

# **Y Pwyllgor Deisebau – Papur briffio**

*PET(3)-08-10: 15 Mehefin 2010*

## **Rhan 1: Deisebau newydd**

Mae'r papur hwn yn rhoi gwybodaeth gefndir gryno am ddeisebau a gafodd eu trafod am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor ar 11 Mai 2010.

### **(1) P-03-272 Ni ddylid defnyddio ceffylau dan ddaear**

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i nodi yn y Cod Ymarfer er Lles Ceffylau na ddylid defnyddio ceffylau dan ddaear.

#### **Cefndir**

Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb hon gan y Pit Pony Sanctuary a chafwyd 171 o lofnodion. Yn unol â gweithdrefnau'r Pwyllgor mae'r Cadeirydd wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig. Mae copi o'r llythyr hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod ynghyd â gwybodaeth ategol a ddarparwyd gan y deisebydd.

# Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

## Petitions Committee

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



Elin Jones AM  
Minister for Rural Affairs  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-03-272

8 June 2010

Dear Elin

### **P-03-272 Equines should not be utilised underground**

The Petitions Committee is considering the following petition which was raised by the Pit Pony Sanctuary and collected 171 signatures:

We the undersigned, call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to include in the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Equines that equines should not be utilised underground.

The Committee would like to seek your views on the petition and to ask if you would consider amending the Code of Practice to prohibit the use of equines underground.

Many thanks for your consideration of this issue. I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

**Christine Chapman**  
Chair, Petitions Committee

Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1NA

Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
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## Another opportunity to prevent Pit Ponies from being used again in Wales!

As a small Charity that has been caring for working Pit Ponies since the 1990's we provided a report on our experiences and the problems encountered during the course of our work. For consideration during the consultation of the new Animal Welfare Act and copied it to the discussion groups on the Equine Codes of Practice. We were very disappointed that the use of equines underground was not to our minds properly addressed when the Equine Code of Practice was drawn up. We have set this petition up to seek to address this issue. Many of our supporters will know we have already gathered and delivered a petition on the subject of Pit Ponies in 1998. We would ask them to please also sign this petition.

**High unemployment! A cold winter! Lack of opportunities! The rising price of energy! All very good reasons to re-open small collieries.**

Here is another chance to help Wales lead the world.

**'We the undersigned, call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to include in the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Equines that equines should not be utilized underground'**

**Please sign our petition online at**

[http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet\\_id=435&prncl\\_ptnr=The%20Pit%20Pony%20Sanctuary&clsd\\_dt=01/06/2010](http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet_id=435&prncl_ptnr=The%20Pit%20Pony%20Sanctuary&clsd_dt=01/06/2010)

In the next few lines we will try to tell you why you should sign. During the 1990's although we were assured there weren't any, our tiny Charity visited the Pit Ponies working in Wales. Our report on their welfare was entitled "Horse Power" Some extracts are reprinted here. The whole document can be obtained from the Centre or read/downloaded at [www.visitpitponies.co.uk/horsepower](http://www.visitpitponies.co.uk/horsepower)

**Workload.** At all the collieries visited in our study the workload was haphazard. No apparent system for regulating the workload was ever seen. The piecework and casual work arrangements for the men meant that often the ponies worked double shifts. The average ratio of men to ponies was 9:1 in the study group. Generally there was no spare horse kept, so the ponies had to work whatever. In our study group coal drams (with small iron wheels) that were used were not designed for use with horses, making the work much harder for the ponies than it needed to be. Gradient, size of drams, length of haul, weight of empty dram, deep water underground, the unevenness of the track and the irregular spacing of sleepers made the work even harder again for the ponies. No system was ever observed for controlling the number or size of drams of coal that would be coupled together into a journey for the pony to pull. At a colliery in Wales a Pit Pony died when the huge load pushed her on into an underground ventilation door. At another a Pit Pony died when his huge journey of three drams pushed him over the trip where the coal drams are normally tipped and came over on top of him. ***Our study showed the workload to be very likely to cause the death or injury of the Pit Ponies. Surely it should be a basic right for all working animals not to be worked to death or injury.***

**Veterinary Inspections.** *Annual inspections are called for in the Act. “A vet as to their suitability and fitness should inspect Pit Ponies annually”.* In our study we found that vets were presented with ponies to examine that were not the pony in the register. It was quite easy for owners to present a pony and call it the name in the register. At a colliery in Wales the owner presented the pit pony to the vet late in the day when the colliery was closed and the men gone for the day. He told the Vet he worked alone and his old pony only pulled the few odd half-drams of coal for his home fires. The truth was that the colliery had only one pony and eleven men worked there and it produced 150 tons per week. All of which the pony hauled 400+yards to the surface. Bringing coal up the slope from the lower face was unbelievably difficult for the ponies. However with eleven men to make you do it, the ponies have no choice. The vets report noted the old injury to his hind leg. However based on the lies told allowed a certificate. The vet also gave a preparation as a painkiller for the working pony. ***Our study has shown that had the ponies been identichipped or freezebranded the substitution of ponies would have been more difficult. Also ponies needed to have been assessed by the vet for suitability of purpose and a maximum gross weight to be applied. Also harness, age of the pony, “bone” or physical stature, should have been included. Annual inspections are not sufficient, at a typical colliery the Pit Pony hauled coal 400yards from the coal face to the surface, 150 tons/week were produced therefore 150 drams of coal +at least 150 drams of waste, = 300x400yards = 68 miles each week hauling a full dram, 68miles pulling an empty. All these journeys were made over an appalling roadway full of pot holes unevenly spaced sleepers rocks fallen from the roof and lumps fallen from overloaded drams.***

**Dangers.** The collieries in our study were generally messy with unfenced scrap heaps, open excavations, moving equipment, dangerous substances, discarded items abound. Presenting immense dangers to what is essentially a flight animal and naturally inquisitive grazer/browser. Often fuel, noxious substances have contaminated the ground. At a Welsh colliery a spillage of fuel oil contaminated the mud accumulated in the colliery entrance, the fuel contaminated the lower legs of the pit ponies causing hair loss and dermatitis. This situation was left untreated and unheeded for several weeks until eventually the National Rivers Authority to the Mines Inspectorate reported the contamination and a prohibition order was put on the colliery. Also food waste/rubbish was often observed and left to rot creating a real danger of poisoning. Poor maintenance of buildings/equipment adds to the dangers for the four-legged colliers as well. The piecework culture of the collieries visited created “a coal production at all costs” culture that was not conducive for safety. Underground roadways constantly become low and narrow from the up-heave and crush. At one Welsh colliery Ponies daily had to squeeze down under a low roof to pull up the coal dram from one face. The resultant strain this action put upon their bodies was unbelievable. All three Pit Ponies from this colliery are now retired at the Centre. They are all very head shy and show evidence of old injuries to their heads, necks & backs. Items on the roadway fallen from overloaded drams or from the roof add to the difficulties and cause a real risk in the total darkness underground. Safety/Risk management for the Pit Ponies was un-heard of. ***Our study showed that in the 1990’s there was a serious risk of suffering by the acts and omissions of colliery owners. Surely working horses should be protected from the dangers highlighted above.***



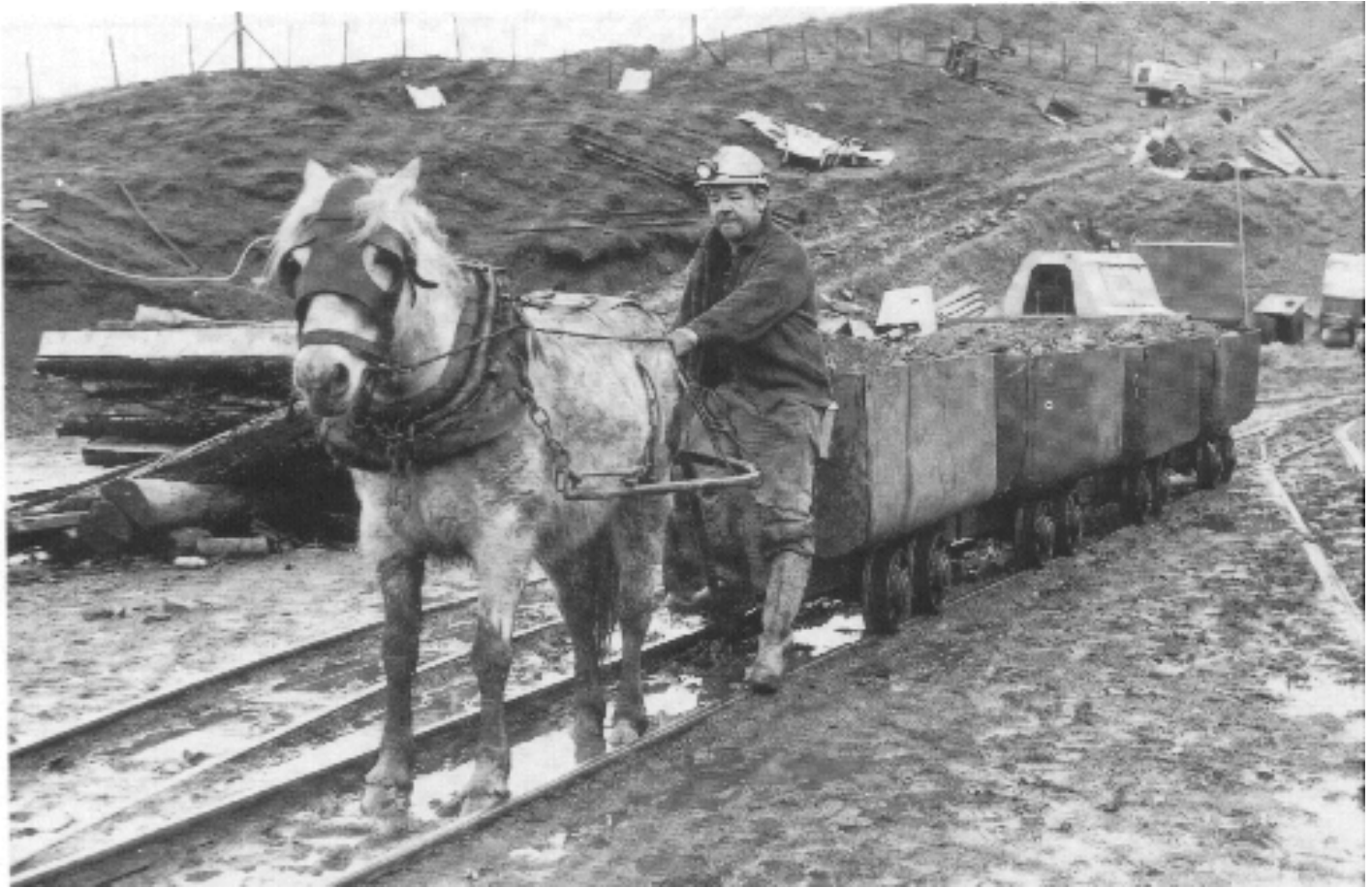
*Picture courtesy of Simonin "Underground Life"*

Q. How do you get a Pony to go down underground?

Ans. With enough manpower anything is achievable!

Go to <http://www.sgfnet.co.uk> or directly at

<http://www.vimeo.com/7957681> to hear a collier describe the screams of terrified Pit Ponies descending in the cage at a Welsh Colliery.



*Picture courtesy of "Small mines of South Wales" Adrian Booth*

A Pit Pony pictured here is pulling 4 full drams of coal and a collier, a combined weight of some 6+ tons, an unbelievable load for a 13hh child's size pony to pull. These drams were designed for mechanical haulage and their small iron wheels make it even harder for the pony to move the load.

## **(2) P-03-282 Parhewch i ariannu gwasanaethau cymorth ar gyfer demensia cynnar**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, y rhai sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn nodi'r bygythiad a berir i'r gwasanaethau cymorth ar gyfer demensia cynnar a gynigir yn Llys Oldwell, y Rhath, a bod y sefyllfa hon efallai'n rhedeg yn groes i Amcan 26 o'r Fframwaith Cenedlaethol ar gyfer Pobl Hyn.

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i ofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru barhau i amddiffyn ac ariannu'r gwasanaethau hanfodol hyn.

### **Cefndir**

Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Dawn John a chafwyd 36 o lofnodion. Casglodd deiseb cysylltiedig tua 1000 o lofnodion. Yn unol â gweithdrefnau'r Pwyllgor mae'r Cadeirydd wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog dros lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Mae copi o'r llythyr hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.



## Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

### Petitions Committee

Mrs Edwina Hart AM OStJ MBE  
Minister for Health and Social  
Services  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cardiff Bay  
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Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-03-282

8 June 2010

Dear Edwina

#### **P-03-282 Continue funding Early Onset Dementia support services**

The Petitions Committee is considering the following petition which was raised by Dawn John and collected 36 signatures, an associated petition collected over 1000 signatures:

We the undersigned note the threat to the Early Onset Dementia support service at Oldwell Court, Roath and that this may be counter to Objective 26 of the National Framework for Older People.

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to request that the Welsh Government ensure that funding for this vital service is protected and continued.

The Committee would like to seek your views on the petition, and to ask whether the recently announced Dementia Action Plan specifically addresses the needs of those with early onset dementia.

Many thanks for your consideration of this issue. I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

**Christine Chapman**  
Chair, Petitions Committee

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### **(3) P-03-292 Darparu Toiledau Cyhoeddus**

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Yr ydym ni, sydd wedi arwyddo isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i ymchwilio i'r effeithiau posibl ar iechyd a lles cymdeithasol a allai ddeillio o gau toiledau cyhoeddus ac annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gyhoeddi canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau darpariaeth ddigonol o doiledau cyhoeddus.

#### **Cefndir**

Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb hon gan y Cynghorydd Louise Hughes a chafwyd 430 o lofnodion. Yn unol â gweithdrefnau'r Pwyllgor mae'r Cadeirydd wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol. Mae copi o'r llythyr hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.



## Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

### Petitions Committee

Carl Sargeant AM  
Minister for Social Justice and Local  
Government  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cardiff Bay  
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Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-03-292

9 June 2010

Dear Carl

#### **P-03-292 Public Toilet Provision**

The Petitions Committee is considering the following petition which was raised by Cllr Louise Hughes and collected 430 signatures:

We, the undersigned, call upon the National Assembly for Wales to investigate the health and social well-being implications resulting from public toilets closures and to urge the Welsh Government to issue guidance to local authorities to ensure adequate public toilet provision.

The Committee would like to seek your views on the petition, and to ask whether you would consider issuing guidance to local authorities that would help ensure adequate public toilet provision. The Committee would also be interested to know if the Government have undertaken any work looking at the impact of inadequate public toilet provision. I have enclosed supporting information provided by the petitioner for your information.

Many thanks for your consideration of this issue. I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

**Christine Chapman**  
Chair, Petitions Committee

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## **The state of public toilets in Wales**

From research conducted by Age Cymru in Spring 2010, 434 older people from across Wales, with a representation from every local authority, were asked the following question:

**'How good is the access to public toilets in your local area? Are they safe and of a high standard?'**

- The average rating given to public toilets by 434 older people, from across Wales, is 3 out of 10
- 31 per cent (134 of 434) gave public toilets a rating of 0 out of 10
- 41 per cent (177 of 434) gave public toilets a rating of 0 or 1 out of 10
- 54 per cent of older people gave public toilets in their area a rating of 3 or below (out of 10).
- 61 per cent of older people gave a rating of less than 5 out of 10 for public toilets in their area.
- Only 3 per cent (12 people from 434) gave public toilets in their area a rating of 10 out of 10

**Nowhere to Go report into public toilet closures in Wales published by Help the Aged in Wales in January 2009 states that:**

1. 95 per cent of respondents found that their local public toilets are not open when they need them;
2. 79 per cent of respondents do not find it easy to find a public toilet;
3. 62 per cent of respondents agree that the lack of public toilets in their area stops them from going out as often as they would like;
4. 78 per cent of survey respondents told us that public toilet provision in their area does not meet their needs;
5. 80 per cent of respondents are frequently disturbed by the lack of cleanliness of their local public toilets;
6. 84 per cent of respondents find that safety concerns make public toilets unappealing;
7. 87 per cent of survey respondents felt that shops and businesses should make more effort to provide public toilet facilities;

**Welsh Assembly Government: A statistical focus on Age in Wales** states that in 2009 1 in 4 people are aged 60 or over. However by 2030, 1 in 3 people will be aged 60 or over.

# Unman i fynd yng Nghymru



**Darparu toiledau cyhoeddus**

Lluniau Clawr  
Paul Talling: [www.derelictlondon.com](http://www.derelictlondon.com)

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Cedwir pob hawl  
Elusen gofrestrdig rhif 272786

**Help the Aged yng Nghymru**

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# Rhagarweiniad

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhoi crynodeb o arolwg a wnaed gan Help the Aged yn 2006 ar farn pobl hŷn ynglŷn â'r ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus yn eu hardal leol a'r sefyllfa bolisi bresennol.

Mae llunwyr polisiâu, grwpiau rhanddeiliaid a defnyddwyr toiledau cyhoeddus yn cytuno bod nifer y toiledau cyhoeddus sydd ar gael ym Mhrydain yn gostwng yn ddirfawr. Hyd 2001 gwnaeth y Comisiwn Archwilio arolygon o'r ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus ym Mhrydain oedd yn dangos bod y ddarpariaeth hon yn dirywio'n gyflym. Oddi ar hynny mae corff ymgyrchu'r BTA (Cymdeithas Toiledau Prydain) yn amcangyfrif bod nifer y toiledau cyhoeddus wedi gostwng ymhellach o 40% nes bod llai nag un toiled i bob 10,000 o bobl yn y DU, a hynny heb ystyried ymwelwyr a thwristiaid.

Mewn ymateb i Gwestiwn Seneddol yn Rhagfyr 2006, cyhoeddodd yr Adran Cymunedau a Llywodraeth Leol ei bod yn ceisio adeiladu cronfa o dystiolaeth ar y ddarpariaeth doiledau mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Er bod y canllawiau a gynhyrchwyd o ganlyniad i'r gwaith ymchwil yma yn gam ymlaen sydd i'w groesawu, eto i gyd mae'n glir bod toiledau cyhoeddus fel gwasanaeth disgresiwn yn parhau i grebachu a chael eu hymyleiddio mewn hinsawdd lle mae awdurdodau'n torri beunydd ar eu cyllideb. Heb fonitro rheolaidd o'r math y byddai'r Comisiwn Archwilio yn ei wneud, bydd y ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus yn parhau i grebachu nes, yn y diwedd, yn llythrennol ni fydd gennym **unman i fynd**.

Mewn ateb i gwestiwn a ofynnwyd gan Jenny Randerson, AC Canol Caerdydd, ym mis Hydref 2007 dwedodd Brian Gibbons, y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol, yn bendant nad oedd ganddo gynlluniau i wneud darparu a glanhau toiledau yn gyfrifoldeb statudol i Lywodraeth Leol:

*'Byddai hyn yn gofyn newid yn y ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol ac nid oes gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ddim cynlluniau i geisio'r newid hwn. Mae Adran Cymunedau a Llywodraeth Leol Llywodraeth y DU yn gweithio i gynhyrchu Canllaw Strategol Mynediad y Cyhoedd i Doiledau erbyn mis Tachwedd. Yn ogystal, mae llywodraeth y DU yn*

*bwriadu diwygio adran 87 (3) (c) Deddf Iechyd y Cyhoedd 1936 fydd yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i godi tâl am ddefnyddio cyfleusterau cyhoeddus gan gynnwys wrinalau. Bydd y diwygio'n cynnwys Cymru a Lloegr a'r disgwyl yw y bydd yn ei le erbyn mis Rhagfyr 2007.'*

Mewn rhai ardaloedd, mae'r broses grebachu yma wedi digwydd eisoes, â rhai cynghorau'n cau toiledau cyhoeddus er mwyn ceisio arbed arian. Mae hyn wedi cwtogi ar ba mor aml ac am ba hyd y gall pobl adael eu cartrefi, yn enwedig y bobl hynny sydd â'r angen mwyaf am doiledau cyhoeddus.

Mae darparu'r un faint o doiledau ar gyfer dynion a menywod yn broblem hefyd. Holodd Jenny Randerson a oedd gan y Gweinidog "unrhyw gynlluniau i gyhoeddi canllawiau cynllunio ar ddarparu'r un faint o doiledau cyhoeddus digonol a hygyrch ar gyfer dynion a menywod.

Ymateb Brian Gibbons oedd:

*'Mae adran 87(3) (c) Deddf Iechyd y Cyhoedd 1936 yn cael ei diwygio gan Lywodraeth y DU er mwyn caniatáu i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru a Lloegr godi tâl am ddefnyddio pob math o gyfleusterau iechydol (tai bach ac wrinalau). Bydd hyn yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i weithredu'r gyfraith yn deg os byddan nhw'n penderfynu codi tâl ond hefyd bydd yn gadael iddyn nhw adennill y costau cynnal a chadw sydd ynghlwm wrth ddarparu'r cyfleusterau hyn i'r cyhoedd.'*

Mae fforymau pobl hŷn ar hyd a lled y wlad wrthi'n ymgyrchu i achub eu toiledau cyhoeddus lleol, neu'n gweld eu heisiau'n fawr. Mae hwn yn fater sy'n cael effaith aruthrol ar ansawdd bywyd pobl ac mae'r angerdd a'r taerineb y mae llawer o bobl hŷn yn eu dangos wrth ymgyrchu ar y mater yma yn eu hardal leol yn dyst i'r gwerth y maen nhw'n ei roi ar y ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus.

Roedd yr ymateb i arolwg Help the Aged yn anhygoel ac anfonodd bron 1,000 o bobl eu sylwadau a'u profiadau atom. Cadwyd yr ymatebion o Gymru ar wahân a defnyddiwyd canlyniadau'r ymchwil yn sail i'r adroddiad yma.

# Canlyniadau'r arolwg



## Angen penodol y boblogaeth hŷn am doileddau cyhoeddus

Does dim dwywaith y bydd hi'n fwy ac yn fwy tebygol y byddwn yn datblygu problemau ymataliaeth wrth i ni fynd yn hŷn ac y bydd angen i ni ddefnyddio'r toiled yn fwy aml ac ar fwy o frys. Ysgrifennodd llawer o bobl yn amlygu'r ffaith hon ac yn esbonio pam mae'r ddarpariaeth doileddau cyhoeddus wedi dod yn fater sydd mor bwysig iddyn nhw:

*'Mae'r rhan fwyaf o ddynion yr un oed â mi yn dioddef â phroblemau prostad o ryw fath. Pan fydd ein hangen yn ddybryd, does dim toiledau ar gael. Rwyf wedi gweld dynion yn cael damweiniau, a'r bobl hynny'n teimlo cywilydd mawr oherwydd hyn.'*

*'Mae angen i fi, yn debyg i lawer o bobl oedrannus, gael hyd i doiled yn aml ac weithiau ar frys!'*

Mae'n amlwg ein bod yn dod i ddibynnu mwy ar doileddau cyhoeddus wrth i ni heneiddio. Mae llawer o bobl hŷn yn dioddef ag anymataliaeth neu â phroblemau ymatal, er enghraifft yr angen i ddefnyddio'r toiled yn amlach ac ar fwy o frys am fod y cyhyrau'n gwanhau. Amcangyfrifir bod 3–3.5 miliwn o bobl yn y DU yn dioddef ag anymataliaeth wrinol mae mwy na hanner ohonyn nhw dros eu 65 oed a'r mwyafrif yn fenywod.

Fel yr esboniodd un dyn, mae hyn yn codi pryderon ar gyfer y dyfodol:

*'Mae problem gen i gyda 'mhibau dŵr ac mae angen i fi basio dŵr yn aml a heb fawr o rybudd. Mae'r broblem yma wedi codi wrth i fi fynd yn hŷn. Wrth i'r boblogaeth heneiddio, bydd y broblem yma'n effeithio ar fwy a mwy o bobl ac eto, mae'r ddarpariaeth ac oriau agor [toiledau cyhoeddus] yn mynd yn llai.'*

## Mynediad i doileddau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru

**Nid yw 79 y cant o'r ymatebwyr yn ei chael hi'n hawdd dod o hyd i doiled cyhoeddus**

**Cafodd 95 y cant o'r ymatebwyr nad yw eu toiledau cyhoeddus lleol ar agor pan fydd eu hangen arnyn nhw**

Roedd llawer o'r bobl wnaeth ymateb i arolwg Help the Aged yn ystyried bod torri i lawr ar y ddarpariaeth doileddau cyhoeddus yn adlewyrchiad ar y gymdeithas a'r ffordd yr oedd yr ysbryd cymunedol wedi dirywio.

*'Testun siom a rhyfeddod o'r mwyaf i fi yw gweld sut mae cyfleusterau cyhoeddus a gafodd eu darparu mewn adeg fwy ystyrlon a haelionus yn cael eu hesgeuluso a'u gadael yn segur. Mae un llywodraeth ar ôl y llall wedi gwneud llai a llai i wneud ein hamgylchedd yn ddymunol ac yn groesawus. Mae diffyg gweledigaeth ac agendâu sy'n gwneud dim i fagu ysbryd cymunedol a chwarteisi yn "distrywio'r" wlad. Mae cywilydd arna i ddweud fy mod i'n byw yn y wlad hon, a dweud y gwir plaen.'*

Mae anawsterau sy'n gysylltiedig ag oed, gan gynnwys bod yn llai symudol, yn gwneud cyrraedd toiled yn fwy o her ac, o'u rhoi ochr yn ochr â'r ffactorau ymatal y soniwyd amdany'n nhw uchod, yn gallu ychwanegu at y straen a'r pryder sydd ynghlwm wrth beidio â bod yn gallu dod o hyd i doiled:

*'Mae yna doiledau mewn caffï lleol ond maen nhw ar y llofft, sydd o ddim gwerth i fi gan fod gen i broblemau â 'nghyhyrau.'*

Esboniodd un fenyw fod lleoliad y toiled cyhoeddus yn ei hardal wedi mynd yn broblem:

*'Yn y dref erbyn hyn dim ond un toiled cyhoeddus sydd gennym. Mae e ym mhen uchaf y dref, ac felly os bydd rhaid i chi "fynd" ym mhen arall y dre, mae ar ben arnoch chi, yn enwedig os ydych yn oedrannus ac yn dioddef ag anymataliaeth.'*

Dwedodd menyw arall wrthym fod y prinder toiledau cyhoeddus yn ei rhwystro rhag mynd allan gymaint ag y byddai'n dymuno:

*'Mae'r toiledau sydd yn fy llyfrgell ar gyfer y staff yn unig – er y ces i eu defnyddio unwaith mewn argyfwng.'*

## Lleoliad

Un ffactor mawr sy'n rhwystro pobl rhag defnyddio toiledau cyhoeddus yw eu bod yn aml heb gael eu lleoli yn y mannau lle y bydd pobl hŷn eu hangen, megis ar drenau, mewn gorsafoedd bysiau ac mewn parciau. Soniodd sawl un bod cau toiledau cyhoeddus mewn mynwentydd wedi peri anhawster iddyn nhw.

*'Mae'r toiledau ar y trenau yn broblem yn aml – ar siwrnai o Gaerdydd i Benybont yn ddiweddar, roedd un o'r toiledau ddim yn gweithio ac roedd y llall ar glo!'*

*'Er bod toiledau glân digonol mewn canolfannau siopa, mae'r ddarpariaeth yn brin yn yr ardal ehangach, e.e. mewn parciau a hefyd y tu allan i oriau siopa.'*

## Amserau agor

Yn ein harolwg, enwodd 95 y cant o'r ymatebwyr oriau agor byr yn ffactor oedd yn eu hatal rhag defnyddio toiledau cyhoeddus. Os nad yw toiled ar agor, nid yw o ddefnydd i neb. Yn ardaloedd llawer

o'r ymatebwyr, mae'r toiledau cyhoeddus yn cau am 5.30pm, yr un pryd â'r siopau, gan adael canol y dref heb ddarpariaeth yn yr hwyr:

*'Gan fy mod yn ddigon ffit a bywiog ag ystyried fy oedran (78), dw i ddim yn ei chael hi'n anodd iawn dod o hyd i doiled a defnyddio toiled cyhoeddus, heblaw gyda'r hwyr pan fyddan nhw weithiau ar gau.'*

Yn ogystal, mae angen rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd i oriau agor, fel y dwedodd un person:

*'Maen nhw newydd adeiladu'r toiledau sy'n hygyrch ac yn lân ar y cyfan. Ond dydyn nhw ddim ar agor ar amserau hwylus. A dweud y gwir, does gen i ddim syniad beth yw eu hamserau agor, ond yn anaml iawn y byddan nhw ar agor pan fydda i'n ymweld â nhw!'*

I'r bobl hynny sy'n ei chael hi'n fwy anodd cerdded nawr nag y bydden nhw neu i'r rheiny sy'n gorfod cael hyd i doiled ar fwy o frys nag o'r blaen, mae cyrraedd toiled sydd ar gau yn gallu bod yn drychinebus. Mae oriau agor rheolaidd ac arwyddion clir iawn sy'n dangos yr oriau agor arnyn nhw yn hanfodol felly.

## Y dyluniad

Mae cloeon, pan fyddan nhw ar y drysau, yn gallu bod yn anodd i lawer o bobl hŷn sydd ag arthrits eu defnyddio:

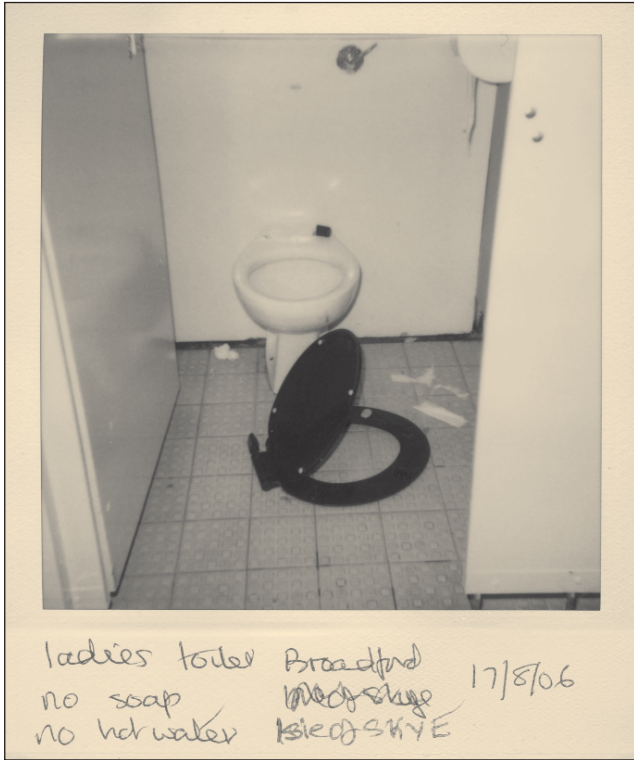
*'Mae arthrits arna i yn fy nwylo a'm harddyrnau ac mae'n anodd i mi gael gafael yn y cliciedau bach lletchwith. Os bydd y drws yn ffitio'n rhy dynn hefyd, dyna ddiwedd arni! Doleni mawr cadarn os gwelwch yn dda, a'r drysau wedi'u gwirio i wneud yn siŵr eu bod nhw'n agor yn ddiraffferth.'*

Mae'r pryder sy'n dod o fod ag ofn cael ein cloi mewn toiled yn beth sy'n gyfarwydd i'r rhan fwyaf o bobl, ac i'r bobl hynny ag arthrits neu ag anawsterau â'u dwylo, gall y pryder yma fod yn brofiad digon rheolaidd pan fyddan nhw'n defnyddio toiledau cyhoeddus.

Yn ogystal ag anawsterau prinder gofod sy'n rhan o brofiad lawer o ofalwyr, mae nifer o bobl, am eu bod yn gofalu am rywun nad yw o'r un rhyw â nhw, yn ei chael hi'n anodd defnyddio toiledau i ddynion neu fenywod yn unig.



Mae angen toiledau glân, diogel, hygrych, wedi'u staffio, sydd ar agor ac sydd wedi'u lleoli mewn amrywiaeth eang o leoedd y bydd pobl hŷn yn mynd iddyn nhw.



## Diogelwch toiledau cyhoeddus

**Mae pryder ynglŷn â diogelwch toiledau cyhoeddus yn eu gwneud yn fannau annymunol i 84 y cant o'r ymatebwyr**

Mae bod â rhywun yn gofalu am doiledau yn lliniaru'r pryderon diogelwch y dwedodd 84 y cant o'r ymatebwyr sydd ganddyn nhw ynglŷn â thoiledau cyhoeddus.

*'Rwy'n meddwl y dylai staff fod yn gofalu am bob toiled cyhoeddus. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o doiledau braidd yn fygythiol ac mae pobl yn teimlo'n ansicr.'*

*'Mae fy nhoiledau lleol yn lân, ond does dim un ohonyn nhw wedi'i staffio. Gall hyn fod yn frawychus, felly byddai'n well gen i gael defnyddio'r toiledau mewn siop.'*

Mae camau i leihau ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn bethau dadleuol. Mae golau glas, sy'n ei gwneud hi'n anodd i ddefnyddwyr cyffuriau gael hyd i wythiennau ac felly yn eu rhwystro rhag defnyddio toiledau cyhoeddus, yn amhoblogaidd gyda phobl hŷn:

*'Mae toiledau neis yn yr archfarchnadoedd, ond dw i ddim yn gallu gweld am fod pob golau yn las tywyll.'*

## Safonau toiledau cyhoeddus

**Mae 80 y cant o'r ymatebwyr yn aml yn teimlo'n annifyr am nad yw eu toiledau cyhoeddus lleol yn ddigon glân**

Dwedodd cannoedd o bobl wrthym y gallai fod yn anodd dros ben defnyddio'r toiled os yw ei gyflwr yn wael neu os nad yw'n lân.

*'Mae ein toiledau cyhoeddus agosaf tua milltir a hanner i ffwrdd. Maen nhw'n ffiaidd, yn fudr ac yn ddrewllyd. Mae rhaid eich bod yn teimlo bod dim dewis gennych cyn i chi eu defnyddio.'*

*'Mae'r toiledau cyhoeddus yn troi arna i – maen nhw'n gwneud i mi deimlo bod eisiau i fi fynd adref i gael bath. Y tro diwethaf y bues i mewn toiled cyhoeddus, roedd rhaid i mi roi fy nghot a'm siopa ar y llawr gan nad oedd bachyn na silff yno a phan dynnais i'r fflwsh roedd rhywun wedi tynnu'r bibell ddŵr o gefn y toiled a chafodd fy siopa i gyd a'm cot eu golchi o dan y drws. Roedd e'n ofnadwy.'*

Mae angen i doiledau cyhoeddus, gan gynnwys y lloriau, y seddau a'r waliau, fod yn lân. Mae angen bod papur toiled yno a dŵr twym a sebon i bobl gael golchi eu dwylo. Dylai fod bachyn i ddal bagiau ar y tu mewn i'r drws, a digon o le i symud os ydych chi'n cael trafferth â'ch symudedd neu'n ei chael hi'n anodd cadw'ch cydbwysedd wrth wasgu i ofod bach rhwng y drws a'r seston, y bin gwaredu clytiau neu silff.

*'Yn ddiweddar bues i yn Llansteffan gyda 'nheulu am brynghawn allan a phicnic. Fe wnes i feddwl cyn i ni adael y tŷ, ysgwn i fyddai cyfleusterau toiled ar gael. Roeddwn wrth fy modd pan welais fod toiledau ar ddau ben y pentref yn agos i aber yr afon a'r meysydd parcio. Roedden nhw ar agor, yn lân, â digon o olau, papur toiled, sebon a sychwyr dwylo. Da iawn, Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin!'*

Roedd toiledau oedd wedi'u staffio yn awgrym poblogaidd dros ben a chafodd y glanhawyr a'r staff yn eu toiledau cyhoeddus lleol ganmoliaeth gan lawer o bobl.



Ffotograffwr: John Cobb

## Beth yw'r canlyniadau pan fydd y ddarpariaeth doiledau'n annigonol?

**Mae 62 y cant o'r ymatebwyr yn cytuno bod y prinder toiledau cyhoeddus yn eu hardal nhw yn eu rhwystro rhag mynd allan mor aml ag y bydden nhw'n dymuno**

Mae'r dystiolaeth o arolwg Help the Aged yn awgrymu bod nifer fawr o bobl yn cael eu dal wrth 'linyn pledren' anweladwy sy'n eu cadw rhag mynd yn rhy bell oddi wrth doiledau. Mae tua hanner poblogaeth y DU sy'n 75+ oed yn byw ar eu pen eu hun, ac mae astudiaethau'n dangos bod cynifer ag 1.75 miliwn o bobl hŷn yn dweud eu bod yn teimlo'n unig. Mae 12 y cant o bobl hŷn (1.2 miliwn) yn teimlo eu bod wedi'u caethiwo i'w cartref eu hun, nid yw 13 y cant o bobl hŷn (1.26 miliwn) yn mynd allan fwy nag unwaith yr wythnos ac ni fydd 3 y cant o bobl hŷn fyth yn mynd allan. Mae ein dystiolaeth yn awgrymu bod prinder toiledau cyhoeddus yn ffactor sy'n cyfrannu'n sylweddol at arwahaniad pobl hŷn, a bydd y sefyllfa'n gwaethygu wrth i'r ddarpariaeth doiledau barhau i fynd yn llai ac yn llai.

Nid yw cost yr arwahaniad yma'n un foesol yn unig. Os bydd pobl hŷn yn gaeth i'w cartrefi eu hunain, maen nhw'n fwy a mwy tebygol o ddechrau dioddef ag iselder ysbryd, cyflwr cyffredin dros ben yr amcangyfrifir ei fod yn effeithio ar 1 o bob 8 person sy'n 65+ oed. Mae prinder toiledau cyhoeddus mewn mannau lle gallai pobl hŷn wneud ymarfer corff fel arfer, megis

parciau a rhodfeydd, yn golygu y bydd llawer ohonyn nhw'n byw bywydau digon disymud heb fawr o ymarfer.

Mae gweithgaredd corfforol yn allweddol wrth i bobl fynd yn hŷn i'w galluogi i aros yn annibynnol yn eu cartrefi eu hunain gyhyd ag sydd bosib. Mae'r ffactorau yma, gyda'i gilydd, yn gosod baich economaidd ar wasanaethau iechyd lleol y gallai darparu toiledau cyhoeddus eu helpu i'w osgoi neu ei gadw draw am gyfnod. Yn ogystal, pan na fydd toiledau cyhoeddus wedi'u darparu, ni all pobl hŷn gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau economaidd megis siopa fel y bydden nhw'n ei wneud, ac felly cân nhw eu rhwystro rhag bod yn rhan o'r economi leol.

Mae llawer ohonom yn cymryd yn ganiataol y bydd ein cyrff yn rhoi digon o rybudd i ni pan fydd angen i ni ddefnyddio toiled i'n galluogi i gyrraedd toiled neu i aros hyd nes y gallwn. Fodd bynnag, wrth i ni heneiddio, mae'r gallu yma'n mynd yn llai a bydd angen defnyddio'r toiled yn fwy aml ac ar fwy o frys ar lawer ohonom. Gall hyn wneud gadael sicrwydd y cartref yn destun cryn bryder, yn enwedig pan fyddwn yn mynd i rywle newydd.

*'Rwy'n ddefnyddiwr cadair olwyn sy'n teithio i Lundain yn aml ac un broblem bob amser yw dod o hyd i doiled sy'n addas ar fy nghyfer. Mae rhaid i fi gynllunio ble rydw i'n mynd i fynd ac os bydd cyfarfodydd wedi'u trefnu mewn lleoliadau sy'n anghyfarwydd, mae'n boendod gwirioneddol sy'n peri pryder i fi nes i fi ddarganfod beth yw'r sefyllfa.'*

Er mwyn lleddfu eu pryder, bydd llawer o bobl yn cynllunio ymlaen llaw ble y gallan nhw fynd i'r toiled a pha siwrneiau i'w cymryd felly. Bydd rhai'n byw yn eu hofn gan boeni y byddan nhw'n cael eu hunain mewn sefyllfa fydd yn gywilydd neu'n lletchwith iddyn nhw. Bydd hyn yn cyfyngu ar ble, pryd, faint o ffordd ac am faint o amser y gallan nhw fynd allan.

*'Mae colostomi gen i ac mae rhaid i fi gynllunio fy nhrefniadau teithio o gwmpas toiledau er mwyn i mi beidio â chael damwain.'*

*'Mae'r rheiny sy'n gorfod cymryd tabledi diwretig bob dydd yn gorfod cynllunio eu siwrneiau ble y gellir cael hyd i doiled.'*

*'Dylai fod modd defnyddio toiled yn y brif lyfrgell. Dw i ddim yn gallu mynd yno i ddarllen ac astudio ar rai diwrnodau o achos y tabledi at y dŵr. Fydda i ddim yn eu cymryd nhw os bydda i am ddarllen neu ddefnyddio'r cyfrifiadur yn y llyfrgell.'*

Mae rhai toiledau cyhoeddus mor annerbyniol fel y bydd yn well gan rai pobl beidio ag yfed yn hytrach na defnyddio toiled cyhoeddus:

*'Fydda i ddim yn defnyddio toiledau cyhoeddus... bydda i'n ofalus faint o hylif y bydda i'n ei yfed pryd bynnag y bydda i'n teithio.'*

Gall hyn gael effaith ddifrifol iawn ar iechyd pobl, gan gynnwys dadhydradiad a heintiadau'r llwybr wrinol.

Nid dyma'r unig ffordd y mae cau toiledau cyhoeddus yn cael effaith anfwriadol ar iechyd y cyhoedd. Mae manteision gweithgaredd corfforol i bawb, ac i bobl hŷn yn enwedig, yn hysbys iawn. Mae gweithgaredd corfforol yn rhan allweddol o heneiddio mewn iechyd da, a cherdded yw'r ffordd fwyaf hygyrch yn bendant i bawb gael ymarfer corff.

Yn Cynllun Gweithredu Heneiddio'n Iach Cymru: Ymateb i Her Iechyd Cymru, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn argymhell y 'gall mentrau gweithgaredd corfforol helpu pobl i gadw'u hannibyniaeth, a darparu cyfleoedd i ymgysylltu â phobl eraill a'u cymuned eu hunain, gan leihau arwahaniad ac unigedd. Gall cynlluniau gweithgaredd corfforol gynnwys cerdded er budd iechyd.'<sup>1</sup> Fodd bynnag, wrth i lawer o bobl hŷn sy'n gyfarwydd â cherdded yn rhan o drefn arferol eu diwrnod fynd yn hŷn, bydd eu hangen i

ddefnyddio'r toiled pan fyddan nhw allan o'r tŷ yn cyfyngu ar y pellter y gallan nhw fynd.

*'Mae meddygon yn dweud wrth bobl oedrannus am gerdded bob dydd, ond mae llawer o bobl, gan gynnwys fy mrawd sy'n efell i fi a finau, yn cario gormod o ddŵr. Mae hyn yn golygu y bydd rhaid i ni basio dŵr pan fyddwn allan yn cerdded, yn enwedig yn y gaeaf.'*

*'Bydda i'n mynd yn nerfus iawn os bydda i yn rhywle newydd a heb wybod ble mae'r toiledau agosaf. Dylai arwyddion clir fod yn dangos faint o ffordd o'ch lleoliad ar y pryd y mae'r toiledau.'*

Mae'r canlyniadau yma'n cael effaith ddifrifol ar ansawdd bywyd llawer o bobl hŷn. Eto, yn aml iawn, pan fydd angen i awdurdodau lleol dorri eu cyllideb, maen nhw'n ystyried y gallan nhw gau toiledau cyhoeddus heb fod neb yn dioddef. Dangosodd yr ymateb anhygoel i arolwg Help the Aged, a nifer fawr y fforymau pobl hŷn a sefydliadau sy'n cynrychioli buddgrwpiau eraill ar hyd a lled y wlad sy'n ymgyrchu i gadw toiledau cyhoeddus ar agor a gwrthdroi'r sefyllfa, fod y dybiaeth hon yn ddi-sail.

<sup>1</sup> Cynllun Gweithredu Heneiddio'n Iach Cymru: Ymateb i Her Iechyd Cymru, t18, Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Hydref 2005



## Astudiaeth achos: toiledau cyhoeddus yng Ngorseion

Fe enw i yw Daniel. Rwy'n 74 oed ac yn byw yng Ngorseion. Mae fy symudedd yn dda ac yn aml rwy'n cerdded neu'n mynd i Gorseion yn y car i siopa neu i'r banc neu i swyddfa'r post.

Wrth i fi fynd yn hŷn rwyf wedi sylweddoli bod nifer a lleoliad toiledau cyhoeddus wedi dod yn fwy pwysig i fi. Nawr rwy'n cynllunio fy nhaith o gwmpas fy lleoliad o safbwynt yr unig doiled cyhoeddus sydd yng nghanol y dref yng Ngorseion. Mae'r toiled wedi'i leoli gyferbyn â'r llyfrgell, drws nesaf i Erddi Argyle a gorsaf y bysiau.

Mae'r toiled cyhoeddus yn bum munud o waith cerdded o'r Stryd Fawr, lle y mae Sainsbury's bach ar un pen a Somerfield ar y pen arall. Nid oes cyfleusterau toiledau cyhoeddus yn un o'r ddwy archfarchnad. Roedd toiled cyhoeddus ym maes parcio Somerfield ar un pryd ond mae heb fod ar gael ers blyneddodded o ganlyniad i fandaliaeth gyson. Mae cerdded o un pen y Stryd Fawr i'r llall yn cymryd tua 20 munud ond pan fyddwch yn aros sawl gwaith ac yn edrych yn y ffenestri, gall gymryd lawer mwy o amser. Gall hyn fod yn rhy bell, yn enwedig os ydych ar dabledi diwretig pryd y bydd lleoliad y toiled a'ch pellter chithau oddi wrtho yn allweddol. Mae tafarn/tŷ bwyta gerllaw maes parcio Somerfield a bu rhaid i mi ddefnyddio'u cyfleusterau nhw ambell waith; gan fod arwydd yno sy'n dweud bod y toiledau ar gyfer y rhai sy'n defnyddio'r dafarn/tŷ bwyta yn unig, rwy'n teimlo'n annifyr ynglŷn â'u defnyddio. Mae fy ngwraig a minnau'n bwyta yn y tŷ bwyta weithiau ac felly rwy'n dweud wrthyf fy hun fy mod i yn ddefnyddiwr.

Os bydda i'n prynu diod mewn tafarn, tŷ bwyta neu gaffi er mwyn cael defnyddio'u cyfleusterau toiled, gall fod yn ddigon drud gwneud hynny ac yn aml mae'n golygu y bydd rhaid i fi ddod o hyd i doiled arall i'w ddefnyddio ymhen ychydig! Byddwn yn hapus i dalu 10c neu 20c i gael defnyddio toiled nad yw'n doiled cyhoeddus pebai hynny'n golygu bod mwy o doiledau ar gael i fi.

Mae bod yn gallu defnyddio cyfleusterau toiled sydd o safon dderbyniol yn bwysig iawn i fi ac mae'n rhan allweddol yn fy mhenderfyniad i adael fy nghartref a mynd allan yn ein hardal leol.

### Y pethau sydd fwyaf pwysig i fi o ran toiledau

I fi, y pethau pwysicaf o safbwynt cyfleusterau toiled yw:

1. eu bod ar agor ac ar gael i'w defnyddio yn ystod y dydd ac i mewn i'r hwyr
2. bod drws y toiled yn cau yn iawn a gellir ei gloi
3. eu bod nhw'n lân, gan gynnwys y llawr gan fod rhaid i fi roi bag ar y llawr yn aml
4. bod yna bapur toiled, sebon, dŵr a rhyw ffordd y galla i sychu fy nwylo
5. bod y golau y tu mewn a'r tu allan i'r toiledau'n ddigonol.

Wrth ystyried toiledau yn y manau rwy'n ymweld â nhw, rwyf wedi cael bod:

- toiledau cyhoeddus mewn parciau, traethau, meysydd parcio a'r rhai y gellir eu cyrraedd o'r stryd fel arfer mewn cyflwr gwael. Yn gyffredinol dyma'r toiledau lleiaf glân sydd yn aml heb gyfleusterau megis papur a biniau
- toiledau mewn siopau a chanolfannau siopa fel arfer yw'r rhai mwyaf dymunol i'w defnyddio
- mae'r toiledau mewn tai bwyta, caffis neu dafarnau yn amrywio'n fawr – yn dibynnu ar agweddau'r perchennog/rheolwr. Mae'r rhain ymhlith y toiledau mwyaf dymunol rwyf wedi'u defnyddio.

Rwy'n credu bod angen codi'r ymwybyddiaeth ynglŷn â'r problemau sydd ynghlwm wrth y prinder toiledau derbyniol; mae'r angen yma, wedi'r cyfan, yn un sylfaenol sy'n effeithio ar bawb. Wrth gwrs mae rhywle i fynd yn well nag unman i fynd pan fydd yr angen yn fawr.

## Atebion posib i'r prinder cyfleusterau

*'Testun tristwch yw bod y ddarpariaeth a gynigir gan y rhan fwyaf o awdurdodau o safbwynt y nifer a'r ansawdd wedi lleihau'n gyson yn ystod fy oes. Roedd adeg pan oedd y ffaith bod ganddyn nhw'r ddarpariaeth doiledau orau yn yr ardal yn destun balchder i lawer o fwrdeistrefi. Erbyn hyn yr argraff a geir yw bod y toiledau'n cael eu codi i fod mor fach ag sy'n bosib a bod y pwyslais i gyd ar arbed arian. Mae'r cyhoedd yn haeddu gwell.'*

Mae nifer o fentrau sy'n ceisio helpu i sicrhau bod toiledau cyhoeddus ar gael.

### Cynllun Allwedd Cenedlaethol

Mae rhwydwaith anabledde RADAR yn rhedeg Cynllun Allwedd Cenedlaethol sy'n gadael i bobl ag anabledde wneud cais am allwedd sy'n agor 7,000 o doiledau cyhoeddus ar hyd a lled y wlad. Cedwir y rhain ar glo i arbed fandaleiddio a chamddefnydd. Ond mae llawer o bobl hyn a fyddai'n elwa o fân addasiadau ddim yn ystyried eu bod yn anabl ac felly nid ydyn nhw'n defnyddio'r cynllun yma.

*'Mae'r toiledau'n brin ac yn bell oddi wrth ei gilydd ac os nad ydych yn anabl ac yn cario allwedd, rydych o dan anfantais.'*

Wrth i'r gymdeithas heneiddio, mae nifer y bobl na fydd yn ystyried eu bod nhw'n anabl ond a fyddai'n elwa'n fawr o fân newidiadau i'r amgylchedd adeiladu, yn cynyddu. Mae canllawiau i helpu pobl i godi eu hunain ar ac oddi ar sedd y toiled yn enghraifft o addasu syml y gellid ei wneud i doiled cyhoeddus er mwyn ei gwneud yn haws i bobl hyn ei ddefnyddio. Byddai toiledau ar gyfer pobl ag anabledde a phobl heb anabledde fel ei gilydd yn well pebai biniau gwastraff yn cael eu rhoi y tu mewn i'r cuddyglau er mwyn i bobl sy'n defnyddio cynhyrchion ymatal gael gwared ar y rhain yn breifat.

### Cerdyn 'Rwy'n methu aros'

Cyfeiriodd llawer o bobl at y cerdyn "Rwy'n methu aros" sydd ar gael i bobl sy'n dioddef ag anymataliaeth ac y gellir ei gyflwyno mewn manau sydd â chyfleusterau toiled nad ydyn nhw ar agor i'r cyhoedd, gan esbonio bod angen defnyddio toiled arnyn nhw ar frys.

Er bod rhai pobl hyn yn dioddef ag anymataliaeth feddygol, mae problem ymatal gan lawer o bobl eraill nad ydyn nhw'n ystyried eu bod yn anymatal, ac felly na fyddan nhw'n cymryd rhan yn y cynllun cerdyn yma.



## Toiledau cyhoeddus ac urddas

Roedd nifer fawr iawn o bobl yn teimlo y dylai defnyddio'r toiled fod yn fater preifat ac anhysbys – nid oedden nhw'n awyddus i ofyn i rywun am allwedd, neu i esbonio wrth rywun fod arnyn nhw angen brys, ond roedden nhw'n teimlo y dylai toiledau fod yn cael eu darparu, dylen nhw fod ar agor ac yn hawdd eu defnyddio.

Mae bod yn gorfod gofyn am ganiatâd i ddefnyddio'r toiled yn gadael rhai pobl heb rywfaint o reolaeth a'r dewis personol sydd ganddyn nhw mewn rhannau eraill o'u bywyd, yn peri iddyn nhw ofidio y caiff eu cais ei wrthod ac yn golygu y bydd angen mwy o amser arnyn nhw i ddod o hyd i doiled y gallan nhw ei ddefnyddio, ac yn tanseilio'r urddas y mae gan bob un yr hawl iddo. Yng ngeiriau un ymatebydd:

*'Mae rhai o'r toiledau yn y dref o fath newydd sy'n edrych yn debyg i giosg metel. Wn i ddim sut mae'r rhain yn gweithio ac felly dw i ddim wedi bod yn gallu eu defnyddio. Rwy'n teimlo'n lletchwith yn sefyll yno ac yn ceisio gweld ffordd i fynd i mewn.'*

*'Er bod angen toiledau cyhoeddus arnon ni o hyd, peidiwch â rhoi'r blychau mawr du yna i ni sy'n fy atgoffa o Tardis Dr Who. Maen nhw mor amlwg. Os oes rhywun ynddyn nhw, mae rhaid i chi aros ar y palmant – rydych chi'n teimlo'n lletchwith yn sefyll yno.'*

*'Dyw'r cuddyglau toiled newydd sydd wedi'u darparu ddim yn breifat. Gall pawb eich gweld yn mynd i mewn.'*

**Pwy ddylai ddarparu toiledau cyhoeddus?**

Mae darparu a chynnal a chadw toiledau mewn mannau cyhoeddus ar ddisgresiwn awdurdodau lleol, sydd â'r grym o dan adran 87 Deddf Iechyd y Cyhoedd 1936 i ddarparu cyfleusterau cyhoeddus ond nad yw'n ddyletswydd arnyn nhw wneud hynny. Mae darparu'r cyfleusterau yma ar ddisgresiwn a rhaid ei bwysu a'i fesur yn erbyn galwadau gwasanaethau lleol eraill.

Roedd y farn ynglŷn â defnyddio'r toiledau mewn siopau a thafarnau yn amrywio ymhlith yr ymatebwyr:

*'Rwyf i'n bersonol yn teimlo'n lletchwith pan na fydda i'n prynu dim.'*

*'Wedi i'r siopau a'r rhodfeydd gau, does dim toiledau cyhoeddus ar gael.'*

*'Mae rhaid i fi brynu diod i gael hyd i doiled yn Stourbridge – bu rhaid i fi dalu £1.70 i fynd i'r lle chwech mewn un bar coffi!'*

*'Ni ddylai'r cyngor ddisgwyl i fusnesau preifat ddarparu cyfleusterau ar gyfer y cyhoedd – ac ni ddylen nhw roi'r cyhoedd yn y sefyllfa letchwith yma.'*

Fodd bynnag, roedd nifer o'r ymatebwyr i'n harolwg yn teimlo y dylai fod diwylliant mwy agored yn y DU fyddai'n caniatáu i bobl ddefnyddio toiledau mewn mannau busnes heb deimlo'n lletchwith neu deimlo bod rhaid iddyn nhw brynu rhywbeth:

*'Dylai fod ymgyrch i annog tai bwyta, coffis, gwestai a thafarnau i groesawu'r ffaith bod eu toiledau'n cael eu defnyddio gan bobl ar wahân i'w cleientiaid. Dyma sy'n digwydd ym Mharis ac mewn dinasoedd eraill yn Ewrop.'*

Mae eraill eisoes yn teimlo'n gyffyrddus ynglŷn â mynd i siopau i ddefnyddio'u toiledau:

*'Mae rhestr gen i yn fy meddwl o'r siopau mawr sy'n darparu cyfleusterau.'*

**Astudiaeth achos:  
Fforwm 50+ Wrecsam**

*'Daliwch ati i ddweud wrth yr awdurdodau a'r cynllunwyr.'*

Bu'r prinder toiledau yng nghanol y dref yn Wrecsam yn destun pryder i Fforwm 50+ Wrecsam ers peth amser. Er mwyn dwyn sylw'r awdurdod at y broblem yma, cafodd is-weithgor ei ffurfio i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem. Mae prinder toiledau'n bryder cyson i bobl hŷn a welodd nifer a glendid y toiledau yng nghanol y dref yn gostwng a'r oriau agor yn anaddas.

Ychydig amser yn ôl agorwyd canolfan siopa newydd drws nesaf i ganol y dref ac, er ei bod hi'n anodd credu'r peth, ni chafodd toiledau eu cynnwys.

Anfonodd y Fforwm holiadur i'w 470 aelod yn gofyn iddyn nhw enwi'r tri pheth oedd yn eu pryderu fwyaf. O'r ymatebion, lluniwyd 'deg uchaf' pryderon pobl hŷn. Roedd y rhain yn cynnwys iechyd, troseddu, budd-daliadau, trafniadaeth, tai, balchder strydoedd, symudedd, parcio ceir, problemau cymdeithasol ac, ar frig y rhestr, toiledau cyhoeddus. Ffurfiwyd is-weithgorau i ganolbwyntio ar bob un o'r rhain. Ychwanegodd y ffaith fod aelodau Fforwm 50+ Wrecsam yn ystyried mai toiledau cyhoeddus oedd eu pryder mwyaf, at arwyddocâd yr ymgyrch leol sydd wedi datblygu.

Mae'r is-weithgor wedi gwneud gwaith ymchwilio, yn casglu ac yn coladu gwybodaeth am y cyfleusterau toiled yng nghanol y dref ac mae wedi dwyn sylw papurau newydd lleol, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam, cynghorwyr lleol ac ASau i'r broblem. Bu'n feirniadol iawn o'r prinder toiledau yn y ganolfan siopa newydd a daliodd ar bob cyfle i godi'r mater mewn cyfarfodydd a'i gadw yn llygaid y cyhoedd.

Am gyfnod roedd hi'n ymddangos nad oedd yr holl lythyrau, y cyfarfodydd, yr erthyglau yng nghylchlythyr y Fforwm, y sylw yn y Wasg ac ymdrechion eraill gan y gweithgor wedi cyflawni

dim. Ond yn y pen draw gwelwyd ei ddyfalbarhad yn talu'r ffordd. Mae canolfan siopa newydd (Dôl yr Eryrod), sydd drws nesaf i ganol y dref hefyd, wedi agor yn ddiweddar a chafodd aelodau'r is-weithgor wybod a chael gweld y cynlluniau oedd yn cadarnhau y byddai toiledau a chyfleusterau newid babanod ar gael yn y ganolfan yma, er nad oedden nhw wedi'u cynnwys yn y cynlluniau gwreiddiol.

Ar hyn o bryd mae'r gweithgor yn herio amserau agor cyhoeddus y toiledau yng nghanol y dref ac yn parhau i frwydro i gael toiledau addas ar draws yr ardal i gyd.

Ni ddaeth y newidiadau dros nos. Bu rhaid i'r gweithgor weithio'n ddyfal i gadw'r mater yn llygaid y cyhoedd a chodi cywilydd ar yr awdurdodau.

## Roedd 87 y cant o'r ymatebwyr yn teimlo y dylai siopau a busnesau wneud mwy o ymdrech i ddarparu cyfleusterau toiled cyhoeddus

Byddai llawer o bobl hŷn fodd bynnag, yn enwedig y rhai mwyaf bregus, yn amharod i fynd i adeiladau busnes yn unig swydd er mwyn defnyddio'r cyfleusterau.

Yn 2004 datblygodd Bwrdeistref Richmond upon Thames yn Llundain Gynllun Toiledau Cymuned i geisio atal eu toiledau cyhoeddus rhag dirywio ymhellach. Drwy'r cynllun yma mae'r cyngor yn recriwtio busnesau lleol fydd yn caniatáu i'r

cyhoedd ddefnyddio'u toiledau heb fod rhaid iddyn nhw brynu dim. Mae'r cyngor yn darparu arwyddion sy'n hysbysebu toiled y busnes i bobl sy'n mynd heibio a bydd y cyngor yn ei dro yn talu £600 y flwyddyn i'r perchennog i gynnal y toiled.

Roedd hi'n hawdd i'r cyngor gael busnesau i gymryd rhan ac, yn ôl llawer o'r perchennogion, roedd y cynllun yn fuddiol gan fod y cynnydd o ran y tramwy o ganlyniad i bobl yn defnyddio'r toiledau wedi arwain at gynydd mewn gwerthiant. Mae pobl ag anabledd yn gallu defnyddio traean o'r busnesau yng nghynllun toiledau cymuned Richmond a gan eu bod ar agor yn ystod oriau busnes, maen nhw wedi'u staffio bob amser ac felly'n peri llai o bryderon o ran diogelwch.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n bosib na all y cynllun yma ar ei ben ei hun ateb gofynion pob defnyddiwr. Yn y nos, wedi i'r caffis a'r siopau gau, mae'r ddarpariaeth wedi'i chyfyngu i dafarnau a barrau yn bennaf. Gall hyn fod yn broblem, fel y dwedodd un fenyw wrthym:

*'Dyw mynd i dafarnau ar eich pen eich hun ddim yn beth dymunol.'*

Mae'r cyfleusterau sydd o dan y cynllun wedi'u cyfyngu i ardaloedd siopa ac felly bydd rhaid i unrhyw ddarpariaeth ychwanegol fod mewn parciau neu fannau eraill y bydd pobl hŷn yn mynd iddyn nhw.

Efallai hefyd y bydd rhai pobl yn teimlo bod mynd i adeiladau busnes i ddefnyddio'r toiled yn effeithio ar eu gallu i ddefnyddio toiled heb i neb wybod, yn breifat ac ag urddas.

Roedd llawer o'r bobl wnaeth ymateb i arolwg Help the Aged yn teimlo'n gryf iawn y dylai fod yn ddyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i ddarparu digon o doiledau derbyniol ar gyfer y gymuned:

*'Dyw toiledau cyhoeddus ddim mor gyfleus, mor lân a hygyrch ag y dylen nhw fod. Mae'n bryd bod awdurdodau lleol yn cymryd y mater o ddifrif ac yn gwneud rhywbeth yn ei gylch.'*

*'Efallai y dylai'r llywodraeth ganolog neilltuo cyfran arbennig o arian er mwyn creu safon genedlaethol ar gyfer cyfleusterau cyhoeddus – safon y gallai'r wlad ymfalchio ynddi ac a allai gyfrannu at iechyd y cyhoedd.'*



Roedd pobl eraill yn teimlo y dylai siopau mawr a darparwyr cludiant gyfrannu, ac y dylai darparu toiledau digonol fod yn amod cynllunio ar gyfer datblygiadau newydd.

O dan gynllun Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, rhoddir hyd at £18,000 i awdurdodau lleol i annog gorsafoedd petrol, tafarnau a busnesau bach i agor eu toiledau i'r cyhoedd.

Dwedodd cyfran fawr iawn o'r ymatebwyr i'n harolwg y bydden nhw'n barod i dalu rhywfaint o arian er mwyn i doiledau cyhoeddus gael eu staffio, iddyn nhw fod yn lân ac mewn cyflwr da:

*'Byddai'n well gen i dalu 20c fel y bydda i'n ei wneud yng ngorsafoedd y trenau a'u bod nhw'n lân ac wedi'u staffio yn hytrach nag yn frwnt ac am ddim.'*

Dylid teilwra'r ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus i anghenion y defnyddwyr yn yr ardal a dylid monitro'r ddarpariaeth yn gyson er mwyn sicrhau ei bod yn cwrdd â'r anghenion ac yn ddigonol i sicrhau na fydd pobl hŷn yn cael eu gadael yn teimlo ar wahân neu wedi'u dal wrth 'linyn pledren'. Mae cyfrifoldeb gan y llywodraeth i'w dinasyddion hŷn i sicrhau ei bod yn cwrdd â'r angen sylfaenol yma.

## Argymhellion

### Dwedodd 78 y cant o'r ymatebwyr i'r arolwg nad oedd y ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus yn eu hardal nhw yn cwrdd â'u hanghenion

Er nad oedd unfrydiaeth barn ynglŷn â rhai agweddau ar y ddarpariaeth, dwedodd mwyafrif llethol yr ymatebwyr wrthym fod y toiledau yn eu hardal yn annigonol a bod angen gwneud mwy.

Mae Help the Aged yng Nghymru yn argymhell bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymrwymo i gomisiynu ymarfer mapio cenedlaethol rheolaidd i ganfod ble nad oes toiledau neu ble maen nhw ar i lawr. Ar un pryd Comisiwn Archwilio Cymru oedd yn gwneud y gwaith yma ond, oddi ar iddo beidio â gwneud hynny, mae'r ddarpariaeth wedi lleihau'n ddirfawr.

Dylai awdurdodau lleol geisio cyrraedd safon ragorol o ran eu darpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus a dylen nhw gynnwys pobl leol a fforymau pobl hŷn yn y gwaith o fonitro safonau er mwyn sicrhau y

bydd y toiledau'n cwrdd â'u hanghenion. Dylid gosod safonau perfformiad o ran yr amserau agor, y ddarpariaeth a'r ansawdd.

Ni ddylid cau toiledau cyhoeddus ar unrhyw gyfrif heb ymgynghori â'r trigolion lleol a heb roi'r ystyriaeth ddyladwy i ddarparu dewis arall.

Dylai datblygiadau newydd megis canolfannau siopa, archfarchnadoedd ac ymgyfnewidfydd cludiant gynnwys toiledau fydd yn hygyrch i bawb.

Gall darpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus ddigonol wneud gwahaniaeth enfawr i berson hŷn a'i alluogi i aros yn annibynnol a gweithredol. Mae'r ddarpariaeth doiledau, rydyn ni wedi'i chymryd yn ganiataol ers cyfnod maith, o dan fygythiad. Rhaid cymryd camau i wrthdroi'r ffaith bod y toiledau y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn eu darparu yn prysur ddiflannu.

Dylai awdurdodau lleol ymfalchïo yn, a bod yn gyfrifol am sicrhau nad yw aelodau bregus o'r gymdeithas yn cael eu gwahardd rhag cymryd rhan yn eu cymunedau am fod y ddarpariaeth doiledau cyhoeddus yn annigonol.

Dosbarthwyd arolwg i fforymau pobl hŷn drwy ddau gylchlythyr Help the Aged, *Activate a Policy Update*.<sup>2</sup> Cafodd rhywfaint o ddata monitro eu cynnwys ar yr holiadur sy'n ein galluogi i roi'r dadansoddiad canlynol o'r ymatebwyr:

### Ble roedd yr ymatebwyr yn byw

Mae'r adroddiad yma'n canolbwyntio ar yr ymatebwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru:

- 56 y cant mewn ardaloedd gwledig
- 44 y cant mewn ardaloedd trefol

### Oedran

- 2.5 y cant o dan 60 oed
- 26 y cant yn 60 – 69 oed
- 37 y cant yn 70 – 79 oed
- 32 y cant yn 80 – 89 oed
- 2.5 y cant yn 90+ oed

### Rhyw

- 32 y cant yn ddynion
- 68 y cant yn fenywod

<sup>2</sup> I danysgrifio i'r cyhoeddiadau rhad yma, ebostiwrch [info@helptheaged.org.uk](mailto:info@helptheaged.org.uk)



## Wrth ymladd ar ran pobl hŷn dan anfantais yn y DU a thramor, **BYDDWN YN:**

**TACLO TLODI** lle mae pobl hŷn yn dioddef oherwydd diffyg arian, a lleihau nifer y marwolaethau diangen yn sgil clefydau, oerfel a ddifyg bwyd

**LLEDDFU ARWAHANIAD** fel nad yw pobl hŷn yn teimlo'n gaeth i'w cartrefi mwyach nac yn angof mewn cymdeithas

**HERIO ESGEULUSTOD** fel nad yw pobl hŷn yn dioddef diffyg gofal iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, nac mewn peryg o gael eu cam-drin

**TRECHU OEDRANIAETH** i sicrhau nad yw pob hŷn yn cael eu hanwybyddu, nac yn dioddef diffyg parch, urddas a chwarae teg

**ATAL AMDDIFADIAD YN Y DYFODOL** trwy wella'r rhagolygon swyddi, iechyd a lles fel nad oes cymaint yn gorfod dibynnu ar eraill yn y dyfodol

Help the Aged yng Nghymru, 12 Heol y Gadeirlan, Caerdydd CF11 9LJ

**Ffôn** 029 2034 6550 **Ffacs** 029 2039 0898

**E-bost** [infocymru@helptheaged.org.uk](mailto:infocymru@helptheaged.org.uk) [www.helptheaged.org.uk](http://www.helptheaged.org.uk)

## **Rhan 2: Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol**

### **(1) P-03-065: Taliadau Deintyddol y GIG**

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, sy'n aelodau o Grwp Sefydliad y Merched Hafren ac sydd wedi llofnodi'r ddeiseb hon, yn siomedig iawn â graddfa bresennol taliadau deintyddol y GIG, yn enwedig y gwahaniaeth mawr rhwng cost y tri band triniaeth, yn arbennig rhwng band 2 sy'n costio £39 a band 3 sy'n costio £177.

Ni ellir cyfiawnhau bwlch mor fawr rhwng prisiau'r ddau fand uchaf. Rhaid bod modd cael ystod o brisiau canolradd ar gyfer yr holl wahanol driniaethau a ddarperir.

O gofio hyn, teimlwn yn gryf y dylid adolygu graddfa bresennol taliadau deintyddol y GIG a gofynnwn i chi ddwyn y mater i sylw'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar ein rhan.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-65.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Grwp Sefydliad y Merched Hafren

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 1 (cyflwynwyd gan sefydliad)

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 20 Medi 2007, 8 Tachwedd 2007 a 27 Ebrill 2010.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Chymdeithas Ddeintyddol Prydain. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.

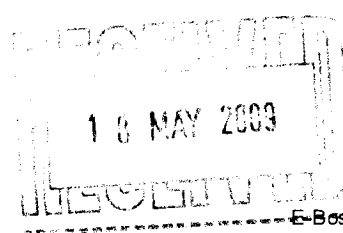
NS DM

**Edwina Hart MBE OStJ AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

Our ref: EH/01577/10  
Your ref: P-03-065

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
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Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
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13 May 2010

*Dear ch*

Thank you for your letter of 4 May about Petition: P-03-065 NHS Dental Charges which was considered by the Petitions Committee on 27 April.

The Welsh Ministers have the power to make Regulations to amend the dental charging system in Wales, provided the charges are relevant to dental services and do not relate to any of the exemptions from charging listed in the NHS (Wales) Act 2006.

A review subgroup which I established to look into contract currency issues recently examined the feasibility of the introduction of new charge bands. It identified a number of practical and operational constraints relating to such a change including concerns that it may encourage over treatment in some patient groups. There are currently no further plans to develop this particular model.

The patient charges system introduced in Wales in April 2006 set the three standard band charges at £12.00; £39.00; and £177.00 and importantly represents a reduction of half in the maximum cost of treatment under the previous system. The levels of patient charges in Wales are reviewed annually. It is worth noting that these charges are significantly less than those in England where the same standard charges are £16.50; £45.60; and £198.00. For the fourth successive year I have frozen patient dental charges in Wales to help maintain wider access to NHS dental services.

*Edwina Hart*

## National Assembly for Wales Petitions Committee

### Petition P-03-065 NHS Dental charges.

The British Dental Association (BDA) is the professional association for dentists in the UK. It represents over 23,000 dentists working in general practice, in community and hospital settings, in academia and research, and in the armed forces.

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We have always regarded charges for dental treatment as a matter for decision by the UK government for England and the devolved governments in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Dentists do not benefit from the charges but as they are responsible for collecting them on behalf of the health boards, they are made liable for any charges which remain unpaid by the patient. The total of patient charges for NHS dentistry in Wales is around £30million per annum.

Dental care is one of the few services of NHS Wales where charges are levied on patients for their treatment and we regret that in some cases this represents a barrier to care.

Prior to the changes to the NHS dentists' contract in 2006, charges reflected the cost of the course of treatment. The NHS fee scale was made up of 400+ individual items and patients paid a proportion of the total cost of the individual items provided and there was a maximum charge of £375. The system change in 2006 was designed to make things simpler and more understandable for patients with just three charges, but it is obvious that confusion still occurs as, for example, the charge to the patient for a single filling is the same as for multiple fillings.

In Wales, prior to 2006, dental examinations were free to those aged under 25 or over 60. Whilst this continues in theory, should any treatment be provided, the full charge is levied so the financial benefit to the patient of the free examination is lost.

The difference between the charge for band 2 treatments – currently £39 in Wales and band three – currently £177, is to reflect the additional costs incurred in providing laboratory made appliances – crowns, bridges and dentures but does include all the other care provided in bands one and two.

Stuart Geddes MGDSRCSEd  
Director – BDA Wales.

## (2) P-03-150 Safonau Canser Cenedlaethol

### Geiriad y ddeiseb

Yr ydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i ymchwilio a yw'r strategaethau a'r cynlluniau gweithredu angenrheidiol ar waith gan Fyrddau Iechyd Lleol er mwyn cyrraedd y targed o ran cyflawni â'r Safonau Canser Cenedlaethol erbyn mis Mawrth 2008 yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a ledled Cymru, fel mater o frys.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/eform-sign-petition-old/p-03-150.htm>

### Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan: Rhondda Breast Friends

**Nifer y llofnodion:** Casglodd yr e-ddeiseb 43 o lofnodion. Yn ychwanegol at hynny, mae Rhondda Breast Friends wedi datblygu siarter o ran y gwelliannau sy'n ofynnol ar gyfer gwasanaethau gofal cancer, a chafwyd cefnogaeth 1,475 o lofnodwyr.

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 9 Gorffennaf 2008, 6 Tachwedd 2008, 13 Ionawr 2009, 10 Chwefror 2009, 31 Mawrth 2009, 24 Tachwedd 2009, 19 Ionawr, 23 Mawrth a 27 Ebrill 2010.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

**Edwina Hart MBE OStJ AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

Our ref: EH/01579/10

Your ref: P-03-150

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

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E-Mail: Correspondence.Edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

17 May 2010

Thank you for your further letter of 5 May about the work undertaken on the National Cancer Standards.

Achieving compliance with the National Cancer Standards is the cornerstone of my policy on tackling cancer and improving outcomes for patients. To help the NHS achieve these Standards, I announced an additional £4.5m central recurrent funding in 2007-08.

The Cancer Services Co-ordinating Group's (CSCG) report to me last year on performance against the National Cancer Standards showed that non compliance was for a variety of reasons. In some cases this was due to missing data which is simple to remedy whilst other areas, such as waiting times for radiotherapy, are more challenging.

The Local Health Board (LHB) Executive Leads for cancer are leading the work on compliance with the National Cancer Standards, but each Board is accountable for ensuring cancer services for the LHB's resident population meet these Standards.

I should emphasise that while there is still room to improve cancer services in line with the Standards, our clinical outcomes are good and improving as shown by the regular reports from the Wales Cancer Intelligence and Surveillance Unit, and national clinical audit reports. Services are improving year on year with new technology, latest clinical practice and evidence.

### **(3) P-03-170 MENCAP Cymru**

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Yr ydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Comisiwn y Cynulliad a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i arwain gyda golwg ar gyflogi mwy o bobl ag anableddau dysgu, ac i annog cyflogwyr eraill yn y sector cyhoeddus, megis y Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol ac Awdurdodau Lleol, i gyflogi mwy o bobl ag anableddau dysgu.

Dim ond 1 o bob 10 o bobl ag anableddau dysgu y mae arnynt eisiau gweithio sydd mewn unrhyw fath o gyflogaeth lle rhoddir tâl. Mae hyn yn annheg.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/eform-sign-petition-old/p-03-170.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** MENCAP Cymru

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 134

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 13 Ionawr 2009, 10 Chwefror 2009, 19 Mai 2009, 7 Gorffennaf 2009, 22 Medi 2009 a 10 Tachwedd 2009.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymatebion gan y deisebydd, Comisiwn y Cynulliad a'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.



18.05.2010

Dear Christine,

Apologies for the lateness of our response to the Petitions Committee's letter, dated 17.11.2009, concerning our petition. Since our last response from the then Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Jane Hutt, we have been conducting several pieces of research around employment opportunities and transition for young people with a learning disability. We have also in this period, attempted to meet with the new Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning & Skills, and Deputy Minister for Skills, Innovation & Science.

In our oral evidence session we stated that one of the major shortfalls in policy implementation was that young people with a learning disability were not getting access to work experience and careers advice. We have since carried out a small scale research project with service users of our *Cer Amdani!* project, that validates our initial assessment of work experience amongst young people with a learning disability.

The results show that of eighty two young people with a learning disability in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, only twelve had had access to work experience whilst at school. Of these twelve pupils, only five said the experience was positive and the same amount had just one full week of work experience. This clearly demonstrates that policies are not reaching the people who most need support to enter the workforce, in stark contrast to the Minister's assertions otherwise.

Mencap Cymru are still of the belief that the policies, which are strong in the majority of their subject matter, are failing to be implemented fully among the people who need them the most.

Following our meeting with the Deputy Minister for Skills, Innovation and Science, we feel we are no closer to bringing

our petition to a close, as many of the policy and implementation changes we are looking for are not in her brief.

We have also been told that the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, Leighton Andrews, will be unable to meet us at this time to discuss our campaign. This will obviously prove a stumbling block in our attempts to get the review of policies, designed to support people with a learning disability to train for and get paid employment, at a Welsh Assembly Government level.

It is for this reason that we ask the Petitions Committee to carry out a small review of the policies we highlighted in our Policy Risk Matrix, which was submitted as part of the oral evidence we gave on May 19<sup>th</sup> of last year. We believe that even a small review would highlight what we know to be true. Many of the policies that are designed to support people with a learning disability to train for and get paid employment, are failing to reach and support them.

Mencap Cymru, as an organisation that works extensively in the field of employment for people with a learning disability, would be happy to support you in whatever way you deem appropriate in conducting this review.

Yours Sincerely,

Simon Stranks  
Campaigns Officer



Christine Chapman AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

28 April 2010

Dear Christine

**Petition from Mencap Cymru – more employment opportunities for people with a learning disability (P-03-170)**

On 29 January 2009 Lorraine Barrett AM, Commissioner for the Sustainable Assembly, wrote to Val Lloyd AM, the previous Chair of the Petitions Committee, about the Committee's consideration of Mencap Cymru's petition to:

*“urge the Assembly Commission and the Welsh Assembly Government to take a lead in employing more people with a learning disability, and to encourage other public sector employers such as the NHS and local authorities to employ more people with a learning disability.”*

Our Management Board recently considered proposals for a pilot work placement opportunity in the Assembly for a person with learning

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Ffôn/Tel: 029 2089 8233

E-bost/Email: [Claire.Clancy@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Clancy@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg/We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh

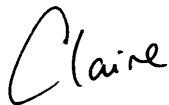
disabilities. I am pleased to say that the proposal was unanimously approved and we hope that the placement will begin this autumn.

The pilot placement is intended to enable an individual to gain valuable work experience in a paid, part-time post, the duties of which will be dependent on the service in which the individual is placed and the individual's ability and skill levels. Our HR and Equality Teams will work closely with Mencap and other partners to ensure that the person undertaking the placement is fully supported and empowered to realise their capabilities. If the pilot scheme is successful, our intention is to offer temporary work placements to other individuals in future.

We believe that the pilot scheme is a clear demonstration of the effectiveness of the Assembly's petitions process and we are delighted that we are able to provide this opportunity to an under-represented group in partnership with Mencap Cymru.

If you would like any further information about the pilot placement scheme please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Claire Clancy**

**Prif Weithredwr a Chlerc/Chief Executive and Clerk  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru/National Assembly for Wales**

cc Lorraine Barrett AM, Commissioner for the Sustainable Assembly

**Equality of Opportunity  
Committee**

**Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal**

Val Lloyd AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

25 November 2009

Dear Val

**Petition: Mencap Cymru**

Thank you for your letter dated 24 November 2009 regarding the petition submitted by Mencap Cymru which was recently considered by the Petitions Committee.

I note with interest the issues raised by the petition in relation to the employment of people with a learning disability. The Equality of Opportunity Committee scrutinises the Welsh Assembly Government's Single Equality Scheme and the Assembly Commission's Equality Scheme on an annual basis. The Committee will be looking at these schemes again in the spring term and will focus part of the scrutiny on the issues raised in the petition.

I will write to you in due course with an update based on the evidence gained in these sessions.

Yours Sincerely

**Ann Jones**  
**Chair, Equality of Opportunity Committee**

#### **(4) P-03-183 Gwella'r gwasanaeth rheilffyrdd yn Aberystwyth**

##### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, myfyrwyr Coleg Ceredigion yn gofyn i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru annog Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wella'r gwasanaeth rheilffyrdd yn Aberystwyth.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/dogfennau-busnes-deisebau/p-03-183.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Ddisgyblion Coleg Ceredigion

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 10

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 20 Tachwedd 2008, 13 Ionawr 2009, 7 Gorffennaf a 22 Medi 2009.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y deisebydd. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

Hi Andrew,

I just wanted to keep you updated with the Coleg Ceredigion petition. Following the submission of the petition / evidence, the petitions committee suggested that students should meet with TRACC to discuss the obstacles they experienced using public transport.

TRACC have since organised a travel familiarisation event and the college have emailed the following feedback:

We had a very pleasant and informative visit, an excellent lunch and an information pack that was really useful. The students responded very well to the whole event and it really inspired them to consider using the train independently.

I think this is an example of a petition that has successfully stimulated collaboration between local partners.

Thanks  
Sian

Sian Davies  
Partners in Politics Manager / Rheolwr Partneriaid mewn Gwleidyddiaeth Mencap  
Cymru

## **(5) P-03-206 Nofio am ddim drwy'r flwyddyn**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Hoffai Clwb Ieuenctid yr Ammanford Junior Gateway ofyn a fyddech cystal â llofnodi'n deiseb a fydd yn cael ei chyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r cyngor lleol.

I gael cyfleusterau hamdden am ddim drwy'r flwyddyn i blant a phobl ifanc.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-206.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Glwb Gateway Rhydaman

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 562

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 05 Mai 2009, 19 Mai a 22 Medi 2009.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymatebion gan y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.



**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth  
Minister for Heritage



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-206  
Ein cyf/Our ref AFJ/00302/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Bank Chambers  
28a Oxford Street  
Mountain Ash  
CF45 3EU

13 April 2010

*Dear Christine,*

Thank you for your letter of 1 March regarding a petition on Free Swimming and the 5x60 scheme.

Free Swimming plays a key role in our strategy to enable children and young people and older adults to be more active. To build on the success of the scheme so far, we have made a commitment to extend the existing scheme beyond the school holidays to provide opportunities for children to have access to a sport or leisure facility or a swimming pool free of charge at weekends.

I intend to make an announcement about the extension of the scheme within the next few months and I will ensure that your Committee receives full details of the revised provision and the associated guidance.

In relation to the 5x60 scheme, 5x60 officers are based in schools allowing them to consult with all pupils, listen to their individual needs and overcome the barriers which prevent them from participating in activity. The 5x60 officers are able to timetable a programme of activities that suit the pupils' needs. The activities mainly target individuals who currently do not participate or who are in danger of losing interest, and can take place before school, during lunch, after school and at weekends.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Alun Ffred Jones*

**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth/Minister for Heritage

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
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*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)  
paper*

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P-03-206  
20 March 2010  
Heledd Bebb  
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WLGA • CLILC

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Dear Christine,

**Re: P-03-206 Free swimming all year round for children and young people**

In response to your queries regarding the Free Swimming Initiative, I can confirm that a minimum provision for 16 years and under has been added to the initiative and this is new from 2010. All local authorities in Wales have agreed to provide a minimum of:

- 14 hours of free swimming per week during all school holidays, of which at least 7 hours will be structured aquatic activities
- 1 dedicated structures session for disabled children per week during all school holidays; and
- 2 hours of free swimming or a dry side activity per weekend, throughout the year

This means that all local authorities now provide all year round access for children and young people. This extension of the free swimming initiative to the weekends means that there is more opportunity than ever before, for children to take part in regular, weekly exercise activity throughout the year, not only during school holidays.

In addition to the above, local authorities can, and do provide additional activities that best meet the needs of their local community. In particular, there is greater emphasis on structured activities to support the work undertaken via the school curriculum, to try to ensure that all children have the opportunity to learn to swim by the age of 11.

In terms of provision for disabled children, all local authorities are required to provide the minimum provision stated above. All children, regardless of age, ability, disability or gender are also encouraged to take part in any of the FSI 'structured' and 'splash' mainstream sessions across Wales.

Local authorities provide hoists to access the pools, specialist

Steve Thomas  
Chief Executive  
Prif Weithredwr

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Ffacs: 029 2046 8601

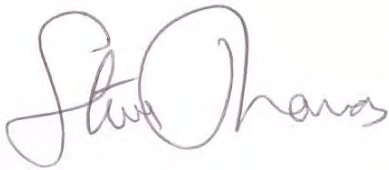
[www.wlga.gov.uk](http://www.wlga.gov.uk)

changing rooms and DDA compliant facilities in order to remove the barriers to accessing swimming. Local authorities swimming development officers work closely in partnership with 5x60 officers at special schools and with their disability sports development officers to identify and overcome any barriers to participation.

In addition, many local authorities provide additional opportunities specifically for disabled children. For example, some local authorities provide weekly disability swimming lessons. Others provide a variety of opportunities for disabled children including snorkelling, water confidence sessions, structured free play, ring water polo and even 'shoot and swim' (which is archery with adapted equipment and a swim activity).

I hope this information adequately answers the queries raised by the Petitions Committee. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Thomas'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Steve' and the last name 'Thomas' clearly distinguishable.

Steve Thomas  
Chief Executive, Welsh Local Government Association

## **(6) P-03-207 Cymorth i'r di-waith ym Mynwy**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn annog Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ymchwilio i sut i ddarparu cymorth a gwybodaeth effeithiol i bobl yng Nghymru sy'n chwilio am waith, hyfforddiant neu sy'n ceisio cychwyn menter fusnes yn lleol.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-207.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Pwyllgor Materion Cymunedol Cyngor Tref Mynwy

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 286

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 31 Mawrth 2009, 19 Mai 2009, 23 Mehefin 2009, 7 Gorffennaf 2009, 22 Medi 2009, 10 Tachwedd 2009 a 8 Rhagfyr 2009 a 19 Ionawr 2010.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Mae'r ddeiseb hon yn dychwelyd i gael rhagor o ystyriaeth gan y Pwyllgor.

## **(7) P-03-211 Cyfleusterau gofal i ddioddefwyr demensia**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Mae'r GMB - Undeb Cenedlaethol Prydain yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau bod darpariaeth briodol a digonol o ofal arbenigol ar gael ar gyfer pobl â demensia/henoed bregus eu meddwl a darpariaeth briodol a digonol o ganolfannau/cartrefi ar gael ledled Cymru

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-211.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Undeb y GMB

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 13

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 5 Mai 2009

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y deisebydd. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

Our ref: MJP/RG

mike.payne@gmb.org.uk

17 May 2010

Ms Christine Chapman  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear Christine

Further to your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2010 where you ask on what basis does the GMB base its assertion that there are not enough services for the elderly, especially those that suffer from dementia, the source of the information comes from day to day information of GMB members, GMB Officers, professional contact and personal experiences passed to us.

It is clear that the Government's and the National Assembly's Policy are to allow elderly people to stay in their own homes for as long as possible.

The GMB is fully supportive of this policy, however, it is clear that the levels of support needed for the elderly at home is not sufficient to offer them sufficient support to meet all of their needs. There is a premise that the elderly have already in place a basic support from family and friends, etc., that does not always exist and it is this, in our opinion, that leaves them isolated and vulnerable.

The maximum levels of care vary but in most cases people receive maximum home care of four visits per day which in the majority of cases seems to be four times half an hour. This leaves elderly people alone for well over 20 hours per day. It is our view that these levels need to be extended and increased substantially.

In addition the number of Day Centres which could offer support is declining, because of closures, thereby taking away another source of support. It should also be added that there are a number of people, because of their conditions, who even if there were alternatives such as day centres could not attend them. These people are the ones who would definitely benefit from increased contact during the day and extra support at night.

I would now like to move onto the issue of Residential Care. Whilst it is an accepted policy that people should stay in their own home for as long as possible, it needs to be recognised that for some this is not the correct option. Those who suffer from the latter stages of dementia and/or who opt for the choice because of their personal circumstances

should have the option of moving into residential care. There are currently a number of problems with this choice the obvious one being cost but there are other issues also.

Residential Homes and EMI Homes are reducing and/or cutting beds at a time when the elderly population is increasing and when it is predicted that the increased numbers will also see an increased percentage of those numbers suffering from Dementia and at an earlier age.

This needs to be addressed as Wales already lags behind England in as much as we have 2 beds per thousand population already less and it is the GMB's view that this gap is widening not reducing. Elderly people are having choice taken away and at the same time quality is being compromised. Within the Public Sector Homes are closing to balance books and this is taking away choice and having the effect of pushing up costs. Private Sector Homes are also closing because they don't meet standards and do not have the capital to invest in the needed changes.

All of this is having the effect of people being left in their own homes without appropriate support, having to go in and out of hospital on a regular basis (the revolving door) thereby taking up valuable beds and costing the NHS substantially and creating bed shortages. Residential Care and Respite Care are a better alternative and in our view a less costly and more appropriate option.

Families have to bear the burden of care of their elderly relatives without much needed support, which has the effect of putting people under strain, affecting their health, careers and marriages.

The Assembly Government should be looking at an integrated strategy for care of the elderly in order that people are confident that when they need it, the appropriate care packages will be in place. Choice should also be available and at the heart of this the Assembly and National Governments need to resolve the longstanding issue of cost. It cannot be right that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century families have to sell homes to cover the cost of care. The balance is not right at the moment and there needs to be public debate on how we fund care of the elderly across the whole of Wales.

Yours sincerely

*Mike Payne*

Mike Payne  
Membership Development Officer

## **(8) P-03-234 Mae ar Gymru angen mwy o goed brodorol**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Mae ar Gymru angen mwy o goed brodorol!

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn croesawu targed Comisiwn Coedwigaeth Cymru i greu 1,500 hectar o goetir newydd dros y tair blynedd nesaf ac rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Comisiwn Coedwigaeth i gyrraedd y targed hwn, fel cam cyntaf tuag at ddyblu faint o dir sydd yn goetir brodorol erbyn 2050.

Cymru yw un o'r gwledydd ac ynddi'r lleiaf o goed yn Ewrop. Rydym yn cefnogi'r uchelgais a amlinellwyd yn y Strategaeth Coetiroedd i Gymru i greu mwy o goetiroedd er budd pobl a bywyd gwylt, i helpu i osgoi llifogydd, i amsugno carbon deuocsid o'r awyrgylch a hefyd i sicrhau cyflenwad cynaliadwy o bren ar gyfer y dyfodol.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-234.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Coed Cadw / The Woodland Trust

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 2165

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 22 Medi 2009, 10 Tachwedd 2009, 19 Ionawr a 1 Chwefror 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymatebion gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig, yr Is-bwyllgor Datblygu Gwledig a'r Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ac Allanol. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.



NS AM.

**Elin Jones AM/AC**  
**Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig**  
**Minister for Rural Affairs**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref NB/SMM  
Ein cyf/Our ref EJ/00162/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

23 February 2010

Dear Christine,

**PETITION P- 03- 234: WALES NEEDS MORE NATIVE TREES**

Thank you for your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> February regarding the need for more native trees in Wales. As the Minister with responsibility for forestry in Wales, I have also taken this opportunity to reply to your query on Forest Schools in your letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> January to my colleague the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning.

Forest Schools is an innovative approach to learning and development which offers people of all ages the opportunity to develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences at local woodland sites. Enabling people of any age to be exposed to woodlands and trees will give them a greater appreciation of the natural environment and woodlands in particular and can therefore contribute to their understanding of the benefits that trees provide. However, as the project is mainly aimed at education and awareness raising, it is not likely to make a significant contribution to the actual number of trees being planted in order to increase the area of native woodland in Wales.

I believe that any significant increase in new woodland can only be done through a range of measures aimed at supporting tree planting on the public woodland estate and privately owned land as part of an integrated approach to land use in Wales.

I am therefore pleased to say that as part of the Assembly Government's continued support for the management of woodland I recently approved the *Woodlands for Wales* Action Plan which describes in detail how Forestry Commission Wales will deliver the Government's strategy. This document will be published shortly and will enable everyone interested in this issue to see how progress will be made and monitored over the next 5 years.

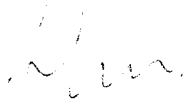
FC Wales is currently assessing the small amount of agricultural land within the public woodland estate in order to make an immediate contribution to increasing woodland cover. They are also considering the acquisition of small areas of land for woodland creation in targeted locations within their existing resources. However, these actions are only likely to

make a small contribution to the amount of new woodland needed to fulfil a target as demanding as the one called for by Coed Cadw.

There is further work to do before I am in a position to set a meaningful, long term target for any increase in woodland cover in Wales and I believe I will only be able to do this when I have had the opportunity to consider the findings of the Land Use & Climate Change group (LUCC) group.

I expect to receive their report shortly and combined with the publication of the recent Read report on the role that trees and woodlands can play in combating climate change I expect to then be able to identify an appropriate target for increasing the amount of woodland in Wales.

I am hosting the launch of this report in Wales at a short event in Ty Hywel on the 16<sup>th</sup> March and would be very pleased if you were able to join me there to hear more about this important issue.



**Elin Jones AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig  
Minister for Rural Affairs

**Elin Jones AM/AC**  
Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig  
Minister for Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-234  
Ein cyf/Our ref EJ/00696/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

7 June 2010

*Dear Christine*

**PETITION p- 03- 234: WALES NEEDS MORE NATIVE TREES**

Further to my response dated 23 February 2010 I am also responding to the letter you sent to Jane Davidson AM on 10 February. Can I firstly apologise for the delay in responding which I understand was due to an administrative error.

In your letter you request a copy of the draft report on carbon abatement strategies currently being considered by the Land and Climate Change sub-group. I can now confirm that the Land Use Climate Change Group lodged its report with me on 5 March 2010. This is available on the Welsh Assembly Government web-site and can be accessed from the following link:

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/drah/publications/100310landuseclimatechangegrouponreporten.pdf>

**Elin Jones AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig  
Minister for Rural Affairs

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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CF99 1NA

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*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*



24 February 2010

Dear Christine,

**Re: P-03-234 Wales needs more native trees**

Thank you for drawing the Rural Development Sub-committee's attention to the above petition.

The Sub-committee is well aware of the issues surrounding trees and forests in Wales, having conducted several recent inquiries which touched on the subject.

In February 2009, the Sub-committee published its report on Review of Axis 2 of the Wales Rural Development Plan 2007 - 2013, which included consideration of the Better Woodlands for Wales strategy.

The Sub-committee's recent inquiry into the Future of the Uplands also heard evidence on the importance of woodlands both to the environment and economy of upland areas. We will publish our report on the Future of the Uplands within the next few weeks, and I hope your Committee will find it useful.

We also recently held a short inquiry into the Glastir scheme, which is in the process of being finalised by the Welsh Government. The scheme includes provision for supporting the planting of new trees. Again, the Sub-committee's report will be published shortly.

Yours sincerely

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM**  
**Chairman of the Rural Development Sub-Committee**

Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1NA

Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

**Y Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd  
ac Allanol  
European and External Affairs  
Committee**

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

23 February 2010

Dear Christine

**PETITION: WALES NEEDS MORE NATIVE TREES**

Further to your letter of 29 January, I write to confirm that the European and External Affairs Committee has not considered the issue of bureaucracy in relation to agricultural support schemes for landowners to date. However, you may wish to be aware of related work carried out by the Rural Development Sub-committee.

I am informed that the Rural Development Sub-committee has recently completed an inquiry into the future of the uplands in Wales, and that the issue of support for the planting of new trees via European agricultural schemes, such as Glastir (the new agri-environment scheme), was considered as part of that inquiry. The report is currently being prepared. In addition, I understand that the Rural Development Sub-committee will be conducting inquiries into Glastir and the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy post-2013 during the spring and summer terms, and that bureaucracy in relation to these support schemes is likely to be considered in those inquiries.

You may therefore wish to pursue these matters further with the Rural Development Sub-committee.

Yours sincerely



**Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM**  
Committee Chair

**(9) P-03-243 Tynnu'n ôl yn ffurfiol o'r strategaeth isranbarthol Gorllewin Caer / Gogledd-ddwyrain Cymru**

**Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i dynnu nôl yn ffurfiol o'r strategaeth isranbarthol Gorllewin Caer/Gogledd-ddwyrain Cymru.

Rydym ni, yr isod, yn dadlau fod strategaeth isranbarthol Gorllewin Caer/Gogledd-ddwyrain Cymru yn gynllun difeddwl, hynod niweidiol a thwyllodrus. Mae'r oblygiadau'n enfawr, gan effeithio ar nifer fawr o agweddau o fywyd yng Ngogledd Cymru.

- Hunaniaeth a hawliau dynol (yn nhermau identiti Cymreig, iaith, diwylliant, cymeriad a mynegiant)
- Amgylcheddol (yn nhermau cynaladwyedd, ecoleg, yr amgylchedd a'r amgylchedd adeiladol) a
- Cynaladwyedd cymdeithasol (yn nhermau demograffeg, economeg, gwleidyddiaeth a chymunedau).

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-243.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Cyngor Pobl Gogledd Cymru

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 15220 (Yn ychwanegol at hyn, mae'r deisebwyr wedi casglu 4500 yn rhagor o lofnodion ers cyflwyno'r ddeiseb)

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 8 Rhagfyr 2009, 19 Ionawr, 1 Chwefror, 23 Chwefror a 23 Mawrth 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymatebion gan y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth, y Gweinidog dros Fusnes a'r Gyllideb, Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.

**Jane Hutt AC/AM**

Minister for Business and Budget  
Gweinidog dros Fusnes a Chyllideb



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-243  
Ein cyf/Our ref JH/003/09

19 March 2010

*Dear Christine,*

**Petition: Withdraw from the West Cheshire/North-East Wales Sub-Regional Strategy**

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> March in which you raised supplementary questions and requested further information in relation to this petition and the Welsh Assembly Government's work in the cross border area of North East Wales.

In response, please find Annex 1 attached.

As I indicated in my evidence, I feel that the Committee's inquiry has provided a valuable opportunity for the Assembly Government and its partners to provide clarification and reassurance on the issues raised in this Petition and I look forward to learning the outcome of your deliberations.

*Jane,  
Jane*

**Jane Hutt AM**

Minister for Business and Budget  
Gweinidog dros Fusnes a Chyllideb

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## Annex 1

- 1. How successful do you think the consultation exercise on the 2008 Wales Spatial Plan Update was and do you feel that lessons can be learnt to help inform future consultation exercises?**

The 2008 Update of the Wales Spatial Plan and the Strategic Environmental Assessment were subject to a 12 week public consultation which included a number of events across Wales which over 800 people attended. In addition, we undertook a separate children and young people's consultation which involved 92 young people in 9 facilitated workshops across Wales. The revised Plan was then subject to debate and approval by the full Assembly. The production of the Update itself was led by each area's Ministerial partnership which included elected members from each Local Authority. AMs were invited to attend a technical briefing by officers on the Update consultation, chaired by Andrew Davies AM, at the time Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery with responsibility for the Wales Spatial Plan.

The consultation was highly participative as the document was a co-production between the Welsh Assembly Government and a wide range of partners. It successfully provided many and varied opportunities for a diverse range of organisations and individuals to be involved and to feed in their views. Lessons to be learnt for the future might include the Wales Spatial Plan team sharing the working practices they developed to organise the many events and keep track of comments and input from a wide range of sources.

- 2. In your written evidence you state that detailed guidance is given through the Technical Advice Notes on issues such as the Welsh language. What sort of guidance is given to local authorities to ensure the protection of the Welsh language?**

The planning system is a tool that can be used to translate the land use implications of Welsh Assembly Government policy such as *laith Pawb*, to the local level through development plans and decisions on individual planning applications.

Policy and guidance on land use planning and the Welsh language is provided by Planning Policy Wales (2002) section 2.10 Supporting the Welsh Language, and TAN 20 The Welsh Language Unitary Development Plans and Planning Control. Both PPW and the TAN 20 explain how the Welsh language should be taken into account when development plans are prepared and decisions on individual planning applications made. This includes identifying communities where the use of the Welsh language is part of the social fabric that should be taken into account when developing appropriate planning policies.

- 3. How often are the Technical Advice Notes reviewed and how are these reviews conducted?**

Planning policy and advice is kept under constant review. Priorities are established by political commitments such as the *One Wales* agreement and the need to transpose European Community legislation. The review of Assembly Government policies can also give rise to a need to review planning policy to ensure effective implementation.



Reviews of planning policy are undertaken by the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing. Officials from Planning Division manage the review process with assistance from a Technical Advisory Group made up of key external and internal stakeholders. The process usually commences with an evaluation of existing policy, research (if necessary) and identification of key issues that need to be addressed.

Draft policy or guidance is produced drawing from the evidence base. Draft policy or guidance is the subject of the Assembly Government's usual consultation arrangements. Views received during the consultation are considered before the final policy or guidance is published.

**4. Does the Government acknowledge, given the evidence provided (labour Force survey data and references from the West Cheshire plan itself about immigration and erosion and dilution of Welsh identity), that Welsh identity is being eroded in North East Wales?**

Any analysis of change in perceptions of identity in North East Wales would have to take account of a range of historic, cultural, social, demographic and linguistic factors, including the impact of devolution itself and successive policy interventions in fields such as Welsh language, education, provision of services, community cohesion etc. The issue of identity is particularly complex in border areas and there can be significant differences even within small geographic areas.

Levels of migration, ability to speak Welsh and perceptions of national identity can be quantified but are insufficient in themselves to fully describe the nature of changing perceptions of identity or of the underlying causes of change.

The statistics presented below suggest high levels of in-migration in Denbighshire and Flintshire. Levels of in-migration in Wrexham are only slightly above the Wales average. Wrexham and Flintshire have similar proportions of the population who speak Welsh but there is a marked difference in Welsh speaking capability among younger age groups in the two authorities, with greater capability among young people in Flintshire than in Wrexham. The reasons behind this variation are not clear.

There has been no significant change in perceptions of national identity over the past 5 years in Flintshire or Denbighshire. In Wrexham there has been a decrease in the number of school pupils aged 5 or over describing themselves as Welsh, and an increase in the number describing themselves as British. The reasons are not known. There has been no significant change in perceptions of national identity among the total population in Wrexham.

**Born outside Wales**

In general, for the whole of Wales, the percentage born outside Wales was higher in 2001 than in 1991: 22.8% born outside Wales in 1991, 25% born outside Wales in 2001. In North East Wales in 2001, the percentages born outside Wales were:

WALES	25.0%
Wrexham	28.8%
Denbighshire	43.2%
Flintshire	49.5%

Source: Census of population 2001 Table T39 © Crown Copyright

In general, the percentages born outside Wales are a reasonable proxy for in-migration from England but not necessarily for areas bordering England. It is known, for instance, that

mothers from Powys go to hospital in Shrewsbury for the birth. This could be a factor also in some areas of Flintshire and Wrexham.

### Speak Welsh

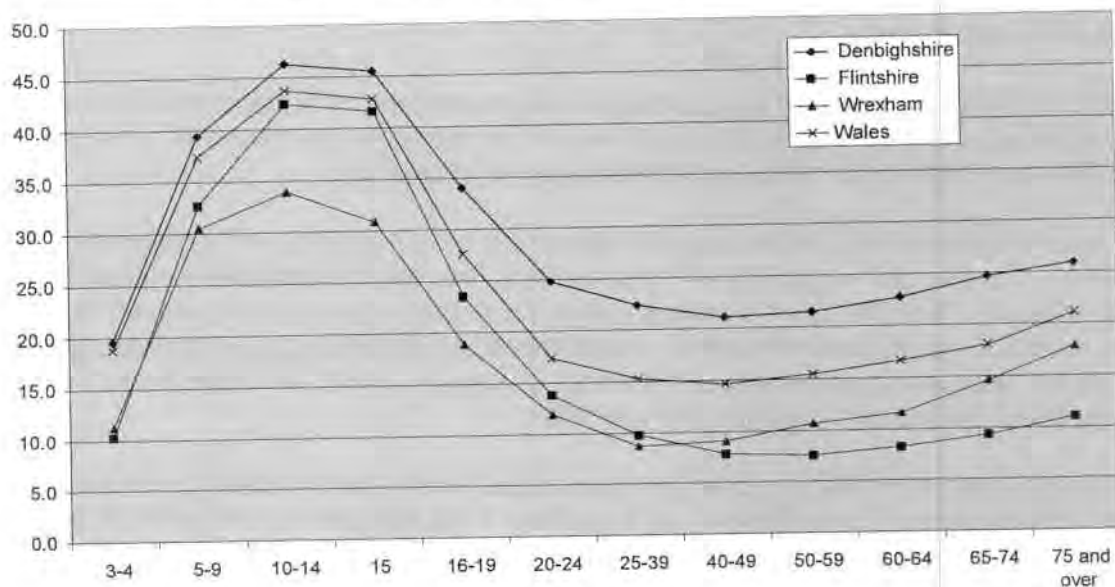
A greater percentage of the population in Denbighshire speaks Welsh than the Wales average. In Wrexham and Flintshire the percentage of Welsh speakers is lower than the Wales average but 'mid-table' in terms of ranking of local authority areas.

Flintshire	14.4%
Wrexham	14.6%
WALES	20.8%
Denbighshire	26.4%

Source: Census of population 2001 Tables UV84, KS25 © Crown Copyright

When broken down by age group, substantial differences can be seen between different local authority areas:

Percentage able to speak Welsh, by local authority, by age group



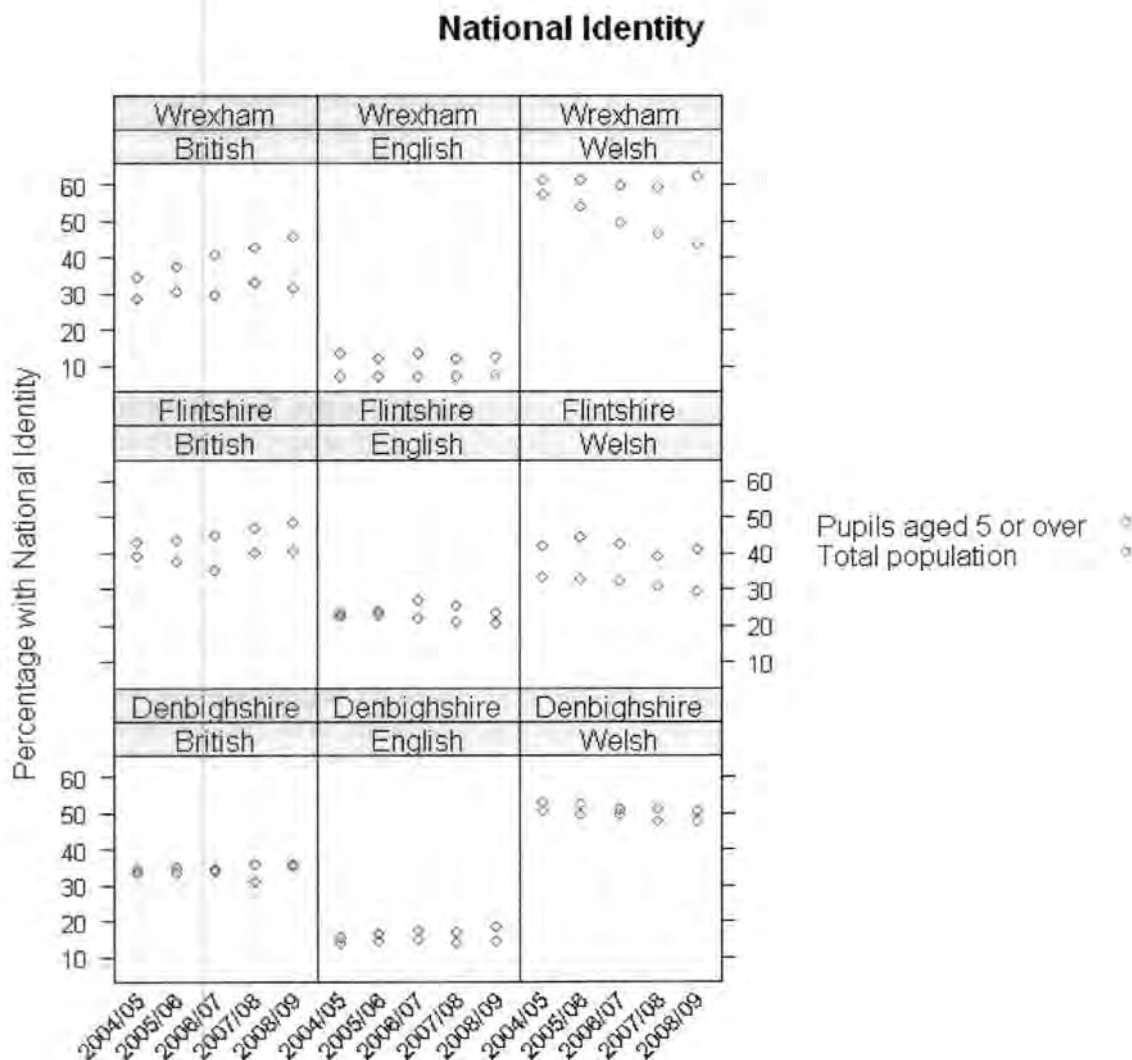
Source: Census 2001. Table CAS146. © Crown Copyright

In Wrexham, while the percentage born outside Wales is close to the Wales average the ability to speak Welsh in the younger age groups, especially ages 10-15, is significantly lower than either the Welsh average or the neighbouring authorities of Flintshire and Denbighshire. The reasons for the low percentage speaking Welsh in the younger age groups are not known but the evidence does not suggest that in-migration is the main cause.

By contrast, in Flintshire the percentage born outside Wales is much higher, almost equivalent to the percentage born in Wales, but for younger age groups, especially ages 10-24, ability to speak Welsh is similar to the Wales average. For younger age groups at least, this suggests in-migration is not having an excessively deleterious effect on Welsh language capability.

### National identity

The issue of national identity is included in the Annual Population Survey (APS) and the Annual Schools' Census (PLASC now ASC) for primary, secondary and special schools. The chart shows the percentages who described their identity as British, English or Welsh. Few of the changes shown over a 5 year period are statistically significant. The series for Wrexham pupils show more change than the others, with the percentage who say they are Welsh declining and the percentage saying they are British increasing.



Source: APS (year to March shown) and PLASC (school year shown)

- When the Government signed up for the plan, can you provide any evidence that human rights issues and legislation were taken into consideration? (The plan talks about immigration and dilution of Welsh identity, culture and language).**

The Welsh Assembly Government is bound by the Human Rights Act 1998 and the European Convention on Human Rights. Section 81 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 states that the Welsh Ministers have no power to do any act which would be incompatible with any of the convention rights. New policies are developed in accordance with this limitation.

**6. Given that these rights exist (and have been provided as evidence), is the Welsh Government confident that the West Cheshire plan does not breach these human rights?**

The SRSS is a high level document which seeks only to provide integrated, guiding spatial principles for development at the sub-regional level. In doing so, it has sought to strike a proportionate balance between all the issues of which planning policy needs to take account in the public interest. The SRSS is in any case a non-statutory document and is not legally binding on the actions of others. Although it will be a material consideration in the preparation of local development plans in Wales by Local Planning Authorities, they are also prevented by law from acting incompatibly with the Convention rights, and therefore could not give the SRSS such effect in applying its principles to their areas. The Welsh Assembly Government therefore believes that the SRSS does not breach any human rights legislation.

**7. Further clarity on the consultation undertaken on the Sub-Regional Strategy, including details on how this was organised and who was consulted.**

The **Sub-regional spatial strategy** underwent a formal public consultation, launched by Ann Jones AM in December 2005.

Over three hundred invitations to the consultation event were sent to key partner organisations from all sectors, and over a hundred people attended. 36 formal responses were received from a range of public, private and voluntary organisations. Individual responses were published on the strategy partners website, and the Sustainability Appraisal Report, publish as part of the Strategy sets out how the opinions expressed during the consultation were taken into account.

Please find attached details of those organisations and individuals who were invited to the consultation event, along with those who attended, and the details of who sent in formal written responses to the consultation process.

Further details of the consultation process can be found within the strategy document (pg 78-80), along with the consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (pg 16-19 of the SEA Publication Document),

The consultation activities were organised and delivered jointly by the partners.

**8. Clarity on who is responsible for establishing the need for housing in localities.**

In planning the provision for new affordable and market housing Ministerial Interim Planning Policy Statement 01/2006 - Housing, which supersedes Planning Policy Wales (2002) Chapter 9 Housing, states that local planning authorities must work in collaboration with housing authorities, registered social landlords, house builders, developers, land owners and the community and take account of the following:

- *People, Places, Futures - The Wales Spatial Plan;*
- *Statutory Code of Practice on Racial Equality in Housing - Wales;*

- the Assembly Government's latest household projections;
- local housing strategies;
- community strategies;
- local housing requirements (needs and demands);
- the needs of the local and national economy;
- social considerations (including unmet need);
- the capacity of an area in terms of social, environmental and cultural factors (including consideration of the Welsh language) to accommodate more housing;
- the environmental implications, including energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and flood risk; and
- the capacity of the existing or planned infrastructure.

The latest Assembly Government National and Sub-National Household Projections for Wales should form the starting point for **assessing housing requirements**. Within each region local planning authorities should work together collaboratively, and with appropriate stakeholders (for example House Builders and Utility Companies) as necessary, to apportion to each authority the Assembly Government household projections, or agree their own regional policy-based projections. The Assembly Government encourages the development of this process wherever possible under the auspices of the Wales Spatial Plan regional groups.

Where local planning authorities seek to deviate from the Assembly Government projections, by using their own policy-based projections, they must justify the reasons for so doing and explain the rationale behind their own preferred projections, showing how this requirement has been derived in terms of the issues listed above. In estimating housing requirements local planning authorities should integrate the provisions of their local housing strategies with the relevant provisions of their development plans. Effective monitoring of these issues is essential in order to ensure that there is an adequate and continuing supply of land and buildings for housing and to enable their managed release.

Essentially, any projections issued by the Welsh Assembly Government are the starting point for local authorities. If they choose to deviate from these projections, which they are entitled to do so, they should be able to justify any deviation through robust evidence. This could be achieved by undertaking further work on the projections to better reflect local circumstances.

All local authorities have access to the methodology upon which the projections are derived which would enable them to vary the projection, based on evidence. There may also be a policy decision taken which again could vary from the projections. The key point in all cases is that a local authority must have robust evidence to justify its level of housing provision and any deviation from the household projections. This will ultimately be tested through the LDP examination and it will be the Inspector who will determine whether the plan is found 'sound' and hence adopted.

The responsibility for establishing the need for housing in localities resides with the relevant local planning authority, based on evidence. If this deviates from the household projections this again must be justified by robust evidence.

**9. A copy of the letter referred to in the meeting that was sent to local authorities from the Head of Planning, about population projection figures.**

Attached

**10. Whether Planning Policy Wales is compatible with the *One Wales* agreement.**

Planning Policy Wales is compatible with the *One Wales* agreement. The *One Wales* agreement has identified a number of areas where planning policy and guidance will be reviewed. This includes a review of TAN20.

**11. Whether similar strategies for the English authorities that are included within the Sub-Regional Strategy are subjected to similar sustainability appraisals as those in Wales are.**

Organisations in both England and Wales are bound by a European Directive which sets out the criteria under which a plan or strategy document should be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment during its development.

**12. Copies of the Sustainability appraisals for both the Sub-Regional Strategy and Wales Spatial Plan.**

Please find below the link to the West Cheshire - North East Wales Sub-Regional Spatial Strategy Strategic Environmental Assessment:

[http://wales.gov.uk/location/north\\_east\\_wales/spatial/meetkeydocs/documents/sea/?lang=en](http://wales.gov.uk/location/north_east_wales/spatial/meetkeydocs/documents/sea/?lang=en)

This document, along the strategy itself, has been publicised and made available on the websites of the strategy partners.

In hard copy, the strategy document was bilingual, and had attached a CD-Rom of the full SEA report. The strategy document was titled 'West Cheshire/North East Wales Sub-Regional Spatial Strategy and Strategic Environmental Assessment Process Report', and it included details about the consultation process, and the SEA Publication Document. This is a key component of the information provided to the public and the consultation authorities following adoption of a plan. It sets out clearly how the consultation comments were taken into account.

Below is the link to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement (March 2008) which was produced following adoption on the Wales Spatial Plan 2008 Update. The Habitats Regulations Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Report can also be found here.

<http://wales.gov.uk/location/strategy/spatial/documents/?lang=en>

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Contact Name	Title	Organisation
Geoff Webber	Business Manager - Environment, Planning	Hyder Consulting
Tom Stokes	Managing Director	Evans Easyspace Ltd
Ian Wray		North West Development Agency
David Hughes	Senior Property Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Martin Lee	Chief Executive	Cheshire & Warrington Economic Alliance
Katy Hipwell	Regeneration Officer	Mersey Dee Alliance
David Jones	Principal Chief Executive	Deeside College
Sarah Mogul	Principal	West Cheshire College
Stephen Millett		A51 Environmental Group
Janet Williams	Secretary, Wrexham Branch	Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
Nick Thomas	North Wales Operations Coordinator	Countryside Council for Wales
Engineer Klaus Armstrong-Braun		Enviro Watch-Wales and The Borders
Dr Ken Jones	Planning & Corporate Services Manager	Environment Agency
Peter Crompton	Director	Business Environments Planning
Ann Jones AM	Assembly Member - Vale of Clwyd	National Assembly for Wales
Tony Parker	Chief Highway Engineer, Head of Major Road	Welsh Assembly Government
Paul Byrne	Senior Spatial Development Manager	Government Office North West
David McLean		David McLean
Christine Quinlan	Chief Housing Officer	Chester City Council
Mark Dixon	Principal Regeneration Manager	Denbighshire County Council
Paul Ince	Principal Housing Officer	Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Huw Evans	Chief Planning Officer	Flintshire County Council
Phill Bamford	Development Plan Manager	Vale Royal Borough Council
Isobel Watson	Urban Development Manager	Wrexham County Borough Council
Jane Lovibond		North Wales Economic Forum
Tim Hill	Director of Planning, Housing, Transport	North West Regional Assembly
Rhys M Davies	Director	CDN Planning
David Nicholas	Director	DJN Consulting Ltd
Gareth White		Gareth White's Partnership
Nick Roberts	Director	AXIS
Brendan O'Herlihy	Partner - Development Agency	NAI Fuller Peiser
Stephen Gibbins		The Compton Group
Simon Parker	Managing Director	UK Land & Property Ltd
David Newman	Industrial Agent	Matthews & Goodman
Simon Bolton	Partner	Bolton Birch Limited
John Fifield	Chairman	Fifield Glyn
Peter Johnston	Chartered Surveyor	Legat Owen

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Dewi Davies	Regional Strategy Director	Tourism Partnership North Wales
David Blainey	Executive Officer for the TAITH Partnersh	TAITH
Sandra Hughes	Community Development Officer	Association of Voluntary Organisations in
Alan Ramsay		A51 Environmental Group
John Wesencraft	Planning Adviser	Campaign to Protect Rural England
Lillian Burns	Vice Chairman	Campaign to Protect Rural England
Lindsey Jones		Campaign to Protect Rural England
Ann Jones		Campaign to Protect Rural England-Che
David Horstead	Director of Strategy & Intelligence	Cheshire & Warrington Economic Allianc
Greg Yates	Acting County Transport Co-ordinator	Cheshire County Council
Peter Cocker	Director of Environment	Cheshire County Council
Chris Leicester	Local Area Officer	Cheshire County Council
Louise Robertson	Environmental Planning Officer	Cheshire County Council
Steve Kent	County Engineer	Cheshire County Council
Peter Bulmer	Policy & Information Manager	Cheshire County Council
Tim Harrison	County Economic Development/Environm	Cheshire County Council
Murray Graham	Environmental Planning Manager	Cheshire County Council
Sara Lewis	Principal Planning Officer	Cheshire County Council
Cllr Andrew Needham	Executive Member for Environment	Cheshire County Council
Ted Cleaveley	Economic Development Manager	Chester City Council
Charlie Seward	Regeneration Manager	Chester City Council
Cllr David Evans	Leader	Chester City Council
Cllr David Evans	Planning Policy Manager	Chester City Council
Mike Dix	Local Distinctiveness and Place Marketin	Chester City Council
Martin Cooil	Neighbourhood Manager	Chester District Housing Trust
Iwan Prys Jones	Corporate Director - Environment	Denbighshire County Council
Cllr Stuart Davies	Deputy Leader	Denbighshire County Council
Mike Pender	Principal Planning Officer	Denbighshire County Council
Mike Worden	Planning Policy Manager	Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Cllr Joe O'Rourke		Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Cou
Ian Williams	Senior Manager Learning Networks Deve	ELWa
Helen Barrett	Planning Liaison Officer	Environment Agency-North West Region
Laila Smith		Environment Agency-North West Region
Douglas Akehurst	Regional Manager	Evans Easyspace Ltd
Phillip McGreevy	Chief Executive	Flintshire County Council
Andy Roberts	Head of Planning Policy	Flintshire County Council
Mervyn Davis	Planning	Flintshire County Council
John Hoogerwerf	Head of Customer and Housing	Flintshire County Council



Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Dave Heggarty	Chief Regeneration Officer	Flintshire County Council
Malcolm Crow	Head of Traffic & Highway Services	Flintshire County Council
Chris Kay	Director of Environment & Regeneration	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Peter Macfarlane		Flintshire County Council
Rod Taylor	Head of Policy and Strategy	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Aaron Shotton		Flintshire County Council
Neal Cockerton	Head of Technical Services	Flintshire County Council
Lynda Healy	Planning and Policy Advisor - Wales	Homes Builders Federation
Gill Williams	Senior Regeneration Officer	Mersey Dee Alliance
Gemma Easter	Regeneration Projects Officer	Mersey Dee Alliance
Michael Gallagher	Regional Planning Manager	North West Regional Assembly
Ian Pritchard	Development Manager	Pochin Rosemound (Deeside) Ltd
Peter Roberts		Pochin Rosemound (Deeside) Ltd
Ian Sherry		UK Land & Property Ltd
Professor Sian Hope	Pro-Vice Chancellor for Knowledge Trans	University of Wales, Bangor
Matthew Quinn	Head of Strategic Policy Unit	Welsh Assembly Government
Bill Atwill	Director - North Wales	Welsh Assembly Government
Abigail Hoban	Wales Spatial Plan Unit	Welsh Assembly Government
Vernon Pownall	Area Manager - Network Management 6	Welsh Assembly Government Transport
Chris Tollitt	Project Director - Rail and New Roads	Welsh Assembly Government Transport
Carole Weller	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Chris Farrow	Regional Strategy Director	Welsh Development Agency
Debbie Waddington	Strategy & European Executive	Welsh Development Agency
Bryn Richards	Acting North Wales Strategy & Programm	Welsh Development Agency
Kathryn Beard		Welsh Development Agency
Jan Watkins		Welsh Development Agency
Sara Roberts		Welsh Development Agency
Angella Davidson		Welsh Development Agency
Karen Hirst	Investment Director	Welsh Development Agency
Imogen Sherriff	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Wyn Roberts	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Trefor Jones	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Gwenllian Owens	Environment Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Terry Stevens		Welsh Development Agency
Jacqui Hill	Inward Investment Executive	Welsh Development Agency
Steve Bayley	Chief Economic Development Officer	Wrexham County Borough Council
Wynford Rowlands		Wrexham County Borough Council
Cllr Bob Dutton OBE	Lead Member: Economic Prosperity and	Wrexham County Borough Council



Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Contact Name	Title	Organisation
Sal Deangelo	Chief Corporate Finance Officer & Senior	MBNA Europe Bank Ltd
Jill Jones	Partner	Baker Tilly
Stephen Welch	Chief Executive	North Wales Chamber of Commerce
Craig Sparrow		Pennaf (Clwyd Alyn Housing)
Bryn Davies		Tai Clwyd
Ian Rooks		Pricewaterhouse Coopers
Gareth Middleton		Lambert Smith Hampton
Neil Lamont		Lamont Commercial Ltd
Paul Brereton		Merchant Developments Limited
Simon Simcox		Pritchards Commercial
Jim Spencer		Spencer Holdings plc
Colin Flanagan		St David's Commercial
Danny Coulston	General Manager	CBI North Wales
James Nicholson	Property Development Director	Pochin Developments Limited
Robert Diggle	Associate	Edward Symmons & Partners
Geoff Webber	Business Manager - Environment, Plannin	Hyder Consulting
Mark Braithwaite	Director	The Easter Group
Tom Stokes	Managing Director	Evans Easyspace Ltd
David Gladman		Gladman Homes
Matt Marsden		Lancroft Developments Ltd
Ian Wray		North West Development Agency
David Hughes	Senior Property Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Martin Lee	Chief Executive	Cheshire & Warrington Economic Allianc
Sally Gosmore		Chester and Ellesmere Port Enterprise A
Peter Caldwell		Mostyn Estates Ltd
Katy Hipwell	Regeneration Officer	Mersey Dee Alliance
Huw Evans	Principal	Coleg Llandrillo College
Fred Cunningham	Principal	Coleg Llysfasi
David Jones	Principal Chief Executive	Deeside College
Geoff Owen	Head of Partnership Development	ELWa
Professor Mike Scott	Principal	North East Wales Institute
Charlie Woodcock	Business Development	University of Chester
Sarah Mogul	Principal	West Cheshire College
Paul Croke	Principal	Yale College
Stephen Millett		A51 Environmental Group
Jo Woodward	Flintshire Business Environment Coordinat	ARENA Network
Lowri Owain		CADW

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Janet Williams	Secretary, Wrexham Branch	Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wa
Claire Mumford		Countryside Agency North West
Nick Thomas	North Wales Operations Coordinator	Countryside Council for Wales
David Jeffreys		English Nature
Engineer Klaus Armstrong-Braun		Enviro Watch-Wales and The Borders
Dr Ken Jones	Planning & Corporate Services Manager	Environment Agency
Steven Edwards	Environmental Planning	Power Systems
Peter Crompton	Director	Business Environments Planning
Justin Rice-Jones		Beresford Adams
Nigel Bruce	Principal	Bruce & Partners
David Pearse		David Pearse & Co
David Rowley		FPD Savills
Rob Salisbury	Partner	Gamlins
Graeme Wood		Knight Frank
Jonathan Young		Strutt & Parker
Simon Kendall		Robertson Research International
Rachel Brisley		Merseyside Policy Unit
Ann Jones AM	Assembly Member - Vale of Clwyd	National Assembly for Wales
Tony Parker	Chief Highway Engineer, Head of Major F	Welsh Assembly Government
Paul Byrne	Senior Spatial Development Manager	Government Office North West
Gren Kershaw	Chief Executive	Conwy & Denbighshire NHS Trust
Hilary Peplar	Chief Executive	North East Wales NHS Trust
Dave Clark	Network Manager	Highways Agency
Mark Johnson		Home Builders Federation
Paul Knight	Executive Manager Housing Managemen	Chester District Housing Trust
Kevin Bygate		Corus Housebuilders Federation
David McLean		David McLean
Kerry Jones	sent to Peter Jenkins in Development	Wales & West Housing Association
Peter Roberts		Rosemound Developments
Liz Davies	Executive Director	Learning and Skills Council
Gill Phillips	Structure Plan Officer	Cheshire County Council
Christine Quinlan	Chief Housing Officer	Chester City Council
Derek Barker	Chief Executive	Conwy County Borough Council
Mark Dixon	Principal Regeneration Manager	Denbighshire County Council
Paul Ince	Principal Housing Officer	Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Huw Evans	Chief Planning Officer	Flintshire County Council
Andrew Pannell	Forward Planning Manager	Halton Borough Council
Cllr W J Williams	Chairman - TAITH	Isle of Anglesey County Council

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

John Kelly	Assistant Executive Director, Regeneratio	Liverpool City Council
Andy Wallis	Director of Planning and Economic Devel	Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council
Phill Bamford	Development Plan Manager	Vale Royal Borough Council
Kate Bentley		Warrington Borough Council
Richard Lewis	Principal Forward Planning Officer	Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council
Isobel Watson	Urban Development Manager	Wrexham County Borough Council
Jane Lovibond		North Wales Economic Forum
Tim Hill	Director of Planning, Housing, Transport	North West Regional Assembly
Jeff Chambers	Town Planning Consultant	BE Group
Rhys M Davies	Director	CDN Planning
David Nicholas	Director	DJN Consulting Ltd
Gareth White		Gareth White's Partnership
Doug Hann		Indigo Planning Ltd
Jeremy Gibbins		North Wales Working Party on Aggregat
Steve Thomas	Government Affairs Executive	Airbus UK
Graham Anwyl	Managing Director	Anwyl Construction Company Ltd
Nick Roberts	Director	AXIS
Huw Watkin	Marketing Director	Bic Eryri Ltd
Mark Ford		Vauxhall
Steve West	Company Secretary	Worldspan International
Ben Fallows		Drivers Jonas
Mike King		DTZ
Gareth Williams		Gareth Williams & Co
Clive Perrin		HBG Properties
Colin Chivers		Jones Lang La Salle
Phillip Morris	Managing Director	Liberty Properties Plc
Keith Williams		Morbaine Ltd
Brendan O'Herlihy	Partner - Development Agency	NAI Fuller Peiser
Robert Blackwell	Director	Site Quest Ltd
Stephen Gibbins		The Compton Group
Simon Parker	Managing Director	UK Land & Property Ltd
Julien Kenny-Levick		Colliers International Property Consultan
David Todd	Associate	Dixon Webb
Simon Williams		Donaldsons Property Consultants
Iain Jenkinson		GVA Grimley
Chris Prescott	Partner	King Sturge
Geoff Mason		Mason & Partners
David Newman	Industrial Agent	Matthews & Goodman

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Mike Bell	Director	BELL Developments Ltd
Rob Lloyd	Managing Director	Eatonfield Holdings
Steve Parry	Development Director	Neptune Developments Ltd
Basil Whitley		Whitley Estates Ltd
Mike Webb	Senior Reserves Manager	RSPB
Grant Anderson	Planning Department	Kent Jones & Son Solicitors
Simon Bolton	Partner	Bolton Birch Limited
Tom Davis	Partner	DGI Davis George
Richard Potter		Edwin Hill & Partners
John Fifield	Chairman	Fifield Glyn
Mike Roocroft		Gerald Eve
Chris Armstrong		Guy Woodcock & Co
Nick Rice		Irving Rice & Partners
Peter Johnston	Chartered Surveyor	Legat Owen
Richard Baddeley		Richard Baddeley & Co
William Hall		William Hall & Co
Dave Moorcroft	Director of Policy and Economic Develop	The Mersey Partnership
Dewi Davies	Regional Strategy Director	Tourism Partnership North Wales
Steve Cook		Merseytravel
David Blainey	Executive Officer for the TAITH Partnersh	TAITH
Tom Jones		Transport and General Workers Union
Sandra Hughes	Community Development Officer	Association of Voluntary Organisations in
Graham Gladen		Mersey Basin Campaign
Chris Mahon	Manager	Cheshire Wildlife Trust
Adrian Lloyd Jones	Conservation Officer	North Wales Wildlife Trust
Alan Ramsay		A51 Environmental Group
Brian Fleet	Manufacturing Director	Airbus UK
Tom Anwyl		Anwyl Construction Company Ltd
David Jones		AXIS
Dave Bell		BELL Developments Ltd
Peter Ogden	Director	Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wa
John Wesenraft	Planning Adviser	Campaign to Protect Rural England
Lillian Burns	Vice Chairman	Campaign to Protect Rural England
Lindsey Jones		Campaign to Protect Rural England
Ann Jones		Campaign to Protect Rural England-Che
Tim Dean	Head of Planning Department	CB Richard Ellis
David Rosser	Director, Wales	CBI Wales
David Horstead	Director of Strategy & Intelligence	Cheshire & Warrington Economic Allian

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Greg Yates	Acting County Transport Co-ordinator	Cheshire County Council
Peter Cocker	Director of Environment	Cheshire County Council
Chris Leicester	Local Area Officer	Cheshire County Council
Louise Robertson	Environmental Planning Officer	Cheshire County Council
Steve Kent	County Engineer	Cheshire County Council
Peter Bulmer	Policy & Information Manager	Cheshire County Council
Tim Harrison	County Economic Development/Environment	Cheshire County Council
Murray Graham	Environmental Planning Manager	Cheshire County Council
Sara Lewis	Principal Planning Officer	Cheshire County Council
Cllr David Rowlands		Cheshire County Council
Cllr Andrew Needham	Executive Member for Environment	Cheshire County Council
Cllr Lynn Hardwick	Chair of Mersey Dee Alliance	Cheshire County Council
Clive Sproule	Planning Advisor	Cheshire County Council
Jeremy Taylor	Chief Executive	Cheshire County Council
Alan Thornley	County Planner	Cheshire County Council
Julian Pellatt	County Rural and Recreation Officer	Cheshire County Council
Harold Collin	County Waste Manager	Cheshire County Council
Cllr Colin Bain		Cheshire County Council
Cllr Derek Bateman		Cheshire County Council
Paul Findlow	Leader	Cheshire County Council
Ted Cleaveley	Economic Development Manager	Chester City Council
Charlie Seward	Regeneration Manager	Chester City Council
Cllr David Evans	Leader	Chester City Council
Cllr David Evans	Planning Policy Manager	Chester City Council
Mike Dix	Local Distinctiveness and Place Marketing	Chester City Council
Dave Cotterill	Planning Manager	Chester City Council
Paul Durham	Chief Executive	Chester City Council
John Price	Cnclr	Chester City Council
Chris Hardy	Deputy Chief Executive & Chair of Mersey	Chester City Council
Andy Farrell	Director of Development	Chester City Council
Cllr Brian Bailey		Chester City Council
Cllr Jim Latham		Chester City Council
Cllr Mia Jones		Chester City Council
Cllr Reggie Jones		Chester City Council
Martin Cooil	Neighbourhood Manager	Chester District Housing Trust
John Denny	Chief Executive	Chester District Housing Trust
Damien Waters	Regional Director	Confederation of British Industry
Sheila Potter	Head of Regeneration	Conwy County Borough Council

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Goronwy Edwards		Conwy County Borough Council
Peter Detheridge		Conwy County Borough Council
Cllr Goronwy Edwards	Leader	Conwy County Borough Council
Cllr Tony Tobin		Conwy County Borough Council
Iwan Prys Jones	Corporate Director - Environment	Denbighshire County Council
Cllr Stuart Davies	Deputy Leader	Denbighshire County Council
Mike Pender	Principal Planning Officer	Denbighshire County Council
Cllr Rhiannon Hughes	Leader	Denbighshire County Council
Ian Miller	Chief Executive	Denbighshire County Council
David Farquhar	Head of Transportation & Infrastructure	Denbighshire County Council
Sue Haygarth	Principal Business Development Officer	Denbighshire County Council
Jonathan Cawley	Senior Planning Officer	Denbighshire County Council
Gareth Evans	Head of Development Services	Denbighshire County Council
Cllr Eryl Williams	Cabinet Lead Member Environment	Denbighshire County Council
Cllr Richard Jones	Chair Environment Scrutiny Committee	Denbighshire County Council
Mike Worden	Planning Policy Manager	Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Charles Holmes		Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Steve Cranmer	Regeneration Manager	Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Cllr R B Chrimes	Leader	Ellesmere Port & Neston BC
Cllr Joe O'Rourke		Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council
Stephen Ewbank	Chief Executive	Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council
Ian Williams	Senior Manager Learning Networks Development	ELWa
Katie Whitaker	Director	ELWa
Joanne Tincello		ELWa
Mike Young		English Nature - North Wales Region
Steve Moore	Area Manager North	Environment Agency
John Thompson	Strategy Manager	Environment Agency
Helen Barrett	Planning Liaison Officer	Environment Agency-North West Region
Laila Smith		Environment Agency-North West Region
Douglas Akehurst	Regional Manager	Evans Easyspace Ltd
Phillip McGreevy	Chief Executive	Flintshire County Council
Andy Roberts	Head of Planning Policy	Flintshire County Council
Mervyn Davis	Planning	Flintshire County Council
John Hoogerwerf	Head of Customer and Housing	Flintshire County Council
Dave Heggarty	Chief Regeneration Officer	Flintshire County Council
Malcolm Crow	Head of Traffic & Highway Services	Flintshire County Council
Chris Kay	Director of Environment & Regeneration	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Peter Macfarlane		Flintshire County Council



Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Rod Taylor	Head of Policy and Strategy	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Aaron Shotton		Flintshire County Council
Neal Cockerton	Head of Technical Services	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Alex Aldridge	Leader	Flintshire County Council
Kevin Edwards		Gladman Homes
Peter Styche	Director	Government Office North West
Gill Ayres	Team Leader Regional Spatial Policy	Government Office North West
David Higham	Director-Business and Regional Issues	Government Office North West
Nick Whipp	Partner	GVA Grimley
Simon Reynolds	Partner	GVA Grimley
Trevor Sloan	Partner	GVA Grimley
Lynda Healy	Planning and Policy Advisor - Wales	Homes Builders Federation
Alison Powell		Hyder Consulting
Lynette Day		Kent Jones & Son Solicitors
Gordan Hood		King Sturge
Alistair Newman	Partner	King Sturge LLP - Liverpool
Ian Ruff		Learning and Skills Council
Stephen Wade		Legat Owen
Sophy Krajewska	Head of City Region Policy	Liverpool City Council
Lee Randle		Mason & Partners
Bruce Bott		Mason Owen & Partners
Bob Parker		Matthews & Goodman
Gill Williams	Senior Regeneration Officer	Mersey Dee Alliance
Gemma Easter	Regeneration Projects Officer	Mersey Dee Alliance
Abigail Howarth	Director	Merseyside Policy Unit
Sarah Jane Preston		NAI Fuller Peiser
Myfanwy Morgan		North Wales Chamber of Commerce
Henry Roberts	Co-ordinator	North Wales Economic Forum
Chris Koral	Cheshire Manager	North West Development Agency
Peter White	Director of Strategy	North West Development Agency
Alistair Hoyle		North West Regional Aggregates Workin
Michael Gallagher	Regional Planning Manager	North West Regional Assembly
Peter Hart	Communities Plan Manager	North West Regional Assembly
John Woodcock	Chairman	Pochin Developments Limited
Ian Pritchard	Development Manager	Pochin Rosemound (Deeside) Ltd
Peter Roberts		Pochin Rosemound (Deeside) Ltd
Ken Poole		Pricewaterhouse Coopers
Richard Farmer	Senior Reserves Manager	RSPB

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Tracy Mawson	Senior Economic Development Officer	The Mersey Partnership
Ian Sherry		UK Land & Property Ltd
Tim Wheeler	Vice Chancellor	University of Chester
Professor Sian Hope	Pro-Vice Chancellor for Knowledge Trans	University of Wales, Bangor
Professor Merfyn Jones	Principal	University of Wales, Bangor
Matthew Quinn	Head of Strategic Policy Unit	Welsh Assembly Government
Bill Atwill	Director - North Wales	Welsh Assembly Government
Abigail Hoban	Wales Spatial Plan Unit	Welsh Assembly Government
Huw Brodie	Director of Strategy and Communications	Welsh Assembly Government
Marion Davies	Wales Spatial Plan Unit	Welsh Assembly Government
Grant Duncan	Strategy & Communications Directorate	Welsh Assembly Government
Steff Whitfield	Department for Transport Rail Group	Welsh Assembly Government
Bob Newton		Welsh Assembly Government
Vernon Pownall	Area Manager - Network Management 6	Welsh Assembly Government Transport
Chris Tollitt	Project Director - Rail and New Roads	Welsh Assembly Government Transport
Carole Weller	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Chris Farrow	Regional Strategy Director	Welsh Development Agency
Debbie Waddington	Strategy & European Executive	Welsh Development Agency
Bryn Richards	Acting North Wales Strategy & Programm	Welsh Development Agency
Kathryn Beard		Welsh Development Agency
Jan Watkins		Welsh Development Agency
Sara Roberts		Welsh Development Agency
Angella Davidson		Welsh Development Agency
Karen Hirst	Investment Director	Welsh Development Agency
Imogen Sherriff	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Wyn Roberts	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Trefor Jones	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Gwenllian Owens	Environment Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Terry Stevens		Welsh Development Agency
Jacqui Hill	Inward Investment Executive	Welsh Development Agency
Sioned Rees	Enterprise Director	Welsh Development Agency
Janice Burnie	Director - Business Support	Welsh Development Agency
David Pilkington	Regional Land Development Director for	Welsh Development Agency
Glyn Pittendreigh	Property Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Fiona Evans	Property Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
John Adshead	Area Development Manager	Welsh Development Agency
Gareth Hall	Chief Executive	Welsh Development Agency
Penny Horsfield	Deputy Principal	West Cheshire College

Invitation List for West Cheshire-North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Launch

Alan Evans		Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council
Steve Bayley	Chief Economic Development Officer	Wrexham County Borough Council
Wynford Rowlands		Wrexham County Borough Council
Cllr Bob Dutton OBE	Lead Member: Economic Prosperity and	Wrexham County Borough Council
Cllr Mark Pritchard	Lead Member: Waste and Environment	Wrexham County Borough Council
Paul Roberts	Strategic Director	Wrexham County Borough Council
Isobel Garner	Chief Executive	Wrexham County Borough Council
Martin Wright	Chief Transport and Asset Management	Wrexham County Borough Council
Malcolm Phillips	Planning Policy Manager	Wrexham County Borough Council
Cllr Aled Roberts	Leader	Wrexham County Borough Council

## Draft West Cheshire – North East Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

### Responses to consultation received by:

No	Organisation:
1.	A51 Environmental Group & SEA
2.	AXIS
3.	Barton Wilmore Planning Partnership–Northern
4.	Boyer Planning
5.	BROCKWAY DUNN Ltd (obo Anwyl Construction)
6.	Cheshire County Council, Environmental Planning Service
7.	Chester City Council
8.	Compton Group
9.	Countryside Council for Wales (response=Annex 1)
10.	CPRE North West Regional Group & CPRE Cheshire Branch
11.	Denbighshire County Council
12.	Denbighshire County Council (General Comments)
13.	Ellesmere Port & Neston Borough Council
14.	Enviro Watch–Wales and The Borders
15.	Environment Agency, North Wales Region–South Area
16.	Flintshire County Council
17.	Government Office for the North West (letter and comments)
18.	Halton Borough Council
19.	Handbridge Residents Council
20.	Highways Agency, Network Strategy North
21.	Home Builders Federation
22.	Indigo Planning Ltd (obo Commercial Estates Group)
23.	Indigo Planning Ltd (obo Peel Holdings Ltd)
24.	Merseyside Policy Unit
25.	Mr Paul D W Jones
26.	National Trust
27.	North West Development Agency
28.	North West Regional Assembly

29.	Peacock and Smith (obo Morrison Supermarkets) <i>Town Planners &amp; Development Consultants</i>
30.	Pegasus Planning Group LLP (obo Glenside Recycling Ltd & letter)
31.	Power Systems
32.	Royal Town Planning Institute in Wales (General comments & letter)
33.	RPS Manchester (obo Persimmon Homes)
34.	RSPB North Wales Office
35.	Wrexham County Borough Council (x 2)

Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth  
Minister for Heritage



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref:SF-AJ-0028-10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

23 March 2010

*Dear Christine,*

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your request for information on the petition submitted to the Petitions Committee to withdraw from the West Cheshire-North-East Wales Sub-Regional Strategy.

The Minister for Business and Budget has written to you regarding the substantive points raised following your recent meeting. I endorse her comments, and would like to take this opportunity to update you on the Assembly Government's proposals in support of the Welsh language.

The Assembly Government recognises the Welsh language as one of the defining characteristics of our shared cultural heritage, which is a source of pride for everyone in Wales. Although the census of 2001 indicated a period of growth for the language over recent years, the sustainability of Welsh as a living language of our communities remains under threat. The reasons for this, as the Minister for Business and Budget indicated, are many and complex.

The Assembly Government has recently concluded a 'call for views' on a new Welsh language strategy, which we look forward to publishing for consultation later in the year. The call for views, which received a good response, recognises the role played by a wide range of factors in determining the health and vitality of the language: the use of Welsh in the home, its use by children and young people, its use as a community language and its use in the public, private and voluntary sectors. Supporting and nurturing the use of Welsh in these circumstances, in all parts of Wales, will play an important part in safeguarding the future of the language. Doing this will, in turn, protect and enhance this unique and integral part of our national identity.

The wide-ranging debate on conferring legislative competence on the Welsh language to the National Assembly for Wales demonstrated that there is a general acceptance that the action taken by public, private and voluntary agencies can play a key role in securing the

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Ffacs \* Fax 029 2089 8015  
correspondence.alun.ffred.jones@wales.gsi.gov.uk  
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future of the language. As you know, legislative competence has now been conferred on the National Assembly and the proposed Welsh Language Measure has been introduced.

The proposed Welsh Language Measure contains provisions that will confirm the official status of the language and establish a Welsh Language Commissioner to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh. It also contains provisions that will improve the delivery of Welsh language services by public authorities and others. Through this, and the Welsh language strategy, the aim is to safeguard the language and increase its use by Welsh speakers throughout Wales.

*Yours sincerely*



**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth/Minister for Heritage

**Christine Chapman**

Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff CF99 1NA

19 April 2010

Dear Ms Chapman

**Re: P-03-243 Withdraw from the West Cheshire / North-East Wales  
Sub-regional Strategy**

Thank you for your letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> March.

I have looked at the issues raised, and I do not think that the West Cheshire / North East Wales sub regional spatial strategy raises specific human rights issues.

The strategy is a non statutory framework that depends for implementation upon, amongst others, local authorities. It would seem any challenges based on alleged infringements of human rights would need to be dealt with on a case by case basis against the authority alleged to be in breach.

I note the strategy was consulted upon in December 2005, and as local implementation occurs local involvement and consultation should take place, providing for those with concerns to raise them.

I see the strategy specifically notes local distinctiveness (including heritage) as being an important environmental factor that should be considered at a local level and we would expect that this should be done by those authorities implementing the strategy.

3rd Floor  
3 Callaghan Square  
Cardiff CF10 5BT

3ydd Llawr  
3 Sgwâr Callaghan  
Caerdydd CF10 5BT

**Tel/Ffôn:** 029 2044 7710  
**Fax/Ffacs:** 029 2044 7712  
[wales@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:wales@equalityhumanrights.com)



In terms of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples I would draw the committee's attention to comments made by the United Kingdom delegation to the United Nations at the Declarations adoption.

The United Kingdom's representative *"emphasized that the Declaration was non-legally binding and did not propose to have any retroactive application on historical episodes. National minority groups and other ethnic groups within the territory of the United Kingdom and its overseas territories did not fall within the scope of the indigenous peoples to which the Declaration applied. The United Kingdom had, however, long provided political and financial support to the socio-economic and political development of indigenous peoples around the world"*.

We trust this assists the Committee in reaching its decision.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Kate Bennett**  
**EHRC National Director for Wales**

Our Ref/Ein Cyf: ST/SJ  
Your Ref/Eich Cyf:  
Date/Dyddiad: 4 June 2010  
Please ask for/Gofynnwch am: Steve Thomas  
Direct line/Llinell uniongyrchol: 029 2046 8610  
Email/Ebost: steve.thomas@wlga.gov.uk



Christine Chapman AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Dear Christine

**P-03-243 Withdraw from the West Cheshire/North-East Wales Sub-Regional Strategy**

The Merseyside Alliance was formed by the relevant authorities in North East Wales and bordering England in 2007. We understand that the Welsh Assembly Government is a key partner.

While the WLGA has a regional board in North Wales it has no locus in this Alliance which we understand leads on key economic development issues.

As such we have no comment on this Petition.

Yours sincerely

**Steve Thomas**  
Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

Steve Thomas  
Chief Executive  
Prif Weithredwr

Welsh Local Government  
Association  
Local Government House  
Drake Walk  
CARDIFF CF10 4LG  
Tel: 029 2046 8600  
Fax: 029 2046 8601

Cymdeithas Llywodraeth  
Leol Cymru  
Tŷ Llywodraeth Leol  
Rhodfa Drake  
CAERDYDD CF10 4LG  
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Ffacs: 029 2046 8601

[www.wlga.gov.uk](http://www.wlga.gov.uk)

**(10) P-03-246 Cael gwared ar y terfyn cyflymder o 50 mya ar yr M4 ger Casnewydd**

**Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal adolygiad o'r angen am derfyn cyflymder o 50mya rhwng Cyffyrdd 24 a 28 ar yr M4. Hoffem i Lywodraeth Cymru gyflwyno tystiolaeth ynglyn â'r angen am y terfyn cyflymder hwn, ac i gyflwyno manylion ynglyn â'r effaith a gaiff y gostyngiad hwn mewn cyflymder, a'r cynnydd o ganlyniad i hynny yn yr amseroedd teithio rhwng de Cymru a Lloegr, ar fewnfuddsoddi a thwristiaeth

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-246.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Arfon Hughes

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 53

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 24 Tachwedd 2009, 19 Ionawr a 27 Ebrill 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan Traffig Cymru. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

*T*

**Traffig-Cymru**, Canolfan Rheoli Traffig, M4 Cyffordd 32 (De Cymru),  
Coryton, Caerdydd, CF14 7EF  
**Traffig Wales**, Traffic Management Centre, M4 Junction 32 (South Wales),  
Coryton, Cardiff, CF14 7EF  
Gen Fax: 029 2062 9423; Gen Tel: 029 2062 9420  
E-mail: [info@traffic-wales.com](mailto:info@traffic-wales.com) [www.traffic-wales.com](http://www.traffic-wales.com)  
Customer Information Line: 0845 602 602 0



**National Assembly for Wales  
Petitions Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1 NA**

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
Your Reference: P-03-246  
Our Reference: 5083687/261/01/30780

**For the attention of Christine Chapman**

Dear Madam

**Re: Petition: Abandon the 50 MPH speed limit of the M4 at Newport**

Thank you for your letter of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010. The works to install the variable speed limit scheme include changes to the system which records the data, and as a result, we are unable to provide the breakdown of information as requested.

The information provided in our letter of 10<sup>th</sup> February is as much detail as we are able to provide until the works are complete.

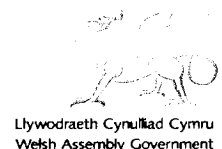
If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely  
For and on Behalf of Traffic-Wales

**Rob Webster  
Senior Project Manager**

**ATKINS**

*A Welsh Assembly Government / Atkins Consultants Limited Partnership  
Partneriaeth Y Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru/ Atkins Consultants Cyfyngedig*



**(11) P-03-248 Gwella mynediad at drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus i bobl ag anableddau**

**Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, y rhai sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn credu y dylai fod trafndiaeth gyhoeddus ar gael i bobl ag anableddau. Felly, rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyflwyno cynllun gweithredu er mwyn sicrhau bod trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yn hygyrch i bawb.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-248.htm>

**Cynigiwyd gan:** Multiple Sclerosis Society Cymru

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 789

**Ystyriwyd gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 6 Hydref 2009 a 23 Mawrth 2010.

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Cafwyd diweddariad i'r Pwyllgor ei ystyried.

**(12) P-03-253 Mabwysiadu carthffosydd preifat (trigolion Sir Gaerfyrddin)**

**Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Mae deiseb trigolion Sir Gaerfyrddin yn gofyn i Gynulliad Cymru sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n cyflymu ei thrafodaethau â Dwr Cymru ac yn cytuno ar y dyddiad cynharaf posibl i garthffosydd preifat ar ystadau tai presennol gael eu mabwysiadu gan Ddwr Cymru a bod carthffosydd ar ddatblygiadau yn y dyfodol yn cael eu mabwysiadu yn yr un modd.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-253.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Tracy Thomas

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 260

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 20 Hydref 2009, 8 Rhagfyr 2009 a 23 Mawrth 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

Jane Davidson AC/AM

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai  
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-253

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

29 April 2010

*Dear Christine,*

Thank you for your letter of the 30 March 2010, requesting an update about developments arising from the Strategic Policy Position Statement on Water and the Flood and Water Management Bill, in relation to private sewers and lateral drains.

As outlined in my letter of the 25 January 2010, the Welsh Assembly Government continues to work closely with key stakeholders to identify what action is most needed to progress the transfer of private sewers and lateral drains in Wales.

My officials continue to work closely with the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra) to develop Regulations which will facilitate an overnight automatic transfer of private sewers and lateral drains to public sewer networks in 2011 in England and Wales.

In order to give key stakeholders and customers appropriate time to consider and comment on the proposed Regulations before they are implemented, we intend to issue a in the summer. This consultation will also set out how the transfer of private sewers and lateral drains in England and Wales will be implemented.

With regard to progress on the Flood and Water Management Bill, the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 gained Royal Assent on the 8 April 2010. The Act will implement several key recommendations of Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the summer 2007 floods in England, protect water supplies to consumers and protect community groups from excessive charges for surface water drainage.

Section 42 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 entitled 'Agreements on new drainage systems' contains a provision to ensure that new sewers are built to an adoptable standard and then subsequently adopted. This Section also requires developers and the sewerage undertaker to enter into a binding agreement under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 for the adoption of sewers serving the development. This agreement will contain provision in relation to the standards which new sewers and lateral drains are built to and to the subsequent adoption of these assets. For sewers and lateral drains that are to be adopted by sewerage undertakers operating wholly or mainly in Wales the provisions on

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standards must either be in accord with standards published with the Welsh Ministers or depart from these by agreement.

Work has started to put in place the associated Regulations and Guidance for this provision.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Davidson', written in a cursive style.

**Jane Davidson AM**

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai  
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing



## **(13) P-03-256 Trenau ychwanegol i Abergwaun**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu arian ar gyfer 5 trên ychwanegol y dydd i Abergwaun.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-256.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Sam Faulkner a Joanne Griffiths

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 10 (yn ychwanegol at hyn, casglodd deiseb gysylltiedig 1317 o lofnodion)

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 24 Tachwedd 2009, 1 Chwefror a 23 Mawrth 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymatebion gan Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog Cymru a Chonsortium Cludiant Integredig De-orllewin Cymru (SWWITCH). Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones AC/AM**  
**Dirprwy Brif Weinidog /Deputy First Minister**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-256  
Ein cyf/Our ref DFM/00880/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

30 April 2010

Dear Christine,

Thank you for your further letter of 30 March, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, about additional trains to Fishguard.

We set out our plans for improving rail services in the Rail Forward Programme which was published in 2008. We are committed to delivering the Programme and have already made progress in a number of key priority areas. Our priority is to fund and deliver projects within the Programme ahead of any other rail schemes.

The four Regional Transport Consortia have now finalised their respective Regional Transport Plans. These include proposals for new rail services and some of these are not included in Rail Forward Programme as it predates the Regional Transport Plans, as with SWWITCH's proposals for a better train service to Fishguard. We have a system in place to look at all of the different proposals in the Regional Transport Plans to prioritise them into a realistic, integrated and affordable programme. As part of this, we are currently looking at the proposal for better services to Fishguard alongside other proposals, and this process will inform our approach towards new rail schemes for inclusion in future iterations of the Rail Forward Programme. In the case of Fishguard, we will work closely with SWWITCH and local groups.

In terms of the Enterprise and Learning Committee, I rejected the recommendation in relation to Fishguard because it was asking me to prioritise it ahead of other rail schemes in the Plans. I was not prepared to do this because we are looking at potential schemes across all of Wales for inclusion in future iterations of the Rail Forward Programme. This is very much an ongoing process and I can assure the Committee that the Fishguard proposal, along with other rail proposals in Wales, are being actively looked at to evaluate whether they should be taken forward in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ieuan'.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones**  
**Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth**  
**Minister for the Economy and Transport**

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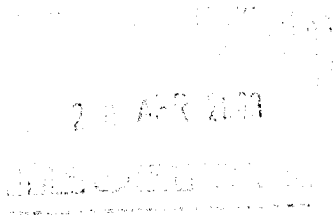


# SWWITCH

Correspondence in Welsh or English is welcomed : Mae croeso i bobl i'r iaith yn eiddo'r sefydliad

Christine Chapman  
Chair Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CARDIFF  
CF99 1NA

Sue.miles@swansea.gov.uk



01792 637760

13/04/10

Sue Miles

Room 202  
Penllergaer Offices  
Swansea  
SA4 9GJ

Dear Ms Chapman,

**PETITION: P- 03- 256 – ADDITIONAL TRAINS TO FISHGUARD**

I refer to your recent letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> March 2010 and the attachments enclosed, which outlined the current situation with respect to the petition for extra services to Fishguard.

You will be aware that SWWITCH has set out its rail priorities very clearly in "Progress in Partnership", the Regional Transport Plan for South West Wales. That plan was adopted by all four Councils last summer and submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government at the end of September 2009. The Deputy First Minister approved the SWWITCH RTP in December 2010. Our rail priorities remain unchanged.

SWWITCH has welcomed the innovation and passion shown by the local young people in developing and publicising a petition calling for additional rail services to Fishguard. However, the difficult position of the Deputy First Minister, in terms of addressing priorities from all four transport consortia in Wales, is acknowledged and SWWITCH looks forward to continuing to work with the Minister and his officials on making the case for further investment in rail services to and from South West Wales.

Yours sincerely

**Sue Miles – SWWITCH Co-ordinator**

**(14) P-03-261 Atebion lleol i dagfeydd traffig yn y Drenwydd**

**Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ohirio penderfyniad ynglŷn â'r ffordd osgoi arfaethedig yn y Drenwydd nes ei bod wedi datblygu a threialu cyfres o fesurau cynaliadwy yn y dref ei hun i fynd i'r afael â thagfeydd traffig.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-261.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Gary Saady

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 37

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 19 Ionawr a 23 Mawrth 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymatebion gan Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog Cymru a'r Pwyllgor Cyllid. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones AC/AM**  
Dirprwy Brif Weinidog /Deputy First Minister



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-261  
Ein cyf/Our ref DFM/00878/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

26 May 2010

*Dea Christine*

Thank you for your letter of 31 March regarding the Petition: Local Solutions to Newtown traffic congestion and enclosing a summary of the key questions raised by the petitioner's submission. Enclosed is a response to the questions raised.

The appraisal of options for a bypass of Newtown is nearing completion and I plan to announce my decision for a preferred solution later this year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ieuan'.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones**  
Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth  
Minister for the Economy and Transport

**DFM/00878/10**

## **Petition: Local Solutions to Newtown Traffic Congestion**

The paragraph numbering and references used match those in the petition evidence as far as possible.

### **General**

The principles underlying the work looking at traffic congestion in Newtown are those in the Welsh Assembly Government's appraisal tool – WelTAG (Welsh Transport Planning and Appraisal Guidance). This creates a platform for looking broadly at the issues and potential solutions and a process to sift out those that would not perform well.

At Newtown we started by identifying the issues and defining the objectives. To do this we held a local planning workshop with key stakeholders, including representatives from Welsh Assembly Government (WAG), Powys County Council (PCC), TraCC, TrawsCambria Development and the Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency (MWTRA). The group identified the issues and opportunities within the study area and identified seven broad transport planning objectives (TPO).

We then looked at a variety of potential interventions that would deliver against the planning objectives and appraised them against the key Welsh impact areas within WelTAG:

- The economy - reflecting the importance of a strong and developing economy for Wales and particularly European Union Objective 1 and Objective 2 areas;
- The environment - reflecting the legal requirements and desire to protect and enhance the condition of the built and natural environment; and
- Society - reflecting the desire to address issues of social exclusion and to promote social justice and a high quality of life for people in Wales.

Appraisal started with a WelTAG Stage 1 workshop attended by key stakeholders from the planning workshop, plus representatives from the following bodies:

Ambulance Service  
British Waterways Board  
Cadw  
Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust  
Countryside Council for Wales  
Dyfed Powys Police  
Environment Agency  
Freight Transport Association  
Mid Wales Fire Service  
Mid Wales Manufacturing Group  
National Public Health Service Wales  
Network Rail  
Newtown & Llanllwchaiarn Community Council  
Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations  
Powys County Council  
Road Haulage Association  
Sustrans Cymru  
Welsh Health Impact Assessment Service

The workshop developed a Stage 1 Appraisal Summary Table (AST) for all twenty-one options, later refined into final Stage 1 ASTs. The team then compared the ASTs for all options and sifted them down to those that performed best and met all seven TPOs. All six options taken forward for WelTAG stage 2 appraisal included local transport measures and three included on-line improvement of the existing A483/A489 trunk road through the study area.

The Deputy First Minister will decide on the final package of measures following the outcome of Public Consultation. Should we take forward a new bypass, we would need to develop the case for this in detail and this would be scrutinised as part of the statutory process. For a scheme of this size, a Public Inquiry would be quite normal, but this would depend upon the level and nature of objections.

## **Argument A – Insufficient Investigation of Transport Measures**

### **TPO 2: Meeting relevant environmental targets**

***Question 1 How can Option 6 be assessed as having a neutral effect on TPO 2 given that this option when assessed against TPO 4 indicated a likely modal shift away from car usage within and outside the town?***

The key issue is the potential impact of Option 6 on the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). As this option does not take the main traffic out of Newtown there is the potential for impacting on the AQMA which is potentially in breach of national and EU legislation. Even if there is the potential of a modal shift there is a requirement to improve air quality in the AQMA which cannot be guaranteed. Improvement in local air quality would require significant modal shift.

### **TPO 3: Removing through traffic from local roads**

***Question 2 Why is raising the Nant Oer bridge not a reasonable option?***

Raising Nant Oer Bridge to allow high sided heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) under the railway line would address part of TPO 3 by removing HGVs from Plantation Lane. However, this would not address TPO 2. Providing a link from Dolfor Road to Heol Ashley to allow high-sided HGVs approaching northwards from the A483 to avoid Plantation Lane would address TPO 3, but again would not address TPO 2.

### **TPO 6: Improve journey time consistency (north-south, east-west)**

***Question 3: Why was a quantitative assessment not undertaken?***

WelTAG does not require quantitative assessment of journey times at Stage 1. This is part of Stage 2, when we have sifted down the options.

***Question 4: How was a qualitative assessment of journey time savings possible and a basis for reliable conclusions?***

We assessed journey time savings for all options based on engineering judgement and input from stakeholders and comparison with similar completed schemes.

The conclusion drawn was that online improvements combined with modest modal shift from local transport measures would not be sufficient to reduce journey times throughout the town. Many of the online improvements would improve safety, but would not necessarily improve capacity.

**Question 5: How did the consultants conclude the effect of option 6 was neutral, when traffic flow measures would generally be expected to achieve benefits?**

Because the proposed online improvements would mainly improve road safety and access, not increase capacity.

Linking traffic signals could reduce journey times through the town to some extent, but with the predicted traffic growth, many of the junctions within the town would be significantly over capacity and delays would still occur. Consequently, key stakeholders determined that Option 6 would not meet the requirements for TPO 6

**TPO 7: Reduction in accidents**

**Question 6: Why is it reasonable to contend that accidents within the Newtown settlement boundary limit will reduce because of the by-pass rather than modal shift?**

This is mainly because of the quantity of traffic that would transfer from the town centre route onto a safer new road. We would design a by-pass to modern safety requirements detailed in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges. It would have fewer junctions, reducing the potential for conflict.

Removing a significant element of traffic travelling through the town would improve the environment for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users.

Forecast traffic growth indicates that there will be more traffic on the roads in the future. Greater levels of traffic would result in more accidents. Modal shift is unlikely to reduce a reduction in traffic beyond that of the predicted growth; therefore, without a bypass there would be more accidents in the future.

Removing long-distance traffic from the town would facilitate de-trunking. PCC could then introduce improve safety further by introducing physical measures along the route (e.g. speed limits, gateways/build outs, cycle lanes etc).

**OTHER ISSUES**

**Investigation of soft measures to promote modal shift**

**Question 7: Was consultation sufficient in this area given that the objectives of local public transport operators do not necessarily coincide with the public interest?**

The main issue resulting from the WelTAG Stage 1 workshop was that we should remove through traffic from Newtown and that on-line and local transport measures should be provided to ensure a comprehensive response to the traffic issues in Newtown. We would develop the local transport measures with PCC and TraCC through Key Stage 3 of the highway process.

We contacted local public transport operators as part of the study process together with the regional transport planning body TraCC and PCC to determine any proposed improvements to local transport services in the study area. The public transport operators develop a local plan for their operations based on feasibility studies. Due to low demand, public transport operators deemed that expansions of the services would not be financially viable.

**Question 8: Why have sustainable travel options not been considered given that Newtown lends itself so well to sustainable travel options?**

The potential for sustainable travel options have been considered

- Encouragement of private companies to adopt travel plans,



- Public transport time tables in offices,
- Staggered school opening times,
- Car clubs and car pools,
- Relocation or reduction of on-street car parking along A483 / A489 and more parking at the railway station
- Consideration of flexible working hours.

All proposed options include local transport measures, which incorporate sustainable travel options. The on-line and local transport measures (Option 6) were assessed as a stand alone option, as were the proposed bypasses. These were deemed not to meet the required TPOs set out for the WeITAG study, therefore a combination of the two has been presented as proposed options for the study.

### **Realising the Potential of the Cambrian Railway Line**

***Question 8 (sic): Is it not prudent to wait for the introduction of the hourly service and monitor its effect closely before a decision is made in relation to the construction of the by-pass?***

The hourly service will come in before the DFM takes the decision whether to proceed with the construction of a bypass. At this stage, it is unrealistic to expect that this will induce sufficient modal shift to reduce car usage on the A483/A489 through Newtown. Also, the hourly passenger service will not address the objective to reduce HGV traffic through the town.

***Question 9: Why will a properly incentivised rail freight service not achieve an equivalent reduction in HGV traffic to that of the bypass?***

Transfer of freight from road to rail can achieve economic, environmental and social benefits; this is a key objective in the Wales Transport Strategy. To serve freight customers effectively freight trains need to use routes with capacity which provides time-tabled pathways for predictable, consistent and reliable train operation. To achieve this on the Cambrian line would require very significant investment, to allow freight paths to be incorporated within the proposed hourly timetable.

Also, to be effective, terminals to be served by rail freight must:

- Be on the existing network since building of new routes is extremely expensive.
- Have good road access suitable for HGVs. 16.5m articulated lorries would need to serve the railheads safely and with minimal impact on other road users, residents etc.
- Be large enough – today's freight trains are up to and sometimes over 500 metres in length, and safe working areas and storage need sufficient space.
- Be capable of 24 hour operation, often requiring transshipment from train to lorry and vice versa at all hours, with potential disturbance to residents and others.

These issues are capable of resolution but only with very significant investment, as former goods yards at the stations on the line have been lost to car parking and other development

Road transport currently accounts for over 64% of goods moved and upwards of 83% of goods lifted in the UK. The apparent disparity of these figures is accounted for by the average haul length of goods by road being (generally) shorter than other modes. Rail freight in small wagonloads is uneconomic because of the additional handling costs, although there may be scope for improving the cost-effectiveness of this type of operation.

The majority of new rail freight movements will generate additional HGV trips to get goods to their final destination.

### **Argument B – The Bypass Option does not satisfy some of the TPOs**

#### **TPO2: Meeting relevant environmental targets**

***Question 10: How can substantial reductions be achieved given that any improvement would be limited, since only a third of existing traffic is through traffic, and there is every danger that local traffic would grow to fill the space vacated?***

The first part of the TPO 2 relates to all environmental legislation and policies. Besides the TPOs, the WelTAG process appraises the impacts of options against a number of environmental criteria, which are contained within the ASTs to include:

- Noise
- Air quality
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Landscape and townscape
- Biodiversity
- Heritage
- Water environment and
- Soils

In addition to these specific environmental criteria, we also addressed the following WelTAG “social” criteria:

- Transport safety
- Personal security
- Permeability
- Physical fitness
- Social inclusion

The issue of air quality is particularly important and we incorporated it into the TPO because of the AQMA along New Road. A reduction in traffic of 1/3 is a substantial reduction in the context of the extent of the traffic contribution to local air quality issues and the current exceedence of the air quality standards.

A bypass would form part of the Trunk Road network. Consequently, the A483/A489 through Newtown would be de-trunked and responsibility would pass to PCC. With a new strategic route in place, PCC would be more able to impose capacity restraints on the highway network throughout the town to ensure that traffic does not simply grow to fill the space. PCC could implement gateways/build outs, speed restrictions and reallocate road space.

Similarly, although only about one third of the traffic in Newtown is through traffic, the bypass would also carry some local traffic, for example via Dolfor Road (A483) and Kerry Road (A489) junctions. Through traffic does not have either an origin or destination in Newtown. Whilst many of the internal trips would continue to use the existing highway network, detailed modelling indicates that many inbound and outbound trips would make use of the bypass, reducing traffic within the town centre.

**Question 11: Will the trunk road itself not simply generate extra traffic?**

Because of the rural nature of Newtown and the local nature of the proposed bypass, it is unlikely to attract much new long-distance traffic.

**Question 12: How can the assessment of the bypass option as being moderately beneficial in relation to TPO 2 be adequate given that the greenhouse gas emission reduction target is a fraction of UK targets, no mention is made of noise pollution, and consideration of environmental impacts is limited to within 200 metres of the bypass (the petitioners suggest trunk road noise pollution has much wider effect)?**

The key issue in terms of air quality is to improve local air quality and the reduce impact on AQMA. The changes in greenhouse gas emissions with the bypass elements are not significant on the regional scale, whatever metric is considered i.e. total emissions or the required reductions to hit targets etc.

We carried out the assessments according with WelTAG. This refers to detailed assessment methodology in Transport Appraisal Guidance (WebTAG) and the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB).

Assessments on environmental impact include:

- 300m for noise and vibration;
- 200m for air quality as any impacts at 200m from a road is negligible
- 500m for cultural heritage and the wider context is reviewed
- Generally 250m for specific ecological surveys but these are species dependant (in accordance with DMRB guidance and good practice) although the wider context and records are reviewed
- The area of Landscape Effects assessment relates to the visual envelope or limit of visibility
- The proposed scheme corridor affected for Land Use/Agriculture
- The water environment: the assessment area is dependant upon the location and is undertaken in accordance with DMRB
- Geology and soils, reviewing the context of the area in respect of the corridors

**TPO 4: Increasing usage of non-car modes**

**Question 13: Why does TPO 4 restrict modal shift targets to traffic with origin and/or destination in Newtown and ignore through traffic?**

Consultation with local stakeholders identified the primary problem was with local traffic, rather than inter-urban travel. Therefore, we targeted this for modal shift targets. Long distance public transport through Newtown is limited and consultation with operators indicated no distinct plans to improve services.

**Question 14: Why does the modal shift target of a 2% reduction for car journeys either with an origin or a destination of Newtown ignore cycling?**

When considering overall modal split the likely number of long distance trips undertaken by cycling would result in minimal impact on the overall modal split.

The Montgomery Canal cycle path offers direct access from Newtown to Welshpool and spans over 9 miles, however this route only offers northbound travel by cycling from Newtown.

## **TPO 5: Integration of Public Transport**

***The petitioners argue the bypass clearly does nothing to satisfy TPO 5 objectives:***

We identified this during phase 1 of the study. Options 1, 2a, 2b and 2c were all purely bypass options and we discarded them.

## **Local Environment**

***Question 15: Why is there no TPO relating to the localised environmental impact?***

The response to Question 10 identifies that TPOs are not the only factors in the appraisal.

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

1 April 2010

Dear Christine,

**Petition: Local Solutions to Newtown Traffic Congestion**

Thank you for your letter of 31 March in relation to the above petition which your Committee is considering.

The Finance Committee did recently undertake an inquiry into the funding of the road infrastructure in Wales and considered a large amount of evidence. However, the focus of the inquiry was the allocation of funding for the development of Wales' road infrastructure and it did not look in any detail at individual schemes within the trunk road programme.

The petitioner raises some interesting issues but, I am sorry. I do not think our inquiry can throw any light on them.

Yours sincerely,



**Angela Burns**  
Chair, Finance Committee

## **(15) P-03-263 Rhestru Parc y Strade**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth i roi statws rhestredig i Barc y Strade, er mwyn diogelu treftadaeth y maes rygbi byd enwog a'r eicon diwylliannol hwn i bobl Cymru.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-263.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Mr V Jones

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 4383

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 11 Mai 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth a chyflwynwyd rhagor o wybodaeth gan y deisebydd. Mae'r rhain wedi'u cynnwys isod.

Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth  
Minister for Heritage



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-263  
Ein cyf/Our ref MB/AJ/119/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

24 May 2010

*Dear Christine,*

Thank you for your letter of 4 May seeking my comments on the petition by Mr Vaughan Jones to list the playing surface of Stradey Park, Llanelli to safeguard it from development. There can be few who do not know of Stradey or of the place it occupied in the affection of many so I can understand the support shown for its cultural significance to be marked in some way.

The site, as you will know, has been sold and, following a decision in 2007 to call-in the planning application, the Welsh Assembly Government granted outline planning permission for the redevelopment of the area for housing. The local planning authority will soon be considering a detailed application in respect of the reserved matters which I understand provides for a small area to be set aside within the development as a memorial garden.

The petitioners' focus is centred on protecting the pitch rather than the built structures around it and proposes that the playing surface should be listed using powers – the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 – which provide the means to list *buildings* of special architectural or historic interest. The petition recognises that items which are not built structures in the conventional sense cannot be listed but suggests that existing guidelines should be changed to permit this.

Introducing a provision to permit the listing of items which are not buildings would require primary legislation and I cannot see how extending statutory planning controls in the way suggested would work in the case of items without a built component. Listing is not a preservation order but a mechanism to provide the planning authority with guidance on the special interest of the designated asset and introduces a requirement that listed building consent is applied for in the case of works affecting its character. This is separate from and additional to planning permission, which is required where development is proposed and which, in the case of Stradey, already exists in outline.

My officials in Cadw have considered whether as an alternative to statutory designation as a listed building, there is another mechanism which would help to identify the significance of

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the site so that its potential wider cultural significance can be recognised and taken into account by the Council and the developer as the final plans for the site are considered. One possible option which may present itself would be for Cadw to evaluate the site as a candidate for possible inclusion in the non-statutory Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. Again, this would not imply preservation of the pitch; inclusion on the Register would simply help inform the planning authority's assessment of development affecting such culturally significant areas, although the value of this would be limited in the case of Stradey given the outline consent which already exists.

No historic sporting grounds are currently included on the Register in their own right and Cadw has yet to devise specific criteria to help inform an evaluation of the potential of grounds such as Stradey and others for possible inclusion. Such an assessment of Stradey cannot be undertaken before the local authority considers the reserved matters under the planning consent but my officials have confirmed to the planning authority's officers the ground's undoubted local - and doubtless wider - historic interest. It would of course be open to the Council to defer consideration of the planning application to permit Cadw to undertake a full assessment if that was thought helpful or to permit the authority to examine the scope for voluntary changes to the current proposals to set aside all of the pitch from the area to be developed. The Council has however indicated that, unless the site were to be included on the Register, there is currently no basis for the authority to reconsider the historic importance of the site which, it advises, was examined as part of the approved outline application.

I hope this is helpful.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alun Ffred Jones'.

**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth/Minister for Heritage



Hi Gareth,

I'd like to thank you, Naomi and Andrew for coming to meet me last week and helping me along the way in getting this far with the petition. I hope the contents of the submission box were OK.

I've seen the Senedd TV coverage of yesterday's meeting and I feel I may have failed to get the message across about what I am trying to achieve.

Although many people would like to see the whole stadium protected I doubt that the stands warrant listed building status (although I am happy to be proved wrong). Due to that, what I have been trying to achieve since 2005 is to have the pitch recognised by Cadw, as it is the pitch that is the main focus of Stradey's fame. In 2005 I made contact with Cadw and an officer agreed that Stradey Park had the history that warranted recognition – probably as part of the "Historic Parks and Gardens" Register - but that the pitch did not meet the criteria as they currently stood. The Cadw officer mentioned that it is possible that the criteria may be amended in the future, but suggested that at that time I should contact Carmarthenshire County Council and make an application for the pitch to be made a Conservation Area. This I did, with support from Llanelli Town Council, but it was promptly refused by the County. It was clear that the County Council would not consider protection of the pitch due to the heavy reliance on the sale of the Stradey Park site to finance the new stadium, so I decided not to pursue it any further at that time.

The reason for this petition goes back to that contact with Cadw in 2005 and the suggestion that Stradey Park should be added to the register of Historic Parks and Gardens. As Cadw are unlikely to start that process themselves, the best course of action I could think of was to petition the Minister for Heritage to direct Cadw to change their listing criteria.

I am not sure that I have worded the petition very well as it would appear that the word "listing" might be confusing the issue. I probably should have said "amend the criteria of Historic Parks and Gardens to allow Stradey Park to be added to that register", but that would have caused a lot of confusion to those signing it, as many people have never heard of the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. The word "listing" was used as a generic term referring to Cadw recognition and protection, in this case either adding it to the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens or creating a new category for such pitches.

This is outlined in this extract from my 1000 word submission:-

*To list a sports pitch would probably require a new listing category or an amendment to an existing category. As tourism becomes ever more important in Wales, key locations of modern Welsh heritage such as Stradey Park need to be protected, so the need for the National Assembly to direct Cadw to create or adapt a listing category for sports pitches is evident.*

I am familiar with the Vulcan petition which was mentioned at the Petitions Committee meeting, but the Vulcan is obviously a building and Stradey concerns an area of land. I can't see that the findings of the Vulcan report will be particularly relevant.

I can see that Stradey Park, just as the Vulcan, could be considered a "local matter" which should be afforded local protection. However, the Council have confirmed that they do not hold a "List of Buildings and Places of Local Interest", as exists in other towns and cities. In Llanelli if a building or area does not have Cadw protection then it has no protection. Perhaps the Assembly should compel all local authorities to draw up such a list?

Although there is obvious support locally to retain the pitch and it is an emotive subject, the pitch is known worldwide, particularly in the Southern Hemisphere. Stradey is synonymous with the image of Welsh Club Rugby in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and due to this worldwide significance it requires Cadw recognition.

My concern, obviously, is that the Minister for Heritage will look at the Stradey Stadium, decide that the stands do not warrant listing and write back to the Committee without understanding the aims of the petition.

Thanks again for arranging the presentation of the petition last week and please get in touch if you need any more information.

***Vaughan***

## **(16) P-03-270 Gweithredu dros blant**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu mwy o leoliadau dysgu seiliedig ar waith sy'n fwy addas ar gyfer anghenion y bobl ifanc hynny sy'n fwy agored i niwed, ac sy'n eu symud ymlaen o ddifrif gan sicrhau eu bod yn ennill cymhwyster NVQ2 o leiaf. Yn benodol, byddem yn hoffi gweld rhagor o ddarpariaeth ar gyfer pobl ifanc ddigartref sydd am gael hyfforddiant ac nad ydynt yng ngofal awdurdod lleol

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-270.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Gweithredu dros Blant / Action for Children

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 1 (cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb fel sefydliad)

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 19 Ionawr, 23 Mawrth 2010 a 11 Mai 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Comisiynydd Plant, y Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu a'r Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.



**Children's Commissioner for Wales**

Oystermouth House, Charter Court, Phoenix Way, Llansamlet, Swansea SA7 9FS  
Penrhos Manor, Oak Drive, Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL29 7YW

**Comisiynydd Plant Cymru**

Tŷ Ystumllwynarth, Llys Siarter, Phoenix Way, Llansamlet, Abertawe SA7 9FS  
Maenor Penrhos, Oak Drive, Bae Colwyn, Conwy LL29 7YW

10 June 2010

Dear Christine

Thank you for your letter dated 18 May regarding a petition organised by Action for Children – Gweithredu Dros Blant.

The general definition of children for the purposes of the Commissioner's exercise of my functions is children and young people under the age of 18 years. However, his remit extends to 18-24 year olds in respect of young people who are care leavers within the definition of the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000.

Below is the relevant excerpt from the legislation in relation to the children and young people to whom the functions of the Commissioner applies:

*“(1) This Part applies to a child—*

*(a) who is ordinarily resident in Wales;*

*(b) to or in respect of whom services are provided in Wales by, or on behalf of or under arrangements with, a person mentioned in Schedule 2B; or*

*(c) to or in respect of whom regulated children's services in Wales are provided.*

*(1A) Regulations may provide that, for the purposes of this Part of this Act, “child” includes a person aged 18 or over who falls within subsection (1B).*

*(1B) A person falls within this subsection if he is a person to or in respect of whom services are provided in Wales by, or on behalf of or under arrangements with, a county council or county borough council in Wales by virtue of—*

*(a) section 23C, 24, 24A or 24B of the Children Act 1989 (c. 41) (which provide for the continuing duties of such councils towards young persons); or*

*(b) regulations made under section 23D of that Act (which may provide for the appointment of personal advisers for certain young persons).”<sup>1</sup>*

In response to your particular question of whether or not my remit covers young people over the age of 18 who are homeless and not in the care of a local authority – the answer is no. Therefore it would not be within my competency to undertake an inquiry into the issues which Action for Children - Gweithredu Dros Blant has raised.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2001/ukpga\\_20010018\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2001/ukpga_20010018_en_1)

The issue of appropriate education and training and the support needed, especially for the most vulnerable young people is, however, something in which I take an active interest.

The consequences of not meeting the needs of those on work based learning provision are extremely negative and could lead to many young people not accessing education, training or employment. I'm sure the National Assembly's Enterprise and Learning Committee inquiry into Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) would benefit from receiving the evidence provided by Action for Children – Gweithredu Dros Blant.

One of the key drivers of vulnerability identified in relation to this particular petition is poverty and the financial support available and I have particular concerns in relation to young people's poverty in Wales. I sent an additional paper to the scrutiny of the Children and Families (Wales) inquiry outlining my concerns in this regard.

I noted that more work is needed to address particular issues in relation to young people's poverty (16+):

*'Whilst many of the levers of change we would like to see are in non-devolved areas, we feel that the issues need to be given a higher profile, that the Welsh Assembly Government should lobby Westminster colleagues to act on issues such as benefit discrepancies and that WAG themselves, wherever they can, look to alleviate the symptoms of what is often severe poverty amongst this specific age group.'*<sup>2</sup>

My paper (annex 1) referenced particular issues regarding housing benefit and other support.

It is also worth noting that not all homeless young people under the age of 18 will be incorporated into the care of a local authority.

I stated in the submission:

*I am interested in those young people who are perceived to have become intentionally homeless and, as a result of that, the extent to which they cannot access services.*<sup>3</sup>

*'An unnatural disaster – Report of the Commission of Inquiry into homelessness and poor housing conditions in Wales, June 2007'* also referred to the ease at which young people are identified as 'intentionally homeless' within a context that does not consider the vulnerability of the young person. As a result the local authority will not always recognise their obligations to them as vulnerable children, leaving them without the support and services they need which exacerbates this continued spiral of deprivation. We have also been told that youth workers and other agencies find it difficult to place young people who have found themselves intentionally homeless.<sup>4</sup>

I believe that there are particular areas of inconsistencies in support for those aged 16 who have left care, those under 18 who are vulnerable, those under 18 who are looked after and

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.assemblywales.org/cf6 - childrens\\_commissioner\\_for\\_wales\\_supplementary\\_evidence.pdf](http://www.assemblywales.org/cf6 - childrens_commissioner_for_wales_supplementary_evidence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> ibid

<sup>4</sup> An unnatural disaster – Report of the Commission of Inquiry into homelessness and poor housing conditions in Wales, June 2007

those between 18 and 24 who have been looked after. In March 2009 in Wales, 494 young people aged 16 or over left care. Of these young people, 45% had no GCSE or GNVQ qualifications.<sup>5</sup>

I do, however, concur with the sentiment within the petition, that there is another group of young people between the ages of 18 and 24 who, due to a number of reasons, usually underpinned by poverty are extremely vulnerable.

The young people who appear in the Action for Children DVD are obviously living in extreme poverty and have multiple difficulties, including housing issues. There is a clear message in the evidence submitted that improvements are needed in assisting training providers to deliver effective support to address the needs of these young people. The anecdotal evidence I have collated during my visits to various projects would also suggest this.

Whilst the particular issue relating to those over 18 and are homeless (unless having been in care) is outside my remit, I welcome the discussion on the issue. I also believe it is worthwhile shining a light on the provisions of wider support for young people on work based placements. I commend Action for Children – Gweithredu Dros Blant and the young people involved for their work on this petition and encourage the Petitions Committee to seriously consider any actions they may take to progress the issues identified.

I wish the Committee well in their deliberations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Towler". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends to the right.

**Keith Towler**  
**Children's Commissioner for Wales**

**Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu**  
**Enterprise and Learning Committee**  
Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

7 June 2010

Dear Chris

### **Petition P-03-270 Action for Children**

Thank you for your letter dated 28 May 2010 informing the Enterprise and Learning Committee about the above petition. Please find below our response to the issues you have raised with us.

#### **Not in Education, Employment or Training Inquiry**

You outline a number of important issues concerning support offered to vulnerable young people, work placements and robustness of assessments. We may not be able to examine in detail all of the points you raise, but we shall endeavour to cover as many of them as we can in our scrutiny of witnesses during our inquiry. Given our other commitments, it is unlikely, however, that we would consider a further targeted inquiry into the issues facing vulnerable young people. We shall of course keep you updated about progress with our final report.

#### **The Transformation Agenda**

Although we are not producing a report from our recent inquiry into the Transformation Agenda for post-16 education, we are writing to the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning to ask him to respond to some of the issues that have emerged during our scrutiny. We have therefore incorporated your suggestions into that letter, and have asked him to outline (a) what kind of support is currently offered to young people who are living independently or are homeless for them to be able to make informed choices about the training and learning options available to them, and (b) what

Dr Siân Phipps  
Clerc y Pwyllgor / Committee Clerk  
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sian.phipps@wales.gsi.gov.uk

evidence is there that this support is working effectively across the whole of Wales. We shall let you know the Minister's response when he replies to us in due course.

I hope this information is helpful to the Petitions Committee and I would be grateful if our response could be conveyed to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Jones', written in a cursive style.

**Gareth Jones AM  
Committee Chair**



## Children and Young People Committee

### Y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc

Christine Chapman AM, Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

9 June 2010

Dear

#### **P-03-270 Action for Children**

Thank you for your letter of 28 May regarding a petition raised by Action for Children.

The Children and Young People share the concerns raised by Action for Children. Appropriate support and development opportunities for the most vulnerable young people in Wales are essential if we are to motivate and inspire all young people to reach their full potential.

The Committee would welcome further work in this area but due to the work the Committee already has planned, we would be unable to carry out an inquiry at this time.

The Committee will, however, include the issue in its legacy report which will inform the work of any successor Children and Young People Committee.

**Helen Mary Jones**  
**Chair, Children and Young People Committee**

**(17) P-03-277 Newid y penderfyniad i werthu alcohol yn Eisteddfod yr Urdd**

**Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu cyllid i Eisteddfod yr Urdd yn y dyfodol ar yr amod na werthir alcohol ar faes yr Eisteddfod.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-277.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Cyngor Cymru ar Alcohol a Chyffuriau Eraill / The Welsh Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 114

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 23 Mawrth 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**  
**Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth**  
**Minister for Heritage**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Ein cyf/Our ref AFJ/00274/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair of the Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

12 May 2010

*Dear Christine,*

Thank you for your letter, dated 15 March, regarding the petition submitted by the Welsh Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs (P-03-277).

Urdd Gobaith Cymru, hereafter referred to as the Urdd, receives funding from a number of Welsh Assembly Government portfolios, including the core grant channelled through the Welsh Language Board. However, the Urdd is independent from the Welsh Assembly Government with regards to the general conduct of its affairs, including the organisation of the youth eisteddfod and the decision regarding the sale of alcohol in the restaurant on the Maes. The Welsh Assembly Government has not been involved in the arrangements for this year's eisteddfod at Llanerchaeron but my officials have been in direct contact with the Urdd following the approach we received from your Committee. The Committee will wish to decide whether it wishes to approach the Urdd for further information regarding this matter.

Our Health Improvement Division has been working with the Urdd for the last three years to introduce aspects of healthy living into the Eisteddfod. As a result there has been the successful introduction of healthy cookery competitions alongside the traditional arts and sports programme, with finals held on the Maes in our Cooking Bus. During this time we have also stressed the importance of role modelling, and we encouraged the Urdd to source healthy catering, as far as possible, for the Maes; and specifically in the Urdd residential centre at Llangrannog. Further to this our Food, Fish and Market Development Division has provided the Urdd with advice on food retailers and suppliers.

The Welsh Assembly Government is also developing a public awareness programme that aims to encourage parents to talk to their children about alcohol. The programme will build on the three guiding principles regarding young people and alcohol consumption that have been drawn up by the Chief Medical Officer for Wales, Dr Tony Jewell.

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*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

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The three guiding principles are:

- Children under 15 should not drink alcohol. There is clear evidence that alcohol can harm the developing brain, bones and hormones;
- Binge drinking and heavy alcohol use puts young people in peril – from injuries, fights, regretted sexual activity, and other substance misuse; and
- If parents use alcohol responsibly, it's more likely their children will too. Parents and carers can protect children from misusing alcohol by maintaining a close relationship with their children, setting clear rules about alcohol, and supervising their children's drinking

There are also a number of programmes in place, as part of the Substance Misuse Strategy and Our Healthy Future, which aim to introduce children and young people to the issues surrounding alcohol use.

The Government believes that organisations like the Urdd have an important contribution to make in promoting these messages to young people. We will continue to work with the organisation with a view to identifying ways in which this contribution might be maximised.

*Yours sincerely,*



**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth/Minister for Heritage

## **(18) P-03-278 Diffyg Fitamin B12**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, y rhai sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn deisebu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal adolygiad o'r ffordd y caiff diffyg fitamin B12 ei ganfod. Mae'r prawf presennol wedi bodoli ers hanner can mlynedd ac nid yw'n gwahaniaethu rhwng B12 Actif a B12 Goddefol. Canlyniad hyn yw nad yw llawer o bobl yn cael diagnosis sy'n nodi bod diffyg B12 yn y corff er eu bod yn dangos pob symptom sy'n gysylltiedig â diffyg B12.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-278.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Pernicious Anaemia Society

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 54

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 11 Mai 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

**Edwina Hart MBE OStJ AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

Our ref: EH/01546/10

Your ref: P-03-278



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
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Fax: 029 2089 8131  
E-Mail: Correspondence.Edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

13 May 2010

Thank you for your letter of 4 May about the petition submitted by the Pernicious Anaemia Society.

It would not be appropriate for me to dictate the detail of clinical practice. Should the Pernicious Anaemia Society wish to forward details of peer-reviewed published research evidence for the effectiveness of the new test to my Chief Scientific Adviser, Dr Owen Crawley, he would bring this to the attention of pathology laboratories in Wales.

Dr Crawley could also put the Pernicious Anaemia Society in touch with a suitable expert in this field from NHS Wales pathology services if that would be helpful. Dr Crawley may be contacted at:

Dr Owen Crawley  
Chief Scientific Adviser (Health)  
Department for Public Health and Health Professions  
Health and Social Services Directorate General  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff CF10 3NQ

## **(19) P-03-284 Deiseb Tai Cymdeithasol Brynmawr**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ailystyried defnyddio tir sy'n eiddo i Lywodraeth Cymru yn Factory Road, Brynmawr ar gyfer darparu tai cymdeithasol.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-284.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Malcolm Broderick

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 10 (166 ar gyfer deiseb gysylltiedig)

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 27 Ebrill 2010

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Derbyniwyd ymateb gan y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

**Jocelyn Davies AC/AM**  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai ac Adfywio  
Deputy Minister for Housing and Regeneration



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref:p-03-284  
Ein cyf/Our ref:JAD/00301/10

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

13 May 2010

Dear *Christine*

Thank you for your letter of 20 April regarding the Petition reference P-03-284 Brynmawr Social Housing.

Your letter asks for my specific views on both the issues raised by the Petition and the plans for the site. As the Factory Road development may be subject to a current or future planning application and possibly a subsequent planning appeal, it is not appropriate for any view to be given at this time as planning appeals are dealt with by the Welsh Ministers. I can, however, provide you with some background to the proposed development.

The site was identified as being suitable for affordable housing through the Assembly Government's Land Release Protocol which deals with the disposal of publicly-owned land and buildings for the provision of affordable housing.

In January 2009, officials from the Housing Directorate met with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council who confirmed the need for an affordable housing scheme in the Brynmawr area as a result of a recent Local Housing Market Assessment which confirmed there was housing need in that area.

The next step was for the Local Authority to appoint a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) who would be responsible for delivering the scheme. There had been previous interest from a number of RSLs and it was therefore agreed that the interested RSLs would be invited to compete for the scheme via a presentation to local Ward Councillors and housing staff. As a result of the presentation, the local Ward Members appointed Melin Homes as the preferred RSL to take the scheme forward.

Following the appointment of Melin Homes, the Department of Economy and Transport, as land owners began negotiations with Melin Homes to discuss the terms of the disposal and scheme options. Any scheme proposed by the RSL would have to be in line with housing need as determined by the Local Housing Market Assessment. This would take into account housing size and type, mix of tenure and our Design Quality Requirements. Our own best practice would suggest that a mixed tenure scheme would be most appropriate

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with provision for both older people and First Time Buyers. It is my understanding that the scheme includes at least five bungalows for older people.

Officials were made aware that there was some opposition to the development by local residents and advised Melin Homes to engage with the community as early as possible to discuss any concerns. An informal question and answer session was held in the autumn of 2009 whereby Melin Homes were available to answer any specific queries. At this time a detailed scheme could not be presented to the local community as Melin Homes were still in the process of developing the scheme jointly with the planning department of the Local Authority. My officials have spoken to Melin Homes and stressed to them the importance of undertaking a further community consultation session to try to address concerns.

The planning process is designed to give the opportunity to local people and other agencies to comment on local scheme proposals. I would suggest that any further concerns are channelled through this process.

Yours sincerely,



**Jocelyn Davies AM**

## **Rhan 3: P-03-197 Achub y Vulcan – Ymateb y Llywodraeth**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Mae Gwesty'r Vulcan yn Stryd Adam, a adeiladwyd yn 1853, yn un o dafarndai hynaf Caerdydd. Trefnwyd iddo gael ei ddymchwel ym mis Mehefin 2009 i wneud lle i faes parcio aml-lawr a fflatiau. Helpwch ni i wneud i'r datblygwyr gynnwys y Vulcan yn eu dyluniadau a rhoi stop ar y fandaliaeth ddianghenraid hon o ddiwylliant a hanes Caerdydd.

Mae sôn am symud y dafarn i Amgueddfa Sain Ffagan ond ni ddylai'r Vulcan fod mewn amgueddfa; dylai fod lle y bu am 155 blynedd – yng nghanol Caerdydd.

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn credu bod mwy o werth i Gaerdydd o gael Gwesty'r Vulcan yn sefyll nag o'i gael wedi'i ddymchwel, ac mae mwy o werth iddo o'i gael yn sefyll lle y mae nag o'i gael mewn amgueddfa. Rydym yn annog y datblygwyr i barchu diwylliant a hanes Caerdydd a diogelu'r adeilad hanesyddol hwn ar ei safle presennol.

Rydym hefyd yn annog Cyngor Caerdydd a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ddefnyddio'u holl bwerau er mwyn sicrhau bod y Vulcan yn aros lle y mae – yng nghanol Caerdydd.

**Linc i'r ddeiseb:** <http://www.cynulliadcymru.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-197.htm>

**Cynigiwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Rachel Thomas

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 5,000

**Ystyriwyd yn flaenorol gan y Pwyllgor ar:** 02 Mawrth, 17 Mawrth, 5 Mai, 19 Mai, 9 Mehefin, 7 Gorffennaf a 22 Medi 2009

**Y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf:** Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymateb i adroddiad y Pwyllgor. Mae hwn wedi'i gynnwys isod.

**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**  
**Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth**  
**Minister for Heritage**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref yourref  
Ein cyf/Our ref ourref

Christine Chapman AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

12 May 2010

Dear Christine

Thank you for your letter of 10 February enclosing a copy of the Committee's report *Save the Vulcan: Protection of historic buildings*.

The report is, I believe, an important contribution to policy development for the protection of our historic environment and I am grateful to the Committee for the consideration it has given to the matter.

The Committee makes two recommendations, the first asking for guidance or legislation on the protection of buildings that are important for social or cultural reasons and the second suggesting consultation with a view to strengthening the powers of local authorities to prevent the demolition of buildings which have a local importance.

As the Committee is aware, the current primary legislation provides that a building must be listed if it is found to have special architectural or historic interest. Published criteria support this legal provision by illustrating what is meant by special architectural or historic interest. Social and cultural significance is included as part of the criteria for historic interest but this would need to be in an historic context and not relate to more contemporary value.

In the case of the Vulcan pub, although there is this historic interest, particularly in the association with the former Newtown area of Cardiff, the linkage is more local in nature and not of national significance. The current legislation and supporting criteria focus very strongly on the need for a national perspective and I do not consider we would want to seek new legislation which would give central Government duties to extend listing beyond buildings of national importance. Nevertheless, I support the concept of recognising buildings which have a local importance, such as the Vulcan, and the development by local authorities of local lists, if they so wish. I would not want to seek further regulation by making local lists a statutory requirement - and this was not envisaged in the proposals for a Heritage Protection Bill.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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CF99 1NA

*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

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My Historic Environment Strategic Statement Action Plan indicated that my officials in Cadw would review the selection criteria for designation. This process is underway and we are keeping in view how best to reflect in the national criteria the significance of a building's social and cultural history and how it links with the historic development of an area. As part of the process, we are also seeking to consider criteria for local authorities on identifying buildings of local interest.

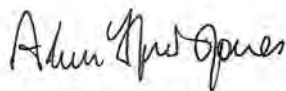
I have sympathy for the position of locally important buildings and issues around local distinctiveness. Cadw is undertaking significant work on characterising landscapes and urban areas across Wales to trace how they developed and to assess their historic significance. That work is being used to help support redevelopment and regeneration schemes so that the historic perspective is taken into account from the outset and to try and avoid situations such as arose in Cardiff. I am therefore very happy to agree the Committee's recommendation 1. My officials, by the early Autumn, will be preparing advice on listing criteria and local lists and, within that, will include specific guidance on buildings with social and cultural interest.

Turning to recommendation 2, I appreciate the concern about the precipitate demolition of locally important buildings which do not reach the standard for national listing although, it would not be possible, of course, to proscribe the demolition of locally listed buildings in any circumstance. I agree there is a need for discussion on ways locally important buildings might be better safeguarded and I would like to consider how we might move forward in the light of what we are doing to promote local distinctiveness.

Demolition is a complex area in terms of consents and it may help if I briefly summarise present provisions. Conservation area consent is needed to demolish unlisted buildings in conservation areas. For other areas the demolition of dwelling houses comes within planning control, but the demolition of other types of building is not currently classed as development requiring planning permission. Of course, demolitions are often associated with redevelopment schemes and, in the case of the Vulcan, its demolition did have planning permission as part of the St Davids 2 redevelopment.

The question of giving stronger powers to better control demolition of locally important buildings was raised in the context of the heritage protection reforms and the proposed Heritage Protection Bill, which was not introduced in the last session of the UK Parliament because of lack of time. With DCMS Ministers I am committed to introducing a joint Bill at the earliest opportunity. It may be possible to provide safeguards for buildings on local lists through the land use planning system but this will need further consideration with the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing and her Planning officials.

I should say too that, although as indicated, above my officials are preparing guidance on criteria for local lists, it is currently open to authorities to prepare such lists if they so wish and support them with policies in their Local Development Plans. Again, the effectiveness of this approach is something I will ask my officials to discuss with Planning colleagues. In respect of the committee's recommendation 2, therefore, I shall, in the first instance, arrange for my officials to discuss these matters further with their Planning colleagues.



**Alun Ffred Jones AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth/Minister for Heritage