



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

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

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

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

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 9.05 a.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 9.05 a.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, Chwaraeon a'r Gymraeg Questions to the Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language

Arian Loteri ar gyfer Chwaraeon a'r Celfyddydau Lottery Money for Sport and the Arts

Q1 Jocelyn Davies: How is the Minister working with other devolved institutions to increase the percentage of lottery money that comes to Wales for sport and the arts? (OAQ16868)

The Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language (Jenny Randerson): I am working closely with colleagues in Scotland and Northern Ireland in respect of the percentage of lottery funding that comes to the devolved administrations for sport and the arts. Scottish Executive officials recently completed a draft paper that is currently being considered by the three devolved administrations.

Jocelyn Davies: Last year, we passed a resolution expressing our disappointment at the lack of progress in securing a fairer share of lottery money for sport and the arts in Wales. That has not improved. Is that your failure, or is it the fault of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport?

Jenny Randerson: It is sad that we have not made progress on this issue. However, you need to bear in mind that the percentage of funding for each of the good causes is detailed in the lottery Acts of 1993 and 1998. Therefore, in order to change that, we would probably have to change primary legislation. Secondly, I am reassured because, on 20 March, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Tessa Jowell, announced a fundamental review of the lottery. I assure you that we will be proactively engaged in the review, in which I am already participating. The percentage of lottery share will be part of that review.

C1 Jocelyn Davies: Sut y mae'r Gweinidog yn gweithio gyda sefydliadau datganoledig eraill i gynyddu'r ganran o arian loteri sy'n dod i Gymru ar gyfer chwaraeon a'r celfyddydau? (OAQ16868)

Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, Chwaraeon a'r Gymraeg (Jenny Randerson): Yr wyf yn cydweithio'n agos â'm cyd-Weinidogion yn yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon mewn cysylltiad â'r ganran o arian loteri sy'n dod i'r gweinyddiaethau datganoledig ar gyfer chwaraeon a'r celfyddydau. Cwblhaodd swyddogion Gweithrediaeth yr Alban bapur drafft yn ddiweddar sy'n cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd gan y tair gweinyddiaeth ddatganoledig.

Jocelyn Davies: Y llynedd, bu inni basio penderfyniad a oedd yn mynegi ein siom yn y diffyg cynnydd wrth sicrhau cyfran decach o arian loteri ar gyfer chwaraeon a'r celfyddydau yng Nghymru. Nid yw hynny wedi gwella. Ai methiant ar eich rhan chi yw hynny, neu ai bai'r Adran dros Ddiwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon ydyw?

Jenny Randerson: Mae'n drist na wnaethom gynydd ar y mater hwn. Er hynny, rhaid ichi gofio bod canran y cyllid i bob un o'r achosion da wedi'i nodi yn Neddfau loteri 1993 a 1998. Felly, er mwyn newid hynny, mae'n debygol y byddem yn gorfod newid y ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol. Yn ail, yr wyf wedi fy nghalonogi oherwydd, ar 20 Mawrth, cyhoeddodd yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Ddiwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon, Tessa Jowell, adolygiad sylfaenol o'r loteri. Yr wyf yn eich sicrhau y byddwn yn cymryd rhan rhagweithiol yn yr adolygiad hwn, ac yr wyf i yn gwneud hynny eisoes. Bydd canran y gyfran o'r loteri yn rhan o'r adolygiad hwnnw.

Eleanor Burnham: I am sure that you would agree that there are many worthwhile projects in north Wales, but we can always do better. One example is the lack of a tennis centre in north-west Wales. Will you comment on that?

Jenny Randerson: The Sports Council for Wales has a plan for overall distribution of facilities, including regional tennis centres, throughout Wales. I am pleased that the fair and equitable distribution of lottery funding throughout Wales is being given a great deal of attention at present. There is an overall plan for sports facilities, and, for example, arts facilities in north Wales will receive 42 per cent of the Arts Council of Wales's lottery funding this year. That is a far higher percentage than the area would receive were it calculated according to population.

Glyn Davies: There is growing concern throughout much of Wales that the Cardiff-centric Government of Wales is affecting the distribution of lottery money for sport and the arts in Wales. Do you accept that it is more expensive to deliver services to sparsely populated parts of Wales and that this should be reflected in the distribution of lottery money?

Jenny Randerson: I agree that sparsity should be taken into account in the case of certain lottery funds. With the construction of buildings, for example, it is no more expensive to distribute in rural areas than in urban areas. However, with issues such as transport, sparsity must be taken into account. I am delighted to say that in Powys, for example, the community fund has distributed over £10 million during the year in question, which is far more than in any other part of Wales. Therefore, Powys has received five times more money from the community fund than Cardiff. This is an important issue.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunech fod llawer o brosiectau buddiol yn y Gogledd, ond mae lle i wella bob amser. Un enghraifft yw diffyg canolfan dennis yng ngogledd-orllewin Cymru. A wnewch chi sylw am hynny?

Jenny Randerson: Mae cynllun gan Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru ar ddsbarthiad cyffredinol cyfleusterau, gan gynnwys canolfannau tennis rhanbarthol, ledled Cymru. Yr wyf yn falch bod llawer iawn o sylw'n cael ei roi ar hyn o bryd i ddsbarthu arian y loteri yn deg ac yn gyfartal ledled Cymru. Mae cynllun cyffredinol ar gyfleusterau chwaraeon ac, i roi enghraifft, bydd cyfleusterau celfyddydau yn y Gogledd yn cael 42 y cant o arian loteri Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru eleni. Mae honno'n ganran uwch o lawer na'r hyn a gâi'r ardal pe cyfrifid hynny'n ôl y boblogaeth.

Glyn Davies: Mae pryder cynyddol mewn sawl rhan o Gymru bod Llywodraeth Gaerdydd-ganolog Cymru'n effeithio ar ddsbarthiad arian y loteri i chwaraeon a'r celfyddydau yng Nghymru. A ydych yn derbyn ei bod yn ddrutach darparu gwasanaethau mewn rhannau o Gymru sy'n denau eu poblogaeth ac y dylid adlewyrchu hynny yn nosbarthiad arian loteri?

Jenny Randerson: Cytunaf y dylid cymryd teneurwydd poblogaeth i ystyriaeth yn achos rhai cronfeydd loteri. Wrth godi adeiladau, er enghraifft, nid yw'n ddim drutach dosbarthu arian mewn ardaloedd gwledig nag mewn ardaloedd trefol. Fodd bynnag, mewn materion fel trafndiaeth, rhaid ystyried teneurwydd poblogaeth. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud, ym Mhowys, er enghraifft, fod y gronfa gymunedol wedi dosbarthu dros £10 miliwn yn ystod y flwyddyn dan sylw, sy'n fwy o lawer nag yn yr un rhan arall o Gymru. Felly, mae Powys wedi cael pum gwaith yn fwy o arian gan y gronfa gymunedol na Chaerdydd. Mae hyn yn fater pwysig.

Cefnogaeth i'r Celfyddydau yng Ngogledd Cymru Support for the Arts in North Wales

Q2 Ann Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the support provided for the arts in north Wales? (OAQ16865)

C2 Ann Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y gefnogaeth a roddwyd i'r celfyddydau yng ngogledd Cymru? (OAQ16865)

Jenny Randerson: Last year, the Arts Council of Wales spent around £6 million in north Wales. As a result of the excellent budget outcome, the arts council has received an increase of nearly £3 million in its budget, in addition to the £1.9 million increase already planned. In total, this amounts to an increase of over 25 per cent on its baseline budget. This will enable the council to increase its level of support to all aspects of the arts in Wales.

Ann Jones: I am sure that you are aware that there is a perception that, to access art in Wales, you have to live in and around Cardiff. We need to state clearly that that is not the case. Can you assure me that efforts to take arts programmes into deprived communities, particularly into schools, will receive high priority and that such schemes will receive the full range of any additional spending that the arts council will receive following your statement?

Jenny Randerson: I can give you that assurance. The arts council has a strong programme of community development through lottery and revenue funding. I will attend a lottery event at Wrexham this evening, which is one of a number that I am attending throughout Wales. These events are designed to raise awareness among all sections of the community of the amount and types of money available, not just for arts projects, but for projects of a broad community nature. I draw your attention to the Fair Share scheme, which is designed to increase the number of applications for lottery funding across the country, but in particular in five areas of Wales where the number of applications has been low.

Dafydd Wigley: Codaf fater canolfan gelfyddydau Porthladd Victoria, Caernarfon, a drafodais gyda chi nos Lun, yn dilyn y datganiad na ellir cyfrif arian y loteri bellach oherwydd rheoliadau Ewropeaidd. Bydd hynny yn rhwystro Bwrdd Croeso Cymru rhag rhoi hyd at £500,000 tuag at y fenter allweddol hon. Sut y mae cyfrif arian o'r loteri fel arian cyhoeddus yn tramgwyddo'r rheoliadau Ewropeaidd mewn unrhyw ffordd yng nghyd-destun menter nad yw'n gwneud

Jenny Randerson: Y llynedd, gwariodd Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru tua £6 miliwn yn y Gogledd. Yn dilyn canlyniad ragorol y gyllideb, mae cyllideb cyngor y celfyddydau wedi cynyddu o bron £3 miliwn, yn ychwanegol at y £1.9 miliwn o gynnydd a gynlluniwyd eisoes. Gyda'i gilydd, mae hyn yn gwneud cynnydd o dros 25 y cant yn ei gyllideb sylfaenol. Bydd hynny'n galluogi'r cyngor i gynyddu'r cymorth a roddia i bob agwedd ar y celfyddydau yng Nghymru.

Ann Jones: Yr wyf yn sicr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod canfyddiad fod rhaid ichi fyw yng Nghaerdydd a'i chyffiniau os ydych am gael at y celfyddydau yng Nghymru. Rhaid inni ddatgan yn bendant nad yw hynny'n wir. A allwch fy sicrhau y bydd ymdrechion i fynd â rhaglenni celfyddydol i gymunedau difreintiedig, ac i ysgolion yn enwedig, yn cael blaenoriaeth uchel ac y caiff cynlluniau o'r fath yr amrediad cyfan o unrhyw wariant ychwanegol a gaiff cyngor y celfyddydau o ganlyniad i'ch datganiad?

Jenny Randerson: Fe allaf roi sicrwydd i chi yn hynny o beth. Mae gan gyngor y celfyddydau raglen gadarn o ddatblygu cymunedol drwy arian y loteri a chyllid refeniw. Byddaf yn mynychu digwyddiad a gynhelir gan y loteri yn Wrecsam heno, sy'n un o nifer y byddaf yn mynd iddynt ledled Cymru. Bwriad y digwyddiadau hyn yw hybu ymwybyddiaeth ym mhob rhan o'r gymuned o'r symiau a'r mathau o arian sydd ar gael, nid i brosiectau'r celfyddydau yn unig, ond i brosiectau o natur gymunedol gyffredinol. Tynnaf eich sylw at y cynllun Cyfran Deg, sydd â'r bwriad o gynyddu nifer y ceisiadau am arian loteri ledled y wlad, ond yn enwedig mewn pum ardal yng Nghymru lle y bu nifer y ceisiadau'n isel.

Dafydd Wigley: I raise the issue of the Victoria Dock arts centre in Caernarfon, which I discussed with you on Monday night, following the statement that lottery funding cannot now be used because of European regulations. That will prevent the Wales Tourist Board from donating up to £500,000 towards this key initiative. How does the reclassification of lottery funding as public money in any way breach European regulations in relation to a non-profit making

elw?

Jenny Randerson: I have gleaned some information since you raised this matter at Committee yesterday, Dafydd. The issue of whether lottery funding should be treated as public funding has arisen due to recent developments in a number of projects in other parts of the UK, outside Wales. I am aware of a specific problem in Caernarfon due to EU state aid rules relating to lottery funding. Assembly officials are urgently raising the issue with the Department of Trade and Industry, which has the lead on UK state aid issues. When these discussions have taken place, we will have a clearer understanding of how lottery funding should be treated with regard to state aid rules. I will give urgent attention to the issues affecting the Caernarfon project, in co-operation with the Minister for Economic Development, because it is my understanding that it is Wales Tourist Board money that is involved. I assure you that I am giving this matter full attention.

Tom Middlehurst: Given Members' overwhelming support for the Wales Millennium Centre—with one or two notable exceptions—do you agree that we must show the same commitment in north Wales? Clwyd Theatr Cymru has received widespread acclaim for its work, and in doing so, has nurtured a rich pool of Welsh talent. Will you support the physical redevelopment of the building in Mold to reflect the needs of this hugely successful Welsh national performing arts company as it continues to fulfil its ambitions on behalf of the people of Wales?

Jenny Randerson: I agree, Tom, with the need for an all-Wales approach to arts funding. For that reason, I requested an audit of performance space about a year ago. That has now happened and it will inform the arts council's strategy. Earlier, I mentioned that 42 per cent of lottery money this year is going to north Wales and, significantly, Clwyd Theatr Cymru has had a 15 per cent revenue increase this year. The arts council is currently negotiating with both Clwyd Theatr Cymru and Flintshire County Council with a

initiative?

Jenny Randerson: Yr wyf wedi lloffa am rywfaint o wybodaeth ers ichi godi'r mater hwn yn y Pwyllgor ddoe, Dafydd. Mae'r cwestiwn ynghylch a ddylid ystyried arian loteri'n arian cyhoeddus wedi codi oherwydd datblygiadau diweddar mewn sawl prosiect mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU, y tu allan i Gymru. Gwn fod problem benodol yng Nghaernarfon o ganlyniad i reolau cymorth gwladol yr UE mewn cysylltiad ag arian loteri. Mae swyddogion o'r Cynulliad yn codi'r mater ar frys gyda'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant, sy'n arwain ar faterion cymorth gwladol y DU. Ar ôl y trafodaethau hynny, bydd gennym well dealltwriaeth o'r modd y dylid trin arian loteri yng nghyd-destun rheolau cymorth gwladol. Byddaf yn rhoi sylw brys i'r materion sy'n effeithio ar y prosiect yng Nghaernarfon, mewn cydweithrediad â'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd, oherwydd yr wyf yn deall mai arian Bwrdd Croeso Cymru sydd dan sylw. Yr wyf yn eich sicrhau fy mod yn rhoi fy holl sylw i'r mater hwn.

Tom Middlehurst: O ystyried cefnogaeth gref yr Aelodau i Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru—heblaw am un neu ddau eithriad nodedig—a gytunwch fod yn rhaid inni ddangos yr un ymrwymiad yn y Gogledd? Mae Clwyd Theatr Cymru wedi cael clod gan lawer am ei waith ac, wrth wneud hynny, wedi meithrin ffynhonnell gyfoethog o ddoniau yng Nghymru. A wnewch chi gefnogi ailddatblygiad yr adeilad yn yr Wyddgrug er mwyn adlewyrchu anghenion y cwmni celfyddydau perfformiadol cenedlaethol Cymreig hwn, sy'n aruthrol o lwyddiannus, wrth iddo barhau i gyflawni ei ddyheadau ar ran pobl Cymru?

Jenny Randerson: Cytunaf, Tom, â'r angen am ddull o ariannu'r celfyddydau i Gymru gyfan. Oherwydd hynny gofynnais am archwiliad o leoedd perfformio tua blwyddyn yn ôl. Mae hynny wedi digwydd bellach a bydd yn goleuo strategaeth cyngor y celfyddydau. Yn gynharach, soniais y bydd 42 y cant o'r arian loteri'n mynd i ogledd Cymru eleni ac mae'n bwysig nodi bod Clwyd Theatr Cymru wedi cael 15 y cant o gynnydd yn ei arian refeniw eleni. Mae cyngor y celfyddydau'n negodi ar hyn o bryd

view to resolving issues, including the need to refurbish the building. Having visited the building, I am aware that refurbishment is necessary.

Peter Rogers: Do you agree with the recent decision not to support Clwyd Theatr Cymru's mobile tour, even though private funding was already secured? The arts council did not support that tour, which would have taken that talent all around Wales.

Jenny Randerson: I was concerned about the decision not to support the mobile tour. There have been lengthy discussions with the arts council, and between the arts council and Clwyd Theatr Cymru, to ensure that this situation does not arise again.

9:15 a.m.

Rhagoriaeth mewn Chwaraeon yn Nhimau Cenedlaethol Cymru Sporting Excellence in the National Teams of Wales

Q3 John Griffiths: What steps will be taken to encourage and facilitate sporting excellence in the national teams of Wales? (OAQ16915)

Jenny Randerson: I have asked the Sports Council for Wales to continue to raise standards of performance and excellence by improving the provision of facilities, supporting the development of governing bodies and professional coaching standards, assisting talented athletes, and encouraging financial investment and support from business and industry in the development of sport in Wales.

John Griffiths: The fortunes of our national rugby side are important to the image of Wales and to our national psyche. Unfortunately, we have suffered poor results recently and it is obvious that the game in Wales needs to be radically restructured. Recent events do not engender confidence that the necessary restructuring will take place with the urgency required. What can you do to ensure that the Welsh Rugby Union makes necessary and urgent progress?

â Clwyd Theatr Cymru a Chyngor Sir y Fflint gyda golwg ar ddatrys rhai materion a gododd, gan gynnwys yr angen i adnewyddu'r adeilad. Ymwelais â'r adeilad, ac yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod angen ei adnewyddu.

Peter Rogers: A ydych yn cytuno â'r penderfyniad diweddar i beidio â chefnogi taith symudol Clwyd Theatr Cymru, er bod arian preifat wedi'i sicrhau eisoes? Ni chefnogodd cyngor y celfyddydau y daith honno, a fyddai mynd â'r dalent honno i bob rhan o Gymru.

Jenny Randerson: Yr oeddwn yn bryderus ynghylch y penderfyniad i beidio â chefnogi'r daith symudol. Bu trafodaethau hir â chyngor y celfyddydau, a rhwng cyngor y celfyddydau a Clwyd Theatr Cymru, i sicrhau na fydd y sefyllfa hon yn codi eto.

C3 John Griffiths: Pa gamau fydd yn cael eu cymryd i annog a hwyluso rhagoriaeth mewn chwaraeon yn nhimau cenedlaethol Cymru? (OAQ16915)

Jenny Randerson: Gofynnais i Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru barhau i hybu safonau perfformio a rhagoriaeth drwy wella'r ddarpariaeth o gyfleusterau, cynorthwyo datblygiad y cyrff llywodraethu a safonau hyfforddi proffesiynol, cynorthwyo athletwyr talentog, ac annog busnes a diwydiant i fuddsoddi arian a rhoi cymorth wrth ddatblygu chwaraeon yng Nghymru.

John Griffiths: Mae hynt ein tîm rygbi cenedlaethol yn bwysig i ddelwedd Cymru ac i'n hysbryd cenedlaethol. Gwaetha'r modd, yr ydym wedi profi canlyniadau gwael yn ddiweddar ac mae'n amlwg bod angen ailstrwythuro'r gêm yng Nghymru yn sylfaenol. Nid yw'r digwyddiadau diweddar yn ennyn hyder y bydd yr ailstrwythuro angenrheidiol yn digwydd mor gyflym â'r angen. Beth y gallwch ei wneud i sicrhau y bydd Undeb Rygbi Cymru'n gwneud y cynnydd sydd ei angen yn gyflym?

Jenny Randerson: I share your concern about the state of our national team. I am concerned about the delay in implementing the proposed reforms of the Tasker Watkins report. I will meet key figures in the rugby world shortly, and will make a fuller statement in the light of those discussions. The First Minister, with whom I have discussed the issue, shares my concern and close interest in the matter, and will be fully involved in those discussions.

David Davies: Do you agree that sporting excellence begins in schools and that, at the moment, not enough sport is being played in schools? The reason for that is, first, because pupils do not have enough time due to changes in the curriculum and, secondly, because teachers are being overwhelmed by an avalanche of forms, documents and other meaningless paperwork and pettifogging bureaucracy, much of which emanates from the National Assembly for Wales.

Jenny Randerson: As an ex-member of the teaching profession, I recall the avalanche of paper that started under the Conservative administration. You seem to be unaware of the physical education and sport in schools taskforce, which has met and reported, and whose recommendations have been taken on board. It is important to bear in mind that, although we have problems with our national rugby team, the level of excellence and achievement at lower levels and younger ages in the sport is superb. The failure to transfer that superb record in early years into excellence on the international stage is an area of concern and interest.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ymuno â mi i longyfarch Tanni Grey-Thompson ar ei champ ryfeddol wrth ennill marathôn Llundain ychydig o wythnosau wedi genedigaeth ei phlentyn cyntaf? Mae'n llysgennad gwych dros athletau a thros Gymru. A wnaiff y Gweinidog gydnabod bod nifer helaeth o athletwyr ag anabledau corfforol yn rhagori yn eu campau, ac a wnaiff ymrwymo i sicrhau eu bod yn cael y gefnogaeth ariannol y maent yn ei haeddu?

Jenny Randerson: Rhannaf eich pryder ynghylch cyflwr ein tîm cenedlaethol. Yr wyf yn bryderus ynghylch yr oedi wrth weithredu'r diwygiadau a gynigir yn adroddiad Tasker Watkins. Byddaf yn cwrdd â ffigyrau pwysig ym myd rygbi cyn hir, a gwnaf ddatganiad llawnach yng ngoleuni'r trafodaethau hynny. Mae Prif Weinidog Cymru, yr wyf wedi trafod y mater hwn gydag ef, yn rhannu fy mhryder a'm diddordeb yn y mater hwn, a bydd yn cymryd rhan lawn yn y trafodaethau hynny.

David Davies: A ydych yn cytuno bod rhagoriaeth mewn chwaraeon yn dechrau yn yr ysgolion ac nad oes digon o chwaraeon yn yr ysgolion ar hyn o bryd? Y rheswm am hynny, yn gyntaf, yw nad oes gan ddisgyblion ddigon o amser oherwydd newidiadau yn y cwricwlwm ac, yn ail, am fod yr athrawon wedi'u gorlethu gan lif o ffurflenni, dogfennau a gwaith papur diystyr arall a biwrocratiaeth orfanwl, y daw llawer ohoni o Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Jenny Randerson: Fel cyn-athrawes, cofiaf y llif o bapur a ddechreuodd o dan y weinyddiaeth Geidwadol. Mae'n ymddangos na wyddoch am y tasglu addysg gorfforol a chwaraeon mewn ysgolion, sydd wedi cyfarfod ac adrodd yn ôl, a'i argymhellion wedi'u hystyried. Mae'n bwysig cofio, er bod gennym broblemau o ran ein tîm rygbi cenedlaethol, fod y rhagoriaeth a'r cyrhaeddiad ar lefelau is ac mewn oedrannau iau yn y gêm yn wych. Mae'r methiant i droi'r record wych honno yn y blynyddoedd cynnar yn rhagoriaeth ar y llwyfan rhyngwladol yn destun pryder a diddordeb.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister join me in congratulating Tanni Grey-Thompson on her amazing feat in winning the London marathon just a few weeks after the birth to her first child? She is a wonderful ambassador for athletics and for Wales. Will the Minister acknowledge that many athletes with physical disabilities excel in their chosen sports, and will she make a commitment to ensuring that they receive the financial support they deserve?

Jenny Randerson: I am delighted to join you in congratulating Tanni on winning the London marathon for the sixth time. That is a superb record for anyone in any sport. I believe that she is one of the pre-eminent ambassadors for Wales. Secondly, the Sports Council for Wales has an excellent international reputation for its schemes and its level of support for disability sport.

Jenny Randerson: Yr wyf wrth fy modd yn ymuno â chi i longyfarch Tanni ar ennill marathon Llundain am y chweched tro. Mae hynny'n record wych i rywun mewn unrhyw gamp. Credaf mai hi yw un o'r llysgenhadon pennaf dros Gymru. Yn ail, mae gan Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru enw rhagorol yn rhyngwladol am ei gynlluniau a maint ei gefnogaeth i chwaraeon anabled.

The Presiding Officer: Question 4 (OAQ16913) has been transferred for written answer.

Y Llywydd: Mae cwestiwn 4 (OAQ16913) wedi'i drosglwyddo i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig.

Dyfodol Rygbi'r Undeb yng Nghymru Future of Rugby Union in Wales

Q5 Lynne Neagle: Will the Minister make a statement about the discussions she has had with the Welsh Rugby Union about the future of the game in Wales? (OAQ16920)

C5 Lynne Neagle: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y trafodaethau y mae wedi eu cael gydag Undeb Rygbi Cymru ynghylch dyfodol y gêm yng Nghymru? (OAQ16920)

Jenny Randerson: I refer you to my answer to John Griffiths's earlier question. I will meet key figures in the rugby world shortly and will make a fuller statement in the light of those discussions. The First Minister is fully involved in this.

Jenny Randerson: Fe'ch cyfeiraf at fy ateb i gwestiwn blaenorol John Griffiths. Byddaf yn cwrdd â'r prif ffigyrau ym myd rygbi cyn hir a gwnaf ddatganiad llawnach yng ngoleuni'r trafodaethau hynny. Mae Prif Weinidog Cymru'n cymryd rhan lawn yn hyn.

Lynne Neagle: Will you join me in congratulating Pontypool Rugby Football Club for its excellent run in this year's Principality Cup? Do you agree that, while events are moving quickly in this area, the future of rugby lies with the grassroots of the game, and that any move towards a new elite tier in the game must not come at the expense of smaller clubs going to the wall? We must not allow the experience of football in England, where clubs outside the premiership league are facing growing financial pressure, to be repeated in Wales. In the long term, this would not benefit the national team, the clubs or supporters.

Lynne Neagle: A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch Clwb Rygbi Pont-y-pŵl ar ei rediad rhagorol yng Nghwpan Principality eleni? A ydych yn cytuno, er bod pethau'n digwydd yn gyflym yn y maes hwn, fod dyfodol rygbi'n perthyn i wreiddiau'r gêm, a'i bod yn angenrheidiol nad yw unrhyw gamau tuag at gael haen elit newydd yn y gêm yn golygu y bydd clybiau llai yn mynd i'r wal? Rhaid inni beidio â chaniatáu i brofiad clybiau pêl-droed yn Lloegr, lle y mae'r rhai sydd y tu allan i'r brif gynghair yn wynebu pwysau ariannol cynyddol, gael ei ailadrodd yng Nghymru. Yn y tymor hir, ni fyddai hynny er budd y tîm cenedlaethol, y clybiau na'r cefnogwyr.

Jenny Randerson: I understand your concerns about the future of rugby clubs that will not play in the premier league in the future. I share your desire to congratulate Pontypool Rugby Football Club on its record. As I said previously, it is important for morale within rugby as a whole that we celebrate the achievements in Welsh rugby

Jenny Randerson: Deallaf eich pryderon ynghylch dyfodol y clybiau rygbi na fyddant yn chwarae yn y brif gynghair yn y dyfodol. Rhannaf eich awydd i longyfarch Clwb Rygbi Pont-y-pŵl ar ei gamp. Fel y dywedais o'r blaen, mae'n bwysig, er mwyn codi morâl ym myd rygbi yn ei gyfanrwydd, ein bod yn dathlu cyflawniadau timau rygbi yng

and that we encourage young boys and girls to play rugby. There is excellence throughout the game which must not be overshadowed by problems at a national level. We must restructure the game rapidly. No-one benefits from uncertainty.

Pauline Jarman: Will you join me in congratulating Pontypridd Rugby Football Club on reaching the final of the Principality Cup? Do you view the Pontypridd Rugby Football Club youth academy as a model that delivers and should be emulated throughout Wales to nurture young people for the national team?

Jenny Randerson: It would be better for me to say 'yes': I will congratulate anybody that anyone asks me to. On a serious note, regarding the youth academy, we must ensure that the development structure is in place in order to ensure that the best players feed through to the highest level in the game.

Nghymru a'n bod yn annog bechgyn a merched ifanc i chwarae rygbi. Ni ddylai'r problemau ar y lefel genedlaethol gelu'r rhagoriaeth mewn sawl agwedd ar y gêm. Rhaid inni ailstrwythuro'r gêm yn gyflym. Nid oes neb ar ei ennill o gael ansicrwydd.

Pauline Jarman: A wnewch chi ymuno â mi i longyfarch Clwb Rygbi Pontypridd ar gyrraedd rownd derfynol Cwpan Principality? A ydych yn ystyried academi ieuenctid Clwb Rygbi Pontypridd yn batrwm sy'n llwyddo ac y dylid ei efelychu ledled Cymru i feithrin pobl ifanc ar gyfer y tîm cenedlaethol?

Jenny Randerson: Byddai'n well imi ddweud 'gwnaf'; yr wyf yn fodlon llongyfarch rhywun y gofynnir i mi ei longyfarch. Ar nodyn difrifol, ynghylch yr academi ieuenctid, rhaid inni sicrhau bod y strwythur datblygu priodol ar waith er mwyn sicrhau bod y chwaraewyr gorau yn cyrraedd lefel uchaf y gêm.

Cyfranogiad Menywod mewn Chwaraeon Female Participation in Sport

Q6 Alison Halford: What action is the Minister taking to increase female participation in all sports in Wales? (OAQ16879)

Jenny Randerson: Increasing female participation in sport in Wales is one of my priorities. This is set out in the Assembly Government's 'Plan for Wales 2001'. I have asked the Sports Council for Wales to focus on this issue, and it is reflected in many of its initiatives, for example, the women and girls action plan, the Girls First initiative and the golf development plan.

Alison Halford: As we know, if sport funding was divided equally between the genders, we would have celebrated the opening of the Millennium Stadium for women's rugby long ago. What can be done to support young girls to access fields and facilities that presently view them as different and second class, and to challenge the traditional images of some sports as male or

C6 Alison Halford: Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cymryd i gynyddu nifer y menywod sy'n cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon o bob math yng Nghymru? (OAQ16879)

Jenny Randerson: Cynyddu nifer y menywod sy'n cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon yng Nghymru yw un o'm blaenoriaethau. Nodir hynny yn 'Cynllun i Gymru 2001' Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Yr wyf wedi gofyn i Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru ganolbwyntio ar y mater hwn, ac fe'i hadlewyrchir yn llawer o'i fentrau, er enghraifft, y cynllun gweithredu merched a genethod, y fenter Genethod yn Gyntaf a'r cynllun datblygu golff.

Alison Halford: Fel y gwyddom, pe câi arian chwaraeon ei rannu'n gyfartal rhwng y rhywiau, byddem wedi dathlu'r defnydd o Stadiwm y Mileniwm ar gyfer rygbi menywod ers talwm. Beth y gellir ei wneud i helpu merched ifanc i gyrraedd meysydd a chyfleusterau sy'n eu hystyried yn rhai gwahanol ac eilradd ar hyn o bryd, ac i herio delweddau traddodiadol rhai chwaraeon fel

female orientated? Initiatives such as the recently released film, *Bend it Like Beckham*, are excellent examples.

Jenny Randerson: The answer to that question has many strands. Broadcasters have an important role in this issue. It is vital that the sports council ensures that governing bodies do not perpetuate the image that you conveyed. The Girls First scheme offers up to £1,000 to secondary schools to help provide additional curricular opportunities for girls, focusing on years 7 to 9. It is worthwhile to note that around 52 per cent of grant aid allocated by the sports council to governing bodies is for women-only sports. Around 38 per cent of those involved in the Elite Cymru scheme are women; I would like it to be 50 per cent, but 38 per cent is within striking distance.

David Melding: Do you agree that broadcasters have a responsibility regarding this issue? It would be outrageous not to broadcast women's athletics on television, and we all expect and enjoy such programmes. However, many women's sports are not covered. Is this not unacceptable?

Jenny Randerson: I agree with you. I intend to hold discussions with broadcasters. I cannot tell broadcasters what to cover, but we should encourage them to look afresh at what they cover and what attracts the public. In America and Australia, the broadcasters' approach to women's sport is different.

Jocelyn Davies: Do you agree that schools that insist that girls wear physical education skirts may be putting them off sport altogether? Do you agree that the PE skirt has now had its day?

Jenny Randerson: I am not inclined to give a snap judgement on the PE skirt, although I remember mine with horror. You are making the point that we need innovative and imaginative approaches to ensure that girls

rhai sydd â gogwydd at ddynion neu fenywod? Mae mentrau fel y ffilm *Bend it Like Beckham* a ryddhawyd yn ddiweddar yn enghreifftiau rhagorol.

Jenny Randerson: Mae sawl elfen i ateb y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae rôl bwysig i'r darlledwyr yn y mater hwn. Mae'n hollbwysig i'r cyngor chwaraeon sicrhau nad yw'r cyrff llywodraethu'n parhau'r ddelwedd yr ydych wedi'i chyfleu. Mae'r cynllun Merched yn Gyntaf yn cynnig hyd at £1,000 i ysgolion uwchradd i'w helpu i ddarparu cyfleoedd cwricwlaidd ychwanegol i ferched, gan ganolbwyntio ar flynyddoedd 7 i 9. Mae'n werth nodi bod tua 52 y cant o'r cymorth grant a ddyrennir gan y cyngor chwaraeon i gyrff llywodraethu ar gyfer chwaraeon i fenywod yn unig. Mae tua 38 y cant o'r rhai sy'n cymryd rhan yng nghynllun Elite Cymru yn fenywod; byddai'n dda gennyf pe bai'n 50 y cant, ond mae 38 y cant o fewn cyrraedd i hynny.

David Melding: A ydych yn cytuno bod cyfrifoldeb ar y darlledwyr yn hyn o beth? Byddai'n gywilyddus peidio â darlledu athletau menywod ar y teledu, ac yr ydym oll yn disgwyl ac yn mwynhau rhaglenni o'r fath. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o chwaraeon menywod nad ydynt yn cael sylw. Onid yw hynny'n annerbyniol?

Jenny Randerson: Cytunaf â chi. Bwriadaf gynnal trafodaethau â darlledwyr. Ni allaf ddweud wrthynt beth y dylent roi sylw iddo, ond dylem eu hannog i edrych o'r newydd ar yr hyn a ddarledant a beth sy'n denu'r cyhoedd. Yn America ac Awstralia, mae ymagwedd darlledwyr at chwaraeon menywod yn wahanol.

Jocelyn Davies: A ydych yn cytuno ei bod yn bosibl bod ysgolion sy'n mynnu bod merched yn gwisgo sgertiau addysg gorfforol yn eu troi oddi wrth chwaraeon yn gyfan gwbl? A ydych yn cytuno bod oes y sgert addysg gorfforol ar ben bellach?

Jenny Randerson: Nid oes gennyf awydd rhoi dyfarniad difyfyf ar y sgert addysg gorfforol, er fy mod yn arswydo wrth gofio fy un i. Yr ydych yn gwneud y pwynt bod arnom angen dulliau arloesol a llawn

continue to participate in sport. All the evidence suggests that they are enthusiastic in primary schools, but that participation falls when they reach secondary school. We must ensure that girls are attracted to sport, for example by providing good changing rooms. The £48 million of new opportunities fund money will go towards providing good sporting facilities in schools.

dychymyg i sicrhau bod merched yn dal i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon. Awgryma'r holl dystiolaeth eu bod yn frwdfrydig mewn ysgolion cynradd, ond bod eu cyfranogiad yn lleihau pan gyrhaeddant yr ysgol uwchradd. Rhaid inni sicrhau y caiff merched eu denu at chwaraeon, drwy ddarparu ystafelloedd newid da, er enghraifft. Bydd y £48 miliwn o arian y gronfa cyfleoedd newydd yn mynd at ddarparu cyfleusterau chwaraeon da mewn ysgolion.

9:25 a.m.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business

Cyfraniad Amaethyddiaeth i'r Economi Wledig Contribution of Agriculture to the Rural Economy

Q1 Lynne Neagle: Will the Minister make a statement on the contribution agriculture makes to the rural economy in Wales? (OAQ16926)

C1 Lynne Neagle: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y cyfraniad y mae amaethyddiaeth yn ei wneud i'r economi wledig yng Nghymru? (OAQ16926)

The Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business (Carwyn Jones): The wellbeing of the agriculture sector is important in sustaining the economic, social, environmental and cultural cohesion of rural Wales. The rural economy is highly integrated and interdependent, and there are obvious multiplier effects between the various sectors of economic activity. All sectors are intertwined, as we saw during the foot and mouth disease crisis: no sector of the rural economy stands on its own. Therefore, it is difficult to give a concrete figure for the contribution of agriculture to the rural economy.

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad (Carwyn Jones): Mae lles y sector amaethyddiaeth yn bwysig wrth gynnal cydlynid economaidd, cymdeithasol, amgylcheddol a diwylliannol y Gymru wledig. Mae'r economi wledig yn dra integredig a chyd-ddibynnol, ac mae effeithiau lluosogi amlwg rhwng gwahanol sectorau gweithgaredd economaidd. Mae'r holl sectorau wedi ymweu, fel y gwelsom yn ystod argyfwng clwy'r traed a'r genau: nid oes yr un sector yn yr economi wledig yn annibynnol. Felly, mae'n anodd rhoi ffigur pendant ar gyfraniad amaethyddiaeth at yr economi wledig.

Lynne Neagle: Do you agree that the current subsidy system gives us the worst of three worlds? It restricts entry into farming, discourages rural enterprise by artificially raising land prices, and keeps the cost of food artificially high, which disadvantages those on low incomes in rural and urban Wales. It also excludes producers from developing countries. If you agree, what proposals will you bring forward on reforming the system, to give us high quality, affordable food and free access to our markets for the best food, irrespective of its origin?

Lynne Neagle: A ydych yn cytuno bod y system gymorthdaliadau bresennol yn rhoi inni'r gwaethaf o dri byd? Mae'n cyfyngu ar fynediad i ffermio, yn anghefnogol o fenter wledig drwy godi prisiau tir yn artiffisial, ac yn cadw cost bwyd yn artiffisial o uchel, sy'n anfanteisio'r rhai sydd ar incwm isel yn y Gymru wledig a threfol. Mae hefyd yn cau allan cynhyrchwyr o wledydd datblygol. Os cytunwch, pa gynigion y byddwch yn eu cyflwyno i ddiwygio'r system, i roi bwyd fforddiadwy o ansawdd da inni a mynediad rhydd i'n marchnadoedd i'r bwyd gorau, o ba

darddiad bynnag?

Carwyn Jones: The subsidy system is not perfect, and inevitably it will be reformed over the next few years. We must realise that even if it were possible for the subsidy system to disappear overnight—it has European approval—90 per cent of Welsh farmers would probably go to the wall. Corporate farming would become the norm in Wales. As outlined in ‘Farming for the Future’, we must give people time to adapt to the future of the market. However, it is also worth noting that you cannot have cheap high quality food. The high animal welfare standards in the UK and Europe add to the cost of production; one factor that allows some countries to produce food cheaply is that animal welfare is not a consideration. People must understand that. However, it is inevitable that the subsidy system will change with time, and we must put ourselves in a position where we are able to adapt to change rather than trying to resist it.

Peter Rogers: I welcome your reply. Do you agree that Lynne Neagle would do better not to take instruction from people like Paul Flynn, and recognise that agriculture is the basis of a range of economic activity, such as tourism? Agriculture is fundamental in supporting Welsh language and culture.

Carwyn Jones: I know Lynne Neagle well enough to say that she takes instruction from no-one, including Members of Parliament. She is an independently-minded Assembly Member. These are matters about which she feels strongly, and which she is entitled to raise. It is important to emphasise the rural economy has many aspects. While agriculture is not the biggest sector of the rural economy, it is difficult to imagine a rural economy without farming. However, that is not an excuse for keeping things as they are: although farming is part of our history, we would not want it to be consigned to history.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A gytunwch mai'r safonau cynhyrchu yng Nghymru yw'r uchaf yn y byd, a hynny oherwydd y rheoliadau sydd wedi'u cyflwyno i ddiogelu iechyd y

Carwyn Jones: Nid yw'r system gymorthdaliadau'n berffaith, ac mae'n anochel y caiff ei diwygio dros y blynyddoedd nesaf. Rhaid sylweddoli, hyd yn oed pe bai'n bosibl i'r system gymorthdaliadau ddiiflannu dros nos—mae iddi gymeradwyaeth Ewropeaidd—y byddai 90 y cant o ffermwyr Cymru'n mynd i'r wal yn ôl pob tebyg. Ffermio corfforaethol fyddai'r norm yng Nghymru. Fel yr amlinellwyd yn ‘Ffermio ar gyfer y Dyfodol’, rhaid inni roi amser i bobl addasu i ddyfodol y farchnad. Er hynny, mae hefyd yn werth nodi na allwch gael bwyd o ansawdd da sy'n rhad. Mae'r safonau lles anifeiliaid uchel yn y DU ac Ewrop yn ychwanegu at y gost cynhyrchu; un ffactor sy'n caniatáu i rai gwledydd gynhyrchu bwyd yn rhad yw nad yw lles anifeiliaid yn ystyriaeth. Rhaid i bobl ddeall hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'n anochel y bydd y system gymorthdaliadau'n newid gydag amser, a rhaid inni gyrraedd sefyllfa lle y gallwn addasu i newid yn hytrach na cheisio ei wrthsefyll.

Peter Rogers: Croesawaf eich ateb. A gytunwch y byddai'n well pe na bai Lynne Neagle yn cymryd ei chyfarwyddo gan rai fel Paul Flynn, a derbyn mai amaethyddiaeth yw'r sylfaen i amrywiaeth o weithgaredd economaidd, fel twristiaeth? Mae amaethyddiaeth yn hanfodol i gynnal y Gymraeg a'i diwylliant.

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf yn adnabod Lynne Neagle yn ddigon da i ddweud nad yw'n derbyn cyfarwyddyd gan neb, gan gynnwys Aelodau Seneddol. Mae'n Aelod Cynulliad annibynnol ei barn. Mae'n teimlo'n gryf am y materion hyn, ac mae ganddi hawl i'w codi. Mae'n bwysig pwysleisio bod sawl agwedd i'r economi wledig. Er nad amaethyddiaeth yw sector mwyaf yr economi wledig, mae'n anodd dychmygu economi wledig heb ffermio. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n esgus dros gadw pethau fel ag y maent: er bod ffermio'n rhan o'n hanes, ni ddymunem iddo gael ei ollwng dros gof.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Do you agree that Wales has the highest food production standards in the world, as a result of the regulations which have been introduced to

cyhoedd? Byddai'r hyn y mae Lynne Neagle yn sôn amdano—sef agor ein marchnadoedd i gynnyrch rhataf y byd—yn creu problemau iechyd enfawr. Mae gennym gyfrifoldeb i ddiogelu iechyd y cyhoedd, ac i sicrhau marchnad i'r cynnyrch Cymreig o'r safon uchaf.

Carwyn Jones: Mae hynny eisoes yn digwydd, gyda'r hyn a wneir gan yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd i sicrhau bod pobl yn gwybod bod y bwyd a fewnforir i Gymru yn ddiogel. Mewn rhai gwledydd, mae costiau cynhyrchu yn is o lawer nag ydynt yma. Mae sawl rheswm dros hynny: strwythur ffermio yn y gwledydd hynny; pris tir, a'r tywydd mewn gwlad fel Seland Newydd. Ni fyddai byth yn bosibl i ffermwyr Cymru gystadlu ar sail pris yn unig. Dyna pam y mae mor bwysig inni geisio peidio â chystadlu ar sail prisiau, ond i werthu mewn marchnad sy'n parhau safon yn fwy na phris. Enghraifft o hynny yw ein bod yn allforio ar hyn o bryd i dde Ewrop; nid pris yw'r unig ffactor yn y farchnad honno.

safeguard public health? Lynne Neagle's suggestion—that our markets should be opened up to the world's cheapest produce—would invite huge health problems. We have a responsibility to safeguard public health, and to ensure that there are markets for Welsh produce of the highest quality.

Carwyn Jones: The Food Standards Agency is already carrying out this function of ensuring that people know that the food imported into Wales is safe. In some countries, production costs are much lower than they are here. There are many reasons for that: the structure of farming in those countries, the cost of land, and the weather in a country like New Zealand. It would never be possible for Welsh farmers to compete on the basis of price alone. That is why it is so important for us not to compete on the basis of price, but to try to sell in a market where quality is valued more than price. An example of that is that we currently export to southern Europe, which is a market where price is not the only factor.

Antur Cig Cymru

Q2 Jocelyn Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on the consultation regarding the Antur Cig Cymru proposal? (OAQ16900)

Carwyn Jones: The consultation period opened on 24 January 2002 and ended on 22 March 2002. Some 26 individuals and organisations formally responded, as was reported to the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee yesterday. All of those respondents—apart from those who felt that red meat should not be promoted at all—were in favour.

Jocelyn Davies: Minister, will you give an undertaking to endeavour to locate this company outside Cardiff—in Aberystwyth, perhaps?

Carwyn Jones: Yes.

Kirsty Williams: Antur Cig Cymru is designed to support the red meat industry in Wales. Do you accept that the balance of that industry is under threat due to the crisis in the dairy sector? Will you comment on the

C2 Jocelyn Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr ymgynghori ynghylch y cynnig i sefydlu Antur Cig Cymru? (OAQ16900)

Carwyn Jones: Dechreuodd y cyfnod ymgynghori ar 24 Ionawr 2002 a daeth i ben ar 22 Mawrth 2002. Cafwyd ymateb ffurfiol gan ryw 26 o unigolion a chyrrff, fel yr adroddwyd i'r Pwyllgor Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig ddoe. Yr oedd pawb a ymatebodd—ar wahân i'r rhai a deimlai na ddylid hyrwyddo cig coch o gwbl—o blaid.

Jocelyn Davies: Weinidog, a wnewch ymgymryd i geisio lleoli'r cwmni hwn y tu allan i Gaerdydd—yn Aberystwyth, efallai?

Carwyn Jones: Gwnaf.

Kirsty Williams: Bwriedir i Antur Cig Cymru hybu'r diwydiant cig coch yng Nghymru. A dderbyniwch fod cydbwysedd y diwydiant hwnnw dan fygythiad oherwydd yr argyfwng yn y sector llaeth? A wnewch sylw

Westminster Government's failure to date to apply for agri-monetary compensation, which would be worth, on average, £2,000 for each dairy farm in Wales?

Carwyn Jones: This year, the dairy industry has problems that go beyond the usual difficulties that exist in the structure of any farming industry. One major problem is the surplus of milk, which inevitably means that market forces have driven its price down. There are other difficulties, which occur every year, but that has been the major difficulty this year. I have written to Margaret Beckett to urge the payment of agri-monetary compensation, and I hope that she will take that up with the Treasury.

William Graham: Minister, how will you ensure that the hugely successful co-operation among farmers that was created through Welsh Lamb and Beef Promotions Ltd continues under your present proposal?

Carwyn Jones: There is co-operation among farmers, but there is difficulty in terms of co-operation across the food chain, which is what this new body is designed to achieve. An application was made for protected geographical indication status of Welsh Lamb and Beef Promotions Limited, and we found ourselves in the daft situation—regardless of who is to blame; I am not apportioning blame—whereby one sector of the food industry supported that application and another opposed it, without any apparent contact between the two. That makes us look stupid in Europe, which is why it is exceptionally important for such disputes to be resolved within one organisation. Then, we can move ahead together, as can sectors across the food chain, to promote Welsh red meat.

In future, we need to avoid one sector of the industry promoting a product and not discussing it with another sector—as has occurred in the past in Wales.

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 3 (OAQ16898) ar gyfer ateb ysgrifenedig. Tynnwyd cwestiwn 4 (OAQ16891) yn ôl.

ar fethiant Llywodraeth San Steffan hyd yn hyn i ymgeisio am iawndal amaeth-ariannol, a fyddai'n werth £2,000, ar gyfartaledd, i bob fferm laeth yng Nghymru?

Carwyn Jones: Eleni, mae gan y diwydiant llaeth broblemau sy'n mynd ymhell y tu hwnt i'r anawsterau arferol a geir yn strwythur pob diwydiant ffermio. Un broblem fawr yw gorgynhyrchu llaeth, sy'n golygu'n anochel bod grymoedd y farchnad wedi gyrru ei bris i lawr. Mae anawsterau eraill, sy'n digwydd bob blwyddyn, ond hwnnw fu'r anhawster mawr eleni. Yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu at Margaret Beckett i bwysu am dalu iawndal amaeth-ariannol, a gobeithiaf y bydd yn codi hynny gyda'r Trysorlys.

William Graham: Weinidog, sut y gwnewch sicrhau y bydd y cydweithredu aruthrol o lwyddiannus ymysg ffermwyr a grewyd drwy Hybu Cig Oen ac Eidion Cymru Cyfyngedig yn parhau o dan eich cynnig presennol?

Carwyn Jones: Fe geir cydweithredu ymysg ffermwyr, ond mae anhawster o ran cydweithredu ar draws y gadwyn fwyd, a dyna'r hyn y bwriedir i'r corff newydd hwn ei gyflawni. Gwnaethpwyd cais am statws nod daearyddol gwarchoddedig i Hybu Cig Oen ac Eidion Cymru Cyfyngedig, ac fe'n cawsom ein hunain yn y sefyllfa wirion—ni waeth pwy sydd ar fai; nid wyf yn bwrw bai—lle'r oedd un sector o'r diwydiant bwyd yn cefnogi'r cais hwnnw ac un arall yn ei wrthwynebu, heb unrhyw gysylltiad amlwg rhwng y ddau. Mae hynny'n peri inni ymddangos yn dwp yn Ewrop, a dyna pam y mae'n eithriadol o bwysig datrys anghydfodau o'r fath o fewn un corff. Wedyn, gallwn symud ymlaen gyda'n gilydd, fel y gall y sectorau ar draws y gadwyn fwyd, i hyrwyddo cig coch Cymru.

Yn y dyfodol, rhaid inni osgoi sefyllfa lle y mae un sector yn y diwydiant yn hyrwyddo cynnyrch heb drafod hynny â sector arall—fel a ddigwyddodd yn y gorffennol yng Nghymru.

The Presiding Officer: Question 3 (OAQ16898) has been transferred for written answer. Question 4 (OAQ16891) has been withdrawn.

Y Nifer sy'n Manteisio ar Gynllun Tir Gofal
Take-up of the Tir Gofal Scheme

Q5 Alun Pugh: Will the Minister make a statement on the take-up of Tir Gofal? (OAQ16923)

C5 Alun Pugh: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y niferoedd sy'n manteisio ar y cynllun Tir Gofal? (OAQ16923)

Carwyn Jones: The third Tir Gofal application window closed on 31 August 2001. A total of 1,205 applications were received, of which 1,107, or 92 per cent, scored over the 100-point threshold. That compares with success rates of 51 per cent and 75 per cent in the first and second rounds respectively.

Carwyn Jones: Daeth trydydd cyfnod ymgeisio Tir Gofal i ben ar 31 Awst 2001. Daeth cyfanswm o 1,205 o geisiadau i law, ac o blith y rhain yr oedd 1,107, neu 92 y cant, â sgôr a oedd yn uwch na'r trothwy 100 pwynt. Mae hynny'n cymharu â chyfraddau llwyddiant o 51 y cant a 75 y cant yn y rownd gyntaf a'r ail yn y drefn honno.

In February, I announced an additional £1.5 million a year for Tir Gofal from this year onwards. That represents an increase of 11 per cent above the figures already announced, and takes the budget to £15.4 million for 2002-03, and £18.4 million in 2003-04. That should enable the successful applicants to join the scheme later this year, or during 2003.

Ym mis Chwefror, cyhoeddais £1.5 miliwn ychwanegol y flwyddyn i Tir Gofal o'r flwyddyn hon ymlaen. Mae hynny'n gynydd o 11 y cant ar y ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd eisoes, ac yn codi'r gyllideb i £15.4 miliwn am 2002-03, ac i £18.4 miliwn yn 2003-04. Dylai hynny alluogi'r ymgeiswyr llwyddiannus i ymuno â'r cynllun yn ddiweddarach eleni, neu yn ystod 2003.

Alun Pugh: Tir Gofal is an excellent scheme that promotes diversity and wildlife—especially birds—and access to the countryside so that we can all appreciate it. Do you share my concerns that many farmers want to join the scheme, but are unable to do so because of budgetary requirements?

Alun Pugh: Mae Tir Gofal yn gynllun rhagorol sy'n hybu amrywiaeth a bywyd gwyllt—yn enwedig adar—a mynediad i gefn gwlad fel y gallwn oll ei werthfawrogi. A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryderon bod llawer o ffermwyr am ymuno â'r cynllun, ond yn methu â gwneud oherwydd gofynion cyllidebol?

Carwyn Jones: It is an exceptionally popular scheme, which has unfortunately led to a waiting list. The extra funding that I announced recently is designed to address that waiting list, to enable as many farmers as possible to join the scheme within the present budgetary constraints.

Carwyn Jones: Mae'n gynllun eithriadol o boblogaidd, ac mae hynny wedi arwain at restr aros, gwaetha'r modd. Mae'r arian ychwanegol a gyhoeddais yn ddiweddar wedi'i fwriadu i roi sylw i'r rhestr aros honno, i alluogi cynifer o ffermwyr ag y bo modd i ymuno â'r cynllun o fewn y cyfyngiadau cyllidebol presennol.

Cynog Dafis: A yw'r Gweinidog yn derbyn yr hyn sy'n wir, sef y byddai gallu cael arian Ewropeaidd Tir Gofal yn wirioneddol ychwanegol yn ein galluogi i ddyblu maint y rhaglen drwy Gymru gyfan, ac i gynyddu'r rhaglen yn ardaloedd Amcan 1 hyd yn oed yn fwy? Mae arian Tir Gofal o Ewrop ar hyn o bryd yn cyrraedd y Trysorlys, nid pocedi ffermwyr Cymru. Beth a wna'r Gweinidog ynghylch y sefyllfa waradwyddus hon?

Cynog Dafis: Does the Minister accept the truth, namely that receiving European Tir Gofal funding as truly additional funding would enable us to double the size of the programme throughout Wales, and to expand the programme even further in Objective 1 areas? Tir Gofal money from Europe currently reaches the Treasury, rather than the pockets of Welsh farmers. What will the Minister do about this disgraceful situation?

9:35 a.m.

Carwyn Jones: Mae hynny'n fater cymhleth ac mae sawl person wedi siarad â mi yn ei gylch. Yn y dyfodol, bydd y ffaith bod system gyfrifon y Cynulliad yn cael ei newid yn helpu, gan y bydd modd i bobl weld yn gliriach o ble y daw'r arian. Dywed nifer bod arian ar gael inni yn Ewrop nad ydym yn manteisio arno ar hyn o bryd, ond nid yw hynny'n wir. Gobeithiwn y bydd gan bobl well syniad o ble daw'r arian yn y dyfodol.

Mick Bates: As you know, all farmers contribute towards Tir Gofal through modulation. Do you think that that is unfair, when only a small proportion of farmers get into the Tir Gofal scheme? Is it about time that we had a scheme that is accessible to all farmers?

Carwyn Jones: I would like to see a scheme that would be accessible to all farmers, but how would that be paid for? In England, it would undoubtedly be paid for through greater modulation. As you know, that is a controversial topic in Wales, not least because modulation does not work as well in Wales as it does in England or Scotland, due to the lack of a large arable sector in Wales. Many imponderables must be considered over the next few months. We will be better placed to understand our situation in terms of funding agri-environmental schemes when the European Commission's mid-term review has been completed.

Nick Bourne: You referred earlier to the waiting lists for Tir Gofal. There is a problem with the length of time between applying and reaching a decision, particularly when farmers must plan in advance. Can you set a target time for responses and decisions on Tir Gofal because it continues to create a problem for many farmers?

Carwyn Jones: In reply to the original question, I said that we hoped that successful applicants, who are waiting at the moment, would be able to join the scheme later this year or next year. That is one year fewer than the original waiting time. A waiting list was

Carwyn Jones: That is a complicated issue and several people have spoken to me about it. In future, the fact that the Assembly's accounting system is being changed will help, as it will be possible for people to have a clearer idea of where the money comes from. It is often said that funding is available to us in Europe that we are not currently accessing. That is not true. We hope that people will have a better idea of where funding comes from in future.

Mick Bates: Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r holl ffermwyr yn cyfrannu at Tir Gofal drwy fodiwleiddio. A ydych yn credu bod hynny'n annheg, gan mai dim ond cyfran fach o ffermwyr sy'n llwyddo i ymuno â chynllun Tir Gofal? Onid yw'n hen bryd inni gael cynllun y gall pob ffermwr ymuno ag ef?

Carwyn Jones: Hoffwn weld cynllun y gallai pob ffermwr ymuno ag ef, ond sut y byddid yn talu amdano? Yn Lloegr, mae'n sicr y telid amdano drwy fwy o fodiwleiddio. Fel y gwyddoch, mae hwnnw'n bwnc dadleuol yng Nghymru, nid lleiaf am nad yw modiweiddio'n gweithio cystal yng Nghymru ag ydyw yn Lloegr neu'r Alban, am nad oes sector tir â'r mawr yng Nghymru. Bydd yn rhaid ystyried llawer o bethau anfezuradwy dros y misoedd nesaf hyn. Byddwn yn gallu deall ein sefyllfa'n well o ran ariannu cynlluniau amaeth-amgylcheddol ar ôl cwblhau adolygiad canol tymor y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd.

Nick Bourne: Cyfeiriasoch yn gynharach at restrau aros Tir Gofal. Mae problem ynghylch y cyfnod rhwng ymgeisio a dod i benderfyniad, yn enwedig pan fo'n rhaid i ffermwyr gynllunio ymlaen llaw. A allwch bennu targed amser ar gyfer ymatebion a phenderfyniadau ar Tir Gofal gan fod hyn yn dal i greu problem i lawer o ffermwyr?

Carwyn Jones: Wrth ateb y cwestiwn gwreiddiol, dywedais ein bod yn gobeithio y byddai ymgeiswyr llwyddiannus, sy'n disgwyl ar hyn o bryd, yn gallu ymuno â'r cynllun yn ddiweddarach eleni neu yn y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae hynny flwyddyn yn llai

created for Tir Gofal because, when the scheme first began, if farmers did not get over the threshold they had to re-apply every year. Those who did get over the threshold but did not have enough points, also had to re-apply every year. The system was changed about two years ago, so that instead of re-applying every year, farmers who had passed the threshold were placed on a waiting list. That was a better system than making farmers continuously re-apply. The waiting list is a result of that. I hope that, over the next few years, the waiting list can be brought down to as few as possible.

na'r amser aros gwreiddiol. Crewyd rhestr aros ar gyfer Tir Gofal oherwydd, pan ddechreuodd y cynllun gyntaf, os nad oedd y ffermwyr yn mynd dros y trothwy yr oedd yn rhaid iddynt ailgeisio bob blwyddyn. Yr oedd y rhai a aeth dros y trothwy ond a oedd heb gael digon o bwyntiau hefyd yn gorfod ailymgeisio bob blwyddyn. Newidiwyd y system tua dwy flynedd yn ôl, fel bod ffermwyr a oedd wedi mynd heibio i'r trothwy'n cael eu rhoi ar restr aros, yn lle ailgeisio bob blwyddyn. Yr oedd honno'n well system na gorfodi ffermwyr i ailgeisio'n barhaus. Mae'r rhestr aros yn ganlyniad i hynny. Gobeithiaf y gellir lleihau'r rhestr aros i'r nifer lleiaf posibl dros y blynyddoedd nesaf.

Partneriaeth Wledig Rural Partnership

Q6 Christine Gwyther: Will the Minister please make a statement about progress achieved in the rural partnership? (OAQ16896)

C6 Christine Gwyther: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynghylch y cynnydd a wnaed gan y bartneriaeth wledig? (OAQ16896)

Carwyn Jones: The rural partnership, which I chair, brings together 27 bodies with links to over 150 other organisations in rural Wales. It is a valuable partner organisation for the Welsh Assembly Government and it has done a great deal to increase awareness of many rural issues.

Carwyn Jones: Mae'r bartneriaeth wledig, yr wyf fi'n gadeirydd arni, yn cynnull 27 o gyrff sydd â chysylltiadau â mwy na 150 o gyrff eraill yn y Gymru wledig. Mae'n gorff partner gwerthfawr i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a gwnaeth lawer i hybu ymwybyddiaeth o sawl mater gwledig.

An example of the work we are taking forward together is the recently commissioned study on age-balanced communities, which will not only examine why young people are leaving rural areas, but what measures can be put in place to assist those who want to stay and those who want to return. It is an important study. Originally, it was due to consider the issue of young people in rural areas, but there was no agreement on the definition of a young person, so the phrase 'age-balanced community' was used instead. The study is due to be finished in the autumn, and I hope that we will then be able to produce an action plan and get down to the meat of addressing the issue.

Enghraifft o'r gwaith yr ydym yn ei wneud gyda'n gilydd yw'r astudiaeth a gomisiynwyd yn ddiweddar ar gymunedau â chydbwysedd oed, a fydd yn ymchwilio i weld pam y mae pobl ifanc yn gadael ardaloedd gwledig, a hefyd i'r mesurau y gellir eu rhoi ar waith i helpu'r rhai sy'n dymuno aros a'r rhai sydd am ddychwelyd. Mae'n astudiaeth bwysig. Yn wreiddiol, yr oedd i fod i ystyried mater pobl ifanc mewn ardaloedd gwledig, ond ni chytunwyd ar ddiffiniad o rywun ifanc, felly defnyddiwyd yr ymadrodd 'cymuned â chydbwysedd oed' yn lle. Mae'r astudiaeth i fod i gael ei chwblhau yn yr hydref, a gobeithiaf y byddwn wedyn yn gallu cynhyrchu cynllun gweithredu a bwrw ymlaen â'r gwaith o ymdrin â'r mater hwn.

Christine Gwyther: After yesterday's budget announcement—with its freeze on

Christine Gwyther: Ar ôl cyhoeddiad y gyllideb ddoe—yn peidio â chodi treth

fuel tax, help for small firms by slashing red tape on VAT returns, its commitment to renewable energy, its unprecedented help for working families, and, of course, its unprecedented investment in the national health service—farming unions were again centre stage when they asked what Gordon Brown had done for farmers. Do you agree that one of the greatest achievements and strengths of the rural partnership, is its multi-agency make-up? It does not only represent farmers or tourist operators, although both are represented. That makes it an invaluable tool to measure the effectiveness of UK, national and local government policies across the piste. It is the true voice of rural Wales, and will you ensure that the Government gives due weight—

The Presiding Officer: Order. You have asked your supplementary question.

Carwyn Jones: The Assembly Government's approach, in marked contrast to previous Conservative Secretaries of State for Wales, has been well noted by members of the rural partnership. They now feel that there is consultation where before there was dictatorship. That phrase has been used by many people—[*Interruption.*] Again, they show a dictatorial attitude in trying to shout people down, but they will not succeed, so there is no point in them continuing—

The Presiding Officer: Order. No-one will shout anyone down in this Chamber.

Carwyn Jones: I am grateful for that remark, Llywydd.

Yesterday's budget was not just a good budget for rural Wales, but for the whole of Wales. I am sure that we can all welcome the money that will be put into the national health service and the many types of help being offered to small businesses, which illustrates the Labour Party's commitment, in this Chamber and in Westminster, to all parts of Wales.

Peter Rogers: Following discussions with the partnership, will you provide an update

danwydd, y cymorth i fusnesau bach drwy gwtogi'r fïwrocratiaeth ynghylch ffurflenni TAW, yr ymrwymiad i ynni adnewyddadwy, y cymorth digyffelyb i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio, ac, wrth gwrs, y buddsoddiad digyffelyb yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol—yr oedd yr undebau ffermio yn amlwg iawn eto wrth ofyn beth a wnaeth Gordon Brown dros y ffermwyr. A gytunwch mai un o gyflawniadau a chryfderau mwyaf y bartneriaeth wledig yw ei chyfansoddiad amlasiantaethol? Nid yw'n cynrychioli ffermwyr neu weithredwyr twristiaeth yn unig, er bod cynrychiolaeth i'r ddau. Mae hynny'n ei gwneud yn offeryn amhrisiadwy i fesur effeithiolrwydd polisiâu llywodraeth y DU, y llywodraeth genedlaethol a llywodraeth leol yn gyffredinol. Hi yw gwir lais y Gymru wledig, ac a wnewch sicrhau bod y Llywodraeth yn rhoi pwys dyladwy—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr ydych wedi gofyn eich cwestiwn atodol.

Carwyn Jones: Mae aelodau o'r bartneriaeth wledig wedi canmol dull gweithredu Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, sydd mor wahanol i un Ysgrifenyddion Gwladol Ceidwadol Cymru gynt. Maent yn teimlo bellach fod ymgynghori lle'r oedd unbennaeth o'r blaen. Defnyddiwyd yr ymadrodd hwnnw gan lawer o bobl—[*Torri ar draws.*] Unwaith eto, maent yn amlygu ymagwedd unbenaethol wrth geisio gweiddi ar draws, ond ni lwyddant, felly nid oes diben iddynt barhau—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni wnaiff neb weiddi ar draws rhywun yn y Siambr hon.

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y sylw hwnnw, Lywydd.

Yr oedd y gyllideb ddoe yn un dda, nid yn unig i'r Gymru wledig, ond i Gymru gyfan. Yr wyf yn siŵr y gallwn oll groesawu'r arian a roddir i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol a'r nifer fawr o fathau o gymorth a gynigir i fusnesau bach, sy'n dangos ymrwymiad y Blaid Lafur, yn y Siambr hon ac yn San Steffan, i bob rhan o Gymru.

Peter Rogers: Ar ôl y trafodaethau â'r bartneriaeth, a wnewch roi'r diweddaraf ar yr

on the research into why young people continue to leave rural Wales and the barriers to their returning? In Anglesey, in my constituency—and I am sure that you are also concerned, because I think you were approached on this issue—we lost 20 per cent of our young people between 1992 and 2000. The current prediction is that we will lose a further 10 per cent by 2016. These figures are extremely worrying. What can we do about it?

Carwyn Jones: That is what the study is designed to do. It is not designed to tell us what we already know—that there are problems of young people leaving rural areas—but to make proposals on what we can do about it. One example of the problem, which is particular to Anglesey, is that many young people are going to work in the booming Dublin economy in the Republic of Ireland. If you go around building sites in Dublin, you will often hear Welsh spoken because there is more and better-paid work for young people there.

People who have moved out of rural Wales and wish to return often feel that there are no jobs available for them to match their skills. The reality can often be different. Often there is a skills shortage in parts of rural Wales and those who want to return have the skills that would help to alleviate that shortage. We have a system currently through the Llwybro-Routes project whereby attempts are made to link jobs with people who want to return to rural Wales. We should not say that we want to keep young people in rural Wales: some will want to stay but some will go and want to return. It is important that employment is available for those who have gone away but want to return. We take that issue seriously and I hope the study will address it in great depth.

ymchwil i weld pam y mae pobl ifanc yn dal i adael y Gymru wledig a'r hyn sy'n eu rhwystro rhag dychwelyd? Yn Ynys Môn, yn fy etholaeth i—ac yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod chithau'n bryderus, oherwydd credaf i rywun eich holi ar hyn—collasom 20 y cant o'n pobl ifanc rhwng 1992 a 2000. Rhagwelir ar hyn o bryd y byddwn yn colli 10 y cant ymhellach erbyn 2016. Mae'r ffigurau hynny'n peri gofid mawr. Beth gallwn ei wneud yn ei gylch?

Carwyn Jones: Dyna fwriad yr astudiaeth. Nid dweud wrthym am yr hyn a wyddom eisoes yw ei diben—bod problemau o ran bod pobl ifanc yn gadael ardaloedd gwledig—ond gwneud cynigion ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud yn ei gylch. Un enghraifft o'r broblem, sy'n un benodol i Ynys Môn, yw bod llawer o bobl ifanc yn mynd i weithio yn economi ffyniannus Dilyn yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon. Os ewch o gwmpas y safleoedd adeiladu yn Nulyn, fe glywch y Gymraeg yn aml oherwydd bod mwy o waith â thâl gwell i bobl ifanc yno.

Mae pobl a symudodd o'r Gymru wledig ac sy'n dymuno dychwelyd yn teimlo'n aml nad oes swyddi ar gael iddynt sy'n cydweddu â'u sgiliau. Nid felly y mae'n aml. Yn aml ceir prinder sgiliau mewn rhai rhannau o'r Gymru wledig ac mae'r rhai sy'n dymuno dychwelyd yn meddu ar y sgiliau hynny a fyddai'n gymorth i leddfu'r prinder. Mae gennym system ar hyn o bryd drwy brosiect Llwybro-Routes lle y ceisir cysylltu swyddi â'r rhai sy'n dymuno dychwelyd i'r Gymru wledig. Ni ddylem ddweud ein bod am gadw pobl yn y Gymru wledig: bydd rhai'n dymuno aros ond bydd eraill yn gadael ac yn dymuno dychwelyd. Mae'n bwysig bod gwaith ar gael i'r rhai a aeth i ffwrdd ond sy'n dymuno dychwelyd. Yr ydym yn cymryd y mater hwnnw o ddifrif a gobeithiaf y bydd yr astudiaeth yn ymdrin â hynny'n fanwl.

Promotion of Organic Food Hyrwyddo Bwyd Organig

C7 Owen John Thomas: A gawn ni ddatganiad gan y Gweinidog am y camau y mae wedi eu cymryd i hybu gwerthiant bwyd organig yng Nghymru? (OAQ16912)

Q7 Owen John Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on the action he has taken to promote the selling of organic food in Wales? (OAQ16912)

Carwyn Jones: Drwy'r Cynulliad,

Carwyn Jones: Through the Assembly, the

Cyfarwyddiaeth Fwyd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a'r bartneriaeth fwyd-amaeth, mae gwaith yn cael ei wneud yn gyson i helpu i hybu a gwerthu bwyd organig. Yr ydym i gyd yn gweithio'n galed i achub ar y cyfleoedd i helpu ac annog cyflenwad o gynnyrch organig ym mhob archfarchnad yng Nghymru.

Owen John Thomas: Mae bwydydd organig yn dal i fod yn ddrud o'u cymharu â bwydydd eraill, sy'n eu gwrthio i gornel arbennig yn y farchnad. Beth allech ei wneud i sicrhau bod cynnyrch organig Cymru yn dod o fewn cyrraedd cwsmeriaid Cymru?

Carwyn Jones: Os ydych yn siarad â ffermwyr organig, y peth olaf y maent am weld yw prisiau cynnyrch organig yn cyfateb â phrisiau bwydydd confensiynol, oherwydd bod costau ffermio organig lawer yn uwch na chostau ffermio confensiynol. Felly, mae'n iawn bod y ddau â phrisiau gwahanol, ond mae'r gwahaniaeth mewn pris yn wahanol mewn gwahanol sectorau. Yn y sectorau llaeth a llysiau, er enghraifft, er bod y gwahaniaeth mewn pris yn uchel o ran y ganran, yr ydym yn sôn am ambell geiniog yn hytrach na phunnoedd. Ynglŷn â chig, un broblem yw bod pris cig organig ychydig yn fwy na chig confensiynol ac felly y bydd yn aros. Fodd bynnag, mae'r sector organig wedi tyfu yng Nghymru ac ym Mhrydain Fawr. Yr ydym yn ceisio hybu hynny drwy'r cynllun ffermio organig ac mae mwy o ffermwyr wedi dechrau ffermio'n organig yn ddiweddar.

David Melding: Do you agree that we need to market and encourage finished products, because if they require organic ingredients there will be a great input into the economy? Organic products of drink, beer and wine can also be marketed successfully and people will happily pay the premium.

Carwyn Jones: Producers of organic wine and beer inform me that there is no hangover as a result of overindulging in such drinks. I have not yet tested that theory, but I am informed that the hangover is a result of the chemicals in conventionally produced beer. I cannot comment on that because it merely remains a theory, which I have not tested.

Welsh Development Agency's Food Directorate and the agri-food partnership, work is regularly undertaken to assist in the promotion and selling of organic food. We are all working hard to take advantage of every opportunity to assist and encourage the supply of organic produce in every supermarket in Wales.

Owen John Thomas: Organic foods are still expensive in comparison to other foods, which pushes them into a special niche in the market. What can you do to ensure that Welsh organic produce is brought within the reach of the Welsh customer?

Carwyn Jones: If you speak to organic farmers, the last thing that they want is for the prices of organic produce to correspond to those of conventional foods, because the costs of organic farming are much higher than those of conventional farming. Therefore, the price discrepancies are entirely justified, but the difference in price varies in different sectors. In the dairy and vegetable sectors, for example, although the price difference is high in percentage terms, it is a matter of a few pence, rather than a few pounds. Regarding meat, one problem is that the price of organic meat is significantly higher than conventional meat and it will remain so. However, the organic sector has grown in Wales and in Great Britain. We are trying to promote that through the organic farming scheme and more farmers have recently turned to organic farming.

David Melding: A ydych yn cytuno bod rhaid inni farchnata a hybu cynhyrchion gorffenedig, oherwydd os bydd angen cynhwysion organig ynddynt bydd mewnbyn mawr i'r economi? Gellir marchnata cynhyrchion diod organig, cwrw a gwin yn llwyddiannus hefyd, a byddai pobl yn fodlon talu pris uwch.

Carwyn Jones: Mae cynhyrchwyr gwin a chwrw organig yn dweud wrthyf na cheir pen mawr fore drannoeth o ganlyniad i yfed gormod o ddiodydd o'r fath. Nid wyf wedi rhoi prawf ar y ddamcaniaeth honno eto, ond fe'm hysbyswyd bod salwch bore drannoeth yn ganlyniad i'r cemegolion mewn cwrw a gynhyrchir yn gonfensiynol. Ni allaf wneud

Perhaps David would like to volunteer as the guinea pig for that.

On the finished organic product, organic wine and beer can be promoted, particularly on the basis that I have mentioned, if that basis is correct. However, people tend to equate organic food with freshness and buy organic meat and vegetables and organic dairy produce, but are unwilling to buy organic food that has been processed because they do not equate the organic principle with processed food. Therefore, there are some difficulties with going down that track, but there are certainly great opportunities for promoting organic food in Wales. There is currently a lull in the market, but that has been the case before. Over the long term, there is growth in the organic market on which we should capitalise, if indeed there is a market for it.

9:45 a.m.

Datganiad ar Fframwaith Adfywio'r Pum Sir Statement on the Five Counties Regeneration Framework

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): I update the Assembly on the position regarding the Corus redundancies and the work which the Assembly Government, its agencies, and the local authorities, have undertaken to mitigate the effects of the redundancies, and to regenerate the affected areas in the five counties.

It is now around 15 months since Corus announced its job losses in Wales. The redundancies are, of course, still working through. Earlier this month, around 140 people lost their jobs when the coke ovens at Llanwern closed, but I understand that all those workers have been placed elsewhere within Corus. Approximately 450 workers will leave Ebbw Vale following the final closure in July. As well as the direct job losses, there have been indirect losses from contractors and other service providers who were dependent on Corus directly or indirectly for their livelihoods.

sylw am hynny oherwydd dim ond damcaniaeth ydyw o hyd, ac ni roddais brawf arni. Efallai y carai David wirfoddoli'n destun arbrawf ar gyfer hynny.

Ynghylch y cynnyrch organig gorffenedig, gellir hybu gwin a chwrw organig, yn enwedig ar y sail a grybwyllais, os yw'r sail honno'n gywir. Fodd bynnag, mae pobl yn tueddu i gyfystyru bwyd organig â ffresni ac yn prynu cig a llysiau organig a chynnyrch llaeth organig, ond yn amharod i brynu bwyd organig a broseswyd am nad ydynt yn cyfystyru'r egwyddor organig â bwyd a broseswyd. Felly, mae rhai anawsterau ynglŷn â dilyn y llwybr hwnnw, ond mae cyfleoedd mawr yn sicr i hybu bwyd organig yng Nghymru. Mae'r farchnad yn dawel ar hyn o bryd, ond mae hynny wedi digwydd o'r blaen. Yn y tymor hir, mae twf yn y farchnad organig y dylem fanteisio arno, os oes marchnad iddo mewn gwirionedd.

Prif Weinidog Cymru (Rhodri Morgan): Rhoddaf y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad ynghylch diswyddiadau Corus a gwaith Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ei hasiantaethau, a'r awdurdodau lleol, i liniaru effeithiau'r diswyddiadau, ac adfywio'r ardaloedd a effeithiwyd yn y pum sir.

Mae tua 15 mis bellach ers i Corus gyhoeddi ei golledion swyddi yng Nghymru. Wrth gwrs, mae'r diswyddiadau'n dal i ddod drwodd. Yn gynharach y mis hwn, collodd tua 140 o bobl eu swyddi pan gaeodd y ffyrnau golosg yn Llanwern, ond deallaf fod pob un o'r gweithwyr hynny wedi'i leoli mewn mannau eraill o fewn Corus. Bydd tua 450 o weithwyr yn gadael Glynebwy ar ôl y cau terfynol yng Ngorffennaf. Yn ogystal â'r colledion swyddi uniongyrchol, bu colledion anuniongyrchol ymysg contractwyr a darparwyr gwasanaethau eraill a ddibynnai'n uniongyrchol neu'n anuniongyrchol ar Corus am eu bywoliaeth.

In my statement on this issue on 31 January, I paid tribute to the work of the support agencies, particularly Education and Learning Wales, the Employment Service, the Benefits Agency and Careers Wales in setting up advice centres and making help and assistance available to the workers. That support has been ongoing and our latest figures indicate that almost 900 of those identified for redundancy have secured alternative jobs. The agencies are fully geared up for the next round of job losses and are working closely with steel partnership training's advocate workers to ensure that everyone who needs it has access to the best advice and guidance so that they gain maximum benefit from the available support package.

In my January statement, I also mentioned the research and development centre at Port Talbot. The current position is that the centre has been renamed ECM2—engineering centre for manufacturing and materials. The acquisition was completed on 30 March and a chief operating officer has been appointed. The centre has been designated as the manufacturing advisory service for Wales, part of the Department of Trade and Industry's network programme. The centre is receiving further inquiries from institutions wishing to locate there, therefore things are looking promising for the centre.

Before moving on to talk specifically about developments in south-east Wales, I will also update the Assembly on the situation regarding blast furnace number five at Port Talbot, and the latest position on the impact of the US steel tariffs. Our thoughts remain with the families and colleagues of those who lost their lives or were seriously injured by the explosion at blast furnace number five. It brought home to us the real dangers faced by those working in heavy industries and the emergency services, who sometimes have to tend to the wounded after an explosion. Therefore, we were pleased to hear of Corus's decision to build a new blast furnace at a cost of £75 million with much improved environmental performance, which will bring the Port Talbot works back to normal integrated operations as soon as possible. This is a strong demonstration of the company's commitment to integrated steel

Yn fy natganiad ar y mater hwn ar 31 Ionawr, talais deyrnged i waith yr asiantaethau cymorth, yn enwedig Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru, y Gwasanaeth Cyflogaeth, yr Asiantaeth Budd-daliadau a Gyrfa Cymru wrth sefydlu canolfannau cyngor a darparu help a chymorth i'r gweithwyr. Mae'r cymorth hwnnw wedi parhau ac mae ein ffigurau diweddaraf yn dangos bod bron i 900 o'r rhai a enwyd i'w diswyddo wedi cael swyddi eraill. Mae'r asiantaethau wedi ymbaratoi'n llawn ar gyfer y rownd nesaf o golledion swyddi ac maent yn gweithio'n agos gydag eiriolwyr hyfforddiant y bartneriaeth ddur i sicrhau bod y cyngor a'r cyfarwyddyd gorau ar gael i bawb y mae arnynt eu hangen fel eu bod yn cael y budd mwyaf o'r pecyn cymorth sydd ar gael.

Yn fy natganiad yn Ionawr, soniais hefyd am y ganolfan ymchwil a datblygu ym Mhort Talbot. Y sefyllfa ar hyn o bryd yw bod y ganolfan wedi'i hailenwi'n ECM2—canolfan peirianeg ar gyfer gweithgynhyrchu a defnyddiau. Cwblhawyd y prynu ar 30 Mawrth a phenodwyd prif swyddog gweithredu. Mae'r ganolfan wedi'i dynodi'n wasanaeth ymgynghorol gweithgynhyrchu i Gymru, rhan o raglen rhwydwaith yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Mae'r ganolfan yn derbyn ymholiadau pellach oddi wrth sefydliadau sy'n dymuno ymgartrefu yno, felly mae'n addo'n dda i'r ganolfan.

Cyn mynd ymlaen i sôn yn benodol am y datblygiadau yn y De-ddwyrain, rhoddaf y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad hefyd ar y sefyllfa ynghylch ffwrnais chwyth rhif pump ym Mhort Talbot, a'r sefyllfa ddiweddaraf o ran effaith tollau dur yr Unol Daleithiau. Mae teuluoedd a chydweithwyr y rhai a gollodd eu bywyd neu a anafwyd yn ddifrifol gan y ffrwydrad yn ffwrnais chwyth rhif pump yn ein meddyliau o hyd. Parodd inni sylweddoli'r peryglon gwirioneddol sy'n wynebu'r rhai sy'n gweithio mewn diwydiannau trwm a'r gwasanaethau brys, sydd weithiau'n gorfod gofalu am y cleifion ar ôl ffrwydrad. Felly, yr oeddem yn falch o glywed am benderfyniad Corus i adeiladu ffwrnais chwyth newydd am £75 miliwn ac iddi berfformiad amgylcheddol gwell o lawer, a fydd yn adfer y gweithrediadau integredig arferol yng ngwaith Port Talbot cyn gynted â phosibl. Dyma brawf pendant o

making in Wales, and is a fitting testament to those who were killed or injured in the explosion.

The US announcement on 5 March to levy tariffs on a range of steel products imported into the US was completely unjustified and is deeply regrettable. Together with the UK Government, we have done, and will continue to do, all that we can to safeguard the interests of the UK steel industry from this totally unfair action. We have fully supported the introduction from the beginning of this month of provisional EU anti-surge safeguard measures to protect the European steel industry from the diversion of displaced steel products that can no longer afford to enter the US market. We have also pledged our support for the European Commission's action in immediately invoking World Trade Organisation dispute settlement procedures, although we recognise that they may take more than a year to come to a conclusion. We shall continue to fully support measures to ensure that our steel industry is not unfairly treated or disadvantaged.

Turning to the regeneration framework for the five counties, I am pleased to announce that the Assembly Government received the final report from the five counties in February. This report is the result of work undertaken on behalf of the all-Wales steel taskforce by the Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen local authorities, the WDA and ELWa, and funded by the Assembly Government. I wish to pay tribute to the work of the local authorities in coming together and presenting a joint regeneration framework. This is a model that we would encourage elsewhere in Wales as a means of delivering joined-up programmes linking the local and the national economic policies. The full five counties report has been put on the Assembly website. I am pleased to say that the Cabinet has endorsed almost all of the recommendations in the report, and we look forward to seeing the local authorities, together with the relevant agencies, continuing to work together through the regeneration forum, to pursue the ambitions in the report.

ymrwymiad y cwmni i gynhyrchu dur integredig yng Nghymru, ac yn goffadwriaeth addas i'r rhai a laddwyd neu a anafwyd yn y ffrwydrad.

Yr oedd cyhoeddiad yr Unol Daleithiau ar 5 Mawrth ei bod am godi tollau ar amryw o gynhyrchion dur a fewnforir i'r Unol Daleithiau heb unrhyw gyfiawnhad o gwbl, ac yn anffodus dros ben. Ar y cyd â Llywodraeth y DU, gwnaethom, a byddwn yn dal i wneud, y cyfan a allwn i ddiogelu buddiannau diwydiant dur y DU rhag y weithred gwbl annheg hon. Yr ydym wedi llwyr gefnogi cyflwyno mesurau diogelu dros dro yr UE rhag ymchwydd o ddechrau'r mis hwn i amddiffyn y diwydiant dur Ewropeaidd rhag dargyfeirio cynhyrchion dur a ddadleolwyd, na allant bellach fforddio mynd i farchnad yr Unol Daleithiau. Rhoesom ein cefnogaeth hefyd i'r camau a gymerwyd gan y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd wrth apelio'n syth at weithdrefnau datrys anghydfod Corff Masnachu'r Byd, er ein bod yn cydnabod y gallai gymryd mwy na blwyddyn i benderfynu. Byddwn yn parhau i lwyr gefnogi mesurau i sicrhau na chaiff ein diwydiant dur ei drin yn annheg neu'i anfanteisio.

Gan droi at y fframwaith adfywio i'r pum sir, yr wyf yn falch o gyhoeddi y cafodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yr adroddiad terfynol gan y pum sir yn Chwefror. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn ganlyniad i waith a wnaethpwyd ar ran y tasglu dur i Gymru gyfan gan awdurdodau lleol Blaenau Gwent, Caerffili, Sir Fynwy, Casnewydd a Thorfaen, y WDA ac ELWa, ac a ariannwyd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Dymunaf dalu teyrnged i waith yr awdurdodau lleol wrth ddod at ei gilydd a chyflwyno fframwaith adfywio ar y cyd. Mae hwn yn fodel y byddem yn ei gymell mewn manau eraill o Gymru fel modd i gyflawni rhaglenni cydgysylltiedig sy'n cysylltu'r polisiau economaidd lleol a chenedlaethol. Mae adroddiad llawn y pum sir ar wefan y Cynulliad. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod y Cabinet wedi cymeradwyo bron bob un o'r argymhellion ynddo, ac edrychwn ymlaen at weld yr awdurdodau lleol, ynghyd â'r asiantaethau perthnasol, yn dal i gydweithio drwy'r fforwm adfywio, i geisio cyflawni'r uchelgeisiau yn yr adroddiad.

In January, I announced a number of specific initiatives that were identified in the framework and funded out of the £76 million that the Assembly Government has made available. Although it is still early days, I can report good progress against these projects. Newport County Borough Council, in partnership with the WDA, has commissioned a designation report for the proposed urban regeneration company. The report will make recommendations concerning the operational boundary of the company and will include a draft business plan. The report is being prepared in conjunction with a review of Newport's unitary development plan to ensure the activities of the not-for-profit company are fully integrated with the statutory planning system. Work is also underway on the design and business plan for the Ebbw Vale passenger rail service. A programme for the implementation of the proposal will be ready by mid summer.

Proposals for a new learning campus on the Ebbw Vale site are progressing well. Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, in partnership with University of Wales College Newport, Coleg Gwent, ELWa, the WDA and Corus, is currently developing detailed proposals for the project. A masterplan for phase 1 will be available by July, and a detailed masterplan and business case for the entire site will be complete by the end of this year. A steering partnership, consisting of UWCN, Coleg Gwent, ELWa, the community consortia for education and training, the local authorities and the Assembly Government, has been established to drive the community learning network project forward. A detailed analysis of education and training needs is being undertaken and this will provide the basis for developing education and training facilities in local communities.

An information and communications technology strategy for Blaenau Gwent is underway, consisting of infrastructure development to provide broadband access linked to intensive business support. This project will enable companies in Blaenau Gwent to take full advantage of the digital revolution. We shall continue to monitor

Ym mis Ionawr, cyhoeddais sawl menter benodol a nodwyd yn y fframwaith ac a ariannwyd o'r £76 miliwn a ddarparodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Er ei bod yn gynnar o hyd, gallaf adrodd bod y prosiectau hyn yn gwneud cynnydd da. Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Casnewydd, mewn partneriaeth â'r WDA, wedi comisiynu adroddiad dynodi ar gyfer y cwmni adfywio trefol arfaethedig. Bydd yr adroddiad yn gwneud argymhellion ynghylch ffin weithredol y cwmni a bydd yn cynnwys cynllun busnes drafft. Paratwir yr adroddiad ar y cyd ag adolygiad o gynllun datblygu unedol Casnewydd i sicrhau bod gweithgareddau'r cwmni nid-er-elw wedi'u llwyr integreiddio â'r system cynllunio statudol. Mae gwaith ar y gweill hefyd ar y cynllun a'r cynllun busnes i wasanaeth rheilffordd teithwyr Glynebwy. Bydd rhaglen i roi'r bwriad ar waith yn barod erbyn canol yr haf.

Mae'r cynigion ar gyfer campws dysgu newydd ar safle Glynebwy'n mynd rhagddynt yn dda. Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent, mewn partneriaeth â Choleg Prifysgol Cymru Casnewydd, Coleg Gwent, ELWa, y WDA a Corus, yn datblygu cynigion manwl ar gyfer y prosiect ar hyn o bryd. Bydd prif gynllun i gam 1 ar gael erbyn mis Gorffennaf, a chwblheir prif gynllun manwl ac achos busnes i'r safle cyfan erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn yma. Sefydlwyd partneriaeth llywio, sy'n cynnwys Coleg Prifysgol Cymru Casnewydd, Coleg Gwent, ELWa, y consortia cymunedol addysg a hyfforddiant, yr awdurdodau lleol a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, i hybu'r prosiect rhwydwaith dysgu cymunedol. Gwneir dadansoddiad manwl o'r anghenion addysg a hyfforddiant a bydd hwn yn sylfaen i ddatblygu cyfleusterau addysg a hyfforddi yn y cymunedau lleol.

Mae strategaeth technoleg gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu i Flaenau Gwent ar y gweill sy'n cynnwys datblygu seilwaith i ddarparu mynediad band llydan yn gysylltiedig â chymorth busnes manwl. Bydd y prosiect hwn yn galluogi cwmnïau ym Mlaenau Gwent i fanteisio'n llawn ar y chwyldro digidol. Byddwn yn parhau i fonitro'r

these projects carefully and ensure that they are delivered as quickly as possible.

I now turn to the new initiatives arising from the regeneration framework that the Assembly Government has agreed to fund. In the first instance, there is a need to continue to develop strategic employment sites and premises in the area to encourage and grow businesses. The WDA has brought forward an exciting package of sites that, together, would provide some 215,000 square feet of premises at a total cost of some £14.475 million. Of this total, some £6.575 million will be made available out of the Corus regeneration package, and £2.875 million from the Assembly economic match funding budget. The remainder would come from EU structural funds and from the private sector.

The sites and premises that have been agreed with the local authority partners are: the Tredegar business park; the Ebbw Vale Innovation Centre; small units at Roseheyworth and the Abertillery town centre scheme in the borough of Blaenau Gwent; the Oakdale business park in the borough of Caerphilly; Queensway Meadows industrial estate in Newport; and Mamhilad in Torfaen. The WDA is working closely with the Welsh European Funding Office and the other partners in putting together a financial package to ensure that these projects are up and running as quickly as possible.

Three other significant projects are highlighted in the regeneration framework, which the Assembly Government is backing out of the remaining Corus regeneration funds. First, we are providing £1 million to support the south-east Wales regional tourism partnership development programme. This is designed to further develop tourism in the area and will benefit the whole region. Potential projects include the implementation of the south Wales industrial heritage action plan, golf tourism, and marketing schemes.

9:55 a.m.

Secondly, we are extending the community learning network that I announced in January across the whole of the region. The aim of this programme is to help the regeneration

prosiectau hynny'n ofalus a sicrhau eu bod wedi'u cwblhau mor gyflym ag y bo modd.

Trof yn awr at y mentrau newydd sy'n deillio o'r fframwaith adfywio y cytunodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i'w ariannu. Yn y lle cyntaf, mae angen parhau i ddatblygu safleoedd ac adeiladau cyflogaeth strategol yn yr ardal i hybu a thyfu busnesau. Mae'r WDA wedi cyflwyno pecyn cyffrous o safleoedd a fyddai, gyda'i gilydd, yn rhoi tua 215,000 troedfedd sgwâr o adeiladau am gyfanswm o tua £14.475 miliwn. O'r cyfanswm hwnnw, daw tua £6.575 miliwn o becyn adfywio Corus, a £2.875 miliwn o gyllideb arian cyfatebol economaidd y Cynulliad. Deuai'r gweddill o gronfeydd strwythurol yr UE ac o'r sector preifat.

Y safleoedd a'r adeiladau a gytunwyd â'r partneriaid awdurdod lleol yw: parc busnes Tredegar; Canolfan Arloesedd Glynebwy; unedau bach yn Roseheyworth a chynllun canol tref Abertyleri ym mwrdeistref Blaenau Gwent; parc busnes Oakdale ym mwrdeistref Caerffili; stad ddwydiannol Queensway Meadows yng Nghasnewydd; a Mamhilad yn Nhor-faen. Mae'r WDA yn cydweithio'n agos â Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru a'r partneriaid eraill wrth lunio pecyn ariannol i sicrhau y bydd y prosiectau hyn ar waith mor fuan â phosibl.

Tynnir sylw at dri phrosiect pwysig arall yn y fframwaith adfywio, y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cefnogi o weddill cronfeydd adfywio Corus. Yn gyntaf, yr ydym yn darparu £1 filiwn i gynorthwyo rhaglen datblygu partneriaeth twristiaeth ranbarthol de-ddwyrain Cymru. Ei hamcan yw datblygu twristiaeth ymhellach yn yr ardal a bydd o fantais i'r rhanbarth cyfan. Mae rhai o'r prosiectau posibl yn cynnwys rhoi ar waith cynllun gweithredu treftadaeth ddiwydiannol de Cymru, twristiaeth golff, a chynlluniau marchnata.

Yn ail, yr ydym yn ehangu'r rhwydwaith dysgu cymunedol a gyhoeddais yn Ionawr i gynnwys y rhanbarth cyfan. Nod y rhaglen hon yw helpu'r fforwm adfywio i gyflawni

forum achieve one of its key objectives, namely, a substantial increase in participative educational and learning opportunities throughout the five counties. The steering group, which I mentioned earlier, will drive this project over the whole area. It will also be informed by the learning needs enquiry, and it is envisaged that the final structure will be agreed by the autumn. The sum of £7 million will be set aside from the Corus package for this initiative, in addition to the £2 million previously announced.

Finally, we are committing £2 million to supporting the proposal to enhance the take-up of information and communications technology and broadband services throughout the region. This will enable the acceleration of business support and infrastructure work, and will complement 'Cymru Ar-lein'.

Clearly, much work needs to be done to work up these initiatives, but my statement today clears the way for the Welsh Development Agency and its local partners to get on with the job of regenerating the area's economy.

My announcement is a commitment of £16.575 million. Together with the other commitments that we are supporting, this completes the full allocation of the £76 million, allowing for a level of contingency on some of the projects.

As I said in January, there are no quick fixes for the problems of the former steel-making areas, but the Assembly Government is committed to regenerating these areas and to restarting their economic viability, in partnership with our agencies and local authority partners. This announcement today underlines that commitment.

Phil Williams: Do you remember that in the immediate aftermath of the Corus announcement Plaid Cymru calculated that the minimum cost of recovering from that economic blow would require total Government expenditure of £130 million? At the time it was dismissed as an overestimate by some members of your Government. Do you now agree that, in light of your figures, if

un o'i brif amcanion, sef cynnydd sylweddol yn nifer y cyfleoedd addysgol a dysgu cyfranogol ledled y pum sir. Y grŵp llywio, a grybwyllais yn gynharach, fydd yn hybu'r prosiect hwn ledled yr ardal. Caiff ei oleuo hefyd gan yr ymchwiliad i anghenion dysgu, a rhagwelir y bydd cytundeb ar y strwythur terfynol erbyn yr hydref. Neilltuir swm o £7 miliwn o becyn Corus i'r fenter hon, yn ogystal â'r £2 filiwn a gyhoeddwyd o'r blaen.

Yn olaf, yr ydym yn clustnodi £2 filiwn i gefnogi'r cynnig i hybu'r nifer sy'n manteisio ar dechnoleg gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu a gwasanaethau band llydan ledled y rhanbarth. Bydd hyn yn fodd i gyflymu'r gwaith cymorth busnes a seilwaith, a bydd yn ategu 'Cymru Ar-lein'.

Wrth gwrs, mae angen gwneud llawer o waith i ddatblygu'r mentrau hyn, ond mae fy natganiad heddiw'n agor y ffordd i Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a'i bartneriaid lleol fynd ymlaen â'r gwaith o adfywio economi'r ardal.

Yr hyn yr wyf yn ei gyhoeddi heddiw yw ymrwymiad o £16.575 miliwn. Mae hynny, ynghyd â'r ymrwymadau eraill yr ydym yn eu cefnogi, yn cwblhau'r dyraniad o £76 miliwn, gan ganiatáu rhywfaint o arian wrth gefn ar gyfer rhai o'r prosiectau.

Fel y dywedais yn Ionawr, nid oes atebion sydyn i broblemau'r cyn ardaloedd cynhyrchu dur, ond mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i adfywio'r ardaloedd hyn ac ailsefydlu eu hyfywedd economaidd, mewn partneriaeth â'n hasiantaethau a'n partneriaid awdurdod lleol. Mae'r cyhoeddiad hwn heddiw yn tanlinellu'r ymrwymiad hwnnw.

Phil Williams: A ydych yn cofio bod Plaid Cymru, yn yr adladd cyntaf ar ôl cyhoeddiad Corus, wedi cyfrifo y byddai isafswm y gost ar gyfer adferiad ar ôl yr ergyd economaidd honno'n gofyn am gyfanswm o £130 miliwn o wariant gan y Llywodraeth? Ar y pryd fe'i hwfftiwyd a'i alw'n oramcangyfrif gan rai aelodau o'ch Llywodraeth. A ydych yn cytuno'n awr, yng ngolwg eich ffigurau, os

the full cost of a passenger service from Ebbw Vale to Newport and Cardiff were included, along with the full cost of providing broadband services to all exchanges in the five counties, at least an extra £40 million would be required to complete the strategy you have outlined today? Will you therefore confirm that our estimate was accurate, and that, when it is possible to complete the railway project and provide full broadband accessibility, this extra sum will be required?

Secondly, will you confirm that, in light of the statements you have made to the Economic Development Committee over the past 15 months, the Corus job losses represent less than half of the recorded manufacturing job losses in the five counties, as there have also been losses at GE Aircraft Engine Services Ltd, Nantgarw, and at Alcan? Will you also confirm that there have been comparable job losses in all parts of Wales, including other parts of the Valleys in the electronics industry, the Gorseinon area, Deeside in optic fibre manufacturing, and the Conwy valley at the Alcoa plant? In proportion to the population of these areas, some of these job losses are just as serious. Therefore, will you accept that a proper assessment of the needs in each part of Wales, and a regional strategy similar to the excellent strategies used by the local authorities in the five counties regeneration framework to meet those needs, would be a fair response to these job losses in all parts of Wales? Will you confirm the suggestion made in the autumn that this regeneration strategy will be the model for similar strategies in all economic regions of Wales, so that we can fill this serious gap in the national economic development strategy as a matter of urgency?

Finally, will you confirm that the £76 million that you have announced will come from the Assembly budget, and that the £16 million from the Treasury and the European Union will be made available in addition to this? We should remember that Gordon Brown's deliberate fiscal policies to maintain the pound at a high level was the main cause of the redundancies, and yet the Treasury was

cynhwysir cost lawn gwasanaeth teithwyr o Lyn Ebwy i Gasnewydd a Chaerdydd, ynghyd â chost lawn darparu gwasanaethau band llydan i'r holl gyfnewidfydd yn y pum sir, y byddai angen o leiaf £40 miliwn yn ychwanegol i gwblhau'r strategaeth yr ydych wedi'i hamlinellu heddiw? A wnewch gadarnhau felly fod ein hamcangyfrif yn gywir a, pan fydd modd cwblhau'r prosiect rheilffordd a darparu hygyrchedd band llydan llawn, y bydd angen y swm ychwanegol hwn?

Yn ail, a wnewch gadarnhau, yng ngolwg y datganiadau a roesoch i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd dros y 15 mis diwethaf, fod colledion swyddi Corus yn cyfrif am lai na hanner y colledion swyddi gweithgynhyrchu a gofnodwyd yn y pum sir, gan fod colledion wedi bod hefyd yn GE Aircraft Engine Services Cyfyngedig, Nantgarw, ac yn Alcan? A wnewch gadarnhau hefyd fod colledion swyddi tebyg wedi bod ym mhob rhan o Gymru, gan gynnwys rhannau eraill o'r Cymoedd, yn y diwydiant electroneg, yn ardal Gorseinon, yng Nglannau Dyfrdwy mewn gweithgynhyrchu ffibr optig ac yn nyffryn Conwy yng ngwaith Alcoa? Mewn cyfrannedd â phoblogaeth yr ardaloedd hynny, mae rhai o'r colledion swyddi hyn yr un mor ddifrifol. Felly, a wnewch chi dderbyn y byddai asesiad priodol o anghenion pob rhan o Gymru, a strategaeth ranbarthol sy'n debyg i'r strategaethau rhagorol a ddefnyddiwyd gan yr awdurdodau lleol yn fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir i ddiwallu'r anghenion hynny, yn ymateb teg i'r colledion swyddi hyn ym mhob rhan o Gymru? A wnewch gadarnhau'r awgrym a wnaethpwyd yn yr hydref mai'r strategaeth adfywio hon fydd y model i strategaethau tebyg ym mhob rhanbarth economaidd yng Nghymru, fel y gallwn gau'r bwloch difrifol hwn yn y strategaeth datblygu economaidd genedlaethol fel mater o frys?

Yn olaf, a wnewch gadarnhau y daw'r £76 miliwn a gyhoeddasoch o gyllideb y Cynulliad, ac y darperir y £16 miliwn o'r Trysorlys a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd ar ben hynny? Dylem gofio mai polisïau cyllidol bwriadol Gordon Brown i gynnal y bunt ar lefel uchel oedd prif achos y diswyddiadau, ac eto nad oedd y Trysorlys ond yn barod i gyfrannu £8 miliwn tuag at adfywio. Hefyd,

only willing to contribute £8 million to regeneration? Also, as the costs of regeneration are ongoing, have you pressed the Chancellor of the Exchequer to consider this when assessing Wales's allocation in the coming spending review?

The First Minister: I will work backwards through some of those points so that we can reach agreement here and there. It is absurd to suggest that Gordon Brown is personally responsible for the high level of sterling or the weakness of the euro. The weakness of the euro is a market problem, which we can do nothing about. Everyone would prefer that the euro had not lost 30 per cent of its value since it was launched three or four years ago. That was the cause of steel production's problems within a multinational industry, half of which is inside the eurozone and the other half outside of it. It caused the job losses that were announced in January last year. There was some mismanagement on Corus' part, not on Gordon Brown's part. I can confirm that the £76 million that we are talking about today, of which I announced details of the final £16.575 million in my statement, is Assembly Government money. The £16 million, half of which comes from the Economic and Social Committee funds in Europe and the other half from the Department of Trade and Industry funds, is additional money from the Government and Europe. That gives a total of £92 million. We can agree on the mathematics at least.

We will probably never agree on your point about regional targeting, but it is a classic example of the kind of co-operation at a sub-regional level that we want to encourage elsewhere in Wales. I made that clear in my statement. There are 22 local authorities in Wales. Five of them took a particularly big hit in the old county of Gwent and in part of Caerphilly borough—which was in the old county of Mid-Glamorgan that we loosely call south-east Wales—when the Corus job losses were announced. That is the point about regional targeting. It would include Newport, which is on the M4 belt, Monmouthshire, which is not usually considered part of industrial Wales, and three of the old steel tinsplate and coal mining boroughs in the classic industrial south Wales area—Torfaen, Caerphilly and Blaenau

gan fod y costau adfywio'n parhau, a ydych wedi pwyso ar Ganghellor y Trysorlys i ystyried hyn wrth asesu dyraniad Cymru yn yr adolygiad o wariant sydd i ddod?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gweithiaf yn ôl drwy rai o'r pwyntiau hynny fel y gallwn gyuno hwnt ac yma. Hurt yw awgrymu bod Gordon Brown yn bersonol gyfrifol am lefel uchel sterling neu wendid yr ewro. Problem y farchnad yw gwendid yr ewro, ac ni allwn wneud dim yn ei gylch. Byddai'n well gan bawb pe na bai'r ewro wedi colli 30 y cant o'i werth ers ei lansio dair neu bedair blynedd yn ôl. Dyna oedd achos y problemau cynhyrchu dur mewn diwydiant amlwladol, y mae ei hanner y tu mewn i ardal yr ewro a'i hanner arall y tu allan iddo. Achosodd y colledion swyddi a gyhoeddwyd yn Ionawr y llynedd. Yr oedd rhywfaitn o gamreoli ar ran Corus, nid ar ran Gordon Brown. Gallaf gadarnhau mai arian Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yw'r £76 miliwn yr ydym yn sôn amdano heddiw, y cyhoeddais fanylion y £16.575 miliwn olaf ohono yn fy natganiad. Mae'r £16 miliwn, y daw ei hanner o gronfeydd y Pwyllgor Economaidd a Chymdeithasol yn Ewrop a'r hanner arall o gronfeydd yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant, yn arian ychwanegol oddi wrth y Llywodraeth ac Ewrop. Mae hynny'n rhoi cyfanswm o £92 miliwn. Gallwn gyuno ar y fathemateg o leiaf.

Mae'n debyg na fyddwn byth yn cytuno ar eich pwynt am dargeddu rhanbarthol, ond mae'n enghraifft glasurol o'r math o gydweithredu ar lefel is-ranbarthol y dymunwn ei hybu mewn mannau eraill yng Nghymru. Eglurais hynny yn fy natganiad. Mae 22 o awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru. Cafodd pump ohonynt ergyd arbennig o fawr yn yr hen sir Gwent ac yn rhan o fwrdeistref Caerffili—a oedd yn hen sir Morgannwg Ganol a alwn yn fras yn dde-ddwyrain Cymru—pan gyhoeddwyd colledion swyddi Corus. Dyna'r pwynt ynghylch targedu rhanbarthol. Byddai'n cynnwys Casnewydd, sydd ar lain yr M4, Sir Fynwy, nas ystyrir fel arfer yn rhan o'r Gymru ddiwydiannol, a thair o'r hen fwrdeistrefi dur, tunplat a chloddio glo yn ardal ddiwydiannol nodweddiadol de Cymru—Tor-faen, Caerffili

Gwent. You must have a regional target every time you have a new problem and it will be a different definition of the boundary according to how the problem has arisen. That is what happened. There was a high concentration of steel job losses in the area between Ebbw Vale and Newport and the areas immediately either side of it, and that is why we designated this region and encouraged the five local authorities to work together. Remarkably, given the history of some of the local authorities in Wales, they did come together and could see that you do not always want the jobs in your particular local authority if your commuters can access the jobs in an adjoining authority. The degree of co-operation, regardless of exactly where the local authority boundaries were, has been remarkable.

You gave financial estimates earlier. You are right that it would cost more if the Ebbw Vale railway line was open to Newport as well as Cardiff. We originally thought that it would go to Newport rather than Cardiff until the tunnel under the Gaer junction problem emerged. It then became easier to open the line to Cardiff rather than Newport in the short term. However, in the long term, it would be wrong if it did not also run to Newport. That is dependent on a Railtrack programme to improve facilities in that tunnel. That would cost around £30 million. However, even then, new problems emerge. We operated originally on the basis that there would be no freight and only a passenger service. It now looks as if freight will be running, which will increase the expense. That is a good thing, not a bad thing. We do not want to close it down for freight, but it means additional expense because there must be loops for the passenger trains and the freight trains to open. You cannot anticipate such things when you make a statement, and when you go into it in more detail, suddenly something that is an economic benefit, which causes additional expense, means that you must change the estimate occasionally. However, we do not want to become too theological about it.

a Blaenau Gwent. Rhaid ichi gael targed rhanbarthol bob tro y cewch broblem newydd a bydd diffiniad gwahanol o'r ffin yn ôl tarddiad y broblem. Dyna beth a ddigwyddodd. Yr oedd llawer iawn o golledion swyddi dur yn yr ardal rhwng Glynebwy a Chasnewydd a'r ardaloedd yn union i'r ddwy ochr, a dyna pam y gwnaethom ddynodi'r rhanbarth hwn ac annog y pum awdurdod lleol i gydweithio. Yn rhyfedd iawn, o ystyried hanes rhai o'r awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru, fe ddaethant at ei gilydd a gallent weld nad ydych bob amser am gael y swyddi yn ardal eich awdurdod lleol penodol chi os oes modd i'ch cymudwyr gyrraedd at swyddi yn ardal yr awdurdod lleol cyfagos. Bu graddau'r cydweithredu, ni waeth ym mhle'n union yr oedd ffiniau'r awdurdodau lleol, yn rhyfeddol.

Rhoesoch amcangyfrifon ariannol yn gynharach. Yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud y byddai'n costio mwy pe câi llinell rheilffordd Glynebwy ei hagor hyd Gasnewydd yn ogystal â Chaerdydd. Credem yn wreiddiol yr âi i Gasnewydd yn hytrach na Chaerdydd nes i broblem y twnnel o dan gyffordd y Gaer ddod i'r golwg. Yr oedd yn haws wedyn agor y llinell hyd Gaerdydd yn hytrach na Chasnewydd yn y tymor byr. Fodd bynnag, yn y tymor hir, ni fyddai'n iawn pe na byddai'n mynd i Gasnewydd hefyd. Mae hynny'n dibynnu ar raglen Railtrack i wella cyfleusterau yn y twnnel hwnnw. Costiai hynny tua £30 miliwn. Fodd bynnag, hyd yn oed wedyn, daw problemau newydd i'r golwg. Yr oeddem yn gweithredu'n wreiddiol ar sail y dybiaeth mai dim ond gwasanaeth teithwyr a fyddai ac na fyddai gwasanaeth cludo nwyddau. Mae'n ymddangos bellach y bydd gwasanaeth cludo nwyddau, a fydd yn cynyddu'r gost. Peth da yw hynny, nid peth drwg. Nid ydym am ei chau rhag cludo nwyddau, ond mae'n golygu cost ychwanegol am fod rhaid cael dolennau i'r trenau teithwyr a'r trenau nwyddau eu hagor. Ni allwch ragweld pethau o'r fath pan wnewch ddatganiad, a phan ystyriwch ef yn fanylach, yn sydyn mae rhywbeth sydd o fudd economaidd, sy'n peri cost ychwanegol, yn golygu bod rhaid ichi newid yr amcangyfrif weithiau. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym am fynd yn rhy ddiwinyddol yn ei gylch.

Lynne Neagle: Thank you for your statement this morning. The five counties regeneration framework is a welcome long-term response to Corus's decision. I welcome the emphasis that has been placed on the regeneration of town centres in the framework. In Torfaen, the regeneration of Pontypool town centre is a longstanding priority for the local community. Will you indicate whether the regeneration of Pontypool town centre will be given the financial support that it needs? The issue of the improvement of the road links between Blaenavon and the Heads of the Valleys road is also highlighted in the framework. This again is a vital improvement for Torfaen, not only in terms of job creation, but also in terms of exploiting the full potential of the world heritage site in Torfaen. If both those projects will not be funded under the framework, will you give an assurance that you will consider other ways of funding them?

10:05 a.m.

Finally, regarding the Community Learning Enterprise Centre in Torfaen, my local authority will be concerned about the funding mechanism for the community learning network outlined today, namely that the framework's aims could be undermined by the lack of funding targeted at strategically important sites, such as the project in Torfaen. Will the First Minister give assurance that he will consider this matter closely and ensure that Assembly funding is directed so that it has the maximum strategic impact in south-east Wales?

The First Minister: There was a great deal of detail in that question. The projects that you mentioned are not listed in my statement today, therefore they did not emerge as having priority status in the framework or, if they did, they were not high enough on the list in order to qualify given that we have £76 million, and no more, to spend. I will enquire which of those scenarios apply to your question.

The projects that you mentioned are important to the local area. I am aware of the need to exploit Blaenavon's potential now that it is a world heritage site. It would be

Lynne Neagle: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad y bore yma. Mae fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir yn ymateb tymor hir derbynol i benderfyniad Corus. Croesawaf y pwyslais a roddwyd ar adfywio canol trefi yn y fframwaith. Yn Nhor-faen, mae adfywio canol tref Pont-y-pŵl yn flaenoriaeth i'r gymuned leol ers tro. A wnewch nodi a roddir y cymorth ariannol angenrheidiol i adfywio canol tref Pont-y-pŵl. Mae'r fframwaith yn tynnu sylw hefyd at fater gwella'r cysylltiadau ffyrdd rhwng Blaenafon a ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Mae hwn hefyd yn welliant hollbwysig i Dor-faen, nid yn unig o ran creu swyddi, ond hefyd o ran elwa ar holl botensial y safle treftadaeth byd yn Nhor-faen. Os nad ariannir y ddau brosiect hynny o dan y fframwaith, a wnewch chi roi sicrwydd y byddwch yn ystyried dulliau eraill o'u hariannu?

Yn olaf, ynghylch y Ganolfan Fenter Dysgu Cymunedol yn Nhor-faen, bydd fy awdurdod lleol yn bryderus am y mecanwaith ariannu i'r rhwydwaith dysgu cymunedol a amlinellwyd heddiw, gan y gallai nodau'r fframwaith gael eu tanseilio drwy ddiffyg ariannu i safleoedd strategol bwysig, fel y prosiect yn Nhor-faen. A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru roi sicrwydd y bydd yn ystyried y mater hwn yn ofalus ac yn sicrhau y caiff arian y Cynulliad ei gyfeirio fel y caiff yr effaith strategol fwyaf posibl yn y Deddwyrain?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oedd llawer o fanylder yn y cwestiwn hwnnw. Nid yw'r prosiectau yr ydych yn sôn amdanynt wedi'u rhestru yn fy natganiad heddiw, felly nid oeddent wedi codi fel rhai a oedd â blaenoriaeth yn y fframwaith neu, os oeddent, nid oeddent yn ddigon uchel ar y rhestr i fod yn gymwys o gofio mai £76 miliwn sydd gennym i'w wario, a dim mwy. Ymchwiliad i ganfod pa un o'r senarios hynny sy'n berthnasol i'ch cwestiwn.

Mae'r prosiectau y soniasoch amdanynt yn bwysig i'r ardal leol. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r angen i elwa ar botensial Blaenafon ac yntau bellach yn safle treftadaeth byd. Ni

wrong not to try to exploit the industrial heritage and tourism potential in and around Blaenavon.

I will look into your other points about information communication technology, community learning networks and the Pontypool town centre regeneration project. These issues were not named today and therefore they are not in this programme. They will need to be funded by other means.

William Graham: There is an enormous fund of cross-party goodwill which wants to realise the regeneration framework. A great deal of responsibility falls on the First Minister, but the framework must not merely be a wish list; it must happen. Will you confirm that the Llanwern steelworks site, which covers around 16 square miles, will be included in the regeneration plan? That is fundamental to its success.

Unemployment in south-east Wales is higher than the Welsh average, with around 20 per cent of the population unemployed. That region has some of the highest mortality and respiratory illnesses rates in Wales. There is an increasing problem of drug addiction and drug-related crime in the region. These are often sparked by unemployment. Will you consider this problem closely and bear in mind in particular that the people that need jobs have a long history of skilled employment. A well-motivated managerial and technical workforce exists in south-east Wales and people do not want jobs putting eyes in plastic dolls. A skilled workforce exists, which needs proper, well-paid jobs. I note from your remarks, which are not completely accurate, that you recognise that a similar event occurred 100 years ago when Guest Keens relocated from Dowlais in Merthyr Tydfil to Eastmoors in Cardiff. That lasted for around 70 years before it too closed. In recognising the economic reality, can we give those Valleys' communities more resources in order to recognise that they will no longer support large-volume employers? When those grants are allocated, will you ensure that they are given to people who will create jobs that will stay in those communities and not those that exist for as

fyddai'n iawn peidio â cheisio elwa ar y potensial o ran y dreftadaeth ddiwydiannol a thwristiaeth ym Mlaenafon a'r cyffiniau.

Ymchwiliad i'r pwyntiau eraill a oedd gennych am dechnoleg cyfathrebu gwybodaeth, rhwydweithiau dysgu cymunedol a phrosiect adfywio canol tref Pont-y-pŵl. Nid enwyd y materion hynny heddiw ac felly nid ydynt yn y rhaglen hon. Bydd yn rhaid eu hariannu drwy ddulliau eraill.

William Graham: Mae swm aruthrol o ewyllys da ar draws y pleidiau sydd am weld cyflawni'r fframwaith adfywio. Mae llawer iawn o gyfrifoldeb ar Brif Weinidog Cymru, ond rhaid i'r fframwaith fod yn fwy na dim ond rhestr o ddymuniadau; rhaid iddo ddigwydd. A wnewch gadarnhau y bydd safle gwaith dur Llanwern, sydd tua 16 milltir sgwâr, wedi'i gynnwys yn y cynllun adfywio? Mae hynny'n hanfodol i'w lwyddiant.

Mae'r diweithdra yn y De-ddwyrain yn uwch na chyfartaledd Cymru, gyda thua 20 y cant o'r boblogaeth yn ddi-waith. Gan y rhanbarth hwnnw y mae rhai o'r cyfraddau marwolaeth a salwch anadliadol uchaf yng Nghymru. Mae problem gynyddol o gaethiwed i gyffuriau a throseddau sy'n gysylltiedig â chyffuriau yn y rhanbarth. Diweithdra sy'n achosi hynny mewn sawl achos. A wnewch ystyried y broblem hon yn ofalus a chofio'n benodol fod gan y bobl y mae arnynt angen swyddi hanes hir o gyflogaeth mewn gwaith medrus. Ceir gweithlu brwdfrydig sydd â phrofiad rheoli a thechnegol yn y De-ddwyrain ac nid yw pobl am gael swyddi sy'n golygu gosod llygaid mewn doliau plastig. Mae gweithlu medrus yn bodoli, ac mae arno angen swyddi iawn gyda thâl da. Sylwaf oddi wrth eich sylwadau, nad ydynt yn gwbl gywir, eich bod yn cydnabod bod digwyddiad tebyg 100 mlynedd yn ôl pan symudodd gwaith Guest Keens o Dowlais ym Merthyr Tudful i Eastmoors yng Nghaerdydd. Parhaodd hwnnw am oddeutu 70 mlynedd cyn iddo yntau gau. Gan gydnabod y realiti economaidd, a allwn roi mwy o adnoddau i'r cymunedau hynny yn y Cymoedd er mwyn cydnabod na fyddant bellach yn cynnal gweithfeydd sy'n cyflogi niferoedd mawr? Pan ddyrennir y grantiau

long as the grants last?

I note from your Cabinet discussions that you also made large sums available for transport links. They are equally important. We are trying to entice national and international employers to invest in south-east Wales in order to build on our existing successes. This framework is worthwhile. It is up to you, Minister, to make it work.

The First Minister: Thank you for the spirit in which you asked your questions. There were a few of them and I will try to remember them from the notes that I made. Regarding the Llanwern steelworks site, it would be wrong for me to anticipate the urban regeneration company study's outcome. However, I anticipate that the Llanwern site will possibly feature in the framework eventually. However, part of the site remains operational. The section that is available for other uses will be included in the URC study. The issue is about balancing the industrial interest of re-using the surplus-to-requirement section of the Llanwern site—the parts of the site that are never used, south of the existing works—with the need to regenerate the town centre and other areas, and other ways to attract a wider range of jobs into Newport.

You made an interesting point about the social problems that arise from high unemployment, with hopelessness leading to drug addiction and other problems. As a result of low self-esteem and a lack of expectations, people who are unemployed and who see no hope of finding employment—particularly young people with no experience of employment—may tend to turn to anti-social activities. Although we cannot eliminate unemployment in the short term, I hope that our quick intervention will give the hope which prevents these social problems from arising.

Unemployment in Wales has fallen 0.5 per cent during the past 12 months. That is the joint best performance among UK regions.

hynny, a wnewch sicrhau y cânt eu rhoi i bobl a fydd yn creu swyddi a fydd yn aros yn y cymunedau hynny ac nid rhai a fydd yn parhau cyhyd â'r grantiau?

Sylwaf oddi wrth eich trafodaethau yn y Cabinet eich bod hefyd wedi darparu symiau mawr ar gyfer cysylltiadau trafniadaeth. Maent yr un mor bwysig. Yr ydym yn ceisio denu cyflogwyr cenedlaethol a rhyngwladol i fuddsoddi yn y De-ddwyrain er mwyn ychwanegu at ein llwyddiannau presennol. Mae'r fframwaith hwn yn un buddiol. Eich lle chi, Weinidog, yw peri iddo weithio.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Diolch i chi am naws eich cwestiynu. Yr oedd nifer o gwestiynau a cheisiaf eu cofio drwy edrych ar y nodiadau a wneuthum. Ynghylch safle gwaith dur Llanwern, ni fyddai'n iawn imi achub y blaen ar ganlyniad astudiaeth y cwmni adfywio trefol. Fodd bynnag, rhagwelaf ei bod yn bosibl y bydd safle Llanwern yn cael ei gynnwys yn y fframwaith yn y pen draw. Fodd bynnag, mae rhan o'r safle ar waith o hyd. Bydd y rhan sydd ar gael i ddibenion eraill wedi'i chynnwys yn astudiaeth y cwmni adfywio trefol. Mae'r mater yn ymwneud â dal y ddysgl yn wastad rhwng y buddiant diwydiannol o ailddefnyddio'r rhan o safle Llanwern nad oes ei hangen—y rhannau o'r safle nas defnyddir byth, i'r de o'r gwaith presennol—a'r angen i adfywio canol y dref ac ardaloedd eraill, a dulliau eraill o ddenu amrywiaeth ehangach o swyddi i Gasnewydd.

Gwnaethoch bwynt diddorol am y problemau cymdeithasol sy'n deillio o ddiweithdra uchel, wrth i anobaith arwain at gaethiwed i gyffuriau a phroblemau eraill. O ganlyniad i brinder hunan-barch a diffyg disgwyliadau, mae'n bosibl y bydd pobl sy'n ddi-waith a heb weld unrhyw obaith o gael gwaith—yn enwedig pobl ifanc sydd heb brofiad o waith—yn tueddu i droi at weithgareddau gwrthgymdeithasol. Er na allwn ddileu diweithdra yn y tymor byr, gobeithiaf y byddwn, drwy ymyrryd yn gyflym, yn creu'r gobaith hwnnw sy'n atal y problemau cymdeithasol hyn rhag codi.

Mae diweithdra yng Nghymru wedi disgyn 0.5 y cant yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf. Dyna'r perfformiad cydradd orau ymysg

However, as expected, Newport has not experienced that trend; it is the only part of Wales where unemployment has increased. The situation is similar in Blaenau Gwent, for obvious reasons. There are substantial redundancies to come in Ebbw Vale, when the last of the Corus job losses take place. However, I hope that the prospect of the creation of new jobs will prevent worse problems emerging.

I note your comment on types of employers, and the fact that you do not want dolls' eyes factories. That phrase is redolent of my childhood; we grew up with it as mines and steelworks closed in south Wales. Not wanting dolls' eyes factories is part of our culture, and it may also be true of industrial north Wales. It is a phrase that my generation absorbed with their mother's milk.

How do we attract the right type of employers—those who will stay and not merely exploit the grant system? Because of how the pattern of regional selective assistance has developed in the past year, with a 60 per cent increase in the amount of grants offered to companies to move into Wales compared to the previous year—a record number of grants—the risk is spread across the board from small and medium-sized enterprises to expansion by existing firms, on a much larger scale than anything that we have done previously. However, as we do not have one new large employer, such as LG—which never quite came to Wales—we will not have a situation where we end up with the same problems that we had before we paid the grant because that one large employer hits trouble. That is a situation that we have encountered in the past. I hope that the positive history of RSA during the last 12 months indicates that that problem will not occur in future.

The Presiding Officer: Before I call Ron Davies, I inform Members—that is not directed at Ron in particular—that I have called the lead spokespeople of all the party groups to raise questions on this statement. We are running out of time and there are two

rhanbarthau'r DU. Fodd bynnag, fel y disgwyliid, nid yw Casnewydd wedi profi'r duedd honno; dyna'r unig ran o Gymru lle y mae diweithdra wedi cynyddu. Mae'r sefyllfa'n debyg ym Mlaenau Gwent, am resymau amlwg. Bydd diswyddiadau sylweddol yng Nglynebwy, pan fydd yr olaf o golledion swyddi Corus yn digwydd. Er hynny, gobeithiaf y bydd y gobaith o greu swyddi newydd yn atal problemau gwaeth rhag codi.

Nodaf eich sylwadau ar fathau o gyflogwyr, a'r ffaith nad ydych am gael ffatrïoedd llygaid doliau. Mae'r ymadrodd hwnnw'n sawru o'm plentyndod; tyfasom yn ei sŵn wrth i'r glofeydd a'r gweithfeydd dur gau yn y De. Mae peidio â dymuno ffatrïoedd llygaid doliau'n rhan o'n diwylliant, a gallai hynny fod yn wir hefyd am y Gogledd diwydiannol. Mae'n ymadrodd a sugnodd pobl o'm cenhedlaeth i gyda llaeth eu mam.

Sut y byddwn yn denu'r math iawn o gyflogwyr—y rhai a fydd yn aros ac nid yn manteisio ar y system grantiau'n unig? Oherwydd y modd y datblygodd patrwm y cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol yn y flwyddyn a aeth heibio, gyda chynnydd o 60 y cant ym maint y grantiau a gynigir i gwmnïau sy'n symud i Gymru o'i gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol—y nifer uchaf o grantiau erioed—fe rennir y risg yn gyffredinol rhwng y busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint a'r ehangu gan y cwmnïau presennol, ar raddfa fwy o lawer na dim a wnethom o'r blaen. Fodd bynnag, gan nad oes gennym un cyflogwr mawr newydd, fel LG—na ddaeth erioed i Gymru'n hollol—ni fydd gennym sefyllfa lle y bydd gennym yr un problemau yn y diwedd ag a oedd gennym cyn inni dalu'r grant am fod un cyflogwr mawr yn mynd i drafferthion. Mae honno'n sefyllfa a brofasom yn y gorffennol. Gobeithiaf fod hanes cadarnhaol y cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf yn dangos na fydd y broblem honno'n codi yn y dyfodol.

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi alw Ron Davies, hysbysaf yr Aelodau—ac ni chyfeirir hyn at Ron yn benodol—fy mod wedi galw ar y prif lefarwyr o'r holl grwpiau plaid i ofyn cwestiynau ar y datganiad hwn. Mae'n hamser yn dod i ben ac mae dau ddatganiad

other statements to follow.

Ron Davies: Thank you for the advice, Llywydd. I unequivocally welcome this timely and appropriate statement. Whether it will be adequate in the long term remains to be seen. My question refers to the core Valley areas, particularly the Rhymney and upper Islwyn valleys, which will be affected not just by the Corus closures but also by a wider economic wave. The five counties regeneration framework included a number of recommendations. You said in your statement that you endorse almost all of them. Do you accept that there will be a continuing need to give high priority to this area, with resources to match? Will you give some indication as to how you intend to respond in full to the five counties regeneration framework?

The First Minister: The five counties regeneration framework is aimed at addressing the big hit that occurred when the Corus job losses were announced. We are not saying that this is the only thing that will happen in the five counties. There is a general churn going on in the economy, with jobs being lost and created across Wales. It does not mean that we will not take action in addition to these programmes in this area or in other parts of Wales. The sheer size of the Corus job losses meant that we had to take action, with the local authorities working together and with the WDA and ELWa.

You mentioned the upper Islwyn and Rhymney valleys and the core industrial areas. Those areas have a particularly high degree of dependency on manufacturing, as they originally did on coal mining. However, their futures will lie in the different direction of industry combined with research and development, such as the type of employment that General Dynamics UK Ltd brings to the Oakdale business park. We want to follow that success by investing further in the Oakdale business park. It could become an industrial or business park based on research and development, which that area has never had before. Nobody has ever thought it credible to site a knowledge-based manufacturing enterprise with research and development on the site of an old coal mine

arall i ddilyn.

Ron Davies: Diolch i chi am y cyngor hwnnw, Lywydd. Croesawaf y datganiad amserol a phriodol hwn yn ddiamwys. Bydd yn rhaid aros i weld a fydd yn ddigonol yn y tymor hir. Mae fy nghwestiwn yn cyfeirio at ardaloedd craidd y Cymoedd, yn enwedig cwm Rhymni a chwam Islwyn uchaf, a effeithir nid yn unig gan gau gweithfeydd Corus ond hefyd gan don economaidd ehangach. Yr oedd fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir yn cynnwys sawl argymhelliad. Dywedasoeh yn eich datganiad eich bod yn cymeradwyo bron bob un ohonynt. A ydych yn derbyn y bydd angen parhaus i roi blaenoriaeth uchel i'r ardal hon, ynghyd â'r adnoddau cyfatebol? A wnewch chi roi rhyw arwydd ynghylch y modd yr ydych yn bwriadu ymateb yn llawn i fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Amcan fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir yw delio â'r ergyd fawr a gafwyd pan gyhoeddwyd colledion swyddi Corus. Nid ydym yn dweud mai hyn fydd yn unig beth a fydd yn digwydd yn y pum sir. Mae corddi cyffredinol yn digwydd yn yr economi, wrth i swyddi gael eu colli a'u creu ledled Cymru. Nid yw'n golygu na fyddwn yn cymryd camau yn ogystal â'r rhaglenni hyn yn yr ardal hon neu mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru. Yr oedd nifer aruthrol y colledion swyddi yn Corus yn golygu bod rhaid inni weithredu, drwy waith ar y cyd gan yr awdurdodau lleol a chyda'r WDA ac ELWa.

Soniasoch am Gwm Islwyn Uchaf a Chwm Rhymni a'r ardaloedd diwydiannol craidd. Mae'r ardaloedd hynny'n dibynnu i raddau arbennig o fawr ar weithgynhyrchu, fel yr oeddent yn wreiddiol ar gloddio glo. Fodd bynnag, byddant yn mynd i gyfeiriad gwahanol yn y dyfodol sef diwydiant ynghyd ag ymchwil a datblygu, fel y math o gyflogaeth y mae General Dynamics UK Cyfyngedig yn dod â hi i barc busnes Oakdale. Yr ydym am ddilyn y llwyddiant hwnnw drwy fuddsoddi ymhellach ym mharc busnes Oakdale. Gallai ddod yn barc diwydiannol neu'n barc busnes yn seiliedig ar ymchwil a datblygu, nas cafwyd yn yr ardal honno o'r blaen. Nid oes neb erioed wedi ystyried ei bod yn ddichonadwy lleoli menter weithgynhyrchu sy'n seiliedig ar wybodaeth

in the middle of a heartland industrial area, such as you described. We want more of that, and we can fund more of that at Oakdale. There will be other requirements elsewhere, and the Welsh Development Agency and other agencies will continue to fund those through conventional spending programmes.

10:15 a.m.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): I welcome your statement. If anybody wants to know why this framework is important, they should see the slab steel on the back of lorries coming down the A449, on the way to Llanwern for rolling. They used to make it themselves. It is now transported on our roads, causing difficulties for the environment.

I will ask about paragraphs 689 and 690 of the 'Five Counties Regeneration Framework Final Report 2002', which you referred to in your statement about the community learning network. Paragraph 689 refers to the Torfaen community learning centre, and paragraph 690 refers to the Rhymney learning centre, both of which are in the action plan as important projects that are not merely on the stocks, but have in some way started. In your oral statement, you talk about a final structure being agreed by the autumn. Can you confirm that both of those projects are still in the frame for the £7 million that you have set aside for that purpose, given that you are proposing to extend the community network framework across the whole region? It would be useful for us all to know that.

My second, smaller, point was raised with me by citizens' advice bureaux workers. They find themselves at a loss when meeting members of the public affected by the Corus job losses, as they are outside the framework of the statutory agencies providing assistance. Will you raise that matter with the agencies, and ensure that citizens' advice bureaux, which provide excellent advice to individuals, are fully locked into the structure of the system?

gydag ymchwil a datblygu ar safle hen lofa yng nghanol ardal yn y berfeddwlad ddiwydiannol, fel yr un a ddisgrifiasoch. Yr ydym am gael mwy o hynny, a gallwn ariannu mwy o hynny yn Oakdale. Bydd anghenion eraill mewn mannau eraill, a bydd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru'n parhau i'w hariannu drwy raglenni gwario confensiynol.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Croesawaf eich datganiad. Os oes rhywun sydd am wybod pam y mae'r fframwaith hwn yn bwysig, dylent weld y slabiau dur ar gefnau lorïau sy'n dod i lawr yr A449, ar eu ffordd i Lanwern i'w rholio. Yr oeddent yn arfer eu gwneud eu hunain. Fe'u cludir ar ein ffyrdd yn awr, gan achosi anawsterau amgylcheddol.

Holaf ynghylch paragraffau 689 a 690 yn 'Adroddiad Terfynol Fframwaith Adfywio'r Pum Sir 2002', y cyfeiriasoch atynt yn eich datganiad am y rhwydwaith dysgu cymunedol. Mae paragraff 689 yn cyfeirio at ganolfan dysgu cymunedol Tor-faen, a pharagraff 690 yn cyfeirio at ganolfan dysgu Rhymni, y mae'r ddwy ohonynt yn y cynllun gweithredu fel prosiectau pwysig sydd nid yn unig yn yr arfaeth ond wedi cychwyn mewn rhyw fodd. Yn eich datganiad llafar, yr ydych yn sôn am gwblhau'r strwythur terfynol erbyn yr hydref. A allwch gadarnhau bod y £7 miliwn yr ydych wedi'i neilltuo i'r diben hwnnw yn dal i fod ar gael i'r ddau brosiect hyn, o gofio'ch bod yn bwriadu ehangu'r fframwaith rhwydwaith cymunedol ledled y rhanbarth? Byddai'n fuddiol i bawb ohonom wybod hynny.

Mae'r ail bwynt sydd gennyf, sy'n un llai, yn un a godwyd â mi gan weithwyr y canolfannau cynghori. Pan ydynt yn cwrdd ag aelodau o'r cyhoedd a effeithiwyd gan golledion swyddi Corus, ni wyddant beth i'w wneud gan eu bod y tu allan i fframwaith yr asiantaethau statudol sy'n darparu cymorth. A wnewch chi godi'r mater hwnnw gyda'r asiantaethau, a sicrhau bod y canolfannau cynghori, sy'n rhoi cyngor rhagorol i unigolion, wedi'u llwyr gysylltu â strwythur y system?

Finally, on the comprehensive nature of the process, the industrial heritage project—which you referred to as a potential project—is crucial. It spans the heads of the Valleys, and further down, from iron to coal, from Newtown, Butetown and the north of the Rhymney valley, to the blast furnace works in Merthyr Tydfil and the working Tower colliery and so on. Joining them together is important, and I hope that the money will ensure that there is a comprehensive heritage action plan covering all of those sites.

The First Minister: Your point about heritage will always be contentious. When I visited Merthyr Tydfil, the people asked me why I was designating Blaenafon as an industrial heritage site, when the Merthyr blast furnaces were in much better condition. I thought that I would leave that argument for Huw Lewis and Lynne Neagle's household to sort out, as I cannot possibly judge the condition of the blast furnaces at Cyfarthfa and Blaenafon. All we know is that Blaenafon has been designated a world heritage site, which presents a considerable marketing advantage. I do not disagree that there are plenty of other heritage sites from the first wave of the industrial revolution throughout the northern part of this sub-region.

The citizens advice bureaux are a difficult area for us. Given that their prime function is consumer advice, regarded as consumer counsel, they are mainly funded by the Department of Trade and Industry. It is not a devolved responsibility. We take a tremendous interest in the bureaux in Wales, as do the local authorities which we fund. However, their primary funding and purpose is set by the DTI, on the basis of consumer advice. I will consider the point about them being stranded outside the framework here.

Your questions on the community learning network are interesting. In relation to ICT, broadband, learning campuses and outreach campuses run by the University of Wales College Newport with local further education colleges and so on, we have envisaged the Ebbw Vale campus as being the model, the

Yn olaf, ynghylch natur gynhwysfawr y broses, mae'r prosiect treftadaeth ddiwydiannol—y cyfeiriasoch ato fel prosiect posibl—yn hollbwysig. Mae'n rhychwantu blaenau'r Cymoedd, ac ymhellach i lawr, o haearn i lo, o Newtown, Butetown a gogledd cwm Rhymni, hyd at y gweithfeydd ffwrneisi chwyth ym Merthyr Tudful a glofa weithredol y Tŵr ac yn y blaen. Mae'n bwysig eu huno, a gobeithiaf y bydd yr arian yn sicrhau bod cynllun gweithredu treftadaeth gynhwysfawr sy'n cynnwys yr holl safleoedd hynny.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Bydd eich pwynt am dreftadaeth yn ddadleuol bob amser. Pan ymwelais â Merthyr Tudful, gofynnodd y bobl imi pam yr oeddwn yn dynodi Blaenafon yn safle treftadaeth byd, pan fo ffwrneisi chwyth Merthyr Tudful mewn gwell cyflwr o lawer. Penderfynais y byddwn yn gadael y ddadl honno i'w datrys gan deulu Huw Lewis a Lynne Neagle, gan nad oes modd o gwbl imi farnu ynghylch cyflwr y ffwrneisi chwyth yng Nghyfarthfa a Blaenafon. Y cwbl a wyddom yw bod Blaenafon wedi'i ddynodi'n safle treftadaeth byd, sy'n cynnig cryn fantais o ran marchnata. Nid wyf yn anghytuno bod digonedd o safleoedd treftadaeth eraill ar ôl cyfnod cyntaf y chwyldro diwydiannol ledled rhan ogleddol yr is-ranbarth hwn.

Mae'r canolfannau cynghori'n faes anodd i ni. Gan mai eu prif swyddogaeth yw cynghori defnyddwyr, a ystyrir yn ymgynghori â defnyddwyr, fe'u hariannir yn bennaf gan yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Nid yw'n gyfrifoldeb a ddatganolwyd. Yr ydym yn ymddiddori'n fawr iawn yn y canolfannau cynghori yng Nghymru, fel y mae'r awdurdodau lleol yr ydym yn eu hariannu. Er hynny, pennir eu cyllid a'u prif bwrpas gan yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant, ar sail cynghori defnyddwyr. Byddaf yn ystyried y pwynt ynghylch y ffaith eu bod wedi'u gadael y tu allan i'r fframwaith hwn.

Mae'ch cwestiynau ar y rhwydwaith dysgu cymunedol yn ddiddorol. O ran TGCh, y band llydan, campysau dysgu a champysau allanol a redir gan Goleg Prifysgol Cymru Casnewydd gyda'r colegau addysg bellach lleol ac yn y blaen, yr ydym wedi rhagweld mai campws Glynebwy fydd model,

starter or the flagship of the project. We then want it to fit into an all-Wales framework, rolled out from Blaenau Gwent so that it will be complementary to the developments in the rest of Wales. We want to see to what extent we can tell an area like Ebbw Vale that we want it to be the model to which the rest of Wales aspires. That reverses the psychology of big cities, mid-valleys and heads of the Valleys, with the heads of the Valleys always lagging behind. What if they were ahead on some issues that are orientated towards the twenty-first century, such as ICT and community learning, where high technology services could be provided for students and small and medium-sized enterprises? That is the psychology, but it does not mean that there is no provision for the rest of the area, set in an all-Wales context, with Ebbw Vale as a model.

Finally, I admit that I should take up the matter of roads because I had understood that the company was using railway services to transport slabs. There may have been a problem that has caused them to transfer to roads, which would be regrettable.

Huw Lewis: The heritage issue in the upper Rhymney valley area is a serious point. I believe that we should develop a strategy that recognises that heritage sites are linked in their history, and that, just like the Lewis-Neagle household, they will achieve more together than they would do alone.

Brian Gibbons: Hear, hear. Especially in terms of reproduction.

Huw Lewis: That is unfair. [*Laughter.*] Thank you for your statement, Rhodri. I was particularly pleased to see that the needs of the upper Rhymney valley have been included in the document, which rightly mentions the moves towards developing a further education college in the upper Rhymney valley and Rhymney town. I know that this has been welcomed, and is supported by the local community. Will you give an indication that you would be prepared to see this proposal go forward as a priority project for the community learning network? You visited Rhymney a few weeks ago and saw

cychwynnydd neu arweinydd y prosiect. Wedyn yr ydym am iddo ffitio i fframwaith Cymru gyfan, a ehangir o Flaenau Gwent fel y bydd yn ategu'r datblygiadau yng ngweddill Cymru. Yr ydym am weld i ba raddau y gallwn ddweud wrth ardal fel Glynebwy ein bod am iddi fod yn fodel y bydd gweddill Cymru am ei efelychu. Mae hynny'n cildroi'r seicoleg o ddinasoedd mawr, canol y Cymoedd a blaenau'r Cymoedd, gyda blaenau'r Cymoedd ar ei hôl hi bob amser. Beth a ddigwyddai os oeddent ar y blaen mewn rhai materion sydd â'u gogwydd at yr unfed ganrif ar hugain, fel TGCh a dysgu cymunedol, lle y gellid darparu gwasanaethau technoleg uwch i fyfyrwyr a busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint? Dyna'r seicoleg, ond nid yw'n golygu na fydd darpariaeth i weddill yr ardal, mewn cyd-destun Cymru gyfan, gyda Glynebwy'n fodel.

Yn olaf, yr wyf yn cyfaddef y dylwn ymdrin â mater y ffyrdd oherwydd yr oeddwn wedi deall bod y cwmni'n defnyddio gwasanaethau rheilffordd i gludo slabiau. Efallai y bu problem a barodd iddynt drosglwyddo i'r ffyrdd, a byddai hynny'n destun gofid.

Huw Lewis: Mae'r mater treftadaeth yn ardal cwm Rhymni uchaf yn bwynt difrifol. Credaf y dylem ddatblygu strategaeth sy'n cydnabod bod safleoedd treftadaeth wedi'u cysylltu drwy eu hanes ac, yn union fel teulu Lewis-Neagle, y byddant yn cyflawni mwy gyda'i gilydd nag y byddent ar eu pen eu hunain.

Brian Gibbons: Clywch, clywch. Yn enwedig o ran cenhedlu.

Huw Lewis: Mae hynny'n annheg. [*Chwerthin.*] Diolch i chi am eich datganiad, Rhodri. Yr oeddwn yn arbennig o falch o weld bod anghenion cwm Rhymni uchaf wedi'u cynnwys yn y ddogfen, sy'n sôn yn briodol am y camau tuag at ddatblygu coleg addysg bellach yng nghwm Rhymni uchaf a thref Rhymni. Gwn fod hynny wedi'i groesawu, ac fe'i cefnogir gan y gymuned leol. A wnewch nodi y byddech yn barod i weld y cynnig hwn yn mynd ymlaen fel prosiect blaenoriaethol ar gyfer y rhwydwaith dysgu cymunedol? Buoch yn ymweld â Rhymni ychydig wythnosau'n ôl a gwelsoch

the deprivation there. Impress Metal Packaging Ltd in Rhymney has now closed—it was affected by the Corus issue—and, as many workers are now facing an uncertain future, there is a real need for new training and skills in that community. They need that college and the opportunity to retrain and upskill that it would bring.

The First Minister: Thank you for the spirit in which you have asked that question. As you are aware, I cannot make a funding commitment today to anything that is not in the list I gave as part of the statement. I visited Rhymney with you, at your invitation and the invitation of the college principal, and met the Impress Metal Packaging Ltd shop stewards there. The success that Rhymney College has achieved gives every indication that, given the elbow-room, it would be able to achieve further success. The way in which it has developed into a relatively large operation is impressive, and one tries to follow success in this way. I cannot give a commitment today, but I will look into the matter.

It was sad to see that the Impress Metal Packaging Ltd factory—200,000 square feet of it—has been put up for sale because, clearly, it has a good workforce, as I mentioned to the workers there. The interesting thing about the regeneration and post-redundancy experience of the people at Llanwern is that, unlike previous instances, there are now plenty of jobs in the economy, but they are not at the level of pay to which people were accustomed. People must choose whether to stay on the dole until they get another job at £20,000 or, in the case of steelworkers, £25,000 or £27,000, or accept a job at half those wages, just to stay off the dole and keep the money coming in. People have generally chosen to accept the lower paid jobs—not necessarily in the dolls' eyes factories—at half of what they were receiving before in the heavy process industries, which tend to have much higher wages than average. However, we want to ensure that the Rhymney community is supported because it is in the eye of the storm of these steel closures, being so close to Ebbw Vale.

yr amddifadedd yno. Mae Impress Metal Packaging Cyfyngedig yn Rhymni wedi cau bellach—fe'i heffeithiwyd gan fater Corus—a chan fod llawer o'r gweithwyr yn wynebu dyfodol ansicr yn awr, mae gwir angen hyfforddiant a sgiliau newydd yn y gymuned honno. Mae arnynt angen y coleg hwnnw a'r cyfle i ailhyfforddi a gwella'u sgiliau a ddeuai gyda hwnnw.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Diolch i chi am naws eich cwestiynu. Fel y gwyddoch, ni allaf rwymo arian heddiw i ddim nad yw yn y rhestr a roddais fel rhan o'r datganiad. Ymwelais â Rhymni gyda chi, ar eich gwahoddiad a gwahoddiad pennaeth y coleg, a chyfarfûm â swyddogion undeb Impress Metal Packaging Cyfyngedig yno. Mae'r llwyddiant a gafodd Coleg Rhymni yn rhoi pob arwydd, os câi gyfle, y byddai'n gallu sicrhau llwyddiant pellach. Mae'r modd y datblygodd yn weithrediad cymharol fawr yn drawiadol, ac mae rhywun yn ceisio dilyn llwyddiant fel hyn. Ni allaf roi ymrwymiad heddiw, ond ymchwiliat i'r mater.

Yr oedd yn drist gweld bod ffatri Impress Metal Packaging Cyfyngedig—200,000 troedfedd sgwâr ohoni—wedi'i rhoi ar werth oherwydd, wrth gwrs, mae ganddi weithlu da, fel y dywedais wrth y gweithwyr yno. Y peth diddorol am brofiad y rhai yn Llanwern o adfywio a'r cyfnod ar ôl eu diswyddo yw, yn wahanol i achosion blaenorol, fod digon o swyddi yn yr economi'n awr, ond nid yw'r tâl ar yr un lefel â'r hyn y mae pobl wedi arfer â hi. Rhaid i bobl ddewis a ydynt am aros ar y dôl nes cânt swydd arall ar £20,000 neu, yn achos y gweithwyr dur, £25,000 neu £27,000, neu dderbyn swydd ar hanner y cyflogau hynny, dim ond i beidio â bod ar y dôl a dal i ddod ag arian i mewn. At ei gilydd, mae pobl wedi dewis derbyn y swyddi â thâl is—nid yn y ffatrioedd llygaid doliau o reidrwydd—ar hanner yr hyn yr oeddent yn ei dderbyn o'r blaen yn y diwydiannau prosesu trwm, sy'n tueddu i fod â chyflogau uwch o lawer na'r cyfartaledd. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym am sicrhau y caiff cymuned Rhymni gymorth oherwydd ei bod yn nannedd y storm o ran cau'r gweithfeydd dur hyn, gan ei bod mor agos i Lyn Ebwy.

Peter Law: I thank the First Minister for his statement, which I found reassuring. The local authorities have done good work. However, we must remember that we are talking about opportunities for future generations, and in Blaenau Gwent, where we have such deprivation, and currently the highest unemployment in Wales, the prospects are still dark, as far as we are concerned, even with this announcement. It will need many more resources if we are to achieve the success that we want to see there over the coming years. However, the First Minister's comments about the railway freight link, and the passenger news are important. I ask the First Minister to make early funding available for that link into Newport, and that the Abertillery spur is part of this passenger service. I also ask him to consider introducing funding to enable the outstanding schemes on the heads of the Valleys road, which have now possibly been postponed until 2008, to be brought forward. It is important for us to consider that. I also ask that he will be prepared, or that he will ask his Minister for Economic Development, to meet Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to talk about Objective 1 progress. The council is concerned about how that is proceeding in its community.

10:25 a.m.

The First Minister: I mentioned in answering Huw Lewis that I cannot give additional funding commitments today. There is a contingency element to meet any additional costs, but it is quite small. I mentioned an additional cost of which we are already conscious because freight will continue to run on the Ebbw Vale to Newport line. I also mentioned that we want to proceed with the link to Newport as soon as possible but that that is subject to Railtrack carrying out the work that it was going to do on the tunnel in the Gaer. However, we do not know the timing of that because it is putting all its resources into the train protection warning system and it does not seem to want to proceed with anything else until the installation of TPWS is completed. You also added the Abertillery spur. I am sure that these will all come in time, Peter, but I cannot give a financial commitment

Peter Law: Diolchaf i Brif Weinidog Cymru am ei ddatganiad, a gefais yn un calonogol. Mae'r awdurdodau lleol wedi gwneud gwaith da. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gofio ein bod yn sôn am gyfleoedd ar gyfer y cenedlaethau i ddod, ac ym Mlaenau Gwent, lle y mae'r fath amddifadedd gennym, a'r diweithdra uchaf yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd, mae'r rhagolygon yn wael o hyd, o'n rhan ni, hyd yn oed ar ôl y cyhoeddiad hwn. Bydd angen llawer mwy o adnoddau os ydym i sicrhau'r llwyddiant yr ydym am ei weld yno yn y blynyddoedd sydd i ddod. Er hynny, mae sylwadau Prif Weinidog Cymru am y cyswllt rheilffordd cludo nwyddau, a'r newyddion am deithwyr yn bwysig. Gofynnaf i Brif Weinidog Cymru ddarparu arian yn fuan ar gyfer y cyswllt hwnnw â Chasnewydd, ac i gangen Abertyleri fod yn rhan o'r gwasanaeth teithwyr hwn. Gofynnaf hefyd iddo ystyried cyflwyno arian fel y gellir dechrau'n gynharach ar y cynlluniau sy'n disgwyl ar ffordd blaenau'r Cymoedd, sydd wedi'u gohirio o bosibl hyd 2008. Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried hynny. Gofynnaf hefyd iddo fod yn barod, neu iddo ofyn i'w Weinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd, gyfarfod â Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent i siarad am y cynnydd ar Amcan 1. Mae'r cyngor yn bryderus am y modd y mae'n symud ymlaen yn ei gymuned.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Dywedais wrth ateb Huw Lewis na allaf wneud ymrwymadau ariannu ychwanegol heddiw. Mae elfen wrth gefn i dalu unrhyw gostau ychwanegol, ond mae honno'n eithaf bach. Soniais am gost ychwanegol y gwyddom amdani eisoes gan y bydd nwyddau'n dal i redeg ar y llinell o Lynebwy i Gasnewydd. Soniais hefyd ein bod yn dymuno mynd ymlaen â'r cyswllt â Chasnewydd mor fuan â phosibl ond bod hynny'n amodol ar gyflawni gwaith arfaethedig gan Railtrack ar y twnnel yn y Gaer. Fodd bynnag, ni wyddom pa bryd y bydd hynny am ei fod yn rhoi ei holl adnoddau at y system rhybuddio diogelu trenau ac nid yw'n ymddangos ei fod yn dymuno mynd ymlaen â dim arall nes cwblhau gosod y system rhybuddio diogelu trenau. Yr oeddech wedi ychwanegu cangen Abertyleri. Yr wyf yn sicr y daw'r holl bethau hyn ymhen amser, Peter, ond ni allaf

today. You mentioned whether local authorities have the right to come to say to the First Minister that they have concerns about the Objective 1 programme. We are corresponding on this issue and we will pursue it further by correspondence.

John Griffiths: Can we ensure that, in taking forward this impressive response to the real difficulties created by the Corus cutback, we keep our eye on the need for the existing steel industry in Wales to be protected? I welcome your commitment to tackling the USA steel tariff situation and I hope that we continue to make strong representations on that issue. Are we nearer to knowing what fiscal advantages there may be to the urban regeneration company? Regarding the Ebbw Vale to Cardiff rail link, are we certain what difficulties exist in extending to Newport? There is much scepticism about the difficulties that have been mentioned up to now. Finally, as regards the integrated transport situation, can we try to do something about the road difficulties that the M4 presents? That is a considerable obstacle to the progress that we want.

The First Minister: You are right about the tariffs; the steel producing industry in the UK remains under colossal pressure. It is currently difficult to make a profit in steel in the UK. That will remain true while the euro is weak. It is true for Allied Steel and Wire Ltd in Cardiff and throughout the Corus empire in Wales, from south Wales to Shotton. As regards the tariffs exerting additional pressure, we trust and hope that the anti-surge protection measures will be enough to prevent any additional problems arising from dumped steel, which would otherwise have gone to the US, lowering prices here. Prices are rising currently and it seems that 2002 will not be as bad as 2001, but who knows? Mike German mentioned a problem concerning slab coming down from Lackenby. Corus tells me that it works okay and that the slab is of the requisite quality. When it is rolled into steel and tin plate and galvanised at Llanwern it is acceptable to all its customers, after a few initial wobbles which were inevitable. However, we are not out of the woods in steel yet and I think that everybody knows that.

rwymo arian heddiw. Sonioch am a oes hawl gan yr awdurdodau lleol i ddod at Brif Weinidog Cymru a dweud bod ganddynt bryderon ynghylch y rhaglen Amcan 1. Yr ydym yn gohebu ar y mater hwn a byddwn yn ei ddilyn ymhellach drwy ohebu.

John Griffiths: A allwn sicrhau, wrth fwrw ymlaen â'r ymateb trawiadol hwn i'r anawsterau gwirioneddol a grewyd gan gwtogi Corus, ein bod yn dal ein sylw ar yr angen i ddiogelu'r diwydiant dur sydd ohoni yng Nghymru? Croesawaf eich ymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â sefyllfa tollau dur UDA a gobeithiaf y byddwn yn dal i gyflwyno sylwadau cadarn ar y mater hwnnw. A ydym yn nes at wybod pa fanteision cyllidol a gaiff y cwmni adfywio trefol? Ynghylch y cyswllt rheilffordd o Lynebwy i Gaerdydd, a ydym yn sicrhau ynghylch yr anawsterau a geir wrth ei hymestyn i Gasnewydd? Mae llawer o sgeptigiaeth ynghylch yr anawsterau a grybwyllwyd hyd yma. Yn olaf, o ran y sefyllfa trafnidiaeth integredig, a allwn geisio gwneud rhywbeth am yr anawsterau ar y ffyrdd y mae'r M4 yn eu creu? Mae hynny'n gryn rwystr i'r cynnydd yr ydym am ei gael.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr ydych yn iawn ynghylch y tollau; mae'r diwydiant cynhyrchu dur yn y DU dan bwysau aruthrol o hyd. Mae'n anodd gwneud elw ar ddur yn y DU ar hyn o bryd. Bydd yn parhau felly tra bo'r ewro'n wan. Mae felly yn achos Allied Steel and Wire Cyfyngedig yng Nghaerdydd a ledled ymerodraeth Corus yng Nghymru, o'r De hyd Shotton. O ran y pwysau ychwanegol gan y tollau, yr ydym yn hyderu ac yn gobeithio y bydd y mesurau gwarchod rhag ymchwydd yn ddigon i atal unrhyw broblemau ychwanegol rhag codi am fod dur, a fyddai wedi mynd i'r Unol Daleithiau fel arall, yn cael ei waredu ac yn gostwng y prisiau yma. Mae'r prisiau'n codi ar hyn o bryd ac mae'n ymddangos na fydd 2002 cyn waethed â 2001, ond pwy a wŷr? Soniodd Mike German am broblem ynghylch y slabiau sy'n dod i lawr o Lackenby. Dywed Corus wrthyf ei fod yn gweithio'n iawn a bod y slabiau o'r ansawdd gofynnol. Pan gânt eu rholio'n ddur ac yn dunplat a'u galfaneiddio yn Llanwern, maent yn dderbyniol i'w holl gwsmeriaid, wedi ychydig o fân gamgymeriadau cychwynol a oedd yn anorfod. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym wedi

cyrraedd y lan eto o ran dur a chredaf fod pawb yn gwybod hynny.

You mentioned the urban regeneration company. I tried to read the budget late last night, looking for details on that and to be honest I did not find them. However, there are hundreds of pages in the budget document and we will get further advice. I will write to you when we have a clearer picture of whether there were additional fiscal concessions to forming the URC. We said that we had to wait for the budget because otherwise we would not know on what terms we would engage with the private sector, and investors would not know what tax breaks they would get from taking a stake in a not-for-profit company, such as the URC.

The rail line and the tricky bit in the tunnel from Ebbw junction into Newport station was a shock to us. We expected a line from Ebbw Vale to Newport, not Ebbw Vale to Cardiff. We were then told that we would have to wait almost until the end of the decade for an Ebbw Vale to Newport line, but that Ebbw Vale to Cardiff could be done much earlier because there is no tunnel and no signalling constraints. We said that we would go for that, but that does not mean that we do not want the line into Newport. You are right, there is much scepticism. However, we accept the priority being given to TPWS. We have little alternative but to accept it, to be honest. If the work on refurbishing the signalling in the tunnel under the Gaer could be done earlier, we would be anxious to put pressure on Railtrack to do that. However, we would not want to say to Railtrack that we would pay for it; that is its job and it must do it. We would not want to include that in our budget, but we are then dependent on Railtrack for the timing.

Finally, the dualling of the M4 is the most difficult transport problem in Wales. What should be done, not so much about Newport itself, but about the impact on the rest of Wales, if there is a major constraint? We have all driven on the M4 during the rush

Gwnaethoch sôn am y cwmni adfywio trefol. Ceisiais ddarllen y gyllideb yn hwyr neithiwr, gan chwilio am fanylion ar hynny ac ni ddeuthum o hyd iddynt, a dweud y gwir. Fodd bynnag, mae cannoedd o dudalennau yn nogfen y gyllideb ac fe gawn wybodaeth bellach. Ysgrifennaf atoch pan fydd gennym olwg cliriach ynghylch a oedd goddefiadau cyllidol ychwanegol at ffurfio'r cwmni adfywio trefol. Dywedasom fod yn rhaid inni ddisgwyl am y gyllideb oherwydd fel arall ni wyddem ar ba delerau y byddem yn cysylltu â'r sector preifat, ac ni fyddai'r buddsoddwyr yn gwybod pa fanteision trethu a gaent drwy gymryd cyfran mewn cwmni nid-er-elw, fel y cwmni adfywio trefol.

Yr oedd y llinell rheilffordd a'r rhan anodd yn y twnnel o gyffordd Ebbw i orsaf Casnewydd yn ysgytwad i ni. Yr oeddem yn disgwyl cael llinell o Lynebwy i Gasnewydd, nid o Lynebwy i Gaerdydd. Dywedwyd wrthym wedyn y byddai'n rhaid inni ddisgwyl hyd ddiwedd y degawd bron am gael llinell o Lynebwy i Gasnewydd, ond y gellid gwneud yr un o Lynebwy i Gaerdydd yn gynharach o lawer am nad oes twnnel ac am nad oes cyfyngiadau o ran signalau. Dywedasom y byddem yn dewis hynny, ond nid yw hynny'n golygu nad ydym am gael y llinell i Gasnewydd. Yr ydych yn iawn, mae llawer o sgeptigiaeth. Er hynny, yr ydym yn derbyn y flaenoriaeth a roddir i'r system rhybuddio diogelu trenau. Nid oes gennym fawr o ddewis ond ei dderbyn, a dweud y gwir. Os gellid gwneud y gwaith ar adnewyddu'r signalau yn y twnnel o dan y Gaer yn gynharach, byddem yn awyddus i bwysu ar Railtrack i wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddem am ddweud wrth Railtrack y byddem yn talu am hynny; ei waith ef yw hynny a rhaid iddo'i wneud. Ni fyddem am gynnwys hynny yn ein cyllideb, ond yr ydym yn ddibynnol wedyn ar Railtrack o ran amseru.

Yn olaf, deuoli'r M4 yw'r broblem trafniadaeth anoddaf yng Nghymru. Beth y dylid ei wneud, nid yn ogymaint am Gasnewydd ei hun, ond am yr effaith ar weddill Cymru, os oes cyfyngiad mawr? Yr ydym oll wedi gyrru ar yr M4 yn ystod yr

hour and we all know that the period of rush hour constraint through the Brynglas tunnels and elsewhere on the M4 in the Newport area is steadily becoming a little longer each year as traffic increases. How to tackle that, without a colossal commitment to spend £350 million, is one of the great issues of sustainable development. Can we ensure economic development without accepting a 2 per cent compound growth in traffic on the M4, as well as on the A55 in north Wales? How can you disengage economic development from traffic growth? I wish that we knew the answer. We do not have an answer yet, but we need to find it.

awr frys ac yr ydym oll yn gwybod bod hyd cyfyngiad yr awr frys drwy dwneli Bryn-glas a mannau eraill ar yr M4 yn ardal Casnewydd yn graddol hwyhau o ychydig bob blwyddyn wrth i'r traffig gynyddu. Y modd i fynd i'r afael â hynny, heb ymrwymiad aruthrol i wario £350 miliwn, yw un o'r pynciau mawr o ran datblygu cynaliadwy. A allwn sicrhau datblygu economaidd heb dderbyn cynnydd cyfansawdd o 2 y cant yn y traffig ar yr M4, a hefyd ar yr A55 yn y Gogledd? Sut y gallwch ddatgysylltu datblygu economaidd oddi wrth dwf traffig? Byddai'n dda gennyf pe gwyddem yr ateb. Nid oes gennym ateb eto, ond rhaid inni ei ganfod.

Datganiad ar Drais Domestig Statement on Domestic Violence

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): I attach great importance to action on domestic violence. Today, I will share with you some recent Welsh Assembly Government initiatives that I have set in motion. Domestic violence is a serious problem that affects people from all walks of life and within all kinds of relationships. It can start with words, move on to sexual and physical abuse, and sometimes only end when someone is killed. Every day in Wales, on average, 49 women contact Welsh Women's Aid as a result of domestic violence or abuse. During one census day in 2000, 138 women contacted Welsh Women's Aid, and 173 women and 240 children were living in refuges throughout Wales. It is a sad fact that every three days a woman in the UK dies as a result of domestic violence.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Rhoddaf bwys mawr ar weithredu ar drais domestig. Heddiw, rhoddaf wybod i chi am rai o fentrau diweddar Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a roddais ar waith. Mae trais domestig yn broblem ddifrifol sy'n effeithio ar bobl o bob cefndir ac ym mhob math o berthynas. Gall ddechrau â geiriau a symud ymlaen at gamdrin rhywiol a chorfforol, ac nid yw ond yn dod i ben weithiau pan gaiff rhywun ei ladd. Bob dydd yng Nghymru, ar gyfartaledd, mae 49 o fenywod yn cysylltu â Chymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru o ganlyniad i drais domestig neu gamdriniaeth. Yn ystod un diwrnod cyfrifiad yn 2000, cysylltodd 138 o fenywod â Chymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru, ac yr oedd 173 o fenywod a 240 o blant yn byw mewn llochesi ledled Cymru. Mae'n ffaith drist bod un fenyw yn y DU yn marw o ganlyniad i drais domestig bob tri diwrnod.

The Welsh Assembly Government has responsibility for health and social services and child protection issues. As Minister for Health and Social Services, I have a responsibility to help prevent domestic violence in Wales and to provide care for its victims. However, lead responsibility for the criminal aspects of domestic violence rests with the Home Office. The Assembly's crime reduction unit, which is funded by the Home Office, reports to the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities, and it

Mae gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyfrifoldeb dros iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a materion amddiffyn plant. Fel y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, mae gennyf gyfrifoldeb i helpu i atal trais domestig yng Nghymru a darparu gofal i'r rhai sy'n dioddef o'i herwydd. Fodd bynnag, mae'r cyfrifoldeb arweiniol dros yr agweddau troseddol ar drais domestig yn perthyn i'r Swyddfa Gartref. Mae uned lleihau troseddu'r Cynulliad, a ariannir gan y Swyddfa Gartref, yn adrodd i'r

has a number of programmes in hand in this area.

The Assembly liaises closely with the Home Office and has taken part in its campaign on domestic violence. We were part of the launch of the Break the Chain campaign in 1999, which involved the distribution of thousands of leaflets and posters—in English and Welsh—to a wide variety of organisations all over Wales. Officials have also attended meetings of the inter-departmental group on domestic violence and violence against women.

The Assembly has already taken several steps to ensure that domestic violence is taken into account in our policies. For example, in October 2001, we launched a domestic violence resource manual for health professionals. Staff throughout the health service now have up-to-date information on giving advice to women. Children can also be victims of domestic violence, directly or indirectly. We are therefore producing a model protocol, highlighting the child protection aspects of domestic abuse, to be issued to all area child protection committees in Wales.

The Assembly has, for some years, provided funding to Welsh Women's Aid and the Black Association of Women Step Out from several different budgets to enable shelter and support to be given to victims of domestic violence. We have also ensured that relevant guidance to local authorities, registered landlords, schools and area child protection committees has included reference to the need to take domestic violence issues into account. I am aware, however, that more needs to be done to pull all our strategies together and to develop new initiatives to tackle this important issue.

As a first step, we have drawn together several funding streams that supported Welsh Women's Aid in previous years into one new grant scheme. Welsh Women's Aid now has one source for direct Assembly funding, and this is within the Communities Directorate, which has policy responsibility for domestic

Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau, ac mae ganddi sawl rhaglen ar y gweill yn y maes hwn.

Mae'r Cynulliad mewn cysylltiad agos â'r Swyddfa Gartref ac mae wedi cymryd rhan yn ei hymgyrch ar drais domestig. Yr oedd gennym ran wrth lansio'r ymgyrch Torri'r Gadwyn yn 1999, a oedd yn cynnwys dosbarthu miloedd o daflenni a phosteri—yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg—i amrywiaeth eang o gyrff a mudiadau ledled Cymru. Bu'r swyddogion yn bresennol hefyd yng nghyfarfodydd y grŵp rhyngadrannol ar drais domestig a thrais yn erbyn menywod.

Mae'r Cynulliad wedi cymryd sawl cam eisoes i sicrhau y cymerir trais domestig i ystyriaeth yn ein polisiau. Er enghraifft, yn Hydref 2001, gwnaethom lansio llawlyfr adnoddau trais domestig i weithwyr iechyd proffesiynol. Bellach mae gan staff drwy'r gwasanaeth iechyd wybodaeth gyfoes ar roi cyngor i fenywod. Gall plant ddiodeff gan drais domestig hefyd, yn uniongyrchol neu'n anuniongyrchol. Oherwydd hynny yr ydym yn cynhyrchu protocol enghreifftiol, sy'n tynnu sylw at agweddau amddiffyn plant camdriniaeth ddomestig, sydd i'w ddsbarthu i bob pwyllgor ardal amddiffyn plant yng Nghymru.

Mae'r Cynulliad yn darparu arian ers rhai blynyddoedd i Gymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru ac i'r Black Association of Women Step Out o sawl cyllideb wahanol fel y gellir rhoi lloches a chymorth i'r rhai sy'n diodeff gan drais domestig. Yr ydym hefyd wedi sicrhau bod y cyfarwyddyd perthnasol i awdurdodau lleol, landlordiaid cofrestredig, ysgolion a'r pwyllgorau amddiffyn plant ardal yn cynnwys cyfeiriad at yr angen i gymryd materion trais domestig i ystyriaeth. Er hynny, yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod angen gwneud mwy i dynnu'n holl strategaethau at ei gilydd a datblygu mentrau newydd i fynd i'r afael â'r mater pwysig hwn.

Fel cam cyntaf, yr ydym wedi cyfuno sawl llif ariannu sydd wedi cynorthwyo Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru yn y blynyddoedd blaenorol yn un cynllun grant newydd. Bellach mae gan Gymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru un ffynhonnell ariannol uniongyrchol o'r Cynulliad, ac mae honno

violence and violence against women. We will consider ways to fund initiatives on domestic violence again during the next budget planning round.

I have also asked for a working group on domestic violence and violence against women to be set up. This group will include Assembly officials from the Communities Directorate, NHS Wales, the crime reduction unit, and education, housing and social care policy departments, along with representatives from outside organisations such as the police, local government, the health service and voluntary bodies such as Welsh Women's Aid. The main purpose of this group is to develop a comprehensive strategy for Wales, covering the criminal justice, health, social welfare, child protection, education and equality aspects of domestic violence and violence against women. I have invited nominated representatives of organisations to be members, and the group's first meeting will be held shortly.

10:35 a.m.

I have also agreed in principle to host an inter-governmental conference on domestic violence in Cardiff late this year. This is being considered as a result of a cross-border liaison group set up in 2000 to develop inter-country initiatives on crime-related issues. This includes representatives from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Wales. Ireland's Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform hosted a conference on domestic violence in Dublin last December. In view of its success, another conference will be held and, by hosting it, we will provide the opportunity to raise the profile of the issue of domestic violence in Wales.

This statement highlights my commitment to tackling this problem in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government, with the help of experts from other agencies, will develop more integrated policies in this regard in the future and provide a lead to the people of Wales in tackling this disturbing problem.

yng Nghyfarwyddiaeth y Cymunedau, sydd â chyfrifoldeb polisi dros drais domestig a thrais yn erbyn menywod. Byddwn yn ystyried dulliau o ariannu mentrau ar drais domestig eto yn ystod y cylch cynllunio cyllideb nesaf.

Yr wyf hefyd wedi gofyn am sefydlu gweithgor ar drais domestig a thrais yn erbyn menywod. Bydd y grŵp hwn yn cynnwys swyddogion Cynulliad o Gyfarwyddiaeth y Cymunedau, GIG Cymru, yr uned lleihau troseddu, a'r adrannau polisi addysg, tai a gofal cymdeithasol, ynghyd â chynrychiolwyr o gyrff allanol fel yr heddlu, llywodraeth leol, y gwasanaeth iechyd a mudiadau gwirfoddol fel Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru. Prif bwrpas y grŵp hwn yw datblygu strategaeth gynhwysfawr i Gymru, sy'n ymdrin â'r agweddau cyfiawnder troseddol, iechyd, lles cymdeithasol, amddiffyn plant, addysg a chydaddoldeb ar drais domestig a thrais yn erbyn menywod. Yr wyf wedi gwahodd cynrychiolwyr a enwebwyd gan gyrff a mudiadau i fod yn aelodau, a chynhelir cyfarfod cyntaf y grŵp cyn hir.

Yr wyf hefyd wedi cytuno mewn egwyddor i gynnal cynhadledd rynglywodraethol ar drais domestig yng Nghaerdydd ddiwedd y flwyddyn hon. Ystyrir hyn o ganlyniad i grŵp cydlynu trawsffiniol a sefydlwyd yn 2000 i ddatblygu mentrau rhyngwladol ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â throseddu. Mae'n cynnwys cynrychiolwyr o Loegr, yr Alban, Gogledd Iwerddon, Gweriniaeth Iwerddon a Chymru. Cynhaliwyd cynhadledd ar drais domestig gan Adran Cyfiawnder, Cydraddoldeb a Diwygio'r Gyfraith Iwerddon yn Nulyn fis Rhagfyr diwethaf. Yng ngolwg ei llwyddiant, cynhelir cynhadledd arall a, drwy ei chynnal, cawn gyfle i amlygu pwnc trais domestig yng Nghymru.

Mae'r datganiad hwn yn dangos fy ymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon yng Nghymru. Bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, gyda chymorth arbenigwyr o asiantaethau eraill, yn datblygu polisïau mwy integredig yn hyn o beth yn y dyfodol ac yn rhoi arweiniad i bobl Cymru wrth fynd i'r

afael â'r broblem annymunol hon.

Janet Ryder: Domestic violence or abuse can occur in any relationship and against any person, whether male, female, young or old. It is good to hear that that is being recognised now and that work is being done to counter it because it causes the victims severe problems. As you stated, on average, 49 women a day contact Welsh Women's Aid. That emphasises the important work that Welsh Women's Aid does. You have responsibility for that. I am glad that that has been clarified because there has been confusion. Traditionally, Welsh Women's Aid tended to be funded through housing sources and it is good to see its funding being brought under one budget stream. That needed to be done. However, do you acknowledge that groups such as Welsh Women's Aid are greatly concerned about their future funding, even though you have committed to one budget stream? Traditionally, much of the funding for such groups comes through section 180 arrangements, as I said the other day. After 2002-03, that will not be available to them. They were told to apply for transitional housing benefit to meet their support charges. The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities told us on Tuesday that she would not pay for those support charges. Will those support charges be funded from the budget line to support Welsh Women's Aid, and will the funding be enough?

I am sure that you are aware that Welsh Women's Aid is currently drawing up a national strategy. It estimates the cost of simply supporting the current domestic abuse support services as £21 million. Are you satisfied that the £679,000 for 2002-03, decreasing to £582,000 in 2003-04, will be enough to support existing domestic abuse support services? Can you also clarify whether that £679,000 is supposed to support the core services of Welsh Women's Aid nationally, and if so, how its local groups, which are unable to access money for their support charges, will keep going over the

Janet Ryder: Mae trais neu gamdriniaeth ddomestig yn gallu digwydd mewn unrhyw berthynas ac yn erbyn unrhyw un, boed yn wryw, yn fenyw, yn ifanc neu'n hen. Mae'n dda clywed ei fod yn cael ei gydnabod yn awr a bod gwaith yn cael ei wneud i'w wrthsefyll gan ei fod yn peri problemau difrifol i'r dioddefwyr. Fel y dywedasoch, ar gyfartaledd, mae 49 menyw y diwrnod yn cysylltu â Chymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n pwysleisio'r gwaith pwysig a wneir gan Gymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru. Mae gennyhych gyfrifoldeb dros hynny. Yr wyf yn falch bod hynny wedi ei egluro oherwydd bu dryswch. Yn draddodiadol, yr oedd tuedd i ariannu Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru drwy adnoddau tai ac mae'n dda gweld bod yr arian ar ei gyfer wedi'i roi o dan un llif cyllideb. Yr oedd angen gwneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, a ydych yn cydnabod bod grwpiau fel Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru yn bryderus iawn ynghylch yr ariannu ar eu cyfer yn y dyfodol, er eich bod wedi ymrwymo i un llif cyllideb? Yn draddodiadol, daw llawer o'r arian ar gyfer grwpiau o'r fath drwy drefniadau adran 180, fel y dywedais y diwrnod o'r blaen. Ar ôl 2002-03, ni fydd hynny ar gael iddynt. Dywedwyd wrthynt am ymgeisio am fuddal tai trosiannol i dalu am eu costau cynnal. Dywedodd y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau wrthym ddydd Mawrth na thalai am y costau cynnal hynny. A ariannir y costau cynnal hynny o'r llinell gyllideb i gynnal Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru, ac a fydd yr arian yn ddigonol?

Yr wyf yn sicr eich bod yn gwybod bod Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru yn paratoi strategaeth genedlaethol ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n amcangyfrif mai cost cynnal y gwasanaethau cymorth camdriniaeth ddomestig presennol yn unig fydd £21 miliwn. A ydych yn sicr y bydd y £679,000 am 2002-03, sy'n gostwng i £582,000 yn 2003-04, yn ddigon i gynnal y gwasanaethau cymorth camdriniaeth ddomestig presennol? A allwch hefyd egluro a yw'r £679,000 hwnnw i fod i gynnal gwasanaethau craidd Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru yn genedlaethol, ac os felly, sut y bydd ei

coming years?

Jane Hutt: Much work has been done over many years to tackle domestic violence. Unfortunately, it has often been fragmented and hidden and that is why it is so important that we have a strategy, which is what we are taking forward through this working group. I have talked about the importance of streamlining funding and provisions for domestic violence within the new grant-funding stream from this financial year onwards. For example, it is £496,000 for this financial year, £449,000 in 2003-04 and £449,000 in 2004-05. That funding is going to Welsh Women's Aid, BAWSO and other important women's aid groups under section 28 of the National Health Service Act 1977 and section 180 of the Housing Act 1996. I hope that that core support for Welsh Women's Aid gives you confidence.

Issues related to the supported housing revenue grant budget fall under the portfolio of Edwina Hart, the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities. The transitional arrangements for projects receiving shrunken funding—as we call it—are being considered and discussed. It is important that we have established a working group and have a strategy that the Welsh Assembly Government is taking forward, not only to safeguard funding, but to develop the strategic approach to counteract domestic abuse.

Christine Chapman: Research on domestic violence shows, yet again, that it is a symptom of the continuing social inequality faced by women. We must accept that women experience far more domestic violence than men, although men are also reporting cases of violence. As you mentioned, there are many aspects to this issue. We need to consider education, for example. Will you agree to work closely with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to ensure that young people's education reflects the need for girls to have high expectations for their lives and not to accept domestic violence as the norm? More

grwpiau lleol, na allant gael gafael ar arian ar gyfer eu costau cynnal, yn parhau dros y blynyddoedd i ddod?

Jane Hutt: Gwnaethpwyd llawer o waith dros flynyddoedd lawer i ymladd trais domestig. Gwaetha'r modd, fe fu'n dameidiog ac yn guddiedig yn aml a dyna pam y mae mor bwysig bod gennym strategaeth, sef yr hyn yr ydym yn ei ddatblygu drwy'r gweithgor hwn. Soniais am bwysigrwydd symleiddio'r ariannu a'r darpariaethau ar gyfer trais domestig yn y llif arian grant newydd o'r flwyddyn ariannol hon ymlaen. Er enghraifft, mae'n £496,000 ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol hon, yn £449,000 yn 2003-04 ac yn £449,000 yn 2004-05. Aiff yr arian hwnnw at Gymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru, BAWSO a grwpiau cymorth menywod pwysig eraill o dan adran 28 y Ddeddf Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol 1977 ac adran 180 y Ddeddf Tai 1996. Gobeithiaf fod y cymorth craidd hwnnw i Gymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru'n rhoi sicrwydd i chi.

Mae'r materion sy'n ymwneud â'r gyllideb grant refeniw tai â chymorth yn rhan o bortffolio Edwina Hart, y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau. Mae'r trefniadau trosiannol ar gyfer prosiectau sy'n cael arian codi gwar—fel yr ydym yn ei alw—yn cael eu hystyried a'u trafod. Mae'n bwysig ein bod wedi sefydlu gweithgor a bod gennym strategaeth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n bwrw ymlaen â hi, nid yn unig i ddiogelu'r ariannu, ond i ddatblygu'r dull strategol o wrthweithio camdriniaeth ddomestig.

Christine Chapman: Mae'r ymchwil ar drais domestig yn dangos, unwaith eto, ei fod yn symptom o'r anghydraddoldeb cymdeithasol parhaus y mae menywod yn ei wynebu. Rhaid inni dderbyn bod menywod yn profi llawer mwy o drais domestig nag y mae dynion, er bod dynion yn adrodd am achosion o drais hefyd. Fel y dywedaso, mae llawer o agweddau ar y pwnc hwn. Rhaid inni ystyried addysg, er enghraifft. A wnewch gytuno i gydweithio'n agos â'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes i sicrhau bod addysg pobl ifanc yn adlewyrchu'r angen i ferched gael disgwyliadau uchel yn eu bywyd ac nid

importantly, will you also ensure that boys learn, through a proactive curriculum, that equality between boys and girls is crucial to modern life, so that we begin to break the cycle of attitudes and behaviour early on?

Jane Hutt: There will be a representative from the training and education department on the working group. I will work closely with my colleague, Jane Davidson, on this. Schools have an important role to play in teaching children to respect others and in preparing them for the responsibilities of adult life. We will take that issue into account in the working group and strategy.

David Melding: I pay tribute to your work over many years to alleviate domestic violence. It is not surprising that you brought this matter to our attention. It is appropriate that we consider the issue of domestic violence as a whole. However, we realise that, unfortunately, it is often violence against women. It is appropriate that your statement focused on that. Do you agree that the voluntary sector has a crucial role to play? It is leading the way in establishing best practice and offering services that alleviate domestic violence and help to prevent it. The voluntary sector's involvement will be crucial. Will you join me in congratulating the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for its innovative, direct, stark and distressing television advertisement, which illustrates violence against children? That advertisement's core message is that when violence occurs in the home, it is often heard and known about in the neighbourhood. People should not take the attitude that was perhaps taken previously, that whatever happened in a family's home was not for those who were not members of that family to discuss. It is an important matter to address. The charity has financed a television campaign. Many people criticise charities for doing that, but it is a highly innovative and effective advertisement and the type of action that we need to take as part of a comprehensive campaign against domestic violence.

Jane Hutt: Thank you for your remarks, David. I helped to establish the first

derbyn trais domestig fel norm? Yn bwysicach na hynny, a wnewch sicrhau bod bechgyn yn dysgu, drwy gwricwlwm rhagweithiol, fod cydraddoldeb rhwng bechgyn a merched yn hanfodol i fywyd cyfoes, fel y gallwn ddechrau torri'r cylch o ymagweddau ac ymddygiad yn gynnar?

Jane Hutt: Bydd cynrychiolydd o'r adran addysg a hyfforddiant ar y gweithgor. Byddaf yn cydweithio'n agos â'm cyd-Weinidog, Jane Davidson, ar hyn. Mae gan ysgolion rôl bwysig wrth ddysgu plant i barchu eraill ac wrth eu paratoi ar gyfer eu cyfrifoldebau fel oedolion. Byddwn yn cymryd y mater hwnnw i ystyriaeth yn y gweithgor ac yn y strategaeth.

David Melding: Talaf deyrnged i'ch gwaith dros flynyddoedd lawer i liniaru trais domestig. Nid yw'n syndod eich bod wedi dwyn y mater hwn i'n sylw. Mae'n briodol ein bod yn ystyried mater trais domestig yn ei gyfanrwydd. Fodd bynnag, sylweddolwn mai trais yn erbyn menywod ydyw'n aml, gwaetha'r modd. Mae'n briodol bod eich datganiad yn canolbwyntio ar hynny. A gytunwch fod rôl hollbwysig i'w chwarae gan y sector gwirfoddol? Mae'n arwain y ffordd wrth sefydlu'r arfer gorau a chynnig gwasanaethau sy'n lliniaru trais domestig ac yn helpu i'w atal. Bydd rhan y sector gwirfoddol yn hollbwysig. A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol er Atal Creulondeb i Blant ar ei hysbyseb arloesol, uniongyrchol, plaen ac aflonyddol, sy'n dangos trais yn erbyn plant? Neges ganolog yr hysbyseb honno yw os yw trais yn digwydd yn y cartref fod pobl yn clywed ac yn gwybod amdano yn y gymdogaeth. Ni ddylai pobl gymryd yr agwedd yr arferid ei chymryd o'r blaen efallai, sef nad oedd yr hyn a ddigwyddai yng nghartref un teulu yn fater i'w drafod gan y rhai nad oeddent yn aelodau o'r teulu hwnnw. Mae'n fater pwysig i'w drafod. Mae'r elusen wedi talu am ymgyrch deledu. Mae llawer o bobl yn beirniadu elusennau am wneud hynny, ond mae'n hysbyseb dra arloesol ac effeithiol a dyna'r math o gamau y mae'n rhaid inni eu cymryd fel rhan o ymgyrch gynhwysfawr yn erbyn trais domestig.

Jane Hutt: Diolch i chi am eich sylwadau, David. Helpais i sefydlu lloches gyntaf

Women's Aid refuge in Wales over 25 years ago. It is sad that we have to discuss in the Chamber today the need for more support and funding for women who are subjected to violence. You have drawn attention to children's needs in that respect. Children are not only drawn into the domestic violence that may be primarily affecting women, but may also experience violence in the family in general. You also noted the NSPCC's hard work. Its advertising campaigns are hard-hitting and some people might find them distasteful. However, they are hard-hitting because we need to face up to the reality of that violence. I am pleased that the crime reduction programme funding for domestic violence projects includes, for example, money for Pembrokeshire child protection work; Merthyr Tydfil Women's Aid; the Cardiff Women's Safety Unit; Cardiff Multi-service Approach; and Powys Rape Victim Support. Many voluntary organisations are involved in this field and we need to give their work a higher profile and more recognition.

10:45 a.m.

Lynne Neagle: Thank you for this statement and for the initiatives you announced. I welcome the measures in relation to funding for Women's Aid, and the measures to improve protection for children. However, as you have highlighted, responsibility for some of the key agencies that come into contact with women who have experienced domestic violence has not been devolved to the Assembly. The foremost of these, of course, is the police, which has made great strides in recent years to improve the way in which they deal with women. However, improvements could still be made. Women's Aid groups feel that legislation, such as the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, needs to be implemented more forcefully by the police. Magistrates are also key. Too often they are reluctant, when imposing injunctions, to attach powers of arrest to those injunctions to make them meaningful. Through your work with the working group, which is welcome, and through your contact with UK Government Ministers, will you try to influence some of the other non-devolved bodies?

Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru dros 25 mlynedd yn ôl. Mae'n drist ein bod yn gorfod trafod yn y Siambr hon heddiw yr angen am fwy o gymorth ac arian i fenywod sy'n dioddef gan drais. Gwnaethoch dynnu sylw at anghenion plant yn hynny o beth. Nid yn unig y mae plant yn cael eu tynnu i'r trais domestig a allai effeithio ar fenywod yn bennaf, ond gallent hefyd brofi trais yn y teulu'n gyffredinol. Gwnaethoch nodi gwaith caled yr NSPCC hefyd. Mae ei hymgyrchoedd hysbysebu'n ddiostur ac efallai fod rhai pobl yn eu cael yn ddi-chwaeth. Fodd bynnag, maent yn ddiostur oherwydd fod yn rhaid inni wynebu'r gwir am y trais hwnnw. Yr wyf yn falch bod cyllid y rhaglen lleihau troseddu i brosiectau trais domestig yn cynnwys, er enghraifft, arian ar gyfer gwaith amddiffyn plant sir Benfro; Cymorth i Fenywod Merthyr Tudful; Uned Diogelwch Menywod Caerdydd; Dull Amlasiantaethol Caerdydd; a Chymorth Dioddefwyr Trais Rhywiol Powys. Mae llawer o fudiadau gwirfoddol yn gysylltiedig â'r maes hwn a rhaid inni roi mwy o amlygrwydd a chydabyddiaeth i'w gwaith.

Lynne Neagle: Diolch i chi am y datganiad hwn ac am y mentrau yr ydych wedi'u cyhoeddi. Croesawaf y camau o ran ariannu Cymorth i Fenywod, a'r camau i wella'r amddiffyniad i blant. Er hynny, fel yr ydych wedi pwysleisio, nid yw'r cyfrifoldeb dros rai o'r prif asiantaethau sy'n dod i gysylltiad â benywod a brofodd drais domestig wedi'i ddatganoli i'r Cynulliad. Y fwyaf blaenllaw o'r rhain, wrth gwrs, yw'r heddlu, a gymerodd gamau bras yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf hyn i wella'i ddull o drin menywod. Fodd bynnag, gellid gwneud mwy o welliannau eto. Mae'r grwpiau Cymorth i Fenywod yn teimlo bod angen i'r heddlu weithredu deddfwriaeth, fel y Ddeddf Amddiffyn rhag Aflonyddu 1997, yn fwy cadarn o lawer. Mae'r ynadon yn hollbwysig hefyd. Yn rhy aml maent yn amharod, wrth orfodi gwaharddebau, i gysylltu pwerau atal â'r gwaharddebau hynny fel eu bod yn ystyrllon. Drwy eich gwaith gyda'r gweithgor, sydd i'w groesawu, a thrwy eich cysylltiad â Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y DU, a wnewch geisio dylanwadu ar rai o'r cyrff eraill sydd heb eu datganoli?

Jane Hutt: This relates to Edwina Hart's work as Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities. She has responsibility for overseeing the Assembly's crime reduction unit, working with the police, and for considering the wider UK responsibilities that we need to raise and address with Ministers. We work together closely on this. It is the Minister's responsibility to work with the police, but the working group will include a police representative. It is important that it will also involve Welsh Women's Aid, BAWSO and other organisations at the sharp end. We need to influence policy as a result of the experience of the organisations that will be sitting around the table with us.

Kirsty Williams: I declare an interest as a patron of Brecknock Women's Aid. I welcome your statement, which draws attention to what is often a taboo subject. It breaks down the stigma that many victims feel when they are subject to domestic violence. I also welcome the recent message of support you sent to the Powys forum, the recent launch of which was attended by the Assembly's crime reduction officer. Representatives of the voluntary sector, statutory agencies and the police came together to share best practice to ensure that we in Powys adopt a concerted approach to ending the problem of domestic violence.

I welcome the simplification of funding streams for Welsh Women's Aid. However, will simpler methods of funding be available to voluntary groups that work at a regional and local level? In developing your strategy, will you build on the good work of the manual made available to NHS staff, and consider a priority for funding training for individuals who could, through their work, come into contact with women and children who are experiencing domestic violence? A horrific incident in my constituency involved a woman who had approached a local housing office, only to be asked by staff to leave because they were frightened that her violent partner would come to cause problems there. It is difficult for staff who have to work with people in distressing circumstances. Supporting staff and

Jane Hutt: Mae hyn yn ymwneud â gwaith Edwina Hart fel y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau. Hi sy'n gyfrifol am oruchwylio uned lleihau troseddu'r Cynulliad, gan weithio gyda'r heddlu, ac am ystyried y cyfrifoldebau ehangach yn y DU y mae angen inni eu codi a'u trafod â'r Gweinidogion. Yr ydym yn cydweithio'n agos ar hyn. Cyfrifoldeb y Gweinidog yw gweithio gyda'r heddlu, ond bydd y gweithgor yn cynnwys cynrychiolydd o'r heddlu. Mae'n bwysig hefyd y bydd yn cynnwys Cymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru, BAWSO a'r mudiadau eraill yn y rheng flaen. Rhaid inni ddylanwadu ar bolisi o ganlyniad i brofiad y mudiadau a fydd yn eistedd o gylch y bwrdd gyda ni.

Kirsty Williams: Datganaf fuddiant fel noddwr Cymorth i Fenywod Brycheiniog. Croesawaf eich datganiad, sy'n tynnu sylw at bwnc sy'n waharddedig yn aml. Mae'n chwalu'r gwaradwydd y mae llawer o ddioddefwyr trais domestig yn ei deimlo. Yr wyf hefyd yn croesawu'r neges o gefnogaeth a anfonasoch yn ddiweddar at fforwm Powys, y bu swyddog lleihau troseddu'r Cynulliad yn bresennol yn ei gyfarfod lansio'n ddiweddar. Daeth cynrychiolwyr o'r sector gwirfoddol, yr asiantaethau statudol a'r heddlu at ei gilydd i rannu'r arfer gorau er mwyn sicrhau ein bod ni ym Mhowys yn mabwysiadu dull gweithredu ar y cyd i roi terfyn ar broblem trais domestig.

Croesawaf y symleiddio ar y llifoedd ariannu i Gymorth i Fenywod yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, a fydd dulliau ariannu symlach ar gael i grwpiau gwirfoddol sy'n gweithio ar lefel ranbarthol a lleol? Wrth ddatblygu'ch strategaeth, a wnewch adeiladu ar sail y gwaith da yn y llawlyfr a ddarparwyd i staff y GIG, ac ystyried rhoi blaenoriaeth i ariannu hyfforddiant i unigolion a allai, drwy eu gwaith, ddod i gysylltiad â menywod a phlant sy'n profi trais domestig? Mewn digwyddiad arswydus yn fy etholaeth i, cysylltodd menyw â swyddfa tai leol, ond i'r staff ofyn iddi ymadael gan eu bod yn ofni y deuai ei chymar treisgar yno i achosi problemau. Mae'n anodd i staff sy'n gorfod gweithio gyda phobl mewn amgylchiadau gofidus. Byddai cynorthwyo staff a rhoi sylw i'w hanghenion hyfforddi yn hyn o beth yn

addressing their training needs in this regard would be of benefit to all concerned.

Jane Hutt: The resource packs, the information and the guidelines are good, and have taken us forward. However, unless we provide training and support, they may remain on shelves and not be used in the way that we would wish. That will be an important part of the strategy. Although we are streamlining funding, we need to consider the gaps in our support of national and regional organisations at the sharp end of the provision of care, accommodation and safety. This will also be part of the strategic group's remit. It is crucial that we consider examples of good practice, and much good practice is pioneered by the police, the health service, local government and through the area child protection committees. We must take that forward and learn from it through this strategy for Wales.

Lorraine Barrett: I welcome these initiatives, which will go a long way towards helping people who often suffer in silence, because they are afraid of further repercussions and violence against their children. I pay tribute to David Melding for raising the issue of violence against children in a domestic setting, which many of us do not perhaps think of automatically. However, I still have a problem with the term 'domestic violence'. Do you think that we will ever change that term? It seems to me that there is a perception that it is not quite as serious as grievous bodily harm or aggravated assault. I believe that it is worse than either of those forms of assault, because it is hidden and sustained over a long period. I do not know whether you feel strongly about that; do you feel that it has a connotation of not being quite as serious as being beaten up in the street, for example?

Jane Hutt: There has been a major change over the last 25 years. We have moved from a time when domestic violence was not recognised to having legislation relating to civil action. Yesterday, we discussed this in relation to legislation on homelessness. Domestic violence is being recognised as an issue. In terms of criminal justice, and recognising the criminal nature of domestic violence, it is important that the crime

fanteisiol i bawb sy'n gysylltiedig.

Jane Hutt: Mae'r pecynnau adnoddau, yr wybodaeth a'r canllawiau yn dda, ac maent wedi bod yn gam ymlaen i ni. Fodd bynnag, os na ddarparwn hyfforddiant a chefnogaeth, gallent aros ar y silffoedd a pheidio â chael eu defnyddio fel y dymunem. Bydd hynny'n rhan bwysig o'r strategaeth. Er ein bod yn symleiddio'r ariannu, rhaid inni ystyried y bylchau yn ein cymorth i'r mudiadau cenedlaethol a rhanbarthol sydd yn y rheng flaen wrth ddarparu gofal, llety a diogelwch. Bydd hynny'n rhan o gylch gwaith y grŵp strategol. Mae'n hollbwysig ein bod yn ystyried enghreifftiau o arfer da, ac mae llawer o arfer da wedi'i arloesi gan yr heddlu, y gwasanaeth iechyd, llywodraeth leol a thrwy'r pwyllgorau ardal amddiffyn plant. Rhaid inni fwrw ymlaen â hynny a dysgu oddi wrtho drwy'r strategaeth hon i Gymru.

Lorraine Barrett: Croesawaf y mentrau hyn, a fydd yn cyfrannu'n fawr at helpu pobl sy'n aml yn dioddef yn ddistaw, am fod arnynt ofn ôl-ffeithiau pellach a thrais yn erbyn eu plant. Talaf deyrnged i David Melding am godi mater trais yn erbyn plant mewn sefyllfa ddomestig, nad yw llawer ohonom yn meddwl amdano ar unwaith o bosibl. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn anfodlon o hyd ynghylch y term 'trais domestig'. A gredwch y byddwn yn newid y term hwnnw byth? Mae'n ymddangos i mi fod canfyddiad nad yw mor ddifrifol yn hollol ag anaf corfforol difrifol neu ymosodiad difrifol. Credaf ei fod yn waeth na'r ddau fath hynny o ymosodiad, am ei fod yn guddiedig ac yn parhau dros gyfnod hir. Ni wn a ydych yn teimlo'n gryf am hynny; a ydych yn teimlo bod iddo ystyr o beidio â bod mor ddifrifol yn hollol â chael curfa yn y stryd, er enghraifft?

Jane Hutt: Bu newid mawr dros y 25 mlynedd diwethaf. Yr ydym wedi symud o'r cyfnod pan na chydabyddid trais domestig at gael deddfwriaeth sy'n ymwneud ag achosion sifil. Ddoe, gwnaethom drafod hyn mewn cysylltiad â deddfwriaeth ar ddigartrefedd. Cydnabyddir bod trais domestig yn fater sy'n codi. O ran cyfiawnder troseddol, a chan gydnabod natur droseddol trais domestig, mae'n bwysig bod

reduction unit, the police and the criminal justice system are more fully engaged because, for a woman to take action requires the backing and support of the whole criminal justice system. That has always been a difficulty, as well as the problems that Kirsty mentioned of staff who have to support women and children suffering from domestic violence, not having the understanding and support to know how to handle it. That often results in women not coming forward and breaking the chain of domestic violence. This issue is overdue for discussion by the Assembly. We in Wales can take action. We have the infrastructure and the people working at the sharp end. There are too many victims in Wales; we must address this issue as a whole and with our colleagues in the UK Government.

John Griffiths: I congratulate you on your long commitment to this issue. I remember that, when I was a solicitor dealing with criminal law, great efforts were made to change the perceptions of the police, the courts and so on, and to get them to take this matter more seriously. Some progress has been made, but much is still to be done. This initiative will do much to change attitudes. On that subject, could we do more to move towards outlawing the smacking of children? That would send out an important message and it is important in the context of domestic violence against children. I hesitate to raise this next point—although Christine Chapman mentioned it; I do not know your feelings on this, Jane—but I know of some nasty cases of domestic violence towards men. I would not want to detract from the overwhelming problem, which is violence against women, but we should not ignore the fact that there are some nasty cases of domestic violence against men and our responses must deal with that problem also.

Jane Hutt: As I said in my opening remarks, there is violence in all kinds of relationships and we must recognise that. Though the vast majority comprises violence against women, violence against men is also an issue. The serious problem of violence against children is also at the forefront of our concerns. There are organisations working on that issue and it

yr uned lleihau trosedd, yr heddlu a'r system cyfiawnder troseddol yn cymryd mwy o ran oherwydd, os yw menyw i gymryd camau, mae arni angen cefnogaeth a chymorth y system cyfiawnder troseddol yn ei chyfanrwydd. Bu hynny'n anhawster erioed, yn ogystal â'r problemau a grybwyllodd Kirsty ynghylch y staff sy'n gorfod cynorthwyo menywod a phlant sy'n dioddef gan drais domestig, o fod heb ddealltwriaeth a chymorth digonol i wybod sut i'w drafod. Canlyniad hynny'n aml yw nad yw menywod yn dod ymlaen ac yn torri cadwyn trais domestig. Mae'n hen bryd i'r Cynulliad drafod y pwnc hwn. Fe allwn ni yng Nghymru gymryd camau. Mae'r seilwaith gennym a'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn y rheng flaen. Mae gormod o ddiodefwr yng Nghymru; rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn ei gyfanrwydd a chyda'n cyd-Weinidogion yn Llywodraeth y DU.

John Griffiths: Fe'ch llongyfarchaf ar eich ymrwymiad hir i'r mater hwn. Yr wyf yn cofio, pan oeddwn yn dwrnai yn delio â chyfraith trosedd, fod ymdrechion mawr i newid canfyddiadau yr heddlu, y llysoedd ac yn y blaen, a'u cael i gymryd y mater hwn yn fwy o ddifrif. Gwnaethpwyd rhywfaint o gynnydd, ond mae llawer i'w wneud eto. Bydd y fenter hon yn gwneud llawer i newid agweddau. Ar y pwnc hwnnw, a allem wneud rhagor i symud tuag at wahardd curo plant? Byddai hynny'n anfon neges bwysig ac mae'n bwysig yng nghyd-destun trais domestig yn erbyn plant. Petrusaf cyn codi fy mhwynt nesaf—er bod Christine Chapman wedi'i grybwyll; ni wn beth yw'ch teimladau ar hyn, Jane—ond gwn am rai achosion cas o drais domestig yn erbyn dynion. Ni fyynnwn fychanu'r broblem bennaf, sef trais yn erbyn menywod, ond ni ddylem anwybyddu'r ffaith bod rhai achosion cas o drais domestig yn erbyn dynion a rhaid i'n hymatebion ddelio â'r broblem honno hefyd.

Jane Hutt: Fel y dywedais yn fy sylwadau agoriadol, mae trais ym mhob math o berthynas a rhaid inni gydnabod hynny. Er mai trais yn erbyn menywod yw'r mwyafrif helaeth o'r achosion, mae trais yn erbyn dynion yn fater sy'n codi hefyd. Mae problem ddifrifol trais yn erbyn plant yn un o'n pryderon pennaf hefyd. Ceir cyrff a

is also an issue for the police. However, we must recognise that the majority of violence in the world is against women and children, and we must focus our attention on that today.

Pauline Jarman: On the evening of the International Women's Day, I joined the Cwm Cynon Women's Aid in the march for better protection for women and children. I learned some startling facts from people who had endured domestic assaults. The one statistic that sticks out in my mind is that, on average, some 39 assaults occur before a woman flees domestic violence. In the main, that is because of an attempt to keep the family together. We must treat domestic violence as a serious criminal act.

10:55 a.m.

Will you speak with the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities regarding the section 180 funding? Earlier this week, we discussed the Supporting People programme, but there is a gap in your understanding of that section, given what the legislation states.

Jane Hutt: I have already responded to that point, which Janet raised. We are considering the issue of streamlining funding, and that is being done in consultation with all the relevant bodies.

Rod Richards: While the Minister has acknowledged that there is some domestic violence towards men, she says that it is not a serious problem. How does she know that it is not a serious problem when she does not have any data? Earlier, she stated how difficult it is for women to come forward and say that they are victims of domestic violence. How much more difficult is it for men to come forward and say that they are victims of domestic violence? Although collating data is difficult, will the Minister make an effort to do so on domestic violence against men and then take appropriate action?

Jane Hutt: For men, or anybody, to be in a situation of fear of violence in a relationship is a serious issue and I acknowledge that. We need statistics to be able to support people in

mudiadau sy'n gweithio ar y mater hwnnw ac mae hefyd yn fater i'r heddlu. Er hynny, rhaid inni gydnabod bod y rhan fwyaf o'r trais yn y byd yn erbyn menywod a phlant, a rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar hynny heddiw.

Pauline Jarman: Ar noson Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod, ymunais â Chymorth i Fenywod Cwm Cynon yn yr orymdaith dros well amddiffyniad i fenywod a phlant. Cefais wybod rhai ffeithiau syfrdanol gan bobl a oedd wedi dioddef ymosodiadau domestig. Yr ystadegyn sy'n amlwg yn fy nghof yw bod tua 39 o ymosodiadau'n digwydd, ar gyfartaledd, cyn i fenyw ffoi rhag trais domestig. Ar y cyfan, mae hynny oherwydd ymgais i gadw'r teulu â'i gilydd. Rhaid inni drin trais domestig fel gweithred droseddol ddifrifol.

A wnewch chi siarad â'r Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau ynghylch yr ariannu adran 180? Yn gynharach yr wythnos hon, trafodasom y rhaglen Cefnogi Pobl, ond mae bwlech yn eich dealltwriaeth o'r adran honno, o ystyried beth a ddywed y ddeddfwriaeth.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf eisoes wedi ymateb i'r pwynt hwnnw, a gododd Janet. Yr ydym yn ystyried mater symleiddio ariannu, a gwneir hynny drwy ymgynghori â'r holl gyrff perthnasol.

Rod Richards: Er bod y Gweinidog wedi cydnabod bod rhywfaint o drais domestig yn erbyn dynion, dywed nad yw'n broblem ddifrifol. Sut y gŵyr nad yw'n broblem ddifrifol a hithau heb unrhyw ddata? Yn gynharach, dywedodd pa mor anodd ydyw i fenywod ddod ymlaen a dweud eu bod yn dioddef gan drais domestig. Faint yn anos ydyw i ddynion ddod ymlaen a dweud eu bod yn dioddef gan drais domestig? Er ei bod yn anodd casglu data, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ymdrech i wneud hynny ar drais domestig yn erbyn dynion a chymryd camau priodol wedyn?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n fater difrifol i ddynion, neu rywun, fod mewn sefyllfa lle y mae'n ofni trais mewn perthynas a chydabyddaf hynny. Mae arnom angen ystadegau er mwyn

that situation and to raise awareness of the silence on and lack of recognition of, as you state, this issue for vulnerable men. I undertake to see whether there is statistical evidence on that issue.

gallu cynorthwyo pobl sydd yn y sefyllfa honno a hybu ymwybyddiaeth o'r mudandod a'r diffyg cydnabyddiaeth, fel y dywedwch, ynghylch y mater hwn yn achos dynion sy'n agored i niwed. Ymgymeraf i weld a oes tystiolaeth ystadegol ar y mater hwnnw.

Datganiad ar y Comisiwn Annibynnol ar Bwerau'r Cynulliad Statement on the Independent Commission on Assembly Powers

The First Minister: The partnership agreement of October 2000 included a commitment to establish, before the end of the Assembly's first term, an independent commission on the powers and electoral arrangements of the National Assembly to ensure that it is able to operate in the best interests of the people of Wales. I am pleased to make a preliminary announcement today to take this matter forward. I have invited Lord Richard of Ammanford to chair the commission and I am delighted to say that he has accepted the invitation. Ivor Richard was born and raised in Ammanford and attended school in Llanelli. He was called to the Bar in 1955 and has since been a member of the House of Commons, a Government Minister, the UK permanent representative at the United Nations, a Commissioner of the European Economic Community, chair of the Rhodesia conference in 1976, a member of the Shadow Cabinet as Leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords between 1992 and 1997, and a member of the Cabinet as Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords between 1997 and 1998. That is not a bad curriculum vitae. Lord Richard is an eminent lawyer and parliamentarian with an understanding and experience of government in many parts of the world. He will bring to this commission both an independence of mind and the ability to lead a team that can evaluate all the issues arising from the first full term of the Assembly's operations and consider whether there is evidence that changes could make the Assembly better able to deliver what Wales needs.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oedd y cytundeb partneriaeth yn Hydref 2000 yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i sefydlu, cyn pen tymor cyntaf y Cynulliad, gomisiwn annibynnol ar bwerau a threfniadau etholiadol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i sicrhau ei fod yn gallu gweithredu er buddiannau gorau pobl Cymru. Yr wyf yn falch o wneud cyhoeddiad rhagarweiniol heddiw i symud ymlaen â'r mater hwn. Yr wyf wedi gwahodd yr Arglwydd Richard o Rydaman i gadeirio'r comisiwn ac yr wyf yn falch iawn o ddweud ei fod wedi derbyn y gwahoddiad. Ganwyd a magwyd Ivor Richard yn Rhydaman ac aeth i'r ysgol yn Llanelli. Fe'i galwyd i'r Bar yn 1955 ac ers hynny bu'n aelod o Dŷ'r Cyffredin, yn Weinidog Llywodraeth, yn gynrychiolydd parhaol y DU yn y Cenhedloedd Unedig, yn Gomisiynydd i'r Gymuned Economaidd Ewropeaidd, yn gadeirydd cynhadledd Rhodesia yn 1976, yn aelod o Gabinet yr Wrthblaid fel Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid yn Nhŷ'r Arglwyddi rhwng 1992 a 1997, ac yn aelod o'r Cabinet fel Arglwydd y Sêl Gyfrin ac Arweinydd Tŷ'r Arglwyddi rhwng 1997 a 1998. Mae hwnnw'n eithaf *curriculum vitae*. Mae'r Arglwydd Richard yn gyfreithiwr ac yn seneddwr blaenllaw a chanddo ddealltwriaeth a phrofiad o lywodraeth mewn llawer rhan o'r byd. Bydd yn dod ag annibyniaeth barn i'r comisiwn hwn a'r gallu i arwain tîm sy'n gallu gwerthuso'r holl faterion sy'n codi o weithrediadau tymor llawn cyntaf y Cynulliad ac ystyried a oes tystiolaeth y gallai newidiadau beri i'r Cynulliad allu cyflawni'r hyn y mae ar Gymru ei angen yn well.

The broad purpose of the commission is defined in the partnership agreement. I will discuss with Lord Richard and others, including party leaders in the Assembly, the commission's precise terms of reference and

Diffinnir pwrpas cyffredinol y comisiwn yn y cytundeb partneriaeth. Byddaf yn trafod union gylch gorchwyl a dull gweithredu'r comisiwn gyda'r Arglwydd Richard ac eraill, gan gynnwys arweinyddion y pleidiau yn y

mode of operation. On the appointment of the other members of the commission, its total membership should not exceed 10. There will be consultation on membership with the political parties represented in the Assembly and I expect four members of the commission to emerge from such consultation. The rest will be appointed through advertisement under the Nolan-Neill rules. I have agreed with Lord Richard that the commission will be expected to begin its work in the summer of this year as soon as the appointment process is complete. It will report in the autumn of 2003.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Nid yw'n newydd i chi nac i unrhyw un arall yn y Cynulliad bod Plaid Cymru yn ystyried bod y ffordd ymlaen i'r Cynulliad yn glir. Yr ydym am i'r Cynulliad gael pwerau deddfu a phwerau i amrywio trethi ar sail model Senedd yr Alban. Credwn hefyd bod angen diddymu'r syniad o gorff corfforaethol a sicrhau bod gwahaniaeth clir rhwng y Llywodraeth a'r corff sy'n deddfu. Yr unig gwestiwn yw pa bwerau ychwanegol a ddylai ddod i'r Cynulliad, yn ogystal â'r rhai sydd yn cael eu trafod ar hyn o bryd ar faterion megis yr heddlu a rheilffyrdd. Yr wyf yn sicr bod mwyafrif Aelodau'r Cynulliad o blaid cael pwerau deddfu a threthu. Dylem sicrhau bod dyheadau'r mwyafrif hwnnw yn cael eu cyflawni.

Deallwn pam y bu ichi sefydlu'r comisiwn annibynnol fel rhan o'r cytundeb clymbleidiol rhyngoch a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Mae'n debyg nad oedd yn bosibl ichi ar y pryd gael undod barn o fewn eich plaid ym mae Caerdydd ac yn San Steffan. Er bod mwyafrif o'ch Aelodau Cynulliad o blaid symud ymlaen, mae'n bosibl nad yw rhannau eraill o'r Blaid Lafur yr un mor frwd. Deallwn felly'r angen i sefydlu comisiwn annibynnol. Fodd bynnag, gobeithiaf nad yr un fydd tynged y comisiwn annibynnol hwn â'r ymchwiliad ar etholiadau llywodraeth leol. Rhoddwyd cylch gorchwyl i'r ymchwiliad hwnnw, ond penderfynodd y Blaid Lafur yn ei chynhadledd fis Mawrth beidio â newid y drefn i ethol i lywodraeth leol. Gobeithiaf na wnewch yr un peth â'r comisiwn annibynnol—hynny yw, dod i

Cynulliad. Ynghylch penodi aelodau eraill y comisiwn, mae'n debyg na fydd nifer yr aelodau'n fwy na 10. Ymgynghorir ar yr aelodaeth gyda'r pleidiau gwleidyddol a gynrychiolir yn y Cynulliad a disgwyliaf y bydd pedwar aelod o'r comisiwn yn dod ymlaen o ganlyniad i ymgynghori o'r fath. Penodir y gweddill drwy hysbysebu o dan reolau Nolan-Neill. Yr wyf wedi cytuno â'r Arglwydd Richard y bydd disgwyl i'r comisiwn ddechrau ar ei waith yn yr haf eleni cyn gynted ag y cwblheir y broses penodi. Bydd yn adrodd yn hydref 2003.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): It will come as no surprise to you or to anyone else in the Assembly that Plaid Cymru's vision for the Assembly is unambiguous. We want the Assembly to have legislative and tax-varying powers comparable to the Scottish Parliament model. We also believe that the concept of a corporate body should be abolished, and that we should ensure that there is a clear difference between the Government and the legislative body. The only question is which extra powers should be devolved to the Assembly, in addition to those being discussed at present on matters such as the police and railways. I am sure that the majority of Assembly Members are in favour of legislative and tax-varying powers. We should ensure that the will of that majority is realised.

We understand why you established the independent commission as part of the coalition agreement between yourselves and the Liberal Democrats. It seems that it was not possible for you, at the time, to reach a consensus within your party in Cardiff bay and in Westminster. Even though a majority of your Assembly Members are in favour of moving on, it is possible that other parts of the Labour Party are not so keen. We therefore understand the need to establish an independent commission. However, I hope that the fate of this independent commission is not the same as that of the inquiry into local government elections. Terms of reference were set for that inquiry, but in its conference in March the Labour Party decided not to change the system of electing to local government. I hope that you will not

benderfyniad cyn i'r comisiwn gyhoeddi ei gasgliadau.

Gan ichi wneud y cyhoeddiad hwn, gobeithiwn y bydd y broses yn symud ymlaen yn fuan. Derbyniwn y cyhoeddiad heddiw a dymunwn yn dda i Ivor Richard yn y gwaith pwysig hwn. Oherwydd pwysigrwydd y gwaith, rhaid inni ofyn rhai cwestiynau ynglŷn â'r broses. Fel yr awgrymasoch, mae'n bwysig inni ystyried cylch gorchwyl y comisiwn. Nid wyf yn sicr fod yr hyn a nodir yn y cytundeb partneriaeth yr un peth â'r hyn a nodir yn eich datganiad heddiw. Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried y geiriad. Dywedasoch yn y cytundeb partneriaeth y byddech yn ystyried pwerau a threfniadau etholiadol y Cynulliad ac, ymysg materion eraill, ehangu cyfranoddeb yng nghyfansoddiad y Cynulliad. Hoffem gael cadarnhad y bydd popeth a oedd yn gynwysedig yn y cytundeb partneriaeth yn rhan o gylch gorchwyl y comisiwn annibynnol hwn. Yr ydym yn fodlon cyfrannu i'r drafodaeth ar y cylch gorchwyl.

Y mater pwysig arall a godaf yw'r panel y byddwch yn ei sefydlu i ystyried aelodau'r comisiwn i'w penodi dan reolau Nolan-Neill. Yn eich barn chi, beth fydd natur aelodaeth y panel a fydd yn gwneud penodiadau o dan y rheolau hynny?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Diolch am ysbryd cydweithredol eich ymateb, Ieuan. Fe atebaf y cwestiwn olaf yn gyntaf. O ran y panel a fyddai'n gwneud y penodiadau cyhoeddus yn ôl rheolau Nolan-Neill, yr ydym eisiau glyn mor agos â phosibl at yr egwyddorion a ddefnyddir yn y Cynulliad wrth benodi cadeirydd neu aelod o gwango. Ni ellir dilyn yr un drefn yn union gan mai nid Pwyllgor Pwnc fydd yn penodi'r bobl i ffurfio'r panel. Gwneir hynny gan banel a fydd yn cynnwys Aelodau o'r meinciau cefn, ond nid oes Pwyllgor Pwnc perthnasol i enwebu aelodau i fod ar y panel. Rhaid inni drafod sut y gallwn gael cynrychiolwyr o'r pleidiau eraill mewn modd sy'n cyfateb â'r drefn benodi arferol. Mae'r ewyllys yn bodoli i'w wneud yn yr un modd â phe byddem yn penodi cadeirydd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, er enghraifft. O ran y cylch gwaith, yr ydym yn hapus i

do the same with the independent commission—that is, come to a decision before the commission publishes its conclusions.

As you have made this announcement, we hope that the process will move forward soon. We accept today's announcement and wish Ivor Richard well in this important work. Given the importance of the work, we must ask some questions about the process. As you suggested, it is important that we consider the commission's remit. I am not sure that what is noted in the partnership agreement corresponds to your statement today. It is important that we consider the wording. You stated in the partnership agreement that you would consider the Assembly's powers and electoral arrangements and, among other things, extending proportionality in the Assembly's constitution. We would like an assurance that everything that was included in the partnership agreement will be included in this independent commission's remit. We are willing to contribute to the discussion on the terms of reference.

The other important issue that I wish to raise is the panel that will be established to appoint commission members under Nolan-Neill rules. In your opinion, what should the make-up of the panel that would make the appointments under those rules be?

The First Minister: I am grateful for the co-operative spirit of your response, Ieuan. I will respond to the last question first. As regards the public appointments panel which will operate according to the Nolan-Neill rules, we want to adhere as closely as possible to the principles used by the Assembly when appointing the chair or a member of a quango. We cannot follow exactly the same procedure because panel members will not be appointed by a Subject Committee. It will be done by a panel that will include backbench Members, but there is no appropriate Subject Committee to nominate panel members. We must discuss how we can include representatives from the other parties in accordance with the usual procedure. The will exists to do so in the same way as we would appoint the chair of the Welsh Development Agency, for

drafod gydag arweinyddion pleidiau'r Cynulliad ac Ivor Richard er mwyn sefydlu cylch gwaith erbyn bod y broses benodi wedi dod i ben, rhyw ddeufis o heddiw, dyweder.

11:05 a.m.

O ran y ffaith nad wyf wedi ailadrodd rhai geiriau heddiw, nid yw'n golygu dim heblaw y ffaith fy mod yn trafod y mater gan ddefnyddio llai o eiriau heddiw nag sydd yn y cytundeb partneriaeth. Mae popeth sydd yn cyfeirio at y syniad hwn yn y cytundeb partneriaeth yn parhau i fod yn berthnasol i waith y comisiwn o ran sefydlu'r cylch gorchwyl. Nid ydym am fynd yn rhy bell o'r geiriad, ond nid oes rhaid ailadrodd yr un geiriau yn union er mwyn darbwylllo pobl nad oes cynllwyn.

O ran y pwyntiau mwy cyffredinol a godoch, Ieuan, mae'n bwysig nad oes neb yn mynegi ymlaen llaw yr hyn y maent am ei gael o'r comisiwn. Yr ydym am i'r comisiwn fod yn annibynnol, gyda meddwl agored wrth edrych ar y ffeithiau a'r dystiolaeth, gan ddod â'r argymhellion i'r Cynulliad nesaf yn ystod ei chwe mis cyntaf. Ar ôl hynny, aiff i'r broses wleidyddol o lunio maniffestos gogyfer ag etholiad cyffredinol San Steffan. Pe byddai argymhellion a fyddai angen deddfwriaeth gynradd, byddai'n rhaid iddynt ymddangos mewn maniffestos yn ystod etholiad cyffredinol nesaf San Steffan yn 2005 neu 2006.

Ron Davies: I welcome your announcement this morning, Rhodri, first, by supporting the principle of the commission and secondly, by congratulating Ivor Richard on his appointment. He is an able and experienced Welsh politician who is committed to devolution. I am sure that everybody will respect his independence and ability to do the task ahead of him. However, there are difficulties in handling this matter because, as you rightly say, it is the product of the agreement that you have with the Liberal Democrats. However, as an Assembly, we have never had the opportunity of debating either the partnership agreement or the idea, timing or remit of the commission. It does not restart the process on a particularly sound

example. In terms of the remit, we are happy to discuss the issue with the Assembly party leaders and Ivor Richard so that it may be in place by the end of the appointment process, approximately two months from today.

In terms of some words not being repeated today, that does not mean anything other than that I am discussing the matter using fewer words today than are contained in the partnership agreement. All references to this in the partnership agreement are still relevant to the commission's work in terms of agreeing a remit. We do not want to stray too far from the wording, but I do not have to repeat the exact words to convince people that there is no conspiracy.

In terms of the more general points that you raised, Ieuan, it is important that nobody states beforehand what they want from the commission. We want the commission to be independent and to have an open mind in looking at the facts and evidence, and then to bring recommendations to the next Assembly during its first six months. Following that, it will become part of the political process of drawing up manifestos for the general election in Westminster. If there were recommendations requiring primary legislation, they would have to appear in manifestos at the time of the next Westminster general election in 2005 or 2006.

Ron Davies: Croesawaf eich cyhoeddiad y bore yma, Rhodri, yn gyntaf, drwy gefnogi egwyddor y comisiwn ac, yn ail, drwy longyfarch Ivor Richard ar ei benodiad. Mae'n wleidydd galluog a phrofiadol o Gymro sydd wedi ymrwymo i ddatganoli. Yr wyf yn sicr y bydd pawb yn parchu ei annibyniaeth a'i allu i gyflawni'r dasg sydd o'i flaen. Fodd bynnag, mae anawsterau wrth drafod y mater hwn oherwydd, fel y dywedwch yn gywir, mae'n ffrwyth i'r cytundeb sydd gennych â'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Fodd bynnag, fel Cynulliad, ni chawsom erioed gyfle i drafod y cytundeb partneriaeth na syniad, amseriad a chylch gwaith y comisiwn. Nid yw'n ailgychwyn y broses ar nodyn arbennig o gadarn pan ydym

note when we are charging an independent commission with the opportunity of considering these wide issues when we have not had the opportunity of having even the most cursory of debates on them. Secondly, we have the passing disadvantage of having to face the electorate in some 15 months' time on the basis of saying, 'vote for us, and after the election, we will tell you what we think about the future of our own institution.' I would have thought that if the principle of a commission is so valuable, the process could have been started when you made the deal with the Liberal Democrats some 18 months ago. The commission could have done its work, we could have had the debate, the political parties in Wales could have considered their views, and we could have given the people of Wales the choice in the next Assembly elections. I listened with interest to your response to Ieuan on the question of manifestos for the general election in 2005 or 2006. However, do not let anybody believe that general elections in Wales or anywhere else are fought on the basis of constitutional change: they will be fought on the big issues. There is no prospect of a meaningful debate in Wales on these matters if they are to be subsumed within a general election.

I welcome the principle of the commission. I believe it will result—however the process goes—in the conveying of substantial powers of primary legislation to the National Assembly for Wales, and I welcome that. Ivor Richard will do a good job, but I ask for an assurance that once the final arrangements are in place for the commission, but before it begins its work, you will come to this Assembly with a full report and allow us to have a full debate in Government time on the commission, its remit and the nature of its work.

The First Minister: That would seem to be wholly appropriate, Ron. I think that the right time for that would be when the membership has been set up, the commission is ready to commence its work and we have draft terms of reference. It should then come before the Assembly for a vote and, more importantly perhaps, a full discussion, so that everyone gets their thoughts off their chest before the commission begins its work. I hope that it

yn rhoi cyfle i gomisiwn annibynnol ystyried y materion eang hyn a ninnau heb gael cyfle i'w trafod hyd yn oed yn y modd mwyaf arwynebol. Yn ail, mae gennym yr anfantais wrth fynd heibio o orfod wynebu'r etholwyr ymhen tua 15 mis ar y sail o ddweud, 'pleidleisiwch drosom ni, ac ar ôl yr etholiad, fe ddywedwn wrthyhych beth yw'n barn am ddyfodol ein sefydliad ein hun.' Byddwn wedi meddwl, os oedd egwyddor y comisiwn mor werthfawr, y gallesid bod wedi cychwyn y broses pan wnaethoch y fargen â'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol tua 18 mis yn ôl. Gallai'r comisiwn fod wedi gwneud ei waith, gallem ni fod wedi cael y ddadl, gallai'r pleidiau gwleidyddol yng Nghymru fod wedi ystyried eu barn, a gallem fod wedi cynnig y dewis i bobl Cymru yn etholiadau nesaf y Cynulliad. Gwrandewais gyda diddordeb ar eich ymateb i Ieuan ar fater y maniffestos ar gyfer yr etholiad cyffredinol yn 2005 neu 2006. Fodd bynnag, na adawer i neb gredu y caiff etholiadau cyffredinol yng Nghymru nac yn unman arall eu hymladd ar sail newid cyfansoddiadol; fe'u hymladdir ar y materion pwysig. Nid oes gobaith am ddadl ystyrllon yng Nghymru ar y materion hyn os ydynt i'w cynnwys mewn etholiad cyffredinol.

Croesawaf egwyddor y comisiwn. Credaf y bydd yn arwain—sut bynnag yr aiff y broses—at drosglwyddo pwerau deddfu sylfaenol sylweddol i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, a chroesawaf hynny. Gwnaiff Ivor Richard waith da, ond gofynnaf am sicrwydd, ar ôl rhoi'r trefniadau terfynol ar waith ar gyfer y comisiwn, ond cyn iddo ddechrau ar ei waith, y dewch i'r Cynulliad hwn ag adroddiad llawn a chaniatáu inni gael dadl llawn yn amser y Llywodraeth ar y comisiwn, ei gylch gwaith a natur ei waith.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae hynny'n ymddangos yn gwbl briodol, Ron. Credaf mai'r adeg briodol i hynny fyddai pan fydd yr aelodaeth wedi'i phennu, a'r comisiwn yn barod i ddechrau ar ei waith a'r cylch gorchwyl drafft gennym. Dylai ddod o flaen y Cynulliad wedyn ar gyfer pleidlais ac, yn bwysicach efallai, i'w drafod yn llawn, fel bod pawb yn cael dweud ei farn cyn i'r comisiwn ddechrau ar ei waith. Gobeithiaf y

will work independently of us but before it starts it needs to know what the Assembly thinks across the board. That should not be in the spirit of us trying to instruct the commission, because we are not delegating powers to it, but asking it to do a job on our behalf because it can be done much more easily in combination. That is why we have split the appointments process in two, if you like: so that as well as politicians we have experts, perhaps, appointed through Nolan-Neill rules. Those people could be representatives of the citizenry, or people with great expertise in constitutional law, the Whitehall machine, how we operate in Wales; I do not know. This other half of the membership—about four or five people—could represent both the citizenry and expertise. I hope that it is the right balance to enable the commission to do its job. However, it is not a matter of us delegating powers to the commission. It will report back to us with recommendations. If those recommendations require a change in primary legislation, it is, inevitably, not a matter for us. We have always accepted that any change in our powers is not a matter for us. However, there would be a much better chance of getting us additional powers if that was what the commission, and the new Assembly elected in May 2003, thought was right. It has always been evident that any proposed change would have to go to Whitehall and Westminster for consideration, because we do not have the powers to change our founding legislation.

Nick Bourne: I will comment first on the appointment of Ivor Richard. He clearly has considerable clout in Westminster and Whitehall. We recognise that and that will be useful. However, he can scarcely be said to be independent in the party sense, given his past. He has a distinguished record, but it is essentially a Labour Party record. To that extent it is perhaps regrettable that we do not have a truly independent chairman, who is independent of all political parties. However, we will see how he performs in the role. He has considerable clout, but I give that health warning. I know that you have knowledge and experience of him in Europe, First Minister, but it is important that he is seen to

bydd yn gweithio'n annibynnol arnom ni ond cyn iddo ddechrau rhaid iddo wybod beth y mae'r Cynulliad yn ei feddwl yn gyffredinol. Ni ddylem wneud hynny o ran ceisio cyfarwyddo'r comisiwn, oherwydd nid ydym yn dirprwyo pŵer iddo, ond gofyn iddo wneud swydd ar ein rhan gan y gellir ei wneud yn haws o lawer mewn cyfuniad. Dyna pam y rhanasom y broses penodi'n ddau, os hoffech: fel bod gennym, yn ogystal â gwleidyddion, arbenigwyr, efallai, a benodir yn ôl rheolau Nolan-Neill. Gallai'r bobl hynny fod yn gynrychiolwyr i'r dinasyddion, neu'n rhai sydd ag arbenigedd mawr mewn cyfraith gyfansoddiadol, peirianwaith Whitehall, sut yr ydym yn gweithredu yng Nghymru; ni wn. Gallai'r hanner arall hwn o'r aelodaeth—tua phedwar neu bump o bobl—gynrychioli'r dinasyddion ac arbenigedd. Gobeithiaf mai hwnnw yw'r cydbwysedd iawn i alluogi'r comisiwn i wneud ei waith. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n fater o ddirprwyo'r pwerau oddi wrthym ni i'r comisiwn. Bydd yn adrodd yn ôl i ni gydag argymhellion. Os yw'r argymhellion hynny'n gofyn am newid mewn deddfwriaeth sylfaenol, mae'n anochel na fydd hynny'n fater i ni. Yr ydym yn derbyn erioed nad yw unrhyw newid yn ein pwerau'n fater i ni. Fodd bynnag, byddai llawer gwell gobaith inni gael pwerau ychwanegol os oedd y comisiwn, a'r Cynulliad newydd a etholir ym Mai 2003, yn credu mai hynny oedd yn iawn. Mae'n amlwg erioed y byddai'n rhaid i unrhyw newid arfaethedig fynd i Whitehall a San Steffan i'w ystyried, oherwydd nid oes gennym bwerau i newid ein deddfwriaeth sefydlu.

Nick Bourne: Gwnaf sylw'n gyntaf ar benodi Ivor Richard. Mae'n amlwg bod ganddo gryn ddylanwad yn San Steffan a Whitehall. Yr ydym yn cydnabod hynny a bydd hynny'n ddefnyddiol. Fodd bynnag, prin y gellir dweud ei fod yn annibynnol yn yr ystyr bleidiol, o ystyried ei orffennol. Cafodd yrfa nodedig, ond gyrfa yn y Blaid Lafur ydyw yn y bôn. I'r graddau hynny mae'n destun gofid, efallai, nad oes gennym gadeirydd gwirioneddol annibynnol, sy'n annibynnol ar bob plaid wleidyddol. Fodd bynnag, fe welwn sut y bydd yn perfformio yn y rôl. Mae ganddo gryn ddylanwad, ond rhoddaf y rhybudd iechyd hwnnw. Gwn fod gennych wybodaeth a phrofiad ohono yn

operate independently.

Having heard the leader of Plaid Cymru speak, it is important that the Welsh Conservatives participate in this process. Ieuan Wyn Jones said that a majority of Members are in favour of primary legislative powers for the Assembly. If that is true, it is all the more important that we participate, because there is not a majority in Wales in favour of such powers for the Assembly. We will put this case forcefully. This body needs to ensure that we deliver more effectively within the terms of the referendum, when the people of Wales made their decision, albeit narrowly, on how we operate. Well, there are splits in other parties, certainly in the Labour Party; we know that Alun Pugh has a different view from that of the Cabinet. However, if we were running the Assembly we would do things differently. We would not have announced the future of the Wales European Centre by means of a ministerial statement. We would have held a debate on it. It is important that this institution is able to walk before there is any question of it running. At the moment there is evidence that it cannot even crawl; decisions are taken without reference to the Assembly. Therefore, we will participate and it is important that we do so. We will participate in agreeing the remit. However, bear in mind that when people voted for the National Assembly, they voted narrowly in favour of it. There is little or no evidence that people want legislative or tax-raising powers for the Assembly. They want us to deliver services now within our current powers.

The First Minister: Some of your points were controversial, Nick, but I think that it will be accepted that some of your propositions should be tested by the commission. The proposition about effective delivery is important, and it should be tested. The issue about walking before you run is extremely important. You would hear that at supermarket checkouts, on factory floors and so on, in discussions on the Assembly anywhere in Wales. I am grateful for those comments, and regardless of whether I agree

Ewrop, Brif Weinidog Cymru, ond mae'n bwysig y caiff ei weld yn un sy'n gweithredu'n annibynnol.

Ar ôl clywed geiriau arweinydd Plaid Cymru, mae'n bwysig bod Ceidwadwyr Cymru'n cymryd rhan yn y broses hon. Dywedodd Ieuan Wyn Jones fod mwyafrif o'r Aelodau o blaid cael pwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad. Os yw hynny'n wir, mae'n bwysicach byth ein bod yn cymryd rhan, oherwydd nid oes mwyafrif yng Nghymru sydd o blaid cael pwerau o'r fath i'r Cynulliad. Byddwn yn cyflwyno'r ddadl hon yn rymus. Rhaid i'r corff hwn sicrhau ein bod yn gweithredu'n fwy effeithiol yn unol â thermau'r refferendwm, pan wnaeth pobl Cymru ei phenderfyniad, er o fewn trwch blewyn, ynghylch y modd yr ydym yn gweithredu. Wel, mae rhaniadau mewn pleidiau eraill, yn sicr yn y Blaid Lafur; gwyddom fod barn Alun Pugh yn wahanol i un y Cabinet. Fodd bynnag, pe baem yn rhedeg y Cynulliad, fe wnaem bethau'n wahanol. Ni fyddem wedi cyhoeddi dyfodol Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru drwy ddatganiad gweinidogol. Byddem wedi cynnal dadl arno. Mae'n bwysig i'r sefydliad hwn allu cerdded cyn bod unrhyw gwestiwn o redeg. Ar hyn o bryd mae tystiolaeth nad yw'n gallu crocian hyd yn oed; gwneir penderfyniadau heb eu cyfeirio i'r Cynulliad. Felly, byddwn yn cymryd rhan ac mae'n bwysig inni wneud hynny. Cymerwn ran wrth gytuno ar y cylch gwaith. Fodd bynnag, cofiwch mai o drwch blewyn y pleidleisiodd y bobl o blaid y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Nid oes fawr o dystiolaeth neu ddim bod pobl am gael pwerau deddfu neu godi trethi i'r Cynulliad. Maent am inni weithredu gwasanaethau'n awr o fewn y pwerau sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oedd rhai o'ch pwyntiau'n ddadleuol, Nick, ond credaf y derbynnir y dylid profi rhai o'ch gosodiadau gan y comisiwn. Mae'r gosodiad am weithredu effeithiol yn bwysig, a dylid rhoi prawf arno. Mae'r mater ynghylch cerdded cyn rhedeg yn eithriadol o bwysig. Byddech yn clywed hynny wrth y manau talu yn yr archfarchnad, ar loriau ffatrioedd ac yn y blaen, mewn trafodaethau ar y Cynulliad mewn unrhyw fan yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y sylwadau hynny, a pha un a

with them, I would be amazed if the commission, in its 18 months of life, did not test those propositions. They are vital to it.

11:15 a.m.

I do not entirely accept your points about Ivor Richard. I am glad that you did not express strong dissent about his appointment. However, you noted that he is a Labour Party supporter, which is accurate. I believe that he has shown the requisite degree of independence from the Government. It is now three years or more since he left the UK Cabinet. I believe that he is halfway between being 100 per cent Labour Government loyalist, never departing from the party line, and an independent who is outside the party. He is the right kind of person in terms of having clout in Whitehall and Westminster given that many of the recommendations need to work. Requesting transfers of functions or primary legislative powers means that someone must relinquish power and that someone else must gain it: power that Whitehall and Westminster gives up is gained by the Assembly. Experience and clout in Whitehall and Westminster is needed as well as knowledge of Wales.

You kindly mentioned the fact that I knew Ivor well during the period when he was a European Community commissioner and I was the head of the European Community Office in Wales. That is when I first met Ivor, got to know him well and developed a considerable respect for his diplomatic and negotiating skills. His experience on HMS Tiger with Ian Smith, at the United Nations, and within and outside Government makes him a quite unique figure. He is a figure similar to Ronnie Waterhouse, who conducted the Waterhouse inquiry, from Holywell in north Wales and Gareth Williams from Mostyn. They may come from small villages or towns in Wales such as Ammanford, Mostyn or Holywell, but they have shown that they can survive and prosper within the legal, constitutional and governmental world. That is why Ivor is an outstandingly good choice.

ydwyf yn cyd-weld â hwy neu beidio, byddwn yn synnu'n fawr os na fydd y comisiwn yn rhoi prawf ar y gosodiadau hynny yn ystod 18 mis ei fodolaeth. Maent yn hollbwysig iddo.

Nid wyf yn llwyr dderbyn eich pwyntiau am Ivor Richard. Yr wyf yn falch na wnaethoch fynegi anghytundeb cryf am ei benodi. Fodd bynnag, gwnaethoch nodi ei fod yn gefnogwr i'r Blaid Lafur, sy'n gywir. Credaf ei fod wedi amlygu'r graddau gofynnol o annibyniaeth ar y Llywodraeth. Mae tair blynedd a mwy bellach ers iddo adael Cabinet y DU. Credaf ei fod hanner ffordd rhwng bod yn un sy'n ymlynu'n llwyr wrth y Llywodraeth Lafur, gan ddilyn arweiniad y blaid bob tro, a bod yn un annibynnol sydd y tu allan i'r blaid. Mae'n berson addas o ran meddu ar ddylanwad yn Whitehall a San Steffan o wybod y bydd yn rhaid i lawer o'r argymhellion weithio. Mae gofyn am drosglwyddo swyddogaethau neu bwerau deddfu sylfaenol yn golygu bod yn rhaid i rywun ildio pŵer ac y bydd yn rhaid i rywun arall ei ennill: mae pŵer a ildir gan Whitehall a San Steffan yn cael ei ennill gan y Cynulliad. Mae angen profiad a dylanwad yn Whitehall a San Steffan yn ogystal â gwybodaeth am Gymru.

Cyfeiriasoch yn garedig at y ffaith fy mod yn adnabod Ivor yn dda yn ystod y cyfnod yr oedd yn gomisiynydd i'r Gymuned Ewropeaidd a minnau'n bennaeth Swyddfa'r Gymuned Ewropeaidd yng Nghymru. Dyna pryd y cyfarfûm ag Ivor gyntaf, a dod i'w adnabod yn dda a magu cryn barch tuag at ei fedrau diplomyddol a negodi. Mae ei brofiad ar HMS Tiger gydag Ian Smith, yn y Cenhedloedd Unedig, a'r tu mewn a'r tu allan i Lywodraeth yn golygu ei fod yn ffigwr cwbl unigryw. Mae'n ffigwr tebyg i Ronnie Waterhouse, a gynhaliodd ymchwiliad Waterhouse, o Dreffynnon yn y Gogledd a Gareth Williams o Fostyn. Er eu bod yn hanu o bentrefi neu drefi bach yng Nghymru fel Rhydaman, Mostyn neu Dreffynnon, maent wedi dangos eu bod yn gallu goroesi a ffynnu yn y byd cyfreithiol, cyfansoddiadol a llywodraethol. Dyna pam y mae Ivor yn ddewis eithriadol o dda.

Michael German: I welcome your statement today because, as you have said, this issue was a key feature of the partnership agreement between our parties, which my party is particularly keen to see and which is important to the people of Wales. The initiative that you have announced today is probably the most important constitutional initiative since the referendum and establishment of the National Assembly for Wales. It will take us further in a direction in which we can conduct a proper and solid debate on these issues across Wales. This is the beginning of a process which many, probably a majority, in the Chamber support. We know of Members from all parties who have expressed views supporting an attempt to sort out the Assembly's legislative powers. I am pleased that the leader of the Welsh Conservatives has said that he wants to engage positively in this debate because it is important that there is a broad challenge for all politicians to deal with the current arrangements. Most Members accept that the current arrangements are not satisfactory and that they need to be amended. However, the commission must take the discussion beyond the Chamber. It must also engage with the broader social and civic life of Wales.

The Assembly's powers are not only limited, they have no consistency. It was drawn to my attention today that the important issue of the criteria for locating speed cameras in Wales is not determined by the National Assembly or by its Government but by Stephen Byers. We do not have the same control over the eye test regime in Wales as we have over the dental regime. These matters have vexed us over recent years. The commission now has the opportunity to straighten out the zig-zag line of our legislative settlement, to test the issue of the Assembly's size, how it proportionally represents the people of Wales, and its ability to do the job that the people of Wales expects. Members from all parties have expressed views on those issues for change.

A challenge exists for everyone in Wales and all those who want to see the devolution settlement move forward. That means that Members from all parties need to work to

Michael German: Croesawaf eich datganiad heddiw oherwydd, fel y dywedasoch, yr oedd y mater hwn yn agwedd allweddol ar y cytundeb partneriaeth rhwng ein pleidiau, y mae fy mhlaid i'n arbennig o awyddus i'w gweld ac sy'n bwysig i bobl Cymru. Mae'n debyg mai'r fenter a gyhoeddasoch heddiw yw'r fenter gyfansoddiadol bwysicaf ers y refferendwm a sefydlu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Aiff â ni ymhellach i gyfeiriad lle y gallwn gynnal dadl briodol a sylweddol ar y materion hyn ledled Cymru. Dyma ddechrau proses y mae llawer, y mwyafrif yn ôl pob tebyg, yn y Siambr yn ei chefnogi. Gwyddom am Aelodau o bob plaid sydd wedi mynegi barn o blaid ymdrech i roi trefn ar bwerau deddfwriaethol y Cynulliad. Yr wyf yn falch bod arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru wedi dweud ei fod yn dymuno cymryd rhan gadarnhaol yn y ddadl hon gan ei bod yn bwysig bod her gyffredinol i'r holl wleidyddion ddelio â'r trefniadau presennol. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r Aelodau'n derbyn nad yw'r trefniadau presennol yn foddhaol a bod angen eu newid. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i'r comisiwn fynd â'r drafodaeth y tu hwnt i'r Siambr. Rhaid iddo gysylltu hefyd â'r bywyd cymdeithasol a dinesig ehangach yng Nghymru.

Yn ogystal â bod yn gyfyngedig, mae pwerau'r Cynulliad yn anghyson hefyd. Tynnwyd fy sylw heddiw at y ffaith bod mater pwysig y meini prawf ar gyfer lleoli camerau cyflymder yng Nghymru yn un nad yw'n cael ei benderfynu gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol neu ei Lywodraeth ond gan Stephen Byers. Nid oes gennym yr un graddau o reolaeth dros y gyfundrefn profion llygaid yng Nghymru ag sydd gennym dros y gyfundrefn ddeintyddol. Mae'r materion hyn wedi achosi penbleth inni dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae cyfle'n awr gan y comisiwn i sythu llinell igam-ogam ein setliad deddfwriaethol, i roi prawf ar fater maint y Cynulliad, sut y mae'n cynrychioli pobl Cymru yn gyfrannol, a'i allu i wneud y gwaith y mae pobl Cymru'n ei ddisgwyl. Mae Aelodau o'r holl bleidiau wedi mynegi barn ar y materion hynny am unwaith.

Mae her yn bodoli i bawb yng Nghymru a phawb sydd am weld y setliad datganoli'n symud ymlaen. Mae hynny'n golygu bod angen i Aelodau o'r holl bleidiau weithio i

ensure that the case for change, if we believe that it exists, is conveyed as resolutely and completely as possible. There is a challenge for all those in Wales who are serious about devolution to ensure that the case, which I believe is absolute, is eventually put to Whitehall and Westminster in a robust and practical way, demonstrating widespread support throughout Wales. I ask you, Rhodri, to take this forward with all pace, to ensure that the commission gets underway and engages fully with political, civil and social life in Wales, so that the changes that many of us expect will be settled in place immediately the new Assembly term begins.

The First Minister: You are right to say that this will not work unless we engage the citizenry in Wales. That is why I have split the appointment process, to be done partially through soundings and consultation between Assembly parties, and partially by opening it up to public appointments, which may throw up citizens or experts who are famous professors of constitutional law. I do not know what the case will be, as they will come through the public appointment process in an independent way. As soon as the appointment process is over and the commission is up and running in the summer and the autumn, how to engage the citizenry will be a matter for the commission itself. I will not determine its work programme in advance; the commission must decide on that in the summer and get on with it, and report back in the autumn of 2003.

You used a good phrase, as did Nick in a slightly different way, in asking whether there is a case for change. If there is a case, what is it and how should it be tested? How do we ensure that, when politicians say that there is a case for change, the citizens are not talking a different language? That is what the commission will have to test. I do not want to over-commit the Assembly in advance by saying what we think its conclusions should be in 18 months' time. There is no point in asking Ivor Richard and his appointed colleagues to conduct an inquiry if we already know what the answer will be. We must give the commission the opportunity to get on with its work and report back to our

sicrhau y bydd y ddadl dros newid, os credwn fod un, yn cael ei chyfleu mor benderfynol a chyflawn ag y bo modd. Mae her i bawb yng Nghymru sydd o ddifrif ynghylch datganoli sicrhau y caiff yr achos, y credaf ei fod yn un diamod, ei gyflwyno yn y pen draw i Whitehall a San Steffan mewn modd cadarn ac ymarferol, gan ddangos bod cefnogaeth gyffredinol iddo ledled Cymru. Gofynnaf i chi, Rhodri, fwrw ymlaen â hyn mor fuan ag y bo modd, i sicrhau bod y comisiwn yn dechrau ar ei waith ac yn ymwneud yn llawn â'r bywyd gwleidyddol, dinesig a chymdeithasol yng Nghymru, fel y caiff y newidiadau y mae llawer ohonom yn eu disgwyl eu rhoi ar waith yn syth ar ddechrau tymor newydd y Cynulliad.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud na fydd hyn yn gweithio os na fyddwn yn cynnwys y dinasyddion yng Nghymru. Dyna pam yr wyf wedi rhannu'r broses penodi, i'w gwneud yn rhannol drwy holi ac ymgynghori ymysg pleidiau'r Cynulliad, ac yn rhannol drwy ei hagog i benodiadau cyhoeddus, a allai ddenu dinasyddion neu arbenigwyr sy'n athrawon enwog mewn cyfraith gyfansoddiadol. Ni wn beth a fydd yn digwydd, gan y byddant yn dod drwy'r broses penodi cyhoeddus mewn modd annibynnol. Cyn gynted ag y bydd y broses penodi ar ben a'r comisiwn yn gweithredu yn yr haf a'r hydref, mater i'r comisiwn ei hun fydd y modd i gynnwys y dinasyddion. Ni wnaaf bennu ei raglen waith ymlaen llaw; rhaid i'r comisiwn benderfynu ar hynny yn yr haf a bwrw ymlaen, ac adrodd yn ôl yn hydref 2003.

Gwnaethoch ddefnyddio ymadrodd da, fel y gwnaeth Nick mewn modd ychydig yn wahanol, wrth ofyn a oes dadl dros newid. Os oes dadl, beth ydyw a sut y dylid ei phrofi? Sut y byddwn yn sicrhau, pan ddywed y gwleidyddion fod dadl dros newid, nad yw'r dinasyddion yn siarad iaith wahanol? Dyna'r hyn y bydd yn rhaid i'r comisiwn ei brofi. Nid wyf am or-rwymo'r Cynulliad ymlaen llaw drwy ddweud yr hyn y credwn y dylai ei gasgliadau fod ymhen 18 mis. Nid oes diben gofyn i Ivor Richard a'i gydweithwyr penodedig gynnal ymchwiliad os gwyddom beth yw'r ateb eisoes. Rhaid inni roi cyfle i'r comisiwn fynd ymlaen â'i waith ac adrodd yn ôl i'r corff a fydd yn ein dilyn yn yr hydref y

successor body in the autumn of next year.

flwyddyn nesaf.

David Melding: I welcome the establishment of this commission. I also welcome the appointment of its chair. I have worked with Lord Richard and know that his CV is very distinguished, particularly in relation to my work with him in his former role as a UN ambassador and a European commissioner. I respect him greatly and know that he will strive vigorously to act in a non-partisan manner, which is essential to the authority of this commission. This is a wise and encouraging appointment.

David Melding: Croesawaf sefydlu'r comisiwn hwn. Yr wyf hefyd yn croesawu penodi ei gadeirydd. Yr wyf wedi gweithio gyda'r Arglwydd Richard a gwn fod ei CV yn nodedig iawn, yn enwedig mewn cysylltiad â'm gwaith gydag ef yn ei rôl flaenorol yn llysgennad i'r Cenhedloedd Unedig a chomisiynydd Ewropeaidd. Yr wyf yn ei barchu'n fawr a gwn y bydd yn ymdrechu'n egnïol i weithredu'n amhleidiol, sy'n hanfodol i awdurdod y comisiwn hwn. Mae hwn yn benodiad doeth a chalonogol.

I hope that the commission will be charged with aiming to strengthen the British constitution in any of the recommendations that it decides to make, and that its aim will be to strike a greater balance in the constitution. Therefore, I hope that its terms of reference will allow the commission to consider our relations with, and the perception of, Westminster, as to the workings of devolution generally in Wales, and to look to the Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly to see how those institutions have, through their primary legislative powers, added to, or detracted from, the unity of the British constitution.

Gobeithiaf y caiff y comisiwn ei ymddiried â'r gwaith o geisio cryfhau'r cyfansoddiad Prydeinig mewn unrhyw un o'r argymhellion y mae'n penderfynu ei wneud, ac mai ei nod fydd sicrhau mwy o gydbwysedd yn y cyfansoddiad. Felly, gobeithiaf y bydd ei gylch gorchwyl yn caniatáu i'r comisiwn ystyried ein cysylltiadau â San Steffan a'r canfyddiad ohoni, ar weithrediad datganolli'n gyffredinol yng Nghymru, ac ystyried Senedd yr Alban a Chynulliad Gogledd Iwerddon i weld sut y mae'r sefydliadau hynny, drwy eu pwerau deddfu sylfaenol, wedi ychwanegu at, neu leihau, undod y cyfansoddiad Prydeinig.

I also hope that the commission will be allowed to take a wide range of evidence across Wales, which will be important in local communities, and in England and in other parts of the United Kingdom. Will it be possible for other residents of England—obviously, Ivor lives in England—to become commissioners? I am thinking, for example, of top constitutional lawyers. It may be appropriate to allow such people to apply to become commissioners, as it would add a valuable insight.

Gobeithiaf y caniateir i'r comisiwn gymryd amrywiaeth eang o dystiolaeth ledled Cymru, a fydd yn bwysig mewn cymunedau lleol, ac yn Lloegr a rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig hefyd. A fydd modd i drigolion eraill Lloegr—wrth gwrs, mae Ivor yn byw yn Lloegr—ddod yn gomisiynwyr? Yr wyf yn meddwl, er enghraifft, am y cyfreithwyr cyfansoddiadol mwyaf blaenllaw. Gallai fod yn briodol caniatáu i bobl o'r fath ddod yn gomisiynwyr, gan y byddai'n rhoi mewnwelediad gwerthfawr ychwanegol.

Will you give a reassurance that, if the commission decides that further powers are necessary—let us not beat about the bush in saying that that will mean some form of primary law-making power—any such recommendations, if adopted by the Assembly, will be the subject of a referendum? As the Assembly was endorsed by a referendum of the people of Wales, will the commission consider how any development could be possible unless it

A wnewch gadarnhau, os penderfyna'r comisiwn fod angen pwerau pellach—gadewch inni beidio â hel dail a dweud y bydd yn golygu rhyw fath o bŵer deddfu sylfaenol—y bydd unrhyw argymhellion o'r fath, os mabwysiadir hwy gan y Cynulliad, yn destun refferendwm? Gan fod y Cynulliad wedi'i gymeradwyo drwy refferendwm ymysg pobl Cymru, a wnaiff y comisiwn ystyried sut y gallai unrhyw ddatblygiad fod yn bosibl oni chaiff ei gymeradwyo eto drwy

receives another endorsement through a Wales-wide referendum? refferendwm ledled Cymru?

The First Minister: It would be a matter for the commission to recommend a further referendum, and then for us—or our successors, if we are not here—to consider in October 2003. We do not want to over-commit on that now. You made an important point that the greater the change, the greater the likelihood that you would see a referendum as being required. That is par for the course. The issue of law-making powers may or may not require a referendum. It would depend on how that would be viewed in October 2003, not in April 2002. You raised an interesting point about whether an address in England would disqualify people from applying for appointment through the public appointments unit procedure for the commission's four or five other Members and those in the political soundings process. That is not a rule that we apply in the public appointments procedure. People from Wales who work in England may apply, or people with unique experience may be needed. It would depend on who the process threw up. I would not want to depart from established practice on that front.

11:25 a.m.

This issue of taking evidence in England is interesting. I am certainly not charging Ivor Richard with progressing devolution in England. The implications for England are a matter for the commission, if it considers that to be important to complete the job. I have no presuppositions about not taking evidence in England, but that is a matter for the commission. It is not even part of the terms of reference. It is perhaps too detailed a question for us to discuss.

I welcome, and endorse, your remarks in commending the choice of Ivor Richard. I had forgotten that your previous work with the United Nations Association would have brought you into contact with him.

Alun Pugh: Rhodri, this statement is a wise step that has a realistic timetable. However, the Welsh Assembly Government has recently put forward some excellent Bills on audit, transport, housing and common land,

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mater i'r comisiwn fyddai argymhell refferendwm pellach, ac wedyn i ni—neu ein holynwyr, os nad ydym yma—ei ystyried yn Hydref 2003. Nid ydym am orymrwymo ar hynny'n awr. Gwnaethoch bwynt pwysig sef mai po fwyaf y newid, mwyaf fyddai'r tebygolrwydd o weld angen refferendwm. Mae hynny'n naturiol. Efallai y bydd y mater o bwerau deddfu'n gofyn am refferendwm neu efallai na fydd. Byddai'n dibynnu ar y modd yr edrychid ar hynny yn Hydref 2003, nid yn Ebrill 2002. Gwnaethoch godi pwynt diddorol ynghylch a fyddai cyfeiriad yn Lloegr yn peri bod rhywun yn anghymwys i ymgeisio am benodiad drwy weithdrefn yr uned penodiadau cyhoeddus ar gyfer pedwar neu bum aelod arall y comisiwn a'r rhai yn y broses holi gwleidyddol. Nid yw honno'n rheol a gymhwyswn yn y weithdrefn penodiadau cyhoeddus. Caiff pobl o Gymru sy'n gweithio yn Lloegr ymgeisio, neu efallai y bydd angen rhai sydd â phrofiad unigryw. Byddai'n dibynnu pwy a ddeuai i'r golwg yn y broses. Ni fyddwn am ymadael â'r arfer sefydledig yn hynny o beth.

Mae'r mater o gymryd tystiolaeth yn Lloegr yn ddiddorol. Yn sicr, nid wyf yn ymddiried Ivor Richard â'r gwaith o hyrwyddo datganoli yn Lloegr. Mae'r goblygiadau i Lloegr yn fater i'r comisiwn, os yw'n credu bod hynny'n bwysig i gwblhau'r gwaith. Nid oes gennyf unrhyw ragdybiaethau ynghylch peidio â chymryd tystiolaeth yn Lloegr, ond mae hynny'n fater i'r comisiwn. Nid yw'n rhan o'r cylch gorchwyl hyd yn oed. Efallai ei fod yn gwestiwn rhy fanwl i ni ei drafod.

Yr wyf yn croesawu ac yn ategu'ch sylwadau wrth gymeradwyo dewis Ivor Richard. Yr oeddwn wedi anghofio y byddai'ch gwaith blaenorol gyda Chymdeithas y Cenhedloedd Unedig wedi dod â chi i gysylltiad ag ef.

Alun Pugh: Rhodri, mae'r datganiad hwn yn gam doeth sydd ag amserlen realistig. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi cyflwyno rhai Mesurau rhagorol yn ddiweddar ar archwilio, trafniadaeth, tai a thir

and I am concerned that they will not see the light of day because they will not secure a place in the Westminster log jam. Ivor Richard is an excellent appointment, who has a great deal of experience from Rhodesia. Plaid Cymru might want a unilateral declaration of independence, but I do not and neither do the vast majority of the people of Wales.

If this open-minded and independent commission concludes that this unsatisfactory state of affairs needs to be changed, will the Welsh Assembly Government ensure that this report does not gather dust?

The First Minister: I can assure you that the report will not gather dust. I cannot say what the outcome will be, but I can guarantee that it will not gather dust if I have anything to do with it—that is up to the electors. We may all be out of office in October 2003; we could have a clean sweep of the incumbents, as has been known to happen in the political process.

You made an interesting point about Ivor's experience in Rhodesia and UDI. I remember him telling me that, when he was a European commissioner, he had dinner, on the instructions of the British Government, with South African Prime Minister Vorster to see if he could help bring UDI to an end. At the dining table at his house in Cape Town, Vorster deliberately placed Ivor in a chair where he could see Robin Island in the distance through the window so that he could think about Nelson Mandela and the other inmates. People who have such unique experiences are priceless assets in considering constitutional change.

comin, ac yr wyf yn bryderus na fyddant yn gweld golau dydd am na fyddant yn sicrhau lle yn nhagfa San Steffan. Mae Ivor Richard yn benodiad rhagorol, sydd â llawer o brofiad o Rhodesia. Efallai fod Plaid Cymru am gael datganiad unochrog o annibyniaeth, ond nid wyf fi na'r mwyafrif helaeth o bobl Cymru.

Os daw'r comisiwn diduedd ac annibynnol hwn i'r casgliad bod angen newid y sefyllfa anfodddhaol hon, a wnaiff Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru sicrhau na fydd yr adroddiad yn hel llwch?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gallaf eich sicrhau na fydd yr adroddiad yn hel llwch. Ni allaf ddweud beth fydd y canlyniad, ond gallaf roi sicrwydd na fydd yn hel llwch os bydd a wnelwyf fi ddim ag ef—mater i'r etholwyr yw hynny. Efallai y byddwn oll allan o rym yn Hydref 2003; efallai y bydd yr holl ddeiliaid presennol wedi'u hysgubo ymaith, oherwydd fe all hynny ddigwydd yn y broses wleidyddol.

Gwnaethoch bwynt diddorol am brofiad Ivor yn Rhodesia a'r datganiad unochrog o annibyniaeth. Cofiaf ef yn dweud wrthyf, pan oedd yn gomisiynydd Ewropeaidd, iddo gael cinio, gan ddilyn cyfarwyddiadau Llywodraeth Prydain, gyda'r Prif Weinidog Vorster o Dde Affrica i weld a allai helpu i ddod â'r datganiad unochrog o annibyniaeth i ben. Wrth y bwrdd bwyd yn ei dŷ yn Nhref y Penrhyn, yr oedd Vorster wedi rhoi Ivor i eistedd mewn cadair yn fwriadol lle y gallai weld Robin Island drwy'r ffenestr yn y pellter fel y gallai feddwl am Nelson Mandela a'r carcharorion eraill. Mae pobl sydd â phrofiadau unigryw o'r fath yn asedau amhrisiadwy wrth ystyried newid cyfansoddiadol.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Rod Richards: Pwynt o drefn. Ceisiais ddal eich sylw, Lywydd, er mwyn cael cyfle i groesholi'r Prif Weinidog, ond ni chefais fy ngalw.

Rod Richards: Point of order. I tried to catch your eye, Presiding Officer, in order to cross-examine the First Minister, but I was not called.

Y Llywydd: Yr oedd tri Aelod arall yn

The Presiding Officer: Three other

dymuno holi'r Prif Weindog, ond yr ydym wedi rhedeg allan o amser. Cawsom dri datganiad y bore yma.

Rod Richards: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwnnw, gyda phob parch—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid oes mwy i'w ddweud ar y mater hwn.

Rod Richards: Mae pwynt o drefn o safbwynt y cyfleoedd sydd gan Aelodau annibynnol i holi'r Prif Weinidog. Os na allwn ei groesholi yn y Siambr, ac os nad yw am gysylltu â ni yr un modd ag y cysyllta ag arweinwyr y pleidiau, a oes pwrpas i Aelodau annibynnol fod yma o gwbl?

Y Llywydd: Fe wyddoch eich sefyllfa fel Aelod annibynnol o dan Reolau Sefydlog y Cynulliad. Nid yw Aelod annibynnol unigol yn Aelod o grŵp. Dyna yw'r sefyllfa; rhaid cael tri Aelod er mwyn ffurfio grŵp. Os hoffech gyngor pellach, gallwch ddod i'm gweld.

Rod Richards: Hoffwn dderbyn y cyngor hwnnw yn gyhoeddus.

Y Llywydd: Nid oes mwy i'w ddweud yn gyhoeddus.

Rod Richards: Yr wyf yn ceisio eich cyngor ynglŷn â sefyllfa Aelodau annibynnol. Os na chawn ein galw i siarad yn y Siambr ac os na fydd Prif Weinidog Cymru yn ymgynghori â ni y tu allan i'r Siambr hon, ble a sut y gall Aelodau annibynnol roi eu safbwynt i'r Cynulliad ac i'r Prif Weinidog?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Caiff pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad ei drin yn gyfartal yn y Cyfarfodydd Llawn.

Members wanted to cross-examine the First Minister, but we ran out of time. We have had three statements this morning.

Rod Richards: Further to that point of order, with respect—

The Presiding Officer: Order. There is no more to be said on the matter.

Rod Richards: There is a point of order relating to the opportunities afforded to independent Members to question the First Minister. If we cannot cross-examine him in the Assembly, and if he does not contact us in the same way as he contacts party leaders, is there any purpose in having independent Members at all?

The Presiding Officer: You know what your position is as an independent Member under the Assembly's Standing Orders. Independent Members are not members of a group. That is the situation; you must have three Members to form a group. If you require further advice, you can come to see me.

Rod Richards: I would prefer to receive that advice in public.

The Presiding Officer: There is no more to be said in public.

Rod Richards: I seek your guidance on the position of independent Members. If we are not called to speak in the Chamber and if the First Minister will not consult with us outside this Chamber, where and how can independent Members express their view to the Assembly and to the First Minister?

The Presiding Officer: Order. All Assembly Members are treated equally in Plenary.

Datganiad gan y Llywydd Statement by the Presiding Officer

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi gymryd y pwyntiau o drefn y cefais rybudd ohonynt, byddaf yn ymateb i'r pwyntiau o drefn a godwyd yn sgîl y cwestiwn brys yn ein cyfarfod diwethaf. Yr wyf wedi ystyried y pwyntiau hynny yn

The Presiding Officer: Before I take the points of order of which I have received notice, I will respond to the points of order that were raised following the urgent question at our last meeting. I have carefully

ofalus. Yr wyf wedi penderfynu na fyddaf yn cynnig sylwadau ar gyfreithlondeb neu anghyfreithlondeb gweithredoedd Prif Weinidog Cymru yn achos Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru, yn arbennig o ystyried y gall hynny fod yn destun dadl maes o law. Er hynny, yr wyf yn sicr y bydd yr holl Aelodau, gan gynnwys y Gweinidogion, yn parhau i ofalu eu bod yn parchu penderfyniadau Cyfarfodydd Llawn y Cynulliad.

considered those points. I have decided that I will not offer any comments on the legality or illegality of the First Minister's actions in the case of the Wales European Centre, especially considering the fact that that could shortly be the subject of a debate. However, I am sure that all Members, including Ministers, will continue to respect Assembly decisions taken in Plenary.

Cais am Ddabl o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9 Request for a Debate under Standing Order No. 6.9

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi caniatáu i arweinydd yr wrthblaid, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9, gynnig ein bod yn ystyried mater brys o bwys cyhoeddus.

The Presiding Officer: I have permitted the leader of the opposition, under Standing Order No. 6.9, to propose that we consider a matter of urgent public importance.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Cynigiaf fod

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I propose that

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9, yn ystyried aelodaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru.

the National Assembly, under Standing Order No. 6.9, considers the National Assembly's membership of the Wales European Centre.

Gwnaf hyn yn sgîl datganiad y Prif Weinidog ddydd Mawrth ar aelodaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru.

I do this following the First Minister's statement on Tuesday on the National Assembly's membership of the Wales European Centre.

Erbyn hyn, yr ydym wedi cael cyfle i edrych ar y Cofnod. Ymunodd y Cynulliad â Chanolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru yn dilyn penderfyniad a wnaed ar 29 Chwefror 2000. Yn y cynnig fe roddwyd hawl i'r Prif Ysgrifennydd—dyna oedd y teitl ar y pryd—wneud cais ar ran y Cynulliad i ymaelodi â'r ganolfan ac fe wnaed hynny yn fuan wedyn. Felly, y Cynulliad a benderfynodd ddirprwyo'r hawl i'r Prif Weinidog weithredu yn enw'r Cynulliad. Byddech wedi disgwyl, fel mater o gwrteisi, y byddai'r Prif Weinidog wedi gofyn am ganiatâd y Cynulliad neu, o leiaf, wedi rhoi gwybod i'r Cynulliad, am ei fwriad cyn terfynu ein haelodaeth.

We have now had an opportunity to examine the Record. The Assembly joined the Wales European Centre following a decision made on 29 February 2000. In the motion the First Secretary—that was the title at the time—was given permission to make an application on behalf of the Assembly to become a member of WEC, and that was done shortly afterwards. Therefore, the Assembly decided to delegate to the First Minister the right to act in the Assembly's name. You would have thought, as a matter of courtesy, that the First Minister would have asked for permission from the Assembly or, at least, have informed the Assembly of his intention before terminating our membership.

Gan y wasg y cefais wybod bod y penderfyniad hwn wedi'i wneud i ddod ag aelodaeth y Cynulliad o'r ganolfan i ben. Mae hynny'n dangos diffyg parch i'r Cynulliad ac i'r tri Aelod o'r Cynulliad a benodwyd yn gyfarwyddwyr y ganolfan.

I was informed by the press that a decision had been taken to bring the Assembly's membership of WEC to an end. That displays a lack of respect for the Assembly and for the three Assembly Members appointed as directors of the centre. It also shows the First

Mae'n dangos hefyd agwedd unbenaethol y Prif Weinidog wrth iddo ddiystyru'r Cynulliad. Pam y bu'n rhaid gwneud y datganiad hwnnw ddydd Gwener cyn i'r Cynulliad ddychwelyd ar ôl toriad y Pasg? Pam nad arhosodd tan ddydd Mawrth i roi cynnig gerbron y Cyfarfod Llawn? Â phwy yr ymgynghorodd y Prif Weinidog? Ni allaf ond siarad dros fy hun. Cododd y Prif Weinidog fater dyfodol y ganolfan mewn cyfarfod preifat â mi, a chan iddo gyfeirio at hwnnw ddydd Mawrth, yr wyf yn rhydd i gyfeirio ato heddiw. Mae'n wir iddo godi dyfodol y ganolfan ond ni ddywedodd wrthyf y byddai'n anfon llythyr i derfynu aelodaeth y Cynulliad ohoni, gan roi blwyddyn o rybudd. Yn ôl Tom Middlehurst a Nick Bourne ddydd Mawrth, ni ddywedodd wrthynt hwy ychwaith ac yr wyf yn siŵr nad yw cof y tri ohonom yn pallu.

Gan fod angen clirio'r mater hwn a chan fod penderfyniad y Prif Weinidog yn enw'r Cynulliad mor bellgyrhaeddol, dylem ei drafod fel mater o frys heddiw. Mae pawb yn cytuno bod angen presenoldeb cryf ar ran Cymru ym Mrwsel, gan fod cymaint o benderfyniadau pwysig yn cael eu gwneud yno sy'n effeithio ar ein bywydau. Mae cael y drefn gywir yn hanfodol.

When the Assembly resolved to join WEC in 2000 the First Secretary, as he then was, was fulsome in his praise for the centre. He said, and I quote from the Record of Proceedings for 29 February 2000:

'WEC has developed an excellent reputation, not only in Wales but, perhaps more importantly in terms of objective measurement, in Brussels. The institutions of the EU regard it as one of the most effective regional offices operating as a listening post in Brussels.'

Minister's dictatorial attitude as he disregarded the Assembly. Why did that statement have to be made on the Friday before the Assembly reconvened after the Easter recess? Why did he not wait until Tuesday to propose a motion before Plenary? With whom did the First Minister consult? I can only speak for myself. The First Minister raised the issue of WEC's future in a private meeting with me and, as he referred to that on Tuesday, I am free to refer to it today. It is true that he raised the matter of WEC's future, but he did not tell me that he would be sending a letter to terminate the Assembly's membership of it, giving a year's notice. According to Tom Middlehurst and Nick Bourne on Tuesday, he had not told them either and I am sure that the three of us do not have failing memories.

As there is a need to clear this matter up and as the First Minister's decision in the name of the Assembly is so far-reaching, we should discuss this as a matter of urgency today. Everyone agrees that Wales needs a strong presence in Brussels, as so many important decisions are taken there that affect our lives. It is vital that we have the right system.

Pan benderfynodd y Cynulliad ymuno â Chanolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru yn 2000 canmolodd y Prif Ysgrifennydd, fel yr oedd bryd hynny, y ganolfan i'r entrychion. Dywedodd, ac yr wyf yn dyfynnu o Gofnod y Trafodion am 29 Chwefror 2000:

'Mae CEC wedi datblygu enw rhagorol, nid yn unig yng Nghymru ond, yn bwysicach efallai o ran mesur gwrthrychol, ym Mrwsel. Mae sefydliadau'r UE yn ei hystyried yn un o'r swyddfeydd rhanbarthol mwyaf effeithiol sy'n gweithredu fel safle gwranddo ym Mrwsel.'

Since the Assembly's joining WEC was supposed to enhance that role, people are asking what went wrong in the last two years. If something did go wrong, we are entitled to an explanation. During Tuesday's exchanges, the only explanation that the First Minister could give was that the WLGA had also given 12 months' notice to end its membership of WEC, and that without it, WEC was effectively dead. Why is this matter being driven by the WLGA? At no stage did the First Minister give any reason why he thinks that WEC can no longer represent the Assembly in Brussels. He kept telling us that we needed to beef up our presence, but he did not tell us why that could not be achieved within a revamped WEC.

Gan fod aelodaeth y Cynulliad o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru i fod i hybu'r rôl honno, mae pobl yn gofyn beth a aeth o'i le yn y ddwy flynedd diwethaf. Os aeth rhywbeth o'i le, mae gennym hawl i gael eglurhad. Yn ystod y ffeirio geiriau ddydd Mawrth, yr unig eglurhad y gallai Prif Weinidog Cymru ei roi oedd bod CLILC hefyd wedi rhoi 12 mis o rybudd o'i bwriad i derfynu ei haelodaeth o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru a bod CEC yn farw i bob pwrpas heb hynny. Pam y mae'r mater hwn yn cael ei bennu gan Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru? Ni roddodd Prif Weinidog Cymru unrhyw reswm ar unrhyw adeg pam y mae'n credu nad yw CEC yn gallu cynrychioli'r Cynulliad bellach ym Mrwsel. Dywedodd wrthym dro ar ôl tro fod angen inni gryfhau ein presenoldeb, ond ni ddywedodd wrthym pam na ellid cyflawni hynny o fewn CEC ailwampiedig.

11:35 a.m.

I am happy to come to this debate with an open mind. There may be good reasons for withdrawing from WEC, but until I know what they are, how can I and other Members come to any judgment? We may need to terminate our relationship with WEC, or it may be possible, as Tom Middlehurst suggested, to reach an agreement with local government within WEC. I want to listen to the arguments before jumping in with both feet as the First Minister did. He must accept that he acted unilaterally on Friday; he acted in a deeply unsatisfactory way. The process has damaged the reputation of the Assembly.

Yr wyf yn fodlon dod at y ddadl hon â meddwl agored. Efallai fod rhesymau da dros dynnu allan o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru, ond hyd nes y caf wybod beth ydynt, sut y gallaf fi ac Aelodau eraill ffurfio barn? Efallai fod angen inni derfynu'n cysylltiad â Chanolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru, neu gallai fod yn bosibl, fel yr awgrymodd Tom Middlehurst, ddod i gytundeb â llywodraeth leol o fewn CEC. Yr wyf am wrando ar y dadleuon cyn neidio i mewn fel y gwnaeth Prif Weinidog Cymru. Rhaid iddo dderbyn ei fod wedi gweithredu'n unochrog ddydd Gwener; gweithredodd mewn modd anfodddhaol dros ben. Mae'r broses wedi gwneud drwg i enw'r Cynulliad.

However, let us look forward. The First Minister should show that he listens and is not afraid to change his mind when he knows that he cannot carry the Assembly with him. He should do the honourable thing, withdraw the letter and enter into a meaningful debate and dialogue with Assembly Members. We want the best for Wales in Brussels—that may or may not be within WEC, but let us not pre-judge that. Let us debate and reach a mature decision on the way forward.

Fodd bynnag, gadewch inni edrych ymlaen. Dylai Prif Weinidog Cymru ddangos ei fod yn gwrandao ac nad yw'n ofni newid ei feddwl pan yw'n gwybod na all argyhoeddi'r Cynulliad. Dylai weithredu'n anrhydeddus, tynnu'r llythyr yn ôl a dechrau dadl a deialog ystyrllon ag Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Yr ydym am gael y gorau i Gymru ym Mrwsel—gallai hynny fod o fewn CEC neu'r tu allan iddi, ond gadewch inni beidio â rhagfarnu hynny. Gadewch inni ddadlau a dod i benderfyniad aeddfed ar y ffordd ymlaen.

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi ddyfarnu, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9, a wyf yn fodlon i'r mater

The Presiding Officer: Before I give a ruling, under Standing Order No. 6.9, on

hwn gael sylw'r Cynulliad ar unwaith, mae gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad sylw i'w wneud.

The Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business (Carwyn Jones): Under Standing Order No. 6.9, the crucial word is 'urgent': whether the Assembly should consider a matter of urgent public importance, subject to the Llywydd's discretion. Although this is a matter of public importance, it is not a matter of urgent public importance. We must remember that the decision has, in effect, a 12-month lifespan. A review dealing with WEC's situation is due to be published before the summer. The Wales European Centre is not about to collapse or close down; the building in Brussels will not close next week. Therefore, this is not an urgent matter, and as such we will not table a debate today nor in the next few weeks. A matter of urgency arises from an unforeseen matter or when a decision must be made quickly, where the normal decision-making process is not appropriate.

Due to Members' expressions of interest, and in order to allow better understanding and, to quote the leader of the opposition, 'a mature debate' on this issue, the Government is prepared to allocate time on 2 May for the Assembly to debate this matter in Plenary. The Government intends to put forward a motion on that day for Members to debate. In that respect, the Government will oppose any application for an urgent debate on this matter.

Nick Bourne: I also asked for an urgent debate under Standing Order No. 6.9. The Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business is in a sense in a cleft stick. He claims that this matter is not urgent, whereas the First Minister told us that the decision was urgent. If the decision was urgent, then a debate on the decision would be similarly urgent. Carwyn Jones is perhaps not in receipt of a letter that I have received—and I suspect that Tom Middlehurst and Ieuan Wyn Jones have also received it—from Jos Gallagher informing us that staffing arrangements in WEC are being considered as a result of decisions that have already been

whether I am prepared for this matter to receive the Assembly's immediate attention, the Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business wishes to comment.

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad (Carwyn Jones): O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9, y gair hollbwysig yw 'brys': a ddylai'r Cynulliad ystyried mater brys o bwys cyhoeddus, yn ôl doethineb y Llywydd. Er ei fod yn fater o bwys cyhoeddus, nid yw'n fater brys o bwys cyhoeddus. Rhaid inni gofio bod hyd oes o 12 mis i'r penderfyniad, i bob pwrpas. Cyhoeddir adolygiad sy'n ymdrin â sefyllfa CEC cyn yr haf. Nid yw Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru ar fin methu neu gau; ni fydd yr adeilad ym Mrwsel yn cau'r wythnos nesaf. Felly, nid yw hwn yn fater brys, ac oherwydd hynny ni fyddwn yn cyflwyno dadl heddiw nac yn yr wythnosau nesaf. Mae mater brys yn codi o fater annisgwyl neu pan fo'n rhaid gwneud penderfyniad yn gyflym, lle nad yw'r broses penderfynu arferol yn briodol.

Oherwydd y diddordeb a fynegwyd gan yr Aelodau, ac er mwyn caniatáu gwell dealltwriaeth a chael 'dadl aeddfed' ar y mater hwn, a dyfynnu geiriau arweinydd yr wrthblaid, mae'r Llywodraeth yn barod i ddyrannu amser ar 2 Mai i'r Cynulliad gael dadl ar y mater hwn yn y Cyfarfod Llawn. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn bwriadu cyflwyno cynnig ar y diwrnod hwnnw i'w drafod gan yr Aelodau. Yn hynny o beth, bydd y Llywodraeth yn gwrthwynebu unrhyw gais am ddadl frys ar y mater hwn.

Nick Bourne: Gofynnais innau am ddadl frys o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad mewn caethgyfle ar un ystyr. Mae'n honni nad yw'r mater hwn yn un brys, tra dywedodd Prif Weinidog Cymru wrthym fod y penderfyniad yn un brys. Os oedd y penderfyniad yn un brys, byddai dadl ar y penderfyniad yn un frys yn yr un modd. Efallai nad yw Carwyn Jones wedi derbyn llythyr a dderbyniais i—ac yr wyf yn amau bod Tom Middlehurst ac Ieuan Wyn Jones wedi'i dderbyn hefyd—oddi wrth Jos Gallagher sy'n ein hysbysu bod y trefniadau staffio yng Nghanolan

made. It is certainly urgent for them because we have made a decision to withdraw from WEC. The First Minister was keen to ensure that Assembly sponsored public bodies, which provide a substantial part of WEC funding, take a lead from his decision. It was a unilateral decision, although he claimed that it was not, and it was also made without consultation. Not one Assembly Member was consulted about that decision.

I am not sure that this matter can wait until 2 May, but we need an assurance—because I am sure that Labour and the Liberal Democrats have the numbers—that an hour will be put aside for this debate. I hope that the Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business will give that assurance. I feel that this matter has a degree of urgency and I hope that the First Minister will speak to Jos Gallagher and to Brian Smith, with whom I spoke this morning and who is livid about this decision, because it has an effect on people who are working loyally for Wales overseas. The decision was made without any reference to them or to elected Assembly Members. While the First Minister argues in favour of more powers for the Assembly, he should behave in a more sensitive way towards the 60 Assembly Members elected to represent Welsh interests

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Gwrandewais yn ofalus ar yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog ac anghytunaf yn llwyr gyda'i ddatganiad ar ba un a yw hwn yn fater o frys ai peidio. Mae Nick Bourne yn iawn gan fod gan y penderfyniad hwn oblygiadau pellgyrhaeddol i staff WEC ac y mae'n iawn iddynt gael gwybod heddiw, neu'n sicr o fewn y dyddiau nesaf, beth yw eu sefyllfa. Mae hwn yn fater o frys, felly nid wyf yn derbyn ei safbwynt. Wedi dweud hynny, gan ei fod wedi ei wneud yn glir y bydd y Cynulliad yn cael amser i drafod cynnig, y bydd modd ei ddiwygio, ar y mater hwn yn amser y Llywodraeth ar 2 Mai ac os yw'n derbyn y dylai'r ddadl barhau am o leiaf awr, yr wyf yn barod i dynnu yn ôl fy nghais i wthio'r mater i bleidlais y bore yma.

Ewropeaidd Cymru o dan ystyriaeth o ganlyniad i benderfyniadau a wnaethpwyd eisoes. Mae'n sicr yn fater brys iddynt hwy oherwydd penderfynasom dynnu allan o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru. Yr oedd Prif Weinidog Cymru'n awyddus i sicrhau bod cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad, sy'n darparu rhan sylweddol o arian CEC, yn dilyn ei benderfyniad. Yr oedd yn benderfyniad unochrog, er iddo honni nad ydoedd, ac fe'i gwnaethpwyd hefyd heb ymgynghori. Nid ymgynghorwyd â'r un Aelod Cynulliad am y penderfyniad hwnnw.

Nid wyf yn sicr a all y mater hwn ddisgwyl hyd 2 Mai, ond rhaid inni gael sicrwydd—oherwydd yr wyf yn sicr bod y niferoedd gan Lafur a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—y caiff awr ei neilltuo ar gyfer y ddadl hon. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad yn rhoi'r sicrwydd hwnnw. Teimlaf fod graddau o frys yn perthyn i'r mater hwn a gobeithiaf y bydd Prif Weinidog Cymru yn siarad â Jos Gallagher a chyda Brian Smith, y siaradais ag ef y bore yma ac sy'n gandryll ynghylch y penderfyniad hwn, oherwydd mae'n effeithio ar bobl sy'n gweithio'n ffyddlon dros Gymru dramor. Gwnaethpwyd y penderfyniad heb gyfeirio o gwbl atynt hwy nac Aelodau etholedig y Cynulliad. Er bod Prif Weinidog Cymru'n dadlau o blaid cael rhagor o bwerau i'r Cynulliad, dylai ymddwyn yn fwy sensitif tuag at y 60 o Aelodau Cynulliad a etholwyd i gynrychioli buddiannau Cymru.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I listened carefully to what the Minister said and I wholly disagree with his statement on whether or not this is an urgent matter. Nick Bourne is right given that this decision has far-reaching implications for WEC staff and it is right for them to be told today, or certainly within the next few days, what their situation is. It is an urgent matter, therefore I do not accept his point of view. Having said that, given that he has made it clear that the Assembly will have time to debate a motion, which we will be able to amend, on this matter in Government time on 2 May, and if he accepts that the debate should last for at least an hour, I am prepared to withdraw my request to push this matter to a vote this morning.

Rod Richards: Fel un nad yw'n cael ei gynrychioli ar y Pwyllgor Busnes ac fel un nad yw Prif Weinidog Cymru'n ymgynghori ag ef ar unrhyw bwnc, heb sôn am WEC, cefnogaf arweinydd yr wrthblaid 100 y cant.

Rod Richards: As someone who is not represented on the Business Committee and as someone with whom the First Minister does not consult on any subject, let alone WEC, I support the leader of the opposition 100 per cent.

*Tynnwyd y cynnig yn ôl.
Motion withdrawn.*

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Jonathan Morgan: Point of order. I am not entirely sure whether this point of order relates to Standing Order No. 6.10 or 6.11, but I am more than content, given the timing of today's business, for my short debate to be postponed to a later date, if that would be helpful. I am aware that the Plaid Cymru minority party debate has already been postponed on one occasion. In the spirit of co-operation, it might be useful if my short debate were rescheduled.

Jonathan Morgan: Pwynt o drefn. Nid wyf yn gwbl sicr a yw'r pwynt o drefn hwn yn ymwneud â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.10 neu 6.11, ond yr wyf yn fodlon, o ystyried amseru'r busnes heddiw, i'm dadl fer gael ei gohirio tan ddyddiad diweddarach, os byddai hynny o gymorth. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod dadl plaid leiafrifol Plaid Cymru eisoes wedi'i gohirio unwaith. O ran cydweithredu, gallai fod yn fuddiol ailamserlennu fy nabl fer i.

The Presiding Officer: I call the Minister to reply.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar y Gweinidog i ymateb.

The Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business (Carwyn Jones): On the basis of Jonathan's comment, I am grateful for his assistance in terms of time management, I will give an undertaking to reschedule his short debate as quickly as possible, hopefully in the course of the next two weeks.

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad (Carwyn Jones): Ar sail sylw Jonathan, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am ei gymorth o ran rheoli amser. Ymrwymaf i ailamserlennu ei ddadl fer cyn gynted ag y bo modd, yn ystod y pythefnos nesaf, yr wyf yn gobeithio.

Cymeradwyo Gwelliannau i Reolau Sefydlog Rhifau 6 a 36 Approval of Revisions to Standing Orders Nos. 6 and 36

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I propose that

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly, acting under section 46(6) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and Standing Order No. 34:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, gan weithredu o dan adran 46(6) o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru a Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 34:

1. considers the report of the Business Committee laid in the Table Office on 10 April 2002; and

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 10 Ebrill 2002; ac

2. approves the following revision of Standing Orders:

2. yn cymeradwyo'r diwygiadau canlynol i'r rheolau sefydlog:

Standing Order No. 6

Delete Standing Order No. 6.3(vi) in its entirety.

Delete Standing Order No. 6.26A in its entirety.

In line 4 of Standing Order No. 6.28, delete:

'or to a member of the House Committee under paragraph 6.3(vi),'

In line 5 of Standing Order No. 6.30, delete:

'and the Member of the House Committee.'

In Standing Order No. 6.31 delete last line:

'This paragraph will not apply to questions for oral answer by a member of the House Committee.'

Standing Order No. 36

Delete Standing Order No. 36.7 in its entirety. (NDM1028)

This item and, with permission, the next item gives effect to ensuring that questions to the House Committee are in written form only. Members will remember that the Assembly review of procedure recommended unanimously that these recommendations be put into action. The Business Committee has approved these changes, and I recommend them.

Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6

Dileu Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3 (vi) yn gyfan gwbl.

Dileu Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.26A yn gyfan gwbl.

Yn Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.28, yn llinell 4 dileu:

'neu i aelod o Bwyllgor y Tŷ o dan baragraff 6.3(vi),'

Yn Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.30, yn llinell a 5 dileu

'a'r aelod o Bwyllgor y Tŷ'.

Yn Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.31 dileu'r llinell olaf:

'Ni fydd y paragraff hwn yn gymwys i gwestiynau sydd i'w hateb ar lafar gan aelod o Bwyllgor y Tŷ.'

Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 36

Dileu Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 36.7 yn gyfan gwbl. (NDM1028)

Mae'r eitem hon a, gyda chaniatâd, yr eitem nesaf yn rhoi mewn grym y sicrwydd y bydd cwestiynau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ ar ffurf ysgrifenedig yn unig. Bydd yr Aelodau'n cofio bod adolygiad gweithdrefn y Cynulliad wedi argymhell yn unfrydol y dylid rhoi'r argymhellion hyn ar waith. Mae'r Pwyllgor Busnes wedi cymeradwyo'r newidiadau hyn, ac yr wyf yn eu cymeradwyo.

Cynnig: O blaid 47, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion: For 47, Abstain 0, Against 0.

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Dafis, Cynog
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David

Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Richards, Rod
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Cymeradwyo Canllawiau Diwygiedig ar Gwestiynau'r Cynulliad Approval of Revised Guidance on Assembly Questions

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I propose **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Cynigiau fod
that

the National Assembly adopts the revised guidance on Assembly questions which was laid in the Table office on 10 April 2002. (NDM1029) *y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn mabwysiadu'r canllawiau diwygiedig ar gwestiynau'r Cynulliad a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 10 Ebrill 2002. (NDM1029)*

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

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary

Chapman, Christine
 Dafis, Cynog
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Geraint
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Davies, Ron
 Essex, Sue
 Evans, Delyth
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Halford, Alison
 Hancock, Brian
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Richards, Rod
 Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Pwyntiau o Drefn Points of Order

Ron Davies: Point of order. I was waiting to see if you were going to make an announcement on a matter that was raised in Plenary on Tuesday when we debated the propriety of the action that was taken by the Government to withdraw from WEC in view of the decision that was made in Plenary in February 2000. As I recall you undertook to seek legal advice on that and stated that you would then give further advice to the Assembly. Are you in a position to do so today?

Ron Davies: Pwynt o drefn. Yr oeddwn yn disgwyl i weld a fydddech yn gwneud cyhoeddiad ar fater a godwyd yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ddydd Mawrth pan gawsom ddadl ar briodoldeb y camau a gymerwyd gan y Llywodraeth i dynnu allan o Ganolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru yng ngolwg y penderfyniad a wnaethpwyd yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yn Chwefror 2000. Fel yr wyf yn cofio, gwnaethoch ymgymryd i geisio cyngor cyfreithiol ar hynny a dywedasoch y bydddech yn hysbysu'r Cynulliad ymhellach. A ydych mewn sefyllfa i wneud hynny heddiw?

The Presiding Officer: I do not intend to do so today. I indicated in my short statement before I allowed the request for a debate that I would not comment on the lawfulness or otherwise of the actions taken by the First Minister, particularly as this will be a matter for debate.

Nick Bourne: Point of order. This relates to the budget statement. We all recognise that the Government would wish to make a statement on the budget but it is regrettable that only a written statement has been distributed. Assembly Members have not yet had a chance to consider it or ask or table any questions on it. I hope that the Government will arrange an oral statement so that all Members can comment on the proposals.

The Presiding Officer: I have not received a request for a statement. However, there are budgetary procedures, which the Assembly pursues in relation to any supplementary budget. I assume that that will happen as usual. At that stage, all these issues will be subject to debate.

Y Llywydd: Nid wyf yn bwriadu gwneud hynny heddiw. Nodais yn fy natganiad byr cyn imi ganiatáu'r cais am ddadl na fyddwn yn gwneud sylw am gyfreithlondeb neu ddiffyg cyfreithlondeb y camau a gymerwyd gan Brif Weinidog Cymru, yn enwedig gan y bydd yn fater i ddadl.

Nick Bourne: Pwynt o drefn. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â'r datganiad cyllideb. Yr ydym oll yn cydnabod y byddai'r Llywodraeth yn dymuno gwneud datganiad ar y gyllideb ond mae'n destun gofid mai dim ond datganiad ysgrifenedig a ddsbarthwyd. Nid yw Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi cael cyfle eto i'w ystyried nac i ofyn neu gyflwyno cwestiynau arno. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Llywodraeth yn trefnu datganiad llafar fel y gall yr holl Aelodau wneud sylwadau ar y cynigion.

Y Llywydd: Nid wyf wedi derbyn cais am ddatganiad. Fodd bynnag, mae gweithdrefnau cyllidebol y bydd y Cynulliad yn eu dilyn mewn cysylltiad ag unrhyw gyllideb atodol. Cymeraf y bydd hynny'n digwydd yn ôl yr arfer. Bryd hynny, bydd yr holl faterion hyn yn destun dadl.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 11.46 a.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 11.46 a.m.*

Dadl Plaid Leiafrifol (Plaid Cymru) Minority Party Debate (Plaid Cymru)

Adfywio'r Cymoedd Regenerating the Valleys

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1, 2, 4 and 5 in the name of Jonathan Morgan, and amendments 3 and 6 in the name of Carwyn Jones.

Geraint Davies: I propose that

the National Assembly:

1. notes the unacceptably high levels of deprivation, social exclusion and economic under-performance in the industrial Valleys of the South.

2. asserts its belief that these problems can be overcome, thereby releasing the potential

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1, 2, 4 a 5 yn enw Jonathan Morgan a gwelliannau 3 a 6 yn enw Carwyn Jones.

Geraint Davies: Cynigiaf fod

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. yn nodi'r lefelau annerbyniol o uchel o amddifadedd, allgáu cymdeithasol a thanberfformiad economaidd yng nghymoedd diwydiannol y De;

2. yn datgan ei hyder bod modd datrys y problemau yma a rhyddhau potensial y

of the Valleys to contribute fully once again to the economic, social and cultural prosperity of Wales.

3. calls on the Government of Wales to:

i) draw up and implement an integrated regional regeneration strategy for the Valleys, with clear targets for the number of extra jobs required;

ii) set in place appropriate structures, including appointing a dedicated Cabinet Minister, to ensure the strategy's implementation. (NDM1027)

Yesterday, I attended a happy event, the reopening of Tylorstown Primary School, a school that was destroyed by fire two years ago. The atmosphere was in such contrast to that day in June 2000, when the school was ablaze, when there was despair and tears. Yesterday the pupils arrived at their school, excited, happy, and full of hope. Such transformation is needed throughout the Rhondda Valleys and in the other valleys of south Wales. We need to look beyond the current situation, and consider what could be.

The chronic decline of our traditional heavy industries, together with Labour's total disregard for our manufacturing industries—on which the Valleys are highly dependent—have left an economically underdeveloped area with severe structural and socio-economic weaknesses. Under Labour, we have seen the disgrace of the increase in the wealth gap, which has inevitably resulted in a greater health gap. The Valleys already have the worst health statistics of the whole of western Europe.

Although there is a tradition of close-knit supportive communities in the Valleys, years of deprivation and neglect have produced a sense of isolation, disillusion, as well as low morale, high crime rates and social exclusion. All these problems play a major part in the drug epidemic, which is suffered there, and we hear of weekly tragedies involving drug-related deaths. This week, we saw communities' frustration erupting into

Cymoedd i gyfrannu'n llawn unwaith eto at lewyrch economaidd, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol Cymru;

3. yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru:

i) i sicrhau bod strategaeth adfywio rhanbarthol integredig i'r Cymoedd yn cael ei llunio a'i gweithredu gyda thargedau clir ar gyfer nifer y swyddi ychwanegol sydd eu hangen;

ii) i sefydlu trefniadau strwythurol priodol, gan gynnwys penodi gweinidog Cabinet, i gyflawni'r gwaith. (NDM1027)

Ddoe, bûm yn bresennol mewn digwyddiad llawen, sef ailagor Ysgol Gynradd Pendyrus, ysgol a ddinistriwyd gan dân ddwy flynedd yn ôl. Yr oedd yr awyrgylch yn wahanol iawn i'r diwrnod hwnnw ym Mehefin 2000, pan oedd yr ysgol ar dân, pan oedd anobaith a dagrau. Ddoe daeth y disgyblion i'w hysgol yn llawn cyffro, yn hapus ac yn llawn gobaith. Mae angen trawsffurfiad o'r fath ledled Cymoedd y Rhondda a chymoedd eraill y De. Rhaid inni edrych y tu hwnt i'r sefyllfa bresennol, ac ystyried beth a allai fod.

Mae dirywiad cronig ein diwydiannau trwm traddodiadol, ynghyd â diystyrwech llwyr Llafur o'n diwydiannau gweithgynhyrchu—y mae'r Cymoedd yn dra dibynnol arnynt—wedi gadael ardal a danddatblygwyd yn economaidd ac iddi wendidau strwythurol a chymdeithasol-economaidd difrifol. O dan Lafur, gwelsom warth y cynnydd yn y bwlch cyfoeth, a arweiniodd yn anorfod at fwlch iechyd mwy. Ystadegau iechyd y Cymoedd yw'r gwaethaf drwy orllewin Ewrop eisoes.

Er bod traddodiad o gymunedau cefnogol clôs yn y Cymoedd, mae blynyddoedd o amddifadedd ac esgeulustod wedi creu ymdeimlad o arwahanrwydd, dadrithiad, yn ogystal â digalondid, cyfraddau troseddau uchel ac allgáu cymdeithasol. Mae'r holl broblemau hyn yn chwarae rhan flaenllaw yn yr epidemig cyffuriau a ddiodefir yno, a chlywn am drasiedïau bob wythnos sy'n ymwneud â marwolaethau sy'n gysylltiedig â

violence on the loss of loved ones as a result of drug abuse.

We require a fundamental change in approach in terms of prioritisation, co-ordination, intervention and investment if we are to reverse these problems and achieve the goal of confident, prosperous, sustainable and culturally rich communities with the capacity to fulfil their potential.

Plaid Cymru believes that the only way to tackle the situation is by prioritising it. I have stood here time and again and called for the Assembly Government to recognise the need for a comprehensive regeneration strategy for the south Wales Valleys, and to appoint a dedicated Cabinet Minister to implement it. The need has already been recognised by some Labour Assembly Members, and their Westminster colleagues. However, if we want action, and not just a cheap publicity stunt to boost Labour's flagging popularity, it is time for the leadership to recognise the need and to respond to it.

Huw Lewis: This is a point of fact: there has been no call for a Minister for the Valleys from any Labour AMs or Members of Parliament. The Valleys Labour AMs and MPs have called for a Minister for Social Justice for the whole of Wales.

Geraint Davies: The need for social justice is greater in the Valleys than anywhere else.

Amendments 3 and 6 refer to the regeneration strategies for those areas of south-east Wales targeted due to the recent disastrous Corus closures. Their relevance to this motion is questionable. This motion considers the regeneration needs of the whole of the south Wales Valleys, not just some of them. Rhondda Cynon Taff, for instance, has 17 out of the top 100 wards in the index of multiple deprivation. The five counties regeneration strategy will do nothing to aid people living there. Its brief is too limited—both geographically and substantively—to come even close to what Plaid Cymru is

chyffuriau. Yr wythnos hon, gwelwom rwystredigaeth y cymunedau'n troi'n drais oherwydd colli anwyliaid o ganlyniad i gamddefnyddio cyffuriau.

Mae arnom angen newid agwedd sylfaenol o ran blaenoriaethu, cydlynu, ymyrryd a buddsoddi os ydym am i'r problemau hyn gael eu gwrthdroi ac os ydym i gyrraedd y nod o gael cymunedau hyderus, ffyniannus, cynaliadwy a chyfoethog eu diwylliant gyda'r gallu i gyflawni'u potensial.

Mae Plaid Cymru'n credu mai'r unig ffordd i fynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa yw drwy ei blaenoriaethu. Sefais yma dro ar ôl tro a galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i gydnabod yr angen am strategaeth adfywio gynhwysfawr i Gymoedd y De, ac i benodi Gweinidog Cabinet neilltuol i'w gweithredu. Cydnabuwyd yr angen hwnnw eisoes gan rai Aelodau Llafur o'r Cynulliad, a'u cyd-aelodau yn San Steffan. Fodd bynnag, os ydym o blaid gweithredu, ac nid sbloet gyhoeddusrwydd ddi-chwaeth i hybu poblogrwydd diffygiol Llafur, mae'n bryd i'r arweinwyr gydnabod yr angen ac ymateb iddo.

Huw Lewis: Pwynt o ffaith yw hwn: ni fu galwad am Weinidog dros y Cymoedd gan unrhyw Aelodau Cynulliad Llafur neu Aelodau Seneddol Llafur. Mae Aelodau Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol Llafur y Cymoedd wedi galw am Weinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol i Gymru gyfan.

Geraint Davies: Mae'r angen am gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn fwy yn y Cymoedd nag yn unman arall.

Mae gwelliannau 3 a 6 yn cyfeirio at y strategaethau adfywio i'r ardaloedd hynny o'r De-ddwyrain a dargedwyd oherwydd trychineb cau gweithfeydd Corus. Mae'n amheus a ydynt yn berthnasol i'r cynnig hwn. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn ystyried anghenion adfywio'r cyfan o Gymoedd de Cymru, nid rhai ohonynt yn unig. Gan Rondda Cynon Taf, er enghraifft, y mae 17 o'r 100 uchaf o wardiau yn y mynegrif amddifadedd lluosol. Ni fydd strategaeth adfywio'r pum sir yn gwneud dim i gynorthwyo rhai sy'n byw yno. Mae ei briff yn rhy gyfyngedig—yn ddaeryddol ac o ran ei gynnwys—i allu dod

proposing. Let us not kid ourselves: it does not address that.

Brian Gibbons: I agree with you. Am I correct in assuming that the recent statement by the chair of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, which called for all National Assembly resources to be concentrated on a narrow linguistic area, would not have your support?

Geraint Davies: The needs of the communities in north Wales and the Valleys are much the same. We need to work together, but we particularly need to consider the problems of the Valleys. We want to concentrate on those areas because we have such desperate problems in the Valleys. However, we must work together. It is not one area or the other; it is both.

We will not support amendments 1, 2, 4 and 5 tabled in the name of Jonathan Morgan. This motion addresses the specific needs of the urban south Wales Valleys. The needs of rural Wales are complex and serious enough to warrant separate consideration. Amendment 5 strangely seems to make a case for less rather than more, in terms of resources for the Valleys.

My vision of the Valleys is radically different to the reality of the present situation. It is a vibrant place—economically, culturally and socially thriving. It is a place where indigenous businesses flourish, where there is no digital divide. It is a place where environmental pollution has been eradicated, and where waste management—in embryonic form at present—is not a problem, but an opportunity for job creation and economic benefits. A place where Europe's largest urban forest is appreciated and enjoyed by residents and visitors alike—a place transformed.

My Valleys of the future will have learned from the lessons of the past. We will have learned that health inequalities are a direct result of economic deprivation—a disparity in wealth creating a disparity in health. We will have learned that we need to invest in our communities and in our people. We will

yn agos hyd yn oed at yr hyn y mae Plaid Cymru'n ei gynnig. Gadewch inni beidio â'n twyllo'n hunain: nid yw'n ymdrin â hynny.

Brian Gibbons: Cytunaf â chi. A ydwyf yn iawn wrth gymryd na fyddech yn cefnogi'r datganiad diweddar gan gadeirydd Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, a alwodd am ganolbwyntio holl adnoddau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar ardal ieithyddol gul?

Geraint Davies: Mae anghenion y cymunedau yn y Gogledd ac yn y Cymoedd yn debyg iawn. Rhaid inni weithio gyda'n gilydd, ond mae angen inni ystyried problemau'r Cymoedd yn benodol. Yr ydym am ganolbwyntio ar yr ardaloedd hynny am fod gennym broblemau mor enbyd yn y Cymoedd. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni weithio gyda'n gilydd. Nid mater o un ardal neu'r llall ydyw; mae'n ymwneud â'r ddwy.

Ni fyddwn yn cefnogi gwelliannau 1, 2, 4 a 5 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Jonathan Morgan. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn ymdrin ag anghenion penodol Cymoedd trefol y De. Mae anghenion y Gymru wledig yn ddigon cymhleth a difrifol i deilyngu ystyriaeth ar wahân. Yn rhyfedd, mae'n ymddangos bod gwelliant 5 yn dadlau dros roi llai yn hytrach na mwy o adnoddau i'r Cymoedd.

Mae fy ngweledigaeth i o'r Cymoedd yn sylfaenol wahanol i realiti'r sefyllfa bresennol. Mae'n lle bywiog—yn ffynnu'n economaidd, yn ddiwylliannol ac yn gymdeithasol. Mae'n fan lle y mae busnesau cynhenid yn ffynnu, lle nad oes rhaniad digidol. Mae'n fan lle y mae difwyniant amgylcheddol wedi'i ddileu, a lle nad yw rheoli gwastraff—sydd megis dechrau ar hyn o bryd—yn broblem, ond yn gyfle i greu swyddi a budd economaidd. Mae'n fan lle y caiff coedwig drefol fwyaf Ewrop ei gwerthfawrogi a'i mwynhau gan y trigolion a'r ymwelwyr fel ei gilydd—lle a drawsffurfiwyd.

Bydd fy Nghymoedd i yn y dyfodol wedi dysgu oddi wrth wersi'r gorffennol. Byddwn wedi dysgu bod anghydraddoldebau iechyd yn ganlyniad uniongyrchol i amddifadedd economaidd—gwahaniaeth mewn cyfoeth yn creu gwahaniaeth mewn iechyd. Byddwn wedi dysgu bod angen inni fuddsoddi yn ein

have recognised and built on the importance of our universities, particularly in opening doors for lifelong learning. We will have focused on improving skills, on ensuring that local people are equipped to fill jobs up to the highest level, and we will have ensured that those jobs are there for the taking.

We desperately need to unlock the potential of the Valleys. With a population of 800,000—more than twice that of Cardiff—and covering over 40 per cent of the Welsh Objective 1 region, the importance of the Valleys to the future of the Welsh economy must be recognised. If the Valleys are successful, the whole of Wales will be successful. We cannot afford failure.

Now is the time to press for a new approach to regenerating our communities. We must build a framework for development and regeneration that will include all issues: education; leisure; transport; health; communication and so forth. These are at the core of Plaid Cymru's call for an integrated and comprehensive regeneration strategy for the Valleys. We need a polycentric strategy that will attract and retain people in the Valleys and will make them want to visit, work, live and then prosper there.

The Valleys and the residents of the Valleys deserve to be prioritised, for they have so much potential. Time and again, I am invited to award ceremonies for children and young people, recognising their achievements and hard work. These children—including the children of Tylorstown primary school—are the raw material of the future of Wales. It is our job to ensure that their full potential is realised.

That is Plaid Cymru's vision. It is a vision that is challenging, inclusive, realistic and achievable—if we are serious about achieving it.

Owen John Thomas: The Valleys have largely been successful in retaining their railway systems. Do you agree that a modern railway service for the Valleys would give it the economic boost that the area needs?

cymunedau ac yn ein pobl. Byddwn wedi cydnabod a manteisio ar bwysigrwydd ein prifysgolion, yn enwedig o ran agor drysau at ddysgu gydol oes. Byddwn wedi canolbwyntio ar wella sgiliau, ar sicrhau bod pobl leol yn gymwys i lenwi swyddi hyd at y lefel uchaf, a byddwn wedi sicrhau bod y swyddi hynny ar gael.

Mae taer angen inni ddatgloi potensial y Cymoedd. Gan fod yno boblogaeth o 800,000—mwy na dwywaith poblogaeth Caerdydd—a chan eu bod yn cynnwys dros 40 y cant o ranbarth Amcan 1 Cymru, rhaid cydnabod pwysigrwydd y Cymoedd i ddyfodol economi Cymru. Os yw'r Cymoedd yn llwyddiannus, bydd Cymru gyfan yn llwyddiannus. Ni allwn fforddio methiant.

Dyma'r adeg i bwysio am ddull newydd o adfywio ein cymunedau. Rhaid inni greu fframwaith datblygu ac adfywio a fydd yn cynnwys pob pwnc: addysg; hamdden; trafniadaeth; iechyd; cyfathrebu ac yn y blaen. Mae'r rhain yn ganolog i alwad Plaid Cymru am strategaeth adfywio integredig a chynhwysfawr i'r Cymoedd. Mae arnom angen strategaeth luosganolog a fydd yn denu ac yn cadw pobl yn y Cymoedd ac yn peri eu bod yn dymuno ymweld â'r lle a gweithio, byw ac wedyn ffynnu yno.

Mae'r Cymoedd a thrigolion y Cymoedd yn haeddu cael eu blaenoriaethu, oherwydd bod ganddynt gymaint o botensial. Dro ar ôl tro, caf fy ngwahodd i seremonïau gwobrwyo i blant a phobl ifanc, sy'n cydnabod eu cyflawniadau a'u gwaith caled. Y plant hyn—gan gynnwys plant ysgol gynradd Pendyrus—yw deunydd crai dyfodol Cymru. Ein gwaith ni yw sicrhau y caiff eu holl botensial ei gyflawni.

Dyna weledigaeth Plaid Cymru. Mae'n weledigaeth sy'n ymestynnol, yn gynhwysol, yn realistig ac yn gyraeddadwy—os ydym o ddifrif ynghylch ei chyflawni.

Owen John Thomas: Mae'r Cymoedd wedi llwyddo i gadw eu systemau rheilffyrdd i raddau helaeth. A ydych yn cytuno y byddai gwasanaeth rheilffyrdd modern i'r Cymoedd yn rhoi i'r ardal yr hwb economaidd y mae arni ei hangen?

11:55 a.m.

Geraint Davies: Certainly. We need investment in our railways, and we need a fair share of the money that will be spent across Britain—it is estimated that £70 billion will be spent over the next 10 years. We should have a fair share of that, which is equivalent to £350 million a year if it is calculated according to the Barnett formula. If we get that fair share, we will have a first-class rail service, which is essential for the development of the Valleys.

We must prioritise this issue, or we will be guilty of perpetuating the same programme of neglect of successive London Governments over the decades. I ask Members to support the unamended motion.

Glyn Davies: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jonathan Morgan. Amendment 1: in point 1 replace ‘*of the South*’ with ‘*and in rural Wales*’.

I propose amendment 2. In point 2, after ‘*Valleys*’ and before ‘*to contribute*’, add ‘*and rural areas*’.

I propose amendment 4. In point 3, after ‘*Valleys*’ add ‘*and rural parts of Wales*’.

I propose amendment 5. In point 3, replace ‘*with clear targets for the number of extra jobs required*’ with:

and to revise the targets set in ‘A Winning Wales’ to realistic levels, according to the resources the Government of Wales is making available, and in light of new economic statistics that have been published.

I welcome Plaid Cymru’s choice of subject for debate today. Deprivation and social and economic disadvantage in the Valleys are hugely important issues. The subject has been discussed by the Assembly and other bodies for many years, and will appear again in future, I am sure. I welcome Geraint’s optimistic note when he opened his speech, and the reference to what can be achieved.

Geraint Davies: Yn sicr. Mae arnom angen buddsoddiad yn ein rheilffyrdd, ac mae arnom angen cyfran deg o’r arian a werir ledled Prydain—amcangyfrifir y caiff £70 biliwn ei wario dros y 10 mlynedd nesaf. Dylem gael cyfran deg o hynny, sy’n cyfateb i £350 miliwn y flwyddyn o’i chyfrif yn ôl fformiwla Barnett. Os cawn y gyfran deg honno, bydd gennym wasanaeth rheilffyrdd o’r radd flaenaf, sy’n hollbwysig i ddatblygiad y Cymoedd.

Rhaid inni flaenoriaethu’r mater hwn, neu byddwn yn euog o barhau â’r un rhaglen o esgeulustod a gafwyd gan y naill Lywodraeth ar ôl y llall yn Llundain dros y degawdau. Gofynnaf i’r Aelodau gefnogi’r cynnig heb ei ddiwygio.

Glyn Davies: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jonathan Morgan. Gwelliant 1: ym mhwynt 1 rhoi ‘*yn y cymoedd diwydiannol ac yng nghefn gwlad Cymru*’ yn lle ‘*yng nghymoedd diwydiannol y De*’.

Cynigiau welliant 2. Ym mhwynt 2 ar ôl ‘*y Cymoedd*’ a chyn ‘*i gyfrannu’n llawn*’ rhoi ‘*ac ardaloedd gwledig*’.

Cynigiau welliant 4. Ym mhwynt 3 ar ôl ‘*i’r Cymoedd*’ rhoi ‘*ac ardaloedd gwledig Cymru*’.

Cynigiau welliant 5. Ym mhwynt 3, disodli ‘*gyda thargedau clir ar gyfer y swyddi ychwanegol sydd eu hangen*’ gyda:

a bod y targedau a osodwyd yn ‘Cymru’n Ennill’ yn cael eu hadolygu i lefelau realistig sy’n cyfateb i’r adnoddau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru’n eu darparu, ac yng ngoleuni ystadegau economaidd newydd sydd wedi’u cyhoeddi.

Croesawaf ddewis Plaid Cymru o bwnc i’w drafod heddiw. Mae amddifadedd ac anfantais gymdeithasol ac economaidd yn y Cymoedd yn faterion aruthrol o bwysig. Mae’r pwnc wedi’i drafod gan y Cynulliad a chyrrff eraill am flynyddoedd lawer, a bydd yn codi eto yn y dyfodol, yr wyf yn siŵr. Croesawaf nodyn gobeithiol Geraint ar ddechrau’i araith, a’r cyfeiriad at yr hyn y

That was a good note on which to begin his contribution.

I first realised the scale of the problems facing the south Wales Valleys when I had a serious discussion with Peter Walker, probably in the 1980s, when the Team Wales approach that he was developing was coming together. He identified the regeneration of the Valleys as the biggest problem that was then facing Wales. Since then, more problems have arisen for the Valleys as jobs in the main industries have disappeared.

The root of the problem is the restructuring of the economy. Substantial numbers of jobs have been lost as the coal and steel industries have disappeared from the Valleys, and there is a real chance that that will continue. The First Minister made reference in his statement today that perhaps changes in the steel industry are not yet finished. I am sure that he is right and that we will revisit this issue in the future.

Economic restructuring has happened in other areas of the Welsh economy. In north Wales, quarrying jobs have been lost. We have seen deprivation in places like Blaenau Ffestiniog, which has had the same sort of problems. Recently—and it is continuing—we have had restructuring in the agriculture industry in Wales. It is because that is happening now, before the eyes of those who live and participate in rural Wales, that we have tabled our amendments. I want to link those problems to the problems existing in the Valleys.

Earlier today, in a question to the Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business, Peter Rogers referred to the number of young people who continue to have to leave rural Wales. In his response, the Minister was quite right to refer to the fact that young people have always left rural Wales. Indeed, they leave the Valleys. We want to change the situation whereby they have to leave the Valleys. If they leave by choice, that is all well and good. That will always happen. However, we do not want them to have to leave.

gellir ei gyflawni. Yr oedd hwnnw'n ddechrau da i'w gyfraniad.

Sylweddolais faint y problemau sy'n wynebu Cymoedd y De'n gyntaf pan gefais drafodaeth o ddifrif â Peter Walker, yn y 1980au yn ôl pob tebyg, pan oedd y dull Tîm Cymru yr oedd yn ei ddatblygu yn dwyn ffrwyth. Nododd mai adfywio'r Cymoedd oedd y broblem fwyaf a wynebai Gymru bryd hynny. Ers hynny, mae mwy o broblemau wedi dod i ran y Cymoedd wrth i swyddi yn y prif ddiwydiannau ddiplannu.

Gwraidd y broblem yw ailstrwythuro'r economi. Collwyd niferoedd mawr o swyddi wrth i'r diwydiannau glo a dur ddiplannu o'r Cymoedd, ac mae gwir bosibiliad y bydd hynny'n parhau. Cyfeiriodd Prif Weinidog Cymru yn ei ddatganiad heddiw at y ffaith ei bod yn bosibl nad yw'r newidiadau yn y diwydiant dur ar ben eto. Yr wyf yn sicr ei fod yn iawn ac y byddwn yn rhoi sylw i'r mater hwn eto yn y dyfodol.

Mae ailstrwythuro economaidd wedi digwydd mewn rhannau eraill o economi Cymru. Yn y Gogledd, collwyd swyddi yn y chwareli. Gwelsom amddifadedd mewn mannau fel Blaenau Ffestiniog, sydd wedi profi'r un math o broblemau. Yn ddiweddar—ac mae hyn yn parhau—cawsom ailstrwythuro yn y diwydiant amaethyddiaeth yng Nghymru. Oherwydd bod hynny'n digwydd yn awr, o flaen llygaid y rhai sy'n byw ac yn chwarae rhan yn y Gymru wledig, yr ydym wedi cyflwyno'n gwelliannau. Dymunaf gysylltu'r problemau hynny â'r rhai a geir yn y Cymoedd.

Yn gynharach heddiw, mewn cwestiwn i'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a Threfnydd y Cynulliad, cyfeiriodd Peter Rogers at y nifer o bobl ifanc sy'n dal i orfod gadael y Gymru wledig. Yn ei ymateb, yr oedd y Gweinidog yn gwbl gywir wrth gyfeirio at y ffaith bod pobl ifanc yn gadael y Gymru wledig erioed. Yn wir, maent yn gadael y Cymoedd. Yr ydym am newid y sefyllfa sy'n golygu eu bod yn gorfod gadael y Cymoedd. Os ydynt yn gadael o'u dewis, mae hynny'n berffaith iawn. Bydd hynny'n digwydd bob amser. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym am iddynt orfod gadael.

Plaid Cymru's motion asserts, under point 2: Mae cynnig Plaid Cymru yn datgan, o dan bwynt 2:

'its belief that these problems can be overcome, thereby releasing the potential of the Valleys to contribute fully once again to the economic, social and cultural prosperity of Wales.'

'ei hyder bod modd datrys y problemau yma a rhyddhau potensial y Cymoedd i gyfrannu'n llawn unwaith eto at lewyrch economaidd, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol Cymru.'

That is right, but to assert that and to suggest that it can be achieved in the short term is too ambitious. With this problem, reversing the situation and creating what I believe can be created will take decades. It will take a long time and there is no point our pretending otherwise.

Mae hynny'n iawn, ond mae datgan hynny ac awgrymu y gellir ei gyflawni yn y tymor byr yn rhy uchelgeisiol. Yn achos y broblem hon, bydd gwrthdroi'r sefyllfa a chreu'r hyn y credaf fod modd ei greu yn cymryd degawdau. Bydd yn cymryd amser hir ac nid oes diben cymryd arnom fel arall.

I have some difficulty with the reference in Plaid Cymru's motion to numerical targets. They are always a double-edged sword. I agree with the sentiment, because in this Chamber I have often accused the First Minister of leading a Cardiff-centric Government. The intention, in setting numerical targets, is to redress that. However, such targets introduce a degree of inflexibility. I recall from my previous jobs that setting numerical targets sometimes leads to taking decisions disadvantageous to Wales, which you would not otherwise have taken. That interferes with the balance that must always be struck between maximising opportunity and meeting the demands and needs of the national economy.

Yr wyf yn anfodlon braidd ar y cyfeiriad yng nghynnig Plaid Cymru at dargedau rhif. Maent yn gleddyf deufiniog o hyd. Cytunaf â'r teimlad, oherwydd yr wyf wedi cyhuddo Prif Weinidog Cymru'n aml yn y Siambr hon o arwain Llywodraeth Gaerdydd-ganolog. Y bwriad, wrth osod targedau rhif, yw unioni'r fantol. Fodd bynnag, mae targedau o'r fath yn cyflwyno rhywfaint o anhyblygrwydd. Cofiaf o'm swyddi blaenorol fod gosod targedau rhif yn arwain weithiau at wneud penderfyniadau sy'n anfaenteisiol i Gymru, na fydddech wedi'u gwneud fel arall. Mae hynny'n ymyrryd â'r cydbwysedd y mae'n rhaid ei gael bob amser rhwng amlychau cyfleoedd a diwallu gofynion ac anghenion yr economi genedlaethol.

My final point is on our amendment 5. We are not calling for fewer resources to be invested—that is not the point. We are challenging the veracity of our national economic development strategy, where we have set achievement figures but have not invested funds to enable those figures to be achieved. We want to see ambitious targets developed, but our concern is that a strategy with such unrealistic figures loses its value and the respect of Welsh people, and does not help us to achieve what we want.

Mae fy mhwynt olaf yn ymwneud â gwelliant 5 o'n heiddo. Nid ydym yn galw am fuddsoddi llai o adnoddau—nid dyna'r pwynt. Yr ydym yn herio cywirdeb ein strategaeth datblygu economaidd genedlaethol, lle'r ydym wedi gosod ffigurau cyflawniad ond heb fuddsoddi arian fel y gellir gwireddu'r ffigurau hynny. Yr ydym am weld datblygu targedau uchelgeisiol, ond ein pryder yw bod strategaeth a chanddi ffigurau mor afrealistig yn colli ei gwerth ac yn colli parch pobl Cymru, ac nad yw'n ein helpu i gyflawni'r hyn y mae arnom ei eisiau.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I will now call on the First Minister to propose amendments 3 and 6 in the name of Carwyn Jones.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf yn awr ar Brif Weinidog Cymru i gynnig gwelliannau 3 a 6 yn enw Carwyn Jones.

The First Minister: I withdraw amendments

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Tynnaf yn ôl

3 and 6 tabled in the name of Carwyn Jones.

welliannau 3 a 6 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Carwyn Jones.

Janet Davies: We all know that different valleys have got different problems, but they all suffer from the same key barrier to economic growth—a restrictive infrastructure. The main constraints that I see in the Valleys are accessibility and transport, ageing factory premises, an embryonic ICT structure, and the legacy of contaminated land.

Janet Davies: Yr ydym oll yn gwybod bod problemau gwahanol gan wahanol gymoedd, ond maent oll yn dioddef gan yr un rhwystr allweddol i dwf economaidd—seilwaith cyfyngiadol. Y prif gyfyngiadau a welaf fi yn y Cymoedd yw hygyrchedd a thrafnidiaeth, adeiladau ffatri hen, strwythur TGCh sydd yn ei ddyddiau cynnar, a'r tir difwynedig a adawyd i ni.

I will concentrate on accessibility and transport in my constituency of South Wales West. Although we hear a great deal about the eastern and the central Valleys—and rightly so—the further west you go, the greater the distance from the major markets of the European Union, and the greater the difficulties in keeping established industry and establishing new industry.

Canolbwyntiaf ar hygyrchedd a thrafnidiaeth yn fy etholaeth i, sef Gorllewin De Cymru. Er ein bod yn clywed llawer iawn am y Cymoedd dwyreiniol a chanolog—a hynny'n gwbl briodol—po bellaf i'r gorllewin yr ewch, pellaf yn y byd yr ydych o brif farchnadoedd yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, a mwyaf yr anawsterau wrth gadw diwydiant sefydledig a sefydlu diwydiant newydd.

It is important to identify the problems, and over the years there has been exhaustive analysis. It is also important to lay the foundations of a strategy, to overcome the existing challenges and pre-empt any new ones. Overwhelmingly, it is important now to translate strategy into practical solutions, building confidence and producing prosperity for Valleys towns and villages.

Mae'n bwysig adnabod y problemau, a thros y blynyddoedd cafwyd dadansoddi cynhwysfawr. Mae hefyd yn bwysig gosod sylfaen i strategaeth, er mwyn goresgyn yr heriau presennol ac achub y blaen ar rai newydd sy'n codi. Yn fwy na dim, mae'n bwysig bellach troi strategaeth yn atebion ymarferol, gan feithrin hyder a chreu ffyniant i drefi a phentrefi'r Cymoedd.

I refer to the new labour market statistics. It is distressing to see that across Wales, 0.5 million people of working age are economically inactive. In Neath Port Talbot, 37 per cent of people are economically inactive. That is a cause for concern. I emphasise that these are Labour Government figures. There is a column which refers to people who do not want to work—

Cyfeiriaf at yr ystadegau marchnad lafur newydd. Testun gofid yw gweld bod 0.5 miliwn o bobl o oed gweithio ledled Cymru yn economaidd anweithredol. Yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot, mae 37 y cant o'r bobl yn economaidd anweithredol. Mae hynny'n peri pryder. Pwysleisiaf mai ffigurau'r Llywodraeth Lafur yw'r rhain. Mae colofn sy'n cyfeirio at rai nad ydynt yn dymuno gweithio—

Brian Gibbons: I am pleased that Janet has mentioned the situation in Neath Port Talbot, because if all the key agencies are to tackle these problems, they need a lot of local resources. In Neath Port Talbot, your party opposed the council tax increase needed to create the necessary funding for tackling the problems that you highlight.

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn falch bod Janet wedi sôn am y sefyllfa yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot, oherwydd os yw'r holl brif asiantaethau i ymdrin â'r problemau hyn, mae arnynt angen llawer o adnoddau lleol. Yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot, fe wrthwynebodd eich plaid chi y cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor yr oedd ei angen i greu'r arian angenrheidiol i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau yr ydych yn tynnu sylw atynt.

Janet Davies: Council tax is only a small proportion of local government spending. Most of it comes from the UK central Government. People who live in Port Talbot are concerned about the council tax. Having to cope with such high levels of council tax does not help the local economy.

Turning to the issues of accessibility and transport, it is crucial that we use lateral thinking that takes the existing situations into consideration, learns lessons from areas outside and inside Wales, gives a high priority to environmental needs and is realistic about the finance available.

Most of us drive up and down the narrow and winding Valley roads frequently, and we find isolated residential areas some way from any employment premises. The only answer to much of this is good public transport, which may require some road improvements. We must also call for off-street car parking, because Members who travel up and down the Omore and Garw valleys know that if you meet a bus you may have to reverse a quarter of a mile because the roads are so narrow. That is in areas of high residential development.

12:05 p.m.

The issue of weak bridges is often ignored. We must ensure that buses and goods vehicles can get to communities like Pontwalby. Dedicated cycle paths to overcome the dangers of mixed traffic are important, and this can deliver on three targets: improving accessibility, reducing pollution and encouraging exercise for health reasons.

However, the potential for tourism in the exciting Valleys landscape is also high. In addition to producing varied and valuable jobs, we must also improve the environment and social opportunities for local inhabitants and visitors. In the upper Afan valley, for example, two major schemes are under consideration—one is privately funded to set up a major tourism development similar to Center Parcs, and the other is a public

Janet Davies: Dim ond cyfran fach o wariant llywodraeth leol yw'r dreth gyngor. Daw'r rhan fwyaf ohono o Lywodraeth ganolog y DU. Mae trigolion Port Talbot yn bryderus ynghylch y dreth gyngor. Nid yw gorfod ymdopi â lefelau mor uchel o dreth gyngor o gymorth i'r economi leol.

Gan droi at faterion hygyrchedd a thrafnidiaeth, mae'n hollbwysig inni feddwl yn ochrol mewn modd sy'n ystyried y sefyllfaoedd presennol, yn dysgu gwersi oddi wrth ardaloedd yng Nghymru a'r tu allan iddi, yn rhoi blaenoriaeth uchel i anghenion amgylcheddol ac sy'n realistig ynghylch y cyllid sydd ar gael.

Mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn gyrru i fyny ac i lawr ffyrdd trofaus y Cymoedd yn aml, a theithiwn drwy ardaloedd preswyl diarffordd sy'n eithaf pell o unrhyw safleoedd cyflogaeth. Yr unig ateb i lawer o hyn yw trafndiaeth gyhoeddus dda, a gellid bod angen gwelliannau ffyrdd i wireddu hynny. Rhaid inni hefyd alw am fannau parcio oddi ar y stryd i geir, oherwydd fe w'yr yr Aelodau sy'n teithio i fyny ac i lawr cymoedd Ogwr a Garw fod rhaid ichi facio'n ôl chwarter milltir efallai os ydych yn cwrdd â bws am fod y ffyrdd mor gul. Mae hynny mewn ardaloedd lle y mae llawer o ddatblygiadau preswyl.

Anwybyddir mater pontydd gwan yn aml. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod bysiau a cherbydau nwyddau'n gallu cyrraedd cymunedau fel Pontwalby. Mae'n bwysig cael llwybrau beicio pwrpasol i osgoi peryglon traffig cymysg, a gall hynny gyfrannu at dri tharged: gwella hygyrchedd, lleihau llygredd ac annog ymarfer am resymau iechyd.

Fodd bynnag, mae'r potensial i dwristiaeth yng nhirwedd gyffrous y Cymoedd yn fawr hefyd. Yn ogystal â chreu swyddi amrywiol a gwerthfawr, rhaid inni hefyd wella'r amgylchedd a'r cyfleoedd cymdeithasol i'r trigolion lleol ac i ymwelwyr. Yng nghwm Afan uchaf, er enghraifft, mae dau gynllun mawr yn cael eu hystyried—mae un wedi'i ariannu'n breifat i sefydlu datblygiad twristiaeth mawr tebyg i Center Parcs, ac

initiative to develop a forest park. That area has suffered badly from colliery closures in the 1960s and 1970s, exceedingly poor roads and the loss of the railway. Anything that could improve job prospects there is welcome.

However, tourism developments catering for well-heeled visitors and ignoring local needs—with the exception of low-paid jobs—would only be of limited benefit. We must ensure that developments are as effective as possible, and that they relieve local needs as well as bringing other elements into the Valleys. Using local knowledge, building confidence and developing abilities is not an option for the Valleys—it is a must.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I appeal for brief speeches. I warn Members that I do not think that I will be able to call all those who want to contribute to this debate. I will try to call as many as possible.

Gwenda Thomas: It is difficult for me to support this motion, because it is tabled by the Welsh nationalist party, Plaid Cymru. Some Plaid Cymru Members have shown such insensitivity towards the feelings of the residents of Glynneath in the Neath valley that they are seen as totally out of touch with the people of that industrial valley. There was no support for UDI there, and it is important that I flag that up. The Labour-led Welsh Assembly Government, through various initiatives, has shown a firm commitment to the regeneration of industrial valleys. This motion is yet another attempt to portray Plaid Cymru as a party for the whole of Wales, when we know that in reality it is being torn apart from within, particularly on the issue of social and cultural prosperity. How does Plaid Cymru—some of whose Members wish to be called Welsh nationalists—think that the Welsh economy would perform if the divisive and dangerous views of some of its Members were ever to be implemented as policies in our country?

Brian Hancock: To reply to one of Gwenda's points, it is strange, given that

mae'r llall yn fenter gyhoeddus i ddatblygu parc coedwig. Mae'r ardal honno wedi dioddef yn ddrwg oherwydd cau glofeydd yn y 1960au a'r 1970au, ffyrdd gwael iawn a cholli'r rheilffordd. Mae unrhywbeth a allai wella'r rhagolygon swyddi yno i'w groesawu.

Er hynny, dim ond budd cyfyngedig y byddid yn ei gael o ddatblygiadau twristiaeth sy'n darparu ar gyfer ymwelwyr cefnog ac yn anwybyddu anghenion lleol—heblaw am ddarparu swyddi â thâl isel. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod datblygiadau mor effeithiol ag y bo modd, a'u bod yn lliniaru anghenion lleol yn ogystal â dod ag elfennau eraill i'r Cymoedd. Nid dim ond dewis yw defnyddio gwybodaeth leol, meithrin hyder a datblygu galluoedd i'r Cymoedd—mae'n rheidrwydd.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Apeliaf am areithiau byr. Rhybuddiaf yr Aelodau nad wyf yn credu y bydd modd imi alw pawb sy'n dymuno cyfrannu i'r ddadl hon. Ceisiaf alw cynifer ag y bo modd.

Gwenda Thomas: Mae'n anodd imi gefnogi'r cynnig hwn, oherwydd fe'i cyflwynwyd gan blaid genedlaethol Cymru, Plaid Cymru. Mae rhai Aelodau o Blaid Cymru wedi amlygu'r fath ansensitifrwydd tuag at deimladau trigolion Glyn-nedd yng nghwm Nedd fel y bernir eu bod wedi colli pob cysylltiad â phobl y cwm diwydiannol hwnnw. Nid oedd cefnogaeth i ddatganiad unochrog o annibyniaeth yno, ac mae'n bwysig imi dynnu sylw at hynny. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, dan arweiniad Llafur, wedi dangos ymrwymiad cadarn i adfywio'r cymoedd diwydiannol drwy amryw o fentrau. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn ymdrech arall eto i bortreadu Plaid Cymru'n blaid i Gymru gyfan, a ninnau'n gwybod ei bod yn cael ei rhwygo'n ddarnau o'r tu mewn, yn enwedig ar fater ffyniant cymdeithasol a diwylliannol. Sut y mae Plaid Cymru—y mae rhai o'i Haelodau'n dymuno cael eu galw'n genedlaetholwyr Cymreig—yn credu y perfformiai economi Cymru os câi barnau dadunol a pheryglus rhai o'i Haelodau eu rhoi ar waith byth fel polisïau yn ein gwlad?

Brian Hancock: Er mwyn ymateb i un o bwyntiau Gwenda, mae'n rhyfedd, o ystyried

Labour has been in control for so many years in Wales, that we achieved Objective 1 status. To have achieved GDP per capita of lower than 75 per cent of the European average makes me wonder what the hell was going on, if you will pardon the expression.

It is important that we consider the issues. Unemployment in Wales is falling; that is interesting. The number of people claiming job seekers allowance has fallen by 7,000 in the last 12 months. That sounds good. It has happened despite thousands of job losses in manufacturing in 2001, most notably the jobs of 3,000 steelworkers in Llanwern and Port Talbot. It is notable that, in Caerphilly County Borough Council—of which Islwyn is about a half—3,000 jobs have been lost, mainly high-skilled and well-paid jobs in manufacturing. Corus and Alcan workers do not necessarily live in the counties where the factories are located. That has a knock-on effect and that wider implication must be recognised. The five counties regeneration framework is welcome in some respects, but it is a reward that results from the UK Government selling off manufacturing and steel industries. I welcome the fact that we have got this far but, at the same time, I wonder why a similar taskforce was not set up after the coal mining industry failed. The Coalfield Communities Campaign has repeatedly asked for such a taskforce. The regeneration framework is better late than never—*gwell hwyr na hwyrach*—and does, at long last, recognise years of underfunding.

Figures may reveal that unemployment levels are falling but the percentage of people of working age not in work is high in many parts of Wales. For example, Merthyr Tydfil's official unemployment rate of 7 per cent is low compared with figures in previous years. However, the percentage of people of working age in employment is only 54.6 per cent—18,000 out of 32,000. This hidden unemployment includes people who are out of work for long periods due to illness. Why is there so much illness? It is because of the heavy industries that we have had for years.

bod Llafur yn rheoli ers cynifer o flynyddoedd yng Nghymru, ein bod wedi sicrhau statws Amcan 1. Mae'r ffaith ein bod wedi sicrhau cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen sy'n is na 75 y cant o'r cyfartaledd Ewropeaidd yn peri imi feddwl tybed beth gythraul a oedd yn mynd ymlaen, os maddeuwch y geiriau.

Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried y materion sy'n codi. Mae diweithdra yng Nghymru'n disgyn; mae hynny'n ddiddorol. Mae'r nifer sy'n hawlio lwfans ceisio gwaith wedi disgyn 7,000 yn y 12 mis diwethaf. Mae hynny'n swnio'n dda. Mae wedi digwydd er gwaethaf y miloedd o golledion swyddi yn y diwydiant gweithgynhyrchu yn 2001, yn fwyaf arbennig swyddi 3,000 o weithwyr dur yn Llanwern a Port Talbot. Mae'n drawiadol bod 3,000 o swyddi wedi'u colli yn ardal Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili—y mae Islwyn yn ffurfio tua hanner ohoni—a'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn rhai tra medrus â thâl uchel mewn gweithgynhyrchu. Nid yw gweithwyr Corus ac Alcan o reidrwydd yn byw yn y siroedd lle y mae'r ffatrioedd. Caiff hynny effaith gynyddol a rhaid cydnabod y goblygiad ehangach hwnnw. Mae fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir i'w groesawu o ran rhai agweddau, ond mae'n wobwr sy'n ganlyniad i werthu'r diwydiannau gweithgynhyrchu a dur gan Lywodraeth y DU. Croesawaf y ffaith ein bod wedi cyrraedd mor bell â hyn ond, ar yr un pryd, yr wyf yn meddwl tybed pam na sefydlwyd tasglu tebyg ar ôl methiant y diwydiant cloddio glo. Mae Ymgyrch Cymunedau'r Meysydd Glo wedi gofyn dro ar ôl tro am dasglu o'r fath. Mae'n well cael y fframwaith adfywio'n hwyr nac yn hwyrach ac mae, o'r diwedd, yn cydnabod y blynyddoedd o danariannu.

Efallai fod y ffigurau'n dangos bod diweithdra'n disgyn ond mae'r ganran o bobl o oed gweithio nad ydynt mewn gwaith yn uchel mewn llawer rhan o Gymru. Er enghraifft, mae cyfradd diweithdra swyddogol Merthyr Tudful o 7 y cant yn isel o'i chymharu â'r ffigurau yn y blynyddoedd blaenorol. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r ganran o bobl o oed gweithio sydd mewn cyflogaeth ond yn 54.6 y cant—18,000 o 32,000. Mae'r diweithdra cudd hwn yn cynnwys rhai sy'n ddi-waith am gyfnodau hir oherwydd salwch. Pam y mae cymaint o salwch? Mae

oherwydd y diwydiannau trwm sydd gennym ers blynyddoedd.

The Assembly Government needs to guarantee that job creation targets seek to ensure that the variations in levels of employment across Wales are evened out. Fifty-nine per cent of people of working age in Blaenau Gwent are in employment. In Powys the figure is 80 per cent. These official figures reveal a huge under-utilisation of human resources in the Valleys. The Government of Wales has stated its ambition to create 135,000 new jobs by 2012. Half of those need to be in the Valleys. We need regional job targets to be able to monitor the extent to which new jobs are being created in those areas of most need. Of course, we need high quality new jobs. We have seen examples in Wales of long-standing manufacturing jobs being lost and replaced by low quality, often short-term jobs.

Between September 2000 and September 2001, the average wage of a full-time employee in Wales had fallen from 87.6 per cent of the UK average to 86 per cent. The need for high-skill employment in Wales has become somewhat of a buzzword phrase. It needs to become a reality if the decline in many of our Valleys communities is to be reversed.

It is said that entrepreneurship does not exist in the Valleys. I do not believe that. It is easy to find many skilled self-employed people in the Valleys. Many of them are working in the black economy. Furthermore, according to the Department of Trade and Industry's figures, 66 per cent of all firms in Wales do not have employees. We need schemes to promote small companies to take on, train and up-skill in order to benefit the whole economy, as well as those small companies. Producing strong, sustainable, locally based and developed small and medium-sized enterprises supported by an increased start-up growth and survival rate should be a key policy objective. We need to make those working in the black economy proud of themselves, their skills and the contribution that they could make to the community and the economy and to bring many more of them

Rhaid i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad roi sicrwydd y bydd y targedau creu swyddi'n ceisio gwastatáu'r amrywiadau yn y lefelau cyflogaeth ledled Cymru. Mae 59 y cant o'r bobl o oed gweithio ym Mlaenau Gwent mewn gwaith. Ym Mhowys mae'r ffigur yn 80 y cant. Mae'r ffigurau swyddogol hyn yn amlygu tanddefnyddio aruthrol ar adnoddau dynol yn y Cymoedd. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi datgan ei huchelgais i greu 135,000 o swyddi newydd erbyn 2012. Rhaid i hanner y rheini fod yn y Cymoedd. Mae arnom angen targedau swyddi rhanbarthol er mwyn gallu monitro'r graddau y creir swyddi newydd yn yr ardaloedd hynny sydd â'r angen mwyaf. Wrth gwrs, mae arnom angen swyddi newydd o ansawdd da. Gwelsom enghreifftiau yng Nghymru o golli swyddi gweithgynhyrchu hirsefydlog a chael swyddi o ansawdd isel, sy'n rhai tymor byr yn aml, yn eu lle.

Rhwng Medi 2000 a Medi 2001, yr oedd cyflog cyfartalog gweithiwr llawn amser yng Nghymru wedi gostwng o 87.6 y cant o gyfartaledd y DU i 86 y cant. Mae'r angen am gyflogaeth dra medrus yng Nghymru wedi dod yn ymadrodd ffasiynol. Rhaid iddo gael ei wireddu os yw'r dirywiad yn llawer o'n cymunedau yn y Cymoedd i'w wrthdroi.

Dywedir nad yw entrepreneuriaeth yn bodoli yn y Cymoedd. Ni chredaf hynny. Mae'n hawdd canfod llawer o bobl hunangyflogedig medrus yn y Cymoedd. Mae llawer ohonynt yn gweithio yn yr economi ddu. Yn ogystal, yn ôl ffigurau'r Adran Diwydiant a Masnach, nid oes gan 66 y cant o'r holl fusnesau yng Nghymru weithwyr cyflogedig. Mae arnom angen cynlluniau i annog cwmnïau bach i gyflogi, hyfforddi a gwella sgiliau er budd yr economi gyfan, yn ogystal â'r cwmnïau bach hynny. Dylai fod yn amcan polisi allweddol i greu busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint sy'n gryf, yn gynaliadwy ac wedi'u lleoli a'u datblygu'n lleol gyda chyfradd cychwyn a goroesi uwch. Rhaid inni beri i'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn yr economi ddu ymfalchïo ynddynt eu hunain, eu sgiliau a'r cyfraniad y gallent ei roi i'r gymuned a'r economi a dod â llawer mwy ohonynt i gyflogaeth. Yr

into employment. I wanted to make other points, Dirprwy Lywydd, but I will stop there, given that time is short.

Janice Gregory: No-one would deny that the Valleys are suffering from unexpectedly high levels of deprivation and social exclusion. We are impatient, to say the least, to see regeneration and change. However what exactly does Plaid Cymru mean when it talks about releasing the potential of the Valleys to contribute fully once again to the economic, social and cultural prosperity of Wales? Are people in the Valleys somehow not contributing fully to Wales's economy, culture and society now? Plaid Cymru should visit my constituency and try telling that to those people who work in the steel industry in Port Talbot, those who work in the Princess of Wales hospital, saving the lives of others, or those who work in factories and shops in the constituency—

12:15 p.m.

Owen John Thomas *rose*—

Janice Gregory: I will give way in a moment. Plaid Cymru tried to tell this to the people in Ogmores on 14 February this year and the electorate firmly rejected its agenda.

Owen John Thomas: Do you not see that they cannot contribute fully when 40 per cent of people who could be in employment are unemployed? Is that not clear?

Janice Gregory: What is clear to me, Owen, is that there are more people in work in my constituency since Labour took office than there have been for the two previous decades. We need more jobs and there is much more work to be done. However, do not play down the important contribution that people are already making. There are youth clubs, rugby clubs, social clubs, old-age pensioner groups and community associations. Are they somehow not fully contributing to society? These people should be applauded, congratulated, supported and not run down by the party of nationalists. This Government supports these communities.

oeddw'n am wneud pwyntiau eraill, Ddirprwy Lywydd, ond deuaif i ben yn y fan honno, gan fod amser yn brin.

Janice Gregory: Ni fyddai neb yn gwadu bod y Cymoedd yn dioddef gan lefelau annisgwyl o uchel o amddifadedd ac allgáu cymdeithasol. Yr ydym yn dyheu, a dweud y lleiaf, am weld adfywio a newid. Fodd bynnag, beth yn union y mae Plaid Cymru'n ei olygu pan yw'n sôn am ryddhau potensial y Cymoedd i gyfrannu'n llawn eto at lewyrch economaidd, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol Cymru? Onid yw pobl yn y Cymoedd yn cyfrannu'n llawn at economi, diwylliant a chymdeithas Cymru'n awr? Dylai Plaid Cymru ymweld â'm hetholaeth a cheisio dweud hynny wrth y rhai sy'n gweithio yn y diwydiant dur ym Mhort Talbot, y rhai sy'n gweithio yn ysbyty Tywysoges Cymru, yn achub bywydau pobl eraill, neu'r rhai sy'n gweithio mewn ffatrioedd a siopau yn yr etholaeth—

Owen John Thomas *a gododd*—

Janice Gregory: Ildiaf ymhen eiliad. Ceisiodd Plaid Cymru ddweud hynny wrth y bobl yn Ogrwr ar 14 Chwefror eleni a gwrthododd yr etholwyr ei hagenda'n bendant.

Owen John Thomas: Onid ydych yn gweld na allant gyfrannu'n llawn pan yw 40 y cant o'r rhai a allai fod mewn gwaith yn ddi-waith? Onid yw hynny'n glir?

Janice Gregory: Yr hyn sy'n glir i mi, Owen, yw bod mwy o bobl mewn gwaith yn fy etholaeth i ers i Lafur ddod i rym nag a fu yn y ddau ddegawd blaenorol. Mae arnom angen mwy o swyddi ac mae llawer mwy o waith i'w wneud. Fodd bynnag, peidiwch â bychanu'r cyfraniad pwysig y mae pobl yn ei roi eisoes. Mae clybiau ieuenctid, clybiau rygbi, clybiau cymdeithasol, grwpiau pensiynwyr a chymdeithasau cymunedol. Onid ydynt yn cyfrannu'n llawn i gymdeithas? Dylid canmol y bobl hyn, eu llongyfarch, eu cefnogi ac ni ddylai plaid y cenedlaetholwyr eu bychanu. Mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn cefnogi'r cymunedau hyn.

Owen John Thomas: When?

Janice Gregory: If you will let me finish, I will tell you. That is why regional selective assistance grants from the Assembly Government have reached a seven-year record high—more than £139 million in the last financial year to create and sustain jobs. In my constituency, you need look no further than the Georgia-Pacific paper mills in Llangynwyd and GQ Parachutes Ltd in Blackmill to see this Government delivering the goods in terms of local jobs for local people. You need look no further than the Noddfa chapel project in Caerau to see this Government putting its money where its mouth is in terms of regenerating communities, and again delivering the goods. The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities is committed to tackling poverty and social exclusion—

Brian Gibbons: Will you also add to that, because it is important to my constituency and the village where I live, the Revlon factory called COSi, where 600 to 700 jobs were saved through regional support assistance from the National Assembly?

Janice Gregory: It was not that I did not want to mention COSi, but the list is so long in the Ogmere constituency, I could go on and on. For example, I could mention the call centre in Pencoed, but thank you, Brian, for bringing that to my attention. We all know that the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities is committed to tackling poverty and social exclusion through programmes such as Communities First and in partnership with the people who know best—the people on the ground. They know the realities and the challenges and how those challenges can be overcome. Our party is delivering more jobs, teachers, police officers, doctors and more nurses and will not be lectured by the party whose separatist agenda would mean an end to all of that. In my constituency, like my Labour colleagues, I will listen to and stand up for the people who count, namely the workers, the unemployed, pensioners and children. They, and not the nationalist party, understand what is going on in the Valleys and can contribute

Owen John Thomas: Pa bryd?

Janice Gregory: Os gadewch imi orffen, fe ddywedaf wrthyf. Dyna pam y mae'r grantiau cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol oddi wrth Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ar eu uchaf ers saith mlynedd—mwy na £139 miliwn yn y flwyddyn ariannol ddiwethaf i greu a chynnal swyddi. Yn fy etholaeth i, nid oes rhaid ichi edrych yn bellach na melinau papur Georgia-Pacific yn Llangynwyd a GQ Parachutes Cyf ym Melin Ifan Ddu i weld y Llywodraeth hon yn mynd â'r maen i'r wal o ran swyddi lleol i bobl leol. Nid oes rhaid ichi edrych yn bellach na phrosiect capel Noddfa yng Nghaerau i weld y Llywodraeth yn rhoi ei harian ar ei gair o ran adfywio cymunedau, ac yn mynd â'r maen i'r wal eto. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â thlodi ac allgáu cymdeithasol—

Brian Gibbons: A wnewch ychwanegu at hynny, oherwydd ei fod yn bwysig i'm hetholaeth i ac i'r pentref lle yr wyf yn byw, ffatri Revlon a elwir yn COSi, lle achubwyd 600 i 700 o swyddi drwy gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol oddi wrth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol?

Janice Gregory: Nid am nad oeddwn yn dymuno sôn am COSi yr oedd hynny, ond mae'r rhestr mor hir yn etholaeth Ogwr fel y gallwn fynd ymlaen ac ymlaen. Er enghraifft, gallwn sôn am y ganolfan alwadau ym Mhen-coed, ond diolch i chi, Brian, am ddod â hynny i'm sylw. Gwyddom oll fod y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â thlodi ac allgáu cymdeithasol drwy raglenni fel Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf ac mewn partneriaeth â'r rhai a wya orau—y bobl ar lawr gwlad. Gwyddant am y wir sefyllfa a'r heriau a sut y gellir ateb yr heriau hynny. Mae ein plaid yn dod â mwy o swyddi, athrawon, heddweision, meddygon a mwy o nyrsys ac ni chymerwn ein ceryddu gan y blaid y byddai ei hagenda ymwahanol yn golygu diwedd ar hynny i gyd. Yn fy etholaeth i, fel fy nghyd-Aelodau Llafur, byddaf yn gwrandao ar ac yn sefyll dros y rhai sy'n cyfrif, sef y gweithwyr, y di-waith, pensïynwyr a phlant. Hwy, ac nid plaid y cenedlaetholwyr, sy'n deall beth sy'n mynd

to Welsh society.

Pauline Jarman: I declare an interest as a member of Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. There is a grave responsibility on the National Assembly's shoulders to reinvent the south Wales industrial Valleys. Creating strong, vibrant, self-sufficient and prosperous communities is not only good for the Valleys—it is also key to a better future for the whole of Wales. We should grasp the opportunity to transform the economic, social and environmental fabric of our area over the next decade by working together. We must recognise that the causes and outcomes of the complex range of economic and social difficulties are linked for Valley residents. We all know that previous initiatives have not solved the chronic legacy of massive industrial decline following the demise of the coal industry in coalfield areas two decades ago. Much of the reason for that was that the intervention was short-term, cosmetic and uncoordinated. To make a real and lasting difference in the next decade, we need to integrate regeneration strategies and we need a dedicated Cabinet Minister to be accountable for its delivery. I will expect those disenchanted Labour Members who signed up to Labour's Valleys First pledge to be among those to support Plaid Cymru's motion. Otherwise, the public record will show that it was no more than a cruel piece of spin.

We need a strategic framework with a vision for the future prosperity of the Valleys. We need the targets and resources to realise that vision, and time is not on our side. The public is becoming increasingly impatient, and can be forgiven for that because it is a victim of circumstances that are not of its making. If you have lived all of your life in a community that has, for as long as you can remember, featured in the top 20 most deprived areas in Wales, you are entitled to ask why such severe structural economic and social problems should continue to haunt you. The sheer resilience of those communities amazes me. Wales has a unique opportunity to redress the problems of social exclusion, economic decline and

ymlaen yn y Cymoedd ac sy'n gallu cyfrannu i gymdeithas Cymru.

Pauline Jarman: Datganaf fuddiant fel aelod o Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf. Mae cyfrifoldeb dwys ar ysgwyddau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i ailddyfeisio Cymoedd diwydiannol y De. Bydd creu cymunedau cryf, bywiog, hunangynhaliol a llewyrchus nid yn unig o fudd i'r Cymoedd—mae hefyd yn allweddol i well dyfodol i Gymru gyfan. Dylem achub ar y cyfle i drawsnewid adeiledd economaidd, cymdeithasol ac amgylcheddol ein hardal dros y degawd nesaf drwy gydweithio. Rhaid inni gydnabod bod achosion a chanlyniadau'r amrediad cymhleth o anawsterau economaidd a chymdeithasol yn gysylltiedig yn achos trigolion y Cymoedd. Gwyddom oll nad yw'r mentrau blaenorol wedi datrys y dirywiad diwydiannol aruthrol parhaus a etifeddiwyd ar ôl tranc y diwydiant glo yn ardaloedd y meysydd glo ddau ddegawd yn ôl. Y rheswm am hynny, i raddau helaeth, oedd bod yr ymyriad yn un tymor byr, arwynebol ac anghydlynol. Er mwyn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol a pharhaol yn y degawd nesaf, rhaid inni integreiddio'r strategaethau adfywio ac mae arnom angen Gweinidog Cabinet neilltuol i fod yn atebol am ei gyflawni. Disgwyliaf y bydd yr Aelodau Llafur dadrithiedig hynny a danysgrifiodd i addewid Cymoedd yn Gyntaf Llafur ymysg y rhai a fydd yn cefnogi cynnig Plaid Cymru. Fel arall, bydd y cofnod cyhoeddus yn dangos nad oedd yn ddim mwy nag ychydig o sbin creulon.

Mae arnom angen fframwaith strategol gyda gweledigaeth ar gyfer ffyniant y Cymoedd yn y dyfodol. Rhaid inni gael y targedau a'r adnoddau i wireddu'r weledigaeth honno, ac nid yw amser o'n plaid. Mae'r cyhoedd yn mynd yn fwyfwy diamynedd, a gellir maddau iddynt am hynny oherwydd maent yn dioddef gan amgylchiadau nad ydynt o'u gwneuthuriad hwy. Os ydych wedi byw ar hyd eich oes mewn cymuned a fu, ers cyn cof, ymysg yr 20 ardal mwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru, mae gennych hawl i ofyn pam y dylai problemau economaidd a chymdeithasol strwythurol difrifol barhau i'ch plagio. Mae gwydnwch y cymunedau hynny'n rhyfeddod i mi. Mae gan Gymru gyfle unigryw i gywiro'r problemau o allgáu

environmental decay that are all too prevalent in Valleys communities, and we must maximise those opportunities.

Lynne Neagle: Do you agree with Simon Brooks, the Plaid Cymru candidate, that Valleys communities are essentially English because they do not speak Welsh?

Pauline Jarman: I am an English-speaking Welsh person, if that answers your question.

The Valleys can become more prosperous, offer a better quality of life for their people, and, at the same time, play a major role in the regeneration of the Welsh economy. However, without a single overarching strategy to tackle the problems, we are less likely to bring about the sustainable improvements needed to achieve that aim. People are entitled to high standards of housing and health, to live without the fear of crime and to participate in mainstream, economic and social activities, and any barriers that restrict those opportunities, or disadvantage individuals, must be removed.

The first part of the motion before Members is well rehearsed. The statistics on health, and other indicators of deprivation, speak volumes in defence of the need for the Government of Wales to concede and support the motion in its entirety—not for the sake of Plaid Cymru, but for the sake of the people of the Valleys.

Yesterday, the latest labour market statistics were published, and they revealed that the unemployment claimant count has fallen by 0.5 per cent in the last 12 months. This, however, does not present a fair picture of the state of the Welsh labour market. In February 2001, 17,000 young men, aged between 18 and 24, were economically inactive. By February 2002, this had risen to 37,000—an increase of 114 per cent during the last 12 months. This increase is most marked in the Valleys. Overall, there are approximately half a million people who are economically inactive in Wales. This is well over a quarter of the working age population in Wales. I was surprised to hear the First Minister describe Wales earlier today as a retirement area, and dismiss the need for further

cymdeithasol, dirywiad economaidd a dadfeilio amgylcheddol sydd mor gyffredin yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd, a rhaid i ni amlhau'r cyfleoedd hynny.

Lynne Neagle: A ydych yn cytuno â Simon Brooks, yr ymgeisydd Plaid Cymru, mai Seisnig yw cymunedau'r Cymoedd yn y bôn am nad ydynt yn siarad y Gymraeg?

Pauline Jarman: Cymraes Saesneg ei hiaith ydwyf, os yw hynny'n ateb i'ch cwestiwn.

Gall y Cymoedd ddod yn fwy llewyrchus, cynnig gwell ansawdd bywyd i'w pobl, a chwarae rhan fawr, ar yr un pryd, wrth adfywio economi Cymru. Fodd bynnag, heb gael un strategaeth gyffredinol i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau, yr ydym yn llai tebygol o gyflawni'r gwelliannau cynaliadwy sydd eu hangen i gyrraedd y nod honno. Mae gan bobl yr hawl i gael tai ac iechyd o safon uchel, i fyw heb ofn troseddu ac i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau economaidd a chymdeithasol prif ffrwd, a rhaid dileu unrhyw rwystrau sy'n cyfyngu ar y cyfleoedd hynny neu'n anfanteisio unigolion.

Mae'r rhan gyntaf o'r cynnig sydd gerbron yr Aelodau'n gyfarwydd. Mae'r ystadegau ar iechyd, a'r dangosyddion amddifadedd eraill, yn siarad cyfrolau o blaid yr angen i Lywodraeth Cymru ildio a chefnogi'r cynnig yn ei gyfanrwydd—nid er mwyn Plaid Cymru, ond er mwyn pobl y Cymoedd.

Ddoe, cyhoeddwyd yr ystadegau marchnad lafur diweddaraf, ac yr oeddent yn dangos bod y cyfrif o'r hawl wyr diweithdra wedi disgyn 0.5 y cant yn y 12 mis diwethaf. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n rhoi darlun teg o gyflwr marchnad lafur Cymru. Yn Chwefror 2001, yr oedd 17,000 o ddynion ifanc, rhwng 18 a 24 oed, yn economaidd anweithredol. Erbyn Chwefror 2002, yr oedd hynny wedi codi i 37,000—cynnydd o 114 y cant yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf. Mae'r cynnydd hwn yn fwyaf amlwg yn y Cymoedd. At ei gilydd, mae tua hanner miliwn o bobl sy'n economaidd anweithredol yng Nghymru. Mae hynny ymhell dros chwarter y boblogaeth o oed gweithio yng Nghymru. Yr oedd yn syndod imi glywed Prif Weinidog Cymru'n disgrifio Cymru'n gynharach

investment in employment as unrelated to Labour's health-spend agenda.

Brian Gibbons *rose*—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. The Member is not giving way.

Pauline Jarman: In light of the statistics announced yesterday, coupled with the First Minister's remarks this morning, the Government of Wales seems to have no aspiration to deal effectively and sympathetically with the issue of economic inactivity. Supporting the call for a dedicated Cabinet Minister will not harm the Government of Wales; rather, it will send a clear message to Valleys communities that their potential to contribute fully once again to the economic, social and cultural prosperity of Wales is acknowledged, is a priority and will be delivered.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I appeal again for short speeches.

Peter Black: I welcome that we are debating this matter once again. The subjects of Plaid Cymru's minority party debates can be unpredictable. It is always difficult to tell which wing of the party will prevail—the Simon Brooks north Wales tendency, or the economic realists from the south Wales Valleys, who want to distance themselves from that faction as much as possible?

The issues alluded to in this motion are important. We all agree that there are high levels of deprivation, social exclusion and economic underperformance in the south Wales Valleys. We are also agreed on many of the solutions, as is evidenced by the consensus that has developed around Communities First and the objectives of European funding programmes in those areas.

12:25 p.m.

Nick Bourne: I hate to stick up for Plaid Cymru but, as you are talking about its two

heddiw'n ardal ymddeol, ac yn wfftio at yr angen am fuddsoddi pellach mewn cyflogaeth fel rhywbeth nad oedd yn gysylltiedig ag agenda gwariant iechyd Llafur.

Brian Gibbons *a gododd*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Nid yw'r Aelod yn ildio.

Pauline Jarman: Yng ngolwg yr ystadegau a gyhoeddwyd ddoe, ynghyd â sylwadau Prif Weinidog Cymru y bore yma, mae'n ymddangos nad oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru unrhyw ddyhead i ddelio'n effeithiol ac yn gydymdeimladol â mater anweithgaredd economaidd. Ni fydd cefnogi'r alwad am Weinidog Cabinet neilltuol yn gwneud niwed i Lywodraeth Cymru; yn hytrach, bydd yn anfon neges groyw at gymunedau'r Cymoedd fod cydnabyddiaeth i'w potensial i gyfrannu'n llawn unwaith eto at ffyniant economaidd, cymdeithasol a diwylliannol Cymru, ei fod yn flaenoriaeth ac y caiff ei wireddu.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Apeliaf eto am areithiau byr.

Peter Black: Croesawaf y ffaith ein bod yn cael dadl ar y mater hwn unwaith eto. Gall pynciau dadleuon plaid leiafrifol Plaid Cymru fod yn anrhagweladwy. Mae bob amser yn anodd dweud pa adain o'r blaid a fydd yn drechaf—tueddiad gogledd Cymru Simon Brooks, neu'r realyddion economaidd o Gyomoedd y De, sydd am ymbellhau gymaint ag y bo modd o'r garfan honno?

Mae'r materion y cyfeirir atynt yn y cynnig hwn yn bwysig. Yr ydym oll yn cytuno bod lefelau uchel o amddifadedd, allgáu cymdeithasol a thanberfformiad economaidd yng Nghymoedd y De. Yr ydym hefyd yn gytún ar lawer o'r atebion, fel y dangosir gan y consensws a ddatblygodd ynghylch Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf ac amcanion y rhaglenni ariannu Ewropeaidd yn yr ardaloedd hynny.

Nick Bourne: Mae'n gas gennyf achub cam Plaid Cymru ond, gan eich bod yn sôn am ei

wings—at least it has two wings—where are all the Liberal Democrats? You are in the Chamber on your own.

Peter Black: You refer to that again now, but there are only two Conservatives here, which is the same thing.

The solutions proposed in this motion are tired, unoriginal and offer no more prospect of success than any of Plaid Cymru's other half-measures put forward in the past. It may have escaped Plaid Cymru's attention, but there are Cabinet members dedicated to tackling the problems of the Valleys. They are presiding over unprecedented investment through Objective 1, and the long-term community capacity building through Communities First, which is long overdue. Much work on job creation is already taking place through local Objective 1 partnerships and the Assembly's strategy. The WDA has been given increased funding to deal with these areas, while training and education is being co-ordinated through ELWa. Tourism sites such as Big Pit are bringing people and money into the area through free entry and extra money from the Wales Tourist Board. More may be needed, but this motion offers no ideas of how much or how it could be achieved.

The biggest failing of this motion, however, is the fact that it does not attempt to address the problem in the round. Although Geraint Davies alluded to them, the motion does not mention the huge health problems associated with the economic history of this area. The Welsh Assembly Government is tackling these problems with increased investment. Neither is there reference to the area's drugs problem, even though Geraint Davies—who also mentioned it earlier—and myself have raised it in the past.

The need for improved transport links, childcare and investment in education and housing are key to any strategy to deal with the problems of the south Wales Valleys. They form a central part of the Welsh Assembly Government strategy, but not, it seems, of Plaid Cymru's strategy as set out in

dwy adain—o leiaf y mae ganddi ddwy adain—ym mhle y mae'r holl Ddemocratiaid Rhyddfrydol? Yr ydych yn y Siambr ar eich pen eich hun.

Peter Black: Yr ydych yn cyfeirio at hynny eto'n awr, ond nid oes ond dau Geidwadwr yma, sy'n golygu'r un peth.

Mae'r atebion a gynigir yn y cynnig hwn yn dreuliedig, yn anweiddiol ac nid ydynt yn cynnig dim mwy o obaith o lwyddiant nag unrhyw un o gyfaddawdau eraill Plaid Cymru a gyflwynwyd yn y gorffennol. Efallai nad yw Plaid Cymru wedi sylwi, ond mae aelodau yn y Cabinet sy'n ymwneud yn benodol â mynd i'r afael â phroblemau'r Cymoedd. Maent yn arwain buddsoddi heb ei debyg o'r blaen drwy Amcan 1, a datblygu potensial cymunedol tymor hir drwy Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf, ac hen bryd, hefyd. Mae llawer o waith ar greu swyddi'n digwydd eisoes drwy bartneriaethau Amcan 1 lleol a strategaeth y Cynulliad. Mae'r WDA wedi cael mwy o gyllid i ddelio â'r ardaloedd hynny, a chydlynir addysg a hyfforddiant drwy ELWa. Mae safleoedd twristiaeth fel Pwll Mawr yn dod â phobl ac arian i'r ardal drwy roi mynediad am ddim ac arian ychwanegol o Fwrdd Croeso Cymru. Efallai y bydd angen mwy, ond nid yw'r cynnig hwn yn awgrymu unrhyw syniadau ynghylch faint neu sut y gellid ei gyflawni.

Diffyg pennaf y cynnig hwn, fodd bynnag, yw'r ffaith nad yw'n ceisio ystyried y broblem yn ei chyfanrwydd. Er bod Geraint Davies wedi cyfeirio atynt, nid yw'r cynnig yn sôn am y problemau iechyd enfawr sy'n gysylltiedig â hanes economaidd yr ardal hon. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n mynd i'r afael â'r problemau hynny drwy roi mwy o fuddsoddiad. Nid oes cyfeiriad ychwaith at broblem cyffuriau'r ardal, er bod Geraint Davies—a'i crybwyllodd yn gynharach hefyd—a minnau wedi'i chodi yn y gorffennol.

Mae'r angen am well cysylltiadau trafniadaeth, gofal plant a buddsoddiad mewn addysg a thai'n allweddol i unrhyw strategaeth i ddelio â phroblemau Cymoedd y De. Maent yn rhan ganolog o strategaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, ond nid, fe ymddengys, o strategaeth Plaid Cymru fel y'i

this motion.

It is always a matter of regret to me that, when talking about this important area, I must mention the Welsh Conservatives at all. However, their amendments illustrate how little they understand what is going on in the Valleys. Areas of deprivation in rural Wales have been recognised by European funding programmes and Communities First. Yet the scale of the deprivation is on a different plane to that found in these parts of south Wales. It is the Conservatives' failure to recognise this that led to the 18 years of neglect of the south Wales Valleys. Two vital decades have been lost forever, and we are still struggling to catch up.

Peter Rogers: One of the problems, which you do not understand, is that there are no indicators of deprivation in rural areas because the large majority of people are self-employed. Therefore, those figures do not come through. That must be addressed in order to appreciate the problem.

Peter Black: I am astonished by that claim, Peter, because there are many indicators and statistics for rural Wales, industrial Wales or any part of Wales, to determine the level of deprivation. All the indicators show that the levels of deprivation in the south Wales Valleys are markedly greater than those in rural Wales. I have recognised that there is deprivation in rural areas. We must distinguish between these areas in the way in which we allocate resources and deal with the problems. We must recognise that their problems are different and therefore require different solutions. That is why you cannot throw the problems of rural Wales into the debate on a motion such as this.

If we are to tackle the severe problems of poverty, unemployment, ill-health, poor housing and economic decline in the Valleys, we need to target resources effectively. We cannot do that by spreading the resources too thinly, nor can we adopt a strategy for the whole of Wales that does not recognise the differences of scale in different areas, as the Tories imply in their amendments. It is for these reasons that the Welsh Liberal

nodir yn y cynnig hwn.

Mae bob amser yn destun gofid i mi, wrth sôn am yr ardal bwysig hon, fod yn rhaid imi sôn am Geidwadwyr Cymru o gwbl. Fodd bynnag, mae eu gwelliannau'n dangos cyn lleied y maent yn ei ddeall am yr hyn sy'n mynd ymlaen yn y Cymoedd. Mae ardaloedd difreintiedig yn y Gymru wledig wedi'u cydnabod drwy'r rhaglenni ariannu Ewropeaidd a Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Eto, mae graddau'r amddifadedd ar lefel wahanol i'r hyn a geir yn y rhannau hyn o'r De. Methiant y Ceidwadwyr i gydnabod hynny a arweiniodd at y 18 mlynedd o esgeuluso Cymoedd y De. Collwyd dau ddegawd hollbwysig am byth, ac yr ydym yn dal i ymdrechu i oddiweddyd.

Peter Rogers: Un o'r problemau, nad ydych chi'n ei deall, yw nad oes dangosyddion amddifadedd yn yr ardaloedd gwledig am fod y mwyafrif helaeth yn hunangyflogedig. Felly, nid yw'r ffigurau hynny'n dod drwodd. Rhaid ymdrin â hynny er mwyn deall y broblem.

Peter Black: Yr wyf yn synnu at yr honiad hwnnw, Peter, oherwydd bod llawer o ddangosyddion ac ystadegau am y Gymru wledig, y Gymru ddiwydiannol neu unrhyw ran o Gymru, i bennu lefel yr amddifadedd. Mae'r holl ddangosyddion yn dangos bod y lefelau amddifadedd yng Nghymoedd y De'n sylweddol uwch na'r rhai yn y Gymru wledig. Yr wyf wedi cydnabod bod amddifadedd yn yr ardaloedd gwledig. Rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng yr ardaloedd hynny o ran y modd yr ydym yn dyrannu adnoddau ac yn delio â'r problemau. Rhaid inni gydnabod bod eu problemau'n wahanol ac felly'n gofyn am atebion gwahanol. Dyna pam na allwch daflu problemau'r Gymru wledig i'r ddadl ar gynnig fel hwn.

Os ydym i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau difrifol o ran tlodi, diweithdra, afiechyd, tai gwael a dirywiad economaidd yn y Cymoedd, rhaid inni dargedu adnoddau'n effeithiol. Ni allwn wneud hynny drwy daenu'r adnoddau'n rhy denau, ac ni allwn ychwaith fabwysiadu strategaeth i Gymru gyfan nad yw'n cydnabod y gwahaniaethau maint mewn gwahanol ardaloedd, fel y mae'r Toriaid yn ensynio yn eu gwelliannau. Am y

Democrat group will vote against this motion and the amendments.

Huw Lewis: I welcome this debate today, not—[*Interruption.*] With your patience, colleagues.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order.

Huw Lewis: I welcome this debate today, not because of its substance—because it has none—but because it highlights the ongoing contradiction at the heart of nationalist politics in our country. People in my constituency will see what this debate is about immediately. It does not illustrate a genuine commitment to delivering for the south Wales Valleys; it is designed to gain a quick headline. In essence, it is, in the true dictionary definition of the word ‘claptrap’. It is an insult to the intelligence of my constituents to believe that they will not realise that. If the last few weeks are anything to go by, Plaid Cymru still has a long way to go to convince the people of the Valleys that it is serious about these issues.

Phil Williams *rose*—

Huw Lewis: I am sorry, Phil, I do not have time to give way.

The last few weeks in the painful life of Plaid Cymru read like a political manual on how to execute a retreat from the Valleys to the north-west heartlands of that party. Step one: you withdraw your leader from the front line of the campaign in the Valleys and replace him with Dafydd Wigley. Presumably that will allow Ieuan and Dafydd—the two halves of the Plaid Cymru push-me-pull-you—to say different things to different parts of Wales. They have even managed to achieve that in this debate. It shows that they do not believe that they can win in the Valleys or anywhere else in 2003. Step two: you elect a vice-president with a remit to stem the haemorrhaging of members and supporters from your own party, underlining your party’s fears of losing its increasingly shaky foothold even in north-west Wales, let alone the Valleys. A tunesmith he may be, but he will have to whistle a happy tune indeed if he is to convince Valleys’ voters that he knows

rhesymau hyn y bydd grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru’n pleidleisio’n erbyn y cynnig hwn a’r gwelliannau.

Huw Lewis: Croesawaf y ddadl hon heddiw, nid—[*Torri ar draws.*] Os byddwch yn amyneddgar, gyd-Aelodau.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn.

Huw Lewis: Croesawaf y ddadl hon heddiw, nid oherwydd ei sylwedd—oherwydd nad oes dim ynddi—ond am ei bod yn tynnu sylw at y croesddywediad parhaus sydd yng nghanol gwleidyddiaeth y cenedlaetholwyr yn ein gwlad. Bydd y bobl yn fy etholaeth i’n sylweddoli’n syth beth yw ergyd y ddadl hon. Nid yw’n dangos gwir ymrwymiad i weithredu dros Gymoedd y De; ei bwriad yw ennill pennawd sydyn. Yn y bôn, dyma wir ddiffiniad geiriadurol o’r gair ‘lol’. Sarhad ar ddeallusrwydd fy etholwyr yw credu na fyddant yn sylweddoli hynny. Os gellir barnu’n ôl yr wythnosau diwethaf hyn, mae gan Blaid Cymru lawer i’w wneud eto cyn argyhoeddi pobl y Cymoedd ei bod o ddifrif ynghylch y materion hyn.

Phil Williams *a gododd*—

Huw Lewis: Mae’n ddrwg gennyf, Phil, nid oes gennyf amser i’w roi.

Mae’r wythnosau diwethaf hyn ym mywyd poenus Plaid Cymru’n darllen fel llawlyfr gwleidyddol ar y modd i encilio o’r Cymoedd i gadarnleoedd y blaid honno yn y Gogledd-orllewin. Cam un: yr ydych yn tynnu’ch arweinydd yn ôl o reng flaen yr ymgyrch yn y Cymoedd ac yn rhoi Dafydd Wigley yn ei le. Mae’n debyg y bydd hynny’n caniatáu i Ieuan a Dafydd—y ddau ben yng ngornest dynnu Plaid Cymru—ddweud gwahanol bethau wrth wahanol rannau o Gymru. Maent hyd yn oed wedi llwyddo i wneud hynny yn y ddadl hon. Mae’n dangos nad ydynt yn credu y gallant ennill yn y Cymoedd nac yn unman arall yn 2003. Cam dau: yr ydych yn ethol islywydd a chanddo’r cylch gwaith o atal y gwaedlif o aelodau a chefnogwyr o’ch plaid eich hun, sy’n tynnu sylw at ofnau’ch plaid o golli’i throedle mwyfwy ansicr hyd yn oed yn y Gogledd-orllewin, heb sôn am y Cymoedd. Efallai ei fod yn ganwr, ond bydd yn rhaid iddo ganu’n bert iawn os ydyw am

anything about the problems that they face. Finally, step three: you allow one of your approved candidates to peddle extremism and threaten unchallenged unlawful action against the institution to which he seeks election while your leader shows a complete lack of leadership, sits in his chair and says nothing. Today has only served to show the real internal problems that Plaid Cymru faces.

Cynog Dafis: A fyddai Huw yn cymeradwyo tynnu allan o restr ymgeiswyr y Blaid Lafur unrhyw berson a oedd yn cefnogi, o dan unrhyw amgylchiadau, ddefnyddio dulliau ymgyrchu anghyfreithlon?

Huw Lewis: The difference here is about whether we are engaged in democratic, grown-up politics. Of course there is a role for civil disobedience in political life. Usually, and sensibly, in areas where democracy has broken down: democracy has not broken down in this case. This character, Simon Brooks, has delivered his verdict on the Culture Committee's report before it has been published. He has already issued the call to arms before democracy has spoken and he seeks to be a democratically elected politician and represent people in our country—it is a disgrace.

Above all, today's resolution is a missed opportunity for Ieuan Wyn Jones, in particular to show that he is serious about the Valleys, because it avoids tough decisions and tough thoughts about redistribution. Calling for a strategy for the Valleys and not being prepared to give real priority and resources to those communities that have the greatest need is a redundant form of politics.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will you give way?

Huw Lewis: There is no time to give way.

Time and again, the nationalists have run away from the opportunity to redistribute on the local government spending assessment. They ran away and tried to engineer money

argyhoeddi pleidleiswyr y Cymoedd ei fod yn gwybod rhywbeth am y problemau y maent yn eu hwynebu. Yn olaf, cam tri: yr ydych yn caniatáu i un o'ch ymgeiswyr cymeradwyedig bedlera eithafiaeth a bygwth gweithredu anghyfreithlon diwrthwynebiad yn erbyn y sefydliad y mae'n ceisio cael ei ethol iddo tra bo'ch arweinydd yn dangos diffyg arweiniad llwyr, yn eistedd yn ei gadair ac yn dweud dim. Y cwbl a ddangoswyd heddiw yw'r problemau mewnol gwirioneddol y mae Plaid Cymru'n eu hwynebu.

Cynog Dafis: Would Huw approve of withdrawing from the list of Labour candidates any individual who supported using illegal campaigning methods under any circumstances?

Huw Lewis: Y gwahaniaeth yma yw a ydym yn cymryd rhan mewn gwleidyddiaeth aeddfed, ddemocrataidd. Mae rôl, wrth gwrs, i anufudd-dod sifil mewn bywyd gwleidyddol. Fel arfer, ac yn synhwyrol, mewn meysydd lle y mae democratiaeth wedi methu: nid yw democratiaeth wedi methu yn yr achos hwn. Mae'r cymeriad hwn, Simon Brooks, wedi traddodi ei ddedfryd ar adroddiad y Pwyllgor Diwylliant cyn ei gyhoeddi. Mae eisoes wedi galw i'r gad cyn i ddemocratiaeth lefaru ac mae'n ceisio bod yn wleidydd a etholir yn democrataidd a chynrychioli pobl yn ein gwlad—mae'n warth.

Yn fwy na dim, mae'r cynnig heddiw yn gyfle a gollwyd gan Ieuan Wyn Jones, yn benodol, i ddangos ei fod o ddifrif am y Cymoedd, oherwydd ei fod yn osgoi'r penderfyniadau anodd a'r ystyriaethau anodd ynghylch ailddosbarthu. Mae galw am strategaeth i'r Cymoedd a pheidio â bod yn barod i roi gwir flaenoriaeth ac adnoddau i'r cymunedau mwyaf anghenus yn wleidyddiaeth ofer.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnewch ildio?

Huw Lewis: Nid oes amser i ildio.

Dro ar ôl tro, mae'r cenedlaetholwyr wedi ffoi rhag y cyfle i ailddosbarthu ar yr asesiad gwariant llywodraeth leol. Gwnaethant gymryd y goes a cheisio trefnu bod arian yn

away from the Valleys and into their heartland communities in north Wales because of fear of losing support in those communities. We saw that happen with Communities First, when they tried to engineer money away from dozens of Valleys communities that now benefit from Communities First and the anti-poverty money that Edwina Hart provided because she resisted Plaid Cymru's calls for geographical balance and not to address real needs.

David Davies: Will you give way?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. There is no time to give way. You should wind up, Huw.

Huw Lewis: I will wind up in a few sentences. Today illustrates the internal pain of Plaid Cymru as it tries desperately to address the collapsing building that is its political support in Wales and within its own ranks. This resolution is about desperately clutching at a straw; it is not about the Valleys at all.

12:35 p.m.

Peter Law: I am grateful that we are concentrating on the Valleys, which is good. The only party that can answer the needs of the Valleys is the Labour Party, not Plaid Cymru. A couple of blips in 1999 and it thinks it has become the party of the Valleys. Make no mistake; the party of the Valleys is the Labour Party, unlike Bishop German, who arrived in 1999 but who did not know where Ebbw Vale was before then. The additions do not therefore enter into this equation either. It is only the Labour Party that has ever cared for the Valleys and has a programme that is making a difference there day-to-day. Having said that—

Owen John Thomas *rose*—

Peter Law: I am not taking interventions, so there will be no talk about Cardiff.

When we talk of resources for the Valleys, we must reflect upon how we vote to allocate resources. Warm words and platitudes are not the answer. If we leave the Chamber in 10

mynd oddi wrth y Cymoedd ac i gymunedau eu cadarnleoedd yn y Gogledd am eu bod yn ofni colli cefnogaeth yn y cymunedau hynny. Gwelsom hynny'n digwydd yn achos Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf, pan geisiasant drefnu bod arian yn mynd oddi wrth ddwsinau o gymunedau yn y Cymoedd sydd bellach yn cael budd o Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf a'r arian gwrthlodi a ddarparodd Edwina Hart am ei bod yn gwrthod galwadau Plaid Cymru am gydbwysedd daearyddol ac am beidio ag ymdrin â gwir anghenion.

David Davies: A wnewch ildio?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Nid oes amser i ildio. Dylech orffen, Huw.

Huw Lewis: Gorffennaf ar ôl ychydig o frawddegau. Mae heddiw'n dangos poen mewnol Plaid Cymru wrth iddi geisio'n daer ymdrin â chwmp adeilad ei chefnogaeth wleidyddol yng Nghymru ac yn ei rhengoedd ei hun. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn crafangu am welltyn; nid yw'n ymwneud â'r Cymoedd o gwbl.

Peter Law: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ein bod yn canolbwyntio ar y Cymoedd, sy'n beth da. Yr unig blaid a all ddiwallu anghenion y Cymoedd yw'r Blaid Lafur, nid Plaid Cymru. Ar ôl un wennol yn 1999, mae'n credu iddi ddod yn blaid y Cymoedd. Peidiwch â chamgymryd; y blaid Lafur yw plaid y Cymoedd, yn wahanol i'r Esgob German, a gyrhaeddodd yn 1999 ond na wyddai ym mhle'r oedd Glynebwy cyn hynny. Felly nid yw'r atodiadau'n rhan o hyn o gwbl. Dim ond y Blaid Lafur a ofalodd am y Cymoedd erioed ac mae ganddi raglen sy'n gwneud gwahaniaeth beunyddiol yno. Wedi dweud hynny—

Owen John Thomas *a gododd*—

Peter Law: Nid wyf yn derbyn ymyriadau, felly ni fydd sôn am Gaerdydd.

Wrth sôn am adnoddau i'r Cymoedd, rhaid inni fyfyrto ynghylch y modd yr ydym yn pleidleisio i ddyrannu adnoddau. Nid geiriau teg ac ystrydebau yw'r ateb. Os awn o'r

minutes and say, 'we had a chat about the Valleys today, let's put it back in the box', then I say 'no'. When you vote £65 million for a concert hall you must search your conscience. Resources must be made available for people in deprivation and poverty who only want a level playing field.

Gareth Jones *rose*—

Peter Law: Sorry, Gareth, I do not have time to give way.

We must make a difference and Labour has started to make that difference. Do not talk as though Labour has been in power for 20 years. This started in 1997 and has continued through the Assembly. Labour secured Objective 1 funding, and that is now in place in the Valleys. We have seen community spirit in the Valleys thanks to Labour. We have seen the local regeneration fund. Who created the WDA? It was a Labour creation, and without it, my community would have nothing, which shows how vital that development was.

Do not forget that there are many issues. Earlier this morning, the First Minister mentioned the return opening of the Ebbw Vale railway. That is wonderful news. Neither the people of Newport nor I can wait until 2008 for a link to the city. The Assembly is the place for political pressure, so go to Byers and tell him that we want Railtrack to open the railway before then. That is what this place is all about. Nobody can sit on his or her laurels, everybody must keep moving forward. We have a job to do here, and as far as the Heads of the Valleys road is concerned, 2008 is too late for the rest of the schemes. We have started them and must now press on with them because that road has an important role for all the Valleys. However, there is no doubt that we are working to give people a better standard of living.

I listened with incredulity to William Graham—that part-time AM who sometimes represents the occasional valley, and usually works against them. He said that we do not want dolls' eyes factories and marshmallow jobs, but that is what we had from the

Siambr ymhen 10 munud a dweud, 'cawsom sgwrs am y Cymoedd heddiw, gadewch inni ei rhoi i gadw', yna fe ddywedwn i 'na'. Pan ydych yn pleidleisio dros roi £65 miliwn i neuadd gyngerdd, rhaid ichi chwilio'ch cydwybod. Rhaid darparu adnoddau i bobl sydd mewn amddifadedd a thlodi nad ydynt ond am gael chwarae teg.

Gareth Jones *a gododd*—

Peter Law: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Gareth, nid oes gennyf amser i'w roi.

Rhaid inni wneud gwahaniaeth ac mae Llafur wedi dechrau gwneud y gwahaniaeth hwnnw. Peidiwch â siarad fel pe bai Llafur mewn grym ers 20 mlynedd. Dechreuodd hyn yn 1997 ac mae wedi parhau drwy'r Cynulliad. Llafur a sicrhodd arian Amcan 1, ac mae hwnnw ar waith bellach yn y Cymoedd. Yr ydym wedi gweld ysbryd cymdogol yn y Cymoedd, diolch i Lafur. Gwelsom y gronfa adfywio lleol. Pwy a greodd y WDA? Llafur a'i creodd, a hebdo, ni fyddai dim gan fy nghymuned i, sy'n dangos mor hanfodol oedd y datblygiad hwnnw.

Peidiwch ag anghofio bod llawer o faterion yn codi. Yn gynharach y bore yma, soniodd Prif Weinidog Cymru am ailagor rheilffordd Glynebwy. Mae hynny'n newyddion rhyfeddol. Ni allaf fi na phobl Casnewydd ddisgwyl tan 2008 am gysylltiad â'r ddinas. Y Cynulliad yw'r lle ar gyfer pwysau gwleidyddol, felly ewch at Byers a dywedwch wrtho ein bod am i Railtrack agor y rheilffordd cyn hynny. Dyna holl bwrpas y lle hwn. Ni all neb orffwys ar ei fri, rhaid i bawb ddal i symud ymlaen. Mae gennym waith i'w wneud yma ac, o ran ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd, mae 2008 yn rhy hwyr o lawer ar gyfer gweddill y cynlluniau. Yr ydym wedi'u cychwyn a rhaid inni fwrw ymlaen â hwy'n awr am fod y ffordd honno yn chwarae rhan bwysig i'r Cymoedd i gyd. Fodd bynnag, nid oes amheuaeth nad ydym yn ymdrechu i roi gwell safon byw i bobl.

Gwrandewais yn anghrediniol ar William Graham—yr AC rhan amser hwnnw sydd weithiau'n cynrychioli ambell gwm, ac sydd fel arfer yn gweithio yn eu herbyn. Dywedodd nad ydym am gael ffatrioedd llygaid dol a swyddi malws melys, ond

Conservatives when the steel works at Ebbw Vale closed. That was down to the Tories and Peter Walker's Valleys initiative, which was another piece of spin that failed to do the job. We do not want any lessons from the Conservatives. We want positive progress and an opportunity for our young people to have a future. We want modern generations to have a level playing field and the chances that others have taken for granted. That could mean a minister for social justice, as Huw Lewis has requested. That could mean a development corporation or commission for the Valleys communities in which a million people live. However, somebody must tackle this positively, and the only party that will ever provide a future for the Valleys of Wales is the Labour Party.

The First Minister: The problem with Plaid Cymru's debate is that, in Geraint Davies's opening remarks, he described a scenario of desperation in the Valleys today, and then followed those remarks with his vision for the Valleys' future but made no suggestion as to how you get from one to the other. He then had the nerve to accuse us of having what he called a 'programme for neglect'. He did not propose a programme himself and I submit to him, Plaid Cymru and everyone else, that our programme is anything but a programme for neglect. It is a programme for achieving a vision for the Valleys. Is locating a new, non-PFI hospital in Llwynypia a programme for neglect, Geraint? I ask Brian and others: is the establishment of General Dynamics UK Ltd industrial and research and development centre in Oakdale a programme for neglect? Is jointly allocating £50 million, with the Welsh Development Agency and the Royal Bank of Scotland, in the Welsh industrial partnership for industrial building in Wales—it will not all be in the Valleys, but it will not be in Cardiff or the M4 belt either—a programme for neglect? No. That is a programme for action.

Phil Williams: If the five counties regeneration programme represents an integrated strategy to meet the problems of the Valleys of the south east, why is there no

hynny a gawsom gan y Ceidwadwyr pan gaeodd y gwaith dur yng Nglynebwy. Bai'r Toriaid a menter Cymoedd Peter Walker oedd hynny, sef pwt bach arall o droelli a fethodd â gwneud y gwaith. Nid oes arnom angen unrhyw wersi gan y Ceidwadwyr. Yr ydym am gael cynnydd cadarnhaol a chyfle i'n pobl ifanc at y dyfodol. Yr ydym am i'r cenedlaethau sydd ohoni gael chwarae teg a'r cyfleoedd y mae eraill wedi'u cymryd yn ganiataol. Gallai hynny olygu gweinidog dros gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, fel y mae Huw Lewis wedi gofyn amdano. Gallai olygu corfforaeth ddatblygu neu gomisiwn i gymunedau'r Cymoedd lle y mae miliwn o bobl yn byw. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i rywun fynd i'r afael â hyn yn gadarnhaol, a'r unig blaid a wnaiff roi dyfodol i Gymoedd Cymru byth yw'r Blaid Lafur.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Y broblem ynghylch dadl Plaid Cymru yw bod Geraint Davies, yn ei sylwadau agoriadol, wedi disgrifio golygfa anobaith yn y Cymoedd heddiw, ac wedyn wedi sôn am ei weledigaeth ar gyfer dyfodol y Cymoedd ond heb wneud unrhyw awgrym ynghylch sut yr ydych yn mynd o'r naill i'r llall. Yr oedd yn ddigon digywilydd wedyn i'n cyhuddo o fod â'r hyn y mae'n ei alw'n 'rhaglen ar gyfer esgeulustod'. Ni chynigiodd raglen ei hun ac awgrymaf iddo ef, Plaid Cymru a phawb arall, nad yw ein rhaglen ni'n ddim byd tebyg i raglen ar gyfer esgeulustod. Mae'n rhaglen i wireddu gweledigaeth ar gyfer y Cymoedd. Ai rhaglen ar gyfer esgeulustod, Geraint, yw lleoli ysbyty newydd yn Llwynypia, nad yw'n fenter cyllid preifat. Gofynnaf i Brian ac eraill: ai rhaglen ar gyfer esgeulustod yw sefydlu canolfan ddiwydiannol ac ymchwil a datblygu General Dynamics UK Cyfyngedig yn Oakdale? Ai rhaglen ar gyfer esgeulustod yw cyd-ddyrannu £50 miliwn, ag Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a'r Royal Bank of Scotland, i bartneriaeth ddiwydiannol Cymru ar gyfer adeiladu diwydiannol yng Nghymru—ni fydd y cwbl yn y Cymoedd, ond ni fydd yng Nghaerdydd nac yn llain yr M4 ychwaith? Nace. Rhaglen ar gyfer gweithredu yw honno.

Phil Williams: Os yw rhaglen adfywio'r pum sir yn strategaeth integredig i ateb problemau Cymoedd y De-ddwyrain, pam nad oes strategaeth adfywio debyg i bob ardal Cymru,

similar regeneration strategy for all the areas of Wales, including Merthyr Tydfil, where the need for new employment may be even greater? Is that why the Labour amendments have been withdrawn?

The First Minister: Not at all. I have not proposed the amendments in the name of Carwyn Jones because this morning we are considering all the Valleys from Pontypool to Pontyberem. Implying that we are considering south-east Wales alone would be unfair to those valleys outside the former Gwent region and that part of Caerphilly that comes within the five counties.

Everybody would agree that, earlier today, we demonstrated the inadequacy and irrelevance of the idea that you can fix regional targets, set job targets in those different regions and attempt to achieve them, when the integrated programme that we announced earlier crosses the boundary between the Valleys and the M4 belt. Why? It is because we had to. That is where the steel industry jobs were lost—they covered the area from Newport to Ebbw Vale. Jobs were also lost elsewhere in Wales. Sometimes you have to tackle problems as they arise, and you need the flexibility that Glyn Davies was talking about. That is why we reject the idea of regional targets for jobs.

However, we support the idea of having clear priorities for the deprived areas of Wales. We work on a pincer movement basis. On a general economic development basis, we favour Objective 1 Wales. We have stated that clearly. It does not mean that everything goes to the Objective 1 areas, but we are trying to prioritise them. It is we—Labour, as Peter Law said—that designated that part of Wales as Objective 1. Ron Davies, during his period in the Welsh Office, got 65 per cent of Wales into Objective 1, and that was how Labour, when we began running the Assembly, managed to get the additional £420 million from the Treasury as extra public expenditure cover. That allowed us to fund the Objective 1 programme without digging into programmes for health and education.

gan gynnwys Merthyr Tudful, lle y gallai'r angen am gyflogaeth newydd fod yn fwy byth? Ai dyna pam y tynnwyd gwelliannau Llafur yn ôl?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Dim o gwbl. Nid wyf wedi cynnig y gwelliannau sydd yn enw Carwyn Jones oherwydd ein bod y bore yma yn ystyried yr holl Gymoedd o Bont-y-pŵl i Bontyberem. Byddai awgrymu ein bod yn ystyried y De-ddwyrain yn unig yn annheg â'r cymoedd hynny y tu allan i gyn ranbarth Gwent a'r rhan honno o Gaerffili sydd o fewn y pum sir.

Byddai pawb yn cytuno ein bod wedi profi, yn gynharach heddiw, mor annigonol ac amherthnasol yw'r syniad y gallwch bennu targedau rhanbarthol, gosod targedau swyddi yn y gwahanol ranbarthau hynny a cheisio eu cyrraedd, tra bo'r rhaglen integredig a gyhoeddassom yn gynharach yn croesi'r ffin rhwng y Cymoedd a llain yr M4. Pam? Am fod rhaid i ni. Dyna lle y collwyd swyddi'r diwydiant dur—drwy gydol yr ardal rhwng Casnewydd a Glynabwy. Collwyd swyddi mewn mannau eraill yng Nghymru. Weithiau mae'n rhaid ichi fynd i'r afael â phroblemau wrth iddynt godi, ac mae arnoch angen yr hyblygrwydd hwinnw yr oedd Glyn Davies yn sôn amdano. Dyna pam yr ydym yn gwrthod y syniad o dargedau rhanbarthol ar gyfer swyddi.

Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn cefnogi'r syniad o gael blaenoriaethau pendant ar gyfer ardaloedd difreintiedig Cymru. Yr ydym yn gwneud cyrch deupen. O ran datblygu economaidd cyffredinol, yr ydym yn ffafrio Cymru Amcan 1. Yr ydym wedi datgan hynny'n bendant. Nid yw'n golygu yr aiff popeth i'r ardaloedd Amcan 1, ond yr ydym yn ceisio rhoi blaenoriaeth iddynt. Nyni—Llafur, fel y dywedodd Peter Law—a ddynododd y rhan honno o Gymru'n ardal Amcan 1. Llwyddodd Ron Davies, yn ystod ei gyfnod ef yn y Swyddfa Gymreig, i gael 65 y cant o Gymru o dan Amcan 1, a dyna sut y llwyddodd Llafur i gael y £420 miliwn ychwanegol oddi wrth y Trysorlys, pan ddechreuasom redeg y Cynulliad, ar gyfer gwariant cyhoeddus ychwanegol. Yr oedd hynny'n caniatáu inni ariannu rhaglen Amcan 1 heb fwrw i mewn i raglenni ar gyfer iechyd

ac addysg.

The other side of the pincer movement, where economic development is not the only issue, is to secure regeneration on the ground. Pauline Jarman said how terrible it is that 17 communities in Rhondda Cynon Taff—or maybe Rhondda alone—are among the 100 most deprived communities in Wales. It is terrible, but we are acting on it. We designated Rhondda a deprived area; Pauline Jarman did not do it. Communities First is a Labour programme, because we do not think that Objective 1 is enough. Sometimes you need that specific anti-poverty programme at ward and community level.

Geraint Davies: We welcome the new hospital in the Rhondda, but you must acknowledge that people have fought for over 20 years to make the case for that hospital. We need more hospital beds; there is a reduction in beds, so the fight goes on. When you live at the top of the Valleys, you can see the great problems that exist—empty houses and shops, the need for a modal shift of emphasis from the coastal belt up to the Valleys, not just for the Valleys' sake, but for the whole of Wales. If the Valleys are successful, the whole of Wales will be successful. We need a Cabinet Minister to ensure a greater emphasis on the Valleys.

The First Minister: What is Plaid Cymru's line? How many dedicated Cabinet Ministers for different parts of Wales does it want? Plaid Cymru used to be Plaid Cymru—the Party of Wales. Now it is Plaid Darnau Cymru—the party of the bits of Wales. The Valleys and Simon Brooks's cultural heartlands must all have separate treatment. If you want to be the party of Wales, you must remember that Wales is one country. You cannot have separate Cabinet Ministers for different parts of it. You must reset your sights on Wales as a whole, but with priorities for the more deprived parts—in the Valleys. That is what we are doing through Objective 1. It is what we are doing specifically at ward and community level through our unique anti-poverty programme, Communities First. It is what we are doing

Pen arall y cyrch deupen, lle nad datblygu economaidd yw'r unig fater dan sylw, yw sicrhau adfywio yn y maes. Dywedodd Pauline Jarman mor ofnadwy ydyw bod 17 cymuned yn Rhondda Cynon Taf—neu yn Rhondda'n unig efallai—ymysg y 100 cymuned fwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru. Mae'n ofnadwy, ond yr ydym yn gweithredu ar hynny. Ni a ddynododd Rhondda'n ardal ddifreintiedig; nid Pauline Jarman a wnaeth hynny. Rhaglen Llafur yw Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf, gan nad ydym yn credu bod Amcan 1 yn ddigon. Weithiau mae rhaid wrth raglen wrthdlodi benodol o'r fath ar lefel wardiau a chymunedau.

Geraint Davies: Yr ydym yn croesawu'r ysbyty newydd yn y Rhondda, ond rhaid ichi gydnabod bod pobl yn ymladd ers dros 20 mlynedd i gyflwyno'r ddadl dros yr ysbyty hwnnw. Mae arnom angen mwy o welyau ysbyty; mae gostyngiad yn nifer y gwelyau, felly mae'r frwydr yn parhau. Pan ydych yn byw ym mhen uchaf y Cymoedd, gallwch weld y problemau mawr sy'n bodoli—tai a siopau gwag, yr angen am symud pwyslais moddol o'r llain arfordirol i fyny i'r Cymoedd, nid yn unig er mwyn y Cymoedd, ond er mwyn Cymru gyfan. Os yw'r Cymoedd yn llwyddiannus, bydd Cymru gyfan yn llwyddiannus. Mae arnom angen Gweinidog yn y Cabinet i sicrhau mwy o bwyslais ar y Cymoedd.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Beth yw polisi Plaid Cymru? Pa nifer o Weinidogion Cabinet neilltuol dros wahanol rannau o Gymru y mae am ei gael? Yr oedd Plaid Cymru'n arfer bod yn Plaid Cymru—the Party of Wales. Bellach, Plaid Darnau Cymru ydyw. Rhaid i'r Cymoedd a chadarnleoedd diwylliannol Simon Brooks gael eu trin ar wahân. Os ydych am fod yn blaid Cymru, rhaid ichi gofio bod Cymru'n un wlad. Ni allwch gael gwahanol Weinidogion Cabinet dros wahanol rannau ohoni. Rhaid ichi ailosod eich golygon ar Gymru fel cyfanwaith, ond gyda blaenoriaethau i'r rhannau mwyaf difreintiedig—yn y Cymoedd. Dyna'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud drwy Amcan 1. Dyna'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud yn benodol ar lefel y wardiau a'r cymunedau drwy ein rhaglen wrthdlodi unigryw, Rhoi Cymunedau'n

through specific measures, like the railway line from Ebbw Vale down to the coastal belt. It is true that it is only to Cardiff at the moment, but we think there will be a solution to the other side in time.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas *rose*—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. The First Minister is not giving way.

The First Minister: No, I will not. I have already said so, but Rhodri Glyn was not listening. Let us look at what is happening in the Valleys. It is not enough. We know that it has to be stepped up, but we are getting there.

Merthyr Tydfil was just mentioned. The economy of Merthyr Tydfil was diversified by the arrival of the One 2 One call centre. People may say that it is only a call centre, but we need service industries in the Valleys as well as in the coastal belt. Why should all the call centre activity be within the coastal belt? We provided incentives for One 2 One to come to Merthyr Tydfil. I was also pleased to open the Elev8 call centre in Ammanford recently.

12:45 p.m.

We are also making progress on manufacturing. I opened the new MCS plant in Ystradgynlais last week; Kirsty Williams was also present. It is not only manufacturing industry that is prominent in these areas, but research and development. I have already mentioned General Dynamics UK Ltd. COSi, the former Revlon plant in Maesteg, which has a research and development plant, has also been mentioned. That company will benefit from yesterday's budget announcement, in which it was announced that companies will receive a tax break if they carry out their own research and development. COSi, General Dynamics and GQ—which has a research and development facility as well as a manufacturing plant—will all benefit from yesterday's budget announcement. Therefore, companies in the

Gyntaf. Dyna'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud drwy fesurau penodol, fel y llinell rheilffordd o Lynebwy i lawr i'r llain arfordirol. Mae'n wir na fydd ond yn mynd i Gaerdydd ar hyn o bryd, ond credwn y llwyddir yn yr ochr arall ymhen amser.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas *a gododd*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Nid yw Prif Weinidog Cymru'n ildio.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Na wna. Yr wyf eisoes wedi dweud hynny, ond nid oedd Rhodri Glyn yn gwrando. Gadewch inni edrych ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn y Cymoedd. Nid yw'n ddigon. Gwyddom fod yn rhaid ei gynyddu, ond yr ydym yn symud ymlaen.

Soniwyd ychydig am Ferthyr Tudful. Cafodd economi Merthyr Tudful ei hamrywiaethu gyda dyfodiad canolfan alwadau One 2 One. Efallai y bydd rhai'n dweud nad yw'n ddim ond canolfan alwadau, ond mae arnom angen diwydiannau gwasanaeth yn y Cymoedd yn ogystal ag yn y llain arfordirol. Pam y dylai'r holl weithgarwch canolfannau galwadau fod o fewn y llain arfordirol? Rhoesom gymhelliannau i One 2 One ddod i Ferthyr Tudful. Yr oeddwn yn falch o agor canolfan alwadau Elev8 yn Rhydaman yn ddiweddar hefyd.

Yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen â gweithgynhyrchu hefyd. Agorais waith newydd MCS yn Ystradgynlais yr wythnos diwethaf; yr oedd Kirsty Williams yno hefyd. Nid diwydiant gweithgynhyrchu'n unig sy'n amlwg yn yr ardaloedd hyn, ond ymchwil a datblygu hefyd. Soniais eisoes am General Dynamics UK Cyfyngedig. Soniwyd hefyd am COSi, cyn waith Revlon ym Maes-teg, sydd â gwaith ymchwil a datblygu. Bydd y cwmni hwnnw'n elwa ar y cyhoeddiad yn y gyllideb ddoe, pan gyhoeddwyd y bydd cwmnïau'n cael mantais treth os ydynt yn gwneud eu hymchwil a'u datblygu eu hunain. Bydd COSi, General Dynamics a GQ—sydd â chyfleuster ymchwil a datblygu yn ogystal â gweithfa gynhyrchu—i gyd yn elwa ar y cyhoeddiad yn y gyllideb ddoe. Felly, nid cymynwyr coed a gwehynwyr dŵr yn unig

Valleys will not simply be hewers of wood and drawers of water; research and development will also be done there.

There are great achievements in the Valleys. I am told that Burberry's will shortly be floating on the stock exchange. Everyone thinks of Burberry as a great icon of English style and design, but its clothes are produced in the Rhondda. We must promote that around the world. Great things are going on in the Valleys, but there is a long way to go. Ours is anything but a programme for neglect. There is much confidence in the Valleys, as I found while sitting among Pontypridd supporters during the Principality Cup semi-final in the Millennium Stadium last weekend. The people of the Valleys know that, with our assistance, they can get there. They can put into action the vision for the Valleys that Geraint mentioned but did not indicate how he would achieve. We are acting on that vision and that is why the people of the Valleys have faith in us.

Helen Mary Jones: I will not be taking any interventions due to time restrictions. Although I will not repeat the points made by colleagues, we have made a powerful case for a comprehensive Valleys strategy with a Minister responsible for driving it forward. However, I will respond to some points made by Members from other parties.

I understand the Conservative Party's views on rural deprivation and poverty, and I look forward to participating in a debate when it decides to prioritise those issues as a topic for its minority party debate. However, I would argue that both the issues and how to solve the problems are different, so we will not support their amendments. On targets, we believe strongly that, if we are to have Government action, targets are needed. Glyn is right to say that they must be realistic targets which are properly set, and which provide support, rather than acting as a straitjacket. However, without targets you will have inaction.

Gwenda Thomas will not support this motion

fydd y cwmnïau yn y Cymoedd; gwneir ymchwil a datblygu yno hefyd.

Ceir llwyddiannau mawr yn y Cymoedd. Dywedir wrthyf y bydd Burberry yn cael ei lansio yn y gyfnewidfa stociau cyn hir. Mae pawb yn ystyried Burberry yn eicon mawr o arddull a dylunio Seisnig, ond cynhyrchir ei ddillad yn y Rhondda. Rhaid inni hyrwyddo hynny ledled y byd. Mae pethau mawr yn mynd ymlaen yn y Cymoedd, ond mae ffordd hir o'n blaen. Nid yw ein rhaglen yn ddim byd tebyg i raglen ar gyfer esgeulustod. Mae llawer o hyder yn y Cymoedd, fel y darganfûm wrth eistedd ymysg cefnogwyr Pontypridd yn ystod gêm gyn-derfynol Cwpan Principality yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm y penwythnos diwethaf. Fe wÿr pobl y Cymoedd y gallant gyrraedd y nod, gyda'n cymorth ni. Gallant wireddu'r weledigaeth ar gyfer y Cymoedd y soniodd Geraint amdani ond heb ddweud sut y byddai'n ei chyflawni. Yr ydym yn gweithredu ar y weledigaeth honno a dyna pam y mae gan bobl y Cymoedd ffydd ynom ni.

Helen Mary Jones: Ni fyddaf yn derbyn unrhyw ymyriadau oherwydd y cyfyngiadau amser. Er na fyddaf yn ailadrodd y pwyntiau a wnaeth fy nghyd-Aelodau, yr ydym wedi cyflwyno achos cryf dros strategaeth gynhwysfawr i'r Cymoedd gyda Gweinidog yn gyfrifol am ei hyrwyddo. Fodd bynnag, fe wnaif ymateb i rai pwyntiau a wnaethpwyd gan Aelodau o bleidiau eraill.

Yr wyf yn deall barn y Blaid Geidwadol ar amddifadedd a thlodi gwledig, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gymryd rhan mewn dadl pan yw'n penderfynu rhoi blaenoriaeth i'r materion hynny fel pwnc ar gyfer ei dadl plaid leiafrifol. Fodd bynnag, byddwn i'n dadlau bod y materion sy'n codi a'r dulliau o ddatrys y problemau'n wahanol, felly ni wnawn gefnogi eu gwelliannau. Ynghylch targedau, credwn yn gryf, os ydyw'r Llywodraeth i weithredu, fod angen cael targedau. Mae Glyn yn iawn wrth ddweud bod yn rhaid iddynt fod yn dargedau realistig a bennir yn briodol, ac sy'n cynnig cymorth, yn hytrach na bod yn gyfyngiad. Fodd bynnag, heb dargedau cewch ddiffyg gweithredu.

Ni wnaiff Gwenda Thomas gefnogi'r cynnig

because we have tabled it. That is interesting. It shows the narrow, partisan attitude of Gwenda Thomas and her party. The community council by-elections in which her party is losing votes left, right and centre to Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales should serve as a warning to Gwenda Thomas. The people of the Valleys are tired of the kind of Stalinist, one-party state approach to which Labour has subscribed for so long in the Valleys.

Janice Gregory acknowledged the problem but failed to give a comprehensive prescription, in her piecemeal, bitty response. In the Ogmere by-election, 10,000 former Labour voters stayed at home because their hearts have been broken by generations of Labour neglect at local level, at a Welsh, national level and at UK level. Their sorrow will soon turn to anger, and the Labour Party will pay the price.

Peter Black's party-political sniping has no doubt endeared him to his Labour bosses. He is undoubtedly angling for a proper Cabinet job; fair play to him. However, as has already been said, he represents a party that has no presence in the Valleys. Perhaps his performance today explains why.

Huw Lewis describes a debate on the future of the Valleys as 'claptrap'. Instead of talking about issues, he indulges in pointless party-political sniping, as he always does. I do not know how Huw's constituents feel about the fact that he spends most of his time in the Assembly attacking us, which is fair enough, and never says anything positive about his communities, which is not. Perhaps we will find out in 2003. It is not Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales that holds conflicting views on social justice, but the Labour Party. I refer Huw to Peter Law's recent comments in the Sunday newspapers. The people of the Valleys will judge Huw Lewis and the rest of his lot as the partisan windbags that they are. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh.']

Huw Lewis *rose*—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. We

hwn am mai ni a'i cyflwynodd. Mae hynny'n ddi-ddorol. Mae'n dangos agwedd gul, ddallbleidiol Gwenda Thomas a'i phlaid. Dylai'r is-etholiadau cyngor cymuned lle y mae ei phlaid yn colli pleidleisiau ym mhob man i Blaid Cymru—The Party of Wales fod yn rhybudd i Gwenda Thomas. Mae pobl y Cymoedd wedi blino ar y math o agwedd Stalinaidd, gwladwriaeth un blaid y mae Llafur wedi'i harddel cyhyd yn y Cymoedd.

Cydnabu Janice Gregory y broblem ond methodd â rhoi presgripsiwn cynhwysfawr, yn ei hymateb tameidiog. Yn is-etholiad Ogwr, arhosodd 10,000 o gyn bleidleiswyr Llafur gartref am fod eu calonnau wedi'u torri gan genedlaethau o esgeulustod Llafur ar lefel leol, ar lefel genedlaethol Gymreig ac ar lefel y DU. Bydd eu tristwch yn troi'n ddigofaint cyn hir, a'r Blaid Lafur fydd yn talu'r pris.

Mae'n siŵr bod beirniadu gwleidyddol pleidiol Peter Black wedi ennyn hoffter ei feistri Llafur. Mae'n pysgota am swydd iawn yn y Cabinet, mae'n siŵr; chwarae teg iddo. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedwyd eisoes, mae'n cynrychioli plaid nad oes ganddi bresenoldeb yn y Cymoedd. Efallai fod ei berfformiad heddiw'n egluro pam.

Mae Huw Lewis yn disgrifio dadl ar ddyfodol y Cymoedd yn 'lol'. Yn lle siarad am y materion dan sylw, mae'n ymroi i feirniadu gwleidyddol pleidiol dibwrpas, fel y gwnaiff bob amser. Ni wn sut y mae etholwyr Huw yn teimlo ynghylch y ffaith ei fod yn treulio'r rhan fwyaf o'i amser yn y Cynulliad yn ymosod arnom ni, sy'n ddigon teg, ond byth yn dweud dim byd cadarnhaol am ei gymunedau, nad yw'n deg. Efallai y cawn wybod yn 2003. Nid Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales sy'n dal barnau croes ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, ond y Blaid Lafur. Cyfeiriau Huw at sylwadau Peter Law yn ddiweddar yn y papurau newydd dydd Sul. Bydd pobl y Cymoedd yn barnu'n gywir mai malwyr awyr dallbleidiol yw Huw Lewis a gweddill ei griw. [AELODAU CYNULLIAD: 'O.']

Huw Lewis *a gododd*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yr ydym yn

are overrunning, and we need to finish. Helen Mary is not giving way.

Helen Mary Jones: Peter Law gave us his usual spirited performance, but his public comments show how conflicted and concerned he is. I feel sorry for him and for any of the other remaining socialists in the Labour Party.

We have a Government that cannot even read a motion properly before submitting amendments to it, which is not a good sign. The First Minister described a series of actions rather than a comprehensive programme. No-one is saying that there are not good initiatives in place, but we are saying that they are patchy, unco-ordinated, and that, ultimately, they will fail.

We have rightly heard much today about the problems of the Valleys, but we must not lose sight of the positives. The Valleys comprise close communities with enormous potential and a huge capacity to work together, and are still places where people choose to live—some people commute hundreds of miles a day in order to remain in those communities. However, those communities are under enormous pressure, and they deserve support—not just in terms of rhetoric, but in practical action.

I am sorry that the Government of Wales has chosen to respond so negatively to a positive motion. It suggests that Peter Law is right to say that Rhodri Morgan is more interested in cosyng-up to New Labour than he is in doing what is right for Wales, and he is right to point out that the Labour Party is no longer a party that really cares about the socially deprived. The people of the Valleys and the people of Wales will have a choice—the choice of a party that cares about working people and the socially deprived, that will act in government to build a future for all of our communities. That choice is Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales, and I should warn this Government that it is increasingly being seen as a party of the M4 corridor. Its refusal to respond positively to this debate today will be seen for exactly what it is—a writing off of the Valleys, and a refusal to take those

rhedeg yn hwyr, a rhaid inni orffen. Nid yw Helen Mary yn ildio.

Helen Mary Jones: Rhoddodd Peter Law ei berfformiad hwyliog arferol i ni, ond mae ei sylwadau cyhoeddus yn dangos mor wrthdrawol a phryderus y mae. Mae gennyf drueni drosto ef ac unrhyw sosialwyr eraill sydd ar ôl yn y Blaid Lafur.

Mae gennym Lywodraeth nad yw hyd yn oed yn gallu darllen cynnig yn iawn cyn cyflwyno gwelliannau iddo, ac nid yw hynny'n arwydd da. Disgrifiodd Prif Weinidog Cymru gyfres o gamau yn hytrach na rhaglen gynhwysfawr. Nid oes neb yn dweud nad oes mentrau da ar waith, ond yr ydym yn dweud eu bod yn dameidiog, yn anghydlynol ac y byddant yn methu yn y pen draw.

Yr ydym wedi clywed llawer, yn briodol, heddiw am broblemau'r Cymoedd, ond rhaid inni beidio â cholli golwg ar y pethau cadarnhaol. Mae'r Cymoedd yn cynnwys cymunedau clôs sydd â photensial enfawr a gallu aruthrol i weithio gyda'i gilydd, ac maent yn fannau o hyd lle y mae pobl yn dewis byw—mae rhai pobl yn cymudo gannoedd o filltiroedd y diwrnod i aros yn y cymunedau hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'r cymunedau hynny o dan bwysau aruthrol, ac maent yn haeddu cefnogaeth—nid yn unig o ran rhethreg, ond o ran gweithredu ymarferol.

Mae'n ddrwg gennyf fod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dewis ymateb mor negyddol i gynnig cadarnhaol. Mae'n awgrymu bod Peter Law yn iawn wrth ddweud bod Rhodri Morgan yn ymddiddori'n fwy mewn swatio yng nghôl Llafur Newydd na gwneud yr hyn sy'n iawn i Gymru, ac mae'n iawn wrth nodi nad yw'r Blaid Lafur bellach yn blaid sy'n pryderu'n wirioneddol am y rhai cymdeithasol ddifreintiedig. Bydd dewis gan bobl y Cymoedd a phobl Cymru—y dewis o blaid sy'n poeni ynghylch y gweithwyr a'r cymdeithasol ddifreintiedig, a fydd yn gweithredu pan yw mewn grym i adeiladu dyfodol i'n holl gymunedau. Y dewis hwnnw yw Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales, a dylwn rybuddio'r Llywodraeth hon ei bod yn cael ei hystyried fwyfwy'n blaid coridor yr M4. Fe welir ei gwrthodiad i ymateb yn gadarnhaol i'r ddadl hon heddiw am yr hyn

communities seriously.

ydyw—diystyrwch o'r Cymoedd, a gwrthodiad i gymryd y cymunedau hynny o ddifrif.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You need to wind up now.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Rhaid ichi orffen yn awr.

Helen Mary Jones: You will pay the price for this at the ballot box, and your time is running out. I urge the Assembly to vote in conscience in favour of this motion, unamended—and I am looking at some Labour Members here—but of course you will not do so.

Helen Mary Jones: Byddwch yn talu'r pris am hyn yn y blwch pleidleisio, ac mae'ch amser yn dod i ben. Pwysaf ar y Cynulliad i bleidleisio yn ôl ei gydwybod o blaid y cynnig hwn, heb ei ddiwygio—ac yr wyf yn edrych ar rai o'r Aelodau Llafur yma—ond, wrth gwrs, ni wnewch hynny.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 7, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 45.

Amendment 1: For 7, Abstain 0, Against 45.

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Dafis, Cynog
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 7, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 47.
Amendment 2: For 7, Abstain 0, Against 47.*

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Dafis, Cynog
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

Ni chynigiwyd gwelliant 3.

Amendment 3 was not proposed.

Gwelliant 4: O blaid 7, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 47.

Amendment 4: For 7, Abstain 0, Against 47.

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Dafis, Cynog
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.

Gwelliant 5: O blaid 7, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 47.
Amendment 5: For 7, Abstain 0, Against 47.

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor

Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter

Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Dafis, Cynog
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Cynnig: O blaid 17, Ymatal 7, Yn erbyn 30.
Motion: For 17, Abstain 7, Against 30.*

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

Dafis, Cynog
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Hancock, Brian
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Pugh, Alun
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice

Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Phil

Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Kirsty

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
Motion defeated.*

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

Jonathan Morgan: I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, under Standing Order No. 6.16, postpones the short debate scheduled for today.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call for a vote on the procedural motion. It will be carried unless 10 Members vote against it, in which case we will have to hold the short debate.

Jonathan Morgan: Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.16, yn gohirio'r ddadl fer a amserlennwyd ar gyfer heddiw.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf am bleidlais ar y cynnig trefniadol. Caiff ei dderbyn oni bai fod 10 Aelod yn pleidleisio yn ei erbyn; os digwydd hynny, bydd yn rhaid inni gynnal y ddadl fer.

*Cynnig: O blaid 35, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 35, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet

Davies, Ron
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Hancock, Brian
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â
today's proceedings to a close. thrafodion heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 12.58 p.m.
The session ended at 12.58 p.m.*