yw'r gefnogaeth a'r ddarpariaeth orau i'r claf. Dylai gofal claf-ganolog fod yn flaenaf yn ein meddyliau, ac yr wyf yn siŵr ei fod ym meddwl y Gweinidog.

Mae pob mater a grybwyllodd Jenny Randerson yn berthnasol. Mae'n eithriadol o bwysig inni ddechrau ar y gwaelod, fel petai, drwy edrych ar y lefel gymunedol ymhlith yr holl wasanaethau eraill, fel dulliau ataliol, gofal sylfaenol, gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl, gwasanaethau plant yn ogystal â'r agenda iechyd cyhoeddus. Hyderaf y gwneir hyn yn sensitif ac mewn modd rhesymegol, oherwydd ni chredaf fod llawer o resymeg yn achos Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru. Yr wyf yn siŵr yr aiff y Gweinidog i'r afael wedyn â chost ffarmacoleg, dogni, ac ati. Cafwyd dadl

and so on. There was an interesting debate a few months ago at the North East Wales NHS Trust. The evening was organised by Mary Burrows, the chief executive, and members of the public came along and had a robust discussion. It was very interesting. This issue is one of the many that the Minister will deal with.

Community health councils play a key role, and I hope that, as Jenny Randerson has requested, they remain local. They will be as important as ever in ensuring that the patient agenda is met. I am sure that health and social care services will be seamless with those of the local authority as a result of all this. Therefore, Minister, I urge you to do your best, because patients particularly in north Wales are urgently in need of a robust, meaningful, and sustainable revision of their healthcare services.

Ann Jones: Most of what I would have said has already been raised by the committee members who have spoken. However, I want to add a couple more things. I voiced concerns at the outset of the introduction of local health boards back in 1999-2000, because I felt that there would be capacity issues. For most, however, I think that the LHBs have provided the service that we would expect from them—although a few have fallen short in their roles, because of capacity.

I am interested to move on the debate regarding restructuring, which will break the coterminousity with local authorities. I am also pleased that the Minister has accepted that we need to look at localism and that a strong community focus is much needed, as many have said. We have to ensure that patients understand that this restructuring should not have an effect on the delivery of their healthcare. I would be interested to see the debate about social services being removed from local government beginning quickly. It sits far better in the health portfolio, but local government should take that big step and say that it understands that, for the benefit of the people, social services should sit within the health remit.

At the very end of her contribution, the

ddiddorol ychydig fisoedd yn ôl yn Ymddiriedolaeth GIG y Gogledd-ddwyrain. Trefnwyd y noson gan Mary Burrows, y prif weithredwr, a daeth y cyhoedd yno a chael trafodaeth gref. Yr oedd yn ddiddorol iawn. Mae'r mater hwn yn un o'r llawer y bydd y Gweinidog yn delio â hwy.

Mae i gynghorau iechyd cymuned rôl allweddol, a gobeithio, fel y gofynnodd Jenny Randerson, y byddant yn parhau'n rhai lleol. Byddant cyn bwysiced ag erioed i sicrhau dilyn yr agenda cleifion. Yr wyf yn siŵr na fydd bwlch rhwng y gwasanaethau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol a gwasanaethau'r awdurdod lleol yn sgil hyn i gyd. Felly, Weinidog, fe'ch anogaf i wneud eich gorau, oherwydd mae gan gleifion, yn enwedig yn y Gogledd, ddirfawr angen am adolygiad cryf, ystyrlon a chynaliadwy o'u gwasanaethau gofal iechyd.

Ann Jones: Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r hyn y byddwn wedi'i ddweud wedi'i godi eisoes gan yr aelodau pwyllgor sydd wedi siarad. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ychwanegu un neu ddau o bethau eto. Lleisiais bryderon ar y dechrau pan gyflwynwyd byrddau iechyd lleol yn ôl ym 1999-2000, oherwydd teimlwn bod yna broblemau cynhwysedd. I'r rhan fwyaf, serch hynny, credaf fod y byrddau wedi darparu'r gwasanaeth a ddisgwyliem ganddynt—er i ychydig fethu yn eu rôl, oherwydd cynhwysedd.

Hoffwn symud ymlaen â'r ddadl ynghylch ailstrwythuro, a fydd yn torri'r cydffinio ag awdurdodau lleol. Yr wyf yn falch hefyd fod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn bod angen inni edrych ar leoldeb a bod gwir angen am ffocws cymunedol cryf, fel y mae llawer wedi ei ddweud. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod cleifion yn deall na ddylai'r ailstrwythuro hwn effeithio ar y gofal iechyd a gânt. Byddai'n dda gennyf weld y ddadl am dynnu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol oddi wrth lywodraeth leol yn dechrau'n fuan. Mae'n fwy addas o lawer yn y portffolio iechyd, ond dylai llywodraeth leol gymryd y cam mawr hwnnw a dweud ei bod yn deall y dylai gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, er lles y bobl, fod o fewn y cylch gwaith iechyd.

Ar ddiwedd ei chyfraniad, cyfeiriodd y

Minister referred to the fact that if we are looking at restructuring of the health service in Wales, as night follows day, we ought to look again at whether the current 22 local authorities that we have—without the coterminosity of health boards and with the possible removal of social services—should be looking to reduce local government units as well. It is a shame that the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government was not in the Chamber to hear that.

On the whole, the information that we received when we took evidence on this proves that, as long as we have good practice and ensure that patient care is not affected, whatever the Minister proposes will be accepted throughout Wales.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call Jonathan Morgan to reply to the debate in his capacity as Chair of the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee.

Jonathan Morgan: I thank all Members who spoke this afternoon, not just members of the committee, particularly William Graham and Eleanor Burnham. They are not members of the committee, but they take a keen interest in this matter.

In her response, the Minister mentioned how the seven NHS bodies would come about. There is still a debate to be had about where the functions of the local health boards will go. Personally, I would be happy to see secondary care transferred from the local health boards to the all-Wales commissioning board. Secondary care can be commissioned at an all-Wales level and primary care can be usefully dealt with at a local level. However, we will need to see such details when we return to this next week.

I thank the Minister for considering our suggestion about the timescale. These are big changes. It is not just about the 22 local health boards that were introduced five years ago; these are major changes. It is not just the merging of NHS trusts into supertrusts, but it is about getting rid of 22 boards and moving responsibilities between different organisations. These are absolutely huge changes, and I do not think that we can

Gweinidog at y ffaith, os ydym yn edrych ar ailstrwythuro'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru, fel y bydd nos yn dilyn dydd y dylem ofyn eto a ddylai'r 22 awdurdod lleol presennol sydd gennym—heb gydffinioldeb y byrddau iechyd a chyda phosibilrwydd symud gwasanaethau cymdeithasol—fod yn ystyried lleihau unedau llywodraeth leol hefyd. Mae'n bechod nad oedd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol yn y Siambr i glywed hynny.

Ar y cyfan, mae'r wybodaeth a roddwyd inni pan gafwyd dystiolaeth ar hyn yn profi, cyn belled ag y bydd gennym ymarfer da a sicrhau nad effeithir ar ofal cleifion, y caiff beth bynnag a gynigia'r Gweinidog ei dderbyn trwy Gymru gyfan.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf ar Jonathan Morgan i ymateb i'r ddadl yn ei swydd fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol.

Jonathan Morgan: Diolch i bob Aelod sydd wedi siarad y prynhawn yma, nid aelodau'r pwyllgor yn unig, ac yn enwedig i William Graham ac Eleanor Burnham. Nid ydynt yn aelodau o'r pwyllgor, ond maent yn ymddiddori'n fawr yn y mater hwn.

Yn ei hymateb, soniodd y Gweinidog sut y ffurfiad y saith corff GIG. Mae yna ddadl o hyd ynghylch ble yr aiff swyddogaethau'r byrddau iechyd lleol. Yn bersonol, byddwn yn hapus gweld trosglwyddo gofal eilaidd o'r byrddau iechyd lleol i fwrdd comisiynu Cymru gyfan. Gall gofal eilaidd gael ei gomisiynu ar lefel Cymru gyfan, a gellir delio'n fuddiol â gofal sylfaenol ar lefel leol. Fodd bynnag, bydd angen inni weld manylion felly pan ddychwelwn at hyn yr wythnos nesaf.

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ystyried ein hawgrym ynglŷn â'r amserlen. Mae'r rhain yn newidiadau mawr. Nid trafod y 22 o fyrddau iechyd lleol a gyflwynwyd bum mlynedd yn ôl yn unig yr ydym; mae'r rhain yn newidiadau enfawr. Mae'n fwy na chyfuno'r ymddiriedolaethau GIG yn uwchymddiriedolaethau: mae'n fater o ddileu 22 o fyrddau a symud cyfrifoldebau rhwng gwahanol sefydliadau. Mae'r rhain yn

underestimate the scale of the challenge ahead.

3.30 p.m

Nick Ramsay mentioned the role of the voluntary sector, and I know from a number of visits that I made over the summer that the voluntary sector, particularly in health and social care—those delivering palliative care and cancer services, for example—wants to be seen as the provider of services, and not just as a sector of charitable organisations. We must look at how the framework that will follow these changes will involve the voluntary sector—those people who are not just there to rattle a tin in the market square to raise money for charity, but who are raising money to pay for essential services.

Helen Mary Jones talked at some length about the role of the national board. We need to know what the national board will look like. Will it be a strategic board that drives change and manages the performance of the NHS, or will it be a stakeholder board, representing the views of interested parties? Jenny asked to what degree the board would be at arm's length. I do not believe that, in the future, it will be appropriate for the chief executive of the national health service and the head of the Minister's Department for Health and Social Services at the Assembly Government to be the same person. The current official has done a first-class job but, in the future, it would be wise to have two individuals undertaking those two distinct roles.

Helen Mary Jones mentioned the work that has been done on mental health and the question of whether we will see big changes with an all-Wales mental health trust. The Minister may know my view: I do not believe that a sufficient case has been made for an all-Wales mental health trust. We need to look at the services that are provided, at where they are provided, at who is responsible for them, and at whether an all-Wales trust would merely stigmatise those people who have a mental health condition.

newidiadau hollol anferthol, ac ni chredaf y gallwn ddibrisio maint yr her sydd o'n blaenau.

Cyfeiriodd Nick Ramsay at rôl y sector gwirfoddol, a gwn, o nifer o ymweliadau a wneuthum dros yr haf, fod y sector gwirfoddol, yn enwedig ym maes iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol—y rheini sy'n darparu gofal lliniarol a gwasanaethau canser, er enghraifft—am gael ei ystyried yn ddarparwr gwasanaethau, nid yn sector o fudiadau elusennol yn unig. Rhaid inni edrych sut y bydd y fframwaith a fydd yn dilyn y newidiadau hyn yn cynnwys y sector gwirfoddol—y bobl hynny sy'n gwneud llawer mwy na dim ond ysgwyd tun ar sgwâr y farchnad i godi arian i elusen, ond yn codi arian i dalu am wasanaethau hanfodol.

Soniodd Helen Mary Jones yn bur faith am rôl y bwrdd cenedlaethol. Mae angen inni wybod pa fath o beth fydd y bwrdd cenedlaethol. A fydd yn fwrdd strategol sy'n llywio newid a rheoli perfformiad y GIG, ynteu a fydd yn fwrdd o randdeiliaid, yn cynrychioli barn partïon sydd â diddordeb? Gofynnodd Jenny i ba raddau y byddai'r bwrdd yn fwrdd hyd braich. Ni chredaf y bydd yn briodol, yn y dyfodol, i brif weithredwr y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol a phennaeth Adran Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol y Gweinidog yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fod yr un person. Mae'r swyddog presennol wedi cyflawni ei swydd yn benigamp, ond yn y dyfodol byddai'n ddoeth cael dau unigolyn i ymgymryd â'r ddwy swyddogaeth benodol hynny.

Cyfeiriodd Helen Mary Jones at y gwaith a wnaed ym maes iechyd meddwl a'r cwestiwn a welwn newidiadau sylweddol gydag ymddiriedolaeth iechyd meddwl i Gymru-gyfan. Hwyrach fod y Gweinidog yn gwybod fy safbwynt: ni chredaf fod achos digon cryf wedi'i gyflwyno dros ymddiriedolaeth iechyd meddwl i Gymru-gyfan. Mae angen inni edrych ar y gwasanaethau a ddarperir, lle y maent yn cael eu darparu, pwy sy'n gyfrifol amdanynt, ac ai'r unig beth y byddai ymddiriedolaeth Cymru-gyfan yn ei wneud fyddai stigmatiddio'r bobl hynny sydd â

chyflwr iechyd meddwl.

Jenny Randerson referred to the role of community health councils and, having met representatives of the CHCs in Montgomery and Brecon and Radnor with the leader of the opposition, I know that there is a real concern about the pattern of CHCs and about whether the current structure will remain in place. We need flexibility, and we need to allow CHCs to develop according to local needs. If the local needs of Powys mean having two CHCs in that county, then I will be supportive of that.

William Graham talked about the involvement of patients and their opinions; that is absolutely essential. Given that the Assembly Government and Members have been highly critical of some of the service changes that followed 'Designed for Life' because of the lack of patient engagement, we need to ensure that patients are involved in future, and that their opinions are listened to. Eleanor Burnham made the same point.

I appreciate the frank view that Ann Jones expressed with regard to local health boards. I know that a large number of people in the Chamber are happy that local health boards are going; many of us disagreed with them at the outset. The Minister has now made a decision, and it is the right decision, and it will hopefully improve the way in which the NHS works in the future.

I listened with some care to Ann's comments about where social care fits in, and about whether it should come under the heading of health or local government. As a member of the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee, she knows full well that, at some point towards the end of the year, the committee will start a major review of local government's structure, performance, composition, electoral arrangements, and powers. As a committee, we will undertake a major piece of work, and no doubt Ann will make those points on health and social care when we come to do that review.

I thank all Members for their contributions.

Cyfeiriodd Jenny Randerson at rôl cynghorau iechyd cymuned, ac ar ôl cwrdd â chynrychiolwyr CICau yn Nhrefaldwyn a Brycheiniog a Maesyfed gydag arweinydd yr wrthblaid gwn fod pryder gwirioneddol ynghylch patrwm y CICau a'r cwestiwn a fydd y strwythur presennol yn parhau. Mae arnom angen hyblygrwydd, ac mae angen inni ganiatáu i CICau ddatblygu yn ôl anghenion lleol. Os yw anghenion lleol Powys yn golygu cael dau CIC yn y sir honno, yna byddaf yn cefnogi hynny.

Soniodd William Graham am gynnwys cleifion a'u barn; mae hynny'n gwbl hanfodol. Gan fod y Llywodraeth ac Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi bod yn hynod feirniadol o rai o'r newidiadau gwasanaeth a ddilynodd 'Cynllun Oes' oherwydd y methiant i gynnwys cleifion, mae angen inni sicrhau bod cleifion yn cael eu cynnwys, a bod eu safbwyntiau'n cael clust yn y dyfodol. Cododd Eleanor Burnham yr un pwynt.

Yr wyf yn gwerthfawri'r farn ddi-flewyn-ardafod gan Ann Jones ynghylch byrddau iechyd lleol. Gwn fod llawer o bobl yn y Siambr yn falch o weld byrddau iechyd lleol yn diflannu; yr oedd nifer ohonom yn anghytuno â'u creu yn y dechrau'n deg. Mae'r Gweinidog yn awr wedi gwneud penderfyniad, a hwnnw yw'r penderfyniad iawn, a'r gobaith yw y bydd yn gwella'r ffordd y mae'r GIG yn gweithio yn y dyfodol.

Gwrandewais yn weddol astud ar sylwadau Ann ynghylch lle gofal cymdeithasol yn y darlun, a'r cwestiwn a ddylai ddod dan bennawd iechyd ynteu llywodraeth leol. Fel aelod o'r Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol, gŵyr yn bendant, rywbryd adeg tua diwedd y flwyddyn, y bydd y pwyllgor yn dechrau adolygiad sylweddol o strwythur, perfformiad, cyfansoddiad, trefniadaeth etholiadol, a phwerau llywodraeth leol. Fel pwyllgor, byddwn yn cyflawni darn sylweddol o waith, a bydd Ann, yn ddi-os, yn codi'r pwyntiau hynny ynghylch iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol pan ddown at yr adolygiad hwnnw.

Diolchaf i'r holl Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau.

This has been a productive use of our time.

Yr ydym wedi defnyddio'n hamser yn gynhyrchiol

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to note the report of the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee. Does any Member object to the motion? I see that there are no objections. In accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motion is therefore agreed.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw bod adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol yn cael ei nodi. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu'r cynnig? Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad. Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives Debate

Economi Cymru The Welsh Economy

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1, 2 and 3 in the name of Kirsty Williams.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1, 2 a 3 yn enw Kirsty Williams.

David Melding: I propose that

David Melding: Cynigiad fod

the National Assembly for Wales regrets the dilatory response of the Welsh Assembly Government to the international economic crisis and the likely impacts on the Welsh economy. (NDM4005)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn gresynu wrth ymateb araf Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i'r argyfwng economaidd rhyngwladol a'r effeithiau tebygol ar economi Cymru. (NDM4005)

I will say at the outset how disappointed we are that opposition time has had to be used for this crucial subject. That is not because we are unwilling to give it—we are quite willing—but because we believe that it should have been the Welsh Assembly Government that brought forward this subject.

Carwn ddechrau drwy ddweud mor siomedig yr ydym fod amser yr wrthblaid wedi gorfod cael ei ddefnyddio i drafod y mater hollbwysig hwn. Nid oherwydd ein bod yn gyndyn o'i roi—yr ydym yn fwy na pharod—ond oherwydd ein bod yn credu mai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a ddylai fod wedi cyflwyno'n mater hwn.

We now realise that some of the economic challenges before us may be long-term challenges. A year ago, at the beginning of the credit crunch, most of us hoped that it would only last for a year—a bit like the dot com bubble—and that the economy could then return to normality. That is unfortunately not the case.

Sylwedolwn yn awr y gall rhai o'r sialensiau economaidd a wynebwn fod yn rhai tymor hir. Flwyddyn yn ôl, ar ddechrau'r wasgfa gredyd, yr oedd y rhan fwyaf ohonom yn gobeithio mai am flwyddyn yn unig y byddai'n para—fel y swigen dot com—ac y byddai'r economi wedyn yn dod hyn ôl i drefn. Yn anffodus, nid felly y bu.

Until recently, whenever we raised the issue of the worsening economic climate, the First Minister was inclined to accuse us of talking Wales into a recession. During the recess, the Chancellor candidly blurted out the truth,

Tan yn ddiweddar, bob tro y cyfeiriem at ddirywiad yn yr hinsawdd economaidd, tueddai'r Prif Weinidog i'n cyhuddo o siarad Cymru i mewn i ddirwasgiad. Yn ystod y toriad, cyffesodd y Canghellor yn onest fod

namely that this is a once-in-60-years crisis, in his view. Not to be outdone, the First Minister is reported to have said that it is worse than that and that it is the worst banking crisis since 1929. He has obviously been observing the situation first hand in the United States and has now formed that view. However, this is not really the time for levity, and I accept that. While I desperately hope that the First Minister has overreacted to the crisis—he reacted late in the day, and I hope that it is the case that he has now come forward with an overreaction—it is important that we take a realistic look at the Welsh economy, the levers that are at our disposal and at how we can take those actions that will mitigate some of the challenges that we will face. Obviously, we cannot directly control the broader macro-economic situation, but we can attempt to influence the decision makers at Westminster. However, much of it lies outside the boundaries of the Assembly's and the Welsh Assembly Government's responsibilities.

We are happy to accept the amendments. I offer a slight caveat on amendment 1, which mentions fuel poverty and the scheme to promote fuel efficiency in homes. A recent Audit Committee report on this subject states that it is particularly important to focus on homes in the private sector; many people on low incomes who are in fuel poverty occupy that part of the housing stock. We need to look at that area in particular. That said, we are happy to accept the amendments.

Unfortunately, the Welsh Assembly Government's record to date limits some of the responses that we could be making at the moment. It is the Labour Party that is broadly responsible for that, because it has led the various Governments throughout the history of devolution in Wales. We need to remind ourselves of some of the decisions that have been made and of the likely consequences of those decisions. It is accepted, even among some senior members of the Labour Party in Wales, that the private sector is too small. However, that is a late realisation, and we have been urging action in this area. Now, given the economic downturn, it will be

hwn yn argyfwng unwaith-mewn-60 mlynedd, yn ei dyb ef. A rhag cael ei adael ar ôl, adroddir i'r Prif Weinidog ddweud ei bod hi'n waeth na hynny ac mai hwn yw'r argyfwng bancio mwyaf er 1929. Mae'n amlwg iddo fod yn sylwi ar y sefyllfa yn llygad yn ffynnon yn yr Unol Daleithiau a'i fod yn awr wedi dod i'r casgliad hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n amser gwamalu yn sicr, a derbynaf hynny. Er fy mod yn taer obeithio bod y Prif Weinidog wedi gorymateb i'r argyfwng—ymatebodd yn hwyr yn y dydd, a gobeithio mai'r gwir yw ei fod yn awr yr gorymateb—mae'n bwysig inni gymryd golwg realistig ar economi Cymru, yr ysgogiadau sydd gennym at ein defnydd, a sut y gallwn gymryd y camau hynny a fydd yn lliniaru rhai o'r sialensiau a wynebwn. Yn amlwg, ni allwn reoli'r sefyllfa facro-economaid ehangach yn uniongyrchol, ond gallwn geisio dylanwadu ar y rheini sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau yn San Steffan. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o hynny y tu hwnt i derfynau cyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Yr ydym yn fodlon derbyn y gwelliannau. Cynigaf gafeat bychan yng ngwelliant 1, sy'n cyfeirio at dlodi tanwydd a'r cynllun i hyrwyddo effeithlonrwydd tanwydd mewn cartrefi. Mae adroddiad gan y Pwyllgor Archwilio yn ddiweddar ar y mater hwn yn dweud ei bod hi'n arbennig o bwysig canolbwyntio ar gartrefi yn y sector preifat; mae llawer o bobl ar incwm isel sy'n wynebu tldodi tanwydd yn byw yn y rhan honno o'r stoc dai. Mae angen inni edrych ar y maes hwnnw'n benodol. Wedi dweud hynny, yr ydym yn fodlon derbyn y gwelliannau.

Yn anffodus, mae record Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru hyd yn hyn yn cyfyngu rhai o'r ymatebion y gallem fod yn eu gwneud ar hyn o bryd. Y Blaid Lafur sy'n gyffredinol gyfrifol am hynny, gan ei bod wedi arwain amrywiol Lywodraethau yn ystod hanes datganoli yng Nghymru. Mae angen inni ein hatgoffa'n hunain o rai o'r penderfyniadau a wnaed a chanlyniadau tebygol y penderfyniadau hynny. Hyd yn oed ymhlith rhai o uwch aelodau'r Blaid Lafur yng Nghymru, derbynnir bod y sector preifat yn rhy fach. Fodd bynnag, mae hwnnw'n sylweddoliad hwyr, ac yr ydym wedi bod yn annog gweithredu yn y maes hwn. Erbyn

difficult to see growth in the private sector during such challenging times, and that will limit some of the potential that we have for the foundation of future economic growth and wealth.

Spending has not been disciplined enough. The Chancellor boasted that he was going to end boom and bust, but that has been laid bare as public borrowing is now going up and up, because he did not put money aside to pursue economic policies that would require resources in a time of a downturn.

Something similar—although I accept that it is not as direct as that—has happened in the last nine years under Labour’s stewardship in Wales, in that we have not had the maximum value for the Welsh pound in terms of public services. The Welsh Assembly Government itself recognises that, and that is why it commissioned the Beecham review, which emphasised the fact that we need to spend in a much cleverer way to get the maximum potential from public spending. Unless you spend public expenditure effectively, it is spending and not effective investment. It is investment that really fuels growth in the economy and increases the wealth base. That has not happened effectively.

In order for that to happen, as Beecham says, we need a more mixed provision in terms of delivering public policies, and that means using the independent and private sector much more than has been the case. That has not been a priority and, in fact, the reverse has been the case under the Labour Party and the various Governments that we have had here at the Assembly. Indeed, the signals to the private sector remain weak. The Business Partnership Council was the last council to get up and running—a full year after the last Assembly elections—and we still have an exclusion on private sector provision in the NHS. That is probably one of the biggest mistakes that Plaid Cymru has made—I believe that that policy is there at its insistence. It hangs around the private sector’s neck like a great incubus, and it should be removed with all due haste.

hyn, gyda’r dirywiad economaidd, bydd yn anodd gweld twf yn y sector preifat ar adeg mor anodd, a bydd hynny’n cyfyngu rhywfaint o’r potensial sydd gennym ar gyfer sylfaen twf economaidd a chyfoeth yn y dyfodol.

Nid yw gwariant wedi bod yn ddigon disgybledig. Ymffrostiodd y Canghellor ei fod yn mynd i roi terfyn ar ffyniant a methiant, ond ymffrost gwag fu hynny wrth i fenthyca cyhoeddus fynd yn uwch ac yn uwch, oherwydd na roddodd ddigon o arian o’r neilltu i weithredu polisiau economaidd a fyddai’n gofyn am adnoddau mewn cyfnod o ddirywiad.

Digwyddodd rhywbeth tebyg—er fy mod yn derbyn nad yw mor uniongyrchol â hynny—yn y naw mlynedd diwethaf dan stiwardiaeth Llafur yng Nghymru. Hynny yw, nid ydym wedi cael y gwerth gorau am y bunt Gymreig o ran gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ei hun yn cydnabod hynny, a dyna pam y comisiynodd adolygiad Beecham, a bwysleisiai’r ffaith fod angen inni wario mewn ffordd lawer clyfrach i elwa i’r eithaf ar botensial gwariant cyhoeddus. Oni wariwch wariant cyhoeddus yn effeithiol, gwario ydyw ac nid buddsoddi effeithiol. Buddsoddi sy’n wir yn tanio twf yn yr economi ac yn cynyddu’r sylfaen cyfoeth. Nid yw hynny wedi digwydd yn effeithiol.

Er mwyn i hynny ddigwydd, fel y dywed Beecham, mae angen darpariaeth fwy cymysg arnom o ran darparu polisiau cyhoeddus, a golyga hynny wneud llawer mwy o ddefnydd o’r sector annibynnol a phreifat nag sydd wedi’i wneud. Ni fu hynny’n flaenoriaeth, ac yn wir, y gwrthwyneb fu’r patrwm dan y Blaid Lafur a’r amrywiol Lywodraethau a fu yma yn y Cynulliad. Yn wir, mae’r arwyddion i’r sector preifat yn dan yn wan. Y Cyngor Partneriaeth Busnes oedd y cyngor olaf i gael ei draed oddi tano—flwyddyn gyfan ar ôl etholiadau diwethaf y Cynulliad—ac mae gennym waharddiad o hyd ar ddarpariaeth sector preifat yn y GIG. Mae’n debygol mai dyna un o gamgymeriadau mwyaf Plaid Cymru—credaf mai’r blaid honno a fynnodd gael y polisi hwnnw. Mae’n faen melin am wddf y sector preifat, a dylid ei ddileu yn ddi-

3.40 p.m.

Key infrastructure projects have also been limited by the maximum benefit possible not being gained from the private finance initiative mechanism and by the fact that some of the more key and strategic infrastructure projects that we should have made progress on by now, such as the airport access road, have not been pursued. All these things are now playing in an exaggerated fashion, given that we are in a downturn and that spending may well be much tighter. We may not even get the maximum value from investments that we have already secured, such as the Metrix investment at St Athan, because we have not laid the foundations as thoroughly as we should have in the last six, seven or eight years.

What should we do now? It is important to reflect on past failures so that we can ensure that they are not repeated, but we need to look towards the future, and see how we may navigate the rough economic waters that are almost certainly before us. We need to start by acknowledging that this crisis could last beyond 2009, into 2010. That belief is now commonplace among financial and economic commentators, whereas, even six months ago, I believe that most people were still hoping that this would be a relatively temporary downturn and crisis. I am afraid that we have to start planning for it perhaps being longer and hope that those plans will not have to be put into effect because we will see an upturn and public and commercial confidence increasing as a result of the various initiatives that have been taken by European Governments and the United States. However, we must plan for a scenario that is not as benign as that.

The Deputy First Minister must now look at this Government's whole economic development policy, because it was framed in more optimistic parameters. That was a perfectly sensible thing to have done at the time when those policies were formed, but it now seems as though the situation is going to be much more challenging. I therefore believe that he needs to review current policies comprehensively, to see whether

oed.

Cyfyngwyd prosiectau seilwaith allweddol hefyd drwy fethu â manteisio i'r eithaf ar fecanwaith menter cyllid preifat, ac oherwydd na weithredwyd rhai o'r prosiectau seilwaith mwy allweddol a strategol y dylem fod wedi eu symud yn eu blaen erbyn hyn, megis ffordd fynediad y maes awyr. Mae'r holl bethau hyn yn magu arwyddocâd gormodol yn awr, a ninnau mewn cyfnod o ddirywiad ac oherwydd y gall gwariant fod yn dynnach o lawer. Mae'n bosibl na chawn hyd yn oed y gwerth mwyaf o fuddsoddiadau yr ydym eisoes wedi'u sicrhau, megis buddsoddiad Metrix yn Sain Tathan, oherwydd inni fethu â gosod sylfeini mor drwyadl ag y dylem fod wedi ei wneud yn y chwe, saith neu wyth mlynedd diwethaf.

Beth ddylem ei wneud yn awr? Mae'n bwysig pwysu a mesur methiannau'r gorffennol er mwyn inni allu sicrhau na fyddant yn digwydd eto. Ond mae angen inni edrych tua'r dyfodol, a gweld sut y gallwn hwylio'r dyfroedd economaidd garw sydd bron yn sicr o'n blaenau. Mae angen inni ddechrau drwy gydnabod y gallai'r argyfwng hwn bara y tu hwnt i 2009, hyd at 2010. Mae'r gred honno'n gyffredin yn awr ymhlith sylwebyddion ariannol ac economaidd, er bod y rhan fwyaf o bobl, mi gredaf, hyd yn oed chwe mis yn ôl yn dal i obeithio mai dirywiad ac argyfwng cymharol dros dro fyddai hwn. Mae arnaf ofn ei bod yn rhaid inni ddechrau cynllunio ar gyfer cyfnod hwy a gobeithio na fydd yn rhaid gweithredu'r cynlluniau hynny oherwydd y byddwn yn gweld cynnydd yn hyder y cyhoedd a'r byd masnachol yn sgil yr amrywiol fentrau a wnaed gan Lywodraethau Ewropeaidd a'r Unol Daleithiau. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gynllunio ar gyfer darlun llai dymunol.

Rhaid i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn awr edrych ar bolisi datblygu economaidd y Llywodraeth hon yn ei gyfanrwydd, gan iddo gael ei lunio o fewn paramedrau mwy gobeithiol. Yr oedd hynny'n beth cwbl ddoeth i'w wneud ar y pryd, adeg ffurfio'r polisiau hynny, ond ymddengys yn awr fod y sefyllfa'n mynd i fod lawer yn fwy heriol. Credaf, felly, fod angen iddo adolygu polisiau cyfredol mewn ffordd gynhwysfawr,

they are going to be the most apposite for the times ahead. We need to identify the levers that are under our control and pursue imaginative policies in those areas, as well as redoubling our efforts in terms of our skills policy, business support, and procurement, to mention a few.

We should not lose our ambition in all this. Our ambitions can be framed differently. We are not likely to be in a period of robust economic growth, but, even in times of a downturn, you can still generate an economic advantage by responding to the situation more effectively. Then, when the upturn comes, we could have a competitive advantage compared with other regions of Britain and other areas in Europe and North America. Therefore, we need to take what we can do seriously and not give up or pursue a counsel of despair. In fact, effective economic policies are now even more urgent, given that we have to prepare for these difficult times and to take advantage when the upturn starts, and not repeat past failures when those new opportunities come.

To conclude, I will offer a few specific suggestions. I have already said that a comprehensive review, given the economic climate, is now appropriate. I hope that the First Minister will commission that and get further advice from the ministerial advisory group. When that reported and we had a statement on it—only a few months ago, in June—the First Minister did not mention the current economic crisis and the credit crunch, and he was not questioned on it either; even I pursued a relatively optimistic stance at that stage. Therefore, we were all in the same boat then, and I hope that I am not going over the top and saying that all blame can now be presented to the Deputy First Minister. Over the summer, we have discovered that these problems may last longer than we initially thought.

The Minister needs to convince his colleague Brian Gibbons to have another look at the small business rate relief scheme, perhaps to emulate the support that will be given to small and medium-sized enterprises in Scotland, where up to 100 per cent relief will

i weld ai'r rheini yw'r rhai mwyaf addas ar gyfer y dyddiau i ddod. Mae angen inni nodi'r ysgogiadau sydd dan ein rheolaeth a mynd ar drywydd polisiau creadigol yn y meysydd hynny, yn ogystal â dyblu ein hymdrechion yng nghyswllt ein polisi sgiliau, cefnogi busnes, a chaffael, i enwi rhai'n unig.

Ni ddylem aberthu ein huchelgais yn hyn i gyd. Gellir fframio ein huchelgeisiau'n wahanol. Nid ydym yn debygol o fod mewn cyfnod o dwf economaidd cadarn, ond hyd yn oed mewn cyfnod o ddirywiad gallwch barhau i gynhyrchu mantais economaidd drwy ymateb yn fwy effeithiol i'r sefyllfa. Yna, pan ddaw'r cynnydd, gallai fod gennym fantais gystadleuol o'n cymharu â gwledydd eraill Prydain ac ardaloedd eraill yn Ewrop a'r Unol Daleithiau. Felly, mae angen inni gymryd yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud o ddifrif a pheidio â rhoi'r ffidil yn y to neu adrodd pregeth anobaith. Yn wir, mae polisiau economaidd effeithiol yn bwysicach heddiw nag erioed, a ninnau'n gorfod paratoi ar gyfer y cyfnod anodd hwn a manteisio pan fydd y cynnydd yn dechrau, a pheidio ag ailadrodd methiannau'r gorffennol pan ddaw'r cyfleoedd newydd hynny.

I gloi, cynigïaf rai awgrymiadau penodol. Dywedais eisoes fod adolygiad cynhwysfawr yn briodol yn awr, yn wyneb yr hinsawdd economaidd. Gobeithio y bydd y Prif Weinidog yn comisiynu hynny ac yn cael cyngor pellach gan y grŵp cynghori gweinidogion. Pan adroddodd hwnnw a phan gawsom ddatganiad amdano—ychydig fisoedd yn ôl, ym mis Mehefin—ni chyfeiriodd y Prif Weinidog at yr argyfwng economaidd presennol a'r wasgfa gredyd, ac ni chafodd ei holi amdano ychwaith; yr oedd gennyf fi, hyd yn oed, agwedd bur obeithiol ar y pryd. Felly, yr oeddem i gyd yn yr un cwch bryd hynny. Gobeithio nad wyf yn gorddweud gan roi'r bai i gyd yn awr ar y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog. Dros yr haf, yr ydym wedi gweld y gall y problemau hyn bara'n hwy nag a gredem ar y cychwyn.

Mae angen i'r Gweinidog ddwyn perswâd ar ei gyd-Weinidog Brian Gibbons i edrych o'r newydd ar y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi busnesau bach, efallai i efelychu'r gefnogaeth a roddir i fusnesau bach a chanolig yn yr Alban, lle rhoir rhyddhad hyd at 100 y cant i

be provided for businesses with a rateable value of up to £8,000. That is massively more ambitious than our scheme. The housing mortgage relief scheme needs to be reviewed to see whether it is likely to meet the challenges that we may face in a year's time if credit is still very restricted.

fusnesau sydd â gwerth trethiannol hyd at £8,000. Mae hynny'n fwy uchelgeisiol o lawer na'n cynllun ni. Mae angen adolygu'r cynllun rhyddhad morgaeisi tai i weld a yw'n debygol o fodloni'r sialensiau y gallwn eu hwynebu ymhen blwyddyn os bydd credyd yn dal yn gyfyngedig iawn.

Skills is an important area of policy. We need to identify what skills employers and employees will need when economic circumstances improve, and ensure that we are upskilling people ready for that upturn. We need a better procurement policy and much more private sector involvement in the delivery of public services. We also need more effective use of structural funds. I do not have time to talk at length about that now, but that area will be important for our poorest communities. We must take maximum advantage of those funds. There is no magic bullet, but we do not need to throw our arms in the air and despair; many of the levers are here and we can use them imaginatively, and that is truly our most urgent responsibility.

Mae sgiliau'n faes polisi pwysig. Mae angen inni nodi pa sgiliau y bydd ar gyflogwyr a gweithwyr eu hangen pan fydd amgylchiadau economaidd yn gwella, a sicrhau ein bod yn cynyddu sgiliau pobl yn barod ar gyfer y cynnydd. Mae arnom angen gwell polisi caffael a llawer mwy o ymgysylltu â'r sector preifat wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Mae angen defnyddio cronfeydd strwythurol hefyd lawer yn fwy effeithiol. Nid oes gennyf amser i siarad yn faith am hynny'n awr, ond bydd y maes hwnnw'n bwysig i'n cymunedau tlotaf. Rhai inni fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y cronfeydd hynny. Nid oes bwled hud, ond nid oes angen inni ildio ac anobeithio; mae llawer o'r liferi yma, a gallwn eu defnyddio gyda dychymyg, a hynny yn wir yw ein cyfrifoldeb mwyaf taer.

Kirsty Williams: I propose the following amendments in my name. Amendment 1: add a new point at the end of the motion:

Kirsty Williams: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn fy enw i. Gwelliant 1: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to respond to the international economic crisis in such a way that will mitigate the effects on the people of Wales, by refocusing the home energy efficiency scheme so that it targets the fuel poor.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ymateb i'r argyfwng economaidd rhyngwladol mewn ffordd a fydd yn lliniaru'r effeithiau ar bobl Cymru, drwy newid ffocws y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref er mwyn iddo dargedu'r rheini sy'n dlawd o ran tanwydd.

Amendment 2: add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 2: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to respond to the international economic crisis in such a way that will mitigate the effects on the people of Wales, by improving advice and support to those in danger of losing their home.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ymateb i'r argyfwng economaidd rhyngwladol mewn ffordd a fydd yn lliniaru'r effeithiau ar bobl Cymru, drwy wella'r cyngor a'r gefnogaeth i'r rheini sydd mewn perygl o golli eu cartref.

Amendment 3: add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 3: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i

respond to the international economic crisis in such a way that will mitigate the effects on the people of Wales, by prioritising investment in public transport to ensure that, as fuel prices continue to rise, there is a viable alternative to the car.

I thank David Melding and the Conservatives for tabling this debate. Without doubt, the British economy is facing a growing crisis and the financial panic that we have witnessed over the past week is unprecedented in my lifetime, and probably the worst since the great depression. The dimensions of the credit crunch are complex and wide-ranging, and it would be wrong to say that the Government in London, let alone the Government in Cardiff, is responsible and to blame. This is an international crisis and it will require international responses.

However, ability to respond to the situation has been compromised by the Labour Government in London which, as David said, proudly proclaimed an end to boom and bust, but has presided over a period of a massive growth in personal debt and a City-boy culture of gambling with other people's money that has destroyed many people's trust in our financial institutions, and culminated last year in queues around the branches of Northern Rock and the hastily-scrambled deal to save HBOS this year.

While Hank Paulson does his best to persuade the United States Congress to back his multi-trillion dollar plan, we must focus our work in the Assembly on what we can do within our powers and sphere of influence to take steps to defend Welsh workers and families. Welsh jobs have already been lost, confidence levels among Welsh businesses are low, and plans for investment and recruitment have either been scaled back radically or shelved altogether. That comes on the back of a long history of the Welsh economy, personal prosperity and skills levels propping up many of the league tables. This year, our gross value added per capita figure of 77 per cent of the UK average is the lowest in comparison to the rest of the UK

ymateb i'r argyfwng economaidd rhyngwladol mewn ffordd a fydd yn lliniaru'r effeithiau ar bobl Cymru, drwy flaenoriaethu buddsoddiad mewn trafniadaeth gyhoeddus i sicrhau, wrth i brisiau tanwydd godi, bod dewisiadau ymarferol ar gael yn hytrach na'r car.

Diolch i David Melding a'r Ceidwadwyr am gyflwyno'r ddatl hon. Yn ddiamau, mae economi Prydain yn wynebu argyfwng cynyddol ac yn ystod fy oes i ni welwyd y panig ariannol y buom yn dyst iddo dros yr wythnos hon. Mae'n debyg mai dyma'r gwaethaf ers y dirwasgiad mawr. Mae dimensiynau'r wasgfa gredyd yn gymhleth ac yn amrywiol iawn, a byddai'n anghywir dweud mai'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain, heb sôn am y Llywodraeth yng Nghaerdydd, sy'n gyfrifol ac ar fai. Mae hwn yn argyfwng rhyngwladol a bydd gofyn am ymatebion rhyngwladol.

Er hynny, mae'r gallu i ymateb i'r sefyllfa wedi ei roi yn y fantol gan y Llywodraeth Lafur yn Llundain, llywodraeth a gyhoeddodd yn falch, fel y dywedodd David, y byddai diwedd ar ffyniant a dirwasgiad. Ond mae wedi llywyddu dros gyfnod o dwf aruthrol mewn dyledion personol a diwylliant bechgyn y Ddinas o hapchwarae ag arian pobl eraill, rhywbeth sydd wedi dinistrio ymddiriedaeth llawer o bobl yn ein sefydliadau ariannol, ac a gyraeddodd ei anterth y llynedd gyda'r ciwiau o amgylch canghennau Northern Rock a'r ddêl a luniwyd ar frys i achub HBOS eleni.

Tra mae Hank Paulson yn gwneud ei orau i ddarbwyllo Cyngres yr Unol Daleithiau i gefnogi ei gynllun aml-driliwn o ddoleri, rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ein gwaith ni yn y Cynulliad ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud o fewn ein pwerau a chwmpas ein dylanwad i gymryd camau i amddiffyn gweithwyr a theuluoedd Cymru. Mae swyddi eisoes wedi'u colli yng Nghymru, mae lefelau hyder ymhlith busnesau Cymru yn isel, ac mae cynlluniau i fuddsoddi neu recriwtio naill ai wedi eu cwtogi'n aruthrol ynteu wedi eu rhoi o'r neilltu'n gyfan gwbl. Daw hyn yn sgil hanes hir lle mae economi Cymru, ffyniant personol a lefelau sgiliau yn cynnal llawer o'r tablau cynghrair. Eleni, ein ffigur gwerth ychwanegol crynswth y pen ni o 77 y cant o

since 1989.

As David said, previous calls from the opposition side for the Government to acknowledge the growing crisis and to outline the action that it would take have been met with name-calling. We were told that we were talking Wales down, scaremongering and prophets of doom. However, the Government must now acknowledge that this is not a blip—this problem will not go away overnight; we are facing a prolonged period of instability and our economic development plans must be amended in that light. David has outlined many of the ways in which the Assembly Government could begin to address the challenges by looking again at some of that work.

However, it is not just in relation to economic development that we need to take steps. In our other spheres of work, we need to refocus the Government's efforts on assisting individuals and families. Never has it been harder to make the budget stretch from pay cheque to pay cheque in order to pay for that trolley of groceries at the supermarket or, more worryingly, to turn on your central heating—if you have central heating to turn on, that is. Thus the amendments that we have tabled to the motion. For the first time in my political life, I am dealing with a steady stream of families who are in danger of having their homes repossessed; thankfully, I have not had to deal with that over the past nine years. In June of this year, the Welsh Liberal Democrats tabled a motion that highlighted the fact that repossessions had increased by 26 per cent.

3.50 p.m.

I acknowledge that the Deputy Minister for Housing has announced her plans for how she hopes to deal with this, but we have to consider whether the money that has been set aside will meet the demands that will be placed upon the system. I think that even the Deputy Minister for Housing will acknowledge that there are some players in the field that are not being as proactive as

fffigur cyfartalog y DU yw'r isaf o'i gymharu â gweddill y DU er 1989.

Fel y dywedodd David, yr ymateb i alwadau blaenorol gan y gwrthbleidiau am i'r Llywodraeth gydnabod yr argyfwng cynyddol ac amlinellu'r camau y byddai'n eu cymryd oedd galw enwau. Dywedwyd wrthym ein bod yn dilorni Cymru, yn codi bwganod ac yn broffwydi tranc. Er hynny, rhaid i'r Llywodraeth yn awr gydnabod nad gwyriad bach dros dro yw hwn—ni fydd y broblem hon yn diflannu dros nos; yr ydym yn wynebu cyfnod hirfaith o ansefydlogrwydd, a rhaid i'n cynlluniau datblygu economaidd gael eu diwygio oherwydd hynny. Mae David wedi amlinellu llawer ffordd y gallai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ddechrau rhoi sylw i'r sialensiau drwy edrych drachefn ar ryw gymaint o'r gwaith hwnnw.

Er hynny, nid mewn cysylltiad â datblygu economaidd yn unig y mae angen inni weithredu. Yn ein cylchoedd gwaith eraill, mae angen inni ail-ganolbwyntio ymdrechion y Llywodraeth ar gynorthwyo unigolion a theuluoedd. Ni fu erioed mor anodd gwneud i'r gyllideb ymestyn o un siec gyflog i'r llall i dalu am lond cert o fwyd yn yr archfarchnad neu, fel sy'n peri mwy o bryder, i allu tanio'ch gwres canolog—os oes gennych wres canolog i'w danio, hynny yw. Dyma pam yr ydym wedi cyflwyno gwelliannau i'r cynnig. Am y tro cyntaf yn fy mywyd gwleidyddol, yr wyf yn delio gyda llif cyson o deuluoedd sydd mewn perygl o golli eu cartrefi; diolch byth, ni fu'n rhaid imi ddelio â hynny dros y naw mlynedd diwethaf. Ym Mehefin eleni, cyflwynodd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru gynnig a oedd yn tynnu sylw at y ffaith fod achosion o adfeddiannu wedi cynyddu 26 y cant.

Yr wyf yn cydnabod bod y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai wedi cyhoeddi ei chynlluniau sut y mae'n gobeithio delio â hyn, ond rhaid inni ystyried a fydd yr arian a neilltuwyd yn bodloni'r galw a fydd ar y system. Yr wyf yn credu y bydd y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai hyd yn oed yn cydnabod bod rhai chwaraewyr yn y maes nad ydynt mor rhagweithiol ag y gallent i sicrhau bod yr

they could be in ensuring that that money goes to help people to stay in their homes and avoid becoming homeless.

Access to advice has to be considered. At a time when people need them most, advice services in my constituency are in danger of folding. The home energy efficiency scheme has been reviewed again and again, but the fact is that it does not address the needs of the fuel poor. It has helped a great many people, but it has not been effective in getting people out of fuel poverty and helping those who most need help. In rural counties in recent months we have lost out on transport grant. The very areas where it is more expensive to travel around, given the prices at the petrol pumps, are those that have seen grants for public transport services being cut. In my constituency, in Pembrokeshire, and in other rural areas, councils are cutting back on bus services rather than investing in them.

I hope that the Government will today acknowledge the seriousness of the situation that we face, will support the Liberal Democrat amendments and, more importantly, will outline what steps it will take to protect Welsh jobs and to help Welsh families.

Angela Burns: I am grateful for the opportunity to take part in this important debate. It beggars belief that, despite written and oral requests, the Government has chosen not to debate the economic crisis in its own time.

Having previously denied that there was a crisis, the First Minister is now of the opinion that the economic crisis is understated. I know from my mail bag and conversations with my constituents that there is no understatement among the public about how bad things are, and of the real fear about how bad things might become. For example, there is the shopkeeper in Narberth who has had almost a dozen bounced cheques in the last few months, the welder in Pembroke Dock who has been laid off and cannot find another job, and the tax officer in Carmarthen who knows that he is under threat of redundancy.

arian hwnnw'n mynd i helpu pobl i aros yn eu cartrefi ac i osgoi bod yn ddirgaref.

Rhaid ystyried gallu cael cyngor. Ar adeg pan fydd ar bobl eu hangen fwyaf, mae'r gwasanaethau cynghori yn fy etholaeth mewn perygl o fynd i'r wal. Cafodd y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref ei adolygu dro ar ôl tro, ond y ffaith yw nad yw'n mynd i'r afael ag anghenion pobl sy'n dlawd o ran tanwydd. Mae wedi helpu nifer fawr o bobl, ond nid yw wedi bod yn effeithiol i godi pobl allan o dlodi tanwydd nac i helpu'r rheini y mae arnynt fwyaf o angen help. Mewn siroedd gwledig dros y misoedd diwethaf yr ydym wedi colli allan ar grant trafniadaeth. Yr union ardaloedd lle mae'n ddrutach teithio, o gofio'r prisiau wrth y pypiau petrol, yw'r rheini lle cwtogwyd y grantiau ar gyfer gwasanaeth cludiant cyhoeddus. Yn fy etholaeth i, yn sir Benfro, ac mewn ardaloedd gwledig eraill, mae cynghorau'n cwtogi gwasanaethau bysiau yn hytrach na buddsoddi ynddynt.

Gobeithio y bydd y Llywodraeth heddiw'n cydnabod difrifoldeb y sefyllfa a wynebwn, yn cefnogi gwelliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ac yn anad dim yn amlinellu pa gamau y bydd yn eu cymryd i amddiffyn swyddi yng Nghymru ac i helpu teuluoedd Cymru.

Angela Burns: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl bwysig hon. Mae'n anhygoel fod y Llywodraeth, er gwaethaf ceisiadau ysgrifenedig ac ar lafar, wedi dewis peidio â thrafod yr argyfwng economaidd yn ei hamser ei hun.

Ar ôl gwadu gynt fod yna argyfwng, mae'r Prif Weinidog yn awr o'r farn fod yr argyfwng economaidd yn cael ei danddatgan. Gwn ar sail fy sach bost ac ar sail fy sgysiau â'm etholwyr nad oes dim tanddatgan ymhlith y cyhoedd pa mor wael yw pethau, ac ofn gwirioneddol pa mor wael all pethau fynd. Er enghraifft, beth am y perchennog siop yn Arberth a gafodd bron i ddwsin o sieciau'n bownsio yn y mis diwethaf, y weldiwr yn Noc Penfro a gollodd ei waith ac sy'n methu cael swydd arall, a'r swyddog treth yng Nghaerfyrddin sy'n gwybod ei fod yn wynebu bygythiad dileu swyddi. Mae pobl

People have a reasonable expectation that there should be opportunity and a degree of protection from the global winds of fortune.

However, over the last 10 years, when Gordon Brown thought that he was married to prudence, prudence did not even know that she was in a relationship. We have nothing in the UK coffers and I know that this Labour-Plaid coalition cannot erect a fiscal short-term interventionist umbrella over Wales. However, the Welsh administration can take action to mitigate Darling's plan, which is, essentially, to let borrowing rise and the nation's debt soar. It concerns me that there seems to be precious little planning. What exactly will you do, apart from blaming hedge funds, when it was the Government and the Bank of England that got it so wrong by allowing such a loose policy? Let us be honest, rising house prices suited the Government, with all that lovely stamp duty.

I promised you some terms ago, Minister, that when I stood up to speak about the economy I would try to be constructive. Therefore, here are some ideas, because I do not hear very many from the Government. Let us lobby Westminster to lengthen mortgage terms. Let us review the convergence funds and get on and spend the money on our infrastructure. Let us keep all of those builders and plumbers in work. Let us stop the blockage from red tape, and let us make the civil servants move, because action has to be taken now. Let us bring back training and enterprise councils, which played a vital role in addressing the training needs of Wales while helping businesses to work with colleges and other training bodies. According to Robert Huggins, a professor of economic development at the University of Sheffield, the abolishment of training and enterprise councils has had a detrimental effect on the Welsh economy.

Let us increase spending on business enterprise, research and development. In Wales, our business enterprise, research and development expenditure is down by over 7 per cent in real terms. We need to spend more. Let us overhaul enterprise education in schools. Let us bring together businesses, specialist providers and teachers. That model

yn disgwyl, yn rhesymol, y dylai fod cyfle ynghyd â rhyw raddau o amddiffyn rhag gwyntoedd byd-eang ffawd.

Er hynny, dros y 10 mlynedd diwethaf, pan gredai Gordon Brown ei fod wedi priodi gochelgarwch, ni wyddai gochelgarwch ei bod mewn perthynas. Nid oes gennym ddim yng nghoffrau'r DU, a gwn na all y glymblaid Lafur-Plaid hon godi ymbarél ymyrryd ariannol tymor byr dros Gymru. Er hynny, gall gweinyddiaeth Cymru weithredu i liniaru cynllun Darling, sef, yn ei hanfod, gadael i fenthyca gynyddu ac i ddyled y wlad godi i'r entychion. Mae'n peri pryder imi mai ychydig iawn o gynllunio a welir. Beth yn union a wnewch, heblaw beio cronfeydd gwarchod pan mai camgymeriad dybryd ar ran y Llywodraeth a Banc Lloegr oedd caniatáu polisi mor rhydd? Gadewch inni fod yn onest, yr oedd prisiau cynyddol tai yn plesio'r Llywodraeth, gyda'r holl dreth stamp fendigedig honno.

Addewais ichi rai tymhorau'n ôl, Weinidog, y byddwn wrth godi i siarad am yr economi yn ceisio bod yn adeiladol. Felly, dyma rai syniadau, oherwydd ni chlywaf lawer iawn gan y Llywodraeth. Gadewch inni lobïo San Steffan ac ymestyn cyfnodau morgesi. Gadewch inni adolygu'r arian cydgyfeirio a bwrw ymlaen i wario'r arian ar ein seilwaith. Gadewch inni gadw'r holl adeiladwyr a'r plymwyr hynny mewn gwaith. Gadewch inni atal rhwystrau biwrocratiaeth, a gadewch inni wneud i'r gweithwyr sifil symud, oherwydd rhaid gweithredu'n awr. Gadewch inni ddod â chynghorau hyfforddiant a menter yn ôl; yr oedd ganddynt rôl hanfodol mewn rhoi sylw i anghenion hyfforddiant Cymru gan helpu busnesau i weithio gyda cholegau a chyrrff hyfforddi eraill. Yn ôl Robert Huggins, athro datblygu economaidd ym Mhrifysgol Sheffield, mae diddymu cynghorau hyfforddiant a menter wedi cael effaith andwyol ar economi Cymru.

Gadewch inni gynyddu'r gwariant ar fenter busnes, ymchwil a datblygu. Yng Nghymru, mae ein gwariant ar fenter busnes, ymchwil a datblygu wedi gostwng dros 7 y cant mewn termau real. Mae angen inni wario rhagor. Gadewch inni archwilio addysg fenter mewn ysgolion. Gadewch inni ddwyn busnesau, darparwyr arbenigol ac athrawon ynghyd.

has worked well in Norway, where a great many schools have a business operating from out of the school so that children grow up understanding business and have that entrepreneurial spirit of wanting to go out and do it.

Let us create a single web-based business information service. That does not need to take a long time to put together. The service could supply impartial and independent advice and support, and it would oblige every Government department, agency and regulator to ensure that all relevant information and regulatory documents for new and established businesses were available. Let us close the higher education funding gap—I will say no more on that. Let us increase the small business rate relief scheme; I believe that David already mentioned that. Why not look at spreading, and how we can increase the number of people who are employed? How can we incentivise companies to recruit and retain more staff? There have been schemes in other countries in the past whereby companies were paid to recruit and retain staff, and that has worked because companies then had trained workforces available for the upturn. However, you need to help on the other side of the coin by helping the market to develop, by investing in the web, broadband and the internet. Let us get it out there so that people can do the business and access markets that are not part of Wales or the rest of the United Kingdom. Above all, we need to take action now because there are torrid times ahead for us. We need to help our country, and it needs the help today, not in two years' time.

Alun Davies: Having listened to that speech, I find it difficult to know where to start. Over the past 18 months, and perhaps particularly over the past few weeks, we have seen one of the most extraordinary periods of turmoil and chaos in a financial market in our lifetimes. Following 18 months of financial turmoil, if I had had to choose a subject for debate this afternoon I would also have chosen the economy, because there is no period during our political lifetimes that has demonstrated more the strength of Gordon Brown as Prime

Mae'r model hwnnw wedi gweithio'n dda yn Norwy, lle mae gan nifer fawr o ysgolion fusnes yn gweithio o'r ysgol er mwyn i blant dyfu gan ddeall busnes a meddu ar yr ysbryd entrepreneuriaidd hwnnw o fod eisiau mynd allan a gwneud busnes.

Gadewch inni greu un gwasanaeth gwybodaeth fusnes ar y we. Nid oes angen i hwnnw gymryd amser maith i'w sefydlu. Gallai'r gwasanaeth gynnig cefnogaeth a chynghor annibynnol a diduedd, a byddai'n gorfodi pob adran, asiantaeth a chorff rheoleiddio'r Llywodraeth i sicrhau bod yr holl ddogfennau rheoleiddio a'r wybodaeth berthnasol i fusnesau newydd a'r rheini sydd wedi sefydlu ar gael. Gadewch inni gau'r bwlch cyllido mewn addysg uwch—nid wyf am ymhelaethu am hynny. Gadewch inni gynyddu'r cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach; credaf fod David wedi crybwyll hynny eisoes. Pam nad edrychwn ar ehangu, a sut y gallwn gynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n gyflogedig? Sut y gallwn roi cymhellion i gwmnïau er mwyn iddynt recriwtio a chadw mwy o staff? Bu cynlluniau mewn gwledydd eraill yn y gorffennol a oedd yn talu cwmnïau i recriwtio a chadw staff, ac mae hynny wedi gweithio oherwydd yr oedd gan y cwmnïau wedyn weithluoedd wedi eu hyfforddi ar gael ar gyfer y cynnydd. Er hynny, mae angen i chi helpu ar ochr arall y geiniog drwy helpu'r farchnad i ddatblygu, drwy fuddsoddi yn y we, mewn band eang ac yn y rhyngwryd. Gadewch inni ei sefydlu allan yn y maes fel y gall pobl wneud y busnes a chael mynediad i farchnadoedd nad ydynt yn rhan o Gymru na gweddill y Deyrnas Unedig. Yn anad dim, mae angen inni weithredu'n awr oherwydd mae amseroedd anodd iawn o'n blaenau. Mae angen inni helpu ein gwlad, ac mae arni angen help heddiw, nid ymhen dwy flynedd.

Alun Davies: Ar ôl gwrandao ar yr araith honno, mae'n anodd gwybod ble i ddechrau. Dros y 18 mis diwethaf, ac efallai yn enwedig dros yr wythnosau diwethaf, yr ydym wedi gweld un o'r cyfnodau mwyaf eithriadol o gythrwfl ac anhrefn erioed yn y farchnad ariannol. Ar ôl 18 mis o gythrwfl ariannol, pe byddai'n rhaid imi fod wedi dewis testun i'w drafod y prynhawn yma byddwn i hefyd wedi dewis yr economi, oherwydd nid oes yr un cyfnod yn ystod ein bywydau gwleidyddol sydd wedi dangos

Minister and the weakness of the Conservative opposition than the past few weeks. Think of the way in which the HBOS and Northern Rock issues have been handled and the silence that we have heard from the Conservative opposition. We have seen investors panicking, markets crashing, banks collapsing and regulators running out of doors to stitch together rescue packages. Across the world, we have seen politicians stitching together some of the most audacious financial rescues in living memory. While Gordon Brown has led an internationally applauded response to this crisis, where is David Cameron? Is he still on his boat in the Mediterranean? The reality is that we have heard David Cameron talk more about Alun Cairns than about responses to the financial crises of the past few weeks. Perhaps he has heeded the lessons of the past. Angela Burns would pretend that Oliver Letwin never existed, but there was a time when he was in a Conservative Government. After leaving the Government, he conceded:

‘We made the most dreadful mistakes ... we did many other things of which we are deeply ashamed’.

It is little wonder that David Cameron is saying so little at the moment, and that silence is deafening.

Nick Bourne: Will the Member give way?

Alun Davies: No, I am not going to give way at the moment.

We have had two years during which we have seen every public relations trick in the book employed to promote the Tories’ views. We have seen David Cameron washing up, cycling to work and at the North Pole, but we have seen nothing in response to what has happened over the past few weeks and months.

Nick Bourne: You said, two and a quarter minutes into your speech, that you would have chosen this subject for debate, so I am wondering when you are going to mention the word ‘economy’ or anything to do with it.

mwy o gryfder Gordon Brown fel Prif Weinidog a gwendid gwrthblaid y Ceidwadwyr na’r wythnosau diwethaf. Ystyriwch y ffordd y deliwyd â phroblemau HBOS a Northern Rock a’r tawelwch oddi wrth wrthblaid y Ceidwadwyr. Gwelsom fuddsoddwyr mewn panig, marchnadoedd yn cwmpo, banciau’n dymchwel a chyrrff rheoleiddio’n rhedeg allan i wno pecynnau achub ynghyd. Ar draws y byd, gwelsom wleidyddion yn gwnio ynghyd rai o’r cynlluniau achub ariannol mwyaf beiddgar mewn cof. A thra mae Gordon Brown wedi arwain ymateb i’r argyfwng hwn sy’n cael ei gymeradwyo’n rhyngwladol, ble mae David Cameron? A yw ar ei gwch ar Fôr y Canoldir o hyd? Y gwirionedd yw ein bod wedi clywed David Cameron yn siarad mwy am Alun Cairns nag am ymatebion i argyfwng ariannol yr wythnosau diwethaf. Efallai ei fod wedi dysgu gwersi’r gorffennol. Byddai Angela Burns yn cymryd arni nad yw Oliver Letwin wedi bdoli erioed, ond yr oedd adeg pan oedd ef mewn Llywodraeth Geidwadol. Ar ôl gadael y Llywodraeth, cyfaddefodd:

Gwnaethom y camgymeriadau mwyaf echrhydus ... gwnaethom lawer o bethau eraill y mae gennym gywilydd mawr ohonynt.

Nid yw’n syndod fod David Cameron yn dweud cyn lleied ar y funud, ac mae’r tawelwch hwnnw’n fyddarol.

Nick Bourne: A wnaiff yr Aelod ildio?

Alun Davies: Na, nid wyf am ildio ar hyn o bryd.

Cawsom ddwy flynedd pan welsom ddefnyddio pob tric cysylltiadau cyhoeddus sydd mewn bod er mwyn hyrwyddo safbwyntiau’r Toriaid. Gwelsom David Cameron yn golchi llestri, yn beicio i’r gwaith ac ym Mhegwn y Gogledd, ond ni welsom ddim i ymateb i’r hyn sydd wedi digwydd dros yr wythnosau a’r misoedd diwethaf.

Nick Bourne: Ddwy funud a chwarter ar ôl dechrau eich araith dywedech y byddech wedi dewis y testun hwn i’w drafod, felly, yr wyf yn dyfalu tybed pryd yr ydych am grybwyll y gair ‘economi’ neu unrhyw beth yn ymwneud ag ef.

Alun Davies: You may not appreciate this, but the financial markets are quite important in the economy. We will take it from there. What David Cameron said in response to the Lloyds TSB merger was:

‘The situation in the financial markets is very serious.’

That is an impressive analysis. Fair play to the boy.

‘We support the merger of Lloyds TSB and HBOS ... We will support measures that will stabilise the banking system.’

He supported the Government line. What did David Cameron say about short-selling? He said,

‘market abuse is not acceptable, but we must tackle the causes of this crisis’.

Again, that is the Government line.

Eleanor Burnham: Will the Member take an intervention?

Alun Davies: Not on this occasion.

What about the suspension of competition rules? He said,

‘the test must be what’s in the public interest.’

Again, that is the Government line. At least he is consistent. When asked how he would respond to the crisis, he said that:

‘Anything the Prime Minister and the Government do to help will have my full support.’

Well, that is impressive stuff. Can you imagine this bunch in Government? They would have to go back to Gordon Brown to ask him what they should be doing to handle any financial crisis. We have learned that the reality is that they will do nothing to help the ordinary people and families of Wales. David

Alun Davies: Efallai nad ydych yn sylweddoli hyn, ond mae'r marchnadoedd ariannol yn eithaf pwysig i'r economi. Awn ni â'r mater yn ei flaen o hyn ymlaen. Yr hyn a ddywedodd David Cameron mewn ymateb i uno Lloyds TSB oedd:

Mae'r sefyllfa yn y marchnadoedd ariannol yn ddifrifol iawn.

Mae hwnnw'n ddadansoddiad aruthrol. Chwarae teg i'r bachgen.

Yr ydym yn cefnogi uno Lloyds TSB a HBOS ... Yr ydym yn cefnogi mesurau a fydd yn sefydlogi'r system fancio.

Yr oedd yn cefnogi llinell y Llywodraeth. Beth a ddywedodd David Cameron am ragwerthu? Meddai,

nid yw'n dderbyniol camddefnyddio'r farchnad, ond rhaid inni fynd i'r afael ag achosion yr argyfwng hwn.

Unwaith eto, llinell y Llywodraeth yw honno.

Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff yr Aelod gymryd ymyriad?

Alun Davies: Nid y tro hwn.

Beth am atal y rheolau cystadleuaeth? Meddai,

y prawf yn ddiamau yw'r hyn sydd o les i'r cyhoedd.

Unwaith eto, llinell y Llywodraeth yw honno. O leiaf mae'n gyson. Pan ofynnwyd sut y byddai'n ymateb i'r argyfwng, meddai:

Bydd unrhyw beth a wnaiff y Prif Weinidog a'r Llywodraeth i helpu yn cael fy nghefnogaeth lwyr.

Wel, dyna ichi eiriau aruthrol. A allwch ddychmygu'r criw hwn yn y Llywodraeth? Byddai'n rhaid iddynt fynd yn ôl at Gordon Brown i ofyn iddo beth y dylent fod yn ei wneud i ddelio ag unrhyw argyfwng ariannol. Yr ydym wedi dysgu mai'r realiti yw na fyddant yn gwneud dim i helpu pobl a

Melding talked about the levers of power that we have here. Before the recess, he was arguing that the Assembly Government had a very limited role to play. It is the same Conservative do-nothing approach.

David Melding: Will the Member take an intervention?

Alun Davies: I am sorry, but I will not on this occasion. I cannot give way at the moment.

4.00 p.m.

We know that the Tories are tied to City and corporate interests and that those are their priorities. We have seen that in Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire, where the Conservative campaign is bankrolled by City hedge funds. The campaign does not have the best interests of the poor and the deprived of that constituency at heart—the paymasters come from City hedge funds and from New York, and that is where their loyalties will lie.

The poor have nothing to gain from a Conservative Government. We know what the Tories are going to do. George Osborne has said that no-one takes pleasure from people making money out of the misery of others, but that is the function of a capitalist market. That is easy to say and do when you are a multimillionaire. Take from the poor and give to the rich. That is Conservative economic policy and Conservative political philosophy.

Jonathan Morgan: I will use my time to raise concerns about the challenge of fuel poverty and the rising cost of energy on households in Wales, particularly for a large number of people living in my constituency.

Last October, the Assembly Government published its 'Living in Wales' survey, which showed that, between 1998 and 2004, there had been a decline in the number of people living in fuel poverty, from around 330,000 to 134,000 households. However, rising energy prices means that the number of fuel-poor households has almost doubled, to

theuluoedd cyffredin Cymru. Soniodd David Melding am y liferi pŵer sydd gennym yma. Cyn y toriad, dadleuai mai rôl gyfyngedig iawn oedd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Dyma'r un dull gwneud-dim Ceidwadol.

David Melding: A wnaiff yr Aelod gymryd ymyriad?

Alun Davies: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ond ni wnaif y tro hwn. Ni allaf ildio ar hyn o bryd.

Gwyddom fod y Torïaid ynghlwm wrth fuddiannau corfforaethol a buddiannau'r Ddinas ac mai'r rheini yw eu blaenoriaethau. Gwelsom hynny yng Ngorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro, lle mae ymgyrch y Ceidwadwyr wedi'i chefnogi'n ariannol gan gronfeydd gwarchod y Ddinas. Nid yw buddiannau gorau pobl dlawd a difreintiedig yr etholaeth honno wrth galon yr ymgyrch—daw'r meistri cyflog o gronfeydd gwarchod y Ddinas ac o Efrog Newydd, a dyna lle bydd eu teyrngarwch.

Nid oes gan bobl dlawd ddim i'w ennill o gael Llywodraeth Geidwadol. Gwyddom fydd y Torïaid yn ei wneud. Mae George Osborne wedi dweud nad oes neb yn cael pleser o weld pobl yn gwneud arian o ddiodefaint pobl eraill, ond dyna yw swyddogaeth marchnad gyfalafol. Mae hynny'n hawdd ei ddweud a'i wneud pan ydych yn aml-filiwnydd. Cymryd oddi wrth y tlodion a rhoi i'r cyfoethogion. Dyna yw polisi economaidd y Ceidwadwyr ac athroniaeth wleidyddol y Ceidwadwyr.

Jonathan Morgan: Defnyddiaf fy amser i godi pryderon am her tloidi tanwydd a chost gynyddol ynni i aelwydydd yng Nghymru, yn enwedig i nifer fawr o bobl sy'n byw yn fy etholaeth i.

Fis Hydref diwethaf, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei harolwg 'Byw yng Nghymru'; a dangosodd yr arolwg fod gostyngiad rhwng 1998 a 2004 yn nifer y bobl a oedd yn byw mewn tloidi tanwydd, o tua 330,000 i 134,000 o aelwydydd. Er hynny, mae prisiau cynyddol ynni yn golygu bod nifer yr aelwydydd sydd mewn tloidi

somewhere between 240,000 and 250,000 households between 2004 and 2006; of those, 209,000 are classed as vulnerable.

The Assembly Government has set a number of targets to eradicate fuel poverty by the year 2018, with interim targets for vulnerable groups by 2010 and for those in social housing by 2012. The problem is that there are many practical difficulties that will now impinge on the ability of the Government to achieve those targets. One difficulty is in relation to the rise in the cost of domestic fuel and the general economic position of the nation, so much so that National Energy Action Cymru has said publicly that it does not believe that the Assembly Government will now meet those targets.

It is clear from examining the price rises—I do not believe or maintain that somehow the Deputy First Minister is in charge of the world's energy supply; not yet, perhaps—that there is a huge threat to the welfare and living standards of people in Wales and across the United Kingdom. Between 2003 and 2006, energy prices rocketed; electricity prices increased by 64 per cent and gas prices by 90 per cent. To date this year, British Gas, in January, increased its gas bills by 15 per cent and its electricity bills by 13 per cent, and in July it increased its gas bills by 35 per cent and electricity bills by 9 per cent. SWALEC, in comparison, in March of this year, increased its gas bills by almost 16 per cent and its electricity by over 14 per cent, and I, like many others, learned in a letter this August of additional increases of 29 per cent for gas and 20 per cent for electricity. Those are two sets of rises within a 12-month period. That will hit people in Wales; not just those people who may be on middle incomes, but also those vulnerable people who cannot afford these sorts of increases and the elderly. In my constituency, 27 per cent of households are pensioner households, with 34 per cent of those containing one or more individuals with long-term illnesses.

This will have a significant impact regardless of where you live in Wales or the type of constituency that you might represent. Your constituency might look wealthy, well-

tanwydd wedi dyblu bron, i rywle rhwng 240,000 a 250,000 o aelwydydd rhwng 2004 a 2006; o'r rheini, dywedir bod 209,000 yn agored i ddioddef.

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi gosod nifer o dargedau i ddileu tloedi tanwydd erbyn y flwyddyn 2018, gyda thargedau interim ar gyfer grwpiau sy'n agored i ddioddef erbyn 2010 a'r rheini sydd mewn tai cymdeithasol erbyn 2012. Y broblem yw bod yna nifer o anawsterau ymarferol a fydd yn awr yn effeithio ar allu'r Llywodraeth i gyrraedd y targedau hynny. Mae un anhawster yn ymwneud â'r cynnydd yng nghost tanwydd domestig a sefyllfa economaidd gyffredinol y wlad, cymaint felly nes bod National Energy Action Cymru wedi dweud yn gyhoeddus nad yw'n credu y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn awr yn cyrraedd y targedau hynny.

Mae'n amlwg o archwilio'r cynnydd mewn prisiau—nid wyf yn credu nac yn dadlau bod y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog rywfodd yn gyfrifol am gyflenwad ynni'r byd; ddim eto, efallai—fod bygythiad aruthrol i safonau byw a lles pobl yng Nghymru a ledled y Deyrnas Unedig. Rhwng 2003 a 2006, cododd prisiau ynni i'r entrychion; cynyddodd prisiau trydan 64 y cant a phrisiau nwy 90 y cant. Hyd yma eleni cynyddodd Nwy Prydain ei filiau nwy, yn Ionawr, 15 y cant a'i filiau trydan 13 y cant, ac yng Ngorffennaf cynyddodd ei filiau nwy 35 y cant a'i filiau trydan 9 y cant. O'i gymharu, ym Mawrth eleni cynyddodd SWALEC ei filiau nwy bron 16 y cant, a'i drydan dros 14 y cant, a chefais i glywed, fel llawer eraill, mewn llythyr yn Awst am gynnydd ychwanegol o 29 y cant am nwy ac 20 y cant am drydan. Mae'r rheini'n ddau gynnydd mewn cyfnod 12 mis. Bydd hynny'n taro pobl yng Nghymru; nid yn unig y bobl hynny sydd efallai ar incwm canolig, ond hefyd y bobl hynny sy'n agored i ddioddef ac na allant fforddio'r mathau hyn o gynnydd a'r henoed. Yn fy etholaeth i mae 27 y cant o'r aelwydydd yn aelwydydd pensynwyr, a 34 y cant o'r rheini'n cynnwys un neu ragor o unigolion sydd â salwch tymor hir.

Caiff hyn effaith sylweddol ble bynnag yng Nghymru yr ydych yn byw neu pa bynnag fath o etholaeth yr ydych yn ei chynrychioli. Hwyrach fod eich etholaeth yn edrych yn

looked-after and healthy, but significant pockets of each of our constituencies will be hit by these energy price increases. It will be extremely difficult for many vulnerable people, not just those young people with families, but also elderly people, who will have to pay these increased costs.

The Assembly Government has its home energy efficiency scheme, which has come under criticism in recent months, not least from the Assembly's Sustainability Committee, which recommended that the Assembly Government bring forward the schedule for consultation on the savings plan to allow for any new regulations on HEES to be introduced in time for the winter of this year. The Assembly Government has clearly said that the timetable will not allow this to happen. It has ruled out the recommendation of the Assembly's Sustainability Committee, but has instead said that any changes will be introduced in time for the financial years starting in April 2009. That will be too late for many of our constituents who will have to find the money for these increases in fuel costs this winter.

I strongly believe that, as the economy continues to face substantial challenges, many of our constituents will struggle to pay for these sorts of cost-of-living increases. For many elderly people in Wales, it may be a simple choice between heating and eating. We should not sit back and allow that to happen. I urge the Deputy First Minister and his colleagues to see what can be done to alleviate the concerns of constituents who are terrified about the rising cost of energy. We should not sit back and allow this to happen.

Mick Bates: I thank the Welsh Conservatives for raising this issue today. My contribution will be along the same lines as Jonathan Morgan's. It is essential that we focus on what we can do in Wales. That is clearly what we want to achieve in this debate. I hope that the Deputy First Minister will stand up to commit to doing something about the crucial issue that Jonathan mentioned,

gyfoethog, yn iach ac yn cael pob gofal, ond bydd ardaloedd sylweddol ym mhob un o'n hetholaethau'n cael eu taro gan y cynnydd hwn ym mhrisiau ynni. Bydd yn anodd dros ben i lawer o bobl sy'n agored i ddiodef, nid yn unig y bobl ifanc hynny sydd â theuluoedd, ond hefyd pobl oeddrannus, a fydd yn gorfod talu'r costau cynyddol hyn.

Mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ei chynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, cynllun a gafodd ei feirniadu yn y misoedd diwethaf, yn anad neb gan Bwyllgor Cynaliadwyedd y Cynulliad. Argymhellodd y Pwyllgor hwnnw y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ddwyn ymlaen yr amserlen ar gyfer ymgynghori am y cynllun arbedion er mwyn caniatáu i unrhyw reoliadau newydd ar HEES gael eu cyflwyno mewn pryd ar gyfer y gaeaf eleni. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi dweud yn bendant na fydd yr amserlen yn caniatáu i hyn ddigwydd. Mae wedi diystyru argymhelliad Pwyllgor Cynaliadwyedd y Cynulliad, ond yn hytrach wedi dweud y bydd unrhyw newidiadau'n cael eu cyflwyno mewn pryd ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol yn dechrau yn Ebrill 2009. Bydd hynny'n rhy hwyr i lawer o'n hetholwyr, oherwydd bydd yn rhaid iddynt ddod o hyd i'r arian ar gyfer y cynnydd hwn yng nghostau tanwydd y gaeaf hwn.

Yr wyf yn credu'n gryf, wrth i'r economi barhau i wynebu sialensiau sylweddol, y bydd nifer o'n etholwyr yn cael trafferth talu'r mathau hyn o gynnydd mewn costau byw. I lawer o bobl oeddrannus yng Nghymru, gallai fod yn ddewis syml rhwng gwresogi a bwyta. Ni ddylem eistedd yn ôl a chaniatáu i hynny ddigwydd. Anogaf y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'i gyd-Aelodau i weld beth ellir ei wneud i leddfu pryderon etholwyr sy'n arswydo rhag costau cynyddol ynni. Ni ddylem eistedd yn ôl a chaniatáu i hyn ddigwydd.

Mick Bates: Diolch i'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig am godi'r mater hwn heddiw. Bydd fy nghyfraniad yn dilyn yr un llinellau â chyfraniad Jonathan Morgan. Mae'n hanfodol inni ganolbwyntio ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud yng Nghymru. Dyna'n amlwg yr ydym am ei gyflawni yn y ddadl hon. Gobeithio y bydd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn codi ac yn ymrwymo i wneud

namely fuel poverty. There is not much that you can do—I do not expect you to go to the City and move money around—but you could listen to the words of that great song, ‘When the Going Gets Tough, the Tough Get Going’ because this is your great chance to do something about it.

Let us look at a few of the figures. We heard from Jonathan about percentage increases in prices over the last few years. British Gas, for example, in July, increased its gas prices by 35 per cent. The Scottish and Southern Energy Group, which acquired Swalec, put its gas prices up by 29 per cent in July and its electricity prices up by 19 per cent.

We supported previous attempts to tackle fuel poverty, but the fact is that, this year, 25,000 elderly people in the UK could die as a result of fuel poverty. For every 10 per cent increase in fuel prices, another 48,000 people are condemned to live in fuel poverty. There is, therefore, a challenge in terms of the £20 million in the home energy efficiency scheme budget. How does that scheme operate? According to National Energy Action Cymru, just 54 per cent of fuel-poor households are currently eligible for HEES. Therefore, clearly the programme itself, despite all its good intentions, is not targeted well enough to reach the people who need the money.

In fact, other figures suggest that only around a third of the people who receive HEES money are in fuel poverty. There is something desperately wrong there; this scheme must be better targeted. In trying to do so, two trial areas have run an initiative called Warm Wales, which targets a specific area; it does not wait for people to inquire whether it can help them. In England, the initiative is called Warm Homes. One of the most telling statistics on alleviating fuel poverty is that 70 per cent of those who live in fuel poverty are in only 15 per cent of our Welsh communities. The link to deprivation is strong, so let us use this scheme in a much more targeted way.

rhywbeth am y mater hollbwysig a grybwyllwyd gan Jonathan, sef tlodi tanwydd. Nid oes llawer y gallwch ei wneud—nid wyf yn disgwyl ichi fynd i'r Ddinas a symud arian o gwmpas—ond gallech wrando ar eiriau'r gân wych honno, ‘When the Going Gets Tough, the Tough Get Going’ oherwydd dyma’ch cyfle mawr i wneud rhywbeth am y peth.

Gadewch inni edrych ar rai o'r ffigurau. Clywsom gan Jonathan am gynnydd canrannol mewn prisiau dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Yng Ngorffennaf, er enghraifft, cynyddodd Nwy Prydain ei brisiau nwy 35 y cant. Cynyddodd Scottish and Southern Energy Group, a brynodd Swalec, ei brisiau 29 y cant yng Ngorffennaf a'i brisiau trydan 19 y cant.

Cefnogwyd ymdrechion blaenorol i fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd, ond y ffaith yw y gallai 25,000 o bobl oedrannus yn y DU eleni farw o ganlyniad i dlodi tanwydd. Am bob cynnydd o 10 y cant ym mhrisiau tanwydd, mae 48,000 o bobl yn ychwanegol yn cael eu condemnio i fyw mewn tlodi tanwydd. Mae yna her, felly, o safbwynt yr £20 miliwn sydd yng nghyllideb y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref. Sut y mae'r cynllun hwnnw'n gweithredu? Yn ôl National Energy Action Cymru, 54 y cant yn unig o aelwydydd sy'n dlawd o ran tanwydd sy'n gymwys ar gyfer HEES ar hyn o bryd. Felly, mae'n amlwg nad yw'r cynllun, er ei fwriadau da, wedi'i dargedu'n ddigon da i gyrraedd y bobl y mae arnynt angen yr arian.

Yn wir, mae ffigurau eraill yn awgrymu mai oddeutu traean yn unig o'r bobl sy'n cael arian HEES sydd mewn tlodi tanwydd. Mae rhywbeth mawr o'i le yma; rhaid i'r cynllun hwn gael ei dargedu'n well. I geisio gwneud hynny, mae dwy ardal brawf wedi cynnal cynllun o'r enw Cymru Gynnes, cynllun sy'n targedu ardal benodol; nid yw'n aros i bobl ofyn a all eu helpu. Yn Lloegr, gelwir y cynllun yn Warm Homes. Un o'r ystadegau mwyaf grymus ar ddileu tlodi tanwydd yw bod 70 y cant o'r rheini sy'n byw mewn tlodi tanwydd mewn 15 y cant yn unig o gymunedau Cymru. Mae'r cysylltiad ag amddifadedd yn gryf, felly, gadewch inni ddefnyddio'r cynllun hwn a'i dargedu'n fwy penodol o lawer.

I hope that the Minister responds to this in a positive way, because at the back of all of this is another terrible economic driver, namely the fact that Welsh customers pay, on average, 10 per cent more than the average English customer for energy. The Government has allowed that to continue. Why can we not change that? Let us secure a little parity in energy prices between England and Wales; let us ensure that the HEES scheme is truly targeted.

4.10 p.m.

When it comes to recommending what else can be done, let us look to what we were told by the Sustainability Committee. The evidence that it heard from Energy Watch suggested that Government figures of 270,000 people going into fuel poverty were an underestimate. Since July, with every 10 per cent price increase, another 48,000 people have gone into fuel poverty. Without more targeting of this scheme, we are condemning more and more Welsh citizens to live in poverty. That is not good enough in the face of what will happen in the next few years.

I am grateful for the debate, but let us see some real, targeted action. I hope that that action will receive the support of all parties in the Chamber, because we all want to help families in Wales through this crisis and make their lives a little better this winter.

Gareth Jones: Yr wyf yn croesawu'r cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon, ac er fy mod—efallai am fy mod—yn deall y rhesymau dros y cynnig a'r gwelliannau, ni fydd Plaid Cymru yn eu cefnogi. Mae gennym resymau dilys dros wneud hynny. Yn gyntaf, credaf fod y cynnig yn ymwneud mwy â sgorio pwyntiau gwleidyddol na sicrhau bod ein cymunedau yn goresgyn yr argyfwng economaidd y cyfeirir ato yn y cynnig. Nid oes dwywaith, er cymaint y byddent yn gwadu hynny, bod gwreiddiau'r argyfwng presennol yn deillio o bolisiau'r Ceidwadwyr rhwng 1979 a 1997—pan drawsnewidiwyd

Yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymateb i hyn mewn modd cadarnhaol, oherwydd wrth gefn hyn i gyd mae sbardun economaidd arswydus arall, sef y ffaith fod cwsmeriaid Cymru ar gyfartaledd yn talu 10 y cant yn fwy am ynni na'r cwsmer cyffredin yn Lloegr. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi caniatáu i hynny barhau. Pam na allwn newid hynny? Gadewch inni sicrhau ychydig degwch ym mhrisiau ynni rhwng Lloegr a Chymru; gadewch inni sicrhau bod gan y cynllun HEES dargedau gwirioneddol.

Pan ddaw'n fater o argymell beth arall y gellir ei wneud, gadewch inni edrych ar yr hyn a ddywedodd y Pwyllgor Cynaliadwyedd wrthym. Awgrymai'r dystiolaeth a glywodd gan Golwg ar Ynni fod ffigurau'r Llywodraeth o 270,000 o bobl yn mynd i dlodi tanwydd yn amcangyfrif rhy isel. Ers Gorffennaf, gyda phob cynnydd o 10 y cant mewn prisiau, mae 48,000 o bobl yn ychwanegol wedi mynd i dlodi tanwydd. Heb dargedu'r cynllun hwn yn fwy, yr ydym yn condemnio mwy a mwy o ddinasyddion Cymru i fyw mewn tlodi. Nid yw hynny'n ddigon da o gofio'r hyn a fydd yn digwydd yn y blynyddoedd nesaf.

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y ddadl, ond gadewch inni weld gweithredu gwirioneddol wedi'i dargedu. Gobeithio y caiff y gweithredu hwnnw gefnogaeth yr holl bleidiau yn y Siambr, oherwydd yr ydym i gyd am helpu teuluoedd yng Nghymru drwy'r argyfwng hwn a gwneud eu bywydau ychydig yn well y gaeaf hwn.

Gareth Jones: I welcome the opportunity to take part in this debate, and despite the fact—perhaps because of the fact—that I understand the rationale for the motion and the amendments, Plaid Cymru will not support them. We have valid reasons for not doing so. Firstly, I believe the motion has more to do with scoring political points than with ensuring that our communities survive the economic crisis mentioned in the motion. There is no doubt, although they would strongly deny that, that the roots of the current crisis lie in the policies pursued by the Conservatives between 1979 and 1997—

cymdeithasau adeiladu i fod yn fanciau, pan ddadreolwyd y banciau a gwneud y farchnad agored yn bopeth a phan chwalwyd diwydiannau gweithgynhyrchu, gan adael cyflogau isel a phroblemau cymdeithasol yn etifeddiaeth i ni yng Nghymru.

Rhan ddieflig o etifeddiaeth y Ceidwadwyr yw'r trethi busnes y mae David Melding eisoes wedi cyfeirio atynt. Y Ceidwadwyr a gyflwynodd y math hwn o dreth y pen ar fusnes, gyda chwmnïau mawr fel Wal-Mart, Tesco ac eraill erbyn heddiw yn talu llawer yn llai yn gymharol na busnesau unigol. Ar hyn o bryd, gwyddom nad oes gan y Cynulliad bwerau digonol i ymateb yn llawn i'r sefyllfa bresennol. A yw'r Ceidwadwyr, fel ninnau, am i ni gael senedd gyda'r grym i drethu? Tan ddaw'r dydd hwnnw, mae'n rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru'n Un weithio tu fewn i'w chyfyngiadau, a dylem gymeradwyo'r Llywodraeth am ei hymateb hyd yma.

Fe'ch atgoffaf o'r ymateb hwnnw; mae cyfeiriadau wedi bod at hyn eisoes. Yng Ngorffennaf eleni, cyhoeddwyd £5 miliwn ar gyfer cynllun achub morgais, ac mae'n bosibl, yn ôl y galw yn y dyfodol agos, y gwelwn fwy o arian yn cael ei roi i'r cynllun hwn a fyddai'n diddymu'r galwad yng ngwelliant 2 y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Ymhellach, mae £7 miliwn ychwanegol wedi ei roi i gynorthwyo busnesau bach wrth iddynt orfod ymdopi â'r dreth fusnes y cyfeiriais ati yn gynharach. Cyn belled ag y mae gwelliant 3 gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn y cwestiwn, mae'r Llywodraeth eisoes wedi buddsoddi'n helaeth yn rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd ac mewn gwasanaeth rheilffordd o Wrecsam i Lundain, ac mae wedi gwneud buddsoddiadau eraill yn y system cludiant cyhoeddus. Yr ydym hefyd yn cydnabod y bydd cynllun effeithlonrwydd y cartref yn ymateb i'r pryder y cyfeirir ato yng ngwelliant 1 y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol.

Hoffwn gloi drwy ddweud bod pawb yn gwybod bellach mai diffyg rheolaeth ar y banciau a arweiniodd at yr argyfwng hwn. A oes unrhyw un o ddifrif calon yn credu y byddai'r Ceidwadwyr wedi rheoli'r Ddinas a'r sefydliadau bancio? Choelia'i fawr. Y Ceidwadwyr a anogodd y cymdeithasau

when building societies became banks, when banks were deregulated and the open market was everything and when manufacturing industries were decimated, leaving a legacy of low wages and social problems for us in Wales.

The business rates mentioned by David Melding are a despicable part of the Conservative legacy. This kind of poll tax on businesses was introduced by the Conservatives, with large companies such as Wal-Mart, Tesco and others now paying far less in comparative terms than individual businesses. We know the Assembly at present does not have adequate powers to respond fully to the current situation. Do the Conservatives agree with us that we need a parliament with tax-raising powers? Until then, the One Wales Government must work within its limitations, and we should applaud the Government for its response so far.

I remind you of that response; references have already been made to this. Last July, £5 million was announced for the mortgage rescue scheme, and it is possible, according to need in the short term, that we will see more money going into that scheme, making the Liberal Democrats' amendment 2 unnecessary. Furthermore, an additional £7 million has gone towards helping small businesses as they cope with the business rate to which I referred earlier. As far as the Liberal Democrats amendment 3 is concerned, the Government has already invested heavily in the Valleys railways and in a train service between Wrexham and London, and it has also made other investments in the public transport system. We also recognise that HEES will respond to the concern raised in the Liberal Democrat amendment 1.

I should like to close by saying that everyone now knows that this crisis was caused by a lack of regulation of the banks. Does anyone seriously believe that the Conservatives would regulate the City and banking institutions? Scarcely believe. It was the Conservatives who encouraged building

adeiladu i droi yn gwmnïau cyfyngedig cyhoeddus, sef y *demutualisation* ariannol, wedi'i seilio ar fodel a fethodd yn syfrdanol yn yr Unol Daleithiau yn y 1980au. Ni allwn ymddiried mwyach ym mholisiau'r Ceidwadwyr, ac er mwyn ac er lles pobl Cymru, erfyniaf arnoch i wrthod y cynnig, ynghyd â gwelliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol.

Joyce Watson: I find myself confused listening to the Conservatives, although that is hardly surprising as they seem to become socialists when in opposition and capitalists when in power. Angela Burns took pains to outline some rescue packages, but failed to deliver a message that would convince anybody about the reality of what the Tories really want. I want them to have an honest debate at some stage about their messages in Wales and their voting pattern in Westminster. They talk, as Angela did, about more private investment in Welsh society to promote more jobs, but, at the same time, their Westminster colleagues voted against the rescue packages for Northern Rock. Mixed messages are coming out there.

The Conservatives' focus was on reducing inheritance tax. Members all know that reducing inheritance tax at a time of crisis in the financial market will help masses of people—I think not. They talk in Westminster about taxing—

Jonathan Morgan: Will you give way?

Joyce Watson: No, you can have your say later.

They talk about charging less tax while also spending more public money, and they have outlined some of those ideas for spending more public money today. However, they fail to tell people that, when there was a crisis of their making before, masses of people were made unemployed. That is not the case this time. They ignore the fact that we start from a far stronger position under a Labour-led Government in Westminster than we ever did under a Conservative-led Government.

societies to become public limited companies—the financial demutualisation—based on a model that failed spectacularly in the United States in the 1980s. We can no longer trust Conservative policies, and for the people of Wales and their wellbeing I urge you to reject the motion, along with the Liberal Democrat amendments.

Joyce Watson: Yr wyf yn drysu wrth wrando ar y Ceidwadwyr, er nad yw hynny'n fawr o syndod gan eu bod fel petaent yn troi'n sosialwyr pan fyddant yn yr wrthblaid ac yn gyfalafwyr pan fyddant mewn grym. Ymlafniodd Angela Burns i amlinellu rhyw becynnau achub, ond methodd â chyfleu neges a fyddai'n argyhoeddi neb o realiti'r hyn y mae'r Torïaid yn ei ddymuno mewn gwirionedd. Yr wyf am iddynt gael dadl onest rywbryd ynglŷn â'u negeseuon yng Nghymru a'u patrwm pleidleisio yn San Steffan. Maent yn siarad, fel y gwnaeth Angela, am fwy o fuddsoddi preifat mewn cymdeithas yng Nghymru i hyrwyddo rhagor o swyddi, ond ar yr un pryd pleidleisiodd eu cyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan yn erbyn y pecynnau achub i Northern Rock. Mae negeseuon cymysg yn dod allan yno.

Yr oedd ffocws y Ceidwadwyr ar leihau'r dreth etifeddiaeth. Gŵyr yr Aelodau i gyd y bydd lleihau'r dreth etifeddiaeth ar adeg o argyfwng yn y farchnad ariannol yn helpu llawer iawn o bobl—go brin. Maent yn siarad yn San Steffan am drethu—

Jonathan Morgan: A wnewch chi ildio?

Joyce Watson: Na wna, cewch ddweud eich dweud yn ddiweddarach.

Maent yn sôn am godi llai o dreth, ond ar yr un pryd maent yn gwario mwy o arian cyhoeddus, ac maent wedi amlinellu rhai o'r syniadau hynny ar gyfer gwario mwy o arian cyhoeddus heddiw. Fodd bynnag, nid ydynt yn dweud wrth bobl, pan fu argyfwng o'r blaen a achoswyd ganddynt hwy, fod llaweroedd o bobl wedi eu gwneud yn ddi-waith. Nid felly y tro hwn. Maent yn anwybyddu'r ffaith ein bod yn dechrau o sefyllfa gryfach o lawer dan Lywodraeth yn cael ei harwain gan Lafur yn San Steffan nag a wnaethom erioed dan Lywodraeth

Geidwadol.

They also fail to mention that, at the start of this crisis, people are on a minimum wage. They opposed the introduction of the national minimum wage every time it was put to the vote. If they had their new-found socialist conscience then, they could have voted in favour of it when they had the opportunity.

They are asking the Welsh Assembly Government to put forward some rescue packages—and I would support the Assembly's putting forward any rescue package that it can—but they forget to remind people that they did not want devolution, so there would not have been a Welsh solution if they had had their way. They cannot be a wolf in sheep's clothing and think that we will all forget what happened in the past. We clearly have not forgotten the past.

I do not buy their new socialist principles in opposition, because it is clear from their party's voting pattern in the past few weeks alone that there has been no change. How do they intend to sell such mixed messages about reducing taxation while also investing more public money?

Eleanor Burnham: Colleagues, all is not lost. Never mind David Cameron. Never mind what's-his-name, Gordon Brown. Let us have Vince Cable. He is the one who could be our saviour, he is the one who understands it all, and he is the one who has the practical experience. Unfortunately, he is also the one who called Gordon Brown 'Mr Bean'.

Anyway, to get down to business, we need to reverse this shameful situation. I do not believe that the Welsh Assembly Government has got Wales fit for business, and that is a big issue at the moment. While there are global concerns, such as Paulson in America and others elsewhere, we have an issue in Wales that we really could address, and I believe that our esteemed Deputy First Minister has it in him to improve the situation for us. We need to limit the effects of the current economic crisis and improve

Nid ydynt ychwaith yn crybwyll fod pobl, ar ddechrau'r argyfwng hwn, ar isafswm cyflog. Yr oeddent yn gwrthwynebu cyflwyno'r isafswm cyflog cenedlaethol bob tro pan gafwyd pleidlais arno. Pe bae ganddynt eu cydwybod sosialaidd newydd bryd hynny, gallent fod wedi pleidleisio o'i blaid pan oedd ganddynt y cyfle.

Maent yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyflwyno pecynnau achub—a byddwn o blaid i'r Cynulliad gyflwyno unrhyw becyn achub a all—ond maent yn anghofio atgoffa pobl nad oeddent am gael datganoli, felly, ni fyddai ateb Cymreig wedi bod ar gael pa baent hwy wedi cael eu ffordd. Ni allant fod yn flaid mewn croen dafad a chredu y byddwn i gyd yn anghofio'r hyn a ddigwyddodd yn y gorffennol. Mae'n amlwg nad ydym wedi anghofio'r gorffennol.

Nid wyf yn llyncu eu hegwyddorion sosialaidd newydd fel gwrthblaid, oherwydd mae'n amlwg o batrwm pleidleisio eu plaid dros yr wythnosau diwethaf yn unig na fu dim newid. Sut maent yn bwriadu gwerthu'r fath negeseuon cymysg ynglŷn â lleihau'r dreth a buddsoddi mwy o arian cyhoeddus yr un pryd?

Eleanor Burnham: Gyd-Aelodau, nid yw hi ar ben arnom. Peidiwch â phoeni am David Cameron. Peidiwch â phoeni am be-di'i-enwfo, Gordon Brown. Gadewch inni gael Vince Cable. Ef yw'r un a allai fod yn achubiaeth inni, ef yw'r un sy'n deall y cyfan, ac ef yw'r un sydd â'r profiad ymarferol. Yn anffodus, ef hefyd yw'r un a alwodd Gordon Brown yn 'Mr Bean'.

Fodd bynnag, i symud ymlaen at y busnes, mae angen inni wrthdroi'r sefyllfa gywilyddus hon. Ni chredaf fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi gwneud Cymru'n ffit ar gyfer busnes, ac mae hynny'n fater o bwys ar hyn o bryd. Er bod yna bryderon byd-eang, fel Paulson yn America ac eraill mewn mannau eraill, mae gennym fater yng Nghymru y gallem fynd i'r afael ag ef o ddifrif, a chredaf fod gan ein Dirprwy Brif Weinidog uchel ei barch yr hyn sy'n ofynnol i wella'r sefyllfa inni. Mae angen inni

public transport, and, as I said yesterday, the improvement in the rail structure is a part of that.

4.20 p.m.

As Mick Bates mentioned, fuel prices have gone up. The cost of diesel has risen to £1.30 a litre in some parts of north Wales. That is an increase of between 15 and 20 per cent over the past year, which is absolutely shocking. Therefore, Ieuan Wyn, we are indebted to you, and we look to you to improve our rail system so that we can get out of our cars. Most of us cannot afford to run cars these days; it is too expensive to do so. We look to you for inspiration and vision, which I am sure you have. In the meantime, we need trains to be clean, reliable, and fast, particularly those services running between north and south Wales. I will leave that as a challenge to Ieuan Wyn, which I am sure he will rise to as soon as possible.

The Government also needs to address the issue of Citizens Advice. It desperately needs more funding to help to advise people who have problems—and boy do they have problems. People in Wales have the same problems as others across the globe. There has been a 20 per cent increase in the number of people asking for help from Citizens Advice. However, what is more shocking is that there has been an increase of 30 per cent in the number of those asking for help with bankruptcy. That should give us real cause for concern. Therefore, Deputy First Minister, will you have some vision and put some money into Citizens Advice, so that it can help those people who desperately need it?

The Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economy and Transport (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I promise not to sing, Deputy Presiding Officer; that would be an enormous embarrassment to everyone, including me.

It is typical, but perhaps not surprising, that the Welsh Conservatives should produce such a negatively worded motion on the

gyfyngu effeithiau'r argyfwng economaidd presennol a gwella cludiant cyhoeddus, ac fel y dywedais ddoe, mae'r gwelliant yn y strwythur rheilffyrdd yn rhan o hynny.

Fel y soniodd Mick Bates, mae prisiau tanwydd wedi codi. Mae cost diesel wedi codi i £1.30 y litr mewn rhai rhannau o ogledd Cymru. Mae hynny'n gynydd o rhwng 15 ac 20 y cant dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, sy'n gwbl arswydus. Felly, Ieuan Wyn, yr ydym yn ddyledus i chi, ac yr ydym yn disgwyl i chi wella ein system rheilffyrdd er mwyn inni allu gwneud heb ein ceir. Nid yw'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn gallu fforddio rhedeg ceir y dyddiau hyn; mae'n rhy ddrud i wneud hynny. Rydym yn troi atoch chi am ysbrydoliaeth a gweledigaeth, ac yr wyf yn siŵr eu bod gennych. Yn y cyfamser, mae angen trenau arnom sydd yn lân, yn ddibynadwy ac yn gyflym, yn enwedig y gwasanaethau hynny sy'n rhedeg rhwng gogledd a de Cymru. Gadawaf hynny fel her i Ieuan Wyn, her yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn ymateb iddi cyn gynted â phosibl.

Mae angen hefyd i'r Llywodraeth roi sylw i fater Cyngor ar Bopeth. Mae dirfawr angen mwy o gyllid ar y mudiad i'w helpu i roi cyngor i bobl sydd â phroblemau—ac mae ganddynt broblemau yn wir. Yr un problemau sydd gan bobl yng Nghymru ag eraill ar draws y byd. Bu cynnydd o 20 y cant yn nifer y bobl sy'n gofyn i Gyngor ar Bopeth am help. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn sy'n fwy arswydus yw y bod cynnydd o 30 y cant yn nifer y rhai sy'n gofyn am help gyda methdaliad. Dylai hynny fod yn destun pryder gwirioneddol inni. Felly, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, a wnewch chi weithredu gyda gweledigaeth a rhoi rhywfaint o arian i Gyngor ar Bopeth, fel y gall helpu'r bobl hynny y mae taer angen help arnynt?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Addawaf beidio â chanu, Ddirprwy Lywydd; byddai hynny'n embaras enfawr i bawb, gan gynnwys fi fy hun.

Mae'n nodweddiadol, ond nid yn syndod efallai, fod Ceidwadwyr Cymru wedi cynhyrchu cynnig ar yr economi sydd wedi'i

economy. However, one would have expected a responsible opposition to adopt a much more bipartisan approach to the difficult economic conditions that we all face. It is typical, because the Conservatives in the Assembly have, unfortunately, on most, though not all, occasions adopted an oppositional approach. It is not surprising because, should George Osborne ever get his hands on the levers of power at the Treasury, we know that tax cuts for the rich would leave the Assembly Government with even fewer resources to alleviate the impact of the economic crisis. I am afraid that I have to tell Eleanor that Vince Cable is also in that category, because, if the Liberal Democrats ever got their hands on the levers of power, God forbid, there would be even fewer resources again for the Assembly to deal with some of these matters.

I use the word 'alleviate' quite deliberately because Wales—as is the case for all other countries in the world—cannot insulate itself from the impact of the crisis that we face. Although the troubles of the banks and financial institutions in the United States have been the cause of the present troubles, the impact, as we have heard and acknowledged, goes much wider, as the forced rescue of Northern Rock and the merger of HBOS and Lloyds TSB amply demonstrate.

When I was in Kentucky last week, the collapse of confidence on Wall Street was quite evident. Lehman Brothers was forced into administration, a rescue package was quickly set up for AIG, and Henry Paulson, the US Treasury Secretary proposed a \$700 billion-worth bail-out for the banking sector. In the past few days, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley have given up on their attempts to remain stand-alone investment banks.

In the UK, Alistair Darling wants an urgent review of the banking regulations of the City of London, and plans are afoot to curb excessive bonuses in the financial sector. We have been told that borrowing by the Treasury could reach between £60 million and £100 million. I listened to what Angela

eirio mewn ffordd mor negyddol. Fodd bynnag, byddai rhywun yn disgwyl i wrthblaid gyfrifol fabwysiadu agwedd fwy ddwybleidiol tuag at yr amodau economaidd anodd sy'n ein hwynebu i gyd. Mae'n nodweddiadol, oherwydd mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn y Cynulliad wedi mabwysiadu agwedd wrthwynebol, yn anffodus, ar y rhan fwyaf o achlysuron, er nad bob tro. Nid yw'n syndod, oherwydd pe bai George Osborne byth yn cael gafael ar yr awenau yn y Trysorlys, gwyddom y byddai toriadau trethi i bobl gyfoethog yn gadael Llywodraeth y Cynulliad â llai fyth o adnoddau i liniaru effaith yr argyfwng economaidd. Mae arnaf ofn ei bod yn rhaid imi ddweud wrth Eleanor fod Vince Cable hefyd yn y categori hwnnw, oherwydd pe bai'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol byth yn cael gafael ar yr awenau, Duw â'n gwaredo, byddai llai byth o adnoddau ar gael i'r Cynulliad i ddelio â rhai o'r materion hyn.

Defnyddiaf y gair 'lliniaru' yn gwbl fwriadol oherwydd ni all Cymru—fel sy'n wir i bob gwlad arall yn y byd—ynysu ei hun rhag effaith yr argyfwng sy'n ein hwynebu. Er mai trafferthion y banciau a'r sefydliadau ariannol yn yr Unol Daleithiau sydd wedi achosi'r trafferthion presennol, mae'r effaith, fel yr ydym wedi clywed ac wedi cydnabod, yn mynd lawer yn ehangach, fel y mae'r orfodaeth i achub Northern Rock a'r uno rhwng HBOS a Lloyds TSB yn ei ddangos yn glir.

Pan oeddwn yn Kentucky yr wythnos diwethaf, roedd y chwalfa yn yr hyder ar Wall Street yn amlwg iawn. Gorfodwyd Lehman Brothers i fynd i ddwylo'r gweinyddwyr, sefydlwyd pecyn achub yn gyflym ar gyfer AIG, a chynigiodd Henry Paulson, Ysgrifennydd Trysorlys yr UD, becyn achub gwerth \$700 biliwn ar gyfer y sector bancio. Dros y diwrnodau diwethaf mae Goldman Sachs a Morgan Stanley wedi rhoi'r gorau i'w hymdrechion i barhau'n fanciau buddsoddi annibynnol.

Yn y DU, mae Alistair Darling am gael adolygiad brys o reoliadau bancio Dinas Llundain, ac mae cynlluniau ar y gweill i ffrwyno taliadau bonws afresymol yn y sector ariannol. Dywedir wrthym y gallai'r benthyca gan y Trysorlys gyrraedd rhwng £60 miliwn a £100 miliwn. Gwrandewais ar yr hyn a

said about borrowing, but I did not hear from her that there are only three options available to any Government: stop spending public money, increase taxes, or raise borrowing. Angela did not say exactly what the Conservatives would do. If she is saying that they will not increase borrowing but that they will cut public spending, and therefore tax cuts will be given to the rich, how will that work?

David Melding: I am grateful to the Deputy First Minister for giving way. What prudent Governments do is build up reserves during the economic good times. Do you regret the fact that the Labour Governments both here and at Westminster have not done so?

The Deputy First Minister: I can tell David that I was at Westminster when there was a Conservative Government that racked up borrowing of a level that we had never seen before in this country. I will therefore take no lessons from the Conservatives on financial prudence.

Let us put all that aside and accept that we are facing events that are unprecedented in our political lifetimes, as Kirsty said. Alistair Darling was probably right when he said that we face the worst financial crisis since the second world war. The Conservatives' motion offers no answers, and the Liberal Democrats' amendments offer no more than a partial answer. That is why we cannot accept them. They do not represent an attempt to comprehensively address the situation that we face.

The Assembly Government has responded quickly, where we can, to people's concerns. The Deputy Minister for Housing introduced a mortgage rescue package of £5 million, and I can tell Kirsty that that was just an initial sum, as I will be looking to see what more we can do. We have increased the help given to small businesses by providing an additional £7 million to cut business rates, and that will help 10,000 more Welsh businesses. We will shortly announce £68 million for the enhanced Genesis project, £30 million for the

ddywedodd Angela ynglŷn â benthycu, ond ni chlywais ganddi mai dim ond tri dewis sydd ar gael i unrhyw Lywodraeth: rhoi'r gorau i wario arian cyhoeddus, cynyddu trethi, neu gynyddu benthycu. Ni ddywedodd Angela beth yn union a wnâi'r Ceidwadwyr. Os yw hi'n dweud na fyddant yn cynyddu benthycu ond y byddant yn cwtdogi gwariant cyhoeddus, ac y bydd toriadau trethi yn cael eu rhoi i bobl gyfoethog, sut y bydd hynny'n gweithio?

David Melding: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog am ildio. Yr hyn y bydd Llywodraethau doeth yn ei wneud yw cronni arian wrth gefn yn ystod yr adegau economaidd da. A yw'n edifar gennych nad yw'r Llywodraethau Llafur yma ac yn San Steffan wedi gwneud hynny?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Gallaf ddweud wrth David fy mod yn San Steffan pan ymrwymodd Llywodraeth Geidwadol i lefel fenthycu nad oeddem erioed wedi'i gweld o'r blaen yn y wlad hon. Felly, ni chymeraf unrhyw wersi ar ddoethineb ariannol gan y Ceidwadwyr.

Gadewch inni roi hyn i gyd o'r neilltu a derbyn ein bod yn wynebu digwyddiadau na welwyd eu tebyg yn ystod ein hoes wleidyddol ni, fel y dywedodd Kirsty. Mae'n bur debyg fod Alistair Darling yn iawn pan ddywedodd ein bod yn wynebu'r argyfwng ariannol gwaethaf ers yr ail ryfel byd. Nid yw cynnig y Ceidwadwyr yn awgrymu dim atebion, ac nid yw gwelliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cynnig dim mwy nag ateb rhannol. Dyna pam na allwn eu derbyn. Nid ydynt yn ymgais i fynd i'r afael yn gynhwysfawr â'r sefyllfa sy'n ein hwynebu.

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymateb yn gyflym, lle gallwn, i bryderon pobl. Cyflwynodd y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai becyn achub morgeisi o £5 miliwn, a gallaf ddweud wrth Kirsty nad oedd hwnnw ond swm cychwynnol, oherwydd byddaf yn edrych i weld beth yn rhagor y gallwn ei wneud. Yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r help a roddir i fusnesau bach drwy ddarparu £7 miliwn yn ychwanegol i leihau ardrethi busnes, a bydd hynny'n helpu 10,000 yn rhagor o fusnesau Cymru. Cyn hir byddwn

FibreSpeed project, and £150 million capital to help small business to grow. All those are practical measures that the Assembly Government is taking to help the business community in Wales.

In addition, we will aggressively market Wales as a destination for inward investment. After our visit to the United States last week, the First Minister and I were greatly encouraged that, despite the economic turbulence of the last few months, American companies were willing to look positively on expanding their existing operations in Wales or investing in new operations in Wales. Many of the managers of companies that I spoke to personally during my visit to Washington and Kentucky regarded Wales as a great place in which to do business. I also know that a number of financial institutions with bases in London are actively looking to relocate, and Wales is well placed to attract that investment. The current situation may mean that companies take longer to commit, but there are a number of exciting plans in the pipeline.

I have been given a challenge, and I will respond to it. We, as an Assembly Government, will wish to consider over the coming weeks and months what additional help we can give to businesses, and, rather than simply making headline-grabbing statements today, we want to take time to consider carefully what kind of practical help we can give within the financial constraints that we operate under, and the limited powers that we have. In respect of businesses, we need to consider what practical assistance we can give. For example, what is the best help that we can give to small businesses? Some will benefit from the increased help that we are giving through the enhanced business rate relief scheme, and we will be monitoring that programme. Others might find it difficult to access the working capital that they need, and the joint European resources for micro to medium enterprises fund from the European Investment Bank will be a great help for them when it comes on-stream.

yn cyhoeddi £68 miliwn ar gyfer prosiect Genesis ar ei newydd wedd, £30 i'r prosiect FibreSpeed, a £150 miliwn o gyfalaf i helpu busnesau bach i dyfu. Mae'r rheini i gyd yn fesurau ymarferol y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cymryd i helpu'r gymuned fusnes yng Nghymru.

Yn ogystal, byddwn yn mynd ati'n egniol i farchnata Cymru fel cyrchfan mewnfuddsoddi. Ar ôl ein hymweliad â'r Unol Daleithiau yr wythnos diwethaf, calonogwyd y Prif Weinidog a minnau'n fawr o weld, er gwaethaf cynnwrf economaidd y misoedd diwethaf, fod cwmnïau Americanaidd yn barod i edrych yn gadarnhaol ar ehangu'r gweithrediadau sydd ganddynt eisoes yng Nghymru, neu ar fuddsoddi mewn gweithrediadau newydd yng Nghymru. Yr oedd nifer o'r rheolwyr cwmnïau y siaradais â hwy'n bersonol yn ystod fy ymweliad â Washington a Kentucky yn ystyried Cymru yn lle gwyh i wneud busnes. Gwn hefyd fod nifer o sefydliadau ariannol sydd â chanolfannau yn Llundain yn edrych o ddifrif ar symud, ac mae Cymru mewn sefyllfa dda i ddenu'r buddsoddiad hwnnw. Efallai y bydd y sefyllfa bresennol yn golygu y bydd cwmnïau'n cymryd mwy o amser i ymrwymo, ond mae nifer o gynlluniau cyffrous yn yr arfaeth.

Rhoddyd her imi, a byddaf yn ymateb iddi. Byddwn ni, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, am ystyried, dros yr wythnosau a'r misoedd i ddod, pa help ychwanegol y gallwn ei roi i fusnesau, ac yn hytrach na gwneud datganiadau sy'n hawlio'r penawdau heddiw, yr ydym am gymryd amser i ystyried yn ofalus pa fath o help ymarferol y gallwn ei roi o fewn y cyfyngiadau ariannol sydd arnom, a'r pwerau cyfyngedig sydd gennym. O ran busnesau, mae angen inni ystyried pa gymorth ymarferol y gallwn ei roi. Er enghraifft, beth yw'r cymorth gorau y gallwn ei roi i fusnesau bach? Bydd rhai'n elwa o'r cynnydd yn y cymorth a rown drwy'r cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi busnes mwy cynhwysfawr, a byddwn yn monitro'r rhaglen honno. Gall eraill ei chael hi'n anodd cael y cyfalaf gweithio y mae ei angen arnynt, a bydd y gronfa cyd-adnoddau Ewropeaidd ar gyfer busnesau micro i ganolig, drwy law Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop, yn help mawr iddynt hwy pan fyddant yn weithredol.

We will also be looking to see how best we can tweak the Flexible Support for Business programme, and the single investment fund, to make them more responsive to the needs of business. We will identify suitable sites within the Assembly Government's land holdings to provide more affordable homes in partnership with local authorities, housing associations and the private sector. We will also keep a careful eye on unemployment figures to see how our skills agenda and links with the Department for Work and Pensions can be developed to help those looking for alternative jobs. We will look specifically at the construction sector, because the capital projects that the Government will announce in the next few months will assume greater significance than ever before. Those are the kinds of positive things that we will be looking at, and I promise to keep the Assembly informed of progress as things develop.

I make an offer to David and Kirsty: as Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economy and Transport, I invite you to discuss a bipartisan approach with me. If you are prepared to accept that, I think that the whole of Wales plc will benefit.

4.30 p.m.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call on Nick Bourne to reply to the debate. You have three minutes, Nick.

Nick Bourne: I found myself in a great deal of agreement with the speech that the Deputy First Minister gave, that is, the speech that he gave to his party conference in Aberystwyth, when he was speaking to a Plaid Cymru audience and attacking the Labour Party, rather than the speech that he has just given to the Labour Party, agreeing with its policies. On the other contribution from Plaid Cymru, I sat in amazement while listening to what Gareth said. I think that the most charitable interpretation is that he had picked up Helen Mary's notes by mistake. It is hard to believe that he believed a single word that he said.

The Deputy First Minister did make some positive points about business, in fairness,

Byddwn hefyd yn ystyried y ffordd orau i gaboli'r rhaglen Cymorth Hyblyg i Fusnes, a'r gronfa fuddsoddi sengl, er mwyn iddynt ymateb yn well i anghenion busnesau. Byddwn yn nodi safleoedd addas yn naliadau tir Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ddarparu rhagor o dai fforddiadwy mewn partneriaeth ag awdurdodau lleol, cymdeithasau tai a'r sector preifat. Byddwn hefyd yn cadw llygad ofalus ar y ffigurau diweithdra i weld sut mae modd datblygu ein hagenda sgiliau a'n cysylltiadau â'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau er mwyn helpu'r rhai sy'n chwilio am swyddi gwahanol. Byddwn yn edrych yn benodol ar y sector adeiladu, oherwydd bydd y prosiectau cyfalaf a gaiff eu cyhoeddi gan y Llywodraeth dros y misoedd nesaf yn dod yn fwy arwyddocaol nag erioed o'r blaen. Dyna'r mathau o bethau positif y byddwn yn edrych arnynt, ac addawaf roi gwybod i'r Cynulliad am eu hynt wrth i bethau ddatblygu.

Gwnaf gynnig i David a Kirsty: fel y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth, gwahoddaf chi i drafod dull gweithredu dwybleidiol gyda mi. Os ydych yn barod i dderbyn hynny, credaf y bydd Cymru ccc yn gyfan yn elwa.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf ar Nick Bourne i ymateb i'r ddadl. Mae gennych dair munud, Nick.

Nick Bourne: Cefais fy mod yn cytuno lawer iawn â'r araith a roddodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, hynny yw, yr araith a roddodd i gynhadledd ei blaid yn Aberystwyth, pan oedd yn siarad â chynulleidfa Plaid Cymru ac yn ymosod ar y Blaid Lafur, yn hytrach na'r araith y mae newydd ei rhoi i'r Blaid Lafur, gan gytuno â'i pholisïau. O ran y cyfraniad arall gan Blaid Cymru, eisteddais yn syfrdan tra oeddwn yn gwranddo ar yr hyn a ddywedodd Gareth. Credaf mai'r dehongliad mwyaf caredig yw iddo godi nodiadau Helen Mary drwy gamgymeriad. Mae'n anodd credu ei fod yn coelio'r un gair o'r hyn a ddywedodd.

Gwnaeth y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog rai pwyntiau cadarnhaol am fusnes, a bod yn

but he did not tackle some of the issues that need immediate action, namely those on fuel poverty, home energy, housing, essential users of transport, the pressure on the local government budget, or those in relation to volunteers who are out of pocket due to fuel costs. Those are things that we can deal with in the Assembly. He concentrated on the macro-economic position, which, as David Melding very ably said in opening this debate, we cannot affect, except indirectly. There are many issues that he just did not touch on and, therefore, as much as I welcome his bipartisan approach, or suggestion of a bipartisan approach, it was not much in evidence in the response that he gave to the debate.

On the Labour Party, I remember when I asked the First Minister about the economic position on 13 May. I have checked this, and I was accused of talking Wales into a recession. Now, the First Minister has said that we are experiencing the worst banking crisis since 1929, which might be overdoing it a bit. There were two weighty contributions, if I can describe them like that, although I am not sure that I can, from the Labour side. The first was from Alun Davies, who mentioned the next Prime Minister, David Cameron, 12 times, the present Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, three times, and the present First Minister, Rhodri Morgan, not at all. That says a lot about his priorities. It was a slightly surreal contribution, in which he said that we have a rock in Gordon Brown who is a point of certainty and security. However, he is the man who wanted an early election, and then did not; the man who wanted to abolish the 10p tax rate, and then he did not; and the man who wanted to retain inheritance tax, and then he did not—and Joyce Watson must have missed the news that the Labour party is proposing to abolish inheritance tax except for the very rich. He wanted to leave those not domiciled in Britain untaxed, then he did not; he wanted to bring in a windfall tax, then he did not; and he wanted to give extra direct financial help to the fuel poor, then he did not. This is the man who is the rock. I will give him a word of advice: it does not go down well on the

deg, ond nid aeth i'r afael â rhai o'r materion y mae angen gweithredu arnynt ar unwaith, sef y rheini'n ymwneud â thlodi tanwydd, ynni cartref, tai, defnyddwyr cludiant hanfodol, y pwysau ar gyllideb llywodraeth leol, neu'r ystyriaethau ynglŷn â gwirfoddolwyr sydd ar eu colled oherwydd costau tanwydd. Mae'r rheini'n bethau y gallwn ddelio â hwy yn y Cynulliad. Canolbwytiodd ar y sefyllfa facro-economaidd sy'n rhywbeth, fel y dywedodd David Melding yn fedrus iawn wrth agor y ddadl hon, na allwn ddylanwadu arno, ac eithrio'n anuniongyrchol. Mae nifer o faterion na chyffyrddodd â hwy o gwbl, ac felly, er cymaint yr wyf yn croesawu ei ffordd ddwybleidiol o weithredu, neu'r awgrym o ffordd ddwybleidiol, nid oedd yn amlwg iawn yn yr ymateb a roddodd i'r ddadl.

O ran y Blaid Lafur, cofiaf yr adeg pan holais y Prif Weinidog ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa economaidd ar 13 Mai. Yr wyf wedi gwirio hyn, a chefais fy nghyhuddo o siarad Cymru i ddirwasgiad. Yn awr, mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi dweud ein bod yn mynd drwy'r argyfwng bancio gwaethaf er 1929, sydd efallai yn ei gor-ddweud hi braidd. Cafwyd dau gyfraniad swmpus, os gallaf eu disgrifio felly, er nad wyf yn siŵr a allaf, o ochr y blaid Lafur. Cafwyd y cyntaf gan Alun Davies, a grybwyllodd y Prif Weinidog nesaf, David Cameron, 12 gwaith, y Prif Weinidog presennol, Gordon Brown, dair gwaith, a Phrif Weinidog presennol Cymru, Rhodri Morgan, ddim o gwbl. Mae hynny'n dweud llawer am ei flaenoriaethau ef. Yr oedd yn gyfraniad swrrealiaidd braidd, lle dywedodd fod gennym graig yn Gordon Brown sy'n angor o sicrwydd a diogelwch. Fodd bynnag, ef yw'r dyn a oedd am gael etholiad cynnar, a newid ei feddwl wedyn; y dyn a oedd am ddileu'r gyfradd dreth 10c, a newid ei feddwl wedyn; a'r dyn a oedd am gadw'r dreth etifeddiaeth, a newid ei feddwl wedyn-mae'n rhaid bod Joyce Watson wedi colli'r newyddion fod y blaid Lafur yn bwriadu dileu treth etifeddiaeth ac eithrio i bobl gyfoethog iawn. Yr oedd am adael y rhai nad ydynt yn byw ym Mhrydain heb gael eu trethu, yna newidiodd ei feddwl; yr oedd am gyflwyno treth ar elw'r cwmnïau ynni, yna newidiodd ei feddwl; ac yr oedd am roi help ariannol uniongyrchol ychwanegol i'r tlodion

doorsteps to indulge in a kind of class warfare, attacking David Cameron for his wealthy background and the fact that he went to public school. Plenty of his colleagues on the benches here and at Westminster are similarly wealthy and went to public school. We saw the rich dividends that that approach led to in Crewe and Nantwich. That was just a word of advice that such an approach is not a good idea.

Alun Davies: Will you give way?

Nick Bourne: I do not have enough time to take an intervention.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Alun, he does not have enough time.

Nick Bourne: This is a serious debate, and I urge people to support what is a constructive debate. People will not welcome the flippant approach of just harking back to the past. There is much that can be done here. There were positive contributions from both opposition parties, mentioning things that can be done that the Government has not mentioned in the response to the debate today or, indeed, at all.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree amendment 1. Does any Member object? I see that there is objection. I will therefore defer all voting on this item until voting time.

tanwydd, yna newidiodd ei feddwl. Dyma'r dyn sy'n graig. Rhoddaf air o gyngor iddo; nid yw cynnal rhyw fath o ryfel dosbarth ar stepen y drws yn gwneud argraff dda, gan ymosod ar David Cameron oherwydd ei gefndir cefnog a'r ffaith iddo fynd i ysgol fonedd. Mae llawer o'i gyd-Aelodau ef ar y meinciau yma ac yn San Steffan hefyd yn gefnog ac wedi mynd i ysgol fonedd. Gwelsom y budd a ddaeth o hynny yn Crewe a Nantwich. Dim ond gair o gyngor oedd hynny nad yw gweithredu felly yn syniad da.

Alun Davies: A wnewch chi ildio?

Nick Bourne: Nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser i gymryd ymyriad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Alun, nid oes ganddo ddigon o amser.

Nick Bourne: Mae hon yn ddadl ddifrifol, ac anogaf bobl i gefnogi'r hyn sydd yn ddadl adeiladol. Ni fydd pobl yn croesawu'r agwedd wamal o ddal i rygnu sôn am y gorffennol. Mae llawer y gellir ei wneud yma. Cafwyd cyfraniadau cadarnhaol gan y ddwy wrthblaid, yn crybwyll pethau y mae modd eu gwneud ac nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi eu crybwyll yn yr ymateb i'r ddadl heddiw nac, yn wir, o gwbl.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw cytuno gwelliant 1. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf fod gwrthwynebiad. Gohiriaf bob pleidlais ar yr eitem hon felly tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Dadl Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate

Tai Fforddiadwy Affordable Housing

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Carwyn Jones, amendments 2, 4 and 5 in the name of William Graham, and amendment 3 in the name of Kirsty Williams. If amendment 1 is carried, amendments 2, 3, 4 and 5 will be deselected.

Peter Black: I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Carwyn Jones, gwelliannau 2, 4 a 5 yn enw William Graham, a gwelliant 3 yn enw Kirsty Williams. Os derbynnir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliannau 2, 3 a 4 yn cael eu dad-ddethol.

Peter Black: Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

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| <p>1. notes the current lack of affordable housing in Wales;</p> <p>2. calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to:</p> <p>a) develop the homebuy scheme into a fully funded key workers' scheme;</p> <p>b) begin a limited trial of urban housing enablers. (NDM4006)</p> | <p>1. yn nodi'r diffyg tai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd;</p> <p>2. yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i:</p> <p>a) ddatblygu'r cynllun cymorth prynu yn gynllun gweithwyr allweddol sydd wedi'i gyllido'n llawn.</p> <p>b) dechrau treial cyfyngedig o swyddogion galluogi tai trefol. (NDM4006)</p> |
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I propose amendment 3 in the name of Kirsty Williams. Add as a new sub point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiau welliant 3 yn enw Kirsty Williams.

c) develop a fully-funded strategy to bring empty homes back into use.

c) datblygu strategaeth sydd wedi'i chyllido'n llawn i aildddefnyddio cartrefi gwag.

I would just like to query your statement on amendment 3. It is an add-on to the motion as opposed to an amendment to the existing motion. I do not understand, therefore, why that amendment would be deselected if amendment 1 were passed. Perhaps you could get some advice on that, because it seems to me that if you are adding something to a motion, it should not be deselected.

Hoffwn godi cwestiwn ynglŷn â'r datganiad ar welliant 3. Ychwanegiad at y cynnig ydy yn hytrach na gwelliant i'r cynnig presennol. Nid wyf yn deall, felly, pam y byddai'r cynnig hwnnw'n cael ei ddad-ddethol pe bae gwelliant 1 yn cael ei dderbyn. Efallai y gallech geisio ychydig gyngor am hynny, oherwydd mae'n ymddangos i mi, os ydych yn ychwanegu rhywbeth at gynnig, na ddylai gael ei ddad-ddethol.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I have already received advice, thank you.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf eisoes wedi cael cyngor, diolch.

Peter Black: I can see that the Deputy First Minister is laughing, but when there are so many empty properties around, it is not a laughing matter. I am sure that those people who have to put up with the blight of empty properties would want a proper discussion and a chance for Members to vote on whether we should have an empty property strategy to deal with a situation, which is a blight on many communities. I am sure that those people who have to put up with the situation do not find it funny.

Peter Black: Gwelaf fod y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn chwerthin, ond gyda chynifer o dai gwag, nid yw'n fater o chwerthin. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai'r bobl hynny sy'n gorfod dioddef malltod tai gwag am gael trafodaeth iawn a chyfle i'r Aelodau bleidleisio a ddylem gael strategaeth ar gyfer tai gwag er mwyn delio â sefyllfa sy'n falltod mewn llawer cymuned. Yr wyf yn siŵr nad yw'r bobl hynny sy'n gorfod dioddef y sefyllfa yn ei gweld yn ddigrif.

In proposing this motion and the amendment, I wish to say that there is no great significance in the fact that we have sought to amend our own motion. The amendment is there because of an oversight in the drafting of the motion. I felt that the action to deal

Wrth gyflwyno'r cynnig hwn a'r gwelliant, hoffwn ddweud nad oes dim arwyddocâd mawr yn y ffaith ein bod wedi ceisio ychwanegu gwelliant at ein cynnig ein hunain. Mae'r gwelliant yno oherwydd amryfusedd wrth ddrafftio'r cynnig. Teimlwn

with empty properties was so important that we had to have a proper debate on that in particular. For all the criticism that I have made of the Welsh Assembly Government's housing policies and the action that it has taken to deal with the affordable housing crisis—and I stand by some of that criticism—I acknowledge that some of its policies and some of the actions that it has started to take are valid and will, I believe, have an impact on the situation that we are facing.

I refer in particular to the mortgage rescue scheme, which the Deputy First Minister—I am sorry, the Deputy Minister for Housing; there are too many deputies in this place—has announced. That will put some money into helping people to stay in their own homes, and, because it is based on a homebuy-type scheme, it will also enable people to pay their mortgage while retaining some equity in their property. That is a commendable scheme, and one that I hope has a high take-up. I will be looking to the Deputy Minister for Housing to report to Plenary and to committee on the impact and effectiveness of that scheme, and we will be looking to see whether all the money that has been allocated to it is used, to see whether it is oversubscribed, and to see how it is advertised. The scheme has a great deal of promise, and I hope that those people who are in danger of losing their home will be able to access it and make use of it.

I referred earlier during questions to the 18,000 empty properties that have been identified around Wales by the Local Government Data Unit. Those figures were for 2006-07, and I understand that Shelter Cymru and the Empty Homes Agency estimate that there are in fact around 24,500 empty homes in Wales at present, which have been empty for more than six months. Anyone who has an empty property in their community—and I live next to one, although it has not got into a bad condition yet—will know how communities can be blighted by those properties. I know of several properties in my area that have been empty for 20 years or more and which are causing damp problems and other structural problems to

fod gweithredu i ddelio â thai gwag mor bwysig fel bod rhaid inni gael dadl iawn ar hynny yn arbennig. Er gwaethaf fy holl feirniadaeth o bolisiau tai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r camau y mae wedi'u cymryd i ddelio â'r argyfwng tai fforddiadwy—ac yr wyf yn dal i arddel peth o'r feirniadaeth honno—yr wyf yn cydnabod bod rhai o'i pholisiau a rhai o'r camau gweithredu y mae wedi dechrau arnynt yn ddilys ac y byddant, fe gredaf, yn effeithio ar y sefyllfa sy'n ein hwynebu.

Cyfeiriaf yn arbennig at y cynllun achub morgeisi y mae'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog—mae'n ddrwg gennyf, y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai; mae gormod o ddirprwyon yn y lle hwn—wedi'i gyhoeddi. Bydd hwnnw'n darparu rhywfaint o arian i helpu pobl i aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, a chan ei fod wedi'i seilio ar gynllun i'r cynllun cymorth prynu, bydd hefyd yn galluogi pobl i dalu eu morgais a chadw rhywfaint o ecwiti yn eu heiddo. Mae hwnnw'n gynllun i'w gymeradwyo, ac yn un y bydd llawer o bobl yn manteisio arno, gobeithio. Byddaf yn disgwyl i'r Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai gyflwyno adroddiad i'r Cyfarfod Llawn ac i'r pwyllgor ar effaith ac effeithiolrwydd y cynllun hwnnw, a byddwn yn edrych i weld a yw'r holl arian a ddyrannwyd iddo wedi ei ddefnyddio, i weld a gafwyd mwy o geisiadau nag y gellid eu caniatáu, ac i weld sut y cafodd ei hysbysebu. Mae yn y cynllun lawer iawn o addewid, a gobeithio y bydd y bobl hynny sydd mewn perygl o golli eu cartrefi yn gallu troi ato a'i ddefnyddio.

Cyfeiriais yn gynharach yn ystod y cwestiynau at y 18,000 o dai gwag sydd wedi eu nodi o amgylch Cymru gan yr Uned Ddata Llywodraeth Leol. Ffigurau ar gyfer 2006-07 oedd y rheini, a deallaf fod Shelter Cymru a'r Asiantaeth Cartrefi Gwag yn amcangyfrif fod yna mewn gwirionedd oddeutu 24,500 o dai gwag yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd sydd wedi bod yn wag ers dros chwe mis. Bydd unrhyw un sydd ag eiddo gwag yn eu cymuned-ac yr wyf fi'n byw drws nesaf i un, er nad yw wedi mynd i gyflwr drwg eto-yn gwybod fel y mae'r tai hyn yn gallu bod yn falltod ar gymunedau. Gwn am sawl eiddo yn fy ardal i sy'n wag ers 20 mlynedd neu fwy ac sy'n achosi problemau lleithder a phroblemau strwythurol eraill i eiddo cyfagos. Er bod y

nearby properties. Although the council uses the powers that are available to it to try to put them right, it can be impossible to persuade or cajole the owners into doing anything about them.

The biggest tragedy is that you have 24,500 properties empty and over 86,000 people on a waiting list for affordable housing, and people are losing their homes every day. Not enough is being done to bring those properties back into use. I hope that we can have an empty homes strategy—and I note the Deputy Minister for Housing's earlier comments about a fully funded empty homes strategy; if you are going to have a strategy it has to be properly funded—so that we can show that we are doing something about the situation. It seems that, of all the Assembly Government's housing policies, this is what is missing at present: a proper strategy to deal with empty properties.

In saying that we should have a fully funded strategy, I do not mean that the Assembly Government—or local government—should go out and buy up empty properties and spend huge amounts of money, because that is not practical, despite what the Deputy Minister for Housing implied earlier. What I am talking about is giving local authorities the tools to deal with the problem, and giving them resources so that they can put those tools into effect. The empty dwelling management orders that the Deputy Minister for Housing referred to earlier and which were brought in in 2006 are available but, as she correctly stated, not one has yet been brought to completion. One is in the offing, through the City and County of Swansea Council, and that is the first such order to be brought in in Wales.

Local councils are not rushing to use these orders because of the list of perhaps a dozen exemptions that apply to them, and the amount of work that is required to trace the owners and to negotiate with them, and then to submit the application to the relevant tribunal to implement the order. Effectively, these orders only work if you have a property that is in a reasonable condition, which does not fall within the exemptions, and which can be brought back into use virtually straight away, without any huge capital expenditure

cyngor yn defnyddio'r pwerau sydd ar gael iddo i geisio datrys y problemau, gall fod yn amhosibl perswadio neu gymell y perchnogion i wneud rhywbeth amdanynt.

Y drasiedi fwyaf yw bod gennych 24,500 o eiddo gwag a thros 86,000 o bobl ar restr aros am dai fforddiadwy, ac mae pobl yn colli eu cartrefi bob dydd. Nid oes digon yn cael ei wneud i aildechrau defnyddio'r tai hyn. Gobeithio y gallwn gael strategaeth ar dai gwaga nodaf sylwadau'r Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai yn gynharach ynglŷn â strategaeth wedi'i chyllido'n llawn ar gartrefi gwag; os ydych i gael strategaeth, rhaid iddi gael ei chyllido'n iawn-fel y gallwn ddangos ein bod yn gwneud rhywbeth am y sefyllfa. Mae'n ymddangos, o holl bolisiau tai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, mai dyma sydd ar goll ar hyn o bryd: strategaeth iawn i ddelio â thai gwag.

Wrth ddweud y dylai fod gennym strategaeth wedi ei chyllido'n llawn, nid wyf yn golygu y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad-na llywodraeth leol-fynd allan i brynu tai gwag a gwario symiau enfawr o arian, oherwydd nid yw hynny'n ymarferol, er gwaethaf yr hyn a awgrymodd y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai yn gynharach. Yr hyn yr wyf yn sôn amdano yw rhoi'r arfau i awdurdodau lleol i ddelio â'r broblem, a rhoi'r adnoddau iddynt fel y gallant roi'r arfau hynny ar waith. Mae'r gorchmynion i reoli anheddau gwag y cyfeiriodd y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai atynt yn gynharach ac a gyflwynwyd yn 2006 ar gael, ond fel y dywedodd yn gywir, nid oes un wedi cael ei gwblhau eto. Mae un yn yr arfaeth, drwy Gyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe, a dyma'r gorchymyn cyntaf o'i fath i gael ei gyflwyno yng Nghymru.

Nid yw cynghorau lleol yn rhuthro i lunio'r gorchmynion hyn oherwydd y rhestr o ddwsin efallai o eithriadau sy'bn gymwys iddynt, a'r gwaith sy'n ofynnol i ddod o hyd i'r perchenogion ac i drafod gyda hwy, ac yna i gyflwyno'r cais i'r tribiwnlys perthnasol er mwyn gweithredu'r gorchymyn. I bob diben, mae'r gorchmynion hyn yn gweithio dim ond os oes gennych eiddo sydd mewn cyflwr rhesymol, nad yw'n dod o fewn yr eithriadau, y mae modd aildechrau ei ddefnyddio fwy neu lai ar

on behalf of councils, because councils need to recoup any expenditure that they make on these properties and on this order within the seven-year period for which the order lasts. Therefore, although these are a useful tool, they are not the sole answer to the empty homes issue around Wales.

4.40 p.m.

I referred earlier to a proposal that councils should perhaps have more latitude in the amount of council tax that they charge on empty properties, which is a way forward. The Deputy Minister said that no representations have been made to her on that, and I am happy to accept her assurance on that, but representations were made in the previous Assembly to Sue Essex in her role as Minister. I am also aware that officials from the Deputy Minister's department have been approached by a number of local councils about this issue. If local councils have the power to penalise owners who allow properties to fall into dereliction and disrepair over a period of time and to ratchet up that punitive action against those landowners, those landowners may allow their properties to come back into use. I am not asking the Deputy Minister to give a commitment now, but as part of the work that her department is doing on empty properties, I ask her seriously to consider changing the legislation to give councils that flexibility and those powers.

While she is at it, she might also look at how valuation tribunals deal with empty properties. Some valuation tribunals have a habit of taking empty properties off their list altogether when they consider that they are not fit for habitation. That may sound like a perfectly reasonable thing to do if you are a valuation tribunal, but that property is still sitting there in the community and it no longer features on the council tax list, so the owner is not even being taxed, nor is there the potential of his or her being taxed, for the failure to do anything with that property.

Those are some suggestions for things that could go into an empty property strategy,

heb unrhyw wariant cyfalaf enfawr ar ran y cynghorau, oherwydd mae angen i'r cynghorau adennill unrhyw arian a wariant ar y tai hyn ac ar y gorchymyn hwn o fewn y cyfnod o saith mlynedd tra bydd y gorchymyn mewn grym. Felly, er bod y rhain yn arf defnyddiol, nid dyma'r unig ateb i broblem cartrefi gwag ar draws Cymru.

Cyfeiriais yn gynharach at gynnig y dylai cynghorau gael mwy o ryddid o ran faint o dreth gyngor a godant ar dai gwag, sy'n un ffordd ymlaen. Dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog nad oes dim sylwadau wedi eu cyflwyno iddi ar hynny, ac yr wyf yn hapus i dderbyn y sicrwydd a roddodd ynglŷn â hynny. Ond cafodd sylwadau eu cyflwyno yn y Cynulliad blaenorol i Sue Essex yn ei rôl fel Gweinidog. Yr wyf hefyd yn ymwybodol fod nifer o gynghorau lleol wedi cysylltu ag adran y Dirprwy Weinidog ynglŷn â'r mater hwn. Pe bai gan gynghorau lleol y pŵer i gosbi perchenogion sy'n caniatáu i eiddo ddirywio a dadfeilio dros gyfnod o amser ac i gymryd camau cosbi cynyddol yn erbyn y tîrfeiddianwyr hynny, efallai y byddai'r tîrfeiddianwyr hynny'n caniatáu i'w heiddo ailddechrau cael ei ddefnyddio. Nid wyf yn gofyn i'r Dirprwy Weinidog roi addewid yn awr, ond fel rhan o'r gwaith y mae ei hadran yn ei wneud ar dai gwag, gofynnaf iddi o ddifrif ystyried newid y ddeddfwriaeth er mwyn rhoi'r hyblygrwydd hwnnw a'r pwerau hynny i gynghorau.

Tra bydd hi wrthi, efallai y gallai edrych hefyd ar y ffordd y mae tribiwnlysoedd prisio yn delio â thai gwag. Mae'n arfer gan rai tribiwnlysoedd prisio i dynnu eiddo gwag oddi ar eu rhestr yn gyfan gwbl pan fyddant o'r farn nad ydynt yn addas i fyw ynddynt. Efallai fod hynny'n swnio'n beth hollol resymol i'w wneud os mai tribiwnlys prisio ydych, ond mae'r eiddo hwnnw yn dal yno yn eistedd yn y gymuned ac nid yw mwyach yn ymddangos ar restr y dreth gyngor, felly nid yw'r perchennog hyd yn oed yn cael ei drethu, ac nid oes potensial ychwaith iddo gael ei drethu, am y methiant i wneud unrhyw beth â'r eiddo hwnnw.

Dyna rai awgrymiadau ynglŷn â phethau a allai gael eu cynnwys mewn strategaeth ar

along with giving councils the power to do more with empty dwelling management orders and the resources to do that, or perhaps looking at what limited resources they could have to pursue owners in a more forthright and effective way.

In the other parts of this motion, we refer to the homebuy scheme, and the Deputy Minister said earlier that she is in the process of putting a homebuy scheme into operation, which I welcome. What is the timescale for that homebuy scheme being re-introduced? I accept her assurances and what she says about the homebuy scheme needing to be better targeted; we need to target the homebuy scheme at the people who need it most. However, there has not been a proper scheme in place for over a year. We do not seem to have anything that will help people, particularly those in urban areas, who might use such a scheme, for example key workers and those on low incomes. Local government and others need to have more tools at their disposal to deal with the problem of affordable housing in this country.

In conclusion, this is not an outright attack on the Government; we are trying to make a constructive contribution to the debate on affordable housing and put forward some ideas that I hope that the Government will take on board so that a more complete strategy to tackle the problem for the short, medium and long term can be delivered.

The Deputy Minister for Housing (Jocelyn Davies): I propose amendment 1 in the name of Carwyn Jones. Delete point 2 and replace with:

2. *welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to:*

a) *develop the homebuy scheme;*

b) *support affordable housing enablers across rural and urban Wales.*

Mark Isherwood: I propose the following amendments in the name of William Graham. Amendment 2: in point 2a, delete all after 'develop the homebuy scheme into' and replace with:

eiddo gwag, ynghyd â rhoi'r pŵer i gynghorau wneud mwy â gorchmynion rheoli anheddau gwag a'r adnoddau i wneud hynny, neu edrych efallai ar ba adnoddau cyfyngedig y gallent eu cael i fynd ar ôl perchenogion mewn ffordd fwy uniongyrchol ac effeithiol.

Yn y rhannau eraill o'r cynnig hwn, yr ydym yn cyfeirio at y cynllun cymorth prynu, a dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn gynharach ei bod yn y broses o roi cynllun cymorth prynu ar waith, ac yr wyf yn croesawu hynny. Beth yw'r amserlen ar gyfer ailgyflwyno'r cynllun cymorth prynu? Yr wyf yn derbyn y sicrwydd a roddodd a'r hyn a ddywed ynglŷn â'r angen i dargedu'r cynllun cymorth prynu yn well at y bobl y mae'r mwyaf o'i angen arnynt. Fodd bynnag, ni fu cynllun iawn ar waith ers dros flwyddyn. Nid ydym wedi gweld dim a fydd yn helpu pobl, yn enwedig pobl mewn ardaloedd trefol, a allai ddefnyddio cynllun o'r fath, er enghraifft, gweithwyr allweddol a phobl ar incwm isel. Mae angen i ragor o arfau fod ar gael i lywodraeth leol ac eraill i ddelio â'r broblem tai fforddiadwy yn y wlad hon.

I gloi, nid ymosodiad pur ar eich Llywodraeth mo hwn; yr ydym yn ceisio gwneud cyfraniad adeiladol at y ddadl am dai fforddiadwy a chynnig rhai syniadau y bydd y Llywodraeth, gobeithio, yn eu derbyn fel y bydd modd rhoi strategaeth fwy cyflawn ar waith i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem yn y tymor byr, canolig a hir.

Y Diprwy Weinidog dros Dai (Jocelyn Davies): Cynigiau welliant 1 yn enw Carwyn Jones. Dileu pwynt 2 a rhoi yn ei le:

2. *welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to:*

a) *develop the homebuy scheme;*

b) *support affordable housing enablers across rural and urban Wales.*

Mark Isherwood: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw William Graham. Gwelliant 1: ym mhwynt 2a, dileu popeth ar ôl: 'datblygu'r cynllun cymorth prynu yn' a rhoi yn ei le:

a funded package of low-cost homeownership schemes which can be applied flexibly by housing associations working with key partners.

Amendment 4: add a new subpoint at the end of the motion:

inject additional funds into social and intermediate housing budgets.

Amendment 5: add a new subpoint at the end of the motion:

develop plans for a sustainable secondary housing market.

Wales had a housing crisis before the credit crunch, but the credit crunch has only served to make it worse. The Assembly Government's affordable housing plans have gone up in smoke as developers and mortgage lenders have pulled out. Labour's social housing budget cuts had already meant a 75 per cent cut in new affordable housing, and the credit crunch adds insult to injury.

Those who claim that the credit crunch is entirely a United States creation are deluding themselves and misleading the public. The International Monetary Fund has declared that the UK's banking system is the most exposed to low quality, sub-prime lending in the world. Sub-prime lenders have a share in UK court activity for repossessions of up to 10 times their market share, and Wales is the worst-hit part of the UK for repossession orders. Repossessions are normally a consequence of economic downturn, but this time they are also a cause.

The Financial Services Authority admitted that it failed to act on signals that Northern Rock was acting recklessly, and the fall-out is now reverberating across the sector. Although the vast majority of UK mortgage assets continue to perform well, the consequences of Labour imprudence and regulatory failure are now upon us. We will now have to tackle the underlying causes of the problem: excessive debt, over-borrowing

becyn wedi'i gyllido o gynlluniau perchentyaeth gost isel y gellid eu defnyddio'n hyblyg gan gymdeithasau tai sy'n gweithio gyda phartneriaid allweddol.

Gwelliant 4: ychwanegu is-bwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

rhoi cronfeydd ychwanegol i gyllidebau tai cymdeithasol a chanolradd.

Gwelliant 5: ychwanegu is-bwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

datblygu cynlluniau ar gyfer marchnad dai eilaidd gynaliadwy.

Yr oedd yng Nghymru argyfwng tai cyn y wasgfa greddyd, ond nid yw'r wasgfa greddyd ond wedi ei wneud yn waeth. Mae cynlluniau tai fforddiadwy Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi mynd i'r gwellt wrth i ddatblygwyr a benthyccwyr morgesi dynnu'n ôl. Yr oedd toriadau Llafur i'r gyllideb tai cymdeithasol eisoes wedi golygu gostyngiad o 75 y cant mewn tai fforddiadwy newydd, ac mae'r wasgfa greddyd yn rhoi halen yn y briw.

Mae'r rhai sy'n honni mai rhywbeth o wneuthuriad yr Unol Daleithiau yn llwyr yw'r wasgfa greddyd yn twyllo eu hunain ac yn camarwain y cyhoedd. Mae'r Gronfa Ariannol Ryngwladol wedi datgan mai system fancio'r DU yw'r un sydd fwyaf agored i is-fenthyca o safon isel yn y byd. Mae cyfran is-fenthyccwyr o weithgarwch llysoedd y DU ar adfeddiannu tai hyd at 10 gwaith eu cyfran o'r farchnad, a Chymru yw'r rhan o'r DU sy'n cael ei tharo waethaf gan orchmynion adfeddiannu. Fel rheol, canlyniad dirywiad economaidd yw achosion adfeddiannu, ond y tro hwn maent hefyd yn un o'r ffactorau sydd wedi achosi'r dirywiad.

Cyfaddefodd yr Awdurdod Gwasanaethau Ariannol iddo fethu â gweithredu ar arwyddion fod Northern Rock yn gweithredu'n rhyfygus, ac mae'r canlyniadau'n datseinio ar draws y sector erbyn hyn. Er bod mwyafrif helaeth asedau morgais y DU yn dal i berfformio'n dda, mae canlyniad annoethineb Llafur a meddiant rheoliadol bellach wedi dod i'r rhan. Bydd rhaid inni bellach fynd i'r afael ag achosion

and a dysfunctional regulatory system. Labour broke the housing ladder and created the housing crisis, and its Plaid Cymru partners in Government are now seeking to plug the holes on a sinking ship. It is because urgent action is required that I propose amendments 2, 4 and 5.

We support key worker housing. A letter received from a police chief superintendent in north Wales advised that the force is losing officers to English forces and called for a pilot key worker scheme with the aim of maintaining key skilled workers in the area. However, the need for affordable housing extends well beyond key workers. We must therefore develop the homebuy scheme into a funded package of low-cost home ownership schemes that can be applied flexibly by housing associations working with key partners.

The UK Government at least is showing belated interest in low-cost home ownership schemes in England. However, the focus of the Assembly Government remains a report on the homebuy scheme that was already obsolete when it was launched at a housing conference in Wales in April 2007. I was at that conference and I heard at first hand of Welsh housing associations' success in developing small-scale affordable schemes with their own limited resources, using flexible shared ownership models adapted to each scheme. However, their resources are limited and they need Assembly Government funding to roll this out on the scale required.

There are tens of thousands of people on housing waiting lists, and so the same point applies to social rented housing. In relation to affordable housing, it was stated at Monday's Mersey Dee Alliance annual general meeting, at which the Welsh Assembly Government was represented, that having house prices that are in excess of six times the average income is detrimental to growth. Housing also impacts on health, education, addiction,

sylyfaenol y broblem: dyledion gormodol, gorfenthyca a system reoliadol gamweithredol. Torrodd Llafur yr ysgol dai a chreu'r argyfwng tai, ac mae ei phartneriaid mewn Llywodraeth, Plaid Cymru, bellach yn ceisio cau'r tyllau ar long sy'n suddo. Oherwydd bod angen gweithredu ar frys y cynigiais welliannau 2,4 a 5.

Yr ydym yn cefnogi'r cynllun tai i weithwyr allweddol. Mewn llythyr oddi wrth brif uwch-arolygydd yng ngogledd Cymru, dywedwyd bod yr heddlu'n colli swyddogion sy'n mynd at heddluoedd yn Lloegr, a galwyd am gynllun peilot i weithwyr allweddol gyda'r nod o gadw gweithwyr medrus allweddol yn yr ardal. Fodd bynnag, mae'r angen am dai fforddiadwy yn ymestyn ymhell y tu hwnt i weithwyr allweddol. Rhaid inni felly ddatblygu'r cynllun cymorth prynu yn becyn a ariennir o gynlluniau perchentyaeth cost isel, pecyn y gellir ei ddefnyddio'n hyblyg gan gymdeithasau tai gyda phartneriaid allweddol.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU o leiaf yn dangos diddordeb yn ddiweddar mewn cynlluniau perchentyaeth cost isel yn Lloegr. Serch hynny, canolbwynt sylw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o hyd yw adroddiad ar y cynllun cymorth prynu oedd eisoes wedi'i ddisodli pan gafodd ei lansio mewn cynhadledd dai yng Nghymru ym mis Ebrill 2007. Yr oeddwn yn bresennol yn y gynhadledd honno a chlywais yn uniongyrchol am lwyddiant cymdeithasau tai Cymru wrth iddynt ddatblygu cynlluniau fforddiadwy graddfa fach â'u hadnoddau cyfyngedig eu hunain, gan ddefnyddio modelau rhanberchenogaeth hyblyg wedi'u haddasu i bob cynllun. Serch hynny, mae eu hadnoddau'n gyfyngedig ac mae arnynt angen cyllid gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i gyflwyno hyn ar y raddfa angenrheidiol.

Mae degau o filoedd o bobl ar restrau aros am dai, ac felly mae'r un pwynt yn gymwys i dai cymdeithasol ar rent. O ran tai fforddiadwy, dywedwyd yng nghyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol Cynghrair Mersi a Dyfrdwy ddydd Llun, lle'r oedd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'i chynrychioli, fod cael prisiau tai sydd dros chwe gwaith yr incwm cyfartalog yn niweidiol i dwf. Mae tai'n cael effaith hefyd ar iechyd, addysg,

abuse, crime and poverty. Positive action is therefore needed to increase the supply of affordable housing for rent or purchase. We cannot simply rely on the credit crunch to reduce demand and therefore prices, or on housing associations to acquire dwellings from the private sector. With only one new affordable dwelling provided since devolution for every four provided by the previous Conservative Government, and with economic conditions driving out developers and mortgage lenders, additional Government funds must be injected into social and intermediate housing budgets. Those budgets are still less than they were in 1997. That is what both Labour and Conservative Governments did in the post-war years, and also what the last Conservative Government did during the last housing crisis: an extra £35 million in social housing grant was made available in Wales in 1992 to 1993. Without that, the Assembly Government will not achieve even its modest social housing target of providing 6,500 affordable homes between 2007 and 2011, especially when you consider that only 343 new dwellings in Wales were completed by registered social landlords during 2007-08.

As Cymuned states, we must also develop plans for a sustainable secondary housing market, including community land trusts, which recognise that the community housing needs of people living in social and low-cost housing change throughout their lives. To achieve all of this, local authority planning approval will need to comply with a national definition of affordable housing based on local incomes at county or ward levels, and a so-called occupancy cascade whereby eligibility criteria for affordable housing genuinely prioritises local people.

Kirsty Williams: First, I acknowledge that the Deputy Minister for Housing has, in her relatively short period in office, taken many steps to address the issues that we are discussing today, including a new

caethiwed, cam-drin, troseddau a thlodi. Felly, mae gweithredu cadarnhaol yn angenrheidiol i gynyddu'r cyflenwad o dai fforddiadwy i'w rhentu neu eu prynu. Nid oes diben inni ddibynnu ar y wasgfa gredyd i leihau'r galw ac felly leihau'r prisiau, nac ar gymdeithasau tai i gael anheddau o'r sector preifat. O gofio mai un annedd fforddiadwy'n unig sydd wedi ei darparu ers datganoli am bob pedair a ddarparwyd gan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol flaenorol, a chydag amodau economaidd yn gyrru datblygwyr a benthywyr morgeisi i ffwrdd, rhaid i gronfeydd ychwanegol o du'r Llywodraeth gael eu chwistrellu i mewn i gyllidebau tai cymdeithasol a chanolraddol. Mae'r cyllidebau hynny'n dal yn llai nag oeddent yn 1997. Dyna a wnaeth Llywodraethau Llafur a Cheidwadol yn y blynyddoedd wedi'r rhyfel, a hefyd y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf yn ystod yr argyfwng tai diwethaf: yng Nghymru yn 1992 hyd 1993 darparwyd £35 miliwn yn ychwanegol mewn grant tai cymdeithasol. Heb hynny, ni fydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cyrraedd hyd yn oed ei tharged cymedrol ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol, sef darparu 6,500 o dai fforddiadwy rhwng 2007 a 2011, yn arbennig pan ystyriwch mai 343 yn unig o anheddau newydd a gwblhawyd yng Nghymru gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig yn ystod 2007-08.

Fel y dywed Cymuned, rhaid inni hefyd ddatblygu cynlluniau ar gyfer marchnad dai eilaidd gynaliadwy, gan gynnwys ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol, sy'n cydnabod bod anghenion pobl sy'n byw mewn tai cymdeithasol a rhad ynglŷn â thai cymdeithasol yn newid drwy gydol eu bywydau. I gyflawni hyn i gyd, rhaid i gymeradwyaeth gynllunio gan awdurdodau lleol gydymffurfio â diffiniad cenedlaethol o'r hyn yw tai fforddiadwy, yn seiliedig ar incymau lleol ar lefelau sir neu ward, a'r hyn a elwir yn rhaeadr feddiannaeth lle mae'r meini prawf cymhwysedd ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy yn rhoi blaenoriaeth wirioneddol i bobl leol.

Kirsty Williams: Yn gyntaf, yr wyf yn cydnabod bod y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai, yn ei chyfnod cymharol fyr yn ei swydd, wedi cymryd nifer o gamau i ymdrin â'r materion a drafodir gennym heddiw, gan

commitment to making the new homebuy scheme a priority and support for rural housing enablers across Wales. I am sure that those steps will make a difference. However, a number of barriers remain to delivering affordable homes for people in rural areas.

4.50 p.m.

For large-scale developments section 106 agreements can be used to develop low-cost housing without the use of social housing grant. However, rural exception sites are totally reliant on social housing grant for homes to be made a reality. However, the money that the Assembly Government makes available via the social housing grant is dependent upon the location of the site. The Government uses its acceptable cost guidance to ascertain how much money will be available for housing development on the site. My argument is that the way in which the acceptable cost guidance dictates that this is calculated discriminates against rural areas and does not take into consideration the additional costs of sometimes very small-scale developments compared to much larger affordable housing estates.

For instance, if one looks at the banding, many of the wards in my constituency of Powys that are in desperate need of new affordable homes for local people are in band 1, which means that they attract much less funding than areas of Newport, say. I do not deny that people in urban areas also need to have access to affordable homes. However, those sites attract a great deal more money than sites in my area. Often, what is most acceptable and most needed in rural communities is small-scale development of perhaps two or three units in a small village or hamlet, rather than large-scale development. Often, that is also more acceptable to the community. I am sure that we have all been in public meetings at which people have said that they agree with the principle of affordable or social housing but that they just do not want it in their village where they have been able to afford to buy their house. They do not acknowledge that it

gynnwys ymrwymiad newydd i wneud y cynllun prynu newydd yn flaenoriaeth, a chefnogaeth i swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig ar hyd a lled Cymru. Yr wyf yn sicr y bydd y camau hynny'n gwneud gwahaniaeth. Serch hynny, mae nifer o rwystrau'n dal i atal y gwaith o ddarparu tai fforddiadwy i bobl mewn ardaloedd gwledig.

Ar gyfer datblygiadau ar raddfa fawr, gellir defnyddio cytundebau adran 106 i ddatblygu tai rhad heb ddefnyddio grantiau tai cymdeithasol. Fodd bynnag, mae safleoedd eithriad gwledig yn gwbl ddibynnol ar y grant tai cymdeithasol i gartrefi gael eu gwneud yn realiti. Er hynny, mae'r arian a ddarperir gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad drwy'r grant tai cymdeithasol yn ddibynnol ar leoliad y safle. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn defnyddio'i chanllawiau costau derbyniol i gadarnhau faint o arian fydd ar gael ar gyfer datblygu tai ar y safle. Fy nadl i yw bod y ffordd y mae'r canllawiau costau derbyniol yn mynnu bod hyn yn cael ei gyfrif yn camwahaniaethu yn erbyn ardaloedd gwledig, ac nad yw'n cymryd i ystyriaeth y costau ychwanegol sydd weithiau'n gysylltiedig â datblygiadau bach iawn o'u cymharu ag ystadau tai fforddiadwy llawer mwy.

Er enghraifft, os edrychwn ar y bandio, ym mand 1 y mae nifer o'r wardiau yn fy etholaeth i, Powys, sydd arnynt angen dybryd am dai newydd fforddiadwy, ac mae hynny'n golygu eu bod yn denu llawer llai o gyllid nag ardaloedd yng Nghasnewydd, dyweder. Nid wyf yn gwadu nad oes angen i bobl mewn ardaloedd trefol hefyd allu cael tai fforddiadwy. Fodd bynnag, mae'r safleoedd hynny'n denu llawer mwy o arian na safleoedd yn fy ardal i. Yn aml, yr hyn sydd fwyaf derbyniol a mwyaf angenrheidiol mewn cymunedau gwledig yw datblygiad ar raddfa fach o ddwy neu dair uned, efallai, mewn pentref bach neu bentrefan, yn hytrach na datblygiad ar raddfa fawr. Yn aml, mae hynny'n fwy derbyniol i'r gymuned hefyd. Yr wyf yn sicr ein bod i gyd wedi bod mewn cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus lle mae pobl wedi dweud eu bod yn cytuno ag egwyddor tai fforddiadwy neu dai cymdeithasol ond nad ydynt am weld hynny yn eu pentref hwy lle

is often the sons and daughters of their neighbours who need the development in that village or the consequences for the village or town if they cannot keep key workers or young people housed in the community.

Therefore, my challenge to the Minister today is to explain to me why we are facing this situation with the acceptable cost guidance and whether she is willing to look again at whether changes could be made to the system that would make the provision of affordable housing much easier in rural communities.

Rural exception sites require 100 per cent affordable housing, and, in a few weeks' time, I look forward to opening the new homes in Crickhowell, built on our rural exception site, which the Minister has visited. The homes are ready and local families will be occupying them, and it will be a great pleasure to go there. However, identifying that site and making it available took years longer than was necessary. Is there scope for looking at turning the use of rural exception sites on its head so that, rather than saying that they must have 100 per cent affordable housing, we perhaps allow a percentage of such sites to be available for open market housing? I believe that that would free up the flow of land and make more sites available. Again, I ask the Minister to consider a review of the way in which rural exception sites have been used, and to look at how many have been successful, how many real homes for real people have been created by this policy and what can be done to free up the flow of land being made available for homes to be developed. I trust that the Minister will take on board these points and come back, if not today, in writing, on whether she could review these two examples of the holding up of the development of what everyone in the Assembly wants to see, and that is more affordable homes for rural families.

Joyce Watson: I ask the Minister to look at physical adaptation grants, which play an important part in enabling people to stay in

maent wedi gallu fforddio prynu eu tŷ. Nid ydynt yn cydnabod mai meibion a merched eu cymdogion, yn aml, sydd ag angen y datblygiad yn y pentref hwnnw, nac yn cydnabod beth fydd y canlyniadau i'r pentref neu'r dref os na allant gadw gweithwyr allweddol na phobl ifanc mewn tai yn y gymuned.

Felly, fy her i'r Gweinidog heddiw yw iddi esbonio imi pam yr ydym yn wynebu'r sefyllfa hon gyda'r canllawiau costau derbynol, ac a yw hi'n fodlon ystyried eto a ellir cyflwyno newidiadau yn y system a'i gwnâi'n haws o lawer darparu tai fforddiadwy mewn cymunedau gwledig.

Mewn safleoedd eithriad gwledig, mae'n ofynnol cael 100 y cant o dai fforddiadwy, ac edrychaf ymlaen at agor, ymhen ychydig wythnosau, y cartrefi newydd yng Nghrucywel a adeiladwyd ar ein safle eithriad gwledig yr ymwelodd y Gweinidog ag ef. Mae'r cartrefi'n barod, a bydd teuluoedd lleol yn byw ynddynt, a boddhad pur fydd mynd yno. Fodd bynnag, cymerwyd blynyddoedd yn hwy nag oedd rhaid i nodi'r safle hwnnw a sicrhau ei fod ar gael. A oes cyfle i ystyried newid y modd y caiff safleoedd eithriad gwledig eu defnyddio er mwyn inni efallai, yn hytrach na dweud ei bod yn rhaid iddynt gael 100 y cant o dai fforddiadwy, yn caniatáu i ganran o safleoedd o'r fath fod ar gael ar gyfer tai ar y farchnad agored? Credaf y byddai hynny'n rhyddhau'r llif tir ac yn darparu mwy o safleoedd. Eto, gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ystyried sefydlu adolygiad o'r ffordd y mae safleoedd eithriad gwledig wedi cael eu defnyddio, a rhoi sylw i faint ohonynt sydd wedi llwyddo, faint o gartrefi i bobl go-iawn a grëwyd gan y polisi hwn, a beth y gellir ei wneud i ryddhau'r llif tir a ddarperir ar gyfer cartrefi i'w datblygu. Hyderaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn ystyried y pwyntiau hyn ac yn ymateb, os nad heddiw, yn ysgrifenedig ynghylch a allai adolygu'r ddwy enghraifft hyn o oedi datblygu'r hyn y mae pawb yn y Cynulliad am ei weld, sef mwy o gartrefi fforddiadwy i deuluoedd gwledig.

Joyce Watson: Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ystyried grantiau addasiadau ffisegol, sy'n bwysig wrth alluogi pobl i aros yn eu cartrefi,

their homes, particularly in rural areas where housing is at a premium. It is often the only way in which people who become disabled can stay in their current house. Selling the home and buying one that is already fit for purpose is often not an option. Therefore, I was pleased to see that the findings of the Essex report on affordable housing in Wales recommended that the process for applying for physical adaptation grants needs to be made easier and that applications must be fast-tracked. I hope that the Minister will take these recommendations on board and move them through the system as quickly as possible, because this is a vital component part of affordable housing in order for all people's needs to be met and applications should be fast-tracked.

I will give you an example of why I am so concerned about this particular aspect of affordable housing. Pembrokeshire County Council had a waiting list for physical adaptations that was more than 1,000 days long. That is completely unacceptable and feeds into bedblocking and into people having to be moved because they cannot access their own homes. The knock-on effect therefore impacts not only on the housing market, but other sectors, such as the delivery of care for those people.

What I am after today in this debate is a promise from the Deputy Minister for Housing, or certainly an acknowledgment, that she will take on board the findings of the Essex report, move them forward as quickly as she can and free up those houses for people in need.

Jenny Randerson: I will address my remarks closely to the issue of rural housing enablers and of developing housing enablers in urban areas also. We acknowledge that they are a long-term solution, and not an overnight one. As yet, we have not seen dramatic results flowing through from them, but much is already being achieved behind the scenes, even if we are not getting a large number of new affordable housing units being made available. They are doing the work of site identification and early surveys and are reducing the timeframe for the completion of new developments. All of that is being done successfully, and I believe that

yn arbennig mewn ardaloedd gwledig lle mae tai'n brin iawn. Yn aml, dyna'r unig ffordd y gall pobl sy'n mynd yn anabl barhau yn eu tŷ presennol. Yn aml, ni ellir gwerthu eu cartref a phrynu un addas at y diben. Felly, yr oeddwn yn falch gweld bod darganfyddiadau adroddiad Essex ar dai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru yn argymhell bod angen symleiddio'r broses ar gyfer gwneud cais am grantiau addasiadau ffisegol, a bod angen i geisiadau gael eu penderfynu drwy ddull carlam. Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn ystyried yr argymhellion hyn ac yn eu symud drwy'r system cyn gynted â phosibl, oherwydd mae hyn yn elfen anhepgor mewn tai fforddiadwy er mwyn diwallu holl anghenion pobl, a dylai ceisiadau gael eu penderfynu drwy ddull carlam.

Rhoddaf enghraifft ichi i ddangos pam yr wyf yn pryderu cymaint am y agwedd arbennig hon ar dai fforddiadwy. Yr oedd gan Gyngor Sir Penfro restr aros am addasiadau ffisegol a oedd yn hwy na 1,000 o ddiwrnodau. Mae hynny'n gwbl annerbyniol ac yn cyfrannu at flocio gwelyau a bobl yn gorfod cael eu symud oherwydd na allant fynd i mewn i'w cartrefi eu hunain. Mae'r effaith ganlyniadol, felly, nid yn unig yn gadael ei ôl ar y farchnad dai, ond ar sectorau eraill hefyd, megis darparu gofal i'r bobl hyn.

Yr hyn yr wyf yn ei geisio heddiw yn y ddadl hon yw addewid gan y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai, neu gydnabyddiaeth yn sicr, y bydd hi'n ystyried darganfyddiadau adroddiad Essex, yn bwrw ymlaen â hwy cyn gynted ag y gall ac yn rhyddhau'r tai hynny ar gyfer pobl mewn angen.

Jenny Randerson: Bydd fy sylwadau'n ymdrin yn fanwl â mater swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig ac â datblygu swyddogion galluogi tai mewn ardaloedd trefol hefyd. Yr ydym yn cydnabod mai ateb hirdymor ydynt, nid ateb dros nos. Ac eto, nid ydym wedi gweld canlyniadau dramatig yn deillio ohonynt, ond mae llawer yn cael ei gyflawni eisoes y tu ôl i'r llenni, hyd yn oed os nad ydym yn gweld nifer helaeth o unedau tai newydd fforddiadwy'n cael eu darparu. Maent yn cyflawni'r gwaith o nodi safleoedd a threfnu arolygon cynnar, ac maent yn lleihau'r cyfnod ar gyfer cwblhau datblygiadau newydd. Mae hynny i gyd yn

it is now time that we look at whether the role could be translated to the urban environment.

I will briefly concentrate on the crucial need to deal with the problems in the urban environment by focusing on the critical housing situation in Cardiff, where there are 23,500 units in social rented accommodation, 13,500 of which are owned by the council and just under 10,000 of which are owned by registered social landlords. That demonstrates a dramatic decrease, from the point of view of the council, since the right to buy was introduced.

There are 9,000 people on the council's housing waiting list, with 700 applicants a month. My constituents, when they frequently come to see me, want to be able to choose roughly where they live, often for compelling family and social care reasons. Some areas of the city are obviously much more popular than others, and, for historical reasons, social rented accommodation is concentrated in particular areas, which are often not the most popular areas for renting. For example, in Cathays, where there are only 70 council homes and 115 homes owned by registered social landlords, there is an adult population of about 13,000. Last year, only two council properties and only seven RSL-owned properties became available. In Pentwyn, where there is much greater availability, there are 419 council homes and 283 properties owned by RSLs, but there were only about 60 lettings in the whole year. The turnover is tiny.

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Also, the types of accommodation available do not match the need. For example, in the whole of Cardiff, there are fewer than 30 four-bedroomed homes owned either by the council or by RSLs, and yet Cardiff is a multicultural city where there is often demand for much bigger homes. There are currently 3,264 applicants for homes in Adamsdown in my constituency, where last year not one property became available. We need serious—even desperate—measures to deal with this crucial problem. Cardiff is an

cael ei wneud yn llwyddiannus, a chredaf ei bod yn bryd bellach inni ystyried a ellir trosi'r rôl i'r amgylchedd trefol.

Canolbwytiaf yn fyr ar yr angen dybryd am ymdrin â'r problemau yn yr amgylchedd trefol drwy ganolbwyntio ar y sefyllfa tai hollbwysig yng Nghaerdydd, lle mae 23,500 o unedau mewn llety rhent cymdeithasol, a 13,500 ohonynt yn eiddo i'r cyngor a mymryn llai na 10,000 ohonynt yn eiddo i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig. Mae hynny'n dangos gostyngiad dramatig, o safbwynt y cyngor, ers cyflwyno'r hawl i brynu.

Ar restr y cyngor o bobl sy'n aros am dai, mae 9,000 o bobl a 700 o ymgeiswyr y mis. Mae fy etholwyr i, pan ddônt i'm gweld yn aml, eisiau gallu dewis yn fras ble maent yn byw, yn aml am resymau cryf yn ymwneud â theulu a gofal cymdeithasol. Yn amlwg, mae rhai ardaloedd yn y ddinas lawer yn fwy poblogaidd nag eraill, ac am resymau hanesyddol mae tai rhent cymdeithasol wedi'u crynhoi mewn ardaloedd penodol, ac yn aml nid hwy yw'r ardaloedd mwyaf poblogaidd ar gyfer rhentu. Er enghraifft, yn Cathays, lle nad oes ond 70 o gartrefi cyngor a 115 o gartrefi sy'n eiddo i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, mae poblogaeth oedolion o ryw 13,000. Y llynedd, dim ond dau dŷ cyngor a dim ond saith tŷ a oedd yn eiddo i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig a oedd ar gael. Ym Mhen-twyn, lle mae llawer mwy o dai ar gael, mae 419 o dai cyngor a 283 o dai sy'n eiddo i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, ond dim ond tua 60 o dai gosod a oedd ar gael drwy'r flwyddyn. Mae'r trosiant yn bitw.

Hefyd, nid yw'r mathau o dai sydd ar gael yn cyfateb i'r angen. Er enghraifft, yng Nghaerdydd i gyd mae llai na 30 o dai pedair llofft sy'n eiddo i'r cyngor neu i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, ac eto mae Caerdydd yn ddinas aml-ddiwylliant lle mae galw'n aml am gartrefi llawer mwy. Ar hyn o bryd mae 3,264 o ymgeiswyr am gartrefi yn Adamsdown yn fy etholaeth, lle na ddaeth yr un eiddo ar gael y llynedd. Mae arnom angen camau difrifol—mentrus hyd yn oed—i ddelio â'r broblem elfennol hon. Mae

extreme example, but this is a problem in all our urban areas. Therefore, I wish to make a plea that we should initially limit to a trial the idea of urban housing enablers, because it is possible that all the functions of a rural housing enabler would not translate across to an urban environment. Once we have found that suitable role for them, we should see the maximum possible affordable housing element extracted from new developments by increasing the speed at which developments are negotiated. That would be supported by housing developers, who are clearly keen to make quicker returns on their investments.

The Government needs to increase public awareness of housing enablers, not just among the general public, but also among local authority members, whose awareness is woefully low. We will not support the amendments, because they boast about the work being done in rural and urban areas; a Members' research service reply sent to us by the Welsh Assembly Government recently made it clear that there had not been the urban investment that we call for in this motion.

Nick Ramsay: I speak in support of our amendments 4, 5 and 6. This is an important debate to which we keep returning, and for good reason. I am delighted that the Liberal Democrats have tabled this motion today, giving us an opportunity to speak about the serious shortage of affordable housing in our country, at a time when, as my colleague Mark Isherwood mentioned in his earlier remarks, the credit crunch is clearly exacerbating a problem that already existed.

It is important to recognise that it is not all doom and gloom. Some of the steps that have been taken have the potential to solve some of the problems that we face. The Deputy Minister for Housing has, in her time in post, taken steps on rural housing enablers and the development of rural exception sites that will, hopefully, go some way towards mitigating this problem in the long term. However, it is not enough. The problem is growing and we

Caerdydd yn enghraifft eithafol, ond mae hon yn broblem yn ein holl ardaloedd trefol. Felly, dymunaf wneud cais na ddylem ond treialu'r syniad o swyddogion galluogi tai trefol i ddechrau, oherwydd mae'n bosibl na fyddai modd trosglwyddo holl swyddogaethau swyddog galluogi tai gwledig i amgylchedd trefol. Ar ôl inni gael y rôl addas honno ar eu cyfer, dylem allu cael cynifer â phosibl o dai fforddiadwy mewn datblygiadau newydd drwy gyflymu'r broses o drafod ynghylch datblygiadau. Byddai datblygwyr tai'n cefnogi hynny, gan eu bod yn amlwg yn awyddus i weld eu buddsoddiadau'n dwyn ffrwyth ar raddfa gyflymach.

Mae angen i'r Llywodraeth gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd o swyddogion galluogi tai-nid ymhlith y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol yn unig, ond hefyd ymhlith aelodau awdurdodau lleol, gan fod eu hymwybyddiaeth hwy'n druenus o isel. Ni fyddwn yn cefnogi'r gwelliannau, oherwydd maent yn ymffrostio yn y gwaith a wneir mewn ardaloedd gwledig a threfol. Yn ddiweddar, yr oedd ateb gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a anfonwyd atom gan wasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau yn gwneud yn glir na chafwyd y buddsoddiad trefol y galwn amdano yn y cynnig hwn.

Nick Ramsay: Siaradaf o blaid ein gwelliannau rhif 4, 5 a 6. Mae hon yn ddadl bwysig yr ydym yn dal i ddychwelyd ati, ac mae rheswm da dros hynny. Yr wyf yn falch fod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi cyflwyno'r cynnig hwn heddiw, gan ei fod yn gyfle inni sôn am y prinder difrifol o dai fforddiadwy yn ein gwlad, a hynny ar adeg pan yw'r wasgfa gredyd—fel y soniodd fy nghyd-Aelod, Mark Isherwood, yn ei sylwadau cynharach—yn amlwg yn gwaethygu problem a oedd eisoes yn bodoli.

Mae'n bwysig sylweddoli nad yw pethau'n ddu i gyd. Mae gan rai o'r camau a gymerwyd y potensial i ddatrys rhai o'r problemau a wynebwn. Yn ystod ei chyfnod yn y swydd, mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai wedi cymryd camau yng nghyswllt swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig a datblygu safleoedd eithriad gwledig a fydd, gobeithio, yn gam go fawr at liniaru'r broblem hon yn y tymor hir. Ond nid yw'n ddigon. Mae'r

now need a serious drive from the Assembly Government to do what it can to improve the Welsh context.

I know that the Assembly Government does not like the word 'crisis', and you could say that it is simply a matter of words, but the term 'housing crisis' is justified. There are fewer affordable homes in Wales than ever. Since 1996, only 11,000 homes have been built in the social housing sector. The Assembly Government's target of building 6,500 new homes between 2007 and 2011 is surely ambitious, albeit noble. Will that be met? I hope that the Deputy Minister will be able to give her views on whether that will be met by 2011 and on whether sufficient resource and guidance is going to local authorities in order to make that happen on the ground.

People are also experiencing poorer housing conditions in their homes. Over 18 per cent of homes built in the private sector are considered unfit and below the Assembly's quality standard. According to Shelter Cymru, there are longer waiting lists, with over 80,000 people waiting and there are higher levels of homelessness; for example, in 2006-07 over 6,800 households were accepted as homeless by local authorities.

Too many young people, particularly in rural areas are unable to get on the first rung of the housing ladder, which has serious social and economic implications, again particularly in rural areas. Young people are unable to afford homes in their own villages and those villages gradually become domicile backwaters for the nearest town or city. That is not a new phenomenon; it has happened before, but it is growing. Anyone who lives in a village sees it all around them on a daily basis. It is not surprising that those people who are affected by the problem want to see action from the Government.

In the previous debate on the economy, Jonathan Morgan spoke of the way in which the economic down-turn was affecting pockets of people in every part of Wales. The

problem yn cynyddu, ac mae angen yn awr i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad wneud ymdrech wirioneddol i wneud yr hyn a all i wella sefyllfa Cymru.

Gwn nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn hoff o'r gair 'argyfwng', a gallech ddweud mai dim ond gair ydyw, ond mae cyfiawnhad dros y term 'argyfwng tai'. Mae llai o dai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru nag erioed. Er 1996, dim ond 11,000 o gartrefi sydd wedi cael eu hadeiladu yn y sector tai cymdeithasol. Mae targed Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i adeiladu 6,500 cartref newydd rhwng 2007 a 2011 yn bendant yn uchelgeisiol, er yn nobl. A gyraeddir y targed hwnnw? Gobeithio y gall y Dirprwy Weinidog roi ei barn ar y cwestiwn a gyraeddir y targed hwnnw erbyn 2011 ac a roddir digon o adnoddau ac arweiniad i awdurdodau lleol er mwyn sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd ar lawr gwlad.

Mae pobl hefyd yn wynebu amodau tai gwaeth yn eu cartrefi. Ystyrir bod dros 18 y cant o gartrefi a adeiladwyd yn y sector preifat yn anaddas ac islaw safon ansawdd y Cynulliad. Yn ôl Shelter Cymru, mae'r rhestrau aros yn hwy gyda dros 80,000 o bobl yn aros, ac mae lefelau digartrefedd yn uwch; er enghraifft, yn 2006-7 derbyniodd awdurdodau lleol bod dros 6,800 o aelwydydd yn ddigartref.

Mae gormod o bobl ifanc—yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig—yn methu cael eu troed ar ris gyntaf yr ysgol dai, ac mae i hynny oblygiadau cymdeithasol ac economaidd difrifol, eto yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Mae pobl ifanc yn methu fforddio cartrefi yn eu pentrefi eu hunain ac mae'r pentrefi hynny'n raddol yn dod yn foroedd cefn i'r dref neu'r ddinas agosaf. Nid yw hwnnw'n dueddiad newydd; mae wedi digwydd o'r blaen ond mae'n dueddiad sy'n tyfu. Mae unrhyw un sy'n byw mewn pentref yn gweld hyn i gyd o'u cwmpas bob dydd. Nid yw'n syndod fod y bobl hynny y mae'r broblem yn effeithio arnynt am weld y Llywodraeth yn gweithredu.

Yn y ddadl flaenorol ar yr economi, soniodd Jonathan Morgan am y ffordd yr oedd y cwmp economaidd yn effeithio ar bocedi o bobl ym mhob rhan o Gymru. Mae'r un peth

same can be said of the shortage of affordable housing. It is an issue that is not restricted to any particular area or to any particular group of people; it is a universal problem that affects us all, and which we all will have to try to deal with.

Finally, to turn to the local government perspective, Peter Black raised some interesting issues in terms of the tools available to local authorities to deal with empty properties. As Peter said, councils may have the power, but, too often, the complexities of using that power are prohibitive. Therefore, we need to look at ways by which local authorities can better use the powers that they have but we also need to look at other tools that they can be given. Homebuy certainly has potential—more potential than has previously been utilised—but it needs to be more flexible and more responsive to local needs, because different parts of Wales have different needs. The fact that many people say that they support social housing schemes until one comes along in their backyard is a problem of mindset, and is something that needs to be addressed. This goes beyond the economic tools and so on that local authorities have at their disposal. It is an issue of mindset—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Please wind up; you are out of time.

Nick Ramsay: It is the Government's responsibility too to try to move on the agenda in terms of the cultural view of housing.

Eleanor Burnham: As others have said, affordable housing is a major issue across Wales, particularly across rural Wales, where the cost of living is among the highest in the UK, and where house prices are extremely high in relation to low local wages. I do not believe that the Labour/Plaid Government has proven that it is serious about tackling the issue of affordable housing. It has scrapped the homebuy scheme and failed to replace it with a scheme that will help low-paid or key workers across Wales. It has also failed to seek enough powers in the affordable housing

yn wir am y prinder tai fforddiadwy. Mae'n broblem nad yw wedi'i chyfyngu i un ardal benodol nac i unrhyw grŵp penodol o bobl; mae'n broblem gyffredinol sy'n effeithio arnom bob un ac yn broblem y bydd yn rhaid inni i gyd geisio mynd i'r afael â hi.

Yn olaf, i droi at safbwynt llywodraeth leol, cododd Peter Black rai materion diddorol yng nghyswllt y cyfryngau sydd ar gael i awdurdodau lleol i ddelio ag eiddo gwag. Fel y dywedodd Peter, hwyrach fod gan y cynghorau'r pŵer, ond yn rhy aml o'r hanner ceir cymhlethdodau afresymol ynghlwm wrth ddefnyddio'r pŵer hwnnw. Felly, mae angen inni edrych ar ffyrdd y gall awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio'r pwerau sydd ganddynt yn well, ac mae angen inni hefyd edrych ar arfau eraill y gellir eu rhoi iddynt. Yn bendant, mae potensial i'r Cynllun Cymorth Prynu—mwy o botensial nag a wireddwyd yn y gorffennol—ond mae angen iddo fod yn fwy hyblyg ac yn fwy ymatebol i anghenion lleol, oherwydd mae gan wahanol ardaloedd yng Nghymru wahanol anghenion. Mae'r ffaith fod nifer o bobl yn dweud eu bod yn cefnogi cynlluniau tai cymdeithasol nes daw un i'w milltir sgwâr hwy yn broblem o ran meddylfryd ac yn rhywbeth y mae angen rhoi sylw iddo. Mae hyn y tu hwnt i'r arfau economaidd ac ati sydd ar gael i awdurdodau lleol eu defnyddio. Mater o feddylfryd—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. A wnewch chi gloi; mae eich amser ar ben.

Nick Ramsay: Mae hefyd yn gyfrifoldeb ar y Llywodraeth i geisio symud yr agenda yn ei blaen o ran safbwynt diwylliannol y broblem tai.

Eleanor Burnham: Fel y mae eraill wedi'i ddweud, mae tai fforddiadwy yn broblem enfawr o Fôn i Fynwy, yn enwedig yng Nghymru wledig, lle mae costau byw ymhlith yr uchaf yn y DU, a lle mae prisiau tai'n eithriadol o uchel o ystyried cyflogau isel lleol. Ni chredaf fod Llywodraeth Lafur/Plaid wedi profi ei bod o ddifrif ynghylch mynd i'r afael â phroblem tai fforddiadwy. Mae wedi taflu'r cynllun cymorth prynu ar y domen ac wedi methu cael cynllun arall yn ei le a fydd yn gymorth i weithwyr allweddol neu weithwyr sydd â chyflog isel ledled Cymru.

LCO, and has no real idea of how many affordable homes have been built. It has excelled at paying lip service to various schemes, but it has achieved nothing.

Recently we have seen the independent Commission on Rural Housing in Wales, set up by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and also, importantly, the Sue Essex report, which looked at the barriers and the opposition to increasing the supply of affordable housing in Wales. She stated in her report that the Labour/Plaid Welsh Assembly Government's target of 6,500 new homes by 2011 is admirable—with which we agree—but, with 80,000 households on waiting lists, it simply does not go far enough. At present, we are getting 1,000 new homes per year, at most, a figure that is mostly cancelled out by sales and demolitions. On that basis, the Government will miss its target by a mile. It does not have systems in place to monitor how many properties are being built. How can the Welsh Assembly Government claim to have met a target if it is not even counting? Can the Deputy Minister tell us how many new properties have been built?

As we have discussed previously, the credit crunch means that it is even more unlikely that the target will be met. The method of delivering these properties, namely section 106 agreements, relies on houses being built. We are now seeing a rapid decrease in the numbers of properties being built and some developments have even come to a stop. In north-east Wales, Redrow, which has been a leading light in UK housing, has posted a considerable loss, which was a shock in that neck of the woods, as we had got used to it being an important housebuilder—it was the zenith of housebuilding for many decades.

The fall in property prices also means that housing developments become less lucrative; I have referred to that in relation to Redrow. Developers only agree to an affordable element because there are profits to be

Mae hefyd wedi methu cael digon o bwerau yn y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar dai fforddiadwy, ac nid oes ganddi syniad mewn gwirionedd faint o dai fforddiadwy sydd wedi eu hadeiladu. Mae wedi rhagori o ran rhoi'r argraff ei bod yn rhoi sylw i amrywiol gynlluniau, ond nid yw wedi cyflawni dim.

Yr ydym yn ddiweddar wedi gweld y Comisiwn annibynnol ar Dai Gwledig yng Nghymru, a sefydlwyd gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree, a hefyd, yn bwysig, adroddiad Sue Essex, a oedd yn edrych ar y rhwystrau a'r gwrthwynebiad at gynyddu'r cyflenwad o dai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru. Dywedodd yn ei hadroddiad fod targed Llywodraeth Lafur/Plaid y Cynulliad o 6,500 o gartrefi newydd erbyn 2011 yn ganmoladwy—a chytunwn â hynny—ond gydag 80,000 o aelwydydd ar restrau aros, nid yw'n mynd yn ddigon pell. Ar hyn o bryd cawn 1,000 o gartrefi newydd ar y mwyaf bob blwyddyn—fffigur sy'n cael ei ddileu'n bennaf gan werthiannau a dymchweliadau. Ar sail hynny, bydd y Llywodraeth yn methu ei tharged o bell. Nid oes ganddi systemau ar waith i fonitro faint o eiddo sy'n cael eu hadeiladu. Sut y gall Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru honni ei bod wedi cyrraedd targed os nad yw hyd yn oed yn cyfri? A all y Dirprwy Weinidog ddweud wrthym faint o eiddo newydd sydd wedi eu hadeiladu?

Fel yr ydym wedi ei drafod yn flaenorol, mae'r wasgfa greddyd yn golygu ei bod yn fwy annhebygol byth y cyrhaeddir y targed. Mae dull darparu'r eiddo hwn, sef cytundebau adran 106, yn dibynnu ar adeiladu tai. Yr ydym yn awr yn gweld lleihad cyflym o ran faint o dai sy'n cael eu hadeiladu, ac mae rhai datblygiadau wedi dod i ben hyd yn oed. Yn y gogledd-ddwyrain mae Redrow, sydd wedi argwain y ffordd ym maes tai yn y DU, wedi cyhoeddi colled sylweddol. Yr oedd hynny'n destun sioc yn yr ardal honno, gan ein bod wedi arfer ag ef fel adeiladwr tai pwysig—ef oedd angor y maes adeiladu tai am lawer degawd.

Mae'r gostyngiad ym mhrisiau eiddo hefyd yn golygu bod datblygiadau tai yn mynd yn llai proffidiol. Yr wyf wedi cyfeirio at hynny yng nghyswllt Redrow. Dim ond os oes elw i'w wneud y bydd datblygwyr yn cytuno ar

gained, and if the level of profit from a development site falls, they will be unwilling to include an affordable element, or will only do so at a reduced size. Even when a housing association builds properties, only about 40 per cent of the funding comes from Government while the remaining 60 per cent comes from the housing association. It is likely that it will become harder for the association to borrow money, because of the credit crunch. If this is the case, then the number that it is able to build independently of private developers also falls.

5.10 p.m.

In conclusion, I appeal to the Welsh Assembly Government to take the Essex report seriously. Her recommendations on the use of section 106 agreements and on the problems of red tape affecting housing associations have the potential to help to deliver a large number of properties. We are pleased that the Government has implemented the five interim recommendations and that it will be considering the other recommendations. The Government has a record of shelving reports that do not say what it wants to hear, and I would like for this to be amended, as I think that the Essex report is something that we all want to see implemented.

Nerys Evans: Yr wyf yn croesawu'r ddadl hon am ei bod yn rhoi cyfle inni edrych ar bolisiau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn y maes hwn, sy'n werth ei wneud.

Cyn sôn am y cynnig a'r gwelliannau, byddaf yn sôn am y sefyllfa bresennol a gweithredoedd Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Yr ydym oll yn gwybod am yr argyfwng tai fforddiadwy, ac mae'r sefyllfa'n waeth yng Nghymru wledig. Cododd prisiau tai ar gyfartaledd yng Nghymru wledig 176 y cant rhwng 1997 a 2005 o gymharu â chynnydd o 157 y cant yng Nghymru gyfan. Mae'r ystadegau diweddaraf yn dangos cynnydd o 150 y cant yn y naw awdurdod lleol gwledig rhwng 2000 a 2007.

Mae digartrefedd hefyd wedi dod yn fwy o broblem yng Nghymru wledig. Mae ceisio diffinio digartrefedd yn yr ardaloedd hyn yn broblem ac, ambell waith, mae digartrefedd

elfen fforddiadwy, ac os bydd lefel yr elw a geir o safle datblygu yn gostwng, byddant yn amharod i gynnwys elfen fforddiadwy, neu'n gwneud hynny ar raddfa lai yn unig. Hyd yn oed pan fydd cymdeithas tai yn adeiladu eiddo, tua 40 y cant yn unig o'r cyllid a ddaw oddi wrth y Llywodraeth, a daw'r 60 y cant sydd ar ôl oddi wrth y gymdeithas tai. Mae'n debygol y bydd yn anos i'r gymdeithas gael benthyg arian yn sgil y wasgfa gredyd. Os felly, bydd nifer y tai y gall fforddio'u hadeiladu'n annibynnol ar ddatblygwyr preifat hefyd yn lleihau.

I gloi, erfyniaf ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ystyried adroddiad Essex o ddirif. Mae gan ei hargymhellion ar gyfer defnyddio cytundebau adran 106, a'r problemau biwrocraatiaeth sy'n effeithio ar gymdeithasau tai, y potensial i helpu darparu nifer fawr o gartrefi. Yr ydym yn falch fod y Llywodraeth wedi rhoi'r pum argymhelliad interim ar waith, ac y bydd yn ystyried yr argymhellion eraill. Mae gan y Llywodraeth hanes o roi o'r neilltu adroddiadau nad ydynt yn dweud yr hyn y mae am ei glywed, a charwn weld hyn yn newid, oherwydd credaf fod adroddiad Essex yn rhywbeth yr hoffai pob un ohonom ei weld yn cael ei weithredu.

Nerys Evans: I welcome this debate as it gives us an opportunity to look at Liberal Democrat policy in this area; doing that is worthwhile.

Before looking at the motion and the amendments, I will speak about the current situation and the actions taken by the One Wales Government over the last year. We all know about the affordable housing crisis, and the situation is worse in rural Wales. Average house prices in rural Wales increased by 176 per cent between 1997 and 2005, compared with an increase of 157 per cent in the whole of Wales. The latest statistics demonstrate an increase of 150 per cent in the nine rural local authorities between 2000 and 2007.

Homelessness has also become more of a problem in rural Wales. Trying to define homelessness in these areas is problematic, where hidden homelessness sometimes

cudd i'w gael yno. Mae'r ffigurau swyddogol yn y maes hwn yn dangos cynnydd o 309 y cant mewn digartrefedd yng Nghymru wledig rhwng 1978 a 2005, o gymharu â 129 y cant yn yr ardaloedd trefol. Yr ydym yn clywed am resymau y tu ôl i hyn, a'r brif elfen yw'r newidiadau ym meddylfryd pobl—mae'r syniad o dŷ fel rhywle i fyw wedi newid i syniad o dŷ fel ased economaidd ac yn rhywbeth i wneud elw arno. Mae canlyniad hynny i'w weld yn yr ystadegau yr wyf i ac Aelodau eraill wedi cyfeirio atynt. Yr eironi yw bod y Ceidwadwyr yn ceisio golchi eu dwylo o'r cyfrifoldeb am greu'r sefyllfa yr ydym ynddi.

O edrych ar gamau Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, gwelwn fod llawer i ymfalchïo ynddo. Os edrychwn ar 'Cymru'n Un', gwelwn fod yr adran ar dai yn flaengar ac yn cynnwys syniadau newydd a chreadigol ynglŷn â'r hawl i gartref. Mae llawer, os nad y rhan fwyaf, o'r adran yn dod o fanifesto Plaid Cymru, ac nid yw'n syndod felly fy mod mor gefnogol ohoni.

Braf yw gweld cydnabyddiaeth Peter Black a Kirsty Williams o'r gwaith mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog wedi ei wneud dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, ond, yn arddull arferol y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, yr ydym newydd glywed Eleanor Burnham yn anghytuno.

Er mai dim ond blwyddyn o'r tymor o bedair blynedd sydd wedi mynd heibio, yr ydym eisoes wedi gweld gweithredu: £30 miliwn i gynyddu darpariaeth tai fforddiadwy; deddfu i roi grym i awdurdodau atal yr hawl i brynu mewn lleoedd lle mae prinder tai; darparu cyllid ar gyfer cynllun achub morgais i helpu'r rhai sy'n brwydro i gadw'u tŷ, sy'n hynod bwysig yn y sefyllfa economaidd bresennol; cymorth i brynwyr tro cyntaf ar gyfer mesurau effeithlonrwydd ynni; a gohirio'r cynllun cymorth prynu yn sgîl adroddiad diweddar sy'n dangos nad yw'n effeithiol ar ei ffurf bresennol. Yn awr, wrth gwrs, ceir ymgynghori ar ddyfodol y cynllun. Hefyd, estynnwyd y rhwydwaith swyddogion galluogi tai. O edrych ar 'Cymru'n Un' a gweithredoedd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn y flwyddyn gyntaf, gwelir bod y mater hwn yn flaenoriaeth i Weinidog Plaid Cymru.

Trof yn awr at y cynnig a'r gwelliannau.

Official figures in this area demonstrate an increase of 309 per cent in homelessness in rural Wales between 1978 and 2005, compared with 129 per cent in urban areas. We hear of reasons for this; the main reason is the change in people's mindset—houses are no longer seen as a place to live but as an economic asset from which to profit. The result of that is to be seen in the statistics to which I and other Members have referred. It is ironic that the Conservatives are trying to wash their hands of the responsibility for creating the situation in which we find ourselves.

If we look at the action taken by the One Wales Government over the last year, we see that there is much of which to be proud. If we look at 'One Wales' we see that the section on housing is innovative, and includes new and creative ideas on the right to a home. Much, if not all, of that section comes from the Plaid Cymru manifesto, so it is of no surprise that I am so supportive of it.

I was pleased to hear Peter Black and Kirsty Williams recognising the work done by the Deputy Minister over the course of the last year. But as is usually the case with the Liberal Democrats, we have just heard Eleanor Burnham disagree with them.

Despite that fact that we are only one year into a four-year term, we have already seen action: £30 million to increase the provision of affordable housing; legislation to empower authorities to suspend the right to buy in areas of housing need; funding for a mortgage rescue scheme to help those struggling to keep their home, which is of vital importance in the current economic situation; assistance for first-time buyers for energy efficiency measures; and suspension of the homebuy scheme in light of a recent report demonstrating its current ineffectiveness. There is now, of course, consultation on the scheme's future. We have also seen an extension of the housing enabler network. If you look at 'One Wales' and at the actions taken by the Deputy Minister over the first year, you see that this issue is a priority for a Plaid Cymru Minister.

I now turn to the motion and the

Unwaith eto, gwelwn y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cynnig gwelliant i'w cynnig gwreiddiol—ac am welliant. Fel y soniodd y Dirprwy Weinidog, maent yn galw am gyllid i ddod â thai gwag yn ôl i ddefnydd, ond a yw'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wir yn credu y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru ariannu cynllun o'r fath? Amcangyfrifodd adroddiad Joseph Rowntree bod 18,000 tŷ gwag yng Nghymru wledig yn unig.

Peter Black *rose*—

Nerys Evans: Byddai cynnig arian Llywodraeth Cymru i gynllun o'r fath yn ysgogi pobl i adael eu tai'n wag.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Will you take an intervention?

Nerys Evans: In a minute.

Clywsom gan Peter Black am y manylion, ond, fel yr ydym wedi hen arfer gyda'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, nid yw'r gwelliant, na'r polisi, na'r ddadl wedi eu hystyried yn drylwyr.

Peter Black: What you are saying is that you listened to me but did not believe me. We are not saying that you have to put in huge amounts of money, but that you must have a funded strategy. That strategy should not have to cost a lot of money if you use the law and the mechanisms properly, as I outlined in my speech.

Nerys Evans: Mae hynny'n adlewyrchu'r pwynt nad oes unrhyw fanylder na syniad am y gost—dim ond addewid gwag disynnwyr. Mae Aelodau'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi cael toriad yr haf i feddwl am bolisiau newydd, blaengar, a ffyrdd newydd o gyllido. Mae'n amlwg, o edrych ar y cynnig a'r gwelliannau, eu bod wedi treulio'r haf yn gwneud rhywbeth arall—gormod o haul, efallai. Yr ydym yn clywed yr un peth gan y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol: mwy o arian i hwn, mwy o arian i'r llall, heb sôn o ble fydd yr arian yn dod a beth y byddent yn ei dorri. Mae hyn yn fwy eironig o ystyried fod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol

amendments. Once again we see the Liberal Democrats proposing an amendment to their original motion—and what an amendment. As the Deputy Minister said, they are calling for funding to bring empty houses back into use, but do the Liberal Democrats really believe that the Government of Wales should fund such a scheme? A Joseph Rowntree report estimated that there are 18,000 empty houses in rural Wales alone.

Peter Black *a gododd*—

Nerys Evans: Providing Government of Wales money for such a scheme would encourage people to leave their homes vacant.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. A dderbyniwch ymyriad?

Nerys Evans: Mewn munud.

We heard from Peter Black about the detail, but as is usually the case with the Liberal Democrats, the amendment, the policy and the argument have not been thought through.

Peter Black: Yr hyn a ddywedwch yw eich bod wedi gwrando arnaf ond nad oeddech yn fy nghredu. Nid ydym yn dweud ei bod yn rhaid ichi fuddsoddi swm anferth o arian, ond ei bod yn rhaid ichi gael strategaeth sy'n cael ei hariannu. Ni ddylai'r strategaeth honno orfod costio llawer o arian os defnyddiwch y gyfraith a'r mecanweithiau'n briodol, fel yr amlinellais yn fy araith.

Nerys Evans: That reflects the point that there is no detail and no idea of cost—nothing more than an empty promise that makes no sense. Members of the Welsh Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats have had the summer recess to think about new, pioneering policies and about new ways of funding. Looking at the motion and the amendments, it is obvious that they have spent the summer doing something else—too much sun, perhaps. We have heard the same thing from the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats: more money for this, that and the other, with no mention of where the money would come from or what would have to be cut. It is even more ironic given that the

wedi datgan yn glir eu bod o blaid torri trethi a gwario llai ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus.

The Deputy Minister for Housing (Jocelyn Davies): I welcome the opportunity to speak to the opposition motion and amendments, which we cannot support on this occasion. I will start by highlighting work currently under way to increase the supply of affordable housing—efforts that are ongoing, despite the setback due to current market conditions. We continue to aim for the 6,500 figure referred to in ‘One Wales’, and are taking a number of steps to achieve this. We have increased the social housing grant budget by £30 million in order to invest in new build social housing. We are consulting on the affordable housing delivery statements that will provide a clear measuring tool to track progress, which all local authorities and national parks will be required to have. We are issuing guidance on the use of section 106 planning agreements for affordable housing, to enable councils to get robust planning gain when the market picks up. We are issuing new planning policy guidance on housing in rural areas, which has been very well received. We are using the land-release protocol to facilitate the use of public sector land for affordable housing. We are piloting a scheme to provide grants for first-time buyers in renewal areas, and we are acting on the Essex review of housing associations, which has the potential to secure investment worth more than £100 million.

We are also responding to increasing housing need as a result of the current housing market conditions and the opportunities that it offers, such as purchasing developers’ unsold properties. We are developing policies on empty properties, but I cannot commit to funding in full the work to bring all of those properties back into use. We want Wales to be known as a place where empty properties will not be tolerated. I think that we would all agree that empty homes are a wasted resource. I assure you that we are working with the Welsh Local Government

Liberal Democrats have declared that they would cut taxes and spend less on public services.

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai (Jocelyn Davies): Croesawaf y cyfle i siarad am gynnig a gwelliannau’r wrthblaid. Ni allwn eu cefnogi y tro hwn. Dechreuaf drwy dynnu sylw at y gwaith sy’n cael ei wneud ar hyn o bryd i gynyddu nifer y tai fforddiadwy sydd ar gael—gwaith sy’n dal i gael ei wneud, er gwaethaf yr anawsterau oherwydd amodau’r farchnad bresennol. Yr ydym yn parhau i anelu at y ffigur 6,500 y cyfeirir ato yn ‘Cymru’n Un’, ac yr ydym yn cymryd nifer o gamau i gyflawni hyn. Yr ydym wedi cynyddu cyllideb y grant tai cymdeithasol o £30 miliwn er mwyn buddsoddi mewn tai cymdeithasol newydd. Yr ydym yn ymgynghori am y datganiadau darparu tai fforddiadwy a fydd yn rhoi dull mesur clir i olrhain cynnydd, a bydd gofyn i bob awdurdod lleol a pharc cenedlaethol gael un o’r rhain. Yr ydym yn cyflwyno cyfarwyddyd am ddefnyddio cytundebau cynllunio adran 106 ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy, er mwyn galluogi cynghorau i gael enillion cynllunio cadarn pan fydd y farchnad yn gwella. Yr ydym yn cyflwyno cyfarwyddyd polisi cynllunio newydd ar dai mewn ardaloedd gwledig, ac mae hwnnw wedi’i groesawu’n fawr. Yr ydym yn defnyddio’r protocol rhyddhau tir i hwyluso defnyddio tir yn y sector cyhoeddus ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy. Yr ydym yn treialu cynllun i ddarparu grantiau i’r rheini sy’n prynu tai am y tro cyntaf mewn ardaloedd adnewyddu, ac yr ydym yn gweithredu’n unol ag adolygiad Essex o gymdeithasau tai; mae gan hwnnw’r potensial i sicrhau buddsoddiad gwerth dros £100 miliwn.

Yr ydym hefyd yn ymateb i angen cynyddol am dai oherwydd amodau’r farchnad dai bresennol a’r cyfleoedd y maent yn eu cynnig, megis prynu eiddo sydd heb ei werthu gan ddatblygwyr. Yr ydym yn datblygu polisiau ar eiddo gwag, ond ni allaf ymrwymo i ariannu’n llawn y gwaith o ailddechrau defnyddio’r eiddo hwnnw i gyd. Hoffem i Gymru gael ei hadnabod fel man nad yw’n goddef eiddo gwag. Credaf y byddem i gyd yn cytuno bod tai gwag yn adnodd sy’n cael ei wastraffu. Yr wyf yn eich sicrhau ein bod yn gweithio gyda

Association to ensure that enforcement powers are properly used.

We expanded the mortgage rescue scheme in July and allocated a minimum of £5 million to it for this financial year. I will be working with key partners to allow families facing homelessness to access the scheme. Housing associations will either be able to purchase the homes outright, so that the owner can become an assured tenant, or purchase an equity share with a mortgage on the smaller loan. I announced last week that we would be working with local authorities and housing associations to negotiate the purchase of built and semi-built homes and land from private sector developers who are unable to find buyers for their homes but who want to sell the land. With regard to the homes, we are prepared to be flexible on the standards on this occasion. These homes and sites will need to fit in with authorities' strategic priorities and provide value for money. I also announced that the Welsh Assembly Government will consult this autumn on a revised homebuy scheme—which has been raised today by a number of Members—that will address the shortcomings of the previous scheme. It will target households that cannot afford commercial mortgages and might otherwise be in social housing. I hope that that will be in place by next spring.

As some of you will be aware, we have helped rural authorities to employ officers to work with local communities to bring forward land for affordable housing. In the same way that we have supported rural affordable housing enablers, we have for some time encouraged local authorities to work with us to employ regional affordable housing enablers; one such officer has already been employed in the Heads of the Valleys area. This year's social housing management grant invites bids from local authority partnerships to expand this network and achieve the targets that will be set out in the affordable housing delivery statements. In line with the Essex review and the Beecham 'Making the Connections' agenda, we have asked that regional enablers work jointly across authorities to provide affordable

Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i sicrhau y caiff pwerau gorfodi eu defnyddio'n briodol.

Fis Gorffennaf, ehangwyd y cynllun achub morgeisi gennym a dyrannwyd isafswm o £5 miliwn iddo am y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Byddaf yn gweithio gyda phartneriaid allweddol i alluogi teuluoedd sy'n wynebu bod yn ddigartref i ddefnyddio'r cynllun. Bydd cymdeithasau tai naill ai'n gallu prynu'r cartrefi yn llwyr, fel y gall y perchennog fod yn denant sicr, ynteu'n prynu cyfran ecwiti gyda morgais ar y benthyciad llai. Cyhoeddais yr wythnos diwethaf y byddem yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol a chymdeithasau tai i drafod prynu tai wedi'u hadeiladu ac wedi'u hadeiladu'n rhannol a thir gan ddatblygwyr sector preifat sy'n methu â dod o hyd i brynwyr i'w cartrefi ond sy'n dymuno gwerthu'r tir. O ran y cartrefi, yr ydym yn barod i fod yn hyblyg gyda'r safonau y tro hwn. Bydd angen i'r cartrefi a'r safleoedd hyn gyd-fynd â blaenoriaethau strategol awdurdodau a rhoi gwerth da am yr arian. Cyhoeddais hefyd y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n ymgynghori yn ystod yr hydref ar gynllun cymorth prynu diwygiedig—mae nifer o Aelodau wedi codi hyn heddiw—a fydd yn mynd i'r afael â diffygion y cynllun blaenorol. Bydd yn targedu aelwydydd na allant fforddio morgeisi masnachol ac a allent fod mewn tai cymdeithasol fel arall. Gobeithio y bydd hynny ar waith erbyn y gwanwyn nesaf.

Fel y bydd rhai ohonoch yn ymwybodol, yr ydym wedi helpu awdurdodau gwledig i gyflogi swyddogion i weithio gyda chymunedau lleol i ddarparu tir ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy. Yn yr un modd ag yr ydym wedi cefnogi swyddogion galluogi tai fforddiadwy gwledig, yr ydym ers cryn amser wedi annog awdurdodau lleol i weithio gyda ni i gyflogi swyddogion galluogi tai fforddiadwy rhanbarthol; mae un swyddog o'r fath eisoes wedi'i gyflogi yn ardal Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Mae grant rheoli tai cymdeithasol eleni'n gwahodd cynigion gan bartneriaid awdurdodau lleol i ymestyn y rhwydwaith hwn a chyflawni'r targedau a amlinellir yn y datganiadau darparu tai fforddiadwy. Yn unol ag adolygiad Essex ac agenda 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau' gan Beecham, yr ydym wedi gofyn i alluogwyr rhanbarthol

housing policy and to make the point that housing markets cross local authority boundaries.

We continue to appreciate the challenge that the lack of affordable housing presents and the way in which it impacts on people's lives. We will, therefore, continue to respond to market conditions. All of the things that we have done in housing under 'One Wales' have been well received in the housing sector. However, it appears from today's debate that our opposition colleagues cannot quite bring themselves to acknowledge that—they say that there is not enough of this or that, that we are too late, that we do not go far enough, or that there is not enough money.

5.20 p.m.

I will respond to one or two specific points. We are about to consult on the future of homebuy, so it is not appropriate at this time to support William's amendment. However, I do not disagree with the thrust of it. Mark, I have mentioned the offers that were made to housing associations over the last few months; I will not repeat them now, but you can read them in the Record of Proceedings. Kirsty, we are reviewing the social housing grant process as part of the Essex review, including tariff—

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Would you agree that a certain Member who had responsibility for housing in a previous coalition Government had plenty of opportunity to do these things, but chose not to do so?

Jocelyn Davies: We are in the here and now, and this One Wales Government has been—*[Interruption.]* Is this an intervention?

Peter Black: I heard your response to Rhodri Glyn, but would you not agree that we were in coalition eight years ago and that things have changed markedly? We now have a credit crunch and a housing crisis. When the Liberal Democrats and Labour were in Government from 2000 to 2003, a number of initiatives were brought in, including a homebuy scheme, which worked quite well at

weithio ar y cyd ar draws awdurdodau i ddarparu polisi tai fforddiadwy ac i gyfleu'r pwynt fod marchnadoedd tai yn croesi ffiniau awdurdodau lleol.

Yr ydym yn dal i sylweddoli bod her yn y diffyg tai fforddiadwy, a'r ffordd y mae'n effeithio ar fywydau pobl. Felly, byddwn yn parhau i ymateb i amodau'r farchnad. Mae popeth yr ydym wedi'i wneud ym maes tai dan 'Cymru'n Un' wedi'i groesawu yn y sector tai. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ymddangos o'r ddadl heddiw nad yw ein cyd-Weinidogion yn yr wrthblaid yn fodlon cydnabod hynny—maent yn dweud nad oes digon o hyn neu'r llall, ein bod yn rhy hwyr, nad ydym yn mynd yn ddigon pell, neu nad oes digon o arian.

Ymatebaf i un neu ddau o bwyntiau penodol. Yr ydym ar fin ymgynghori ar ddyfodol cymorth prynu, felly, nid yw cefnogi gwelliant William yn briodol ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf yn anghytuno ag ef yn ei hanfod. Mark, yr wyf wedi sôn am y cynigion a wnaethpwyd i gymdeithasau tai dros y misoedd diwethaf; ni wnaaf eu hailadrodd yn awr, ond cewch eu darllen yng Nghofnod y Trafodion. Kirsty, yr ydym yn adolygu'r broses grantiau tai cymdeithasol fel rhan o adolygiad Essex, gan gynnwys tariff—

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A fydddech yn cytuno bod Aelod penodol a oedd â chyfrifoldeb dros dai mewn cyn-Lywodraeth glymblaid wedi cael digonedd o gyfle i wneud y pethau hyn, ond wedi dewis peidio â gwneud hynny?

Jocelyn Davies: Yr ydym yn y presennol yn awr, ac mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un wedi—*[Torri ar draws]* Ai ymyriad yw hwn?

Peter Black: Clywais eich ateb i Rhodri Glyn, ond oni fydddech yn cytuno ein bod mewn clymblaid wyth mlynedd yn ôl a bod pethau wedi newid yn fawr? Yn awr, mae gennym wasgfa greddy ac argyfwng tai. Pan oedd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a Llafur yn llywodraethu o 2000 hyd 2003, cyflwynwyd nifer o fentrau, gan gynnwys cynllun cymorth prynu, a oedd yn gweithio'n

the time.

Jocelyn Davies: The homebuy scheme has been shown to have considerable shortcomings. Let us hope that the next such scheme—I know that many Members will support it—will address those problems.

My other point in response to Kirsty is that there is a consultation out on TAN 6, so we will take your comments today to be your response to that. Many of the points that you made will be addressed there. Jenny, one of the barriers to development is often the public itself—people want more affordable housing, but they do not want it built near them. I am considering a bid for an affordable housing enabler covering the Cardiff area.

Eleanor, please do not tell me to take the Essex report seriously when you have not read it yourself; that was quite obvious from your speech. A written statement has been issued explaining how we are taking forward the recommendations of the Essex review. I will not be responding in the traditional way, to each recommendation. Instead, we have set up work streams with our partners in local government, in housing associations and elsewhere, so that the recommendations can be taken forward. In response to Nick's point, perhaps we should call it local housing rather than affordable housing, and then, perhaps, people would be more sympathetic.

I hope that everyone can see that the One Wales Government is making housing a priority, and that we are doing a great deal with our partners to improve matters. I just hope that the opposition gets on board with this particular approach, because it certainly appears to work.

Mick Bates: In opening this debate, Peter Black acknowledged the efforts of the Deputy Minister. I want to make it clear that Peter's work eight years ago was absolutely top-class, earning him the analogy that Black was to housing in Cardiff what Cable is to the economy in Westminster. [*Interruption.*]

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Will

dda ar y pryd.

Jocelyn Davies: Dangoswyd bod gwendidau sylweddol yn y cynllun cymorth prynu. Gadewch inni obeithio y bydd y cynllun nesaf o'r fath—gwn y bydd nifer o Aelodau'n ei gefnogi—yn mynd i'r afael â'r problemau hynny.

Fy mhwynt arall i ateb Kirsty yw bod ymgynghori'n digwydd ar TAN 6, felly, cymerwn mai eich sylwadau heddiw yw eich ymateb i hwnnw. Bydd nifer o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gennych yn cael sylw yno. Jenny, un o'r rhwystrau at ddatblygu yn aml yw'r cyhoedd eu hunain—mae ar bobl eisiau mwy o dai fforddiadwy, ond nid ydynt am weld eu hadeiladu'n agos atynt. Yr wyf yn ystyried cynnig am swyddog galluogi tai fforddiadwy ar gyfer ardal Caerdydd.

Eleanor, peidiwch â dweud wrthyf am gymryd adroddiad Essex o ddifrif a chithau heb ei ddarllen, os gwelwch yn dda; yr oedd hynny'n ddigon amlwg o'ch araith. Mae datganiad ysgrifenedig wedi'i gyhoeddi sy'n egluro sut yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen ag argymhellion adolygiad Essex. Ni fyddaf yn ymateb yn y ffordd draddodiadol, i bob argymhelliad. Yn hytrach, yr ydym wedi sefydlu ffrydiau gwaith gyda'n partneriaid mewn llywodraeth leol, mewn cymdeithasau tai ac mewn mannau eraill, er mwyn gallu bwrw ymlaen â'r argymhellion. I ateb pwynt Nick, efallai y dylem eu galw'n dai lleol yn hytrach na thai fforddiadwy; efallai y byddai pobl yn cydymdeimlo mwy wedyn.

Gobeithio y gall pawb weld bod Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i dai, a'n bod yn gwneud llawer o waith gyda'n partneriaid i wella pethau. Yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd yr wrthblaid yn croesawu'r dull penodol hwn, oherwydd mae'n sicr yn ymddangos ei fod yn gweithio.

Mick Bates: Wrth agor y ddadl hon, cydnabu Peter Black ymdrechion y Dirprwy Weinidog. Hoffwn bwysleisio bod gwaith Peter wyth mlynedd yn ôl o'r radd flaenaf, a chafodd ei gymharu ym maes tai yng Nghaerdydd â Cable ym maes yr economi yn San Steffan. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. A dderbyniwch

you take an intervention?

Mick Bates: Can you let me get into the flow a bit?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: No. You either take an intervention now, or not at all.

Jocelyn Davies: We all know that you have been recuperating from an operation, but during your absence Peter said in the Chamber that he had nothing to do with housing when he was a Deputy Minister—responsibility for housing in the Liberal Democrat/Labour coalition Government was nothing to do with him. He did not want ownership of it.

Mick Bates: I would be careful about these glass houses that we all live in.

Turning to the debate, there has been an acknowledgement that this remains an issue after the efforts of successive Governments, and I think that, collectively, we should say that we are going to resolve it once and for all. There is now an opportunity to do so. It is clear from comments made today that parts of the Essex report are important—Eleanor made the point about reducing the red tape that so often creates a blockage and hinders good intentions. I think that there is a danger regarding the list of your efforts that you gave us, Deputy Minister—admirable as they are—and I would remind you that even the best strategies have to develop at some time into action. I think that that is what we are all waiting to see.

There is no doubt that what we want to achieve is a mechanism that will allow people to live in decent housing; Peter's work on homebuy, for example, was a classic example of that. It is a right to be able to live in decent housing. The fact that there are 80,000 people in Wales on waiting lists shows how urgent the situation is. You mentioned the supply of land, Deputy Minister, and we all know that the Government holds lots of land. Again, you said that you are looking into this issue. I can remember the previous Minister for housing standing up to say, at long last, that he agreed that we had to make sure that Government land was released to build affordable

ymyriad?

Mick Bates: A wnewch chi ganiatau imi ddweud ychydig mwy yn gyntaf?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Na. Cymerwch ymyriad yn awr, neu ddim o gwbl.

Jocelyn Davies: Gwyddom i gyd ichi fod yn gwella ar ôl llawdriniaeth, ond yn ystod eich absenoldeb, dywedodd Peter yn y Siambr nad oedd ganddo ddim i'w wneud â thai pan fu'n Ddirprwy Weinidog—nid oedd ganddo ddim i'w wneud â chyfrifoldeb am dai yn Llywodraeth glymblaid y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a Llafur. Nid oedd arno eisiau'r cyfrifoldeb.

Mick Bates: Byddwn yn ofalus am y tai gwydr yr ydym oll yn byw ynddynt.

I droi at y ddadl, cafwyd cydnabyddiaeth fod hyn yn dal yn broblem ar ôl ymdrechion dwy Lywodraeth olynol, a chredaf y dylem ddweud, gyda'n gilydd, ein bod am ei datrys unwaith ac am byth. Mae gennym gyfle'n awr i wneud hynny. Mae'n amlwg o'r sylwadau a wnaethpwyd heddiw bod rhannau o adroddiad Essex yn bwysig—gwnaeth Eleanor y pwynt am leihau'r fiwrocratiaeth sydd mor aml yn creu rhwystr gan lesteirio bwriadau da. Credaf fod perygl o ran y rhestr o'ch ymdrechion a roesoch inni, Ddirprwy Weinidog—er mor glodwiw ydynt—a byddwn yn eich atgoffa'i bod yn rhaid i'r strategaethau gorau, hyd yn oed, ddatblygu'n weithredu yn y pen draw. Credaf mai dyna yr ydym i gyd yn disgwyl ei weld.

Nid oes amheuaeth nad yr hyn a ddymunwn yw mecanwaith a fydd yn caniatáu i bobl fyw mewn tai gweddus; yr oedd gwaith Peter ar gymorth prynu, er enghraifft, yn enghraifft berffaith o hynny. Mae gallu byw mewn tai gweddus yn hawl. Mae'r ffaith fod 80,000 o bobl Cymru ar restrau aros yn dangos mor ddybryd yw'r sefyllfa. Soniech am ddarparu tir, Ddirprwy Weinidog, a gwyddom i gyd fod gan y Llywodraeth lawer o dir. Eto, soniech eich bod yn edrych ar y mater hwn. Gallaf gofio'r cyn-Weinidog tai yn sefyll ac yn dweud, o'r diwedd, ei fod yn cytuno'i bod yn rhaid inni sicrhau bod tir y Llywodraeth yn cael ei ryddhau i adeiladu tai fforddiadwy. Mae hynny ar yr agenda ers amser maith, ac

housing. That has been on the agenda for a long time and I did not hear you say how many acres have been released and how many people, therefore, would be able to get decent affordable housing. A similar problem exists with the quality of the affordable housing that we want to build. It is all very well building affordable houses, but they have to be affordable to live in as well. I did not hear a lot about the quality of the houses that you want to build. I also believe that we, as Liberal Democrats, have led the way in trying to assist communities—[*Interruption.*] Thank you for that applause.

We have led the way in promoting something that Kirsty highlighted. In our small rural communities, it is sometimes only five or six houses that are needed and a community land trust, so that the people can own the houses with covenants to keep them for local people, is the way forward.

I applaud the rural housing enablers. Jenny spoke eloquently about the situation in Cardiff and the need to have urban housing enablers, which is a crucial point. We have seen how good the rural housing enablers are. When it comes to a commitment on these things, we have to make sure that it happens. Nick Ramsay quite rightly pointed out to us all that Nimbyism is a curse. I noted that my good friend, Carl Sargeant, immediately mentioned windfarms. That is a debate for another day, Carl. I would call on the Government to say that. Today's debate is about commitment and our commitment is total.

Carl Sargeant: You talk about commitment and we have listened to you telling us, for just under an hour, about the Liberal Democrats' commitment to housing. Could you explain why your Liberal Democrat colleague or guru, who seeks to be your president, has resigned from being the housing spokesman in Westminster?

Mick Bates: That intervention was totally useless. If that is all you have to contribute to this debate, keep to your seat, Carl. That is

ni chlywais chi'n dweud sawl acer a ryddhawyd a faint o bobl, o ganlyniad i hynny, fyddai'n gallu cael tai fforddiadwy gweddus. Mae problem debyg yn bodoli gydag ansawdd y tai fforddiadwy yr hoffem eu hadeiladu. Mae'n ddigon teg adeiladu tai fforddiadwy, ond rhaid iddynt fod yn fforddiadwy i fyw ynddynt hefyd. Ni chlywais lawer am ansawdd y tai yr ydych yn dymuno'u hadeiladu. Credaf hefyd ein bod ni, y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, wedi bod ar flaen y gad o ran ceisio cynorthwyo cymunedau—[*Torri ar draws.*] Diolch am y gymeradwyaeth.

Yr ydym wedi bod ar flaen y gad o ran hyrwyddo rhywbeth y rhoddodd Kirsty sylw iddo. Yn ein cymunedau gwledig bach, weithiau pump neu chwech o dai'n unig sy'n ofynnol, ac ymddiriedolaeth tir cymunedol, fel y gall y bobl fod yn berchen y tai gyda chyfamodau i'w cadw ar gyfer pobl leol, yw'r ffordd ymlaen.

Cymeradwyaf y swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig. Siaradodd Jenny yn huawdl am y sefyllfa yng Nghaerdydd a'r angen am swyddogion galluogi tai trefol, sy'n bwynt hollbwysig. Yr ydym wedi gweld mor dda yw'r swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig. Pan ddaw'n amser gwneud ymrwymiad i'r materion hyn, rhaid inni sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Fel y dywedodd Nick Ramsay, yn ddigon teg, mae'r agwedd 'ddim lle'r ydw i'n byw' yn felltith. Nodais fod fy ffrind da, Carl Sargeant, wedi crybwyll ffermydd gwynt ar unwaith. Dadl ar gyfer diwrnod arall yw honno, Carl. Byddwn yn galw ar y Llywodraeth i ddweud hynny. Mae dadl heddiw'n ymwneud ag ymrwymiad, ac mae ein hymrwymiad yn llwyr.

Carl Sargeant: Yr ydych yn siarad am ymrwymiad, ac yr ydym wedi gwrandao arnoch yn dweud wrthym, am ychydig llai nag awr, am ymrwymiad y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i dai. A allech egluro pam mae eich cyd-Weinidog o Ddemocrat Rhyddfrydol, neu eich guru, sy'n ceisio bod yn llywydd arnoch wedi ymddeol o fod yn llefarydd tai yn San Steffan?

Mick Bates: Yr oedd yr ymyriad hwnnw'n hollol ddiwerth. Os dyna i gyd sydd gennych i'w gyfrannu at y ddadl hon, arhoswch yn

my advice.

eich sedd, Carl. Dyna fy nghyngor i.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Could you wind up now, please?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. A allech ddod i ben yn awr, os gwelwch yn dda?

Mick Bates: I ask that you show your commitment to this cause by agreeing with us and voting for the motion. Let us see action from your strategy.

Mick Bates: Gofynnaf ichi ddangos eich ymrwymiad i'r achos hwn drwy gytuno â ni a phleidleisio o blaid y cynnig. Gadewch inni weld gweithredu o'ch strategaeth.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio Voting Time

The Deputy Presiding Officer: We will now move directly to voting time. Does anyone wish the bell to be rung? I see that they do not.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Byddwn yn awr yn symud yn uniongyrchol i gyfnod pleidleisio. A oes unrhyw un yn dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Gwelaf nad oes.

*Gwelliant 1 i NDM4005: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.
Amendment 1 to NDM4005: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 35.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Paul
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Law, Trish
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Asghar, Mohammed
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

5.30 p.m.

*Gwelliant 2 i NDM4005: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.
Amendment 2 to NDM4005: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 35.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Paul
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Law, Trish
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Asghar, Mohammed
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 3 i NDM4005: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.
Amendment 3 to NDM4005: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 35.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Paul
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark

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

Andrews, Leighton
Asghar, Mohammed
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn

Law, Trish
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

Evans, Nerys
 Franks, Chris
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Cynnig (NDM4005): O blaid 14, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.
 Motion (NDM4005): For 14, Abstain 0, Against 35.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Burns, Angela
 Davies, Paul
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Asghar, Mohammed
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Chapman, Christine
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Evans, Nerys
 Franks, Chris
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri

Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
Motion defeated.*

*Gwelliant 1 i NDM4006: O blaid 36, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 14.
Amendment 1 to NDM4006: For 36, Abstain 0, Against 14.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Asghar, Mohammed
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Trish
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Paul
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

Motion NDM4006 as amended: that

the National Assembly for Wales:

1. notes the current lack of affordable housing in Wales;

Cynnig NDM4006 fel y'i diwygiwyd: bod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. yn nodi'r diffyg tai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd;

2. *welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to:*

a) *develop the homebuy scheme;*

b) *support affordable housing enablers across rural and urban Wales.*

2. *welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to:*

a) *develop the homebuy scheme;*

b) *support affordable housing enablers across rural and urban Wales.*

*Cynnig NDM4006 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 14.
Motion NDM4006 as amended: For 34, Abstain 0, Against 14.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Asghar, Mohammed
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Trish
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Morgan, Rhodri
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Paul
German, Michael
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig NDM4006 fel y'i diwygiwyd.
Motion NDM4006 as amended carried.*

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Alun Davies: I wish to raise a point of order. The leader of the opposition, in making a poor response to the debate on the economy earlier this afternoon, made several misleading remarks—deliberately so, I believe—about me and my contribution to

Alun Davies: Yr wyf yn dymuno codi pwynt o drefn. Wrth i arweinydd yr wrthblaid ymateb yn sâl i'r ddadl ar yr economi yn gynharach y prynhawn yma, gwnaeth nifer o sylwadau camarweiniol—a hynny'n fwriadol yn fy marn i—amdanaf fi a'm cyfraniad at y

that debate. In your view, Deputy Presiding Officer, is it correct and in order for the leader of the opposition to deliberately mislead the Chamber?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I do not believe that he deliberately misled the Chamber. I therefore ask you to withdraw those remarks, Alun.

Alun Davies: I will withdraw those remarks.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Thank you. Can you rephrase them?

Alun Davies: I will review the Record, and I will bring a point of order back to the Chamber next week so that I may place on record my concern that the leader of the opposition misrepresented what I said in the debate this afternoon.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I will also read the Record, and I am sure that we will have an interesting debate on that next week.

ddadl honno. Yn eich barn chi, Ddirprwy Lywydd, a yw hi'n gywir ac mewn trefn i arweinydd yr wrthblaid gamarwain y Siambr yn fwriadol?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Nid wyf yn credu ei fod wedi camarwain y Siambr yn fwriadol. Yr wyf felly yn gofyn i chi dynnu'r sylwadau hynny'n ôl, Alun.

Alun Davies: Tynnaf y sylwadau hynny'n ôl.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolch. A allwch eu haralleirio?

Alun Davies: Byddaf yn adolygu'r Cofnod, ac yn dod â phwynt o drefn yn ôl i'r Siambr yr wythnos nesaf er mwyn imi gofnodi fy mhryder bod arweinydd yr wrthblaid wedi cam-gyfleu'r hyn a ddywedais yn y ddadl y prynhawn yma.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Byddaf finnau hefyd yn darllen y Cofnod, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y cawn ddadl ddiddorol ar hynny'r wythnos nesaf.

Dadl Fer Short Debate

100 y cant erbyn 2050 100 per cent by 2050

Michael German: The title of my short debate, for those of you who have not worked it out, is drawn from the commitment that we made as a party during last year's elections on the energy proposal, namely that we should produce 100 per cent of our electricity from renewable resources by 2050. I am passionate about green electricity, and I know that many people in Wales share this aspiration. I also know that the target that we set last year was an ambitious target at the time, and many Assembly Members said that it was too ambitious, but times are changing. Before I talk about that target, I wish to review the 'One Wales' agreement, which commits to cutting carbon emissions by 3 per cent a year.

To emphasise the point that times are changing, research by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of Manchester shows that, for Wales to play its

Michael German: I'r rheini ohonoch nad ydych wedi deall teitl fy nadl fer, daw o'r ymrwymiad a wnaethom fel plaid yn ystod etholiadau'r llynedd ar y cynnig ynni, sef y dylem gynhyrchu 100 y cant o'n trydan o adnoddau adnewyddadwy erbyn 2050. Yr wyf ar dân dros drydan gwyrdd, a gwn fod nifer o bobl yng Nghymru'n rhannu'r dyhead hwn. Yr wyf hefyd yn gwybod bod y targed yr oeddem wedi'i osod y llynedd yn darged uchelgeisiol ar y pryd, a dywedodd nifer o Aelodau Cynulliad ei fod yn rhy uchelgeisiol, ond mae amser yn newid. Cyn imi siarad am y targed, hoffwn adolygu'r cytundeb 'Cymru'n Un', sy'n ymrwymo i dorri allyriadau carbon 3 y cant y flwyddyn.

I bwysleisio'r pwynt fod amser yn newid, dengys ymchwil gan Ganolfan Tyndall dros Ymchwil i Newid yn yr Hinsawdd ym Mhrifysgol Manceinion y dylid dyblu'r 3 y

part in combating climate change, that 3 per cent should be doubled to 6 per cent a year. That is to achieve what is becoming a worldwide standard, namely to keep below the threshold of a 2 degree C increase in global temperature. However, we are seeing that 2 degrees C threshold increasing, and people are now talking about a 4 degree C increase rather than a 2 degree C increase in global temperature.

We must accept that targets, including our own, need to be revised, but you can understand my astonishment when I read in the Minister's renewable energy route-map that the Government now aims to make Wales wholly self-sufficient in renewable electricity by 2025. I commend the Government for setting a more ambitious target than that which we set last year, and I support the ambition. I hope that we can achieve that dream of being self-sufficient in electricity from renewable resources by 2025, but we should not be in the business of promising what we cannot deliver. Therefore, the big question that we must ask is whether that target is realistic, and whether it is realistic only when nuclear power is included in the mix? Perhaps the Minister could clarify that in her response.

Of all the electricity that we currently produce in Wales, only 4 per cent comes from renewable resources. We are nowhere near reaching the Government's target in technical advice note 8 of producing 4 TWh of electricity by renewable energy by 2010, which is fast approaching—it is less than two years away, and we have only reached 4 per cent of that target. No new onshore windpower has been commissioned since June 2006, so, in effect, we are 75 per cent behind a schedule due to end in 2010.

On the current energy policy in Wales, an energy route-map was launched for consultation in 2005. In February of this year, we had a new consultation on a second energy route-map. I now understand that the renewable energy route-map will be incorporated into the Wales energy strategy, which is not expected until some time in 2009. Perhaps the Minister can also clarify

cant i 6 y cant y flwyddyn er mwyn i Gymru wneud ei rhan wrth fynd i'r afael â'r newid yn yr hinsawdd. Mae hynny i gyflawni'r hyn sy'n dod yn safon fyd-eang, sef cadw dan y trothwy cynnydd o 2 radd C yn nhymeredd y byd. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn gweld y trothwy hwnnw o 2 radd C yn codi, ac mae pobl yn awr yn sôn am gynnydd o 4 gradd C yn hytrach na chynnydd o 2 radd C yn nhymeredd y byd.

Rhaid inni dderbyn bod angen diwygio targedau, gan gynnwys ein targedau ni, ond gallwch ddeall fy syndod pan ddarllenais yn nhrywydd ynni adnewyddadwy'r Gweinidog fod y Llywodraeth yn awr am geisio gwneud Cymru yn hollol hunangynhaliol o ran trydan adnewyddadwy erbyn 2025. Yr wyf yn cymeradwyo'r Llywodraeth am osod targed mwy uchelgeisiol na'r hyn a osodwyd gennym y llynedd, ac yr wyf yn cefnogi'r uchelgais. Gobeithio y gallwn gyflawni'r freuddwyd honno o fod yn hunangynhaliol o ran trydan o adnoddau adnewyddadwy erbyn 2025, ond ni ddylem addo'r hyn na allwn ei gyflawni. Felly, y cwestiwn mawr y mae'n rhaid inni ei ofyn yw a yw'r targed hwnnw'n realistig, ac ai dim ond pan gaiff pŵer niwclear ei gynnwys yn y gymysgedd y mae'n realistig? Efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog egluro hynny yn ei hymateb?

O'r holl drydan a gynhyrchwn yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd, 4 y cant yn unig a ddaw o ffynonellau ynni adnewyddadwy. Nid ydym yn agos at gyrraedd targed y llywodraeth yn nodyn cyngor technegol 8, sef cynhyrchu 4TWh o drydan drwy ynni adnewyddadwy erbyn 2010, sydd ar ein gwarthaf—gwta ddwy flynedd i ffwrdd, a dim ond 4 y cant o'r targed hwnnw yr ydym wedi'i gyrraedd. Nid oes dim pŵer gwynt ar y tir wedi ei gomisiynu er mis Mehefin 2006, felly, mewn gwirionedd, yr ydym 75 y cant ar ôl amserlen sydd i ddod i ben yn 2010.

O ran y polisi ynni presennol yng Nghymru, cafodd trywydd ynni ei lansio i ymgynghori arno yn 2005. Ym mis Chwefror eleni, cawsom ymgynghoriad newydd ar ail drywydd ynni. Caf ar ddeall yn awr y caiff y trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy ei ymgorffori yn strategaeth ynni Cymru, ac ni ddisgwylir honno tan rywdro yn 2009. Efallai y gall y Gweinidog hefyd egluro hynny. Bron i

that. Nearly half a decade after work started on this vital area, we have enough maps and strategies to wallpaper a Severn barrage, but we have no means of generating energy from the Severn tides. The predictions about when that will happen are optimistically placed at somewhere around 2020, but it is more likely to be closer to 2025. Did I mention the microgeneration action plan? That is another product of the old energy route-map. If plans were terawatt hours, we could keep the lights on forever.

Some of this is the fault of Labour and Plaid Cymru in Wales, because their example and lead has not directed us to reach the target. However, some of it is also the fault of the Labour Government in Westminster, because it did not do as much as we expected to lead by example. The legislative settlement that we have been lumbered with gives us no powers over building regulations, and it will give us no authority over energy projects greater than 50 MW—the Minister agreed earlier that her Government in London is resisting that, which is why I suggested that we might want to consider going through the LCO process with cross-party support in the Assembly. Even using that tortuous process, we may have to wait four years and for the whim of Members of Parliament and Government to get those powers over building regulations and energy generation projects over 50 MW.

We have been left without some of the key tools to deliver our renewable energy targets for the people we serve. To reach real targets, we need to see real action and not just stated ambition that looks as if it will never be achieved. We need to reduce the planning burdens on household projects, overcome the challenge of grid transmission, and end the reluctance of Government to invest in marine technology.

I put forward a proposal for legislation during the last Assembly to reduce planning

hanner degawd ar ôl dechrau gwaith yn y maes hollbwysig hwn, yr ydym wedi cael digon o drywyddion a strategaethau i bapuro morglawdd afon Hafren, ond nid oes gennym ddim ffordd o gynhyrchu ynni o lanw afon Hafren. Yn optimistaidd, rhagwelir y bydd hynny'n digwydd rywdro oddeutu 2020, ond mae'n debycach o fod yn nes at 2025. A soniais i am y cynllun gweithredu microgynhyrchu? Mae hwnnw'n rhywbeth arall sy'n perthyn i'r hen drywydd ynni. Petai cynlluniau'n oriau terawat, gallem gynnau'r golau am byth.

Mae rhywfaint o'r bai am hyn ar Lafur a Phlaid Cymru yng Nghymru, oherwydd nad yw eu hesiampl na'u harweiniad wedi ein cyfeirio at gyrraedd y targed. Fodd bynnag, mae rhywfaint o'r bai am hyn hefyd yn disgyn ar y Llywodraeth Lafur yn San Steffan, oherwydd nad oedd wedi gwneud cymaint ag yr oeddem wedi'i ddisgwyl i arwain drwy esiampl. Nid yw'r setliad deddfwriaethol a gawsom yn rhoi dim pwerau inni dros reoliadau adeiladu, ac ni fydd yn rhoi dim awdurdod inni dros brosiectau ynni dros 50 MW—cytunodd y Gweinidog yn gynharach fod ei Llywodraeth yn Llundain yn gwrthwynebu hynny, a dyna pam yr awgrymais y byddem efallai am ystyried mynd drwy'r broses Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol gyda chefnogaeth drawsbleidiol yn y Cynulliad. Hyd yn oed drwy ddefnyddio'r broses droellog honno, efallai y bydd yn rhaid inni aros pedair blynedd a hynny ar fypwyl Aelodau Seneddol a Llywodraeth i gael y pwerau hynny dros reoliadau adeiladu a phrosiectau cynhyrchu ynni dros 50 MW.

Yr ydym wedi ein gadael heb rai o'r arfau allweddol i gyflawni ein targedau ynni adnewyddadwy ar gyfer y bobl yr ydym yn eu gwasanaethu. Er mwyn cyrraedd targedau go iawn, mae arnom angen gweld gweithredu go iawn, nid dim ond uchelgais sy'n ymddangos na chaiff byth ei wireddu. Mae angen inni leihau'r beichiau cynllunio ar brosiectau aelwydydd, goresgyn her trawsyrru dros y grid, a rhoi diwedd ar amharodrwydd Llywodraeth i fuddsoddi mewn yn nhechnoleg y môr.

Cyflwynais gynnig ar gyfer deddfwriaeth yn ystod y Cynulliad diwethaf i leihau beichiau

burdens, and when the time ran out, the Labour Government at the time said that it would take it up, but we are still waiting. Perhaps the Minister can tell me in her response when the planning burden on microgeneration is to be reduced.

5.40 p.m.

In Westminster, my colleagues have exposed the reality of the Government's record on renewable energy. While pushing its expensive nuclear agenda, the Government has failed to spend any of the £42 million budget that it allocated itself for the development of wave and tidal energy.

The UK Government's report will tell us in mid-2010 what the options are for Severn tidal energy. However, the UK Government has made a commitment that its national strategy will appear in March 2009 and that its national action plan will appear in March 2010. In other words, in mid-2010 we will know what the options are for Severn tidal power, but the action plan on what we will do will appear some two to four months before then. I wonder whether the Minister knows how we can overcome that conundrum.

I will now turn to ways in which we can make use of the great potential for renewable energy that we have in Wales, and reach our targets and move forward towards a greener future. We all know that the Severn estuary can provide a huge amount of the energy that Wales and our colleagues across the water need. The Severn, with its second largest tidal range in the world, presents us with the opportunity to move away from reliance on carbon-hungry fuels. There are wave and tidal projects developing around the world, but we must secure more support so that we can realise the true potential of this resource.

Why is the Government so resistant to the lagoon project in Swansea bay? Could this be in place by 2011, and continue to provide some of Wales's energy needs beyond that? There is no need to wait for the UK Government decision on Severn tidal power;

cynllunio, a phan nad oedd dim amser ar ôl, dywedodd y Llywodraeth Lafur ar y pryd y byddai'n mynd ar ei drywydd, ond yr ydym yn dal i ddisgwyl. Efallai y gall y Gweinidog ddweud wrthyf yn ei hymateb a fydd y baich cynllunio ar ficrogynhyrchu yn cael ei leihau.

Yn San Steffan, mae fy nghyd-Aelodau wedi datgelu realiti record y Llywodraeth ar ynni adnewyddadwy. Wrth wthio ei hagenda niwclear ddrud, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi methu gwario dim o'r gyllideb £42 miliwn yr oedd wedi'i dyrannu iddi ei hun ar gyfer datblygu ynni'r tonnau a'r llanw.

Bydd adroddiad Llywodraeth y DU yn dweud wrthym ganol 2010 beth fydd y dewisiadau ar gyfer ynni llanw afon Hafren. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi ymrwymo y bydd ei strategaeth genedlaethol yn ymddangos ym mis Mawrth 2009 ac y bydd ei chynllun gweithredu cenedlaethol yn ymddangos ym mis Mawrth 2010. Mewn geiriau eraill, ganol 2010 byddwn yn gwybod beth fydd y dewisiadau ar gyfer pŵer llanw afon Hafren, ond bydd y cynllun gweithredu ar yr hyn a wnawn yn ymddangos ddau i bedwar mis cyn hynny. Tybed a yw'r Gweinidog yn gwybod sut y gallwn oresgyn y benbleth honno?.

Trof yn awr at ffyrdd i ni allu defnyddio'r potensial mawr ar gyfer ynni adnewyddadwy sydd gennym yng Nghymru, a chyrraedd ein targedau a symud ymlaen at ddyfodol sy'n fwy gwyrdd. Gwyddom i gyd y gall aber afon Hafren ddarparu llawer iawn o'r ynni y mae ei angen ar Gymru a'n cyfeillion dros y dŵr. Mae afon Hafren, gyda'r ail amrediad llanw mwyaf yn y byd, yn gyfle inni symud oddi wrth ddibynnu ar danwydd sy'n golygu llawer o garbon. Mae prosiectau'r tonnau a'r llanw'n cael eu datblygu ar draws y byd, ond rhaid inni gael rhagor o gefnogaeth er mwyn inni allu gwireddu gwir botensial yr adnodd hwn.

Pam mae'r Llywodraeth mor wrthwynebus i'r prosiect morlynnoedd llanw ym mae Abertawe? A allai hwn fod ar waith erbyn 2011, a pharhau i ddarparu rhai o anghenion ynni Cymru wedi hynny? Nid oes angen aros am benderfyniad Llywodraeth y DU ar bŵer

the scheme could go ahead now. What is the resistance? What is holding it back? Perhaps the Minister can tell us.

There are some practical problems with wind energy, such as ensuring that the best route is used to transport equipment to construction sites and, crucially, ensuring that the grid is upgraded to deal with the increase in transmission. Our TAN 8 targets are still achievable but we must resolve these issues swiftly so that reasonable applications that are stuck in the planning system can be completed. We all know that offshore wind energy will be the key to ensuring that Wales is truly green. The original TAN 8 target of an additional 200 MW lacked ambition. We should encourage the development of large-scale wind facilities that are far enough from the coast so that they are discreet. The development of new cable techniques will allow energy to be transported much further. If we can do that, we can harness this exciting opportunity.

I ask the Minister to examine the prospects of a Wales/Ireland interconnector. Ireland has already announced a France/Ireland interconnector. That process will go ahead rapidly, which means that we are creating much more of a European network of energy connection. However, one advantage of an energy interconnector between Wales and Ireland would be that we could provide the deep-sea wind generation that currently only exists in the minds of environmental planners, making it a realistic option. The Irish Government is keen to explore that immediately.

We need more support for community energy developments. TAN 8 and the UK planning Act have eroded the confidence of people in the planning system; they have moved to an adversarial rather than a collaborative approach. We need to reassure people by encouraging them to work together to develop small-scale energy projects that bring real benefits to their communities.

On microgeneration—the subject of the

llanw afon Hafren; gallai'r cynllun fynd yn ei flaen yn awr. Beth yw'r gwrthwynebiad? Beth sy'n ei ddal yn ôl? Efallai y gall y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym.

Mae yna rai problemau ymarferol gydag ynni'r gwynt, megis sicrhau defnyddio'r llwybr gorau i gludo offer i safleoedd adeiladu ac, yn hollbwysig, fod y grid yn cael ei uwchraddio i ddelio â'r cynnydd mewn trawsyrru. Mae ein targedau TAN 8 yn dal o fewn cyrraedd, ond rhaid inni ddatrys y materion hyn yn gyflym er mwyn gallu cwblhau ceisiadau rhesymol sydd wedi eu dal yn y system cynllunio. Gwyddom i gyd mai ynni'r gwynt ar y môr fydd yr allwedd i sicrhau bod Cymru'n wirioneddol wyrdd. Nid oedd digon o ddyhead yn nharged gwreiddiol TAN 8, sef 200 MW yn ychwanegol. Dylem annog datblygu cyfleusterau gwynt ar raddfa fawr sy'n ddigon pell o'r arfordir i sicrhau nad ydynt yn amharu. Bydd datblygu'r technegau cêbl newydd yn golygu bod modd cludo ynni ymhellach o lawer. Os gallwn wneud hynny, gallwn harneisio'r cyfle cyffrous hwn.

Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog archwilio rhagolygon cael cydgysylltydd rhwng Cymru ac Iwerddon. Mae Iwerddon eisoes wedi cyhoeddi cydgysylltydd rhwng Ffrainc ac Iwerddon. Bydd y broses honno'n mynd rhagddi'n gyflym, sy'n golygu ein bod yn creu rhwydwaith o gysylltiadau ynni sy'n fwy Ewropeaidd o lawer. Fodd bynnag, un o fanteision cydgysylltydd ynni rhwng Cymru ac Iwerddon fyddai y gallem ddarparu'r cynhyrchu gwynt dyfnfor nad yw ond syniad gan gynllunwyr amgylcheddol ar hyn o bryd, a'i wneud yn ddewis realistig. Mae Llywodraeth Iwerddon yn awyddus i archwilio hynny ar unwaith.

Mae arnom angen rhagor o gefnogaeth ar gyfer datblygiadau ynni cymunedol. Mae TAN 8 a Deddf Cynllunio'r DU wedi erydu hyder pobl yn y system gynllunio; maent wedi symud at ddull gweithredu gwrthwynebus yn hytrach na chydweithredol. Mae angen inni dawelu meddwl pobl drwy eu hannog i gydweithio i ddatblygu prosiectau ynni ar raddfa fach sy'n dod â manteision go iawn i'w cymunedau.

Ar ficrogynhyrchu—pwnc y ddeddfwriaeth a

legislation that I introduced in the last Assembly—communities, businesses, councils, governments, schools, nurseries, shops and everyone should be involved in helping Wales to reach its target, but the Government must give people the tools to do the job. The problem with the ‘One Wales’ agenda is its centralising attitude—it holds on to too many powers rather than passing them out to local communities. We must improve the grid cabling structure in Wales, as too much of our energy is wasted as a result of poor transmission. This is not just about the fact that we cannot connect to renewable energy and get it out; it is also about the lengths of cabling and the poor structure within the system.

The Government must offer more financial support, including grants and—particularly—low-interest loans to communities and households that want to generate their own renewable energy by clean and efficient means. These microgeneration possibilities are being stifled by the high cost of these technologies and the pay-back period. Why do we not get rid of planning permission for home-based renewable energy devices or combined heat and power systems that generate up to 10 KW of energy? Let us roll out smart meters to every home in Wales, and let people see how much energy different appliances use and how much money they could save by switching them off. That will show everyone that going green is not some lah-di-dah middle-class concern. Going green is a way of helping struggling working families and individuals during the credit crunch.

I recognise that solar energy can be trickier. As we know, Wales is not renowned for sunny weather, but we must examine schemes that can provide solar energy to communities, with the effects of that solar energy staying within those communities. Small villages with large central buildings provide a fantastic opportunity. We have solar cells on new housing, so let us promote them for communities too. Let us promote innovative ways of making energy schemes bigger and better.

gyflwynais yn ystod y Cynulliad diwethaf—dylai cymunedau, busnesau, cynghorau, llywodraethau, ysgolion, meithrinfeydd, siopau a phawb fod yn ymwneud â helpu Cymru i gyrraedd ei tharged, ond rhaid i'r Llywodraeth roi i bobl yr offer i wneud hynny. Y broblem gydag agenda ‘Cymru’n Un’ yw ei hagwedd ganoli—mae’n dal gafael ar ormod o bwerau yn hytrach na’u trosglwyddo i gymunedau lleol. Rhaid inni wella strwythur ceblau’r grid yng Nghymru, gan fod gormod o’n hynni’n cael ei wastraffu oherwydd trawsyrru gwael. Mae hyn yn ymwneud nid yn unig â’r ffaith na allwn gysylltu ag ynni adnewyddadwy a’i gael allan; mae hefyd yn ymwneud â hyd y ceblau a’r strwythur gwael yn y system.

Rhaid i'r Llywodraeth gynnig mwy o gefnogaeth ariannol, gan gynnwys grantiau ac—yn benodol—benthyciadau llog isel i gymunedau ac aelwydydd sydd am gynhyrchu eu hynni adnewyddadwy eu hunain drwy ddulliau glân ac effeithlon. Mae’r posibiladau microgynhyrchu hyn yn cael eu mygu gan gost uchel y technolegau hyn a’r cyfnod talu’n ôl. Pam na allwn ddileu caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer dyfeisiadau ynni adnewyddadwy mewn cartrefi, neu systemau gwres a phŵer cyfun sy’n cynhyrchu hyd at 10 KW o ynni? Gadewch inni ddechrau cyflwyno mesuryddion clyfar ym mhob cartref yng Nghymru, a gadael i bobl weld faint o ynni y mae gwahanol fathau o gyfarpar yn ei ddefnyddio a faint o arian y gallant ei arbed trwy eu diffodd. Bydd hynny’n dangos nad rhyw ffal-di-lal dosbarth canol yw troi’n wyrdd. Mae troi’n wyrdd yn fodd i helpu teuluoedd ac unigolion sy’n gweithio ac yn ei chael yn anodd yn ystod y wasgfa gredyd.

Yr wyf yn cydnabod nad yw pethau mor hawdd gydag ynni’r haul. Fel y gwyddom, nid yw Cymru’n enwog am dywydd heulog, ond rhaid inni archwilio cynlluniau a all ddarparu ynni’r haul i gymunedau, gydag effeithiau’r ynni hwnnw’n aros yn y cymunedau hynny. Byddai pentrefi bychain gydag adeiladau canolog mawr yn gyfle delfrydol. Mae gennym gelloedd solar ar dai newydd, felly, beth am eu hybu ar gyfer cymunedau hefyd? Gadewch inni hybu dulliau arloesol o wneud cynlluniau ynni yn gyflwr ac yn well.

Photovoltaic systems are not reliant on sunny skies. Wales has the potential to become a world leader in this area. Europe's largest supplier of photovoltaic cells is in Wrexham, yet 80 per cent of its output is exported to Germany and other parts of the European mainland. Huge amounts go to Germany, and the reason for that is that the tax and benefit and grant regimes are different there and allow for cells to be imported and for people to generate energy in their own homes. That saddens me—not that we should be against exports; I applaud the Government for wanting to see exports from Wales. However, we could expand that factory and its capability so that it also produces for the domestic market. We are wasting energy of our own here, because we have the opportunity to use a Welsh-based product.

This Assembly can lead on going green and can end our use of non-renewable fuels. However, that will take leadership and direction beyond that which we have seen so far. Therefore, I commend the Government on its new target, but targets are achievable only if you provide the means to meet them. I want this Government to stop preparing consultations, route-maps and plans and instead deliver some action to meet its own targets—to turn Wales green and to prove that the National Assembly can deliver for the people of Wales.

The Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing (Jane Davidson): I am pleased to have the opportunity to clarify the Assembly Government's proposals for the increase in renewable electricity and to confirm our commitment to clean and affordable energy for the people of Wales. At the outset, perhaps I should clarify, as I have done on numerous occasions in the Chamber, the timetable. Following on from the publication of the renewable energy route-map in February, the next stage of the process is a national energy efficiency and savings plan, which we will issue this winter. That will be followed by the energy strategy. I am sure that, as someone who is interested in fuel poverty, you will want to ensure that issues

Nid yw systemau ffotofoltaig yn dibynnu ar heulwen. Mae gan Gymru y potensial i arwain y byd yn y maes hwn. Yn Wrexham y ma'r cyflenwr celloedd ffotofoltaig mwyaf yn Ewrop, ac eto mae 80 y cant o'i gynnyrch yn cael ei allforio i'r Almaen a rhannau eraill o dir mawr Ewrop. Mae llawer iawn yn mynd i'r Almaen, a'r rheswm am hynny yw bod y trefniadau treth a budd-dal a grant yn wahanol yno ac yn caniatáu mewnfario celloedd ac i bobl gynhyrchu ynni yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Mae hynny'n fy nhristâu—nid ein bod yn erbyn allforio; pob clod i'r Llywodraeth am fod eisiau gweld allforion o Gymru. Fodd bynnag, gallem ehangu'r ffatri honno a'i gallu er mwyn iddi hefyd gynhyrchu ar gyfer y farchnad gartref. Yr ydym yn gwastraffu ein hynni ein hunain yma, oherwydd mae gennym gyfle i ddefnyddio cynnyrch a wnaed yng Nghymru.

Gall y Cynulliad hwn roi arweiniad ar droi'n wyrdd, a rhoi diwedd ar ddefnyddio tanwydd anadnewyddadwy. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny'n gofyn am arweiniad a chyfeiriad y tu hwnt i'r hyn a welsom hyd yma. Felly, yr wyf yn canmol y Llywodraeth ar ei tharged newydd, ond yr unig ffordd i gyrraedd targedau yw os rhwch y modd i'w cyrraedd. Yr wyf am i'r Llywodraeth hon roi'r gorau i baratoi ymgynghoriadau, trywyddion ffordd a chynlluniau, ac yn hytrach weithredu i gwrdd â'i thargedau ei hun—i droi Cymru'n wyrdd a phrofi y gall y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol gyflawni dros bobl Cymru.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai (Jane Davidson): Yr wyf yn falch cael y cyfle i egluro cynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer cynyddu trydan adnewyddadwy ac i gadarnhau ein hymrwymiad i ynni glân a fforddiadwy i bobl Cymru. I gychwyn, efallai y dylwn wneud yn glir, fel y gwneuthum droeon yn y Siambr, beth yw'r amserlen. Yn dilyn cyhoeddi'r trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy ym mis Chwefror, cam nesaf y broses yw cynllun effeithlonrwydd ac arbed ynni cenedlaethol, a gyhoeddir gennym y gaeaf hwn. Dilynir hyn gan y strategaeth ynni. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch, fel un sydd â diddordeb mewn tlodi tanwydd, yn dymuno gofalu bod materion yn ymwneud ag effeithlonrwydd ynni a chynhyrchu ynni o ffynonellau

relating to energy efficiency and energy production from renewable sources are brought together. Following the energy strategy, we are committed in 'One Wales' to reviewing the targets in technical advice note 8. Those are the only targets on the table.

When we published the renewable energy route-map back in February—and if you have read it you will have seen this—we made proposals for an increase in renewable electricity. It is particularly exciting to look at the proposition that, hypothetically, Wales could become self-sufficient in energy within 20 years. As a Minister who relies on an evidence base, I was able to say that only when the experts looked at what Wales could do. I will be looking with interest at whether you personally responded to the consultation, which will demonstrate what other experts feel about these proposals. It will only be when we look at the responses to the consultation, which I think have now been published, that we will be able to set targets in the energy strategy.

5.50 p.m.

It was called the renewable energy route-map because it asked experts the length and breadth of Wales, and others, whether or not the kind of commitment that this Government is making in ensuring that we have clean and green energy could be made.

I think that we are all agreed that we have exceptional renewable energy sources in Wales. Our current consumption of electricity is 24 TWh per year. It is important that you do not confuse electricity and energy, because our electricity consumption is only about a fifth of our energy consumption. Wales could produce some 33 TWh per year of electricity from renewable sources, which would include a contribution from Severn tidal power, but even without Severn tidal power we could produce an amount equivalent to our current consumption from renewable energy sources. The route-map makes that completely clear. If we were to achieve that, not only would Wales's electricity needs be met in their entirety from low-carbon energy sources, but we would also contribute significantly to the UK's

adnewyddadwy yn cael eu dwyn ynghyd. Wedi'r strategaeth ynni, yr ydym wedi ymrwymo yn 'Cymru'n Un' i adolygu'r targedau yn nodyn cynghori technegol 8. Dyna'r unig dargedau sydd gerbron.

Pan gyhoeddwyd y trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy gennym ym mis Chwefror—ac os ydych wedi ei ddarllen, byddwch wedi gweld hyn—gwnaethom gynigion ar gyfer cynyddu trydan adnewyddadwy. Mae'n arbennig o gyffrous edrych ar y gosodiad y gallai Cymru, yn ddamcaniaethol, fod yn hunangynhaliol o ran ynni ymhen 20 mlynedd. Fel Gweinidog sy'n dibynnu ar sail o dystiolaeth, medrais ddweud hynny dim ond pan edrychodd yr arbenigwyr ar yr hyn y gallai Cymru ei wneud. Bydd gennyf ddiddordeb gweld a wnaethoch chi ymateb i'r ymgynghori'n bersonol. Bydd hynny'n dangos beth yw teimladau arbenigwyr eraill am y cynigion hyn. Dim ond pan fyddwn yn edrych ar yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghori, a gyhoeddwyd bellach, mi gredaf, y medrwn osod targedau yn y strategaeth ynni.

Fe'i galwyd yn drywydd ynni adnewyddadwy am iddo ofyn i arbenigwyr trwy Gymru benbaladr, ac eraill, a oedd modd gwneud y math o ymrwymiad y mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod gennym ynni glân a gwyrdd.

Credaf ein bod i gyd yn cytuno bod gennym ffynonellau eithriadol o ynni adnewyddadwy yng Nghymru. Ar hyn o bryd yr ydym yn defnyddio 24 TWh o drydan y flwyddyn. Mae'n bwysig peidio â drysu rhwng trydan ac ynni, oherwydd nid yw ein defnydd o drydan ond rhyw un rhan o bump o'n defnydd o ynni. Gallai Cymru gynhyrchu tua 33 TWh y flwyddyn o drydan o ffynonellau adnewyddadwy, a fyddai'n cynnwys cyfraniad o bŵer llanw afon Hafren. Ond hyd yn oed heb bŵer llanw afon Hafren, byddai modd inni gynhyrchu swm a fyddai'n cyfateb i'n defnydd presennol o ffynonellau ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae'r trywydd yn hollol glir am hynny. Petaem yn llwyddo i wneud hynny, nid yn unig byddai anghenion Cymru o ran trydan wedi eu hateb yn llwyr o ffynonellau ynni sy'n isel o ran carbon, ond

energy security objectives. The route-map not only describes how we can meet our objectives for renewable electricity, but also looks at how we can achieve that in relation to particular sources. It shows how we want to see biomass sources used for significant renewable heat production and summarises our strategic ideas on driving towards our challenging energy efficiency and small-scale microgeneration ambitions. We have laid those out in detail in the route-map and I welcome your continued support for microgeneration. That detail will be further expanded in a full-scale Welsh energy strategy.

I am not aware that you mentioned feed-in tariffs in your contribution, but they are a critical element in making microgeneration attractive to householders. The Assembly Government has always supported feed-in tariffs and I was delighted that the UK strategy, which is currently out for consultation, promotes feed-in tariffs, and I am keen to see how that can be taken forward.

You talked about having a complete roll-out of smart meters. The Assembly Government has said that we are keen, in principle, to support smart meters, but they are a capital investment and we want to ensure, before we have an absolute roll-out, that they work and result in the kind of reductions in energy use that we would all like to see. Therefore, I am sure that you would welcome the fact that smart meters are being piloted in St Athan, where I was last week, and will be piloted in Newport. The evidence from those pilot schemes will contribute towards a subsequent decision on roll-out.

We are also aware that the plans outlined in the route-map will require a multi-million-pound investment. Therefore, private sector input is vital, and that is why the Deputy First Minister and I were delighted to speak at the foremost conference in marine and tidal energy. The conference takes place in different parts of the UK and it took place in Cardiff two days ago, and we were able to

byddem hefyd yn cyfrannu'n sylweddol at amcanion diogelwch ynni'r DU. Mae'r trywydd nid yn unig yn disgrifio sut y gallwn gwrdd â'n hamcanion o ran trydan adnewyddadwy, ond mae'n edrych hefyd ar sut y gallwn wneud hynny mewn perthynas â ffynonellau penodol. Mae'n dangos sut yr hoffem weld defnyddio ffynonellau biomas i gynhyrchu gwres adnewyddadwy sylweddol, ac mae'n crynhoi ein syniadau strategol ar fwrw ymlaen tuag at ein huchelgais heriol ym meysydd effeithlonrwydd ynni a microgynhyrchu ar raddfa fechan. Yr ydym wedi datgan hyn yn fanwl yn y trywydd, a chroesawaf eich cefnogaeth barhaus i ficrogynhyrchu. Ceir mwy o fanylion am hyn mewn strategaeth ynni lawn i Gymru.

Nid wyf yn ymwybodol ichi grybwyll tariffau bwydo-i-mewn yn eich cyfraniad, ond maent yn elfen hanfodol wrth wneud microgynhyrchu yn ddeniadol i ddeiliaid tai. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn wastad wedi cefnogi tariffau bwydo-i-mewn, ac yr oeddwn wrth fy modd fod strategaeth y DU, sy'n destun ymgynghori ar hyn o bryd, yn hybu tariffau bwydo-i-mewn, ac yr wyf yn awyddus i weld sut y mae modd bwrw ymlaen â hynny.

Soniecch am gyflwyno mesuryddion clyfar yn llwyr. Dywedodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ein bod yn awyddus i gefnogi egwyddor mesuryddion clyfar, ond buddsoddiad cyfalaf ydynt ac yr ydym am fod yn siŵr, cyn eu cyflwyno ym mhob man, eu bod yn gweithio ac yn arwain at y math o ostyngiadau mewn defnyddio ynni y carem oll eu gweld. Felly, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn croesawu'r ffaith fod mesuryddion clyfar yn cael eu treialu yn Sain Tathan, lle'r oeddwn yr wythnos diwethaf, ac y cânt eu treialu yng Nghasnewydd. Bydd y dystiolaeth o'r cynlluniau peilot hynny'n cyfrannu at benderfyniad wedyn ar eu cyflwyno.

Yr ydym yn ymwybodol hefyd y bydd ar y cynlluniau a amlinellir yn y llwybr angen buddsoddiad o filiynau lawer o bunnoedd. Felly, mae cyfraniad y sector preifat yn hanfodol, a dyna pam yr oedd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a minnau wrth ein bodd yn annerch yn y gynhadledd amlycaf ar ynni'r môr a'r llanw. Cynhelir y gynhadledd mewn gwahanol rannau o'r DU, ac fe'i cynhaliwyd

talk to the conference about investment opportunities in Wales.

The renewable energy route-map makes it clear that our most ambitious proposals are in respect of marine-generated electricity: wave power, tidal stream and tidal range. The Assembly Government is able to provide financial support for early-stage wave and tidal stream projects, which will capture the Wales marine data necessary to underpin a strategic environmental assessment. As you say, we have commenced a two-year £9 million feasibility study into capturing the massive tidal energy of the Severn. That two-year study has two points within it, in relation to which, if there are show stoppers, the project will be stopped. That is crucial in order to give people confidence that we are not only looking at the potential energy that could come from the Severn, but taking the environmental considerations very seriously. It is only following that feasibility study that proposals—and it would not be a set of proposals, but whatever proposals there were—would go out to proper public consultation in 2010.

I am sure that you did not mean to say that the Government has been resistant to lagoon projects. I think that you will find plenty of evidence that demonstrates that this Government is not, in any way, resistant to lagoon projects. However, it was certainly interesting for me, coming in as Minister, to find that every Assembly Member knew categorically that lagoons were the answer and to then find from the expert work of the Sustainable Development Commission that there was not a lagoon anywhere in the world that I could use as a proper evidence base. So, I appreciate your aspiration. We are looking at the possibility of using EU structural funds to determine the practical feasibility of the concept, because that is absolutely what we have to do to take it forward. I see this as an important opportunity for Wales to take something from concept to reality. So, we are working with our colleagues in the Welsh European Funding Office to look into that at the moment.

yng Nghaerdydd ddeuddydd yn ôl, lle'r oeddem yn gallu sôn wrth y gynhadledd am gyfleoedd i fuddsoddi yng Nghymru.

Mae'r trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy yn ei gwneud yn glir mai ym maes trydan a gynhyrchir o'r môr y mae ein cynigion mwyaf uchelgeisiol: pŵer y tonnau, ffrwd y llanw ac amrediad y llanw. Gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad roi cymorth ariannol i brosiectau cynnar ar bŵer y tonnau a ffrwd y llanw, a fydd yn cofnodi'r data am foroedd Cymru sy'n angenrheidiol fel sylfaen i asesiad amgylcheddol strategol. Fel y dywedwch, yr ydym wedi cychwyn ar astudiaeth dichonoldeb dwy flynedd a fydd yn costio £9 miliwn i gofnodi ynni'r llanw aruthrol ar afon Hafren. Mae dau bwynt yn yr astudiaeth ddwy flynedd honno, ac mewn cysylltiad â honno, os bydd angen, caiff y prosiect ei atal. Mae hynny'n hanfodol er mwyn rhoi hyder i bobl ein bod yn edrych nid yn unig ar yr ynni a allai ddod o afon Hafren, ond ein bod hefyd yn wirioneddol o ddifrif ynghylch yr ystyriaethau amgylcheddol. Dim ond ar ôl yr astudiaeth dichonoldeb y byddai'r cynigion—ac nid cyfres o gynigion fyddai honno ond pa bynnag gynigion a fyddai ar gael—yn destun ymgynghori cyhoeddus go-iawn yn 2010.

Yr wyf yn siŵr nad oeddech yn bwriadu dweud bod y Llywodraeth wedi bod yn yn wrthwynebus i brosiectau morlynnoedd. Credaf y gwelwch lawer o dystiolaeth i ddangos nad yw'r Llywodraeth hon mewn unrhyw ffordd yn wrthwynebus i brosiectau morlynnoedd. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd yn ddiddorol iawn i mi, wrth gychwyn fel Gweinidog, sylwi bod pob Aelod Cynulliad yn gwybod i sicrwydd mai morlynnoedd oedd yr ateb a darganfod wedyn, o waith arbenigol y Comisiwn Datblygu Cynaliadwy, nad oedd morlyn yn unman yn y byd y gallwn ei ddefnyddio fel sylfaen dystiolaeth briodol. Felly, yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi eich dyhead. Yr ydym yn edrych ar bosibilrwydd defnyddio arian strwythurol yr UE i bennu dichonoldeb ymarferol y cysyniad, oherwydd dyna, yn bendant, y mae'n rhaid inni ei wneud er mwyn bwrw ymlaen ag ef. Gwela hyn fel cyfle pwysig i Gymru symud rhywbeth ymlaen o gysyniad i'w wireddu. Felly, yr ydym yn gweithio gyda'n cyfeillion yn Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru i ymchwilio i hynny ar hyn o bryd.

This Government has the ambition to achieve zero carbon new buildings. We are continuing to work on the devolution of building regulations, to look at ways to remove planning barriers, to expand technical skills and to support businesses in the development of microgeneration. We will shortly launch our green jobs strategy, which will take these issues further.

I am extremely pleased that Wales will be part of a pilot project under the UK low carbon buildings programme to install microgeneration heating units in low-income households. I have announced this previously, but I am sure that all Members welcome that because it will be crucial to get microgeneration technology into households across Wales in order for people to start to trust the technology and to want to support it.

On our TAN 8 targets, there are large numbers of applications in the pipeline and, with the extent of current windfarm developer interest in Wales, we believe that around 3,000 MW of on and offshore wind projects could be brought to fruition over the next 20 years. So there are many ways in which we are already demonstrating our commitment.

The marine strategy action plan will be published for consultation shortly and we are also focusing on biomass energy and a biomass energy action plan will also be published shortly. Following international best practice on waste—which, after recycling, should be mainly biomass in content—the Assembly Government is fully committed to working with local authorities to find the best energy-from-waste solutions and to supporting extensive community engagement in development proposals. Therefore, along with looking at community hydropower, for example, we are demonstrating, in the renewable energy route-map, that we want to take all such proposals forward at the appropriate level. Sometimes that is at the level of individual households, and we would want all households to consider using renewable energy. However, we also need to consider what we can do in terms of community and

Uchelgais y Llywodraeth hon yw cael adeiladau newydd di-garbon. Yr ydym yn parhau i weithio ar ddatganoli rheoliadau adeiladu, i edrych ar ffyrdd i gael gwared â rhwystrau cynllunio, i ehangu sgiliau technegol ac i gefnogi busnesau wrth ddatblygu microgynhyrchu. Yn y man byddwn yn lansio ein strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd, a fydd yn mynd â'r materion hyn ymhellach.

Yr wyf yn hynod falch y bydd Cymru yn rhan o brosiect peilot dan raglen adeiladau carbon isel y DU i osod unedau gwresogi microgynhyrchu ar aelwydydd incwm isel. Cyhoeddais hyn eisoes, ond yr wyf yn siŵr fod pob Aelod yn croesawu hynny, oherwydd bydd yn hanfodol cael technoleg microgynhyrchu ar aelwydydd ledled Cymru fel y gall pobl ddechrau ymddiried yn y dechnoleg a bod eisiau ei chefnogi.

O ran ein targedau TAN 8, mae nifer fawr o geisiadau ar y gweill, ac o gofio faint o ddi-ddordeb sydd gan ddatblygwyr ffermydd gwynt yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd, credwn y gall tua 3,000 MW o brosiectau gwynt ar dir a môr ddwyn ffrwyth dros yr 20 mlynedd nesaf. Felly, yr ydym eisoes yn dangos ein hymrwymiad mewn llawer dull a modd.

Bydd cynllun gweithredu strategaeth y môr yn cael ei gyhoeddi i ymgynghori arno cyn hir, ac yr ydym yn canolbwyntio hefyd ar ynni biomas, a chyhoeddir cynllun gweithredu ynni biomas toc. Gan ddilyn yr arferion gorau rhyngwladol ar wastraff—sef, wedi ailgylchu, a ddylai fod yn fïomas yn bennaf o ran cynnwys—mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi llwyr ymrwmo i weithio gydag awdurdodau lleol i gael yr atebion gorau i gael ynni o wastraff ac i gefnogi ymwneud helaeth y gymuned â'r cynigion datblygu. Felly, ynghyd ag ymchwilio i bŵer dŵr cymunedol, er enghraifft, yr ydym yn dangos, yn y trywydd ynni adnewyddadwy, ein bod eisiau bwrw ymlaen â phob cynnig o'r fath ar y lefel briodol. Weithiau, lefel aelwyd unigol fydd hyn, a byddem yn dymuno i bob aelwyd ystyried defnyddio ynni adnewyddadwy. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ystyried hefyd yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud o ran mentrau cymunedol ac ardal, er

district initiatives, for example, district heating, and how we connect people to the energy generation process and get them to value it more, as well as looking at the much larger proposals that we have already had in the context of TAN 8 and windfarms, and which we will be looking at in the context of our work on the Severn and wave and tidal resources in other parts of Wales that have already been identified as worth capturing.

You suggest several areas in which the Assembly Government could take a lead, and I am happy, as Minister, to take a lead to drive this agenda forward, but it means working with the six main UK energy providers, which are, of course, liberalised and therefore not directly answerable to the Assembly Government. It also means working with our colleagues in the UK Government as well as with Ofgem, the National Grid and others and I am doing that in order to take the agenda forward. I hope that all Assembly Members will be able to strongly support this agenda because, ultimately, we have some of the best natural resources in the whole of the UK. However, Members must be brave enough to support these issues not only when they are in the Chamber, but in their constituencies.

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

enghraifft, gwresogi ardal, a sut yr ydym yn cysylltu pobl â'r broses o gynhyrchu ynni a'u cael i roi mwy o werth arno. Byddwn hefyd yn edrych ar y cynigion mwy o lawer a gawsom eisoes yng nghyd-destun TAN 8 a ffermydd gwynt, a byddwn yn edrych arnynt yng nghyd-destun ein gwaith ar afon Hafren ac adnoddau'r tonnau a'r llanw, mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru a nodwyd eisoes fel rhai gwerth eu dal.

Yr ydych yn awgrymu llawer maes lle gallai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad arwain, ac yr wyf yn falch, fel Gweinidog, i arwain i fwrw ymlaen â'r agenda hon. Ond mae'n golygu gweithio gyda chwe phrif ddarparwr ynni y DU sydd, wrth gwrs, wedi eu rhyddfrydoli a heb fod yn uniongyrchol atebol, felly, i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Mae hefyd yn golygu gweithio gyda'n cyd-aelodau yn Llywodraeth y DU yn ogystal ag Ofgem, y Grid Cenedlaethol ac eraill, ac yr wyf yn gwneud hynny er mwyn bwrw ymlaen â'r agenda. Gobeithio y bydd holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn gallu rhoi eu cefnogaeth gref i'r agenda hon oherwydd, yn y pen draw, mae gennym rai o adnoddau naturiol gorau'r DU. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i'r Aelodau fod yn ddigon dewr i gefnogi'r materion hyn, nid yn unig pan fyddant yn y Siambr, ond yn eu hetholaethau.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Daw hyn â thrafodion y dydd i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.59 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.59 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)