



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

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

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Cynnwys
Contents

- | | |
|----|--|
| 3 | Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services |
| 17 | Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon
Questions to the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport |
| 31 | Pwynt o Drefn
Point of Order |
| 32 | Cymeradwyo Siarter y Rhanbarthau
Approval of the Charta of the Regions |
| 70 | Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal ar Brif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb yng Ngwaith y
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol
The Committee on Equality of Opportunity's Report on Mainstreaming Equality in the
Work of the National Assembly |
| 86 | Cynnig Trefniadol
Procedural Motion |
| 87 | Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal ar Brif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb yng Ngwaith y
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol: Parhad
The Committee on Equality of Opportunity's Report on Mainstreaming Equality in the
Work of the National Assembly: Continued |
| 92 | Dadl Fer: Y Diwylliant Alcohol
Short Debate: Alcohol Culture |

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

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

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 2 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services

Heintiau sy'n Gysylltiedig â Gofal Iechyd Healthcare Associated Infections

Q1 Sandy Mewies: Will the Minister make a statement on healthcare associated infections? (OAQ39135)

C1 Sandy Mewies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar heintiau sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd? (OAQ39135)

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): On 9 September, I launched a strategy to tackle all healthcare associated infections in hospitals. I want the reporting on action on this to be accurate and informative. I have therefore asked the Welsh healthcare associated infections group, with community health council involvement, to review the collection and publication of information on infections in hospitals and to make recommendations to me by Christmas.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Ar 9 Medi, lansiais strategaeth i fynd i'r afael â phob haint sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd mewn ysbytai. Yr wyf am i'r adroddiadau ar y camau hyn fod yn gywir ac yn addysgiadol. Felly, yr wyf wedi gofyn i'r grŵp heintiau sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd yng Nghymru, gyda chyfranogiad cynghorau iechyd cymuned, adolygu'r broses o gasglu a chyhoeddi gwybodaeth am heintiau mewn ysbytai a gwneud argymhellion imi erbyn y Nadolig.

Sandy Mewies: It seems to me that you have announced a significant policy development on this issue today. Could you confirm that patients' voices will be directly heard in the work that the group will undertake, and is it your aim, at the end of this process, to produce a uniform scheme, by which all trusts in Wales publish data on the same basis?

Sandy Mewies: Ymddengys i mi eich bod wedi cyhoeddi datblygiad polisi arwyddocaol ar y broblem hon heddiw. A allech gadarnhau y bydd y gwaith y bydd y grŵp yn ymgymryd ag ef yn adlewyrchu barn cleifion, ac ai eich nod chi, ar ddiwedd y broses hon, yw cynhyrchu cynllun unffurf, y bydd pob ymddiriedolaeth yng Nghymru yn ei ddilyn er mwyn cyhoeddi data ar yr un sail?

Jane Hutt: It is vital that we have accurate information and ensure that people are aware of the complexity of understanding the risks in terms of healthcare associated infections. That is why I have asked the Welsh healthcare associated infections group, chaired by Dr Tony Howard, the director of the infection and communicable disease service, to do this work. However, I want patients' voices to be heard, so I am involving the community health councils in that review. I will publish the terms of reference today for Members. This is about developing a data set to provide an accurate and informative picture of healthcare associated infections in Wales.

Jane Hutt: Mae'n hanfodol bod gennym wybodaeth gywir a'n bod yn sicrhau bod pobl yn ymwybodol o ba mor gymhleth yw deall y risgiau o ran heintiau sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd. Dyna'r rheswm yr wyf wedi gofyn i'r grŵp heintiau sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd yng Nghymru, a gadeirir gan Dr Tony Howard, cyfarwyddwr y gwasanaeth heintiau a chlefydau trosglwyddadwy, wneud y gwaith hwn. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf am i leisiau cleifion gael eu clywed, felly yr wyf yn cynnwys y cynghorau iechyd cymuned yn yr adolygiad hwnnw. Cyhoeddaf y cylch gorchwyl heddiw i Aelodau. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â datblygu set o ddata i ddarparu darlun cywir a hyddysg o heintiau sy'n

gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd yng Nghymru.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr ydym yn croesawu eich datganiad heddiw yn fawr, a'r ffaith eich bod wedi newid eich meddwl ar y pwnc hwn ac am roi'r wybodaeth hon i bobl Cymru. A allwch esbonio pam mae'r sefyllfa mor gymhleth yng Nghymru? Pam mae'n rhaid i chi ohirio rhyddhau'r wybodaeth yng Nghymru, pan fo Lloegr yn rhyddhau'r wybodaeth eisoes?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: We welcome your statement today, and the fact that you have changed your mind on this subject and will give this information to the people of Wales. Can you explain why the situation is so complex in Wales? Why do you have to delay releasing the information in Wales, when England already does so?

Jane Hutt: I am glad that you welcome this development. We launched a strategy in September and I want to ensure that people understand the result of action taken, because we want to implement the strategy to reduce the risk of infection. That must be the Government's priority, and I am sure that it is also yours. We need to ensure that the public is aware of this, and that we do not mislead the public in the information that we provide. This is about all healthcare associated infections in hospitals: you know that MRSA makes up only 4 per cent of such infections. I want the whole picture, in relation to the data set, to be provided for the people of Wales. I will involve the community health councils in this work, and I am sure that they will be an important and independent voice.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn croesawu'r datblygiad hwn. Lanswyd strategaeth gennym ym mis Medi a hoffwn sicrhau bod pobl yn deall canlyniad y camau a gymerwyd, oherwydd hoffem weithredu'r strategaeth i leihau'r risg o gael haint. Rhaid sicrhau bod hyn yn flaenoriaeth i'r Llywodraeth, ac yr wyf yn siŵr ei fod yn flaenoriaeth i chi hefyd. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod y cyhoedd yn ymwybodol o hyn, ac nad ydym yn camarwain y cyhoedd gyda'r wybodaeth a ddarperir gennym. Mae hwn ynglŷn â phob haint sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd mewn ysbytai: fe wyddoch nad yw MRSA ond yn gyfrifol am 4 y cant o heintiau o'r fath. Hoffwn i'r darlun cyfan, mewn cysylltiad â'r set ddata, gael ei ddarparu i bobl Cymru. Byddaf yn cynnwys y cynghorau iechyd cymuned yn y gwaith hwn, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddant yn llais pwysig ac annibynnol.

Jonathan Morgan: Given this new spirit of openness and transparency, can you tell me how many patients at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff have developed MRSA during the past 12 months, and how many fatalities there have been as a result?

Jonathan Morgan: O gofio'r ysbryd agored a thryloyw newydd hwn, a allwch ddweud wrthyf faint o gleifion yn Ysbyty Athrofa Cymru Caerdydd sydd wedi cael MRSA yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf, a faint o bobl a fu farw o ganlyniad?

Jane Hutt: You know that you could ask the Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust that question, because you know that it makes that information publicly available through its board reports.

Jane Hutt: Gwyddoch y gallech ofyn y cwestiwn hwnnw i Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Caerdydd a'r Fro, oherwydd gwyddoch ei bod yn rhyddhau'r wybodaeth i'r cyhoedd drwy adroddiadau ei bwrdd.

Kirsty Williams: Can you confirm that the figures that will be published as part of this new data set will separate out each type of hospital-acquired infection, and that individual rates for MRSA for every hospital in every trust will be published? Also, when did you make this decision?

Kirsty Williams: A allwch gadarnhau y bydd y ffigurau a gyhoeddir fel rhan o'r set ddata newydd hon yn gwahanu pob math o haint a ddelir mewn ysbytai, ac y cyhoeddir cyfraddau MRSA ar gyfer pob ysbyty ym mhob ymddiriedolaeth? Hefyd, pryd y gwnaethoch y penderfyniad hwn?

Jane Hutt: As I said, the terms of reference will be published today to give that accuracy; you will get that. This work is to develop a data set that will provide an accurate and informative picture of the position on healthcare associated infections on a hospital by hospital basis. This will be an important source of information for the public, but the data should clearly identify risks, set them in context, identify the range of organisms found, and set out proposals for specialty data and identify trends in rates of infection. That will fully address what you are calling for today, Kirsty.

Jane Hutt: Fel y dywedais, cyhoeddir y cylch gorchwyl heddiw i roi'r cywirdeb hwnnw; caiff hwnnw ei anfon atoch. Diben y gwaith hwn yw datblygu set ddata a fydd yn rhoi darlun cywir a hyddysg o'r sefyllfa o ran heintiau sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal iechyd fesul ysbyty. Bydd hon yn ffynhonnell wybodaeth bwysig i'r cyhoedd, ond dylai'r data nodi'r risgiau'n glir, eu gosod yn eu cyd-destun, nodi'r ystod o organebau y deuir o hyd iddynt, a nodi cynigion ar gyfer data arbenigol a thueddiadau o ran cyfraddau heintiau. Bydd hynny'n mynd i'r afael yn llawn â'r hyn yr ydych yn gofyn amdano heddiw, Kirsty.

Gwasanaethau HIV ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro HIV Services in Preseli Pembrokeshire

Q2 Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: Will the Minister report on the provision of HIV services in Preseli Pembrokeshire? (OAQ39117)

C2 Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi adroddiad ar y gwasanaethau HIV a ddarperir ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro? (OAQ39117)

Jane Hutt: Funding for genito-urinary medicine services, which provide diagnosis and treatment services for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, is ring-fenced. For 2004-05, some £47,000 was allocated to Pembrokeshire Local Health Board for genito-urinary medicine services.

Jane Hutt: Neilltuir arian ar gyfer gwasanaethau meddygaeth genhedlol-wrinol, sy'n darparu gwasanaethau diagnosis a thriniaeth ar gyfer HIV a heintiau eraill a drosglwyddir drwy ryw. Ar gyfer 2004-05, dyrannwyd tua £47,000 i Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Sir Benfro ar gyfer gwasanaethau meddygaeth genhedlol-wrinol.

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: HIV is an illness that is often invisible, and not often discussed. It is not always a homosexual illness, it is also a heterosexual illness. One of the major problems that we face in Wales is that it is on the increase, although the number of HIV patients is not as great as it is in other parts of the United Kingdom. I am sure that you would applaud the work of the Terrence Higgins Trust, as would I. However, its facilities stop at the end of the M4, and, as you know, Preseli Pembrokeshire is considerably further on than that. I am meeting the trust's chief executive, but would it be possible to have a national strategy on HIV that would incorporate areas such as mine that do not necessarily have a high incidence but which could be brought, perhaps, into regionalisation?

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: Mae HIV yn salwch sy'n anweledig yn aml, ac ni chaiff ei drafod yn aml. Nid yw bob amser yn salwch ymhlith pobl gyfunrywiol, mae'n salwch ymhlith pobl heterorywiol hefyd. Un o'r problemau mwyaf yr ydym yn ei hwynebu yng Nghymru yw ei fod ar gynydd, er nad oes gennym gymaint o gleifion HIV â rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Yr wyf yn ffyddiog y byddech yn cymeradwyo gwaith Ymddiriedolaeth Terrence Higgins, fel y byddwn i. Fodd bynnag, mae ei chyfleusterau yn dod i ben ar ddiwedd yr M4, ac, fel y gwyddoch, mae Preseli Sir Benfro gryn bellter o'r man hwnnw. Byddaf yn cyfarfod â phrif weithredwr yr ymddiriedolaeth, ond a fyddai'n bosibl cael strategaeth genedlaethol ar HIV a fyddai'n cynnwys ardaloedd fel fy un i lle nad oes nifer fawr o achosion o anghenraid ond a allai o bosibl gael eu cynnwys mewn rhanbarth?

Jane Hutt: As you say, there has been an increase in the incidence of HIV. In 2003, 115 cases were diagnosed; in 2000, 45 new cases were diagnosed, so there is an increase. We are reviewing HIV and sexual health services, on which I will be reporting to the Assembly before Christmas. The Terrence Higgins Trust does cover Wales with the money that we have provided through the Health Challenge Wales voluntary sector grant scheme. The next meeting of the mid and west Wales regional network—which covers Preseli Pembrokeshire—will consider the role of GPs, for example, in providing HIV care.

Lisa Francis: The sharing of needles can lead to an increase in the number of deaths related to HIV and AIDS, and prevention is obviously better than cure. In a written answer to me, you stated that several representations had been received from outside organisations regarding the relaxation of prescriptive national minimum standard 37.3, which limits the number of places in care homes for younger adults suffering from drug and alcohol misuse to just 16. That is not the case in Scotland, England or Northern Ireland, where rules are more flexible. How many more ruined lives and deaths will it take before we see this standard relaxed?

Jane Hutt: I am not sure what that has to do with HIV services in Preseli Pembrokeshire. As you know, regulations in terms of homes for adults is an issue for the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales. This is an operational matter for CSIW, and I know that it will respond to you on that point.

Comisiynydd Plant Cymru The Children's Commissioner for Wales

Q3 Leanne Wood: Will the Minister make a statement on the views of the Welsh Affairs Select Committee regarding the powers of the Children's Commissioner for Wales? (OAQ39166)

Jane Hutt: I welcome the contribution of the Welsh Affairs Select Committee to the debate on the powers of the children's commissioner. In particular, I fully endorse

Jane Hutt: Fel y dywedwch, gwelwyd cynnydd yn nifer yr achosion o HIV. Yn 2003, gwnaethpwyd diagnosis o 115 o achosion; yn 2000, gwnaethpwyd diagnosis o 45 o achosion newydd, felly mae cynnydd. Yr ydym yn adolygu gwasanaethau HIV ac iechyd rhywiol, a byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar hyn i'r Cynulliad cyn y Nadolig. Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Terrence Higgins yn cwmpasu Cymru gyda'r arian a ddarparwyd gennym drwy gynllun grant sector gwirfoddol Her Iechyd Cymru. Bydd cyfarfod nesaf rhwydwaith rhanbarth canolbarth a gorllewin Cymru—sy'n cynnwys Preseli Sir Benfro—yn ystyried rôl meddygon teulu, er enghraifft, wrth ddarparu gofal HIV.

Lisa Francis: Gall rhannu nodwyddau arwain at gynnydd yn nifer y marwolaethau sy'n gysylltiedig â HIV ac AIDS, ac mae atal salwch o'r fath yn amlwg yn well na'i wella. Mewn ateb ysgrifenedig ataf, nodasoch y derbyniwyd nifer o sylwadau gan sefydliadau o'r tu allan mewn cysylltiad â llacio safon ofynnol genedlaethol ragnodol 37.3, sy'n cyfyngu ar nifer y lleoedd mewn cartrefi gofal ar gyfer oedolion iau sy'n dioddef yn sgîl camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol i 16 yn unig. Nid yw hynny'n wir yn yr Alban, Lloegr na Gogledd Iwerddon, lle y mae rheolau yn fwy hyblyg. Sawl bywyd arall sy'n rhaid ei ddifetha a sawl marwolaeth arall sydd ei angen cyn i'r safon hon gael ei llacio?

Jane Hutt: Nid wyf yn siŵr beth sydd a wnelo hynny â gwasanaethau HIV ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro. Fel y gwyddoch, mater i Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru yw rheoliadau o ran cartrefi i oedolion. Mater gweithredol i ASGC yw hynny, a gwn y bydd yn anfon ateb atoch ar y pwynt hwnnw.

C3 Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar safbwyntiau'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig ar bwerau Comisiynydd Plant Cymru? (OAQ39166)

Jane Hutt: Croesawaf gyfraniad y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig i'r ddadl ar bwerau'r comisiynydd plant. Yn benodol, cymeradwyaf yn llawn y gydnabyddiaeth a

the recognition given to the positive impact made by Peter Clarke on the lives of children and young people in Wales.

Leanne Wood: It has been said that the proposed role of the children's commissioner in England will undermine the role of our commissioner, and that that will be a setback for Wales. These are not the words of members of opposition parties, but of a Labour Member of Parliament, Julie Morgan. The Welsh Affairs Select Committee has recommended that the Bill be amended so that the powers of the Children's Commissioner for Wales cover all aspects of a child's life in Wales. What plans do you have to make stronger representations on behalf of our children's commissioner?

Jane Hutt: You know the views of the Assembly Government with regard to the children's commissioner's powers. We have always been clear about that. We supported the extension of the full range of his powers to non-devolved matters. The Bill currently passing through Parliament will prevent the English commissioner from dealing with any matter within the remit of the Children's Commissioner for Wales, which is important for us to acknowledge and recognise. In addition, it will require the English commissioner to take account of the Children's Commissioner for Wales's views and his work when looking at non-devolved issues.

2.10 p.m.

David Melding: You know that the children's commissioner and leading children's charities in Wales have identified the problem of children trafficking, often starting in central Europe and involving children being used as sex slaves—let us face it, that is what they are—in parts of Wales and other parts of Britain. Does not this area, which cuts across so many issues—including law and order—demonstrate the need to have a children's commissioner in Wales who can look at all issues?

Jane Hutt: Yes. I acknowledge last night's important event, which took place on social work action day. We heard about children trafficking and it was an opportunity to

roddir i'r effaith gadarnhaol a gafodd Peter Clarke ar fywydau plant a phobl ifanc Cymru.

Leanne Wood: Dywedwyd y bydd rôl arfaethedig y comisiynydd plant yn Lloegr yn tanseilio rôl ein comisiynydd ni, ac y bydd hynny'n gam yn ôl i Gymru. Nid geiriau aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau yw'r rhain, ond geiriau Aelod Seneddol Llafur, Julie Morgan. Mae'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig wedi argymhell y dylid diwygio'r Mesur er mwyn sicrhau bod pwerau Comisiynydd Plant Cymru yn cwmpasu pob agwedd ar fywyd plentyn yng Nghymru. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i gyflwyno sylwadau cryfach ar ran ein comisiynydd plant?

Jane Hutt: Fe wyddoch farn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o ran pwerau'r comisiynydd plant. Yr ydym bob amser wedi gwneud hynny'n glir. Bu inni gefnogi'r broses o estyn ystod lawn ei bwerau i faterion annatganoledig. Bydd y Mesur sydd ar ei hynt drwy'r Senedd ar hyn o bryd yn atal comisiynydd Lloegr rhag ymdrin ag unrhyw fater o fewn cylch gwaith Comisiynydd Plant Cymru, ac mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod hynny. Yn ogystal, bydd yn ofynnol i gomisiynydd Lloegr ystyried barn a gwaith Comisiynydd Plant Cymru wrth ystyried materion annatganoledig.

David Melding: Fe wyddoch fod y comisiynydd plant a'r prif elusennau plant yng Nghymru wedi nodi'r broblem o ran masnachu mewn plant. Dechreuwa yn aml yng nghanol Ewrop a defnyddir plant at ddibenion rhyw—gadewch inni wynebu'r ffeithiau, dyna'r hyn sy'n digwydd—mewn rhannau o Gymru a rhannau eraill o Brydain. Onid yw'r maes hwn, sy'n rhychwantu cymaint o faterion—gan gynnwys cyfraith a threfn—yn dangos bod angen cael comisiynydd plant yng Nghymru a all ystyried yr holl faterion?

Jane Hutt: Ydyw. Cydnabyddaf y digwyddiad pwysig a gynhaliwyd neithiwr ar ddiwrnod gweithredu gwaith cymdeithasol. Clywsom am y broblem o ran masnachu

recognise that it is on our doorstep; it is hidden and is a worldwide issue. It means that we must ensure that children and young people in Wales have a single point of contact with whom to raise their concerns. I am taking that forward in terms of discussions with officials and Government, to ensure that our children's commissioner can act first and foremost for our children in Wales.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Jane, I wonder whether you could help me with a hypothetical case, which may well arise once a children's commissioner for England is appointed by Westminster. Let us imagine a young man of 12 or 13 years from Barry, who is suffering abuse in his own household. He goes to the police, who call social services. Could that child expect to get the services of the Children's Commissioner for Wales across the piste as he can now? Under the regulations that Westminster is considering, our commissioner will not be able to take up individual cases. What would happen in the case of this youngster from Barry?

Jane Hutt: I would hope that that youngster would be able to turn to our commissioner. As I said, Mike, we must ensure that children and young people have a single point of contact. The issue relating to reserved matters, which you are raising in relation to the police, is that before the Children Bill, we secured an amendment to have our Children's Commissioner for Wales Act 2001, which enables our commissioner to make representations to us on any matters affecting the welfare of children and young people, including non-devolved matters. We have that security in terms of the issues that he can raise. It is clear that the memorandum of understanding, which is now going to be developed between the commissioner in England and the commissioner in Wales, must ensure that there are no confused lines of contact.

Michael German: Surely this is unsatisfactory, Minister. The English commissioner appointed by Westminster cannot take up individual cases, which means

mewn plant ac yr oedd yn gyfle i gydnabod bod hyn yn digwydd yn y wlad hon; problem gudd ydyw sy'n codi ledled y byd. Mae'n golygu bod yn rhaid inni sicrhau bod gan blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru un pwynt cyswllt ar gyfer codi eu pryderon. Yr wyf yn bwrw ymlaen â hynny drwy gynnal trafodaethau gyda swyddogion a'r Llywodraeth, er mwyn sicrhau y gall ein comisiynydd plant ni weithredu yn bennaf er budd ein plant yng Nghymru.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Jane, tybed a allech fy helpu gydag achos damcaniaethol, a allai godi ar ôl i gomisiynydd plant i Loegr gael ei benodi gan San Steffan. Gadewch inni ddychmygu dyn ifanc o 12 neu 13 mlwydd oed o'r Barri, a gaiff ei gam-drin yn ei gartref ei hun. Mae'n mynd at yr heddlu, sy'n cysylltu â gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. A allai'r plentyn hwnnw ddisgwyl cael gwasanaethau Comisiynydd Plant Cymru am bob mater fel y gall ei ddisgwyl ar hyn o bryd? O dan y rheoliadau y mae San Steffan yn eu hystyried, ni fydd ein comisiynydd ni yn gallu ymdrin ag achosion unigol. Beth fyddai'n digwydd yn achos y person ifanc hwn o'r Barri?

Jane Hutt: Byddwn yn gobeithio y gallai'r person ifanc hwnnw droi at ein comisiynydd. Fel y dywedais, Mike, rhaid inni sicrhau bod gan blant a phobl ifanc un pwynt cyswllt. Y pwynt o ran materion a gadwyd yn ôl, a godwch mewn perthynas â'r heddlu, yw ein bod, cyn y Mesur Plant, wedi sicrhau gwelliant i gael Deddf Comisiynydd Plant Cymru 2001 sy'n galluogi ein comisiynydd i gyflwyno sylwadau inni ar unrhyw faterion sy'n effeithio ar les plant a phobl ifanc, gan gynnwys materion annatganoledig. Mae gennym y sicrwydd hwnnw o ran y materion y gall eu codi. Mae'n amlwg bod yn rhaid i'r memorandwm dealltwriaeth, y bwriedir ei ddatblygu yn awr rhwng y comisiynydd yn Lloegr a'r comisiynydd yng Nghymru, sicrhau nad oes llinellau cyswllt dryslyd.

Michael German: Onid yw hyn yn anfoddfaol, Weinidog? Ni all comisiynydd Lloegr a benodir gan San Steffan ymdrin ag achosion unigol, sy'n golygu na allai ymdrin

that he or she could not take up the hypothetical case of the young man from Barry going to the police. The maximum that our commissioner could do would be to refer the police matter to you or to us in the National Assembly. Is that not unsatisfactory, when we need the children's commissioner to act impartially on behalf of that young man across the board in a matter which links police and social services?

Jane Hutt: Perhaps I could clarify the role of the English children's commissioner. Through the Children Bill, the English children's commissioner will primarily be there to represent the views of children and young people on all matters in England. He or she will be able to investigate individual cases after consulting the Secretary of State. The issue goes back to the fact that we now have to make this work, so that we minimise confused lines of contact or duplication. The commissioners can reach an agreement on the means of achieving this through a memorandum of understanding. I would want to ensure, in those circumstances, that our commissioner could take this forward, if it required an investigation, in partnership with the English children's commissioner. We have not got there yet, Mike, but that is what I want to try to secure.

Gwasanaethau i Blant a Phobl Ifanc Services for Children and Young People

Q4 Gwenda Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to improve services for children and young people in Wales? (OAQ39124)

Jane Hutt: We are pursuing a wide range of initiatives for children and young people, summarised in 'Rights into Action' and in the recently published national service framework for children and young people and maternity services. The draft budget also provided significant additional resources for children in their early years.

Gwenda Thomas: Thank you for that reply. My supplementary will overlap David Melding's earlier question, but it is worth re-emphasising his point. There is growing

ag achos damcaniaethol y dyn ifanc o'r Barri sy'n mynd at yr heddlu. Y mwyaf y gallai ein comisiynydd ni ei wneud fyddai cyfeirio mater yr heddlu atoch chi neu atom ni yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Onid yw hynny'n anfoddhaol, pan fo angen i'r comisiynydd plant weithredu'n ddiuedd ar ran y dyn ifanc hwnnw yn gyffredinol mewn mater sy'n cysylltu'r heddlu a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol?

Jane Hutt: Efallai y gallwn egluro rôl y comisiynydd plant yn Lloegr. Drwy'r Mesur Plant, prif rôl y comisiynydd plant yn Lloegr fydd cynrychioli barn plant a phobl ifanc am bob mater yn Lloegr. Bydd yn gallu ymchwilio i achosion unigol ar ôl ymgynghori â'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol. Mae a wnelo'r mater â'r ffaith bod yn rhaid inni sicrhau bod hyn yn gweithio yn awr, er mwyn inni leihau llinellau cyswllt dryslyd neu ddyblygu. Gall y comisiynwyr ddod i gytundeb ar y ffordd o gyflawni hyn drwy femorandwm dealltwriaeth. Byddwn am sicrhau, o dan yr amgylchiadau hynny, y gallai ein comisiynydd ddatblygu hyn, pe bai angen cynnal ymchwiliad, mewn partneriaeth â'r comisiynydd plant yn Lloegr. Nid ydym wedi sicrhau hynny eto, Mike, ond dyna'r hyn yr wyf am geisio ei sicrhau.

C4 Gwenda Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i wella gwasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru? (OAQ39124)

Jane Hutt: Yr ydym yn cynnal amrywiaeth eang o fentrau i blant a phobl ifanc, a grynhoir yn 'Hawliau ar Waith' ac yn y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc a gwasanaethau mamolaeth a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar. Darparodd y gyllideb ddrafft adnoddau ychwanegol sylweddol i blant yn eu blynyddoedd cynnar hefyd.

Gwenda Thomas: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw. Bydd fy nghwestiwn atodol yn gorgyffwrdd â chwestiwn cynharach David Melding, ond mae'n werth ailbysleisio ei bwynt ef. Mae

concern in Wales about the sexual exploitation of children and young people. These concerns were expressed, as David said, in the reception held here last night, which was hosted by Welsh social workers and charities. There has also been a series of well-researched articles in the *South Wales Evening Post*, and the Children's Commissioner for Wales too has voiced his serious concerns on the issue. Will you consult with key partners, including the Westminster Government, on this worrying issue, with a view to developing a strategy to improve the protection of young people in care to prevent this grooming and abuse?

Jane Hutt: This follows on from David Melding's supplementary. We had a powerful presentation from Barnardo's, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, NCH and the children's commissioner about this issue at the social work action day event last night. I was encouraged to hear that Barnardo's is leading an advisory group on this issue, and Peter Clarke is part of that. I want to follow up this advisory group's work to ensure that it brings in the Welsh Assembly Government and key partners in local government. I also want to take it to my ministerial colleagues in Westminster to ensure action on this appalling matter of trafficking and exploiting children and young people.

David Davies: Do you share my concern that children and young people in the Abergavenny area will now find it much harder to get treatment for drug and alcohol addiction problems because of the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to withdraw funding from the charity agency Teen Challenge International, simply because it has some Christian overtones? Do you agree that any organisation that helps young people to overcome problems of this nature deserves to be supported by the National Assembly?

Jane Hutt: I am not aware of this matter. I do not know whether this point comes under Edwina Hart's portfolio, but I am concerned

pryder cynyddol yng Nghymru ynghylch yr achosion o gamfanteisio'n rhywiol ar blant a phobl ifanc. Mynegwyd y pryderon hyn, fel y dywedodd David, yn y derbyniad a gynhaliwyd yma neithiwr gan weithwyr cymdeithasol ac elusennau yng Nghymru. Yn ogystal, bu cyfres o erthyglau ag ôl gwaith ymchwil trylwyr arnynt yn y *South Wales Evening Post*, ac mae Comisiynydd Plant Cymru wedi mynegi ei bryderon ynghylch y mater hefyd. A ymgynghorwch â phartneriaid allweddol, gan gynnwys Llywodraeth San Steffan, ynghylch y mater hwn sy'n peri pryder, er mwyn datblygu strategaeth i wella'r broses o amddiffyn pobl ifanc sy'n derbyn gofal er mwyn atal yr achosion hyn o'u paratoi i bwrpas rhyw a'u cam-drin?

Jane Hutt: Mae hyn yn ailgydio yng nghwestiwn atodol David Melding. Cawsom gyflwyniad grymus gan Barnardo's, Cymdeithas Genedlaethol er Atal Creulondeb i Blant, NCH a'r comisiynydd plant ynghylch y mater hwn yn y digwyddiad a gynhaliwyd neithiwr ar ddiwrnod gweithredu gwaith cymdeithasol. Yr oedd yn galonogol clywed bod Barnardo's yn arwain grŵp cynghori ar y mater hwn, ac mae Peter Clarke yn rhan o hynny. Yr wyf am ddatblygu gwaith y grŵp cynghori hwn er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn cynnwys Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a phartneriaid allweddol mewn llywodraeth leol. Yr wyf hefyd am ei godi gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion yn San Steffan er mwyn sicrhau y cymerir camau ar y mater ofnadwy hwn sef masnachu mewn plant a phobl ifanc a chamfanteisio arnynt.

David Davies: A rannwch fy mhryder y bydd yn llawer anos yn awr i blant a phobl ifanc yn ardal y Fenni gael triniaeth ar gyfer problemau o ran bod yn gaeth i gyffuriau ac alcohol oherwydd penderfyniad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i dynnu arian yn ôl o'r asiantaeth elusennol Teen Challenge International, am fod naws Gristnogol iddi? A gytunwch fod unrhyw sefydliad sy'n helpu pobl ifanc i oresgyn problemau o'r fath yn haeddu cael cefnogaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol?

Jane Hutt: Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o'r mater hwn. Ni wn a yw'r pwynt hwn yn rhan o bortffolio Edwina Hart, ond mae'n peri

about it and ask you to write to me.

pryder imi a gofynnaf ichi ysgrifennu ataf.

Gwasanaethau Epilepsi ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro Epilepsy Services in Preseli Pembrokeshire

Q5 Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: Will the Minister report on the provision of epilepsy services in Preseli Pembrokeshire? (OAQ39116)

Jane Hutt: We are developing an all-Wales approach to improving epilepsy services and have established an epilepsy planning and implementation group to develop an epilepsy policy and action plan.

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: I am sure that you know that there are 42 different types of seizure associated with epilepsy, and it is far more common per head of population in Wales than diabetes. However, diabetes has a high profile—thanks in part to Assembly Members—that epilepsy does not share. I am aware of the National Assembly's access group and the work that is being carried out at present, but we do not have a dedicated neurologist working on epilepsy in Preseli Pembrokeshire, although we have an extremely able consultant physician in whom I have enormous confidence because he is my physician. Would you consider extending neurology services, even if it is just on a peripatetic basis, to those patients in Preseli Pembrokeshire who frankly deserve part of a specialist service?

Jane Hutt: This is why we need to remove inequities and have service standards across Wales through the epilepsy policy and action plan. On the workforce issue and access to a neurologist, you know that Health Commission Wales is facilitating a review of specialised neuroscience services across Wales to consider this issue in terms of the whole patient-care pathway for specific neurological conditions, and I am sure that that will include epilepsy in terms of workforce targets and the epilepsy action plan. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. This matter may not be of interest to all Members, but it is certainly of interest to me. I would be grateful if people would listen to the Minister

C5 Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi adroddiad ar y gwasanaethau epilepsi a ddarperir ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro? (OAQ39116)

Jane Hutt: Yr ydym yn datblygu ymagwedd Cymru gyfan tuag at wella gwasanaethau epilepsi ac yr ydym wedi sefydlu grŵp cynllunio a gweithredu epilepsi i ddatblygu polisi a chynllun gweithredu ar epilepsi.

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn gwybod bod 42 o fathau gwahanol o drawiad yn gysylltiedig ag epilepsi, ac mae'n llawer mwy cyffredin y pen o'r boblogaeth yng Nghymru na diabetes. Fodd bynnag, mae gan ddiabetes broffil uchel—diolch yn rhannol i Aelodau'r Cynulliad—nad oes gan epilepsi. Gwn am grŵp mynediad y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a'r gwaith a wneir ar hyn o bryd, ond nid oes gennym niwrolegydd penodedig yn gweithio ym maes epilepsi ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro, er bod gennym feddyg ymgynghorol galluog iawn yr wyf yn ymddiried ynddo yn fawr iawn am mai fy meddyg i ydyw. A fydddech yn ystyried estyn gwasanaethau niwroleg, hyd yn oed os mai ar sail beripatetig yn unig ydyw, i'r cleifion hynny ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro sy'n haeddu bod yn rhan o wasanaeth arbenigol?

Jane Hutt: Dyna pam mae angen inni ddileu anghydraddoldebau a chyflwyno safonau gwasanaeth ledled Cymru drwy'r polisi a'r cynllun gweithredu ar epilepsi. O ran y gweithlu a'r cyfle i weld niwrolegydd, fe wyddoch fod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn hwyluso adolygiad o wasanaethau niwrowyddoniaeth arbenigol ledled Cymru i ystyried y mater hwn o ran llwybr gofal claf cyfan ar gyfer cyflyrau niwrolegol penodol, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn cynnwys epilepsi o ran targedau'r gweithlu a'r cynllun gweithredu ar epilepsi. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Efallai nad yw'r mater hwn o ddiddordeb i bob Aelod, ond mae o ddiddordeb i mi, yn sicr. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai pobl yn gwrandao ar y

in relative silence on these important healthcare issues.

Glyn Davies: A local office recently opened in Newtown, where people suffering from epilepsy can call in and seek advice. It is run by a committed local volunteer who suffers from epilepsy herself. What financial support is available from the Government for offices of this sort, and what discussions have you had with Epilepsy Wales about its support to organisations such as that in Newtown and similar organisations in Preseli Pembrokeshire?

The Presiding Officer: Order. Newtown is not yet in Pembrokeshire.

2.20 p.m.

Jane Hutt: I will be fair to Glyn's geography, but it is mid and west Wales. Over the last five and a half years, I have had many meetings with epilepsy services, including Epilepsy Wales and some local organisations that have set up in the way in which you described in Newtown, Glyn. The local health boards are the key providers of health-related services with regard to the voluntary sector, and I am sure that you will pursue this issue with Powys Local Health Board.

Gweinidog yn weddol dawel pan drafodwn y materion pwysig hyn o ran gofal iechyd.

Glyn Davies: Agorodd swyddfa leol yn y Drenewydd yn ddiweddar, y gall pobl ag epilepsi alw heibio iddi a cheisio cyngor. Fe'i rhedir gan wirfoddolwr lleol ymrwymedig sydd ag epilepsi ei hun. Pa gymorth ariannol sydd ar gael gan y Llywodraeth ar gyfer swyddfeydd o'r fath, a pha drafodaethau a gawsoch gydag Epilepsi Cymru ynghylch ei chymorth i sefydliadau megis yr un yn y Drenewydd a sefydliadau tebyg ym Mhreseli Sir Benfro?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid yw'r Drenewydd yn sir Benfro eto.

Jane Hutt: Byddaf yn deg â daearyddiaeth Glyn, ond mae yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin. Yn ystod y pum mlynedd a hanner diwethaf, cefais sawl cyfarfod â swyddogion gwasanaethau epilepsi, gan gynnwys Epilepsi Cymru a rhai mudiadau lleol sydd wedi'u sefydlu yn y ffordd a ddisgrifiwyd gennych yn y Drenewydd, Glyn. Y byrddau iechyd lleol yw darparwyr allweddol gwasanaethau sy'n gysylltiedig ag iechyd, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn codi'r mater hwn gyda Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Powys.

Gwella Iechyd a Lles Improving Health and Wellbeing

Q6 Lorraine Barrett: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to encourage individuals to improve their health and wellbeing? (OAQ39125)

Jane Hutt: The Assembly Government is supporting a number of initiatives to help people improve their health, for example, the smokers' helpline. Earlier this year, the First Minister and I announced the development of Health Challenge Wales, the new national focus for improving health in Wales.

Lorraine Barrett: I am sure that you agree that the voluntary sector has a vital role to play in improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Wales. You mentioned Health Challenge Wales and its voluntary sector grant. Will you assure me of your support for

C6 Lorraine Barrett: Beth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i annog unigolion i wella'u hiechyd a'u lles? (OAQ39125)

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cefnogi nifer o fentrau i helpu pobl i wella eu hiechyd, er enghraifft, y llinell gymorth i ysmygwyr. Yn gynharach eleni, cyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog a minnau ddatblygiad Her Iechyd Cymru, y ffocws cenedlaethol newydd ar gyfer gwella iechyd yng Nghymru.

Lorraine Barrett: Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn cytuno bod gan y sector gwirfoddol ran hanfodol i'w chwarae i wella iechyd a lles pobl Cymru. Bu ichi sôn am Her Iechyd Cymru a'i grant sector gwirfoddol. A wnewch roi sicrwyd imi y byddwch yn

it in the future, so that it will be able to continue to promote better nutrition, increased levels of physical activity and cessation of smoking?

Jane Hutt: Yes. The work that is being done in the voluntary sector, for example, through the healthy living centres that are being developed with lottery funding across Wales, is contributing towards improving health, in particular tackling health inequalities in the most disadvantaged areas, and that is where this Government will make increased investment.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): How are individuals expected to improve their health and wellbeing when acute services are being taken further away from them? One such example is the removal of paediatric neurosurgery from Morriston Hospital to Cardiff. Swansea will retain only emergency treatment. Will you explain to the people of south west Wales why Swansea was not even invited to make a business case for a centre of excellence alongside Cardiff and Bristol?

Jane Hutt: You know that this issue is currently under consideration by the community health councils, as a result of a report by Health Commission Wales. You also know that as a result of the option appraisal, which I reported to the Assembly, emergency services for paediatric neurosurgery will remain in Swansea. That option appraisal work was undertaken by leading experts in neurosurgery across the UK and the world, and the appraisal also took cognisance of the royal college's advice on this matter. We must ensure that emergency services remain at Morriston Hospital, but, where specialist attention and a safe and secure environment is needed for children with critical needs, elective surgery will be in Cardiff. However, that is subject to consideration by the community health councils.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: With respect, I acknowledged in my question that emergency services would remain at Morriston. However, you did not explain why Swansea was not even invited to bid for the centre of excellence. You will know that Swansea

cefnogi hynny yn y dyfodol, fel y bydd yn gallu parhau i hybu maethiad gwell a mwy o weithgarwch corfforol ac annog pobl i roi'r gorau i ysmegu?

Jane Hutt: Byddaf. Mae'r gwaith a wneir yn y sector gwirfoddol, er enghraifft, drwy'r canolfannau byw'n iach a ddatblygir gydag arian y loteri ledled Cymru, yn cyfrannu i wella iechyd, yn benodol wrth fynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau iechyd yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig, a dyna lle y bydd y Llywodraeth hon yn buddsoddi mwy o arian.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Sut y disgwylir i unigolion wella eu hiechyd a'u lles pan symudir gwasanaethau aciwt ymhellach oddi wrthynt? Un enghraifft o'r fath yw symud niwrolawdriniaeth bediatrig o Ysbyty Treforys i Gaerdydd. Dim ond triniaeth frys a fydd yn cael ei darparu yn Abertawe. A eglurwch i bobl y De-orllewin pam na wahoddwyd Abertawe hyd yn oed i wneud achos busnes dros ganolfan ragoriaeth ochr yn ochr â Chaerdydd a Bryste?

Jane Hutt: Fe wyddoch y caiff y mater hwn ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd gan y cynghorau iechyd cymuned, o ganlyniad i adroddiad gan Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru. Fe wyddoch hefyd y bydd gwasanaethau brys ar gyfer niwrolawdriniaeth bediatrig yn aros yn Abertawe o ganlyniad i'r arfarniad o'r opsiynau, yr hysbysais y Cynulliad amdano. Cyflawnwyd y gwaith hwnnw o arfarnu'r opsiynau gan arbenigwyr blaenllaw ym maes niwrolawdriniaeth ledled y DU a'r byd, a chymerodd yr arfarniad sylw o gyngor y coleg brenhinol ar y mater hwn hefyd. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod gwasanaethau brys yn aros yn Ysbyty Treforys, ond, lle y bo angen sylw arbenigol ac amgylchedd diogel i blant ag anghenion critigol, caiff llawdriniaeth ddewisol ei chyflawni yng Nghaerdydd. Fodd bynnag, mae'r cynghorau iechyd cymuned yn ystyried hynny.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Gyda phob parch, cydnabûm yn fy nghwestiwn y byddai gwasanaethau brys yn aros yn Nhreforys. Fodd bynnag, ni wnaethoch egluro pam na wahoddwyd Abertawe hyd yn oed i wneud cais am y ganolfan ragoriaeth. Fe wyddoch i

community health council last night overwhelmingly rejected the proposal for a centre of excellence in Cardiff, therefore the matter must now be decided by you. In view of that rejection, will you now scrap the reconfiguration proposals for the centre of excellence in Cardiff, and ensure that intensive care beds for children are reintroduced in Swansea?

Jane Hutt: I await the community health councils' considerations. That is the due process. It is not just Swansea, but Neath Port Talbot must also consider this issue. This has taken place as a result of two years of extensive consultation, not only with parents in the local community, but with clinicians. I ask you to consider whether it is right that you should be talking about people bidding for some of the most specialist services in Wales as though this was a market place. I do not believe that you see this as a market place issue—it is about providing the safest and securest services for children in Wales. If we want to keep these services in Wales, we must listen to the experts. I do not want to be told by the royal colleges what to do. Let us consider the issue in due process.

Janice Gregory: Heart disease is a major cause of illness and death in Wales, as we all know. Will you join me in congratulating Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust, Bridgend Local Health Board and Bridgend County Borough Council for their partnership working to tackle health problems in the Ogmere and Garw Valleys with the 'Heart of the Community' project? I also thank you for taking the time to launch this project in Ogmere Vale in my constituency last month.

Jane Hutt: Thank you, that was about how we could improve health, prevent ill health and tackle health inequalities. We can witness this, not only by visiting the 'Heart of the Community' project in the Garw Valleys, but also by seeing the successful development of the food co-operative in the Lewistown and Garw valley communities, recognising that people in such communities are taking responsibility, with our support,

gyngor iechyd cymuned Abertawe wrthod gyda mwyafrif mawr neithiwr y cynnig i gael canolfan ragoriaeth yng Nghaerdydd, felly chi fydd yn gorfod penderfynu ar y mater yn awr. Yn sgîl y gwrthodiad hwnnw, a fyddwch bellach yn rhoi'r gorau i'r cynigion ailgyflunio i gael canolfan ragoriaeth yng Nghaerdydd, a sicrhau y caiff gwelyau gofal dwys i blant eu hailgyflwyno yn Abertawe?

Jane Hutt: Arhosaf am ystyriaethau'r cynghorau iechyd cymuned. Dyna'r broses briodol. Nid dim ond Abertawe sy'n gorfod ystyried y mater hwn, ond Castell-nedd Port Talbot hefyd. Digwyddodd hyn o ganlyniad i ddwy flynedd o ymgynghori helaeth, nid dim ond â rhieni yn y gymuned leol, ond â chlinigwyr. Gofynnaf ichi ystyried a yw'n briodol ichi siarad am bobl yn gwneud cais am rai o'r gwasanaethau mwyaf arbenigol yng Nghymru fel petai hon yn farchnad. Ni chredaf eich bod yn ystyried mai mater yn ymwneud â'r farchnad yw hon—mae a wnelo â darparu'r gwasanaethau mwyaf diogel i blant yng Nghymru. Os ydym am gadw'r gwasanaethau hyn yng Nghymru, rhaid inni wrando ar yr arbenigwyr. Nid wyf am i'r colegau brenhinol ddweud wrthyf beth y dylwn ei wneud. Gadewch inni ystyried y mater gan ddefnyddio'r broses briodol.

Janice Gregory: Clefyd y galon yw un o'r prif bethau sy'n achosi salwch a marwolaeth yng Nghymru, fel y gŵyr pob un ohonom. A ymunwch â mi i longyfarch Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Bro Morgannwg, Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr am eu gwaith mewn partneriaeth i fynd i'r afael â phroblemau iechyd yng Nghwm Ogwr ac yng Nghwm Garw gyda'r prosiect 'Heart of the Community'? Diolchaf ichi hefyd am roi o'ch amser i lansio'r prosiect hwn ym Mro Ogwr yn fy etholaeth fis diwethaf.

Jane Hutt: Diolch, yr oedd a wnelo hynny â sut y gallem wella iechyd, atal salwch a mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau iechyd. Gallwn weld hyn, nid dim ond drwy ymweld â'r prosiect 'Heart of the Community' yng Nghymoedd Garw, ond hefyd drwy weld datblygiad llwyddiannus y fenter fwyd gydweithredol yng nghymunedau Lewistown a chwm Garw, gan gydnabod bod pobl mewn cymunedau o'r fath yn cymryd cyfrifoldeb,

for improving health and tackling heart disease. I am sure that that community aspiration, supported by the trust and local health board, is well-received.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): You may be aware of the case of Mrs Gretta Baitup of Porthcawl, aged 58, who is sadly terminally ill with cancer. Her husband was told that he should contact his GP if she had any symptoms of diarrhoea. She showed such symptoms on the weekend and he rang Prime Care in Bridgend at 7.45 a.m. on Saturday. He was directed to Barry rather than Bridgend and it was more than 12 hours before a doctor arrived. Mr Baitup was so irritated by your comments and complacency in our debate yesterday that he contacted ITV Wales, which is how the case came to light. In view of that and many other cases, will you acknowledge that there is a serious problem and that we have to do something to ensure that there is an effective out-of-hours service throughout Wales?

Jane Hutt: As I said yesterday, I would urge all AMs and their constituents to ensure that these complaints are taken to the local health board and Prime Care service for their responses. It is vital in these early days that we monitor and track any shortcomings and shortfalls in the service that we have established. We have set up, for the first time ever, standard specification about how our out-of-hours services will be provided. That was not the case until the general medical services contract put these new arrangements in place. We have also put an extra £30 million into out-of-hours services. Therefore, I want to ensure that it works and I urge you and your constituent to make a formal complaint to the local health board so that we can put the service right.

Nick Bourne: No doubt they will do so, but they are still annoyed by your attitude, as are we. You are the Minister—the person, who, in the final analysis, must police this system. You have been the Minister for over five years. If you do not realise that, the rest of us

gyda'n cefnogaeth ni, dros wella iechyd a mynd i'r afael â chlefyd y galon. Yr wyf yn siŵr y croesewir y dyhead hwnnw yn y gymuned, a gefnogir gan yr ymddiriedolaeth a'r bwrdd iechyd lleol.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Efallai y byddwch yn ymwybodol o achos Mrs Gretta Baitup o Borthcawl, sy'n 58 oed, sy'n dioddef o ganser angheuol. Dywedwyd wrth ei gŵr y dylai gysylltu â'i feddyg teulu pe bai unrhyw symptomau o ddolur rhydd ganddi. Yr oedd ganddi symptomau o'r fath ar y penwythnos a ffoniodd Prime Care ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr am 7.45 a.m. fore Sadwrn. Fe'i cyfeiriwyd at y Barri yn hytrach na Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr a chymerodd meddyg 12 awr i gyrraedd. Yr oedd Mr Baitup mor ddiryngylch eich sylwadau a'ch hunanfodlonrwydd yn ein dadl ddoe nes iddo gysylltu ag ITV Cymru, a dyna sut y daeth yr achos i'r golwg. Yng ngoleuni hynny a llawer o achosion eraill, a gydnabyddwch fod problem ddifrifol a bod yn rhaid inni wneud rhywbeth i sicrhau bod gwasanaeth effeithiol y tu allan i oriau ledled Cymru?

Jane Hutt: Fel y dywedais ddoe, byddwn yn annog pob AC a'u hetholwyr i sicrhau y cyflwynir y cwynion hyn i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol a gwasanaeth Prime Care i gael eu hymatebion. Mae'n hanfodol yn y dyddiau cynnar hyn ein bod yn monitro ac yn olrhain unrhyw wendidau a diffygion yn y gwasanaeth a sefydlwyd gennym. Am y tro cyntaf erioed, yr ydym wedi pennu manyleb safonol ynghylch y ffordd y darperir ein gwasanaethau y tu allan i oriau. Nid oedd hynny'n wir hyd nes i'r contract ar gyfer gwasanaethau meddygol cyffredinol roi'r trefniadau newydd hyn ar waith. Neilltuwyd £30 miliwn ychwanegol gennym hefyd ar gyfer gwasanaethau y tu allan i oriau. Felly, yr wyf am sicrhau bod hyn yn gweithio ac yr wyf yn eich annog chi a'ch etholwr i gyflwyno cwyn ffurfiol i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol fel y gallwn wella'r gwasanaeth.

Nick Bourne: Byddant yn gwneud hynny yn ddi-au, ond mae eich agwedd yn parhau i'w digio hwy, a ninnau hefyd. Chi yw'r Gweinidog—yr un sy'n gorfod monitro'r system hon, yn y pen draw. Chi fu'r Gweinidog ers dros bum mlynedd. Os na

sadly do. It is time for you to ensure that we have an effective out-of-hours system. I am not interested in the past, but in what is happening now.

There was another case last night of someone in Pyle, sadly suffering from Alzheimer's, who had to wait hours for the out-of-hours service to clock in. Will you do something to ensure that we have an effective system, because we do not have one at the moment?

Jane Hutt: I have already responded to your questions, Nick. I do not know what else you can expect apart from a standard set of specifications that dictate how the local health boards will let the contracts and take forward the new opportunities that I discussed yesterday, for example, for the people of the Cynon Valley, who have never had access to a treatment centre. Please recognise that we are providing new opportunities as well as encountering difficulties. I have said that complaints should be addressed robustly. We should, of course, share our concerns with anyone in the positions that you have described, but let us give this new project an opportunity to work. The out-of-hours service has been funded more than adequately. The British Medical Association supports the changes, which release GPs to undertake their work during the working week and the service is delivering. Please ensure that you give it a chance because you also have a part to play in this, in terms of what information you feed to the media.

Nick Bourne: I wish that I had your job because I would do something. It is about time that you got to grips with this issue. We have crumbling health authorities, the worst waiting list position in the western world; we have dreadful MRSA incidences and you will not publish the figures. Will you do something when there is clear evidence, as there is, of the out-of-hours service not operating? You are the Minister—the buck stops with you and the First Minister and it is about time that you did something about this. It is no good smiling, Minister; this is a serious issue. For goodness' sake, do something about it.

sylweddolwch hynny, mae'r gweddill ohonom yn ei sylweddoli, gwaetha'r modd. Mae'n bryd ichi sicrhau bod gennym system effeithiol y tu allan i oriau. Nid oes diddordeb gennyf yn y gorffennol, ond yn yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn awr.

Cafwyd achos arall neithiwr o rywun ym Mhîl, sy'n dioddef o glefyd Alzheimer, a fu'n gorfod aros i'r gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau ddechrau. A wnewch rywbeth i sicrhau bod system effeithiol gennym, am nad yw hynny'n wir ar hyn o bryd?

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf wedi ymateb i'ch cwestiynau eisoes, Nick. Ni wn beth arall y gallwch ei ddisgwyl ac eithrio cyfres safonol o fanylebau sy'n nodi sut y bydd y byrddau iechyd lleol yn gosod y contractau a datblygu'r cyfleoedd newydd a drafodais ddoe, er enghraifft, i bobl Cwm Cynon, na fu canolfan driniaeth ar gael iddynt erioed o'r blaen. Dylech gydnabod ein bod yn darparu cyfleoedd newydd yn ogystal â wynebu anawsterau. Dywedais y dylid ymdrin â chwynion mewn ffordd gadarn. Dylem rannu ein pryderon gydag unrhyw un yn y sefyllfaoedd a ddisgrifiwyd gennych, wrth gwrs, ond gadewch inni roi cyfle i'r prosiect hwn weithio. Rhoddwyd hen ddigon o arian i'r gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau. Mae Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yn cefnogi'r newidiadau, sy'n rhyddhau meddygon teulu i wneud eu gwaith yn ystod eu hwythnos waith ac mae'r gwasanaeth yn cyflawni'r nod. Dylech sicrhau eich bod yn rhoi cyfle i hyn, am fod gennych chi ran i'w chwarae hefyd, o ran pa wybodaeth a roddwch i'r cyfryngau.

Nick Bourne: Hoffwn wneud eich swydd chi oherwydd byddwn i'n gweithredu. Mae'n hen bryd ichi fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn. Mae gennym awdurdodau iechyd sy'n dirywio, y rhestrau aros gwaethaf yn y gorllewin; ceir nifer ofnadwy o achosion o MRSA ac yr ydych yn gwrthod cyhoeddi'r ffigurau. A weithredwch pan fydd tystiolaeth glir, fel sydd gennym, nad yw'r gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau yn gweithio? Chi yw'r Gweinidog—chi a'r Prif Weinidog sy'n gyfrifol am hyn ac mae'n bryd ichi wneud rhywbeth am y mater. Nid oes diben gwenu, Weinidog; mae hwn yn fater difrifol. Er mwyn popeth, gweithredwch.

2.30 p.m.

Jane Hutt: The adversarial approach you take does not help us move forward constructively. In relation to the health service, I would like to have constructive and responsible opposition, not people pointing at me when I have already said that this is a responsibility that I have driven forward as Minister. For the first time ever, we have standards to monitor and that is why I have asked you to raise any problems, glitches or complaints formally through the system. I want to ensure that we have a first class out-of-hours service in Wales.

Jane Hutt: Nid yw'r ymagwedd wrthwynebus sydd gennych yn ein helpu i symud ymlaen mewn ffordd adeiladol. O ran y gwasanaeth iechyd, hoffwn weld gwrthbleidiau adeiladol a chyfrifol, yn hytrach na phobl yn pwyntio bys ataf a minnau wedi dweud eisoes fod hwn yn gyfrifoldeb yr wyf wedi'i ysgwyddo yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Gweinidog. Am y tro cyntaf erioed, mae gennym safonau i'w monitro a dyma pam yr wyf wedi gofyn ichi godi unrhyw broblemau, anawsterau neu gwynion yn ffurfiol drwy'r system. Yr wyf am sicrhau bod gennym wasanaeth y tu allan i oriau o'r radd flaenaf.

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

Arian y Loteri Lottery Funding

Q1 Janet Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on lottery funding in Wales? (OAQ39188)

C1 Janet Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar gyllid y loteri yng Nghymru? (OAQ39188)

The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Alun Pugh): The national lottery, which celebrates its tenth birthday this year, makes a significant contribution to Wales. To date, over 20,000 projects have benefited from more than £800 million of national lottery funding.

Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon (Alun Pugh): Gwna'r loteri genedlaethol, sy'n dathlu ei phen-blwydd yn ddeg oed eleni, gyfraniad sylweddol i Gymru. Hyd yma, mae dros 20,000 o brosiectau wedi elwa ar dros £800 miliwn o arian y loteri genedlaethol.

Janet Davies: Have you had any discussions, and if so, what were they, to ensure a distribution of money to public projects that is proportionate to the geographical and social spread of ticket purchases in order to reduce the early Robin-Hood-in-reverse days of the lottery?

Janet Davies: A gawsoch unrhyw drafodaethau, ac os felly, beth oeddent, i sicrhau y dosberthir arian i brosiectau cyhoeddus mewn ffordd sy'n gymesur â dosbarthiad daearyddol a chymdeithasol y tocynnau a brynir, er mwyn lleihau'r achosion a gafwyd yn nyddiau cynnar y loteri pan oedd arian y tlawd yn mynd i boced y cyfoethog?

Alun Pugh: There is a fair case to be made, not only for the geographical distribution of lottery proceeds, but for distribution that has social inclusion, and the fact that some communities are more prosperous than others, at its heart.

Alun Pugh: Mae dadl dda, nid yn unig dros ddosbarthiad daearyddol o elw'r loteri, ond dros ddosbarthiad sydd â chynhwysiant cymdeithasol, a'r ffaith bod rhai cymunedau yn fwy ffyniannus na chymunedau eraill, yn sail iddo.

Carl Sargeant: Will you join me in publicly congratulating Welsh Border Community Transport, based in my constituency of Alyn and Deeside, which was recently awarded £54,000 by the big lottery fund? It provides excellent community service, and this funding will allow it to provide a new vehicle, which will give most of my constituents opportunities to travel across the Alyn and Deeside area.

Alun Pugh: Lottery money benefits big and small projects. We are about to celebrate the opening of the Wales Millennium Centre, which will be a landmark project for the whole of the Welsh nation. We should never forget that the vast majority of lottery awards are made to small and medium-sized projects which benefit communities the length and breadth of Wales, such as the one you mentioned.

Lisa Francis: Following the lottery review and the merger of the new opportunities fund with the community fund to create the big lottery fund, what input are you providing to ensure that the new priorities are not over-prescriptive, and reflect the needs of community arts projects, such as Theatr Powys and Powys Dance Company, which may be under threat of closure due to cuts in their local authorities' funding?

Alun Pugh: It is important that the new big lottery fund carefully considers balance in terms of programmes on health and education and its various community grant programmes. I look forward to tomorrow when we launch the Mentro Allan scheme, which will have an important impact on health in Wales.

Janice Gregory: Do you share my concern that sometimes overly enthusiastic or optimistic advice is given to small organisations, who then must have a major re-think on lottery applications, only to find that when they have done so and re-applied for planning permission, they have their application for funding refused?

Alun Pugh: You mentioned this particular concern to me yesterday. It is an important feature of any lottery project backing that advice should be accurate, and that no false

Carl Sargeant: A ymunwch â mi i longyfarch Trafnidiaeth Gymunedol Gororau Cymru, yn fy etholaeth i, sef Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy, y dyfarnwyd £54,000 iddi yn ddiweddar gan y gronfa loteri fawr? Darpara wasanaeth cymunedol ardderchog, a bydd yr arian hwn yn ei galluogi i ddarparu cerbyd newydd, a fydd yn rhoi cyfleoedd i'r rhan fwyaf o'm hetholwyr deithio ledled ardal Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy.

Alun Pugh: Mae prosiectau mawr a bach yn elwa ar arian y loteri. Yr ydym ar fin dathlu agoriad Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru, a fydd yn garreg filltir i Gymru gyfan. Ni ddylem byth anghofio y caiff y mwyafrif helaeth o arian y loteri ei roi i brosiectau bach a chanolig eu maint sydd o fudd i gymunedau ym mhob cwr o Gymru, megis yr un a grybwyllwyd gennych.

Lisa Francis: Yn dilyn yr adolygiad o'r loteri ac uno'r gronfa cyfleoedd newydd a'r gronfa gymunedol i greu'r gronfa loteri fawr, pa gyfraniad a wnewch i sicrhau nad yw'r blaenoriaethau newydd yn rhy benodol, a'u bod yn adlewyrchu anghenion prosiectau celfyddydau cymunedol, megis Theatr Powys a Chwmni Dawns Powys, a allai gau oherwydd y cwtogir ar arian eu hawdurdodau lleol?

Alun Pugh: Mae'n bwysig bod y gronfa loteri fawr yn ystyried cydbwysedd o ran rhaglenni iechyd ac addysg a'i rhaglenni grantiau cymunedol gwahanol yn ofalus. Edrychaf ymlaen at yfory pan fyddwn yn lansio cynllun Mentro Allan, a gaiff effaith bwysig ar iechyd yng Nghymru.

Janice Gregory: A rannwch fy mhryder y rhoddir cyngor rhy frwdfrydig neu rhy optimistaidd i fudiadau bach weithiau, y mae'n rhaid iddynt wedyn ailystyried o ddifrif sut y maent yn gwneud ceisiadau am arian y loteri, ac ar ôl iddynt wneud hynny a gwneud cais arall am ganiatâd cynllunio, caiff eu cais am arian ei wrthod?

Alun Pugh: Bu ichi sôn wrthyf am y pryder penodol hwn ddoe. Un o nodweddion pwysig unrhyw gefnogaeth gan y loteri i brosiect yw y dylai cyngor fod yn gywir, ac na ddylid

expectations are raised.

Jenny Randerson: You have mentioned the importance of lottery funding to sport. This money largely goes through the Sports Council for Wales. The Assembly sponsored public bodies' review includes the sports council, but if the council was brought into the Assembly Government, it would not be able to continue with its lottery distribution role. Therefore, what discussions have you had with UK Government and others, and what proposals have you considered, for the possible alternative location of the lottery function, which will protect its availability for sports development, and harness the expertise which currently resides with the sports council, if your Government decides to bring it into the Welsh Assembly Government?

Alun Pugh: No decision has been made on ASPB reform in respect of the Sports Council for Wales. However, Sportlot and the distribution of lottery money for sport is an important issue, which will weigh heavily in those discussions.

codi gobaith gwag.

Jenny Randerson: Bu ichi gyfeirio at bwysigrwydd arian y loteri i chwaraeon. Dosberthir yr arian hwn drwy Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru yn bennaf. Mae'r adolygiad o gyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad yn cynnwys y cyngor chwaraeon, ond pe bai'r cyngor yn dod o dan adain Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ni allai barhau i ddsbarthu arian y loteri. Felly, pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda Llywodraeth y DU ac eraill, a pha gynigion yr ydych wedi'u hystyried, o ran pwy arall a allai gyflawni'r swyddogaeth hon o ran y loteri, er mwyn diogelu'r arian sydd ar gael i ddatblygu chwaraeon, a manteisio ar yr arbenigedd sydd gan y cyngor chwaraeon ar hyn o bryd, os penderfyna eich Llywodraeth y dylai fod o dan adain Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru?

Alun Pugh: Ni wnaed unrhyw benderfyniad o ran diwygio CCNC mewn perthynas â Chyngor Chwaraeon Cymru. Fodd bynnag, mae Sportlot ac arian y loteri a ddsberthir i chwaraeon yn fater pwysig, a fydd yn ystyriaeth bwysig yn y trafodaethau hynny.

Athrawon Bro

Q2 Janet Ryder: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of athrawon bro? (OAQ39189)

Alun Pugh: Athrawon bro provide a valuable service that helps to improve the quality of teaching Welsh as a first and second language. The Assembly Government is providing £2.65 million to the athrawon bro provision through the Welsh Language Board in this financial year.

Janet Ryder: According to the 'Iaith Pawb' annual report, in 2002-03, 161 athrawon bro were employed by local authorities; by 2003-04, that number had risen to 163—an overall increase of two. Is that good enough, and does it show a real commitment to developing Welsh language education?

Alun Pugh: The Assembly Government is entirely committed to the education service and the Welsh-medium education service as

C2 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y ddarpariaeth o athrawon bro? (OAQ39189)

Alun Pugh: Mae athrawon bro yn darparu gwasanaeth gwerthfawr sy'n helpu i wella ansawdd y gwaith o addysgu Cymraeg fel iaith gyntaf ac ail iaith. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn rhoi £2.65 miliwn i'r ddarpariaeth o athrawon bro drwy Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon.

Janet Ryder: Yn ôl adroddiad blynyddol 'Iaith Pawb', yn 2002-03, cyflogwyd 161 o athrawon bro gan awdurdodau lleol; erbyn 2003-04, yr oedd y nifer honno wedi cynyddu i 163—cynnydd o ddau i gyd. A yw hynny'n ddigon da, ac a yw'n dangos ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i ddatblygu addysg Gymraeg?

Alun Pugh: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gwbl ymrwymedig i'r gwasanaeth addysg a'r gwasanaeth addysg Gymraeg fel rhan o'n

part of our overall aim of turning Wales into a bilingual nation. The athrawon bro service is important, but so is general Welsh-medium education, as is Welsh for adults.

Alun Cairns: Is there not a contradiction in what the Minister says? On the one hand, he says that this service is important, and on the other hand he says that services in schools are also important. Will he not reaffirm his commitment to support the role of athrawon bro and commit to increasing the funding so that numbers can genuinely grow along the same scale as the Assembly's budget?

Alun Pugh: We are committed to athrawon bro—163 members of staff attest to that, as does a substantial budget allocation of £2.65 million.

Peter Black: Given the importance of athrawon bro to 'Iaith Pawb', should you not be putting even more money into this service, ensuring that we promote the Welsh language as part of our general commitment as an Assembly?

Alun Pugh: We are entirely committed to the 'Iaith Pawb' process. Athrawon bro play an important part in that. If you wanted to substantially increase that part of the budget, you would be cutting back somewhere else. We are entirely committed to delivering the budgetary announcement behind 'Iaith Pawb', but perhaps you are asking me to rob Pedr in order to pay Paul.

nod cyffredinol o droi Cymru yn wlad ddwyieithog. Mae'r gwasanaeth athrawon bro yn bwysig, ond mae addysg Gymraeg gyffredinol yn bwysig hefyd, yn ogystal â Chymraeg i oedolion.

Alun Cairns: Onid yw'r Gweinidog yn gwrth-ddweud ei hun? Ar yr un llaw, dywed fod y gwasanaeth hwn yn bwysig, ac ar y llaw arall dywed fod gwasanaethau mewn ysgolion yn bwysig hefyd. Oni wnaiff ailddatgan ei ymrwymiad i gefnogi rôl athrawon bro ac ymrwymo i gynyddu'r arian fel y gall y niferoedd gynyddu'n wirioneddol ar yr un raddfa â chyllideb y Cynulliad?

Alun Pugh: Yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i athrawon bro—mae 163 o aelodau o staff yn cadarnhau hynny, fel y gwna dyraniad sylweddol o £2.65 miliwn o'r gyllideb.

Peter Black: O gofio pwysigrwydd athrawon bro i 'Iaith Pawb', oni ddylech fod yn rhoi hyd yn oed mwy o arian i'r gwasanaeth hwn, gan sicrhau ein bod yn hyrwyddo'r iaith Gymraeg fel rhan o'n hymrwymiad cyffredinol fel Cynulliad?

Alun Pugh: Yr ydym yn gwbl ymrwymedig i broses 'Iaith Pawb'. Mae athrawon bro yn chwarae rhan bwysig yn hynny o beth. Pe baech am gynyddu'r rhan honno o'r gyllideb yn sylweddol, byddech yn gwneud toriadau rywle arall. Yr ydym yn gwbl ymrwymedig i gyflawni'r cyhoeddiad cyllidebol y tu ôl i 'Iaith Pawb', ond efallai eich bod yn gofyn imi ddwyn o'r naill law i dalu'r llall.

Newid i Ddigidol Digital Switchover

Q3 Mick Bates: Will the Minister make a statement on digital switchover in Wales? (OAQ39180)

Alun Pugh: As you know, broadcasting is not devolved to the National Assembly for Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government is, however, in regular discussion with UK Government colleagues and with the Office of Communications regarding a range of broadcasting issues, including this important issue of digital switchover.

C3 Mick Bates: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar newid i ddigidol yng Nghymru? (OAQ39180)

Alun Pugh: Fel y gwyddoch, nid yw darlledu wedi'i ddatganoli i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cael trafodaethau rheolaidd gyda chyd-Weinidogion yn Llywodraeth y DU a swyddogion y Swyddfa Gyfathrebu ynghylch amrywiaeth o faterion darlledu, gan gynnwys newid i ddigidol, sy'n fater pwysig.

Mick Bates: I am pleased to hear that you are in regular contact about this switchover. However, if you lived in an area where there is no chance of getting digital television after analogue is switched off, you would feel rather aggrieved. For example, I have constituents who have just moved into the Newtown area, who were used to having a quality television service. Once the switchover happens, they will have no quality television service. Freeview is not available and cannot be received—that is the case in many parts of Wales. When will you call for the introduction of a freeview satellite service so that all people in Wales will be able to receive television services in their home?

Alun Pugh: If you would like to write to me about the specific geographical patch about which you are talking, I will respond to that in detail. However, at present, you cannot increase the amount of digital coverage in many parts of the UK, simply because the analogue broadcasts are taking up the rest of the spectrum. When the analogue service is switched off, there will be far more opportunity to get extra digital signals in. I appreciate that it will not be possible to get the digital signals into every nook and cranny of the whole of Wales. Satellite has an important role to play there—you are right to say that. However, if you have identified a particular geographic community about which you have major concerns, I would be happy to listen to you.

Leighton Andrews: I also want to see a free digital satellite service, on which I understand the BBC is working. However, do you agree that after digital switchover we will also want to see programmes made in and for Wales on the commercial television networks? Will you therefore say today that you are committed to raising with Ofcom the future of ITV Wales and, alongside that, the possibility of a separate public service publisher for Wales?

Alun Pugh: I know that many ITV Wales programmes—everything from football to news to current affairs and consumer

Mick Bates: Yr wyf yn falch o glywed eich bod mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd ynghylch y broses hon o newid i ddigidol. Fodd bynnag, pe baech yn byw mewn ardal lle nad oes siawns o gael gwasanaeth teledu digidol ar ôl i'r gwasanaeth analog gael ei ddiffodd, byddech yn teimlo braidd yn ddi. Er enghraifft, mae etholwyr gennyf sydd newydd symud i ardal y Drenewydd, a oedd yn gyfarwydd â chael gwasanaeth teledu o safon. Ar ôl newid i ddigidol, ni fydd gwasanaeth teledu o safon ganddynt. Nid yw Freeview ar gael ac ni allant gael y gwasanaeth hwnnw—mae hynny'n wir mewn sawl rhan o Gymru. Pryd y byddwch yn galw am i wasanaeth lloeren gwyllo am ddim gael ei gyflwyno er mwyn sicrhau y gall pawb yng Nghymru gael gwasanaethau teledu yn eu cartref?

Alun Pugh: Os hoffech ysgrifennu ataf ynghylch yr ardal benodol yr ydych yn sôn amdani, byddaf yn ymateb i hynny'n fanwl. Fodd bynnag, ar hyn o bryd, ni allwch gynyddu'r gwasanaeth digidol sydd ar gael mewn sawl rhan o'r DU, am fod y darllediadau analog yn defnyddio gweddill y sbectwm. Pan gaiff y gwasanaeth analog ei ddiffodd, bydd llawer mwy o gyfle i gyflwyno signalau digidol ychwanegol. Gwerthfawrogaf na fydd yn bosibl cyflwyno'r signalau digidol ym mhob cwr o Gymru. Mae gan y gwasanaeth lloeren ran bwysig i'w chwarae yn hyn o beth—yr ydych yn gywir i ddweud hynny. Fodd bynnag, os ydych wedi nodi cymuned ddaearyddol benodol y mae gennych bryderon mawr yn ei chylch, byddwn yn fodlon gwrando arnoch.

Leighton Andrews: Yr wyf innau hefyd am weld gwasanaeth lloeren digidol am ddim a chredaf fod y BBC yn gweithio ar hynny. Fodd bynnag, a gytunwch ar ôl newid i ddigidol y byddwn hefyd am weld rhaglenni a wnaed yng Nghymru i Gymru ar y rhwydweithiau teledu masnachol? Felly a fyddwch yn dweud heddiw eich bod yn ymrwymedig i drafod dyfodol ITV Cymru gydag Ofcom, ynghyd â'r posibilrwydd o gael cyhoeddwr gwasanaeth cyhoeddus ar wahân i Gymru?

Alun Pugh: Gwn fod pobl yng Nghymru yn gwerthfawrogi llawer o raglenni ITV Cymru—popeth o raglenni pêl-droed i'r

affairs—are much valued by people in Wales. Would it not be ironic if, with far more digital, satellite and terrestrial channels available—despite having all those extra channels—there would be even less expression for Welsh voices?

2.40 p.m.

Nick Bourne: In support of the previous contribution, there is a concern, and I am grateful to the Minister for saying that he is pushing that issue—I hope that he is raising it with Ofcom—because there is a particular threat to ITV Wales news and other national broadcasting from Wales. While we cherish the BBC and S4C, we need to look to commercial broadcasters as well to ensure national Welsh input.

Alun Pugh: I think that that is a fair point, Nick. The BBC needs some competitive pressure. If it becomes a monopoly supplier of Welsh information, news, current affairs and everything else, then we would be in a worse situation.

newyddion i raglenni materion cyfoes a materion defnyddwyr. Oni fyddai'n eironig, gyda llawer mwy o sianeli digidol, lloeren a daearol ar gael, pe bai hyd yn oed lai o le i bobl Cymru fynegi barn—er gwaethaf yr holl sianeli ychwanegol hynny?

Nick Bourne: Er mwyn ategu'r cyfraniad blaenorol, ceir pryder, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ddweud ei fod yn ymdrin â'r mater hwnnw—gobeithiaf ei fod yn ei godi gydag Ofcom—am fod bygythiad penodol i newyddion ITV Cymru a darlledu cenedlaethol arall o Gymru. Er ein bod yn coledu'r BBC ac S4C, mae angen inni ystyried darlledwyr masnachol hefyd i sicrhau cyfraniad cenedlaethol Cymreig.

Alun Pugh: Credaf fod hynny'n bwynt teg, Nick. Mae angen pwysau cystadleuol ar y BBC. Os mai'r BBC yw'r unig ddarlledwr sy'n cyflenwi gwybodaeth, newyddion, materion cyfoes a phopeth arall am Gymru, yna byddwn mewn sefyllfa waeth.

Eisteddfod y Wladfa The Patagonia Eisteddfod

C4 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar ei ymweliad diweddar ag eisteddfod Patagonia? (OAQ39191)

Alun Pugh: Yn ystod fy ymweliad diweddar â Phatagonia, cefais gyfle i annerch eisteddfod Chubut yn Nhrelew. Mae'r eisteddfod yn ddigwyddiad dwyieithog, yn Gymraeg a Sbaeneg. Yr oedd yr eisteddfod yn llwyddiannus, gyda thua 1,500 yn bresennol. Yr oeddwn yn falch o weld dros 200 o bobl o Gymru yn y neuadd.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Fe'ch llongyfarchaf ar eich araith Gymraeg yn yr eisteddfod, gydag ychydig eiriau o Sbaeneg, fe ddeallaf, lle yr oeddech yn tanlinellu'r berthynas arbennig rhwng Cymru a Phatagonia. Weinidog, a oedd rhieni Luis Austin ymysg y 1,500 o bobl a oedd yn bresennol? Bu Luis Austin ar ymweliad yn ddiweddar â'r Gogledd, ond bu'n rhaid iddo adael ar ôl chwe wythnos oherwydd bod y Swyddfa Gartref wedi camddeall yn llwyr natur ei

Q4 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on his recent visit to the eisteddfod in Patagonia? (OAQ39191)

Alun Pugh: As part of my recent visit to Patagonia, I had the opportunity to address the Chubut eisteddfod in Trelew. The eisteddfod is a bilingual event, in Spanish and Welsh. The eisteddfod was a success, with about 1,500 people present. I was pleased to see over 200 people from Wales in the hall.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I congratulate you on your address in Welsh to the eisteddfod, with, I understand, a few words of Spanish, in which you highlighted the special relationship between Wales and Patagonia. Minister, were the parents of Luis Austin among the 1,500 people present? Luis Austin recently visited north Wales, but he was forced to leave after six weeks because the Home Office misunderstood the nature of his stay in Wales. To what extent has that soured

arhosiad yng Nghymru. I ba raddau y mae hynny wedi chwerwi'r berthynas rhwng Cymru a Phatagonia? A sicrhewch fod y Swyddfa Gartref yn deall union natur y berthynas hon a hefyd endid Cymru fel gwlad, gan fod achos arall o ŵr a geisiodd ymweld â'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol y llynedd na chafodd ganiatâd i ddod i Brydain gan nad oedd y Swyddfa Gartref yn gwybod beth oedd yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol?

Alun Pugh: Immigration is, of course, a Home Office matter. It is not a devolved matter. I have seen several press reports on this, and there appears to be some confusion about who said what to whom and when, but, if you have any further information, I would be grateful to hear from you.

William Graham: Minister, you committed £115,000 over three years to this project. Do you consider the money well spent, and would you like to see more such money? Will you give reasons for more such expenditure?

Alun Pugh: In the total culture expenditure, this is a small amount. We have not made any final decisions yet about what happens to the project when the current tranche of funding runs out. However, it is clear that the presence of a small band of dedicated Welsh tutors in Patagonia is hugely appreciated by the community there, and the sheer enthusiasm of Welsh learners, particularly adult learners, is terrific. Given the difficult economic circumstances in Argentina, to see people starting a Welsh-for-adults class at 8 a.m. and then going to their first job at 9 a.m. and perhaps their second job at 5 p.m. shows a huge commitment, and I think that we should support that.

the relationship between Wales and Patagonia? Will you ensure that the Home Office understands the exact nature of that relationship and also the entity of Wales as a country, as there was another case involving a man who tried to visit the National Eisteddfod last year but was refused entry into Britain because the Home Office did not even know what the National Eisteddfod was?

Alun Pugh: Mater i'r Swyddfa Gartref yw mewnfudo, wrth gwrs. Nid yw wedi'i ddatganoli. Gwelais sawl adroddiad ar hyn yn y wasg, ond ymddengys bod rhywfaint o ddryswch ynghylch pwy a ddywedodd beth i bwy a phryd, ond, os oes unrhyw wybodaeth bellach gennych, byddwn yn ddiolchgar o glywed gennych.

William Graham: Weinidog, bu ichi neilltuo £115,000 dros dair blynedd i'r prosiect hwn. A ydych o'r farn bod yr arian wedi'i wario'n effeithiol, ac a hoffech weld mwy o arian o'r fath? A wnewch roi rhesymau dros fwy o wariant o'r fath?

Alun Pugh: O gymharu â chyfanswm y gwariant ar ddiwylliant, mae hwn yn swm bach. Nid ydym wedi gwneud unrhyw benderfyniadau eto ynghylch beth a fydd yn digwydd i'r prosiect pan fydd y gyfran bresennol o arian wedi dod i ben. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg bod y gymuned ym Mhatagonia yn gwerthfawrogi'r grŵp bach o diwtoriaid Cymraeg ymroddedig yn fawr iawn, ac mae brwdfrydedd mawr dysgwyr Cymraeg, yn arbennig oedolion, yn wych. O ystyried yr amgylchiadau economaidd anodd yn yr Ariannin, mae'r ffaith bod pobl yn dechrau dosbarth Cymraeg i oedolion am 8 a.m. ac yna'n mynd i'w swydd gyntaf am 9 a.m. ac efallai eu hail swydd am 5 p.m. yn dangos ymrwymiad enfawr, a chredaf y dylem gefnogi hynny.

Cyfranogiad Pobl Ifanc o Chwaraeon Young People's Participation in Sport

Q5 Brynle Williams: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to improve participation in sporting activities among young people? (OAQ39069)

C5 Brynle Williams: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i annog pobl ifanc i wneud mwy o weithgareddau chwaraeon? (OAQ39069)

Alun Pugh: The Assembly Government, via

Alun Pugh: Mae gan Lywodraeth y

the Sports Council for Wales, has a number of initiatives in place that focus on increasing participation in sport among young people, including Dragon Sport and the Girls First programmes. In addition, the Assembly will provide some £10 million over four years to support the free swimming for children scheme, which has been hugely successful.

Brynle Williams: I am sure that you are aware of the recent Market and Opinion Research International survey, which uncovered the fact that only one in three UK households have interaction with their communities, as many people are denied the opportunity to participate in sport due to a lack of accessible neighbourhood facilities. In the light of this, how can we support young people who want to take part in sporting activities close to the areas in which they live, and where facilities are not available?

Alun Pugh: Increasing participation and developing facilities is at the heart of the 'Climbing Higher' agenda. We will publish the final 'Climbing Higher' document, with a budgetary allocation, around Christmas time. Increasing activity rates, and combating what is a worrying trend in terms of the growth of obesity in young people, will be a key feature of the document.

Irene James: Will you commend the Cwmcarn gymnastics club in my constituency on its success? The gymnasts who train there have won events at a district, Welsh and UK level. Will you ensure that sports such as gymnastics are supported and encouraged in Wales, and work with schools and local clubs to promote closer collaboration between them, to ensure that young people do not leave sport behind when they leave school?

Alun Pugh: I am not particularly familiar with that gymnastics club, but I have made a number of visits to gym clubs around Wales, the last of which was to the YMCA in Barry, which is doing terrific work with some terrific voluntary coaches. If you would like to give me a formal invitation to visit your

Cynulliad, drwy Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, nifer o fentrau ar waith sy'n canolbwyntio ar annog mwy o bobl ifanc i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon, gan gynnwys rhaglenni Campau'r Ddraig a Genethod yn Gyntaf. Yn ogystal, bydd y Cynulliad yn darparu rhyw £10 miliwn dros bedair blynedd i gefnogi'r cynllun nofio am ddim i blant, a fu'n llwyddiannus iawn.

Brynle Williams: Fe wyddoch, mae'n siŵr, am yr arolwg diweddar a gynhaliwyd gan Market and Opinion Research International, a ddatgelodd y ffaith mai dim ond un cartref o bob tri yn y DU sy'n rhyngweithio â'u cymunedau, am na chaiff llawer o bobl y cyfle i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon oherwydd prinder cyfleusterau hygyrch yn y gymdogaeth. Yng ngoleuni hyn, sut y gallwn gefnogi pobl ifanc sydd am gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau chwaraeon yn agos at yr ardaloedd lle y maent yn byw a lle nad oes cyfleusterau ar gael?

Alun Pugh: Mae cynyddu cyfranogiad a datblygu cyfleusterau wrth wraidd agenda 'Dringo'n Uwch'. Byddwn yn cyhoeddi dogfen derfynol 'Dringo'n Uwch', gyda dyraniad cyllidebol, tuag adeg y Nadolig. Bydd cynyddu cyfraddau gweithgarwch, a mynd i'r afael â'r duedd o ran cynnydd gordewdra ymhlith pobl ifanc, sy'n peri pryder, yn un o nodweddion allweddol y ddogfen.

Irene James: A wnewch gymeradwyo clwb gymnasteg Cwm-carn yn fy etholaeth i ar ei lwyddiant? Mae'r mabolgampwyr sy'n hyfforddi yno wedi ennill cystadlaethau rhanbarthol, cystadlaethau Cymru a chystadlaethau'r DU. A sicrhewch y caiff chwaraeon megis gymnasteg eu cefnogi a'u hannog yng Nghymru, ac a weithiwch gydag ysgolion a chlybiau lleol i hyrwyddo cydweithredu agosach rhyngddynt, er mwyn sicrhau nad yw pobl yn rhoi'r gorau i chwaraeon pan fyddant yn gadael yr ysgol?

Alun Pugh: Nid wyf yn gyfarwydd iawn â'r clwb gymnasteg hwnnw, ond yr wyf wedi ymweld â sawl clwb gymnasteg ledled Cymru. Yr ymweliad diwethaf a wneuthum oedd ymweliad â'r YMCA yn y Barri, sy'n gwneud gwaith gwych gyda hyfforddwyr gwirfoddol gwych. Os hoffech roi

constituency to see that club, I would be happy to accept.

John Griffiths: Will you applaud the work of Newport Gwent Dragons Rugby Club in reaching out to young people in the community to involve them in rugby through its gateway rugby scheme, which goes out to the schools, and also the work of its family village, which provides a range of activities and entertainment for families on match days?

Alun Pugh: This is one of a number of excellent schemes throughout Wales by which clubs recognise their obligation to develop the next generation of players and involve more young people in our terrific game of rugby.

Janice Gregory: Under the previous Labour administration in Bridgend County Borough Council, the youth service provided a huge range of projects to the youth in my constituency. You may still be suffering from the injuries or pulled muscle that you sustained when you visited the Youth Achievers in Sport project in Bridgend, and I thank you for taking the time to visit it. Do you agree that the project in Bridgend is a good example of promoting participation in sport, especially among youngsters who have difficulties in the traditional education system?

Alun Pugh: I learned two things from that visit: first, I learned about the huge role that sport can play in generating enthusiasm in young people and, secondly, I learned not to play five-a-side against a group of 16-year-olds.

gwahoddiad ffurfiol imi ymweld â'ch etholaeth i weld y clwb hwnnw, byddwn yn fwy na pharod i'w dderbyn.

John Griffiths: A wnewch gymeradwyo gwaith Clwb Rygbi Dreigiau Casnewydd Gwent am geisio annog y bobl ifanc yn y gymuned i chwarae rygbi drwy ei gynllun porth i rygbi, sy'n mynd i'r ysgolion, a hefyd gwaith ei bentref i deuluoedd, sy'n darparu amrywiaeth o weithgareddau ac adloniant i deuluoedd ar ddiwrnodau gemau?

Alun Pugh: Dyma un o nifer o gynlluniau ardderchog ledled Cymru sy'n helpu clybiau i gydnabod eu rhwymedigaeth i ddatblygu'r genhedlaeth nesaf o chwaraewyr a sicrhau bod mwy o bobl ifanc yn chwarae rygbi, sy'n gêm wych.

Janice Gregory: O dan y weinyddiaeth Lafur flaenorol yng Nghyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, darparodd y gwasanaeth ieuentid ystod eang o brosiectau i bobl ifanc yn fy etholaeth. Efallai eich bod yn dal i ddioddef o'r anafiadau a gawsoch neu'r cyhyr a dynnwyd gennych pan ymwelsoch â'r prosiect Cyflawnwyr Ifanc mewn Chwaraeon ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, a diolchaf ichi am roi o'ch amser i ymweld ag ef. A gytunwch fod y prosiect ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn enghraifft dda o hyrwyddo cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon, yn enwedig ymhlith pobl ifanc sy'n cael anawsterau yn y system addysg draddodiadol?

Alun Pugh: Dysgais ddau beth o'r ymweliad hwnnw: yn gyntaf, dysgais am y rhan enfawr y gall chwaraeon ei chwarae i ennyn brwdfrydedd ymhlith pobl ifanc ac, yn ail, dysgais i beidio â chwarae gêm pump bob ochr yn erbyn grŵp o bobl ifanc 16 mlwydd oed.

Cyllid Pêl-droed Cymru Funding for Welsh Football

Q6 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement on funding for Welsh football? (OAQ39073)

Alun Pugh: The Welsh Assembly Government, via the Sports Council for

C6 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar gyllid ar gyfer pêl-droed yng Nghymru? (OAQ39073)

Alun Pugh: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi neilltuo rhyw £2 filiwn dros

Wales, has made available some £2 million over a three-year period to the Football Association of Wales Trust. This funding is being used to support the development of the game of football throughout Wales for young people, with a particular focus on women and girls.

Eleanor Burnham: I am pleased that you feel that we need to focus on women and girls, but I am particularly concerned about the general funding for football in Wales, which falls short of the funding in England and which could threaten the future of the Welsh premiership. I am also particularly concerned about our only venue in north Wales that is capable of hosting international football and rugby matches, namely Wrexham Racecourse. In view of the need to safeguard this regional venue, which is important to both north Wales and the region, what are you doing financially to support Wrexham County Borough Council's strong commitment to try to buy the Racecourse to secure this important venue?

Alun Pugh: You mentioned girls, and I am pleased to say that 15,000 girls are registered as playing football in Wales. Girls' football is a huge growth area. It has been tremendously successful in the USA, and I want it to be similarly successful in Wales.

With regard to the Racecourse, it has a special status as it is the only ground in north Wales where you can realistically play football and rugby of an international standard. I applaud the leadership shown by the local authority, and I look forward to my next meeting with the authority.

Ann Jones: I agree that the Racecourse at Wrexham is the international ground, and I am sure that we will do everything that we can to support its being retained. It is also important for those teams which play within the football leagues of Wales, including my home town team of Rhyl, which is the Welsh premiership champion and cup-holder and is on course to retain those, having beaten Holyhead Hotspur nine goals to nil on Saturday—sorry, Ieuan. Will you keep in regular contact with the Football Association

gyfnod o dair blynedd, drwy Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, i Ymddiriedolaeth Cymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru. Defnyddir y cyllid hwn i gefnogi'r gwaith o ddatblygu pêl-droed ledled Cymru i bobl ifanc, gan ganolbwyntio'n arbennig ar ferched a menywod.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod o'r farn bod angen inni ganolbwyntio ar ferched a menywod, ond pryderaf yn arbennig ynghylch y cyllid cyffredinol ar gyfer pêl-droed yng Nghymru, sy'n llai na'r cyllid yn Lloegr ac a allai beryglu dyfodol uwch gynghrair Cymru. Pryderaf yn arbennig hefyd am yr unig leoliad sydd gennym yn y Gogledd lle y gellir cynnal gemau pêl-droed a rygbi rhyngwladol, sef Cae Ras Wrecsam. Yn sgîl yr angen i ddiogelu'r lleoliad rhanbarthol hwn, sy'n bwysig i'r Gogledd a'r rhanbarth, beth ydych yn ei wneud yn ariannol i gefnogi ymrwymiad cryf Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam i geisio prynu'r Cae Ras i ddiogelu'r lleoliad pwysig hwn?

Alun Pugh: Bu ichi grybwyll merched, ac yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod 15,000 o ferched wedi cofrestru eu bod yn chwarae pêl-droed yng Nghymru. Mae pêl-droed i ferched yn dod yn gynyddol boblogaidd. Bu'n llwyddiannus iawn yn UDA, ac yr wyf am iddi fod yr un mor llwyddiannus yng Nghymru.

O ran y Cae Ras, mae ganddo statws arbennig am mai dyna'r unig faes yn y Gogledd lle y gallwch chwarae pêl-droed a rygbi o safon ryngwladol mewn gwirionedd. Cymeradwyaf yr arweiniad a roddwyd gan yr awdurdod lleol, ac edrychaf ymlaen at fy nghyfarfod nesaf gyda'r awdurdod.

Ann Jones: Cytunaf mai maes rhyngwladol yw'r Cae Ras yn Wrecsam, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwn yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i gefnogi ei barhad. Mae hefyd yn bwysig i'r timau hynny sy'n chwarae yng nghynghreiriau pêl-droed Cymru, gan gynnwys tîm y Rhyl, fy nhref enedigol, sef pencampwr uwch gynghrair Cymru ac enillydd cwpan Cymru, ac mae ar y trywydd cywir i gadw'r rheini, ar ôl curo Holyhead Hotspur naw gôl i ddim ddydd Sadwrn—mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Ieuan. A wnewch gadw

of Wales to ensure that those clubs that will play in the qualifying rounds of the UEFA cup, and, hopefully, go forward successfully, can develop their home grounds and play those matches at those grounds? Will you do all in your power to ensure that the FAW works with clubs and any interested parties, such as local authorities, to ensure that standards are upgraded so that those clubs and young teams can have the opportunity to play on pitches of a high standard?

2.50 p.m.

Alun Pugh: That is another reason why the Racecourse is a special venue. We need a regional venue in north Wales so that, if Rhyl football club, for example, were to pull a major European fixture, which it could not play at its home ground, its fans would have an opportunity to easily travel to a major venue and have the privilege of watching such a fixture. The Racecourse is important, and Karen Sinclair constantly draws this issue to my attention.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol o bob plaid yn cefnogi'r ymgyrch i gadw'r Cae Ras yn Wrecsam. A ydych yn derbyn ei fod yn aml yn denu cefnogaeth o ogledd-orllewin Cymru, yn ogystal â chefnogaeth o ogledd-ddwyrain Cymru. Dyna'r unig gyfle a gaiff pobl o ardaloedd fel Ynys Môn, sy'n aml yn ei chael yn anodd teithio i Gaerdydd, i wylïo pêl-droed a rygbi o safon uchel. Dywedasochn yn gynharach eich bod yn edrych ymlaen at eich cyfarfod nesaf ynghylch cae pêl-droed Wrecsam ac yn canmol gwaith yr awdurdod lleol. Fodd bynnag, beth y gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei wneud yn benodol i helpu'r achos?

Alun Pugh: The Assembly Government has invested in the ground in the past because of its importance. We have made contributions via the Welsh Development Agency, and we have a major Sportlot investment in the ground. We have an important duty to protect public money, but we are not looking for our money back here; we do not want to see the loss of that major ground. You make a good point: given the transport links, it is difficult

mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd â Chymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru i sicrhau y gall y clybiau hynny a fydd yn chwarae yn rowndiau rhagbrofol UEFA ac yn ennill, gobeithio, ddatblygu eu meysydd eu hunain a chwarae'r gemau hynny yn y meysydd hynny? A wnewch bopeth o fewn eich gallu i sicrhau bod Cymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru yn gweithio gyda chlybiau a rhywrai eraill â diddordeb, megis awdurdodau lleol, i sicrhau y caiff safonau eu gwella er mwyn i'r clybiau a'r timau ifanc hynny gael y cyfle i chwarae ar feysydd o safon uchel?

Alun Pugh: Dyna reswm arall pam mae'r Cae Ras yn lleoliad arbennig. Mae angen lleoliad rhanbarthol arnom yn y Gogledd, er mwyn sicrhau, pe bai tîm pêl-droed y Rhyl, er enghraifft, yn chwarae mewn gêm Ewropeaidd bwysig, na allai ei chwarae yn ei faes ei hun, y byddai ei gefnogwyr yn cael cyfle i deithio'n hawdd i leoliad mawr a chael y frainc o wylïo gêm o'r fath. Mae'r Cae Ras yn bwysig, ac mae Karen Sinclair yn tynnu fy sylw at y mater hwn yn rheolaidd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Assembly Members and Members of Parliament from all parties support the campaign to save the Racecourse in Wrexham. Do you accept that it often attracts support from north-west Wales as well as north-east Wales? It is the only opportunity that people from areas such as Anglesey, who often find it difficult to travel to Cardiff, have to watch football and rugby of a high standard. You said earlier that you are looking forward to your next meeting to discuss Wrexham's football ground and that you applauded the work of the local authority. However, what exactly can the Assembly Government do to help the cause?

Alun Pugh: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi buddsoddi yn y maes yn y gorffennol oherwydd ei bwysigrwydd. Gwnaethom gyfraniadau drwy Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, ac yr ydym wedi rhoi buddsoddiad Sportlot sylweddol i'r maes. Mae dyletswydd bwysig arnom i ddiogelu arian cyhoeddus, ond nid ydym yn disgwyl cael ein harian yn ôl o ran hyn; nid ydym am i'r maes pwysig hwn gael ei golli. Yr ydych yn gwneud

to travel from Ynys Môn to Cardiff. People in north Wales should have the opportunity to watch international football and rugby occasionally. That is important.

pwynt da: o gofio'r cysylltiadau trafndiaeth, mae'n anodd teithio o Ynys Môn i Gaerdydd. Dylai pobl yn y Gogledd gael y cyfle i wylio pêl-droed a rygbi rhyngwladol o bryd i'w gilydd. Mae hynny'n bwysig.

Ymarfer Corff Cymedrol i Blant Moderate Exercise for Children

Q7 Laura Anne Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on his policy of children taking moderate exercise? (OAQ39081)

C7 Laura Anne Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar ei bolisi o gael plant i wneud ymarfer corff cymedrol? (OAQ39081)

Alun Pugh: The Welsh Assembly Government's stated policy, as set out in 'Climbing Higher', is that, by 2023, all children of primary-school age and 90 per cent of children of secondary-school age will participate in at least moderate-intensity physical activity for 60 minutes, five times a week.

Alun Pugh: Polisi datganedig Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, fel y'i nodwyd yn 'Dringo'n Uwch', yw y bydd pob plentyn oedran ysgol gynradd a 90 y cant o blant oedran ysgol uwchradd yn gwneud gweithgarwch corfforol cymedrol o leiaf am 60 munud, pum gwaith yr wythnos, erbyn 2023.

Laura Anne Jones: As you have just said, your policy in 'Climbing Higher' aims for 90 per cent of children of secondary-school age to participate in at least moderate-intensity exercise for 60 minutes, five times a week. According to figures from the Sports Council for Wales, however, only 24 per cent of children meet that aim. Why does this policy appear to be failing and what are you doing to combat the problem?

Laura Anne Jones: Fel yr ydych newydd ei ddweud, nod eich polisi yn 'Dringo'n Uwch' yw sicrhau bod 90 y cant o blant oedran ysgol uwchradd yn gwneud ymarfer corff cymedrol o leiaf am 60 munud, pum gwaith yr wythnos. Fodd bynnag, yn ôl ffigurau Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, dim ond 24 y cant o blant sy'n cyrraedd y nod hwnnw. Pam y mae'r polisi hwn yn methu, yn ôl pob tebyg, a beth a wnewch i fynd i'r afael â'r brollem?

Alun Pugh: You are being somewhat harsh. However, there is no denying that activity rates in Wales are too low. If you consider, for example, the composition of the school run, there has been a significant modal shift away from children walking or cycling to school towards them travelling in cars. The consequences are clear in terms of their health, the environment and traffic congestion across Wales. We need to increase activity rates. I ask you to support the Government's policy on that. Schools will be important partners in that work, but out-of-school activities are also important.

Alun Pugh: Mae eich beirniadaeth braidd yn llym. Fodd bynnag, ni ellir gwadu bod cyfraddau gweithgarwch yng Nghymru yn rhy isel. Os ystyriwch sut y mae plant yn cyrraedd yr ysgol, er enghraifft, mae llawer mwy yn mynd yn y car bellach yn hytrach na cherdded neu seiclo i'r ysgol. Mae'r canlyniadau yn amlwg o ran eu hiechyd, yr amgylchedd a thagfeydd traffig ledled Cymru. Mae angen inni gynyddu cyfraddau gweithgarwch. Gofynnaf ichi gefnogi polisi'r Llywodraeth ar hynny. Bydd ysgolion yn bartneriaid pwysig yn y gwaith hwnnw, ond mae gweithgareddau y tu allan i oriau ysgol yn bwysig hefyd.

Jeff Cuthbert: Do you agree that we must do all that we can to develop a culture among young people of participating in moderate exercise so that they carry it on into later life,

Jeff Cuthbert: A gytunwch fod yn rhaid inni wneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i ddatblygu diwylliant ymhlith pobl ifanc lle y maent yn gwneud ymarfer corff cymedrol fel y gallant

not least to help to reduce the likely impact of type 2 diabetes, which we know is a consequence of obesity caused by eating poor-quality food and failing to participate in moderate exercise?

Alun Pugh: You are right: we will not operate ourselves to good health in Wales. Activity rates among young people and adults are a major cause of concern. Unless we can reverse some of these worrying trends in society, the risks to public health are great. You mentioned type 2 diabetes and the damage that that causes to communities, families and individuals, but there are other diseases, such as coronary heart disease, the incidence of which will also increase if we do not get this right.

Jocelyn Davies: One reason cited by young girls for not wanting to take part in physical activity is the way that they look when they are doing physical education. Is it not about time that the dreaded PE skirt was no longer compulsory in our schools?

Alun Pugh: Provided that school kids are exercising, whether they wear a regulation hockey skirt or tracksuit is of no consequence.

barhau i'w wneud yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd, yn bennaf er mwyn helpu i leihau effaith debygol diabetes math 2? Gwyddom mai diabetes math 2 yw un o ganlyniadau gordewdra a achosir drwy fwyta bwyd o ansawdd gwael a pheidio â gwneud ymarfer corff cymedrol.

Alun Pugh: Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle: nid llawdriniaeth fydd yr ateb i iechyd da yng Nghymru. Mae cyfraddau gweithgarwch ymhlith pobl ifanc ac oedolion yn peri pryder mawr. Oni allwn wrthdroi rhai o'r tueddiadau hyn mewn cymdeithas sy'n peri pryder, mae risgiau mawr i iechyd y cyhoedd. Bu ichi grybwyll diabetes math 2 a'r niwed a wna hynny i gymunedau, teuluoedd ac unigolion, ond mae clefydau eraill, megis clefyd coronaidd y galon, a bydd nifer yr achosion o'r clefyd hwnnw yn cynyddu hefyd os na chymerwn gamau priodol yn y maes hwn.

Jocelyn Davies: Un rheswm a nodir gan ferched ifanc am beidio â gwneud gweithgarwch corfforol yw'r ffordd y maent yn edrych pan wnânt ymarfer corff. Onid yw'n bryd inni sicrhau nad yw'r sgert addysg gorfforol ofnadwy yn orfodol mwyach yn ein hysgolion?

Alun Pugh: Ar yr amod bod plant ysgol yn gwneud ymarfer corff, nid yw'n bwysig pa un a ydynt yn gwisgo sgert hoci arferol neu siwt redeg.

Amgueddfeydd yn y Gogledd Museums in North Wales

Q8 Mark Isherwood: Will the Minister make a statement on museums in north Wales? (OAQ39100)

Alun Pugh: There are 32 registered local museums in north Wales, in addition to the National Museums and Galleries of Wales's Welsh Slate Museum in Llanberis. I have recently seen at first hand the valuable contribution that a number of museums make to promoting education, heritage, and cultural tourism in north Wales.

Mark Isherwood: At a time when most people have lost faith in their political representatives, when trust has been lost in

C8 Mark Isherwood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar amgueddfeydd yn y Gogledd? (OAQ39100)

Alun Pugh: Mae 32 o amgueddfeydd lleol cofrestredig yn y Gogledd, yn ogystal ag Amgueddfa Lechi Cymru yn Llanberis sy'n rhan o Amgueddfeydd ac Orielau Cenedlaethol Cymru. Gwelais fy hun yn ddiweddar y cyfraniad gwerthfawr y mae nifer o amgueddfeydd yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo addysg, treftadaeth a thwristiaeth ddiwylliannol yn y Gogledd.

Mark Isherwood: Ar adeg pan fo'r rhan fwyaf o bobl wedi colli ffydd yn eu cynrychiolwyr gwleidyddol, pan fyddant

Government at a UK level and politicians are therefore held in low esteem, what action does the Minister propose to sustain and develop the Lloyd George Museum and Highgate in Llanystumdwy within a north Wales tourist trail?

Alun Pugh: I can see why many people have lost faith in you, Mark, given those absurd remarks. We want to support a range of registered local museums and that is why the Assembly Government has put CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales at the heart of the libraries, archives and museums network, and why we have recently announced a record programme of grants to support museums such as the one that you mentioned.

wedi colli ffydd yn Llywodraeth y DU ac felly pan na fydd fawr o barch tuag at wleidyddion, pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu eu cymryd i gynnal a datblygu Amgueddfa Lloyd George a Highgate yn Llanystumdwy o fewn llwybr i dwristiaid yn y Gogledd?

Alun Pugh: Gallaf weld pam mae llawer o bobl wedi colli ffydd ynoch chi, Mark, o ystyried y sylwadau hurt hynny. Yr ydym am gefnogi amrywiaeth o amgueddfeydd lleol cofrestredig a dyma pam mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi sicrhau bod CyMAL: Amgueddfeydd, Archifau a Llyfrgelloedd Cymru wrth wraidd y rhwydwaith o lyfrgelloedd, archifau ac amgueddfeydd, a pham y bu inni gyhoeddi'r rhaglen fwyaf erioed o grantiau yn ddiweddar i gefnogi amgueddfeydd fel yr un a grybwyllwyd gennych.

Darpariaeth Gelfyddydol yn y De-ddwyrain Arts Provision in South-east Wales

Q9 John Griffiths: Will the Minister make a statement on arts provision in south-east Wales? (OAQ39077)

Alun Pugh: We are committed to providing arts funding in south-east Wales, as we are in all regions of our nation. We provided grants amounting to £802,484 to arts organisations in that area during 2003-04, in addition to the £7.2 million that the Arts Council of Wales provided towards the recently completed Riverfront arts centre in Newport.

John Griffiths: Do you agree that the Riverfront arts centre is a huge step forward for arts provision in Newport and in Wales as a whole? It is an architecturally significant building that looks wonderful when it is lit up at night, and it provides a wide range of quality productions. Do you also agree, having witnessed the performance by the Independent Ballet Wales company last night, that there is a huge amount to enjoy at that arts centre?

Alun Pugh: Last night was my first visit

C9 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynghylch darpariaeth ar gyfer y celfyddydau yn y De-ddwyrain? (OAQ39077)

Alun Pugh: Yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i ddarparu cyllid ar gyfer y celfyddydau yn y De-ddwyrain, fel ym mhob rhanbarth o'n gwlad. Bu inni ddarparu grantiau gwerth £802,484 i sefydliadau'r celfyddydau yn yr ardal honno yn ystod 2003-04, yn ogystal â'r £7.2 miliwn a ddarparodd Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru tuag at ganolfan gelfyddydau Glan yr Afon yng Nghasnewydd a gwblhawyd yn ddiweddar.

John Griffiths: A gytunwch fod canolfan gelfyddydau Glan yr Afon yn gam bras ymlaen o ran darpariaeth y celfyddydau yng Nghasnewydd ac yng Nghymru gyfan? Mae'n adeilad pwysig yn bensaernïol sy'n edrych yn wych pan fydd goleuadau arno gyda'r hwyr, ac mae'n darparu amrywiaeth eang o gynyrchiadau o ansawdd. A gytunwch hefyd, ar ôl gweld y perfformiad gan gwmni Bale Annibynnol Cymru neithiwr, fod llawer i'w fwynhau yn y ganolfan gelfyddydau honno?

Alun Pugh: Neithiwr oedd fy ymweliad

there, and I was hugely impressed, not only by the performance, but by the quality of the centre. Clearly, a great deal of work has gone into the detailed design, and I look forward to going back for a second visit when I will have an opportunity to see the backstage and technical areas and to talk about how the theatre contributes to the education agenda in your constituency.

William Graham: While welcoming the new provision in Newport, Minister, will you outline what provisions you will make for the rest of south-east Wales to enjoy such cultural benefits?

Alun Pugh: If you look at the various strategies published by the Government and the Arts Council of Wales, you will see that there is a whole regional network. We have developed a range of theatre facilities, and the Newport arts centre is fundamental to the infrastructure in that part of Wales. In the next stage of development, it is important that we put on more performances in the mid-scale venues that we now have the length and breadth of Wales. That is why, at the same time as we announced £2 million in revenue support for the Wales Millennium Centre, we put together a £2 million package for the arts outside Cardiff, and I confidently expect that some of that money will result in an increased number of performances in your region.

cyntaf â'r ganolfan, a gwnaeth argraff dda iawn arnaf, nid dim ond oherwydd y perfformiad, ond oherwydd ansawdd y ganolfan hefyd. Mae'n amlwg bod llawer o waith wedi'i wneud ar y dyluniad manwl, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ymweld eto pan fyddaf yn cael cyfle i weld y tu ôl i'r llwyfan a'r ardaloedd technegol a siarad am y ffordd y mae'r theatr yn cyfrannu at agenda addysg yn eich etholaeth.

William Graham: Wrth groesawu'r ddarpariaeth newydd yng Nghasnewydd, Weinidog, a wnewch amlinellu pa ddarpariaethau y byddwch yn eu gwneud er mwyn i fanteision diwylliannol o'r fath fod ar gael i weddill y De-ddwyrain?

Alun Pugh: Os edrychwch ar y strategaethau gwahanol a gyhoeddwyd gan y Llywodraeth a Chyngor Celfyddydau Cymru, fe welwch fod rhwydwaith rhanbarthol cyfan. Yr ydym wedi datblygu amrywiaeth o gyfleusterau theatr, ac mae canolfan gelfyddydau Casnewydd yn hanfodol i'r seilwaith yn y rhan honno o Gymru. Yn y cam datblygu nesaf, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cynnal mwy o berfformiadau yn y lleoliadau canolig eu maint sydd gennym bellach ledled Cymru. Dyma pam, ar yr un pryd ag y cyhoeddwyd £2 filiwn gennym mewn cymorth refeniw i Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru, y bu inni drefnu pecyn o £2 filiwn i'r celfyddydau y tu allan i Gaerdydd, ac yr wyf yn ffyddiog y bydd rhywfaint o'r arian hwnnw yn golygu y bydd nifer gynyddol o berfformiadau yn cael eu cynnal yn eich rhanbarth chi.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Jonathan Morgan: Presiding Officer, on 22 October I tabled a written question to the Finance Minister and asked whether she would be able to disclose information that is currently held by the Valuation Office Agency on the number and percentage of properties across Wales, broken down by community, that had moved up two and three council tax bands. I tabled the question because I was informed by the Valuation Office Agency that, after a considerable period of time and hard work, it was able to provide such information. On tabling the

Jonathan Morgan: Lywydd, ar 22 Hydref, cyflwynais gwestiwn ysgrifenedig i'r Gweinidog Cyllid gan ofyn pa un a fyddai'n gallu rhyddhau gwybodaeth a ddelir gan Asiantaeth y Swyddfa Brisió ar hyn o bryd o ran nifer a chanran y cartrefi ledled Cymru, fesul cymuned, sydd wedi symud i fyny dau neu dri band y dreth gyngor. Cyflwynais y cwestiwn oherwydd fe'm hysbyswyd gan Asiantaeth y Swyddfa Brisió y gallai ddarparu gwybodaeth o'r fath, ar ôl cyfnod hir o amser a gwaith caled. Felly, ar ôl cyflwyno'r cwestiwn, yr oeddwn yn disgwyl

question, therefore, I expected a swift response. The valuation office informed me that it was unable to release the data to me directly because it was waiting for its client—the Assembly Government—to state whether or not it was content for the data to be released.

3.00 p.m.

Therefore, having tabled the question, I anticipated a swift response, bearing in mind that the valuation office was happy to tell me that the information was easily available and could be e-mailed quickly. The Government's response was that it would write to me and that a copy of the letter would be published on the intranet. I find it difficult to understand why the information has not been provided to me as an Assembly Member, particularly as the valuation office has the information at its fingertips. Quite frankly, this gives the impression of a cover-up.

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): We are obviously getting different answers from the valuation office. When I inquired about the information, I was told that it was not readily available. That was the reason for the response. We now have the information and it will be passed to Jonathan Morgan. I hope that all Members will bear in mind that there is an opportunity cost to the office's work, because its staff answer questions and deal with public inquiries.

The Presiding Officer: I believe that honour is now satisfied on that point of order, which was not really a matter for me.

ateb buan. Fe'm hysbyswyd gan y swyddfa brisio na allai ryddhau'r data imi yn uniongyrchol am ei bod yn aros i'w chleient—Llywodraeth y Cynulliad—nodi a oedd yn fodlon i'r data gael ei ryddhau ai peidio.

Felly, ar ôl cyflwyno'r cwestiwn, yr oeddwn yn disgwyl ateb buan, o gofio bod y swyddfa brisio yn fodlon dweud wrthyf y gellid cael gafael ar y wybodaeth yn hawdd ac y gellid ei hanfon ataf mewn neges e-bost. Ymateb y Llywodraeth oedd y byddai'n ysgrifennu ataf ac y câi copi o'r llythyr ei roi ar y fewnrwyd. Mae'n anodd imi ddeall pam nad wyf fi, fel Aelod Cynulliad, wedi cael y wybodaeth, yn enwedig am fod gan y swyddfa brisio y wybodaeth wrth law. A dweud y gwir, mae'n rhoi'r argraff bod rhywun yn ceisio cuddio rhywbeth.

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Mae'n amlwg bod y swyddfa brisio yn rhoi atebion gwahanol inni. Pan ofynnais am y wybodaeth, dywedwyd wrthyf nad oedd yn hawdd cael gafael arni. Dyna'r rheswm dros yr ymateb. Mae'r wybodaeth gennym yn awr a chaiff ei throsglwyddo i Jonathan Morgan. Gobeithiaf y bydd pob Aelod yn cofio cost cyfle i waith y swyddfa, am fod ei staff yn ateb cwestiynau ac yn ymdrin ag ymholiadau gan y cyhoedd.

Y Llywydd: Credaf fod y pwynt o drefn hwnnw, nad oedd yn fater i mi ei ystyried mewn gwirionedd, wedi'i ddatrys er boddhad i bawb.

Cymeradwyo Siarter y Rhanbarthau Approval of the Charta of the Regions

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of David Melding.

The Deputy Presiding Officer (John Marek): I propose that

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw David Melding.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd (John Marek): Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly for Wales endorses the Charter of the Regions of Europe, an initiative of the Conference (of Presidents) of European Regional Legislative Assemblies (CALRE), approved in Florence on 19 September 2003, which was e-mailed to Assembly Members on 3 November 2004. (NDM2164)

The conference of presiding officers of European legislative regions is open to 74 regions from across eight EU member states. Regions from all eight eligible member countries participate. For Members' convenience, the member states are Italy, Spain, Austria, Germany, Finland, the United Kingdom, Portugal and Belgium. I have not put those in any particular order; they are just in the order in which I thought of them.

The charta of the regions was settled upon in Florence last year, and it involved representatives from elected bodies from legislative and non-legislative regions of the EU, the then candidate countries, and Europe's new neighbour countries. The Florence conference was attended by some 92 presidents, and the charter now has 198 signatories. The Association of European Regions, which encompasses legislative and non-legislative regions, works with the 250 member regions from 26 European countries.

CALRE has a developing relationship with the Committee of the Regions, the Conference of (Executive) Presidents of European Legislative Regions, and the parliamentary chamber of the Council of Europe. This charter seeks to lay claim to the ability of regions to be able to contribute to the shaping of Europe in the future.

Members have had time to read the charter, and one amendment to the motion has been proposed. Amendment 1 does not deny endorsement of the charter, but it seeks also to endorse

'the clear primacy of the member states of the European Union in upholding the rights and freedoms of their regions and nations.'

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn cymeradwyo Siarter Rhanbarthau Ewrop, un o fentrau Cynhadledd (Llywyddion) Cynulliaidau Deddfwriaethol Rhanbarthol Ewrop (CALRE), a gymeradwywyd yn Fflorens ar 19 Medi 2003, ac a anfonwyd mewn e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 3 Tachwedd 2004. (NDM2164)

Mae cynhadledd llywyddion rhanbarthau deddfwriaethol Ewrop yn agored i 74 o ranbarthau o wyth o aelod wladwriaethau'r UE. Mae rhanbarthau o bob un o'r wyth o aelod wledydd cymwys yn cymryd rhan. Er cyfleustra i Aelodau, yr Eidal, Sbaen, Awstria, yr Almaen, y Ffindir, y Deyrnas Unedig, Portiwgal a Gwlad Belg yw'r aelod wladwriaethau. Nid wyf wedi eu henwi mewn unrhyw drefn benodol; dyna'r drefn y meddyliais amdanynt.

Cytunwyd ar siarter y rhanbarthau yn Fflorens y llynedd, ac yr oedd yn cynnwys cynrychiolwyr o gyrrff etholedig o ranbarthau deddfwriaethol a rhanbarthau anneddfwriaethol yr UE, sef y gwledydd a oedd wedi gwneud cais ar y pryd, a gwledydd cymdogol newydd Ewrop. Mynychodd tua 92 o lywyddion y gynhadledd yn Fflorens, ac erbyn hyn mae 198 o bobl wedi llofnodi'r siarter. Mae Cymdeithas Rhanbarthau Ewrop, sy'n cynnwys rhanbarthau deddfwriaethol a rhanbarthau anneddfwriaethol, yn gweithio gyda'r 250 rhanbarth sy'n aelodau o 26 o wledydd Ewropeaidd.

Mae'r berthynas rhwng CALRE a Phwyllgor y Rhanbarthau, Cynhadledd Llywyddion (Gweithredol) Rhanbarthau Deddfwriaethol Ewrop, a siambr seneddol Cyngor Ewrop yn datblygu. Nod y siarter hon yw manteisio ar allu rhanbarthau i gyfrannu at y broses o lunio Ewrop yn y dyfodol.

Mae'r Aelodau wedi cael amser i ddarllen y siarter, a chynigiwyd un gwelliant i'r cynnig. Nid yw gwelliant 1 yn gwadu y dylid cymeradwyo'r siarter, ond mae hefyd am gymeradwyo

'goruchafiaeth amlwg y gwladwriaethau sy'n aelodau o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd o ran cynnal hawliau a rhyddid eu rhanbarthau a'u cenhedloedd.'

I do not have an argument with that, but paragraph 4 of the charter—

The First Minister: It says the same thing.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Yes, it says the same. It recognises that

‘affirmation of the regional autonomies should come about’—

the English leaves something to be desired; it has been translated from the Italian, which makes things difficult, but it is clear—

‘while respecting the institutions and legislations of the respective states, their sovereignty and territorial integrity,’—

if anything, that is slightly stronger than that of which the amendment seeks to persuade us—

‘and while respecting the prerogatives of the local authorities’.

Of course, local authorities also play a part in shaping Europe and its Governments. It may be that the amendment is a probing amendment, and I have no problems with that, but it is otiose, so I invite the speaker—perhaps Nick—when proposing the amendment, to reflect upon the amendment and to seek leave to withdraw it at an appropriate stage. However, if the amendment is carried, the earth will not stop turning on its axis. I would be delighted if the charter were endorsed with or without the amendment, although I believe that it would be better without the amendment.

I am pleased to recommend the charter. It has received the blessing of the Committee on European and External Affairs, where it was received favourably, and I believe that Sandy Mewies, the Chair of the committee, will seek to catch your eye at a later time, Presiding Officer. I hope that Members will endorse the charter.

Nick Bourne: I propose amendment 1 in the name of David Melding. Add at the end of the motion:

Nid wyf yn anghytuno â hynny, ond mae paragraff 4 y siarter—

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n dweud yr un peth.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Ydy, mae'n dweud yr un peth. Mae'n cydnabod

y dylid cadarnhau'r awtonomiaethau rhanbarthol—

mae'r Saesneg braidd yn chwithig; fe'i cyfieithwyd o'r Eidaleg, sy'n gwneud pethau'n anodd, ond mae'n amlwg—

tra'n parchu sefydliadau a deddfwriaethau'r priod wladwriaethau, eu sofraniaeth a'u cyfanrwydd tiriogaethol—

os rhywbeth, mae hynny ychydig yn gryfach na'r hyn y mae'r gwelliant yn ceisio ein darbwyllo ohono—

a thra'n parchu hawliau'r awdurdodau lleol.

Wrth gwrs, mae gan awdurdodau lleol hefyd ran i'w chwarae wrth lunio Ewrop a'i Llywodraethau. Mae'n ddigon posibl bod y gwelliant yn welliant ymchwilgar, ac nid yw hynny'n broblem imi, ond mae'n welliant diangen, felly gwahoddaf y siaradwr—Nick efallai—wrth gynnig y gwelliant, i ystyried y gwelliant ac i ofyn am ganiatâd i'w dynnu yn ôl ar adeg briodol. Fodd bynnag, os derbynnir y gwelliant, ni fyddai'n ddiwedd y byd. Byddai'n bleser gennyf weld y siarter yn cael ei chymeradwyo gyda'r gwelliant neu hebdo, er fy mod o'r farn y byddai'n well heb y gwelliant.

Mae'n bleser gennyf argymhell y siarter. Derbyniodd sêl bendith y Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ac Allanol, lle y cafodd groeso cynnes, a chredaf y bydd Sandy Mewies, Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, yn ceisio dal eich llygad yn nes ymlaen, Lywydd. Gobeithiaf y bydd yr Aelodau yn cymeradwyo'r siarter.

Nick Bourne: Cynigiaf welliant 1 yn enw David Melding. Ychwanegu ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

while endorsing the clear primacy of the member states of the European Union in upholding the rights and freedoms of their regions and nations.

I thank the Deputy Presiding Officer for proposing the motion and for touching upon the amendment. I reread paragraph 4 of the charta of the regions this morning, having had a conversation with John Marek, but I do not believe that the ability of member states to encompass members of the Welsh Assembly Government or other representatives in protecting our rights is explicit. It is true that it talks about the sovereignty of member states, but, in the spirit of helpfulness as ever, I wanted to stress that it is not just a question of the regions having their rights; it is also a question of having strong member states, with the ability to fight for the regions and nations within the delegation, as happens now with members of the Welsh Assembly Government or the Secretary of State for Wales, for example. I do not believe that the charter is explicit on that point, although it might be implicit.

John Marek says that he is not opposed to this amendment in any event, so, if it is carried, we will support the charter; if it is not carried, we will not oppose the charter, but we will abstain. I do not want to delay proceedings any longer, but we just have that concern about the need to recognise the primacy of member states and the ability of members of the constituent parts of the member state to take part in delegations to support those rights and freedoms.

Michael German: On the same issue, I take the Deputy Presiding Officer's point about paragraph 4. The trouble with these documents from Europe, which have obviously been translated from other languages, is that they are not always as clear as you might want them to be. In replying, will the Deputy Presiding Officer tell us what the 'adequate level of authority' in paragraph 3 is, as opposed to an appropriate level of authority, or whatever the English translation might have been?

I agree with the Deputy Presiding Officer. Paragraph 4 probably covers the issue of

tra'n cefnogi goruchafiaeth amlwg y gwladwriaethau sy'n aelodau o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd o ran cynnal hawliau a rhyddid eu rhanbarthau a'u cenhedloedd.

Diolchaf i'r Dirprwy Lywydd am gynnig y cynnig ac am sôn ychydig am y gwelliant. Ailddarllenais baragraff 4 siarter y rhanbarthau y bore yma, ar ôl cael sgwrs gyda John Marek, ond ni chredaf fod gallu'r aelod wladwriaethau i gynnwys aelodau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru na chynrychiolwyr eraill wrth ddiogelu ein hawliau yn amlwg. Mae'n wir ei bod yn sôn am sofraniaeth aelod wladwriaethau, ond, fel arfer, er mwyn helpu cymaint â phosibl, yr oeddwn am bwysleisio nad mater syml o sicrhau bod gan y rhanbarthau eu hawliau mohono; mae a wnelo hefyd â sicrhau aelod wladwriaethau cryf, gyda'r gallu i frwydro ar ran y rhanbarthau a'r gwledydd o fewn y ddirprwyaeth, fel sy'n digwydd yn awr gydag aelodau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru neu Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, er enghraifft. Ni chredaf fod y siarter yn glir yn hynny o beth, er y gallai fod yn awgrymu hynny.

Dywed John Marek nad yw'n gwrthwynebu'r gwelliant hwn beth bynnag, felly, os caiff ei dderbyn, cefnogwn y siarter; os na chaiff ei dderbyn, ni wrthwynebwn y siarter, ond byddwn yn atal ein pleidlais. Nid wyf am oedi'r trafodion ymhellach, ond yr ydym yn pryderu am yr angen i gydnabod goruchafiaeth aelod wladwriaethau a gallu aelodau rhannau cyfansoddol yr aelod wladwriaeth i gymryd rhan mewn dirprwyaethau i gefnogi'r hawliau hynny a'r rhyddid hwnnw.

Michael German: Ar yr un mater, derbynias bwynt y Dirprwy Lywydd ynglŷn â pharagraff 4. Y drafferth gyda'r dogfennau hyn o Ewrop, sydd yn amlwg wedi'u cyfieithu o ieithoedd eraill, yw nad ydynt bob amser mor glir ag y byddech yn dymuno iddynt fod. Wrth ymateb, a wnaiff y Dirprwy Lywydd ddweud wrthym beth yw'r 'lefel ddigonol o awdurdod' ym mharagraff 3, yn hytrach na lefel briodol o awdurdod, neu beth bynnag oedd y cyfieithiad Saesneg?

Cytunaf â'r Dirprwy Lywydd. Fwy na thebyg bod paragraff 4 yn cwmpasu cyfanrwydd,

integrity, which is implicit in the amendment proposed by Nick Bourne, and it seems to me that one or other amplifies the point that is made. Therefore, we will vote in favour of the amendment, but we will also vote in favour of the charter even if the amendment is not carried, because we feel that they are intertwined.

It is important that we play our full part in, and with, the regions of Europe, and this is one of the ways in which we can express our voice. Hopefully, next year, with our new building, we will be well placed to demonstrate that we are a solid foundation on which to create a legislature in Wales.

Sandy Mewies: I am pleased to support the proposal that the National Assembly for Wales endorses the charta of the regions of Europe. The Committee on European and External Affairs discussed this in January, and all members endorsed it. I wrote to you, as Presiding Officer, to give you that information. Like John Marek, I will support the motion unamended.

3.10 p.m.

Janet Davies: I congratulate CALRE on bringing this important charter forward. Plaid Cymru will support the charter, but we will not support the amendment. There are a great number of valuable statements in this charter and I will refer to two of them. The first is,

‘the respect for human rights and of legality that constitute an essential part of the common heritage of Europe and an indispensable condition for the maintenance of peace and security’.

That is hugely important, particularly in the context of the history of the European continent over hundreds of years. For centuries, wars were waged over the heads of many people and they were transferred from one autocratic state to another and subjugated and oppressed. Those wars culminated in the second world war, and that was the point after which many competent governments said, ‘never again’. Eventually, the common market was formed for reasons that included the economy and the European atomic energy

sy'n amlwg yn y gwelliant a gynigiwyd gan Nick Bourne, ac ymddengys imi fod y naill neu'r llall ohonynt yn ymhelaethu ar y pwynt a wneir. Felly, pleidleisiwn o blaid y gwelliant, ond pleidleisiwn hefyd o blaid y siarter hyd yn oed os na dderbynnir y gwelliant, gan ein bod o'r farn bod perthynas amlwg rhyngddynt.

Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn chwarae ein rhan lawn o fewn a chyda rhanbarthau Ewrop, ac mae hyn yn un o'r ffyrdd y gallwn fynegi ein barn. Gobeithio, y flwyddyn nesaf, gyda'n hadeilad newydd, y byddwn mewn sefyllfa dda i ddangos ein bod yn darparu sail gadarn ar gyfer creu deddfwrfa yng Nghymru.

Sandy Mewies: Mae'n bleser gennyf gefnogi'r cynnig y dylai Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru gymeradwyo siarter rhanbarthau Ewrop. Bu i'r Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ac Allanol drafod y mater hwn ym mis Ionawr, ac fe'i cymeradwywyd gan bob un o'r aelodau. Ysgrifennais atoch, fel Llywydd, i roi'r wybodaeth honno ichi. Fel John Marek, cefnogaf y cynnig heb ei wella.

Janet Davies: Hoffwn longyfarch CALRE ar gyflwyno'r siarter bwysig hon. Bydd Plaid Cymru yn cefnogi'r siarter, ond ni chefnogwn y gwelliant. Mae nifer fawr o ddatganiadau gwerthfawr yn y siarter hon a chyfeiriaf at ddau ohonynt. Y cyntaf yw,

y parch tuag at hawliau dynol a chyfreithlondeb sy'n rhan hanfodol o dreftadaeth gyffredin Ewrop ac yn un o'r amodau anhepgor o ran sicrhau heddwch a diogelwch.

Mae hynny'n bwysig iawn, yn arbennig yng nghyd-destun hanes cyfandir Ewrop dros gannoedd o flynyddoedd. Am ganrifoedd, cafodd pobl eu gorfodi i fod yn rhan o ryfeloedd ac fe'u trosglwyddwyd o un wladwriaeth awtocratig i un arall a'u gorchfygu a'u gormesu. Daeth y rhyfeloedd hynny i ben gyda'r ail ryfel byd, a dyna pryd y penderfynodd sawl llywodraeth gymwys ddweud, 'byth eto'. Yn y pen draw, sefydlwyd y farchnad gyffredin am resymau a oedd yn cynnwys yr economi a chytundeb

community treaty, but underlying all that was a determination that the lessons of history must be learned. Within the European common market community union, there has been no war or fighting, but the good effects must be spread out to every citizen.

Some of the statements in the charter are extremely optimistic, particularly that regional authorities are a guarantee against the phenomena of estrangement from politics. How we wish that they were. Nevertheless, a charter should be optimistic and set out ideals, and making it work is the next stage. It would be wonderful if all politicians in the UK had the foresight to sign up to its ideals and to understand that things can go wrong, but to continue to work to get the best from this charter and the European Union, rather than using the union as a populist stage to fight UK elections.

Glyn Davies: I am always concerned whenever new charters emanate from anywhere in the European Union, especially when they are translated from Italian. You can never be exactly sure of their content.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I am aware of many great texts translated from Italian, not least Dante's *Inferno*.

Glyn Davies: I accept that point, Llywydd, and I believe that *The Prince* was also translated from Italian. That is an astounding book, upon which much of my own philosophy is based. The problem is that so much crazy legislation from Europe has come before us, without us realising what it meant at the time, such as the burial of dead farm stock and the horse passport legislation currently under consideration. Such measures are introduced from time to time, and if only we knew exactly what they meant when we signed up to them, we would never have done so. Generally, I am in favour of regions of Europe and regions of the world working together wherever that is sensible. It is difficult to think of Wales simply as a region—I think of it as a nation, but in this context, it is described as a region. Wales has unfinished business with regard to restructuring the way in which we govern our

cymunedol Ewrop ar ynni atomig, ond, yn sail i hynny oll, yr oedd penderfyniad bod yn rhaid dysgu gwersi hanes. O fewn undeb cymuned marchnad gyffredin Ewrop, ni chafwyd unrhyw ryfela nac ymladd, ond rhaid lledaenu'r effeithiau da i bob dinesydd.

Mae rhai o'r datganiadau yn y siarter yn hynod optimistaidd, yn arbennig bod awdurdodau rhanbarthol yn darparu gwarant rhag y ffenomena o ymddieithrio oddi wrth wleidyddiaeth. Oni fyddai hynny'n wir. Serch hynny, dylai siarter fod yn optimistaidd a nodi delfrydau, a'i rhoi ar waith yw'r cam nesaf. Byddai'n wych pe byddai gan bob un o wleidyddion y DU y weledigaeth i ymrwymo i'w delfrydau ac i ddeall y gall pethau fynd o chwith, ond i barhau i weithio er mwyn sicrhau'r canlyniadau gorau o'r siarter hon a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, yn hytrach na defnyddio'r undeb fel llwyfan boblyddol i geisio ennill etholiadau'r DU.

Glyn Davies: Yr wyf bob amser yn pryderu pan gaiff siarteri newydd eu cyflwyno o unrhyw le yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, yn arbennig pan fyddant wedi'u cyfieithu o'r Eidaleg. Ni allwch byth fod yn siŵr o'u cynnwys.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o sawl testun gwych a gyfieithwyd o'r Eidaleg, gan gynnwys *Inferno* gan Dante.

Glyn Davies: Derbyniasf y pwynt hwnnw, Lywydd, a chredaf i *The Prince* hefyd gael ei gyfieithu o'r Eidaleg. Mae hwnnw'n llyfr anhygoel, ac mae llawer o'm hathroniaeth bersonol yn seiliedig arno. Y broblem yw bod cymaint o ddeddfwriaeth wallgof o Ewrop wedi'i chyflwyno ger ein bron, heb inni sylweddoli'r goblygiadau ar y pryd, megis claddu anifeiliaid fferm trig a'r ddeddfwriaeth pasportau ceffylau sy'n cael ei hystyried ar hyn o bryd. Cyflwynir mesurau o'r fath o bryd i'w gilydd, a phe baem ond yn gwybod eu hunion ystyr wrth ymrwymo iddynt, ni fyddem byth wedi gwneud hynny. Yn gyffredinol, yr wyf o blaid sicrhau bod rhanbarthau Ewrop a rhanbarthau'r byd yn cydweithio lle bynnag y bo hynny'n synhwyrol. Mae'n anodd meddwl am Gymru fel rhanbarth yn unig—meddyliaf amdani fel cenedl, ond yn y cyd-destun hwn, fe'i disgrifir fel rhanbarth. Mae gwaith gan

country through devolution. There is much to learn in completing that restructuring through working with other regions. I hope that Members will support the amendment because there is always concern that some people use regionalisation as a way of undermining the state. It would be helpful to this charter if that was ruled out. I accept the Deputy Presiding Officer's point—

Mark Isherwood: Will you join me in congratulating the people of north-east England in recognising that the United Kingdom is four nations in one, and not 12 regions in a country called Europe?

Glyn Davies: I certainly congratulate the people of north-east England who have made a wise decision and probably ended the career of the Deputy Prime Minister at Westminster, which is a beneficial step forward. I hope that our amendment is supported because it will clarify our position. One part of the charter calls for the extension of the regionalisation process. Many people would be concerned about that. I accept point 4, but our amendment would strengthen that.

Leighton Andrews: Can you inform the Assembly on the division of opinion that appears to have arisen in the Welsh Conservative Party on the north-east England referendum, where we are led to believe that the former leader of the Conservative group in the European Parliament campaigned one way and a senior member of your party in the Chamber supported another position. Would you like to explain those divisions? Will you now move from a position of opposing devolution in the north-east of England to the position of opposing devolution in Wales? Can you also clear that up?

Glyn Davies: Thank you for that information; I do not intend to respond. I would prefer to find out the true position and I recommend that other Members do the same before they comment on such statements, which are fairly meaningless—*[Interruption.]*

Gymru i'w wneud o hyd o ran ailstrwythuro'r ffordd y caiff ein gwlad ei llywodraethu gennym drwy ddatganoli. Mae llawer i'w ddysgu o ran cwblhau'r broses ailstrwythuro drwy gydweithio â rhanbarthau eraill. Gobeithiaf y bydd Aelodau yn cefnogi'r gwelliant gan fod pryder bob amser bod ambell un yn defnyddio rhanbartholi fel ffordd o danseilio'r wladwriaeth. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol i'r siarter hon pe diddymwyd hynny. Derbyniaf bwynt y Dirprwy Lywydd—

Mark Isherwood: A ymunwch â mi wrth longyfarch pobl gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr am gydnabod bod y Deyrnas Unedig yn cynnwys pedair gwlad o fewn un, yn hytrach na 12 rhanbarth mewn gwlad o'r enw Ewrop?

Glyn Davies: Yn sicr, llongyfarchaf bobl gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr a wnaeth benderfyniad doeth ac a ddaeth, fwy na thebyg, â gyrfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn San Steffan i ben, sy'n gam buddiol ymlaen. Gobeithiaf y caiff ein gwelliant ei gefnogi gan y bydd yn egluro ein sefyllfa. Mae un rhan o'r siarter yn galw am i'r broses ranbartholi gael ei hehangu. Byddai llawer o bobl yn pryderu am hynny. Derbyniaf bwynt 4, ond byddai ein gwelliant yn atgyfnerthu hynny.

Leighton Andrews: A allwch hysbysu'r Cynulliad am y gwahaniaeth barn sydd wedi dod i'r amlwg ym Mhlaid Geidwadol Cymru mewn perthynas â refferendwm gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr, lle y cawn ar ddeall bod cyn arweinydd y grŵp Ceidwadol yn Senedd Ewrop wedi ymgyrchu un ffordd ac uwch aelod o'ch plaid yn y Siambr wedi cefnogi safbwynt arall. A hoffech egluro'r rhaniadau hynny? A chithau wedi gwrthwynebu datganoli yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr a ydych yn awr yn mynd i wrthwynebu datganoli yng Nghymru? A allwch egluro hynny hefyd?

Glyn Davies: Diolch ichi am y wybodaeth honno; ni fwriadaf ymateb. Byddai'n well gennyf gael gwybod beth yw'r sefyllfa go iawn ac argymhellaf y dylai'r Aelodau eraill wneud hynny hefyd cyn iddynt gyflwyno sylwadau ar ddatganiadau o'r fath, sy'n gymharol ddiystyr—*[Torri ar draws.]*

The Presiding Officer: Order. Glyn Davies is making a contribution on European regionalism.

Glyn Davies: The charter contributes more through its existence than through its content. Generally, I find it harmless and non-threatening. Our amendment is one that all Members can support.

I am pleased that the charter makes strong reference to the role of local authorities because that is often underplayed. Finally, the Deputy Prime Minister refers to the fact that 92 presidents have signed this charter. I am aware that the Assembly has a Presiding Officer and not a president. Presiding Officer, have you ever thought that your position should perhaps be re-termed president?

The Presiding Officer: Order. That is a matter for Standing Orders.

Rosemary Butler: I thank the Deputy Presiding Officer for bringing this forward. I was interested in Glyn's comment on the charter's existence being more important than its content. That is a good description of Glyn today.

It is important that we take a full role in Europe and when we belong to an organisation, we should attend its conferences whenever we can and bring back recommendations and resolutions to be enacted here. That is why this charter is an interesting document that we should accept. Its tenor is reflected in the new convention, which was recently signed in Rome, which gives more strength to the regions and local authorities. Europe recognises that it is important for decisions to be made at the lowest appropriate level and as close to the citizens as possible. It is important that this charter recognises that fact. I will support the motion, but I will not support the amendment.

The Deputy Presiding Officer (John Marek): First, in response to Glyn's question, the offices would be those of president and vice president everywhere else in Europe, but we are not in Europe; we are in Wales.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae Glyn Davies yn gwneud cyfraniad ar ranbartholi yn Ewrop.

Glyn Davies: Mae'r siarter yn cyfrannu mwy drwy ei bodolaeth na thrwy ei chynnwys. Yn gyffredinol, credaf ei bod yn ddiniwed ac nad oes unrhyw fygythiad ynddi. Mae ein gwelliant yn un y gall pob Aelod ei gefnogi.

Yr wyf yn falch bod y siarter yn cyfeirio'n amlwg at rôl awdurdodau lleol gan na chaiff sylw digonol yn aml. I gloi, cyfeiria'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog at y ffaith bod 92 o lywyddion wedi llofnodi'r siarter hon. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol mai teitl y swydd yn Saesneg yn y Cynulliad yw 'Presiding Officer' ac nid 'President'. Lywydd, a ydych wedi ystyried erioed y dylid newid teitl eich swydd yn Saesneg i 'president'?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mater i'r Rheolau Sefydlog yw hynny.

Rosemary Butler: Diolchaf i'r Dirprwy Lywydd am gyflwyno'r mater hwn. Yr oedd gennyf ddiddordeb yn sylw Glyn ar y ffaith bod bodolaeth y siarter yn bwysicach na'i chynnwys. Mae hynny'n ddisgrifiad da o Glyn heddiw.

Mae'n bwysig inni chwarae rhan lawn yn Ewrop a phan fyddwn yn aelod o fudiad, dylem fynychu ei gynadleddau lle y bo'n bosibl gan ddod ag argymhellion a chynigion yn ôl i'w gwneud yn ddeddfau yma. Dyna pam mae'r siarter hon yn ddogfen ddiddorol y dylem ei derbyn. Caiff ei hystyr ei adlewyrchu yn y confensiwn newydd a lofnodwyd yn ddiweddar yn Rhufain, sy'n rhoi mwy o awdurdod i'r rhanbarthau ac awdurdodau lleol. Mae Ewrop yn cydnabod ei bod yn bwysig i benderfyniadau gael eu gwneud ar y lefel isaf sy'n briodol ac mor agos at y dinasyddion â phosibl. Mae'n bwysig i'r siarter hon gydnabod hynny. Cefnogaf y cynnig, ond ni chefnogaf y gwelliant.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd (John Marek): Yn gyntaf, gan ymateb i gwestiwn Glyn, teitlau Saesneg y swyddi hynny ym mhob man arall yn Ewrop fyddai 'president' a 'vice president', ond nid ydym yn Ewrop; yr ydym yng Nghymru.

Members understand the document and there are no hidden flaws in it. If we sign up to it, we will get exactly what is in it and no more. The document seeks to place the regional context within subsidiarity: at one end, there is the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the European Commission, under which there are member states, which are sovereign and under those there are regions, then local government and then individuals or citizens. We all have different competencies, some of which have a higher degree of responsibility than others, but that does not mean that they are more important—they are different competences and this charter seeks to place the regional competence in its rightful place, and no more than that. It asks for more regionalisation because there is none in France, for example. I believe that some regions of France should have a legislative competence.

Mae'r Aelodau yn deall y ddogfen ac nid oes unrhyw wendidau cudd ynddi. Os ymrwymwn iddi, cawn yn union beth sydd wedi'i nodi ynddi a dim mwy. Mae'r ddogfen yn ceisio gosod y cyd-destun rhanbarthol o fewn sybsidiaredd: ar un pegwn, ceir Cyngor Ewrop, Senedd Ewrop a'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd, sy'n cynnwys aelod wladwriaethau, sy'n sofran ac o dan y rheini ceir rhanbarthau, wedyn llywodraeth leol ac wedyn unigolion neu ddinasyddion. Mae gan bob un ohonom wahanol alluoedd, ac y mae gan rai ohonynt fwy o gyfrifoldeb nac eraill, ond nid yw hynny'n golygu eu bod yn bwysicach—galluoedd gwahanol ydynt ac mae'r siarter hon yn ceisio rhoi'r gallu rhanbarthol yn ei le priodol, a dim mwy na hynny. Mae'n gofyn am fwy o ranbartholi gan na cheir unrhyw ranbartholi o gwbl yn Ffrainc, er enghraifft. Credaf y dylai fod gan rai rhanbarthau yn Ffrainc allu deddfwriaethol.

In response to Mark Isherwood, if the north-east England Assembly had been given some proper powers, then the people may have voted for it. There may be a completely different reason for that referendum result.

Mewn ymateb i Mark Isherwood, pe byddai Cynulliad gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr wedi cael rhywfaint o bwerau priodol, yna mae'n bosibl y byddai'r bobl wedi pleidleisio o'i blaid. Efallai fod rheswm cwbl wahanol dros ganlyniad y refferendwm hwnnw.

3.20 p.m.

To conclude, if the amendment is passed, I would have no problem with that, although I would prefer if it were not. Does the Conservative Party believe in subsidiarity and the place of regions as part of the system of governing Europe? If the amendment is defeated, do not fall out of your pram. Stick with the charter, and endorse it nevertheless.

I gloi, os derbynir y gwelliant, ni fyddai hynny'n broblem imi o gwbl, er y byddai'n well gennyf pe na châi ei dderbyn. A yw'r Blaid Geidwadol yn credu mewn sybsidiaredd a lle rhanbarthau fel rhan o'r system ar gyfer llywodraethu Ewrop? Os caiff y gwelliant ei wrthod, peidiwch â phwdu. Dylech lynu wrth y siarter, a'i chymeradwyo beth bynnag.

Y Llywydd: Diolchaf i'r Dirprwy Lywydd am ei barodrwydd i'n cynrychioli fel Cynulliad yng nghyfarfodydd CALRE pan yr oedd yn anodd ar lawer achlysur i mi fynd yno oherwydd dyletswyddau yn San Steffan a manau eraill.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the Deputy Presiding Officer for his willingness to represent us as an Assembly at the CALRE meetings on the numerous occasions when I have had difficulty in attending due to duties in Westminster and elsewhere.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 18, Ymatal 6, Yn erbyn 30.
Amendment 1: For 18, Abstain 6, Against 30.*

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

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

Bates, Mick
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Randerson, Jenny
Sinclair, Karen
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Pugh, Alun
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Butler, Rosemary
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Gregory, Janice
James, Irene
Neagle, Lynne

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.

Cynnig (NDM2164): O blaid 45, Ymatal 8, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2164): For 45, Abstain 8, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
German, Michael

Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Bourne, Nick
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Adroddiad y Grŵp Gweithredu Polisi Chwarae The Report of the Play Policy Implementation Group

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): I propose that	Y Gwwinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod
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the National Assembly for Wales

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

1. notes the play policy implementation group recommendations;

1. yn nodi argymhellion y grŵp gweithredu polisi chwarae;

2. welcomes the intention of the Assembly Government to consult on the report and publish its response by April 2005. (NDM2166)

2. yn croesawu bwriad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ymgynghori ar yr adroddiad a chyhoeddi ei hymateb erbyn Ebrill 2005. (NDM2166)

I am pleased to present to you the recommendations of the play policy implementation group. I announced the publication of the Welsh Assembly Government's play policy in October 2002 and highlighted that we were the first administration in the UK to make such a statement. The Assembly has long recognised that play is a vital element in children's development. We are confirming today our recognition that freedom to play is a right of children and young people in Wales, enshrined in Article 31 of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child. Now we must move on from principles to implementation. That is why I established a play policy implementation group, chaired by Margaret Jervis of Valleys Kids, and I thank her and her group for their dedication and assistance in taking forward a play strategy in Wales.

The aim of the group was to set a clear vision on the way forward and to look at practical ways in which we can provide the best opportunities for our children and young people. The group brought together a wide range of expertise, including representation from local government and the voluntary sector, and has contributed to an important step forward not only for play but for Wales.

This Plenary session marks the start of a public consultation on the recommendations. I will highlight some of the issues raised by the report, actions that we can take now and recommendations to be considered in consultation. Our main priority is to launch the consultation with the public and Assembly Members to inform the programme of implementation by the Assembly Government. The first and main recommendation calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to place a statutory duty on all local authorities to provide for children's play needs to meet national minimum standards.

The Children Bill now making its way through Parliament will make provision for us to develop new statutory guidance on partnership working to improve the wellbeing of children. This will provide opportunities for new guidance on play provision which

Mae'n bleser gennyf gyflwyno argymhellion y grŵp gweithredu polisi chwarae ichi. Cyhoeddais fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cyhoeddi polisi chwarae ym mis Hydref 2002 gan dynnu sylw at y ffaith mai ni oedd y weinyddiaeth gyntaf yn y DU i wneud datganiad o'r fath. Mae'r Cynulliad wedi cydnabod ers amser fod chwarae yn elfen hollbwysig o ddatblygiad plant. Yr ydym yn cadarnhau heddiw ein bod yn cydnabod bod y rhyddid i chwarae yn hawl sydd gan blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru, wedi'i hymgorffori yn Erthygl 31 Confensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn. Rhaid inni symud ymlaen yn awr o egwyddorion i gamau gweithredu. Dyna pam y sefydlais grŵp gweithredu polisi chwarae, o dan gadeiryddiaeth Margaret Jervis o Plant y Cymoedd, a diolchaf iddi hi a'i grŵp am eu hymroddiad a'u cymorth wrth ddatblygu strategaeth chwarae yng Nghymru.

Nod y grŵp oedd nodi gweledigaeth glir ar gyfer y ffordd ymlaen ac ystyried ffyrdd ymarferol o roi'r cyfleoedd gorau i'n plant a'n pobl ifanc. Daeth y grŵp ag amrywiaeth eang o arbenigedd ynghyd, gan gynnwys cynrychiolaeth o lywodraeth leol a'r sector gwirfoddol, ac mae wedi cyfrannu at gam pwysig ymlaen nid yn unig o ran chwarae ond i Gymru.

Mae'r Cyfarfod Llawn hwn yn nodi man cychwyn ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar yr argymhellion. Tynnaf sylw at rai o'r materion a godwyd yn yr adroddiad, camau gweithredu y gallwn eu cymryd yn awr ac argymhellion i'w hystyried mewn ymgynghoriad ag eraill. Ein prif flaenoriaeth yw lansio'r ymgynghoriad gyda'r cyhoedd ac Aelodau'r Cynulliad er mwyn llywio rhaglen weithredu Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Mae'r argymhelliad cyntaf, sef y prif argymhelliad, yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i osod dyletswydd statudol ar bob awdurdod lleol i ddarparu ar gyfer anghenion chwarae plant er mwyn cyrraedd safonau gofynnol cenedlaethol.

Bydd y Mesur Plant sy'n mynd ar ei hynt drwy'r Senedd ar hyn o bryd yn gwneud darpariaeth inni ddatblygu canllawiau statudol newydd ar weithio mewn partneriaeth i wella lles plant. Bydd hyn yn rhoi cyfleoedd i gael canllawiau newydd ar

will help us to respond to recommendation 9 on the development of local play policies and strategies. The guidance will also enable us to respond to recommendation 23, by ensuring that we continue to work in partnership with local authorities, the voluntary sector and children to make a difference to the lives of our children and young people.

Play touches on many aspects of Assembly policy—education, health, leisure, planning and transport. We have taken every opportunity to make links between play, education and childcare. The foundation phase will build on the international evidence that learning through structured play is most effective in the early years. We have required all proposals for integrated centres to include open access play provision for older children. In the Assembly's draft budget we announced £50 million of new funding for early years from 2006-07 to 2007-08. We will announce more details of how we will use that funding in due course, but I can confirm that play provision will be a core strand in our proposals for it.

Play is an important element of Cymorth, with an aim to develop play opportunities appropriate to age, and thus assist with emotional, physical, social, intellectual and creative development. We recognise that active play is a key element of the food and fitness agenda. When children play in the playground or park they can be as physically active as when they play more formal sport. We will look for opportunities to bring play provision into all initiatives for health improvement.

Recommendation 19 of the implementation group's report highlights the fears of litigation. We, of course, want children and young people to be protected from negligence, but we recognise that all physical activity carries risk, and negotiating that risk provides real benefits for the child. We are therefore joining the Home Office and the Wales Council for Voluntary Action to discuss risk assessment and legal liability

ddarpariaeth chwarae a fydd yn ein helpu i ymateb i argymhelliad 9 ynglŷn â datblygu polisïau a strategaethau chwarae lleol. Bydd y canllawiau hefyd yn ein galluogi i ymateb i argymhelliad 23, drwy sicrhau ein bod yn parhau i weithio mewn partneriaeth ag awdurdodau lleol, y sector gwirfoddol a phlant i wneud gwahaniaeth i fywydau ein plant a'n pobl ifanc.

Mae chwarae yn cyffwrdd â sawl agwedd ar bolisïau'r Cynulliad—addysg, iechyd, hamdden, cynllunio a thrafnidiaeth. Yr ydym wedi manteisio ar bob cyfle i gysylltu chwarae, addysg a gofal plant. Bydd y cyfnod sylfaen yn adeiladu ar y dystiolaeth ryngwladol mai yn ystod y blynyddoedd cynnar y mae dysgu drwy chwarae strwythuredig fwyaf effeithiol. Yr ydym wedi ei gwneud yn ofynnol i bob cynnig ar gyfer canolfannau integredig gynnwys darpariaeth chwarae â mynediad agored i blant hŷn. Yng nghyllideb ddrafft y Cynulliad bu inni gyhoeddi £50 miliwn o arian newydd ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar o 2006-07 hyd 2007-08. Byddwn yn cyhoeddi rhagor o fanylion am sut y byddwn yn defnyddio'r arian hwnnw maes o law, ond gallaf gadarnhau y bydd darpariaeth chwarae yn un o'r llinynnau craidd yn ein cynigion ar ei gyfer.

Mae chwarae yn elfen bwysig o Cymorth, gyda'r nod o ddatblygu cyfleoedd chwarae sy'n briodol i oedran y plentyn a thrwy hynny cynorthwyo gyda ei ddatblygiad emosiynol, corfforol, cymdeithasol, deallusol a chreadigol. Cydnabyddwn fod chwarae egnïol yn elfen allweddol o'r agenda bwyd a ffitrwydd. Pan fydd plant yn chwarae yn yr iard ysgol neu yn y parc gallant fod yr un mor egnïol ag ydynt pan fyddant yn chwarae chwaraeon mwy ffurfiol. Edrychwn am gyfleoedd i gynnwys darpariaeth chwarae ym mhob un o'r mentrau gwella iechyd.

Mae argymhelliad 19 o adroddiad y grŵp gweithredu yn tynnu sylw at yr ofn ynglŷn ag achosion llys. Yr ydym, wrth reswm, am i blant a phobl ifanc gael eu diogelu rhag esgeuluster, ond cydnabyddwn fod pob gweithgarwch corfforol yn dwyn risg, a bod ymdrin â'r risg honno yn dod â manteision gwirioneddol i'r plentyn. Felly yr ydym yn ymuno â'r Swyddfa Gartref a Chyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru i drafod

with the insurance industry. We will review our own regulations and minimum standards around staffed play provision to strike the correct balance.

These recommendations give Wales the opportunity to remain at the forefront of the play agenda, and to lead it. Following the public consultation, we will publish our considered implementation programme of play next year. I commend the motion to Members.

Janet Ryder: As we have just heard, the Welsh Assembly Government recognises that the impact of modern society on children's lives has significantly restricted their opportunity to play freely and has resulted in a poverty of play opportunities in the general environment. The document goes on to mention schools as being well placed to provide a range of opportunities for children's play. It notes that

'School playgrounds and playing fields can often represent the only space in urban areas.'

However, I am sure that we all know that many school fields face being sold off for various kinds of development. While the document recommends that community land trusts and others be given first refusal on any suitable public land that becomes available, it would be stronger to recommend that there is a presumption against the sale of school land for development. While we support the first offer that is being recommended, we would like to see it strengthened. In England, schools and local authorities will have to show that selling the land is a last resort. They would also have to use the cash raised to improve other outdoor facilities before any money could be used to improve indoor projects. Perhaps that is the kind of recommendation that should go into this report.

In planning, there is a presumption when developments come forward regarding the scale of houses and the kind of play development that should be allowed alongside those developments. Yet again, I

asesiad risg ac atebolrwydd cyfreithiol gyda'r diwydiant yswiriant. Byddwn yn adolygu ein rheoliadau a'n safonau gofynnol ein hunain o ran darpariaeth chwarae o dan oruchwyliaeth staff er mwyn sicrhau'r cydbwysedd cywir.

Mae'r argymhellion hyn yn rhoi cyfle i Gymru aros ar y blaen o ran yr agenda chwarae, a'i harwain. Yn dilyn yr ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus, byddwn, wedi ystyried, yn cyhoeddi ein rhaglen weithredu o ran chwarae y flwyddyn nesaf. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Aelodau.

Janet Ryder: Fel yr ydym newydd ei glywed, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cydnabod bod effaith cymdeithas fodern ar fywydau plant wedi cyfyngu'n enbyd ar eu cyfle i chwarae'n ddilyffethair ac wedi arwain at brinder cyfleoedd chwarae yn yr amgylchedd cyffredinol. Mae'r ddogfen yn mynd yn ei blaen i sôn bod ysgolion yn gallu darparu amrywiaeth o gyfleoedd chwarae i blant. Noda

'Yn aml meysydd chwarae a chaeau chwaraeon yw'r unig leoedd agored mewn ardaloedd dinesig.'

Fodd bynnag, gwyddom oll, mae'n siŵr, fod llawer o gaeau ysgol mewn perygl o gael eu gwerthu ar gyfer gwahanol fathau o ddatblygiadau. Er bod y ddogfen yn argymhell y dylai ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol ac eraill gael y cyfle cyntaf i brynu unrhyw dir cyhoeddus addas sy'n dod ar y farchnad, byddai'n gryfach pe bai'n argymhell bod rhagdybiaeth yn erbyn gwerthu tir ysgol i'w ddatblygu. Er y cefnogwn y cynnig cyntaf a argymhellir, hoffem ei weld yn cael ei gryfhau. Yn Lloegr, bydd yn rhaid i ysgolion ac awdurdodau lleol brofi mai dim ond yn niffyg popeth arall y byddant yn gwerthu'r tir. Bydd yn rhaid iddynt hefyd ddefnyddio'r arian a godir i wella cyfleusterau awyr agored eraill cyn y gellid defnyddio unrhyw arian i wella prosiectau dan do. Efallai mai dyna'r math o argymhellion a ddylai gael eu cynnwys yn yr adroddiad hwn.

O ran cynllunio, mae rhagdybiaeth pan gyflwynir datblygiadau o ran y nifer a'r math o dai a'r math o ddatblygiad chwarae y dylid ei ganiatáu ochr yn ochr â'r datblygiadau hynny. Unwaith eto, gwyddom oll, mae'n

am sure that we all know of residential developments that have gone ahead without those recommended play areas having been developed. Perhaps, again, we need to look to this report to make stronger recommendations to enable local authorities to ensure that that land is made available and to ensure that those areas are completed before that development is handed over to the authority. If it cannot be handed down to the local authority to do that, perhaps the Assembly should have a role in it.

Again, I am sure that we are aware of many existing play areas that are difficult for young children to access because of their location—perhaps situated across major roads. In many villages, the play area is situated across a major road. In Pentrefoelas, for example, children have to cross the A5 to access the play area. Perhaps the recommendation in this document should be that when play areas are developed, or where there are existing play areas, safe crossing provision is made to enable children to access those areas.

Another issue that concerns most of us, from talking to people, is the physical condition of some recognised and non-recognised play areas, and the dangers that they can present to children. I do not necessarily mean the state of play equipment, but the sort of litter that can be found on the ground that has not been collected by authorities. That can range from, unfortunately, dog excrement to discarded needles. If we are talking about providing safe play environments for young people and children, we should be looking at a stronger recommendation for local authorities to ensure that recognised play areas and areas that, although not formally recognised, local authorities know are frequented by young people, are inspected, litter-picked and cleaned regularly. That would not only notify authorities of what was happening in those areas, but it would also go towards ensuring a safe environment for children to play in.

3.30 p.m.

siŵr, am ddatblygiadau preswyl sydd wedi mynd rhagddynt heb i'r ardaloedd chwarae hynny a argymhellwyd gael eu datblygu. Efallai, unwaith eto, y dylem ddisgwyl i'r adroddiad hwn wneud argymhellion cryfach i alluogi awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau bod y tir hwnnw ar gael ac i sicrhau bod yr ardaloedd hynny wedi'u cwblhau cyn i'r datblygiad hwnnw gael ei drosglwyddo i'r awdurdod. Os na ellir trosglwyddo hynny i'r awdurdod lleol ei wneud, efallai y dylai fod gan y Cynulliad rôl yn hyn o beth.

Unwaith eto, gwyddom, mae'n siŵr, am lawer o ardaloedd chwarae y mae'n anodd i blant ifanc eu defnyddio oherwydd eu lleoliad—efallai fod rhaid croesi ffordd fawr i'w cyrraedd. Mewn sawl pentref, mae'r ardal chwarae wrth ymyl ffordd fawr. Ym Mhentrefoelas, er enghraifft, rhaid i'r plant groesi ffordd yr A5 i gyrraedd yr ardal chwarae. Efallai y dylid argymhell yn y ddogfen hon pan gaiff ardaloedd chwarae eu datblygu, neu lle y mae ardaloedd chwarae yn bodoli eisoes, fod yn rhaid gwneud darpariaeth ar gyfer croesi'r ffordd yn ddiogel er mwyn ei gwneud yn bosibl i blant gyrraedd yr ardaloedd hynny.

Mater arall sy'n bwysig i'r rhan fwyaf ohonom, o siarad â phobl, yw cyflwr ffisegol rhai ardaloedd chwarae swyddogol neu answyddogol, a'r peryglon y mae plant yn eu hwynebu ynddynt. Nid cyflwr yr offer chwarae sydd gennyf mewn golwg o reidrwydd, ond y math o sbwriel y gellir dod o hyd iddo ar y llawr nad yw wedi cael ei gasglu gan awdurdodau. Gall hynny amrywio, gwaetha'r modd, o faw cŵn i hen nodwyddau. Os ydym yn sôn am ddarparu amgylcheddau chwarae diogel i bobl ifanc a phlant, dylem fod yn disgwyl argymhelliad cryfach i awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau bod ardaloedd chwarae swyddogol ac ardaloedd, er nad ydynt wedi'u cydnabod yn swyddogol, y gŵyr awdurdodau lleol fod pobl ifanc yn ymgynnull yno, yn cael eu harchwilio a'u glanhau'n rheolaidd ac y caiff sbwriel ei gasglu'n rheolaidd. Byddai hynny yn fodd i awdurdodau ddod i wybod am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn yr ardaloedd hynny yn ogystal â'u helpu i sicrhau amgylchedd chwarae diogel i blant.

Christine Chapman: Do you agree that good play areas also need to satisfy a range of children? Often, in the case of many informal play areas, they are usually used by just one age group, and that intimidates other children.

Janet Ryder: The document clearly shows that the kind of play equipment constructed is not always used by the intended age group. That can have beneficial as well as unbeneficial effects. Young people of all ages need places to congregate, and we must consider providing suitable areas, as this document says, for those young people.

Returning to my original point on cleanliness, we must encourage a high level of awareness. That is increasing among dog owners, in particular, when they exercise their dogs or allow them to be exercised in public areas. We must encourage responsible dog ownership and ensure that every mess is cleared up.

With regard to the role played by schools and their location, we all remember the case of Ysgol John Bright, which was allowed to be built on top of a waste tip. That was condemned by the children's commissioner, who raised many concerns about the siting of that school and its playing fields in that area. We must be careful about where we place buildings and in how we develop them. We must also look at the space currently available to schools. Many schools cannot allow their pupils to play ball games outside because, physically, there is no space in their playground. There is a minimum level for secondary school children; perhaps we should look at setting a minimum level for children under eight to ensure that all children have access to play.

Finally, I draw Members' attention to the recommendations on wet playtimes at school. Children, often in overcrowded schools, sometimes have to play inside and sometimes sometime outside. Where the document recommends all children going out during a wet playtime, can we bear in mind the advisability of children sitting through a

Christine Chapman: A gytunwch fod angen i ardaloedd chwarae da hefyd fodloni ystod o blant? Yn aml, yn achos llawer o ardaloedd chwarae anffurfiol, cânt eu defnyddio fel arfer gan un grŵp oedran yn unig, ac mae hynny yn codi ofn ar blant eraill.

Janet Ryder: Dengys y ddogfen yn glir na chaiff y math o offer chwarae a adeiladwyd ei ddefnyddio bob amser gan y grŵp oedran a fwriadwyd. Gallai hynny arwain at fanteision yn ogystal ag anfanteision. Mae angen i bobl ifanc o bob oedran gael lle i ymgynnull, a rhaid inni ystyried darparu ardaloedd addas, fel y dywed y ddogfen hon, i'r bobl ifanc hynny.

Gan ddychwelyd i'm pwynt gwreiddiol ynglŷn â glendid, rhaid inni annog ymwybyddiaeth dda. Mae hynny'n gwella ymhlith perchnogion cŵn, yn arbennig, wrth iddynt fynd â'r ci am dro neu adael i'w cŵn redeg o gwmpas mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Rhaid inni annog perchnogion cŵn i ymddwyn yn gyfrifol a sicrhau eu bod bob amser yn clirio unrhyw faw.

O ran y rôl a chwaraeir gan ysgolion a'u lleoliad, cofiwn oll am achos Ysgol John Bright, y caniatwyd iddi gael ei hadeiladu ar domen sbwriel. Condemniwyd hynny gan y comisiynydd plant, a gododd lawer o bryderon ynglŷn â lleoliad yr ysgol honno a'i chaeau chwaraeon yn yr ardal honno. Rhaid inni fod yn ofalus ynglŷn â'r ffordd yr ydym yn datblygu adeiladau ac ymhle yr ydym yn eu lleoli. Rhaid inni hefyd ystyried y lle sydd ar gael i ysgolion ar hyn o bryd. Mae llawer o ysgolion yn methu â chaniatáu i'w disgyblion chwarae gemau pêl yn yr iard am nad oes digon o le. Ceir isafswm i blant ysgol uwchradd; efallai y dylem ystyried pennu isafswm i blant o dan wyth oed er mwyn sicrhau bod pob plentyn yn cael cyfle i chwarae.

Yn olaf, tynnaf sylw'r Aelodau at yr argymhellion ynglŷn ag amser chwarae yn yr ysgol pan fo'n wlyb. Mae plant, yn aml mewn ysgolion lle y mae gormod o ddisgyblion, weithiau yn gorfod chwarae dan do ac weithiau y tu allan. Lle mae'r ddogfen yn argymhell bod pob plentyn yn mynd allan yn ystod amser chwarae gwlyb, a allwn gofio

school day in wet clothing?

Catherine Thomas: I am glad that the Welsh Assembly Government acknowledges the importance of play in a child's life and the enormous benefits that it can deliver. It understands that children learn through play and that it is essential to their emotional development. Play can help children to develop confidence and self-esteem, express themselves, develop their imagination, find out about their environment, find out what is possible, and test their abilities. It can help them to learn about themselves and others, and learn to do and think. Most importantly, it is fun. Play can take many forms. The Charter for Children's Play states that:

'play is a generic term for a variety of activities which are satisfying to the child, creative for the child and freely chosen by the child.'

I believe that it is crucial that more children have real opportunities to play and are encouraged to do so, and that their voices are heard on how they want to play. For me, this is a social justice issue.

I believe that the Welsh Assembly Government is committed to securing this, as we see in a number of measures and policies. For example, following the scrapping of testing at key stage 1, we have seen more emphasis on the importance of play and its benefits for the youngest children. Also, several free school breakfast clubs are introducing play initiatives that are helping to give children the best possible start to the day and, through different early morning play initiatives, are helping to de-stress children and improve their concentration for the rest of the school day. However, much more needs to be done and many challenges face us. This has been clearly demonstrated in my own constituency, where a recent survey found many children and their families felt that their environment was not sufficiently child-friendly. This is a complaint echoed throughout many parts of Wales and often, but not always, comes from less affluent areas.

pa un a yw'n ddoeth gadael i blant fynd drwy ddiwrnod ysgol mewn dillad gwlyb?

Catherine Thomas: Yr wyf yn falch bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd chwarae ym mywyd plentyn a'r manteision enfawr sy'n gallu dod yn ei sgîl. Mae'n deall bod plant yn dysgu drwy chwarae a bod hynny'n hanfodol i'w datblygiad emosiynol. Gall chwarae helpu plant i fagu hyder a hunan-barch, mynegi eu hunain, datblygu eu dychymyg, dod i wybod am eu hamgylchedd, dod i wybod am yr hyn sy'n bosibl, a phrofi eu galluoedd. Gall eu helpu i ddysgu amdanynt hwy eu hunain ac am eraill, a'u dysgu i wneud a meddwl. Yn bwysicach na dim, mae'n hwyl. Gall chwarae fod ar sawl ffurf. Noda Siarter Chwarae Plant:

mae chwarae yn derm cyffredinol ar gyfer amrywiaeth o weithgareddau sy'n foddhaus i'r plentyn, yn greadigol i'r plentyn ac a ddewisir gan y plentyn o'i wirfodd.

Mae'n hollbwysig, yn fy marn i, fod mwy o blant yn cael cyfleoedd gwirioneddol i chwarae ac yn cael eu hannog i wneud hynny, ac y caiff eu lleisiau eu clywed ynglŷn â'r ffordd y maent am chwarae. I mi, mater o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol ydyw.

Credaf fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ymrwymedig i sicrhau hyn, fel y gwelwn mewn sawl mesur a pholisi. Er enghraifft, ar ôl cael gwared ar brofion yng nghyfnod allweddol 1, yr ydym wedi gweld mwy o bwyslais ar bwysigrwydd chwarae a'i fanteision i'r plant ifancaf. Hefyd, mae sawl clwb brecwast am ddim yn yr ysgol yn cyflwyno mentrau chwarae sy'n helpu plant i ddechrau bob bore yn y ffordd orau bosibl a, thrwy wahanol fentrau chwarae ben bore, maent yn lleihau straen ymhlith plant a'u helpu i ganolbwyntio'n well am weddill y diwrnod ysgol. Fodd bynnag, mae angen gwneud llawer mwy, ac mae llawer o heriau o'n blaenau. Dangosodd hynny yn glir yn fy etholaeth i, lle y canfuwyd mewn arolwg diweddar fod llawer o blant a'u teuluoedd yn teimlo nad oedd eu hamgylchedd yn ddigon cyfeillgar i blant. Dyma gwyn a glywir ledled Cymru ac yn aml, ond nid bob amser, daw o'r ardaloedd llai ffyniannus.

Frequently, there are insufficient open spaces for children to play. I know some children who have not experienced the freedom of outdoor play in a safe environment. Too often, children have to adapt and play within a traffic-dominated environment with many hazards. Consequently—

David Davies: Will you give way?

Catherine Thomas: No, David. My constituents have asked me that if you ever ask me to give way that, for their sake, I should say no.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I do not like that sentiment. When we meet here in debate, giving way encourages the debate. Whether or not we give way is not a matter for our constituents, but a matter of our own parliamentary responsibility. However, I appreciate the point that you make.

Catherine Thomas: Thank you, Llywydd. I take note.

Often, parents are constrained in the play boundaries that they set and the areas available often offer no adventure activities or challenges.

Children who took part in the Llanelli survey made it clear that they want outdoor play areas which involve minimal supervision, but enough to ensure that the area is maintained and safe. Safe areas are vital. Unfortunately, I know of certain areas where children are unable to play because—as Janet has said—they are littered with discarded needles, making what should be a safe play area an extremely hazardous environment.

I believe that the development of more out-of-school activities for children is essential. These are acutely needed, especially when one considers that substance misuse and underage drinking are enormous problems, with children of whom I am aware as young as eight years old being discovered out late at night, drinking.

Yn aml, nid oes digon o fannau agored ar gael i blant chwarae. Yr wyf yn adnabod rhai plant nad ydynt wedi cael y rhyddid i chwarae yn yr awyr agored mewn amgylchedd diogel. Yn rhy aml, mae plant yn gorfod addasu a chwarae mewn amgylchedd llawn traffig gyda llawer o beryglon. O ganlyniad—

David Davies: A ildiwch?

Catherine Thomas: Nid ildiaf, David. Mae fy etholwyr wedi gofyn imi beidio, er eu mwyn hwy, ag ildio i chi pe baech byth yn gofyn imi wneud hynny.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid wyf yn hoffi'r sylw hwnnw. Pan fyddwn yn cyfarfod yma i gynnal dadl, mae ildio yn hyrwyddo'r ddadl. Nid ein hetholwyr sy'n penderfynu pa un a ddylem ildio ai peidio. Mater i'n cyfrifoldeb seneddol ein hunain ydyw. Fodd bynnag, deallaf y pwynt yr ydych yn ei wneud.

Catherine Thomas: Diolch, Lywydd. Nodaf yr hyn a ddywedaso.

Yn aml, mae rhieni yn gorfod cyfyngu ar y mannau lle y maent yn caniatáu i'w plant chwarae ac yn aml nid yw'r ardaloedd sydd ar gael yn cynnig gweithgareddau antur na heriau.

Dywedodd y plant a gymerodd ran yn arolwg Llanelli yn glir eu bod am gael ardaloedd chwarae awyr agored lle y ceir cyn lleied o oruchwyliaeth â phosibl, ond bod digon i sicrhau bod yr ardal yn lân ac yn ddiogel. Mae ardaloedd diogel yn hanfodol. Yn anffodus, gwn am rai ardaloedd lle na all plant chwarae—fel y dywedodd Janet—am eu bod yn llawn hen nodwyddau, sy'n troi'r hyn a ddylai fod yn ardal chwarae ddiogel yn amgylchedd hynod beryglus.

Yn fy marn i, mae'n hanfodol datblygu mwy o weithgareddau i blant y tu allan i oriau'r ysgol. Mae eu hangen yn ddybryd, yn enwedig o gofio bod camddefnyddio sylweddau ac yfed dan oed yn broblemau dirfawr. Gwn am blant mor ifanc ag wyth oed yn cael eu gweld yn yfed ar y stryd yn hwyr yn y nos.

The Carmarthenshire Youth and Children's Association is involved in developing some excellent after-school initiatives, such as gardening clubs, yoga and kickboxing classes, which would be good to see replicated throughout Wales. These activities improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children. It is naive to think that only adults experience stress, tension and feelings of depression and frustration. Children also experience those, and their emotional health can be addressed through play. This is something that is finally being widely recognised, as we have seen in the Children Bill. The Bill recognises that play is essential to the emotional health and wellbeing of children. However, I want to see all children having access to play, whatever their circumstances, and enjoying its many benefits. After all, this is nothing more than fair play. I am glad to support the recommendations before us today.

Jonathan Morgan: We will support this motion, and look forward to the consultation process and the responses that will be received. This is a thought provoking document, with plenty of exciting recommendations and some innovative ideas.

In light of the fact that virtually everyone in the Chamber will support this, I do not wish to replicate what other Members have said. I shall confine my remarks to four or five particular points. First, in terms of the planning process and the influence of play and recreation in that, there is an important point that we should consider which relates not just to children up until the age of five or six years, but to children and teenagers. I am sure that we all have experience of where derelict land or greenfield sites, in some cases, have been developed into housing areas. Little consideration is given by the planning process to the needs of recreation and play. In the more suburban areas, in particular, where we have seen a growth in developments and housing estates, little consideration has been given to the needs of recreation and play where open spaces have been decimated for profit and for house-building. No spaces are set aside for outdoor activities whether they are play parks, small community halls, football pitches or whatever. Space that is left in which children

Mae Cymdeithas Ieuenctid a Phlant Sir Gaerfyrddin wrthi'n datblygu rhai mentrau ardderchog ar ôl yr ysgol, megis clybiau garddio, ioga a dosbarthiadau cicboescio. Byddai'n braf gweld y rhain yn cael eu cynnig ledled Cymru. Mae'r gweithgareddau hyn yn gwella iechyd a lles emosiynol plant. Mae'n naif meddwl mai dim ond oedolion sy'n teimlo straen, tensiwn, iselder ysbryd a rhwystredigaeth. Mae plant hefyd yn profi'r rhain a gellir mynd i'r afael â'u hiechyd emosiynol drwy chwarae. O'r diwedd, caiff hyn ei gydnabod yn gyffredinol, fel y gwelwom yn y Mesur Plant. Mae'r Mesur yn cydnabod bod chwarae yn hanfodol i iechyd a lles emosiynol plant. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf am weld pob plentyn yn cael cyfle i chwarae, beth bynnag fo'i amgylchiadau, ac i elw ar y manteision lawer. Wedi'r cyfan, nid yw hyn ond yn chwarae teg. Yr wyf yn falch o gefnogi'r argymhellion ger ein bron heddiw.

Jonathan Morgan: Cefnogwn y cynnig hwn, ac edrychwn ymlaen at yr ymgynghoriad a'r ymatebion a ddaw i law. Mae hon yn ddogfen sy'n gwneud i rywun feddwl, gyda digon o argymhellion cyffrous a rhai syniadau arloesol.

O ystyried y bydd bron pawb yn y Siambr yn cefnogi hyn, nid wyf am ailadrodd yr hyn y mae Aelodau eraill wedi'i ddweud. Soniaf am bedwar neu bum pwynt penodol yn unig. Yn gyntaf, o ran y broses gynllunio a dylanwad chwarae a hamdden yn hynny o beth, mae pwynt pwysig y dylem ei ystyried sy'n ymwneud â phlant a phobl ifanc yn eu harddegau yn ogystal â phlant hyd at bump neu chwe blwydd oed. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod pob un ohonom yn gwybod am dir diffaith neu safleoedd maes glas, mewn rhai achosion, sydd wedi cael eu datblygu'n ardaloedd tai. Ychydig iawn o ystyriaeth a roddir i anghenion hamdden a chwarae yn ystod y broses gynllunio. Yn yr ardaloedd mwy maestrefol, yn enwedig, lle y bu twf mewn datblygiadau ac ystadau tai, ychydig iawn o ystyriaeth a roddwyd i anghenion hamdden a chwarae lle y mae mannau agored wedi cael eu dinistrio er mwyn gwneud elw ac adeiladu tai. Ni neilltuir unrhyw fannau i weithgareddau awyr agored boed yn barciau chwarae, neuaddau cymunedol bach, meysydd pêl-droed, neu beth bynnag. Mae'r

and young people can play and be involved in physical activities, and in which they can improve their physical wellbeing, is now being rapidly diminished. We must consider that in the context of this report.

3.40 p.m.

I have one concern, however, regarding the burdens that we will be placing on other organisations, particularly local government. We all know that, in the past, the Government has, in many respects, failed to provide adequate funding for obligations placed on local government. I hope that this will not be another unfunded burden on local government and that, when we produce a particular set of policies, they will be matched with funding to ensure that local government can meet the obligations placed on them.

I hope that this report will lead to more extensive use of fields and school grounds. In reviews undertaken by the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee on the use of school buildings and estates—I know that the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning is particularly keen on this—we should consider how school fields and open spaces can be utilised at the end of the school day so that communities can make better use of them for recreational activities, such as team sports, and so that they become places that young people can use.

I wish to refer to the issue of play deprivation, which is mentioned in the report. In paragraph 6.2, the recommendation group notes that there appears to be a presumption that areas of economic deprivation are synonymous with areas of play deprivation, but that there is clear evidence—and this is interesting—that children and young people living outside and inside areas of economic deprivation can suffer play deprivation. That is an important part of the report as it may determine how money and resources are directed in future. In the past, there may have been an assumption that funding must go to deprived areas and not to others, although similar problems may occur in more affluent areas of Wales. This will clearly direct

mannau sy'n weddill lle y gall plant a phobl ifanc chwarae a chymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau corfforol, a lle y gallant wella eu hiechyd corfforol, yn mynd yn llai ac yn llai erbyn hyn. Rhaid inni ystyried hynny yng nghyd-destun yr adroddiad hwn.

Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf bryder ynglŷn â'r beichiau y byddwn yn eu gosod ar sefydliadau eraill, yn enwedig llywodraeth leol. Gwyddom oll fod y Llywodraeth, ar sawl cyfrif, wedi methu â rhoi digon o arian yn y gorffennol am y rhwymedigaethau a osodwyd ar lywodraeth leol. Gobeithiaf na fydd hyn yn faich arall ar lywodraeth leol sydd heb ei ariannu a phan fyddwn yn llunio cyfres arbennig o bolisïau, y cânt eu hariannu er mwyn sicrhau y gall llywodraeth leol gyflawni'r rhwymedigaethau a roddir arni.

Gobeithiaf y bydd yr adroddiad hwn yn arwain at ddefnydd helaethach o gaeau a thiroedd ysgolion. Mewn adolygiadau a gynhaliwyd gan y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar y defnydd o adeiladau ac ystadau ysgolion—gwn fod y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn frwdfrydig iawn am hyn—dylem ystyried sut y gellir defnyddio caeau ysgolion a manau agored ar ddiwedd y diwrnod ysgol fel y gall cymunedau wneud gwell defnydd ohonynt ar gyfer gweithgareddau hamdden, megis chwaraeon tîm, ac fel y byddant yn dod yn fannau y gall pobl ifanc eu defnyddio.

Hoffwn gyfeirio at fater amddifadedd chwarae, y cyfeirir ato yn yr adroddiad. Ym mharagraff 6.2, mae'r grŵp argymhell yn nodi yr ymddengys bod rhagdybiaeth bod ardaloedd o amddifadedd economaidd yn gyfystyr ag ardaloedd o amddifadedd chwarae, ond ceir tystiolaeth bendant—ac mae hyn yn ddiddorol—fod plant a phobl ifanc sy'n byw y tu allan a'r tu mewn i ardaloedd o amddifadedd economaidd yn gallu dioddef o amddifadedd chwarae. Mae hynny'n rhan bwysig o'r adroddiad oherwydd mae'n bosibl mai dyna a fydd yn pennu faint o arian ac adnoddau a gaiff eu neilltuo yn y dyfodol. Yn y gorffennol, efallai fod rhagdybiaeth bod rhaid i arian gael ei neilltuo ar gyfer ardaloedd difreintiedig ac nid eraill,

resources. On page 9 of the report, it states that this issue may have to be featured when considering how lottery funding, including the young people's fund, is distributed. In terms of the direction of public resources, this may also have an impact on other areas of Government funding, as well as on lottery funding and the young people's fund.

This report is thought provoking. It will provide for an interesting debate and consultation period. We look forward to the recommendations being examined by the variety of stakeholders, and to giving further support to this exciting initiative.

Sandy Mewies: I am pleased to add my support to these welcome proposals which, as Jonathan said, are well-thought-out. They have been welcomed by many organisations with expertise in this area. Alan Roberts, treasurer of the North Wales Play and Playing Fields Association and a member of the implementation group, and Tony Chilton, the chair of the association, have told me that they fully support all the recommendations and have urged me and colleagues to support them.

There seems to be general agreement that recommendation 1, which places a statutory duty on local authorities to provide for children's play needs in order to meet national minimum standards, is vital. Although I take Janet Ryder's point that informal areas are important, we must be careful when placing statutory duties on local authorities that we do not spread it too thinly and make it an impossible task for them. I agree that many play areas are littered and need to be tidied up.

I agree with Jonathan Morgan that funding will be vital for this. It is no good placing another duty on local authorities without providing proper ongoing funding for them to implement it. Flintshire County Council is at the forefront in its approach to play as it has a play development unit with a manager, an officer and a play specialist. Unlike some

er bod problemau tebyg yn gallu codi yn ardaloedd mwyaf ffyniannus Cymru. Yn amlwg, caiff adnoddau eu neilltuo yn unol â hyn. Ar dudalen 9 yr adroddiad, noda y bydd yn rhaid ystyried y mater hwn o bosibl wrth ystyried sut y caiff arian y loteri, gan gynnwys cronfa pobl ifanc, ei ddsbarthu. O ran neilltuo adnoddau cyhoeddus, efallai y bydd hyn yn cael effaith ar feysydd eraill o arian y Llywodraeth hefyd, yn ogystal ag ar arian y loteri a chronfa pobl ifanc.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn un sy'n gwneud i rywun feddwl. Bydd yn ysgogi dadl a chyfnod ymgynghori diddorol. Edrychwn ymlaen at weld yr argymhellion yn cael eu hystyried gan y rhanddeiliaid amrywiol, ac at gefnogi'r fenter gyffrous hon ymhellach.

Sandy Mewies: Mae'n bleser gennyf gefnogi'r cynigion hyn, sydd i'w croesawu ac sydd, fel y dywedodd Jonathan, yn rhai ystyriol. Maent wedi cael eu croesawu gan lawer o sefydliadau sy'n meddu ar arbenigedd yn y maes hwn. Mae Alan Roberts, trysorydd Cymdeithas Chwarae a Chaeau Chwarae Gogledd Cymru ac aelod o'r grŵp gweithredu, a Tony Chilton, cadeirydd y gymdeithas, wedi dweud wrthyf eu bod yn cefnogi pob un o'r argymhellion yn llwyr ac maent wedi fy annog i a'm cyd-Aelodau i'w cefnogi.

Ymddengys bod cytundeb cyffredinol bod argymhelliad 1, sy'n gosod dyletswydd statudol ar awdurdodau lleol i ddarparu ar gyfer anghenion chwarae plant er mwyn cyrraedd safonau gofynnol cenedlaethol, yn hanfodol. Er y derbyniaf bwynt Janet Ryder bod ardaloedd anffurfiol yn bwysig, wrth osod dyletswyddau statudol ar awdurdodau lleol, rhaid inni wyllo rhag bod yn rhy gynnwl wrth roi dyletswyddau iddynt a'i gwneud yn dasg amhosibl iddynt. Cytunaf fod llawer o ardaloedd chwarae yn llawn sbwriel a bod angen eu tacluso.

Cytunaf â Jonathan Morgan y bydd arian yn hanfodol yn hyn o beth. Nid oes diben mewn gosod dyletswydd arall ar awdurdodau lleol heb roi cyllid parhaus priodol iddynt ei chyflawni. Mae Cyngor Sir y Fflint ar flaen y gad o ran ei ymagwedd tuag at chwarae am fod ganddo uned datblygu chwarae gyda rheolwr, swyddog ac arbenigwr chwarae. Yn

local authorities, it has mainstreamed the play agenda into all sorts of areas, including planning and education.

That the importance of play is widely recognised is illustrated by the fact that a survey on provision, undertaken in Flintshire this summer by the county council, the North Wales Playing Fields Association and Play Wales, attracted more than 1,100 responses. That is good going by anybody's reckoning, for any sort of survey. The information that was gathered is being collated and will be made public.

There are 24 recommendations in this report and all of them have value. I particularly support those that recognise that school staff should receive training to enable them to recognise the value of learning through play and to facilitate play during school playtime. I also support the recommendations that ask the Welsh Assembly Government to direct resources and initiatives to recognise the real importance of play in children's development, and that play deprivation be considered when new lottery funds are distributed. However, I agree, once again, with Jonathan Morgan that an area that is economically deprived does not necessarily experience play deprivation, and vice versa. Jonathan made an excellent point in that regard, and I wholeheartedly agree.

Brian Gibbons: What Jonathan said, and what you say, is true to a certain extent, but you should not lose sight of the main point: it is likely that a deprived area is an area least likely to have proper play facilities. If we look at the statistics for child casualties, we find that there is a strong social gradient—children in the most deprived areas are much more likely to suffer from road traffic accidents, presumably because they are playing in the street and do not have proper play amenities. There may not be total symmetry, but there must be a high level of symmetry, which we should not ignore.

wahanol i rai awdurdodau lleol, mae wedi prif ffrydio'r agenda chwarae ym mhob math o feysydd, gan gynnwys cynllunio ac addysg.

Mae'r ffaith bod arolwg ar ddarpariaeth, a gynhaliwyd yn sir y Fflint yn ystod yr haf gan y cyngor sir, Cymdeithas Caeau Chwarae Gogledd Cymru a Chwarae Cymru, wedi denu mwy na 1,100 o ymatebion yn dangos bod pwysigrwydd chwarae yn cael ei gydnabod yn eang. Credaf y byddai pawb yn cytuno bod hynny yn nifer dda am unrhyw fath o arolwg. Mae'r wybodaeth a gasglwyd yn cael ei choladu ar hyn o bryd a chaiff ei chyhoeddi.

Mae 24 o argymhellion yn yr adroddiad hwn ac mae pob un ohonynt yn werthfawr. Cefnogaf yn arbennig y rhai hynny sy'n cydnabod y dylai staff ysgol gael mwy o hyfforddiant i'w galluogi i gydnabod gwerth dysgu drwy chwarae ac i hwyluso chwarae yn ystod amser chwarae yn yr ysgol. Cefnogaf hefyd yr argymhellion sy'n gofyn i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyfeirio adnoddau a mentrau i gydnabod pwysigrwydd gwirioneddol chwarae yn natblygiad plant, ac y dylai amddifadedd chwarae gael ei ystyried pan gaiff arian newydd y loteri ei ddsbarthu. Fodd bynnag, unwaith eto, cytunaf â Jonathan Morgan nad yw ardal o amddifadedd economaidd o reidrwydd yn ardal o amddifadedd chwarae, ac fel arall. Gwnaeth Jonathan bwynt ardderchog yn hynny o beth, a llwyr gytunaf.

Brian Gibbons: Mae'r hyn a ddywedodd Jonathan, a'r hyn a ddywedwch chi, yn wir i ryw raddau, ond ni ddylech golli golwg o'r prif bwynt: mae'n debyg mai ardal ddifreintiedig sydd leiaf tebygol o feddu ar gyfleusterau chwarae priodol. Os edrychwn ar yr ystadegau ar ddamweiniau plant, fe welwn fod graddiant cymdeithasol cryf—mae plant yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig yn llawer mwy tebygol o gael damwain ar y ffordd, am eu bod yn chwarae ar y stryd siŵr o fod ac nad oes ganddynt amwynderau chwarae priodol. Efallai nad oes cyfatebiaeth lwyr, ond rhaid bod cryn gyfatebiaeth, na ddylem ei hanwybyddu.

Sandy Mewies: I do not disagree with that, but I maintain that Jonathan has a point that we should not ignore—the phrase about the baby and bathwater is the one that comes to mind. This issue ought to be recognised.

Play areas should be safe, but not sterile. Recommendation 22 asks the Welsh Assembly Government to promote the use of traffic calming and home zones to enable children to play near their homes, which relates to one of the points that Brian made, and that recommendation is important.

Finally, I hope that this consultation will listen to the views of children and young people, because we must cover the spectrum of play and what it means for them. We need their ideas, so that they will use these areas. I would say, however, that we have a way to go in terms of simplifying the language that we use. I do not think that I am patronising any child or young person when I say that phrases expressing Welsh Assembly Government policy such as

‘play encompasses children’s behaviour which is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated’,

while they turn play into a suitably weighty subject, it is weighty enough already, and something along the lines of ‘children like to play’ makes more sense, at least to me.

Kirsty Williams: The Welsh Liberal Democrats will support this consultation exercise and we look forward to hearing the responses. When I saw the first recommendation about minimum standards, I did think that it would require each local authority to have a witch’s hat and a rocket in each playground across Wales, but maybe I am being flippant. The reason for that is, while this is worthy, thought-provoking and necessary, one does wonder whether this should be our priority in looking after the needs of children in Wales. Is it not ironic that the Children Bill, currently going through Parliament, will give us the

Sandy Mewies: Nid anghytunaf â hynny, ond yr wyf yn dal i gredu bod Jonathan wedi codi pwynt dilys na ddylem ei anwybyddu—cadw’r brych a lluchio’r babi yw’r ymadrodd sy’n dod i’m meddwl i. Dylid cydnabod y mater hwn.

Dylai ardaloedd chwarae fod yn ddiogel, ond nid yn ddigymeriad. Mae argymhelliad 22 yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru hyrwyddo’r defnydd o fesurau gostegu traffig a pharthau cartrefi i’w gwneud yn bosibl i blant chwarae ger eu cartrefi, sy’n gysylltiedig ag un o’r pwyntiau a wnaeth Brian, ac mae’r argymhelliad hwnnw yn un pwysig.

Yn olaf, gobeithiaf y bydd yr ymgynghoriad hwn yn gwrandao ar farn plant a phobl ifanc, oherwydd rhaid inni gwmpasu pob math o chwarae a’r hyn y mae’n ei olygu iddynt. Mae angen eu syniadau arnom, fel y byddant yn defnyddio’r ardaloedd hyn. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ddweud bod tipyn o ffordd i fynd o ran symleiddio’r iaith a ddefnyddiwn. Ni chredaf fy mod yn nawddoglyd i unrhyw blentyn neu berson ifanc pan ddywedaf fod ymadroddion sy’n mynegi polisi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru megis

‘mae chwarae yn cwmpasu ymddygiad plant a ddewisir yn rhydd, a gyfarwyddir yn bersonol ac a gymhellir yn gynhenid’,

er eu bod yn troi chwarae yn bwnc a digon o sylwedd yn perthyn iddo, mae digon o sylwedd yn perthyn iddo eisoes, a byddai rhywbeth fel ‘mae plant yn hoffi chwarae’ yn gwneud mwy o synnwyr, i mi o leiaf.

Kirsty Williams: Bydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn cefnogi’r ymgynghoriad hwn ac edrychwn ymlaen at glywed yr ymatebion. Pan welais yr argymhelliad cyntaf ynglŷn â safonau gofynnol, meddyliais y byddai’n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i bob awdurdod lleol osod het gwrach a roced ym mhob maes chwarae ledled Cymru, ond efallai mai ysmaldod yw hynny ar fy rhan i. Y rheswm dros hynny yw, er bod hyn yn rhywbeth buddiol, symbylol ac angenrheidiol, tybed a ddylai fod yn flaenoriaeth inni wrth ofalu am anghenion plant yng Nghymru. Onid yw’n eironig y bydd y Mesur Plant, sy’n mynd ar ei hynt

opportunity to place a statutory duty on local authorities to make play provision for children, but does not offer children protection under the law from physical abuse? Catherine talks about the emotional wellbeing and health of children, but I propose that the Government could make the biggest step to promote that agenda by giving children due protection under the law. That is why I am cynical when it comes to this debate.

3.50 p.m.

Jocelyn Davies: Does the fact that the Labour Government in Westminster whipped its MPs so that they could not vote against a ban on smacking also make you cynical?

Kirsty Williams: The views of the Assembly were clear, and I regret that we do not have the power to protect our children in the way that I, and the majority of Assembly Members, would wish. It makes me mad that while we can rejoice and celebrate provision in the context of this debate, we missed the opportunity to take a major step to protect children. Children will remind us of this in years to come.

David Davies: Surely the biggest child protection measure would be to address the number of late abortions carried out in Wales?

Kirsty Williams: Your views on abortion are well known, David. I can respect those views as long as you respect mine.

The other irony is that by placing a new statutory duty on local authorities, we are, as Sandy and Jonathan said, introducing another burden. In many cases in recent years, local authorities have failed to demonstrate that they are able to carry out their current statutory duties with regard to the protection of the most vulnerable children in their care. Local authorities are strategied out. Their resources and staff time are spent on devising more and more strategies, instead of on providing services for children. Time and

drwy'r Senedd ar hyn o bryd, yn rhoi cyfle inni osod dyletswydd statudol ar awdurdodau lleol i wneud darpariaeth chwarae i blant, ond nid yw'n cynnig diogelu plant o dan y gyfraith rhag cael eu cam-drin yn gorfforol? Mae Catherine yn sôn am les ac iechyd emosiynol plant, ond awgrymaf y gallai'r Llywodraeth gymryd y cam mwyaf i hyrwyddo'r agenda honno drwy roi diogelwch dyladwy i blant o dan y gyfraith. Dyna pam yr wyf yn sinigaidd o ran y ddadl hon.

Jocelyn Davies: A yw'r ffaith bod y Llywodraeth Lafur yn San Steffan yn mynnu bod ei Haelodau yn dilyn y chwip fel na allent bleidleisio yn erbyn gwaharddiad ar daro plant hefyd yn gwneud ichi deimlo'n sinigaidd?

Kirsty Williams: Yr oedd barn y Cynulliad yn ddiamwys, a gresynaf nad oes gennym y pŵer i ddiogelu ein plant fel y dymunwn i, a'r rhan fwyaf o Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Er y gallwn ymlawenhau a dathlu darpariaeth yng nghyd-destun y ddadl hon, mae'n fy ngwylltio inni golli'r cyfle i gymryd cam mawr i ddiogelu plant. Bydd plant yn ein hatgoffa am hyn yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

David Davies: Onid yw'n wir dweud mai'r cam mwyaf y gellid ei gymryd i ddiogelu plant fyddai mynd i'r afael â nifer yr erthyliadau hwyr yng Nghymru?

Kirsty Williams: Mae eich barn ar erthyly yn hysbys iawn, David. Gallaf barchu'r farn honno cyhyd ag y byddwch yn parchu fy marn i.

Yr eironi arall yw drwy osod dyletswydd statudol newydd ar awdurdodau lleol, ein bod yn cyflwyno baich arall, fel y dywedodd Sandy a Jonathan. Mewn sawl achos yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, mae awdurdodau lleol wedi methu â dangos eu bod yn gallu cyflawni eu dyletswyddau statudol presennol o ran diogelu'r plant mwyaf diamddiffyn yn eu gofal. Mae awdurdodau lleol wedi'u llethu gan strategaethau. Caiff eu hadnoddau eu gwario a chaiff amser eu staff eu treulio ar lunio mwy a mwy o strategaethau, yn hytrach

again, we have seen local authorities fail miserably to demonstrate an understanding of their current statutory duties towards the most vulnerable children, who are at risk every day. This report seeks to place another statutory duty on authorities, when they cannot cope with their current duties towards children in Wales.

In a country in which so many children study in unfit classrooms, the report discusses the development of schools' outdoor spaces to make them more conducive to play. We have not got the buildings right yet, and many schools do not even have decent toilet facilities. Children across Wales have made this point to the children's commissioner, but the report refers to improving schools' outdoor facilities. That is worthy and important, but we have a long way to go to address the most basic needs before we can look at targeting resources at this. After all, it is only resources that will make the recommendations a reality.

I am cynical because our experience is so far removed from what is in the report. I have written time and again to the Minister with responsibility for roads to beg and plead for lower speed limits in communities in my constituency that straddle a trunk road which children have to cross to reach the local play facilities. I am consistently told that the Minister cannot reduce the speed limit. We are not getting the basics right, and we must look at what we are currently doing before we raise expectations about what we intend to do for children in Wales.

Jeff Cuthbert: A recent study of children's independent mobility suggests that, in a single generation, a typical eight-year-old's home habitat—the area in which children are able to travel on their own—has shrunk to a ninth of its former size. In other words, for the first time in the 4-million-year history of our species, we are, in effect, trapping children indoors at the very point when their bodies and minds are primed to start getting to grips with the world outside the home. The

na darparu gwasanaethau i blant. Dro ar ôl tro, yr ydym wedi gweld awdurdodau lleol yn methu'n lân â dangos dealltwriaeth o'u dyletswyddau statudol presennol i'r plant mwyaf diamddiffyn sydd mewn perygl bob dydd. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn ceisio gosod dyletswydd statudol arall ar awdurdodau, er nad ydynt yn gallu ymdopi â'u dyletswyddau presennol i blant yng Nghymru.

Mewn gwlad lle y mae cymaint o blant yn astudio mewn ystafelloedd dosbarth anaddas, mae'r adroddiad yn trafod datblygu manau awyr agored ysgolion i'w gwneud yn fwy addas ar gyfer chwarae. Nid yw'r adeiladau yn iawn gennym eto, ac mae llawer o ysgolion heb doiledau o safon dderbyniol hyd yn oed. Mae plant ledled Cymru wedi codi'r pwynt hwn gyda'r comisiynydd plant, ond at wella cyfleusterau awyr agored ysgolion y mae'r adroddiad yn cyfeirio. Mae hynny yn werth chweil ac yn bwysig, ond mae tipyn o waith i'w wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r anghenion mwyaf sylfaenol cyn y gallwn ystyried targedu adnoddau at hyn. Wedi'r cyfan, dim ond adnoddau fydd yn gwireddu'r argymhellion.

Yr wyf yn sinigaidd am fod ein profiad mor wahanol i'r hyn sydd yn yr adroddiad. Yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu droeon at y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am ffyrdd i erfyn am derfynau cyflymder is mewn cymunedau yn fy etholaeth i sydd ar y naill ochr a'r llall i gefnffordd y mae'n rhaid i blant ei chroesi i gyrraedd y cyfleusterau chwarae lleol. Dywedir wrthyf o hyd na all y Gweinidog leihau'r terfyn cyflymder. Nid ydym yn gwneud y pethau sylfaenol yn iawn eto, a rhaid inni ystyried yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud ar hyn o bryd cyn inni godi disgwyliadau am yr hyn y bwriadwn ei wneud i blant yng Nghymru.

Jeff Cuthbert: Awgryma astudiaeth ddiweddar o symudedd annibynnol plant fod cynefin plentyn wyth mlwydd oed cyffredin—yr ardal y gall plant deithio ynddi ar eu pennau eu hunain—wedi crebachu i nawfed ran o'i maint blaenorol mewn un genhedlaeth. Mewn geiriau eraill, am y tro cyntaf mewn 4 miliwn o flynyddoedd o hanes y ddynolryw, yr ydym yn cadw ein plant yn gaeth i'r cartref i bob diben ar yr union adeg pan fo eu cyrff a'u meddwl yn barod i

children of today are almost being bred in captivity. The results, as the implementation group rightly points out, are falls in physical, cognitive, social and emotional abilities, which are the basic survival skills that a young person needs to be equipped with to deal with modern-day society. Above all, play should be fun, exciting and challenging. This is why the implementation group's recommendations are timely and welcome. The Assembly Government's play policy and the implementation group's recommendations will do a great deal to deliver change.

Wales has the first national play policy of its kind in the world. We in Wales are serious about play. Over £140 million will be channelled into front-line delivery as part of early years provision. This is complemented by the strategic use of £2.75 million per annum for local partnerships to develop their play provision and over £200 million from the new opportunities fund's support for play facilities. The Assembly Government has influence over how our share is used in Wales, and, clearly, these funding levels will help to meet the key challenges of funding, staff resources, stakeholder involvement and an understanding of children's play needs. A lack of any of these things often impedes the establishment of successful play spaces.

An active and healthy lifestyle is a fundamental prerequisite to a balanced approach to young life, and patterns for future behaviour are set during these early years. Is it not crucial, therefore, that the implementation group's recommendations are fully considered by all? As with most things, these recommendations will have their maximum impact at a community and local level. Opening up our neighbourhoods, parks and open spaces to make them safe and attractive play spaces is essential if we are to encourage more active lifestyles and combat play deprivation.

The decline in play opportunities is, in part, a side effect of wider social changes. Shrinking families, more parents working longer hours

ddechrau mynd i'r afael â'r byd y tu allan i'r cartref. Mae plant heddiw yn cael eu magu mewn caethiwed bron. O ganlyniad, fel y nodar grŵp gweithredu, a hynny'n briodol, mae eu galluoedd corfforol, gwybyddol, cymdeithasol ac emosiynol wedi dirywio. Dyma'r sgiliau goroesi sylfaenol y mae eu hangen ar bobl ifanc er mwyn iddynt ymdopi â'r gymdeithas fodern. Yn anad dim, dylai chwarae fod yn hwyl, yn gyffrous ac yn heriol. Dyna pam y mae argymhellion y grŵp gweithredu yn amserol ac yn dderbyniol. Bydd polisi chwarae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac argymhellion y grŵp gweithredu yn gwneud cryn dipyn i gyflawni newid.

Cymru sydd â'r polisi chwarae cenedlaethol cyntaf o'i fath yn y byd. Yr ydym ni yng Nghymru yn cymryd chwarae o ddfifrif. Caiff dros £140 miliwn ei neilltuo ar gyfer cyflwyno gwasanaethau rheng flaen fel rhan o ddarpariaeth y blynyddoedd cynnar. Caiff hyn ei ategu gan y defnydd strategol o £2.75 miliwn y flwyddyn i bartneriaethau lleol er mwyn iddynt ddatblygu eu darpariaeth chwarae a thros £200 miliwn o gymorth y gronfa cyfleoedd newydd am gyfleusterau chwarae. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gallu dylanwadu ar y ffordd y caiff ein cyfran ei defnyddio yng Nghymru, ac, yn amlwg, bydd yr arian hwn yn helpu i ateb yr heriau allweddol o ariannu, adnoddau staff, cynnwys rhanddeiliaid a dealltwriaeth o anghenion chwarae plant. Mae prinder unrhyw un o'r rhain yn aml yn rhwystr i sefydlu mannau chwarae llwyddiannus.

Mae byw bywyd iach a gweithgar yn hanfodol i ymagwedd gytbwys tuag at fywyd ifanc, a chaiff patrymau o ymddygiad yn y dyfodol eu gosod yn ystod y blynyddoedd cynnar hyn. Onid yw'n hollbwysig, felly, fod argymhellion y grŵp gweithredu yn cael eu hystyried yn llawn gan bawb? Fel gyda'r rhan fwyaf o bethau, ar y lefel gymunedol a lleol y caiff yr argymhellion hyn yr effaith fwyaf. Mae agor ein cymdogaethau, ein parciau a'n mannau agored i'w gwneud yn fannau agored diogel ac atyniadol yn hanfodol os ydym am annog pobl i fyw bywyd mwy gweithgar a threchu amddifadedd chwarae.

Un o sgîl-ffeithiau newidiadau cymdeithasol ehangach yw'r dirywiad mewn cyfleoedd chwarae i raddau. Mae teuluoedd llai, mwy o

and increasingly fragmented communities have left children with fewer friendly faces to look out for them. Many more children have their own rooms, and the entertainment industry makes ever-more seductive offers to stay indoors. Fear plays a key role: parents' fears of traffic and of strangers help to stifle the opportunities to play in the carefree way that many of us in the Chamber did when we were young.

That is why placing young people's play at the heart of our communities is as important as making our communities of central importance to our young people, and why the use of the integrated children's centres as a policy tool to aid in the delivery of our play policy is so important. We must tackle the 'no ball games' ethos with sympathy and determination—and I accept that, in many parts of our communities, especially in areas where older people live, such games can pose difficulties, but we must provide a safe and exciting alternative environment in which young people can express themselves through play. For our youngest children, it is also important that support is in place to make the use of these centres as easy as possible. Home zones and traffic calming measures are also needed to make local streets safe so that children can play in sight of their parents. The success of trials in England shows that these measures can work, and I welcome the group's backing of this policy.

The implementation group has made exciting recommendations, which will undoubtedly help to change the landscape of play opportunities for children in Wales. The need for safe yet exciting and challenging play spaces for older children cannot be underestimated either: the limited use of school playing facilities and the safe, but dull, local park force many young children to abandon these places for far more dangerous locations. I accept the point that Janet Ryder made earlier on this, because we must not forget that, under the Conservatives, 5,000 school playing fields throughout the United Kingdom were sold off. We must find a balance between the need for safety and older children's need for greater stimulation. I welcome this aspect of the implementation

rieni yn gweithio oriau hwy a chymunedau sy'n gynyddol ddarniog wedi gadael plant gyda llai o wynebau cyfeillgar i edrych ar eu hól. Mae gan lawer mwy o blant eu hystafelloedd eu hunain, ac mae'r diwydiant adloniant yn gwneud cynigion mwyfwy deniadol i aros yn y tŷ. Mae ofn yn chwarae rhan allweddol: mae ofn rhieni o draffig ac o ddiethriaid yn helpu i ddileu'r cyfleoedd i chwarae heb ofid fel y gwnaeth llawer ohonom yn y Siambr pan oeddem yn ifanc.

Dyna pam y mae rhoi chwarae pobl ifanc yng nghalon ein cymunedau mor bwysig â gwneud ein cymunedau o'r pwys mwyaf i'n pobl ifanc, a pham mae'r defnydd o ganolfannau plant integredig fel offeryn polisi i helpu i gyflawni ein polisi chwarae mor bwysig. Rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â'r ethos 'dim chwarae â phêl' gyda chydymdeimlad a phenderfyniad—a derbynias fod gemau o'r fath mewn sawl rhan o'n cymunedau, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd lle y mae pobl hŷn yn byw, yn gallu peri anawsterau, ond rhaid inni roi amgylchedd amgen sy'n ddiogel ac yn gyffrous lle y gall pobl ifanc fynegi eu hunain drwy chwarae. I'n plant ifancaf, mae hefyd yn bwysig fod cymorth ar gael i sicrhau bod y defnydd o'r canolfannau hyn mor hawdd â phosibl. Mae angen parthau cartrefi a mesurau gostegu traffig hefyd i wneud strydoedd lleol yn ddiogel fel y gall plant chwarae yng ngolwg eu rhieni. Dengys llwyddiant treialon yn Lloegr y gall y mesurau hyn weithio, a chroesawaf gefnogaeth y grŵp i'r polisi hwn.

Mae'r grŵp gweithredu wedi gwneud argymhellion cyffrous, a fydd yn ddi-os yn helpu i weddnewid cyfleoedd chwarae i blant yng Nghymru. Ni ellir or-ddweud yr angen am fannau chwarae diogel ond cyffrous a heriol i blant hŷn ychwaith: mae'r defnydd cyfyngedig o gyfleusterau chwarae ysgolion a pharciau lleol diogel, ond diflas, yn gorfodi llawer o blant ifanc i gefnu ar y lleoedd hyn ac i ddewis lleoliadau llawer mwy peryglus. Derbynias y pwynt a wnaeth Janet Ryder yn gynharach ynglŷn â hyn, oherwydd rhaid inni gofio, o dan y Ceidwadwyr, i 5,000 o gaeau chwarae ysgolion ledled y Deyrnas Unedig gael eu gwerthu. Rhaid inni gael cydbwysedd rhwng yr angen am ddiogelwch a'r angen ar blant hŷn am ragor o symbyliad. Croesawaf yr agwedd hon ar adroddiad y grŵp

group's report.

Will the Minister give due consideration to accommodating the unique needs of disabled children in new, open-access play areas and spaces? The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the code of practice need to be clearly understood in relation to the development of accessible play spaces.

I welcome the implementation group's recommendations, and I hope that the final document, to be issued in April 2005, will be stronger after a productive consultation process. Since the publication of the Wales play policy in 2002, we have been ahead of the game, and, today, with these recommendations, we are well on the way to a comprehensive implementation strategy that will change the face of play in Wales, expanding the opportunities for our young children to have fun, exciting and safe play at the heart of their communities.

Jocelyn Davies: I am sure that everyone would agree that we should place importance on children, and play is central to their needs. I can identify with many of Kirsty's comments, but this report's recommendations warrant serious consideration. They must not remain theoretical, but deserve to be translated into reality to demonstrate that children and their needs are respected in our society.

4.00 p.m.

Section 15 highlights the updating of the traditional model of local-authority-provided play areas in our communities and recommends a shift of focus to the community and young people themselves in order to create a sense of ownership of play spaces. I agree with that, and advocate that that provision should remain resourced. However, the capital costs are considerable—it is not a priority for some local authorities, and others find the costs prohibitive. In yesterday's *Bridgend and Valley Recorder*, an article disclosed that Bridgend has now decided to close 27 of its playgrounds after health and safety officials demanded action. This is not a new problem in Bridgend—in 2003, the cost of the backlog of repairs and refurbishments required was estimated to be

gweithredu.

A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi ystyriaeth briodol i ddarparu ar gyfer anghenion unigryw plant anabl mewn ardaloedd a mannau chwarae mynediad agored newydd? Mae angen deall Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 1995 a'r cod ymarfer yn glir o ran datblygu mannau chwarae hygrych.

Croesawaf argymhellion y grŵp gweithredu, a gobeithiaf y bydd y ddogfen derfynol, sydd i'w chyhoeddi ym mis Ebrill 2005, yn gryfach ar ôl ymgynghoriad cynhyrchiol. Ers cyhoeddi polisi chwarae Cymru yn 2002, yr ydym wedi bod ar y blaen, a heddiw, gyda'r argymhellion hyn, yr ydym dipyn ar ben y ffordd tuag at strategaeth weithredu gynhwysfawr a fydd yn trawsnewid chwarae yng Nghymru, gan roi mwy o gyfleoedd i'n plant ifanc gael chwarae diogel, cyffrous a llawn hwyl yng nghanol eu cymunedau.

Jocelyn Davies: Byddai pawb yn cytuno, mae'n siŵr, y dylem roi pwys ar blant, ac mae chwarae yn ganolog i'w hanghenion. Gallaf uniaethu â llawer o sylwadau Kirsty, ond mae argymhellion yr adroddiad hwn yn haeddu cael eu hystyried o ddifrif. Rhaid iddynt beidio ag aros yn ddamcaniaethol, ond maent yn haeddu cael eu gwireddu i ddangos y perchir plant a'u hanghenion yn ein cymdeithas.

Mae adran 15 yn nodi'r angen am ddiweddarau'r model traddodiadol o ardaloedd chwarae a ddarperir gan awdurdodau lleol yn ein cymunedau ac mae'n argymhell y dylid dechrau canolbwyntio ar y gymuned ac ar bobl ifanc eu hunain er mwyn creu ymdeimlad o berchenogaeth o fannau chwarae. Cytunaf â hynny, a dadleuaf dros barhau i roi adnoddau ar gyfer y ddarpariaeth honno. Fodd bynnag, mae'r costau cyfalaf yn sylweddol—nid yw'n flaenoriaeth i rai awdurdodau lleol, ac mae eraill yn cael y costau yn llawer rhy uchel. Yn y *Bridgend and Valley Recorder* ddoe, nodwyd mewn erthygl fod Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr wedi penderfynu cau 27 o'i hardaloedd chwarae ar ôl i swyddogion iechyd a diogelwch fynnu ei bod yn cymryd camau. Nid yw hon yn

almost £3 million, and I doubt that Bridgend is alone in this. In Caerphilly, years of underinvestment and neglect left many play areas too dangerous to use, according to a survey undertaken in 1998 by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Although the play report highlights that children should be allowed to take some risks in their play, I do not believe that the Minister is proposing that broken and dangerous play equipment in our parks should meet that need. In addition, where will the resources to meet these recommendations come from?

There is a conflict here. Parents want children to play safely and the report states that they are overprotected and that a blame culture of litigation has developed. There is a suggestion that the childminding and daycare regulations should be amended to prevent unwarranted litigation. Perhaps the Minister can expand on that and explain how an amendment would assist in the appropriate assessment of the risk to children. Finally, I raise the issue of children playing in natural open spaces. The report commends the Forestry Commission on its input, and I draw your attention to the facility at the Cwmcarn Scenic Drive, which is a major tourist attraction and a place where many local children play. I am sure that many Members are as concerned as I am that Forestry Enterprise has experienced cutbacks in its funding to promote mountain bike trails and that the jobs of rangers at Cwmcarn and elsewhere are now under threat. These trails provide an excellent play environment and meet many of our policy objectives. Without the rangers, the future of the trails already created is uncertain. The rangers also represent good value for money. I urge the Minister to talk with her Cabinet colleagues to secure the future of these important facilities.

Christine Chapman: I welcome the attention given to this issue by the Welsh Assembly Government. These steps are vital for children at a time when they are perhaps

broblem newydd ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr— yn 2003, amcangyfrifwyd bod gwerth bron £3 miliwn o waith atgyweirio ac adnewyddu yn aros i'w wneud, ac ni chredaf fod Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ar ei ben ei hun yn hyn o beth. Yng Nghaerffili, ar ôl blynyddoedd o danfuddsoddi ac esgeulustod, yr oedd llawer o ardaloedd chwarae yn rhy beryglus i'w defnyddio, yn ôl arolwg a gynhaliwyd yn 1998 gan y Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Atal Damweiniau. Er bod yr adroddiad ar chwarae yn nodi y dylid caniatáu i blant gymryd rhai risgiau wrth iddynt chwarae, ni chredaf fod y Gweinidog yn cynnig y dylai offer chwarae peryglus, wedi'u torri yn ein parciau ateb yr angen hwnnw. Yn ogystal, o ble y daw'r adnoddau i weithredu'r argymhellion hyn?

Ceir gwrthdaro yn hyn o beth. Mae rhieni am i'w plant chwarae'n ddiogel a noda'r adroddiad eu bod wedi'u diogelu gormod a bod diwylliant bai o ddwyn achosion llys wedi datblygu. Awgrymir y dylid diwygio'r rheoliadau gwarchod plant a gofal dydd er mwyn atal achosion llys nad oes unrhyw gyfiawnhad drostynt. Efallai y gall y Gweinidog ymhelaethu ar hynny ac esbonio sut y byddai diwygiad yn helpu gyda'r broses o asesu'r risg i blant yn briodol. Yn olaf, codaf y mater o blant yn chwarae mewn mannau agored naturiol. Mae'r adroddiad yn canmol y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth am ei gyfraniad, a thynnaf eich sylw at y cyfleuster sy'n rhan o'r daith drwy ardal Cwm-carn, sy'n atyniad mawr i dwristiaid ac yn fan lle y mae llawer o blant lleol yn chwarae. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod llawer o Aelodau mor bryderus â minnau fod cyllid y Fenter Goedwigaeth ar gyfer hyrwyddo llwybrau beiciau mynydd wedi cael ei gwtogi a bod swyddi wardeiniaid yng Nghwm-carn ac mewn mannau eraill o dan fygythiad bellach. Mae'r llwybrau hyn yn darparu amgylchedd chwarae ardderchog ac yn cyflawni llawer o'n hamcanion polisi. Heb y wardeiniaid, ansicr fydd dyfodol y llwybrau a grëwyd eisoes. Mae'r wardeiniaid hefyd yn rhoi gwerth da am arian. Apeliad ar y Gweinidog i siarad â'i chyd-Weinidigion yn y Cabinet i ddiogelu dyfodol y cyfleusterau pwysig hyn.

Christine Chapman: Croesawaf y sylw a roddir i'r mater hwn gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Mae'r camau hyn yn hollbwysig i blant ar adeg pan gânt eu

overprotected and dissuaded from play, to the detriment of their confidence and learning. I regret the tendency nowadays of many parents—and I am not blaming them—to worry about imagined dangers outside the home. We know that, sadly, there is media hysteria about paedophiles and stranger danger, which leads to many children being kept too close to home. While the media, and the tabloids in particular, concentrate on those issues, actual child abductions are rare. One study reported recently that between 1988 and 1999, the number of children murdered between the ages of five and six decreased from four per million to three per million in England and Wales, while the number of children murdered under the age of five dropped from 12 per million to 9 per million.

Brian Gibbons: Your point about people being concerned about risks outside the home is well made. We are obviously not encouraging foolhardiness, but the number of children who are abused by family members in a domestic setting is many times greater than the number abused by strangers. By encouraging more of an outdoors lifestyle for our young children, we may be protecting them, albeit that there is a small risk from strangers and so on.

Christine Chapman: That is the point that I wanted to make. In the wake of the James Bulger murder, it was natural that the abduction of their children was one of parents' greatest fears. Yet, as Brian Gibbons highlighted, children are at greater risk in the home. That is where the real danger for children lies. We need only consider the Victoria Climbié case. I agree wholeheartedly with Kirsty Williams's point, as, I am sure, do many Members. I was disappointed at Westminster's decision last week not to ban the smacking of children outright. The present compromise will be unworkable; it will cause parents a great deal of confusion and, yet again, they will have to bear the burden.

Finally, there is a long-overdue need for a properly thought-out play policy. The need has never been greater and I look forward to

diogelu'n ormod o bosibl a'u darbwyllo i beidio â chwarae, er mawr niwed i'w hyder a'u cyfleoedd i ddysgu. Gresynaf at y duedd heddiw ymhlith llawer o rieni—ac nid wyf yn eu beio—i ymboeni am beryglon y maent yn tybio sydd y tu allan i'r cartref. Gwyddom fod y cyfryngau, gwaetha'r modd, yn codi bwganod ynglŷn â phedoffilyddion a pherygl dieithriaid, sy'n peri i rieni gadw llawer o blant yn rhy agos i'r cartref. Er bod y cyfryngau, a'r papurau tabloid yn enwedig, yn canolbwyntio ar y materion hynny, mae achosion gwirioneddol o gipio plant yn brin. Nododd un astudiaeth yn ddiweddar fod nifer y plant rhwng pump a chwe blwydd oed a lofruddiwyd wedi gostwng o bedwar fesul miliwn i dri fesul miliwn yng Nghymru a Lloegr rhwng 1988 a 1999, tra bod nifer y plant a lofruddiwyd o dan bum mlwydd oed wedi gostwng o 12 fesul miliwn i 9 fesul miliwn.

Brian Gibbons: Mae eich pwynt am bobl yn poeni am risgiau y tu allan i'r cartref yn un da. Yn amlwg nid ydym yn annog ymddygiad rhyfygus, ond mae llawer mwy o blant yn cael eu cam-drin gan aelodau o'r teulu yn y cartref na chan ddieithriaid. Drwy annog ein plant ifanc i dreulio mwy o amser yn yr awyr agored, efallai ein bod yn eu diogelu, er bod risg fach oddi wrth ddieithriad ac ati.

Christine Chapman: Dyna'r pwynt yr oeddwn am ei wneud. Yn sgîl llofruddiaeth James Bulger, yr oedd yn naturiol mai ofn cipio oedd un o ofnau mwyaf rhieni. Ac eto, fel y nododd Brian Gibbons, mae plant yn wynebu llawer mwy o berygl yn y cartref. Dyna'r lle y mae'r perygl gwirioneddol i blant. Nid oes raid ond ystyried achos Victoria Climbié. Cytunaf yn llwyr â phwynt Kirsty Williams, fel y gwna llawer o Aelodau, mae'n siŵr. Yr oeddwn yn siomedig gyda phenderfyniad San Steffan yr wythnos diwethaf i beidio â gwahardd taro plant yn llwyr. Ni fydd y cyfaddawd presennol yn ymarferol; bydd yn peri cryn ddryswch ymhlith rhieni ac, unwaith eto, hwy fydd yn gorfod ysgwyddo'r baich.

Yn olaf, bu angen polisi chwarae wedi'i lunio'n ystyriol ers amser maith. Mae ei angen yn fwy nag erioed, ac edrychaf ymlaen

the consultation.

Brynle Williams: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to this important item. It is well-constructed and clearly sets out the framework for play policy in Wales. The underlying themes and objectives are clear, concise and easy to understand. The early years of children's lives are perhaps the most important in their whole development, and this policy assists in supporting children from infancy through to adulthood.

Play is of paramount importance to young people during the first years of their lives. It helps them develop physically, socially, mentally, emotionally and creatively. This policy provides strategic direction for the young in society. In my own area of north Wales, I have received letters of support for the policy. The North Wales Play and Playing Fields Association is fully committed to it and is delighted that it has been party to the recommendations.

The challenge and implementation of this document lies with all of us. To start the development, we need to be united and support the policy which should support people throughout Wales. I sincerely hope that this policy, and its implementation, will return to the relevant committee or the Chamber so that we can scrutinise its success. This policy will become integrated into school curricula—what a great step forward.

I hope that the Minister supports local authorities financially and, if the motion is carried, that the Welsh Assembly Government will place a statutory duty on them to provide for children's play needs in order to meet national minimum standards. For this document to work, dedicated, regular, ring-fenced finance is needed. I hope that all Members support this document. I, for one, will be keeping a watchful eye on its development, and the associated funding.

Carl Sargeant: I support the report before us. In the absence of a play policy, development and change took place that did

at yr ymgynghoriad.

Brynle Williams: Diolch ichi am roi'r cyfle imi siarad am yr eitem bwysig hon. Mae wedi'i baratoi'n dda ac mae'n nodi'n glir y fframwaith ar gyfer polisi chwarae yng Nghymru. Mae'r themâu a'r amcanion sylfaenol yn glir, yn gryno ac yn hawdd eu deall. Blynyddoedd cynnar bywydau plant yw'r pwysicaf o bosibl yn eu datblygiad cyfan, ac mae'r polisi hwn yn helpu i gefnogi plant o fabandod hyd nes iddynt gyrraedd eu llawn twf.

Mae chwarae yn hollbwysig i bobl ifanc yn ystod blynyddoedd cynnar eu bywyd. Mae'n eu helpu i ddatblygu'n gorfforol, yn gymdeithasol, yn feddyliol, yn emosiynol ac yn greadigol. Mae'r polisi hwn yn rhoi cyfeiriad strategol i'r ifanc mewn cymdeithas. Yn fy ardal fy hun, sef y Gogledd, cefais lythyrau o gefnogaeth i'r polisi. Mae Cymdeithas Chwarae a Chaeau Chwarae Gogledd Cymru yn hollol ymrwymedig iddo ac mae'n falch ei fod wedi cyfrannu at yr argymhellion.

Mae her y ddogfen hon a'r dasg o'i rhoi ar waith yn ddyletswydd ar bob un ohonom. Er mwyn dechrau'r datblygiad mae angen inni ddod ynghyd a chefnogi'r polisi a ddylai gefnogi pobl ledled Cymru. Mawr obeithiaf y bydd y polisi hwn, a'r ffordd y caiff ei weithredu, yn dychwelyd i'r pwyllgor perthnasol neu i'r Siambr fel y gallwn graffu ar ei lwyddiant. Bydd y polisi hwn yn dod yn rhan o gwricwla ysgolion—dyna gam mawr ymlaen.

Gobeithiaf fod y Gweinidog yn rhoi cymorth ariannol i awdurdodau lleol ac, os caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn, y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gosod dyletswydd statudol arnynt i ddarparu ar gyfer anghenion chwarae plant er mwyn cyrraedd safonau gofynnol cenedlaethol. Er mwyn i'r ddogfen hon lwyddo, mae angen cyllid penodol, rheolaidd wedi'i neilltuo. Gobeithiaf y bydd pob Aelod yn cefnogi'r ddogfen hon. Byddaf innau, yn sicr, yn cadw llygad barcud ar ddatblygiad y polisi, a'r cyllid cysylltiedig.

Carl Sargeant: Cefnogaf yr adroddiad ger ein bron. Yn absenoldeb polisi chwarae, cafwyd datblygiadau a newidiadau nad

not take into the consideration the views of children and young people directly and indirectly affected. For some reason, their voices and welfare did not count. We have been told that today's generation of young people could have a lower life expectancy than its ancestors, which is a worrying development and one that play can help to overcome.

It is more important now than ever for us to recognise that our children and young people are citizens who can, and do, provide value to our society. We owe it to them to recognise and value the importance of their culture, values and childhood. The Welsh Assembly Government's play policy will protect this valuable childhood commodity that we may have taken for granted. If we believe in promoting the health and welfare of children, play works. It provides exercise and allows children to interact with each other. Play is physically and socially healthy, but most importantly, play, in all its forms, is fun and we should not ignore that or miss that fact.

The report's recommendations provide an opportunity to recognise and value the next generation and its right to play. The broad experience of the implementation group gives authority to the report's 22 recommendations. Its contribution, as well as that of Assembly Government officials, has led to this thorough report with its diverse recommendations. I also pay tribute to Tony Chilton, who has worked tremendously hard in Flintshire County Council and the north Wales authority.

4.10 p.m.

Finally, I hope that the opportunity will be taken to consult with the young people and children of Wales. We have an excellent structure and support in place via youth councils and Funky Dragon, and they must be used. We must listen to children, because they matter, and not to the fuddy-duddies who think they know about play. The opinion of children and young people will prove to be an important factor if the implementation of the Welsh Assembly Government's play

ystyriasant safbwyntiau plant a phobl ifanc yr effeithiwyd arnynt yn uniongyrchol ac yn anuniongyrchol. Am ryw reswm, nid oedd eu lleisiau a'u lles hwy yn cyfrif. Dywedwyd wrthym y gallai disgwyliad oes pobl ifanc heddiw fod yn llai na'u hynafiaid o bosibl, sy'n ddatblygiad sy'n achos pryder ac yn un y gall chwarae helpu i'w oresgyn.

Mae'n bwysicach nag erioed inni gydnabod bod ein plant a'n pobl ifanc yn ddinasyddion a all fod o werth i'n cymdeithas, ac sydd o werth. Mae'n ddyletswydd arnom i gydnabod a gwerthfawrogi pwysigrwydd eu diwylliant, eu gwerthoedd a'u plentyndod. Bydd polisi chwarae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn diogelu'r agwedd werthfawr hon ar blentyndod yr ydym wedi ei chymryd yn ganiataol o bosibl. Os credwn mewn hyrwyddo iechyd a lles plant, mae chwarae yn gweithio. Mae'n ymarfer corff ac mae'n gyfle i blant gysylltu â'i gilydd. Mae chwarae yn beth iachus yn gorfforol ac yn gymdeithasol, ond yn bwysicach na dim, mae chwarae, o bob math, yn hwyl ac ni ddylem anwybyddu hynny na'r diystyru'r ffaith honno.

Rhydd argymhellion yr adroddiad gyfle i gydnabod a gwerthfawrogi'r genhedlaeth nesaf a'i hawl i chwarae. Mae profiad eang y grŵp gweithredu yn rhoi awdurdod i 22 argymhelliad yr adroddiad. Mae ei gyfraniad, yn ogystal â chyfraniad swyddogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, wedi arwain at yr adroddiad trylwyr hwn gyda'i argymhellion amrywiol. Talaf deyrnged hefyd i Tony Chilton, sydd wedi gweithio'n galed dros ben yng Nghyngor Sir y Fflint ac awdurdod gogledd Cymru.

Yn olaf, gobeithiaf y byddwn yn achub ar y cyfle i ymgynghori â phobl ifanc a phlant Cymru. Mae gennym strwythur a chymorth ardderchog ar waith drwy gynghorau ieuencid a'r Ddraig Ffyndi, a rhaid eu defnyddio. Rhaid inni wrando ar blant, oherwydd maent yn bwysig, ac nid ar y bobl hen ffasiwn hynny sy'n meddwl eu bod yn gwybod am chwarae. Barn plant a phobl ifanc fydd y ffactor pwysig er mwyn sicrhau bod gweithredu polisi chwarae Llywodraeth

policy is to be considered a success.

Ann Jones: Like most speakers before me, I recognise that this is an important debate, because play is an important part of the development of young children. It comes in various forms and is often hard to define. Nowadays, unfortunately, there is a tendency to try to make children grow up—whatever that means in this day and age—far too quickly. In this consumer society, the influence of many TV and billboard adverts affects the way young people feel about themselves. It is such a pity that many miss out.

When I talk to young people, and some of the very young in my area, I am always impressed by the strong views they hold, and the way in which they know what they want to do. They mention every time that they want to be able to opt in or out of play schemes, as and when they choose, and to have their views heard. This play document will allow them to give those views. If they want to play football in a field or on a piece of spare ground, using their jumpers as goalposts and move their jumpers when that is no longer possible, and have a little tussle as to who has or who has not moved the jumpers, they should be allowed to do so. That is all part of their development. Even young people themselves recognise that they do not always need organised sport that adults feel they should have.

After much discussion within my hometown of Rhyl, there is now a skateboard park in the area. The equipment was chosen and is used by young people. It is successful, because those young people led the debate, were involved in the design of the area and value that area as their own. Parents need to know that their children and young people are safe, and many people have alluded to the reasons why we need to make play areas safe.

Cynulliad Cymru yn cael ei ystyried yn llwyddiant.

Ann Jones: Fel y rhan fwyaf o siaradwyr o'm blaen, cydnabyddaf fod hon yn ddadl bwysig oherwydd mae chwarae yn rhan bwysig o ddatblygiad plant ifanc. Ceir gwahanol fathau o chwarae ac yn aml mae'n anodd ei ddiffinio. Heddiw, yn anffodus, mae tuedd i geisio gwneud i blant dyfu i fyny—beth bynnag yw ystyr hynny yn yr oes sydd ohoni—yn llawer rhy gyflym. Yn y gymdeithas sydd ohoni â'i phwyslais ar brynu, mae dylanwad y lliaws o hysbysebion teledu a byrddau poster yn effeithio ar y ffordd y mae pobl ifanc yn teimlo amdanynt hwy eu hunain. Mae'n drueni mawr bod llawer yn colli allan.

Pan siaradaf â phobl ifanc, a rhai o'r plant ifanc iawn yn fy ardal, mae'r safbwyntiau cryf a arddelir ganddynt, a'r ffordd y gwyddant beth maent am ei wneud bob amser yn gwneud argraff arnaf. Soniant bob tro eu bod am gael dewis pa un a ydynt yn cymryd rhan mewn cynlluniau chwarae ai peidio, fel a phryd y dymunant, a'u bod am i eraill wrando ar eu barn. Bydd y ddogfen hon ar chwarae yn gyfle iddynt fynegi'r safbwyntiau hynny. Os ydynt am chwarae pêl-droed mewn cae neu ar ddarn o dir segur, gan ddefnyddio eu siwmperi fel pyst gôl a symud eu siwmperi pan na fo hynny yn bosibl mwyach, a chael ffræ fach ynghylch pwy sydd wedi neu ddim wedi symud y siwmperi, dylid gadael iddynt wneud hynny. Mae hynny yn rhan o'u datblygiad. Mae hyd yn oed y bobl ifanc eu hunain yn cydnabod nad oes angen arnynt y chwaraeon wedi'u trefnu y mae oedolion yn teimlo y dylent eu trefnu ar eu cyfer.

Ar ôl llawer o drafodaeth yn y Rhyl, fy nhref enedigol, mae parc sgrialu yn yr ardal bellach. Dewiswyd yr offer gan bobl ifanc ac maent yn eu defnyddio. Mae'n llwyddiannus, am fod y bobl ifanc hynny wedi arwain y ddadl, wedi cymryd rhan yn y gwaith o ddylunio'r ardal ac am eu bod yn gwerthfawrogi'r ardal honno fel un sy'n eiddo iddynt hwy. Mae angen i rieni wybod bod eu plant a'u pobl ifanc yn ddiogel, ac mae llawer o bobl wedi cyfeirio at y rhesymau pam mae angen inni sicrhau bod ardaloedd chwarae yn ddiogel.

I must mention a project in my hometown of Rhyl, and also to pay tribute to Tony Chilton, who has been mentioned in another capacity, but I mention him as the manager of the Rhyl Adventure Playground Association. Tony, his staff, the volunteers and the young people themselves have made this project something that Rhyl can be proud of. They have worked for years on an estate, built themselves up and have taken the young people with them. There is now a marvellous facility, which many Cabinet members have visited. The young people are heavily involved in access, and have open access to the facility, which is something Rhyl Adventure Playground Association is keen to protect. Some of the young people who have benefited over the years from this scheme are now taking courses at the facility to become play workers, so that they give something they once had themselves back to the community.

The Rhyl Adventure Playground Association is replicated on what is affectionately known as the 'Venny'—the venture in Wrexham. The difference between the facilities is a matter of funding. Wrexham local authority has always seen the benefits of the venture, and has funded it. Unfortunately, Denbighshire has not seen the same benefits. We must ensure that areas like the adventure playground in Rhyl receive funding, because local authorities must also recognise that play and play facilities are worth investing in. Many have talked about proper spaces and designated play areas, so I will not repeat their points.

In conclusion, the play policy is vital to re-address the balance in areas such as the west end of Rhyl, where there is one all-concrete playground and a deficit of open space where young people cannot play properly and only hang around on street corners. We owe it to our young people and future generations to get this play policy right and implement it.

Janice Gregory: Because of time constraints, I will also keep my comments brief.

Rhaid imi sôn am brosiect yn fy nhref enedigol, y Rhyl, a thalaf deyrnged hefyd i Tony Chilton, y cyfeiriwyd ato eisoes mewn cyswllt arall, ond soniaf amdano fel rheolwr Cymdeithas Meysydd Chwarae Antur y Rhyl. Mae Tony, ei staff, y gwirfoddolwyr a'r bobl ifanc eu hunain wedi llwyddo i droi'r prosiect hwn yn rhywbeth y gall y Rhyl ymfalchïo ynddo. Maent wedi gweithio am flynyddoedd ar ystad, wedi meithrin eu prosiect ac wedi denu pobl ifanc i ymuno â hwy. Bellach ceir cyfleuster gwych y mae llawer o aelodau'r Cabinet wedi ymweld ag ef. Mae'r bobl ifanc yn chwarae rhan bwysig iawn o ran mynediad, ac mae ganddynt fynediad agored i'r cyfleuster, sef rhywbeth y mae Cymdeithas Meysydd Chwarae Antur y Rhyl yn awyddus i'w ddiogelu. Mae rhai o'r bobl ifanc sydd wedi elwa ar y cynllun hwn dros y blynyddoedd bellach yn dilyn cyrsiau yn y cyfleuster er mwyn dod yn weithwyr chwarae, fel y gallant roi rhywbeth a gawsant hwy unwaith yn ôl i'r gymuned.

Mae Cymdeithas Meysydd Chwarae Antur y Rhyl yn seiliedig ar y 'Venny' fel y'i gelwir yn answyddogol—y fenter yn Wrecsam. Mater o gyllid yw'r gwahaniaeth rhwng y cyfleusterau. Mae awdurdod lleol Wrecsam erioed wedi gweld manteision y fenter ac wedi'i hariannu. Yn anffodus, nid yw sir Ddinbych wedi gweld yr un manteision. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod ardaloedd fel y maes chwarae antur yn y Rhyl yn cael cyllid, oherwydd rhaid i awdurdodau lleol gydnabod hefyd ei bod yn werth buddsoddi mewn chwarae a chyfleusterau chwarae. Mae llawer wedi sôn am fannau priodol ac ardaloedd chwarae dynodedig, felly nid ailadroddaf eu pwyntiau.

I gloi, mae'r polisi chwarae yn hollbwysig i wneud iawn am brinder cyfleusterau mewn ardaloedd megis pen gorllewinol y Rhyl, lle y mae un maes chwarae concriid a phrinder mannau agored, lle nad yw pobl ifanc yn gallu chwarae yn iawn a lle nad ydynt ond yn ymgynnull ar y stryd. Mae dyletswydd arnom i'n pobl ifanc a chenedlaethau'r dyfodol i gael y polisi chwarae hwn yn iawn a'i roi ar waith.

Janice Gregory: Oherwydd prinder amser, siaradaf innau yn gryno.

I welcome the play policy implementation group's report. Its recommendations are important and, undoubtedly, many would regard them as social justice issues. I will mention in particular play areas and playgrounds, as other Members have. Like many Members, as a parent, I spent many happy hours at playgrounds and play parks when my daughters were much younger. It is only when you spend this time with little ones, especially, that you realise the importance of play and play areas and playgrounds to their development.

Recently, however, I have received many complaints regarding the local authority's intention to close several play areas in the Bridgend county borough. Jocelyn went into detail on this—I was not aware that South Wales Central had moved over into the Ogmore and Bridgend constituencies. I have received complaints from organisations such as the Llangynwyd Middle Community Council and the Llangynwyd Village Association, which are furious at these proposals and the proposed closure of three out of four of their play areas. Many of the closures that will take place in the Bridgend county borough area will be in deprived areas in my constituency, where my constituents have precious little in the way of facilities, let alone having their playgrounds, play areas and play parks closed by the local authority.

Like other Members, I am concerned about funding. I am constantly being told by community councils and town councils that the local authority is requesting a contribution from their already meagre funds for the upkeep and refurbishment of play areas in their wards. We all know that when equipment is moved, and a play park and a play area closed, it will be highly unlikely that the area will be replaced and the park reopened at a later date. This has a huge impact on the ability of young people to play, often without their parents standing around watching exactly what they are doing, which is also an important part of their development. I hope too that the local authorities that complain in the press, and to

Croesawaf adroddiad y grŵp gweithredu polisi chwarae. Mae ei argymhellion yn bwysig ac, yn sicr, byddai llawer yn eu hystyried yn faterion cyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Soniaf am ardaloedd a meysydd chwarae penodol, fel y gwnaeth Aelodau eraill. Fel Aelodau eraill, fel rhiant, yr wyf wedi treulio oriau maith mewn meysydd a pharciau chwarae pan oedd fy merched yn llawer iau. Dim ond ar ôl treulio amser o'r fath gyda phlant bach, yn enwedig, fe sylweddolwch pa mor bwysig yw chwarae ac ardaloedd a meysydd chwarae i'w datblygiad.

Yn ddiweddar, fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi cael llawer o gwynion ynglŷn â bwriad yr awdurdod lleol i gau sawl ardal chwarae ym mwrdeistref sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Manylodd Jocelyn ar hyn—nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol bod Canol De Cymru wedi ymestyn bellach i etholaeth Ogwr ac etholaeth Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Yr wyf wedi cael cwynion oddi wrth gyrff megis Cyngor Cymuned Canol Llangynwyd a Chymdeithas Bentref Llangynwyd, sydd wedi'u gwylltio gan y cynigion hyn a'r cynnig i gau tri o bob bedwar maes chwarae yn eu hardal. Bydd llawer o'r meysydd chwarae y bwriedir eu cau yn ardal bwrdeistref sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig yn fy etholaeth i, lle nad oes gan fy etholwyr fawr ddim cyfleusterau, heb sôn am yr awdurdod lleol yn mynnu cau eu meysydd chwarae, eu hardaloedd chwarae a'u parciau chwarae.

Fel Aelodau eraill, pryderaf am gyllid. Mae cynghorau cymuned a thref yn dweud wrthyf o hyd fod yr awdurdod lleol yn gofyn am gyfraniad oddi wrth eu cronfeydd, sydd eisoes yn bitw, ar gyfer cynnal a chadw ac adnewyddu ardaloedd chwarae yn eu wardiau. Gwyddom oll os caiff offer eu symud, ac os caiff parc ac ardal chwarae eu cau, mae'n annhebygol iawn y caiff ardal newydd ei hagor yn ei lle ac y caiff y parc ei ailagor ryw bryd eto yn y dyfodol. Mae hyn yn cael effaith fawr ar allu pobl ifanc i chwarae, yn aml heb eu rhieni yn sefyllian i weld beth yn union y maent yn ei wneud, sydd hefyd yn rhan bwysig o'u datblygiad. Gobeithiaf hefyd y bydd yr awdurdodau lleol sy'n cwyno yn y wasg, ac i unrhyw un a fydd

anyone who will listen, about the lack of resources to deal with the problems that they face take the time to respond to this consultation. It is all too easy to blame the lack of resources and then wash your hands of the problem.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): As Catherine Thomas said, this debate has been about fair play for the children of Wales. It is also a time to transform opportunities for children and young people as they grow up. This has been an excellent and thought-provoking debate. We have had good contributions from across the Chamber. I believe that we are united in backing this play policy, and your contributions will feed into the consultation. It is a good launch to that public consultation.

We have heard today that play covers a range of policy areas, not just health and education, but transport, planning and safety. All the points that have been made are pertinent. School playgrounds are key, Janet, to the opportunities for children and young people, as the recommendations note. However, there are also the other out-of-school opportunities and the larger opportunities in children's lives. As Catherine and Jeff said, play must be about fun, and we must ensure that we use the opportunities, not just in the formal playgrounds where there will be issues and challenges about fixed play equipment, and so on, but the use of the street, the safe-home-zone area, and traffic calming measures, which are all key.

On the skateboard park, as you said, Ann, that is about young people leading the way with the funding that came from Communities First. I was glad that Funky Dragon was with me at today's launch at the House of Discovery in St Fagan's. Jane Davidson and I went to be challenged, quite rightly, by the play policy implementation group up at the Venture adventure playground in Wrexham. I believe, Ann, that you quoted the 'Venny' in Wrexham, which is, perhaps, a world famous adventure playground, few of which are now left.

4.20 p.m.

yn gwranddo, ynglŷn â'r prinder adnoddau i ymdrin â'r problemau a wynebair ganddynt yn cymryd yr amser i ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad hwn. Mae'n ddigon hawdd beio prinder adnoddau ac yna golchi dwylo o'r broblem.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Fel y dywedodd Catherine Thomas, chwarae teg i blant Cymru fu testun y ddadl hon. Mae'n bryd hefyd i drawsnewid cyfleoedd i blant a phobl ifanc wrth iddynt dyfu i fyny. Bu hon yn ddadl ardderchog ac yn un a oedd yn gwneud i rywun feddwl Cawsom gyfraniadau da o bob rhan o'r Siambr. Credaf ein bod yn unfrydol ein cefnogaeth i'r polisi chwarae hwn, a chaiff eich cyfraniadau eu cynnwys yn yr ymgynghoriad. Mae'n lansiad da i'r ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus hwnnw.

Yr ydym wedi clywed heddiw fod chwarae yn rhychwantu nifer o feysydd polisi, ac nid dim ond iechyd ac addysg, ond trafndiaeth, cynllunio a diogelwch. Mae pob un o'r pwyntiau a wnaed yn berthnasol. Mae meysydd chwarae yn allweddol, Janet, i'r cyfleoedd i blant a phobl ifanc, fel y noda'r argymhellion. Fodd bynnag, ceir y cyfleoedd eraill hefyd y tu allan i'r ysgol a'r cyfleoedd mwy ym mywydau plant. Fel y dywedodd Catherine a Jeff, rhaid i chwarae fod yn hwyl, a rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn manteisio ar y cyfleoedd, nid yn unig yn y meysydd chwarae ffurfiol lle y cyfyd problemau a heriau ynglŷn ag offer chwarae sefydlog, ac ati, ond y defnydd o'r stryd, yr ardal parth cartrefi diogel a mesurau gostegu traffig, sydd oll yn allweddol.

O ran y parc sgrialu, fel y dywedasoeh chi, Ann, mae a wnelo hynny â phobl ifanc yn arwain gyda'r cyllid a ddaeth o raglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yr oeddwn yn falch bod y Ddraig Ffyni gyda mi yn yr achlysur lansio heddiw yn y Tŷ Darganfod yn Sain Ffagan. Aeth Jane Davidson a minnau i gael ein herio, a hynny'n gwbl briodol, gan y grŵp gweithredu polisi chwarae ym maes chwarae antur Venture yn Wrecsam. Credaf, Ann, ichi gyfeirio at y 'Venny' yn Wrecsam, sydd, efallai, yn faes chwarae antur byd-enwog, nad oes llawer ohonynt yn bodoli bellach.

This is about how we develop that challenging environment. Of course, as Sandy said, we must make clear to young people that this play policy is jargon-free.

Mark Isherwood *rose*—

Jane Hutt: I know that the play policy implementation group recognises this. The opportunities are, therefore, manifest.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Will you give way to a jargon-free intervention from Mark Isherwood?

Mark Isherwood: I have a positive and supportive comment. When Sandy Mewies and I were made vice-presidents of North Wales Play and Playing Fields Association last year, we had a presentation on the Wrexham scheme. Do you agree that its great success was based on ownership by the young people?

Jane Hutt: Thank you, Mark, for that absolutely pertinent contribution. I must say to the north Wales Members, you have been clearly influenced and educated by the north Wales play association because you all give cross-party support to the principles of young people being at the forefront, and, as Sandy says, concern has been expressed about whether this will be extra pressure and a burden on local authorities. However, we have seen good practice in Flintshire, and we need to build on that good practice. You also need guidance, and play must be embedded and mainstreamed into policy making. Indeed, with regard to the points that Jonathan and others made about planning, we will now address this matter in relation to the preparation and review of planning policy and advice, which is key in terms of recommendations coming through this. Funding is essential, and I have mentioned the draft budget and the £50 million in new funding for early years provision. Yesterday, I met with representatives of the big lottery fund to ensure that play is recognised in that and also in terms of Cymorth.

Mae hyn yn ymwneud â sut yr ydym yn datblygu'r amgylchedd heriol hwnnw. Wrth gwrs, fel y dywedodd Sandy, rhaid inni ddweud yn glir wrth bobl ifanc fod y polisi chwarae hwn yn ddi-jargon.

Mark Isherwood *a gododd*—

Jane Hutt: Gwn fod y grŵp gweithredu polisi chwarae yn cydnabod hyn. Felly mae'r cyfleoedd yn amlwg.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. A ildiwch am ymyriad di-jargon gan Mark Isherwood?

Mark Isherwood: Mae gennyf sylw cadarnhaol a chefnogol i'w wneud. Pan benodwyd Sandy Mewies a minnau yn islywyddion Cymdeithas Chwarae a Chaeau Chwarae Gogledd Cymru y llynedd, rhoddwyd cyflwyniad inni ar gynllun Wrecsam. A gytunwch mai sail llwyddiant mawr y prosiect hwnnw oedd bod y bobl ifanc yn berchen arno?

Jane Hutt: Diolch, Mark, am y cyfraniad hollol berthnasol hwnnw. Rhaid imi ddweud wrth yr Aelodau o'r Gogledd, ei bod yn amlwg bod cymdeithas chwarae Gogledd Cymru wedi dylanwadu arnoch ac wedi dysgu pethau ichi oherwydd mae pob un ohonoch yn rhoi cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i'r egwyddorion bod gan bobl ifanc ran flaenllaw, ac, fel y dywed Sandy, mynegwyd pryder pa un a fydd hyn yn rhoi pwysau a baich ychwanegol ar awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi gweld arferion da yn sir y Fflint, ac mae angen inni adeiladu ar yr arferion da hynny. Mae angen arweiniad arnoch hefyd a rhaid i chwarae fod yn rhan annatod o'r broses llunio polisiau ac wedi'i brif ffrydio yn y broses honno. Yn wir, o ran y pwyntiau a wnaeth Jonathan ac eraill ynglŷn â chynllunio, byddwn yn mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn awr o ran paratoi ac adolygu polisi a chyngor cynllunio, sy'n allweddol o ran sicrhau bod argymhellion yn cael eu cynnig drwy hyn. Mae cyllid yn hollbwysig, ac yr wyf wedi sôn am y gyllideb ddrafft a'r £50 miliwn o arian newydd yn y ddarpariaeth blynnydoedd cynnar. Ddoe, cyfarfûm â chynrychiolwyr y gronfa loteri fawr i sicrhau y cydnabyddir chwarae ganddi

a hefyd o ran Cymorth.

Finally, Kirsty, can we please take the opportunity to be enthusiastic, and not cynical, today about the way forward for Wales? As we said earlier, this is not just a matter of discussing children's services, which we debate so often in the Chamber—with regard to Cymorth, Children First, the children's commissioner and the review chaired by Gwenda, all of which are key to safeguarding children—but it is also about spaces for children. We have a real opportunity with the first ever national policy in the world. Let us celebrate devolution and celebrate our play policy to create opportunities for children and young people in Wales.

Yn olaf, Kirsty, a gawn ni fanteisio ar y cyfle i fod yn frwdfrydig, a pheidio â bod yn sinigaidd heddiw ynglŷn â'r ffordd ymlaen i Gymru? Fel y dywedasom yn gynharach, nid dim ond mater o drafod gwasanaethau plant ydyw, a drafodwn mor aml yn y Siambr—o ran Cymorth, Plant yn Gyntaf, y comisiynydd plant, a'r adolygiad o dan gadeiryddiaeth Gwenda, oll yn allweddol i ddiogelu plant—ond mae a wnelo hyn hefyd â manau i blant. Mae gennym gyfle gwirioneddol gyda'r polisi cenedlaethol cyntaf erioed yn y byd. Gadewch inni ddathlu datganoli a dathlu ein polisi chwarae i greu cyfleoedd i blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru.

*Cynnig (NDM2166): O blaid 54, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2166): For 54, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David

Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

**Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal ar Brif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb yng Ngwaith
 y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol**
**The Committee on Equality of Opportunity's Report on Mainstreaming Equality
 in the Work of the National Assembly**

Gwenda Thomas: I propose that

the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order No. 14.7, notes the report of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity entitled 'Mainstreaming Equality in the Work of the National Assembly', which was laid on 14 July 2004. (NDM2163)

I acknowledge receipt of a letter of support for this report from Kate Bennett of the Equal Opportunities Commission. Kate has written on behalf of all the standing invitees of the committee, namely the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Commission for Racial Equality, the Disability Rights Commission, Stonewall Cymru and the Welsh Language Board.

Hoffwn bwysleisio pwysigrwydd yr egwyddor gyffredinol sy'n sail i'r adroddiad hwn, y dylai cydraddoldeb a gwaith hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb fod yn ystyriaeth ganolog wrth lunio polisiau cyhoeddus a darparu gwasanaethau yng Nghymru. Sefydlir yr egwyddor hon yn Neddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, a dyna pam sefydlwyd y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal. Mae sicrhau bod cydraddoldeb yn cael ei brif ffrydio ym mhob agwedd ar waith y Cynulliad yn gryn her i'r pwyllgor. Dyna

Gwenda Thomas: Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 14.7, yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal o dan y teitl 'Prif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb yng Ngwaith y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol' a osodwyd ar 14 Gorffennaf 2004. (NDM2163)

Yr wyf yn cydnabod derbyn llythyr o gefnogaeth i'r adroddiad hwn gan Kate Bennett o'r Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal. Mae Kate wedi ysgrifennu ar ran holl wahoddedigion sefydlog y pwyllgor, sef y Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal, y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol, y Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd, Stonewall Cymru a Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg.

I would like to stress the importance of the general principle that underlies this report, that equality and the promotion of equality should be a central consideration in public policy making and service delivery in Wales. This principle is established in the Government of Wales Act 1998, and that is why the the Committee on Equality of Opportunity was established. Ensuring that equality is mainstreamed in every aspect of the Assembly's work is quite a challenge to the committee. This challenge led the

pam mae'r pwyllgor wedi penderfynu cynnal ei adolygiad polisi cyntaf yn yr ail Gynulliad ar y pwnc hwn.

Cyhoeddwyd ein hadroddiad, 'Prif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb yng Ngwaith y Cynulliad', ym mis Gorffennaf, a gobeithiwn y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Aelodau'r Cynulliad a chyrrff cyhoeddus yn pwysu a mesur ei 27 argymhelliad yn ofalus.

Cyflwynodd y pwyllgor sawl awgrym i bwyllgorau pwnc a Gweinidogion yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf ynghylch sut y gellir hyrwyddo ac ystyried materion cydraddoldeb yn effeithiol. Mae'r adolygiad hwn o waith prif ffrydio yn adeiladu ar y gwaith hwn ac yn cyflwyno argymhellion ynghylch sut y gellir cynnwys egwyddorion cydraddoldeb ym mhob agwedd ar waith y Cynulliad.

Fel y crybwyllais yn fy nghyflwyniad i adroddiad y pwyllgor, mae prif ffrydio yn broses sy'n golygu cryn ymrwymiad ar bob lefel. Dylai prif ffrydio cydraddoldeb ein galluogi i ddeall yn well wahanol anghenion pobl Cymru fel y gallwn ddatblygu gwasanaethau a pholisïau sy'n ymateb iddynt. Nid adroddiad ar gyfer Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn unig ydyw, a gobeithiwn y bydd yn ysgogi pob un ohonom i ystyried y mater. Mae'r arferion da a amlinellir yn yr adroddiad yn briodol i'r rhan fwyaf o gyrff, a gobeithiwn y byddant yn cael eu datblygu fel patrwm y gall holl gyrff cyhoeddus Cymru ei ddilyn. Hyderwn fod yr adroddiad yn berthnasol i waith Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad, cyrrff cyhoeddus a noddur gan y Cynulliad, cyrrff y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, awdurdodau lleol, y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, pwyllgorau eraill y Cynulliad a hyd yn oed y Cyfarfod Llawn. Gallwn oll ddysgu ohono. Mae gan y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal swyddogaeth hollbwysig o ran sicrhau bod cydraddoldeb yn ystyriaeth allweddol i'r Cynulliad, wrth iddo recriwtio staff, datblygu polisïau a darparu gwasanaethau ar gyfer pobl Cymru. Credaf fod yr adroddiad hwn yn garreg filltir bwysig ym mhroses cyflawni hyn.

The review was undertaken through a wide-ranging written consultation exercise; a series

committee to make it the subject of its first policy review in the second Assembly.

Our report, 'Mainstreaming Equality in the Work of the National Assembly', was published in July, and we hope that the Welsh Assembly Government, Assembly Members and public bodies give careful consideration to its 27 recommendations.

In the first Assembly, the committee made many recommendations to subject committees and Ministers about how they could promote and consider equality issues effectively. This mainstreaming review builds on that earlier work and makes recommendations on how equality principles can be embedded into all aspects of the Assembly's work.

As I mentioned in my introduction to the committee's report, mainstreaming is a process that requires commitment at all levels. By mainstreaming equality we should achieve a better understanding of the diverse needs of the people of Wales, so that we can develop services and policies that are responsive to those needs. This report is not directed solely at the Welsh Assembly Government, and we hope that it prompts each and every one of us to consider the issue. The good practices outlined here are appropriate to most organisations, and we hope that it will be developed as a blueprint for all public bodies operating in Wales. We trust that this report is relevant to the work of the Welsh Assembly Government, the Assembly Parliamentary Service, Assembly sponsored public bodies, national health service bodies, local authorities, the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, other Assembly committees and even Assembly Plenary sessions. We can all learn from it. The Committee on Equality of Opportunity has an important role to play in ensuring that equality is at the heart of everything that the Assembly does, from how it recruits staff, to how it develops policies and delivers services to the people of Wales. I believe that this report is an important step in helping to achieve this.

Cynhaliwyd yr adolygiad drwy ymgynghoriad ysgrifenedig eang ei gwmpas;

of focused evidence sessions to gather information; consideration of the equality annual report which provided information about equality related activity across the Assembly; work undertaken by other public bodies to see how diversity among public appointees could be approved; a visit to the Gellideg Foundation Group in Merthyr Tydfil to see how a local community had used participatory appraisal tools and a gender needs assessment to identify and then tackle issues of greatest concern to the community; a survey of how other Assembly committees took account of equality issues; and, finally, by drawing upon the wealth of previous studies and reports on mainstreaming equality. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those organisations for their co-operation and for sharing their experiences with us.

Equality is one of the National Assembly's cross-cutting themes, and I do not think that it is unfair to say that equality issues here have a higher profile than in other institutions. Perhaps its best recognised achievement in this field is the creation of the role of children's commissioner, although its work in promoting equal pay in the public sector, funding consultative networks for minority groups, the use of contract compliance to promote equality, and integrating equality into the Welsh national curriculum, are also achievements that should not be underestimated. However, as the report recognises, more has to be done to spread this good practice and make mainstreaming a reality.

One of the main issues that need to be addressed is the need for an overall equality strategy to give direction to much of the positive work that is going on. While people in the Assembly realise that equality is important, they are unclear as to how it should be applied to their particular area. The strategy should cover all equality strands and set an example for the whole public sector in Wales. The Assembly is the premier public body in Wales and, therefore, has a responsibility to deliver excellence in every aspect of its work.

cyfres o sesiynau tystiolaeth i gasglu gwybodaeth benodol; ystyriaeth o'r adroddiad blynyddol ar gydraddoldeb a ddarparodd wybodaeth am weithgaredd yn gysylltiedig â chydraddoldeb ar draws y Cynulliad; gwaith a wnaed gan gyrff cyhoeddus eraill i weld sut y gellid cymeradwyo amrywiaeth ymhlith penodedigion cyhoeddus; ymweliad â Sefydliad Gelli-deg ym Merthyr Tudful i weld sut yr oedd cymuned leol wedi defnyddio dulliau arfarnu cyfranogol ac asesiad o anghenion ar sail rhyw i nodi a mynd i'r afael â materion sydd o bryder mawr i'r gymuned; arolwg o'r ffordd yr ymdriniodd pwyllgorau eraill y Cynulliad â materion cydraddoldeb; ac i gloi, drwy dynnu ar gyfoeth o astudiaethau ac adroddiadau blaenorol ar brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb. Hoffwn fanteisio ar y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i'r holl fudiadau hynny am eu cydweithrediad ac am rannu eu profiadau gyda ni.

Cydraddoldeb yw un o themâu trawsbynciol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, ac ni chredaf ei bod yn annheg dweud bod gan faterion cydraddoldeb yma broffil uwch nag mewn mudiadau eraill. Efallai mai'r cyflawniad gorau a gydnabyddir yn y maes hwn yw creu rôl y comisiynydd plant, er bod ei waith wrth hyrwyddo cyflogau cyfartal yn y sector cyhoeddus, ariannu rhwydweithiau ymgynghorol ar gyfer grwpiau lleiafrifol, defnyddio cydymffurfiaeth contractau i hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb, ac integreiddio cydraddoldeb yng nghwricwlwm cenedlaethol Cymru, hefyd yn gyflawniadau na ddylid eu tanbriso. Fodd bynnag, fel y mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod, rhaid gwneud mwy i ledaenu'r arfer da hwn a throï prif ffrydio yn realiti.

Un o'r prif faterion y mae angen mynd i'r afael ag ef yw'r angen am strategaeth gydraddoldeb gyffredinol i roi cyfeiriad i lawer o'r gwaith cadarnhaol sy'n cael ei wneud. Er bod pobl yn y Cynulliad yn sylweddoli bod cydraddoldeb yn bwysig, nid ydynt yn siŵr sut y dylid ei gymhwyso i'w maes penodol hwy. Dylai'r strategaeth gwmpasu holl feysydd cydraddoldeb a gosod esiampl i'r sector cyhoeddus cyfan yng Nghymru. Y Cynulliad yw'r prif gorff cyhoeddus yng Nghymru ac, felly, mae ganddo gyfrifoldeb dros arddangos

rhagoriaeth ym mhob agwedd ar ei waith.

4.30 p.m.

As the report recognises, while a clear strategy is vital, it cannot be delivered without getting the people issues right. In recruiting staff, we must ensure that they are representative of the people of Wales. There currently appears to be a serious under-representation from various sections of the community, although I accept that the data on this may not be particularly reliable. Hopefully, that will be redressed. The under-representation seems more particularly pronounced at more senior levels. In response to the publication of 'Lifting Every Voice', the report on institutionalised racism in the National Assembly for Wales, the Permanent Secretary stated his determination to eradicate attitudes and processes that discourage people from certain backgrounds from seeking employment in the Assembly. I look forward to witnessing the fruits of his endeavours.

Training and development in equality and diversity issues are also important. In that context, I wish to draw Members' attention to recommendation 13 in the report, which recommends that further equality training be made available to Assembly Members to enable them to carry out their specific roles. The recommendation also suggests ways in which this may be introduced to enable Members to attend. I hope that this recommendation is accepted. If it is, I trust that all Members will take the opportunity to participate in appropriate equality training.

The report also stresses the importance of the central equality policy unit's role in providing guidance and advice on equality issues. I hope to see it grow and flourish as the equality agenda assumes its rightful importance.

I have already mentioned the 27 recommendations in the report. The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, whose portfolio includes equality of opportunity, is clearly responsible for taking some of those forward. I have corresponded with the

Fel y mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod, er bod strategaeth glir yn hollbwysig, ni ellir ei chyflawni heb ddatrys y materion sy'n ymwneud â phobl. Wrth recriwtio staff, rhaid inni sicrhau eu bod yn gynrychioliadol o bobl Cymru. Ar hyn o bryd ymddengys nad oes cynrychiolaeth ddigonol o bell ffordd o amryw garfannau o'r gymuned, er fy mod yn derbyn nad yw'r wybodaeth am hyn efallai yn gwbl ddibynadwy. Gobeithio y caiff y broblem honno ei datrys. Ymddengys bod y gynrychiolaeth annigonol yn fwy amlwg ymhlith pobl mewn swyddi ar lefel uwch. Mewn ymateb i 'Codi Pob Llais', yr adroddiad ar hiliaeth sefydliadol yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, nododd yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol ei benderfyniad i ddileu agweddau a phrosesau sy'n golygu nad yw pobl o gefndiroedd penodol yn chwilio am waith yn y Cynulliad. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld ffrwyth ei lafur.

Mae hyfforddiant a datblygiad ym maes cydraddoldeb ac amrywiaeth hefyd yn bwysig. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, hoffwn dynnu sylw Aelodau at argymhelliad 13 yn yr adroddiad, sy'n argymhell y dylid cynnig hyfforddiant pellach ym maes cydraddoldeb i Aelodau'r Cynulliad i'w galluogi i gyflawni eu rolau penodol. Mae'r argymhelliad hefyd yn awgrymu ffyrdd y gellir cyflwyno hyn er mwyn galluogi Aelodau i fynychu'r hyfforddiant. Gobeithiaf y caiff yr argymhelliad hwn ei dderbyn. Os caiff ei dderbyn, gobeithio y bydd pob Aelod yn manteisio ar y cyfle i dderbyn hyfforddiant priodol ym maes cydraddoldeb.

Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn pwysleisio pwysigrwydd rôl yr uned polisi cydraddoldeb ganolog wrth ddarparu canllawiau a chynghor ar faterion cydraddoldeb. Gobeithiaf ei gweld yn tyfu ac yn ffynnu wrth i'r pwys priodol gael ei roi ar agenda cydraddoldeb.

Yr wyf eisoes wedi sôn am y 27 o argymhellion yn yr adroddiad. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, y mae ei phortffolio yn cynnwys cyfle cyfartal, yn amlwg yn gyfrifol am ddatblygu rhai ohonynt. Yr wyf wedi gohebu

Minister and identified what those issues are, and I look forward to her response in the fullness of time. Others deal with staffing issues that affect the Assembly as a whole, and I have written to the Permanent Secretary and the Clerk to the Assembly asking them to respond on appropriate issues. The Permanent Secretary has set up a working group, which will report to him on corporate, Assembly-wide issues—I understand that the report is due in early December. I look forward to the outcome of their deliberations. The recommendations that affect the Assembly Parliamentary Service will be considered by the Panel of Chairs and the House Committee as appropriate, and the Deputy Presiding Officer will respond on their behalf.

The Committee has produced an important and inclusive report. As the standing invitees have indicated in their circular letter to all Members, many of the recommendations are quite challenging and may require additional resources to implement effectively. However, that should not put us off. I know that the will is there; let us turn that into positive action.

I am proud of the report, and I wish to thank my fellow committee members who once again proved that politicians of different political hues can work together to produce effective results. They worked hard and effectively in gathering evidence from a range of experts and equality practitioners. The Committee on Equality of Opportunity is additionally blessed in being able to call on the expertise of its standing invitees, who represent all equality strands. I know that I speak for all committee members when I thank them for their contribution. Without their expertise, I am sure that we would not have produced such a worthwhile document. I would also like to thank Claire Bennett, Lara Date and, lately, Roger Chaffey and Dan Collier, and the staff of the Members' research service for their hard work in collating the reams of evidence gathered, and presenting it in such a way as to allow committee members to engage in structured and meaningful debate on the main issues. I commend this report to the National Assembly for Wales.

â'r Gweinidog ac wedi nodi'r materion hynny, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gael ei hymateb maes o law. Mae eraill yn delio â materion staff sy'n effeithio ar y Cynulliad cyfan, ac yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu at yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol a Chlerc y Cynulliad yn gofyn iddynt ymateb ar faterion priodol. Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol wedi sefydlu gweithgor a fydd yn cyflwyno adroddiadau iddo ar faterion corfforaethol yn ymwneud â'r Cynulliad cyfan—deallaf y bydd yr adroddiad ar gael yn gynnwys ym mis Rhagfyr. Edrychaf ymlaen at ganlyniad eu trafodaethau. Caiff yr argymhellion sy'n effeithio ar Wasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad eu hystyried gan Banel y Cadeiryddion a Phwyllgor y Tŷ fel y bo'n briodol, a bydd y Dirprwy Lywydd yn ymateb ar eu rhan.

Mae'r Pwyllgor wedi cynhyrchu adroddiad pwysig a chynhwysol. Fel y nododd y gwahoddedigion sefydlog yn eu llythyr at bob Aelod, mae llawer o'r argymhellion yn eithaf heriol ac efallai y bydd angen adnoddau ychwanegol i'w gweithredu'n effeithiol. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylai hynny ein digalonni. Gwn fod yr ewylllys yno; gadewch inni droi hynny yn weithredu cadarnhaol.

Yr wyf yn falch o'r adroddiad, a dymunaf ddiolch i'm cyd-aelodau ar y pwyllgor a brofodd unwaith eto y gall gwleidyddion â meddylfryd wleidyddol wahanol gydweithio i sicrhau canlyniadau effeithiol. Buont yn gweithio'n galed ac yn effeithiol yn casglu tystiolaeth gan ystod o arbenigwyr ac ymarferwyr cydraddoldeb. Mae'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yn ffodus hefyd y gall fanteisio ar arbenigedd ei wahoddedigion sefydlog sy'n cynrychioli pob maes cydraddoldeb. Gwn fy mod yn siarad ar ran pob aelod o'r pwyllgor wrth ddiolch iddynt am eu cyfraniad. Heb eu harbenigedd, yr wyf yn siŵr na fyddem wedi cynhyrchu dogfen mor werthfawr. Hoffwn ddiolch hefyd i Claire Bennett, Lara Date ac, ynddiweddar, Roger Chaffey a Dan Collier, a staff gwasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau am eu gwaith caled wrth goladu'r pentwr o dystiolaeth a gasglwyd, a'i chyflwyno yn y fath fodd fel bod aelodau'r pwyllgor yn gallu cynnal dadl strwythuredig ac ystyrlon ar y prif faterion. Cymeradwyaf yr adroddiad hwn i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Leanne Wood: I welcome this report on behalf of Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales, but I stress that there must be a high level of political will in order to make mainstreaming equality a reality for all of us. Our focus needs to be on an implementation plan and, as the Chair of the committee said, a strategy. The implementation plan and the strategy must take into account the reallocation of resources, which must be prioritised. This report gives us the tools to do the job—the recommendations are good and they must be seen through and implemented. However, my key question is this: what sanctions will be introduced if Ministers or departments fail to prioritise those recommendations, or fail to co-operate with the report? I ask the Minister to recognise that if we do not have sanctions, those who are not fully committed to mainstreaming equality are likely not to bother. Your Cabinet colleagues must realise that they will have some difficult decisions to make if this report is to be implemented in full.

All of us in the Chamber who are committed to mainstreaming equality must also recognise that we have an important job to do in scrutinising the Government, to ensure that these recommendations are put into action. Our scrutiny will be key if we are to see real qualitative results. I also appeal for a mandatory training programme on equality issues for staff and Assembly Members.

There are two particularly important recommendations in this report that I would like to draw Members attention to. The first is that there should be an

‘adequately resourced, externally commissioned equality audit, which provides baseline information for an equality strategy. It should also provide a methodology for internal staff to use to gather comparable information in future years and to allow regular review and evaluation of the Assembly’s progress’.

Leanne Wood: Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn ar ran Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales, ond pwysleisiaf fod yn rhaid cael llawer iawn o ewyllys wleidyddol er mwyn troi'r broses o brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb yn realiti i bob un ohonom. Mae angen inni ganolbwytio ar gynllun gweithredu ac, fel y dywedodd Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, ar strategaeth. Rhaid i'r cynllun gweithredu a'r strategaeth ystyried ailddyrrannu adnoddau, a rhaid rhoi blaenoriaeth i hyn. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn gyfrwng inni wneud y gwaith—mae'r argymhellion yn dda a rhaid eu cyflawni a'u gweithredu. Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf gwestiwn allweddol: pa sancsiynau a gyflwynir os bydd Gweinidogion neu adrannau yn methu â blaenoriaethu'r argymhellion hynny, neu'n methu â chydweithredu â'r adroddiad? Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog gydnabod os na chawn y sancsiynau hynny, na fydd y rhai nad ydynt yn llwyr ymrwymedig i brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb yn debygol o drafferthu. Rhaid i'ch cyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet sylweddoli y bydd ganddynt rai penderfyniadau anodd i'w gwneud er mwyn gweithredu'r adroddiad hwn yn llawn.

Rhaid i bob un ohonom yn y Siambr sy'n ymrwymedig i brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb gydnabod hefyd fod gennym waith pwysig i'w wneud i graffu ar y Llywodraeth, i sicrhau y caiff yr argymhellion hyn eu rhoi ar waith. Bydd ein gwaith craffu yn hanfodol er mwyn inni weld canlyniadau ansoddol gwirioneddol. Apeliaf hefyd am raglen hyfforddi orfodol ar faterion cydraddoldeb i staff ac Aelodau'r Cynulliad.

Mae dau argymhelliad hynod o bwysig yn yr adroddiad hwn yr hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Aelodau atynt. Y cyntaf yw

‘y dylid cynnal archwiliad brys ar gydraddoldeb, wedi'i gomisiynu'n allanol a chan neilltuo digon o adnoddau ar ei gyfer, er mwyn darparu gwybodaeth sylfaenol ar gyfer strategaeth cydraddoldeb. Dylai hefyd ddarparu methodoleg i staff mewnol ei defnyddio er mwyn casglu gwybodaeth gymharol mewn blynyddoedd i ddod ac adolygu a gwerthuso'n rheolaidd hynt hyn o fewn y cynulliad’.

The second recommendation that I would like to draw to people's attention is the recommendation that refers to holding the Minister directly to account—each Minister should be held to account for delivery on equality issues in their portfolios. My final point is an appeal, which has been made by Plaid Cymru colleagues in the past, for the Minister to do all that she can to ensure that equality issues are devolved in full to the National Assembly.

Mark Isherwood: Although I was not personally involved in the evidence-gathering process, I am pleased to welcome this report in my capacity as the Welsh Conservatives' equal opportunities spokesman. The Chair of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, Gwenda Thomas, is to be commended on a report that acknowledges that mainstreaming is a process that requires commitment to equal access and inclusion at all levels. Mainstreaming equality must now lead to a better understanding of the diverse needs of people and to the development of policies and services that are responsive to those needs.

The recommendations in this report relate to the work of the Assembly and the Assembly Government. The Welsh Assembly Government must therefore give these recommendations its full consideration with a view to early implementation. Otherwise, who shall guard the guardians? This place must avoid a do-as-I-say-not-as-I-do attitude and lead by example, from the front. In accordance with recommendation 1, we must adopt a definition of mainstreaming that integrates respect for equality of opportunity and includes equality issues from the outset in policy making and service delivery, a definition in which equality informs all aspects of the work of every individual in an organisation, a definition that will measure success by evaluating the reduction in inequality.

4.40 p.m.

Recommendation 2 correctly states that we need an overarching equality strategy, but this must be subject to proper business planning and systematic review. As recommendation 3 states, the Assembly

Yr ail argymhelliad yr hoffwn dynnu sylw pobl ato yw'r argymhelliad sy'n cyfeirio at ddal y Gweinidog yn uniongyrchol atebol—dylai pob Gweinidog fod yn atebol am wireddu gofynion cydraddoldeb yng nghydestun eu portffolios. Yn olaf, hoffwn wneud apêl, a wnaed gan gyd-aelodau Plaid Cymru yn y gorffennol, ar i'r Gweinidog wneud popeth o fewn ei gallu i sicrhau y caiff materion cydraddoldeb eu datganoli yn llawn i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

Mark Isherwood: Er nad oeddwn fy hun yn rhan o'r broses o gasglu tystiolaeth, yr wyf yn falch o groesawu'r adroddiad hwn yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel llefarydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru ar gyfle cyfartal. Rhaid canmol Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, Gwenda Thomas, am adroddiad sy'n cydnabod bod prif ffrydio yn broses sy'n galw am ymrwymiad i gydraddoldeb a chynhwysiant ar bob lefel. Rhaid i'r gwaith o brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb arwain yn awr at well dealltwriaeth o anghenion amrywiol pobl ac at ddatblygu polisïau a gwasanaethau sy'n ymateb i'r anghenion hynny.

Mae'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad hwn yn ymwneud â gwaith y Cynulliad a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru felly roi ystyriaeth lawn i'r argymhellion hyn gyda'r nod o'u rhoi ar waith yn gynnar. Fel arall, pwy fydd yn gwarchod y gwarcheidwaid? Rhaid i'r lle hwn osgoi agwedd 'gwnewch fel y dywedaf, nid fel y gwnaf', ac arwain drwy esiampl, o'r blaen. Yn unol ag argymhelliad 1, rhaid inni fabwysiadu diffiniad o brif ffrydio sy'n integreiddio parch tuag at gyfle cyfartal ac sy'n cynnwys materion cydraddoldeb o'r cychwyn cyntaf wrth lunio polisïau a darparu gwasanaethau, diffiniad sy'n gosod cydraddoldeb yn sail i bob agwedd ar waith pob unigolyn mewn mudiad, a diffiniad fydd yn mesur llwyddiant drwy werthuso'r lleihad mewn anghydraddoldeb.

Mae argymhelliad 2 yn nodi'n gywir bod angen strategaeth gydraddoldeb gyffredinol arnom, ond rhaid cael proses gynllunio busnes briodol ac adolygiad systematig. Fel y noda argymhelliad 3, rhaid i Lywodraeth y

Government must press for the development of a single equality Act to underpin the work of an integrated commission for equality and human rights, so that equal access and inclusion may be provided for all. We share the concern of the Disability Rights Commission that its calls for single equality legislation have not been heard. Everyone should have the right to fulfil his or her potential, regardless of gender, race, sexuality, disability, age, religion or belief, but the Equal Opportunities Commission has expressed significant concerns about the resources, equality legislation and powers proposed to achieve this. The Commission for Racial Equality concluded that implementation of the UK Government's 'Fairness for All' would weaken the cause of equality overall. We need a single equality Act that addresses the complexities of discrimination related to equal access, provides equal protection to all protected groups, delivers protection for the vulnerable more quickly, and allows existing equality bodies to work together more effectively so that the whole of the new commission may become greater than the sum of its component parts.

We must avoid politically correct gobbledegook, and use instead concise and inclusive plain language that ensures equal access through understanding for all. For example, during my first meeting of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, I was reprimanded by a member for using the term 'people with disabilities'. On Monday, Flintshire Disability Forum told me that its members are 'people' first and 'disabled' second, and that it was the meaning intended by the speaker that mattered. The forum, therefore, uses the phrase 'people with disabilities'.

With reference to recommendation 4, I would urge the Assembly Government to consider the role that could be played by the new Wales Audit Office in seeking best practice from across the public sector and in encouraging other bodies to match the standard of the best.

Recommendation 8 applies to the Assembly's recruitment strategy. I trust that the Assembly Government will take note of the Disability

Cynulliad bwysu am ddatblygu un Ddeddf ar gydraddoldeb i ategu gwaith comisiwn integredig ar gydraddoldeb a hawliau dynol, fel bod pawb yn profi cydraddoldeb a chynhwysiant. Rhannwn bryder y Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd na chlywyd ei alwadau am un Ddeddf ar gydraddoldeb. Dylai pawb gael yr hawl i gyflawni ei botensial ef neu ei photensial hi, waeth beth fo'u rhyw, hil, rhywioldeb, anabledd, oedran, crefydd neu gred, ond mae'r Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal wedi mynegi pryderon mawr ynglŷn â'r adnoddau, y ddeddfwriaeth ar gydraddoldeb a'r pwerau a gynigir i gyrraedd y nod hwn. Daeth y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol i'r casgliad y byddai gweithredu 'Tegwch i Bawb' Llywodraeth y DU yn gwanhau achos cydraddoldeb yn gyffredinol. Mae angen un Ddeddf ar gydraddoldeb arnom sy'n mynd i'r afael â chymhlethdodau gwahaniaethu sy'n gysylltiedig â chydraddoldeb, gan gynnig yr un diogelwch i bob grŵp a ddiogelir, diogelu'r diamddiffyn yn gynt, a chaniatáu i gyrrff cydraddoldeb presennol gydweithio'n fwy effeithiol fel bod gwaith y comisiwn newydd cyfan yn rhagori ar y gwaith a gyflawnir yn unigol gan y mudiadau sy'n rhan ohono.

Rhaid inni osgoi nonsens gwleidyddol gywir, a defnyddio iaith gryno a syml sy'n gynhwysol ac yn sicrhau cydraddoldeb drwy alluogi pawb i'w ddeall. Er enghraifft, yn ystod fy nghyfarfod cyntaf o'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, cefais fy ngheryddu gan aelod am ddefnyddio'r term 'pobl ag anableddau'. Ar ddydd Llun, dywedodd Fforwm Anabledd Sir y Fflint wrthyf fod ei aelodau yn 'bobl' yn gyntaf ac yn 'anabl' yn ail, ac mae'r ystyr a fwriadwyd gan y siaradwr oedd yn bwysig. Felly, mae'r fforwm yn defnyddio'r ymadrodd 'pobl ag anableddau'.

Gan gyfeirio at argymhelliad 4, hoffwn annog Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ystyried y rôl y gallai Swyddfa Archwilio newydd Cymru ei chwarae wrth geisio arfer gorau ar draws y sector cyhoeddus ac wrth annog cyrff eraill i gyrraedd safon y goreuon.

Mae argymhelliad 8 yn berthnasol i strategaeth recriwtio'r Cynulliad. Hyderaf y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ystyried

Discrimination Act 1995 (Amendment) Regulations 2003, which came into effect on 1 October 2004 and which define direct discrimination as occurring when the reason for the less favourable treatment in question is the disabled person's disability. These regulations specify that reasonable adjustments must be made in determining to whom employment should be offered, and that those reasonable adjustments apply to interview procedures, arrangements for using premises for such procedures, job offers, contractual arrangements, and working conditions. Furthermore, a prima facie case in a recruitment situation may be shown where the applicant was disabled and did not get the job, where the successful candidate was not disabled, and where the disabled candidate was equally or better qualified than the successful candidate.

On recommendation 12, which concerns staff performance and development plans, we must note that internal appointments may discriminate if only offered to one person, excluding people from different equality strands. We must reject positive discrimination and embrace positive action in human resource planning, so that suitable candidates from varying equality streams may be the right people, in the right place and at the right time to compete for internal appointments.

Recommendation 12 recommends equality training for Assembly Members in constituencies. I commend the Flintshire Disability Forum in this regard, as it proposes to achieve the capacity to deliver this training locally.

We must celebrate our glorious British diversity with an integrated Welsh and British society that represents everyone on the basis of who they are, not what they are.

Jenny Randerson: The 50:50 ratio of men to women in the Chamber sometimes tends to lull us into a false sense of security on equality issues. When you scratch the surface, you will see quite quickly that there is a great deal left to achieve. You only have to glance at the table in the report that looks

Rheoliadau Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 1995 (Diwygio) 2003, a ddaeth i rym ar 1 Hydref 2004 ac sy'n diffinio gwahaniaethu uniongyrchol fel rhywbeth sy'n digwydd pan fydd anabledd person yn arwain at driniaeth lai ffafriol. Mae'r rheoliadau hyn yn nodi bod yn rhaid gwneud addasiadau rhesymol wrth benderfynu i bwy y dylid cynnig cyflogaeth, a bod yr addasiadau rhesymol hynny yn berthnasol i weithdrefnau cyfweld, trefniadau ar gyfer defnyddio safleoedd ar gyfer gweithdrefnau o'r fath, cynigion swyddi, trefniadau cytundebol, ac amodau gwaith. At hynny, gellir dangos achos prima facie mewn sefyllfa recriwtio lle na chafodd ymgeisydd anabl swydd, lle nad oedd yr ymgeisydd llwyddiannus yn anabl, a lle yr oedd gan yr ymgeisydd anabl gymwysterau cystal neu well na'r ymgeisydd llwyddiannus.

O ran argymhelliad 12, sy'n ymwneud â pherfformiad staff a chynlluniau datblygu, rhaid inni nodi mai dim ond os cânt eu cynnig i un person, gan eithrio pobl o feysydd cydraddoldeb gwahanol, y bydd penodiadau mewnol yn gwahaniaethu. Rhaid inni wrthod gwahaniaethu cadarnhaol a chrosawu camau gweithredu cadarnhaol o ran cynllunio adnoddau dynol, fel mai ymgeiswyr addas o feysydd cydraddoldeb amrywiol fydd y bobl iawn, yn y lle iawn ac ar yr adeg iawn i gystadlu am benodiadau mewnol.

Mae argymhelliad 12 yn argymhell hyfforddiant ym maes cydraddoldeb i Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn yr etholaethau. Cymeradwyaf Fforwm Anabledd Sir y Fflint yn hyn o beth, gan ei fod yn bwriadu cynnig yr adnoddau i ddarparu'r hyfforddiant hwn yn lleol.

Rhaid inni ddathlu ein hamrywiaeth gwych ym Mhrydain gyda chymdeithas Gymreig a Phrydeinig integredig sy'n cynrychioli pawb ar sail pwy ydynt, nid beth ydynt.

Jenny Randerson: Weithiau mae'r gymhareb 50:50 o ddynion i ferched yn y Siambr yn tueddu i'n denu i orffwys ar ein rhwyfau weithiau o ran materion cydraddoldeb. Pan grafwch yr wyneb, fe welwch yn eithaf cyflym bod llawer iawn i'w wneud o hyd. Dim ond edrych ar y tabl yn yr

at the percentages of women, black and ethnic minority people and disabled people in the higher levels of the civil service to see that the numbers are not just low, but that we are failing to reach our targets, despite the fact that some of the targets are modest.

This is a complex topic; it is a mega topic. There are some parallels with our decisions on mainstreaming the Welsh language and on bilingualism. Our decisions regarding that issue related to the need to get the buy-in at the highest level, and not to sidetrack it into being something that is done by one committee. This needs to be owned by every Minister and committee, and by senior civil servants, so that it streams down from them throughout the whole of the staff structure.

We need an overarching equality strategy in the Assembly as a result of that line of thought, and we need buy-in at all levels. The committee already feels frustrated by the invisibility of equality issues on some committee agendas. Some committees never seem to consider equality. There have also been varied levels of commitment to, and understanding of, the issue among Ministers. Ministers' responses on equality issues to the Committee on Equality of Opportunity have varied in terms of the quality and depth of thinking.

The difficulties that the Assembly Government has had with its race equality strategy illustrate the complexity and difficulty of the issue. As politicians, we can set the ground rules, but officials have to implement them, so it is essential that the executive board provides the leadership that we need on a day-to-day basis, and we need a designated person at a high level in every division to take this forward. At present, we lack reliable and authoritative data, and it is important that the Government prioritise the collection of that data and take that forward immediately.

adroddiad sy'n ystyried nifer y merched, pobl dduon a phobl o leiafrifoedd ethnig a phobl anabl yn lefelau uwch y gwasanaeth sifil y mae'n rhaid ichi ei wneud i weld bod y niferoedd nid yn unig yn isel, ond ein bod yn methu â chyrraedd ein targedau, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod rhai o'r targedau yn gymharol isel.

Mae hwn yn bwnc cymhleth; mae'n bwnc enfawr. Mae rhai cyffelybiaethau â'n penderfyniadau ar brif ffrydio'r iaith Gymraeg ac ar ddwyieithrwydd. Yr oedd ein penderfyniadau o ran y mater hwnnw yn ymwneud â'r angen i gael ymrwymiad ar y lefel uchaf, a pheidio â chael ein harwain i'w wneud yn rhywbeth a gyflawnir gan un pwyllgor. Mae angen i bob Gweinidog a phwyllgor, ynghyd â gweision sifil uwch, ymrwymo i hyn, fel ei fod yn ffrydio i lawr oddi wrthynt hwy drwy'r strwythur staff cyfan.

Mae angen strategaeth gydraddoldeb gyffredinol arnom yn y Cynulliad o ganlyniad i'r syniad hwnnw, ac mae angen ymrwymiad arnom ar bob lefel. Mae'r pwyllgor eisoes yn teimlo'n rhwystredig gan nad yw materion cydraddoldeb yn ymddangos ar agendâu rhai pwyllgorau. Ymddengys nad yw rhai pwyllgorau byth yn ystyried cydraddoldeb. Bu lefelau amrywiol o ymrwymiad hefyd i'r mater, a lefelau amrywiol o ddealltwriaeth ohono, ymhlith Gweinidogion. Mae ymatebion Gweinidogion ar faterion cydraddoldeb i'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal wedi amrywio o ran ansawdd a dyfnder yr ystyriaeth.

Mae'r anawsterau a gafodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad gyda'i strategaeth gydraddoldeb hiliol yn dangos cymhlethdod ac anhawster y mater. Fel gwleidyddion, gallwn bennu'r rheolau sylfaenol, ond rhaid i swyddogion eu gweithredu, felly mae'n hanfodol bod y bwrdd gweithredol yn darparu'r arweinyddiaeth sydd ei hangen arnom o ddydd i ddydd, ac mae angen person penodedig ar lefel uchel ym mhob is-adran i ddatblygu hyn. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes data dibynadwy ac awdurdodol gennym, ac mae'n bwysig bod y Llywodraeth yn blaenoriaethu'r gwaith o gasglu'r data hwnnw a gweithredu arno ar unwaith.

Much of this is basic common sense. I have been saying for several years that the way in which we recruit does not take account of equality of opportunity issues. The advertisement says the right stuff, but we advertise in the *Western Mail*: is that the right place to reach out to new groups and to encourage them to apply for jobs with us?

I also express my concern at the role and staffing levels of the equality policy unit. That issue must be taken seriously.

In terms of practical issues, I particularly advocate gender budgeting. Some years ago, the Sports Council for Wales appeared to consider equality when giving out sports grants, but when it considered them from a gender-budgeting perspective, it realised that most of the grants went to clubs that had buildings, and what sort of clubs have buildings? Rugby clubs, cricket clubs and football clubs. Who, overwhelmingly, plays those sports? Boys and men. Therefore, it was not giving out its money equally to boys' and girls' sports.

Owen John Thomas: As a Cardiff-based Member, you will know that baseball is played by men and women in equal numbers, but when you were Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language, you did not give any extra money to baseball, so you are being somewhat hypocritical.

Jenny Randerson: We all know of Owen John's love of baseball, and the issue of providing grants for baseball bears scrutiny, but we will talk about that another time.

The overall message is that the Assembly needs to take a lead with its own staff, but our influence goes well beyond that: it extends to the health service, local government and to our Assembly sponsored public bodies—if there are any left in the end. I hope, above all, that the Labour Assembly Government will raise a loud voice in favour of a single equality Act, which will make our job much easier in the long term, and will make many of our aspirations achievable.

Synnwyr cyffredin sylfaenol yw llawer o hyn. Yr wyf wedi bod yn dweud ers blynyddoedd nad yw'r ffordd yr ydym yn recriwtio yn ystyried materion cyfle cyfartal. Mae'r hysbyseb yn dweud y pethau iawn, ond yn y *Western Mail* yr ydym yn hysbysebu; ai dyna'r lle iawn i ddenu grwpiau newydd a'u hannog i wneud cais am swydd gyda ni?

Mynegaf fy mhryder hefyd ynglŷn â rôl a lefelau staff yr uned polisi cydraddoldeb. Rhaid ystyried y mater hwnnw o ddirifrif.

O ran materion ymarferol, yr wyf o blaid cyllidebu ar sail rhyw. Rai blynyddoedd yn ôl, yr oedd Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru yn ymddangos fel pe bai yn ystyried cydraddoldeb wrth roi grantiau chwaraeon, ond pan oedd yn eu hystyried o safbwynt cyllidebu ar sail rhyw, sylwedolodd fod y rhan fwyaf o'r grantiau yn mynd i glybiau a oedd yn meddu ar adeiladau, a pha fath o glybiau sydd ag adeiladau? Clybiau rygbi, clybiau criced a chlybiau pêl-droed. Pwy, gan amlaf, sy'n chwarae'r chwaraeon hyn? Bechgyn a dynion. Felly, nid oedd yn rhannu ei arian yn deg rhwng chwaraeon bechgyn a merched.

Owen John Thomas: Fel Aelod yng Nghaerdydd, fe wyddoch fod pêl fas yn cael ei chwarae gan ddynion a menywod yn gyfartal, ond pan oeddech yn Weinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon, ni roesoch unrhyw arian ychwanegol i bêl fas, felly yr ydych braidd yn rhagrithiol.

Jenny Randerson: Gwyddom oll am hoffter Owen John o bêl fas, ac mae angen craffu ar fater rhoi grantiau ar gyfer pêl fas, ond trafodwn hynny ryw bryd arall.

Y neges gyffredinol yw bod angen i'r Cynulliad arwain y blaen gyda'i staff ei hun, ond mae ein dylanwad yn mynd ymhell y tu hwnt i hynny; mae'n ymestyn i'r gwasanaeth ieched, llywodraeth leol a'n cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad—os bydd unrhyw rai ar ôl yn y diwedd. Gobeithiaf, yn anad dim, y bydd Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad yn codi llais uchel o blaid un Ddeddf cydraddoldeb, a fydd yn gwneud ein gwaith ni yn haws o lawer yn yr hirdymor, ac yn golygu y bydd modd cyrraedd llawer o'n

huchelgeisiau.

David Davies: My experience of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity was that it consists of largely well-meaning people, but that there was a danger of its becoming a minor part of a large bandwagon, numbering countless publicly funded bodies, all of which claim to work for equality. Too often, instead of wanting equality, these organisations appear to be demanding preferential treatment for a favoured few.

David Davies: Yn fy mhrofiad i o'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yr oedd yn cynnwys pobl dda eu bwriad yn bennaf, ond yr oedd perygl iddo ddod yn rhan fach o garfan fwy, yn cynnwys nifer ddirifedi o gyrff wedi eu hariannu'n gyhoeddus, yr oedd pob un ohonynt yn honni eu bod yn gweithio dros gydraddoldeb. Yn amlach na pheidio, yn lle dymuno cael cydraddoldeb, yr oedd y sefydliadau hyn yn ymddangos fel pe baent yn mynnu triniaeth arbennig i etholedig rai.

4.50 p.m.

One of the biggest examples of where they have all got it wrong is the huge emphasis which is now placed on what is called 'celebrating diversity'. In reality, celebrating diversity means using taxpayers' money to eulogise virtually any culture or religion other than the British culture or Christianity, which is an intrinsic part of our culture even for those who do not believe in God. That approach has been hugely damaging and it has allowed those who wish to settle in this country to believe that they are under no obligation to integrate or even to make concessions to the host community. When so much public money is spent repeatedly telling people that there is no need for them to pay the slightest heed to the traditions of the indigenous community, it is hardly surprising that a growing proportion feel no need to do so. Rather than coming to regard themselves as British, too many people in this country define themselves by the nationality of the countries that they left behind, seeing themselves as simply living in Britain but not in any way a part of this country. [*Interruption.*] If anyone wants to intervene, I will give way; I heard somebody say 'Michael Howard'.

Un o'r enghreifftiau mwyaf o'r llastr a wnaethant yw'r pwyslais mawr sy'n cael ei roi yn awr ar yr hyn a elwir yn 'ddathlu amrywiaeth'. Mewn gwirionedd, ystyr dathlu amrywiaeth yw defnyddio arian y trethdalwyr i ganu clodydd bron unrhyw ddiwylliant neu grefydd heblaw diwylliant Prydain neu Gristnogaeth, sy'n rhan annatod o'n diwylliant hyd yn oed i anffyddwyr. Mae'r ymagwedd honno wedi bod yn niweidiol iawn ac mae wedi caniatáu i'r rhai sy'n dymuno ymgartrefu yn y wlad hon gredu nad oes unrhyw ddyletswydd arnynt i integreiddio na hyd yn oed ildio a derbyn gwerthoedd y wlad newydd. Pan gaiff cymaint o arian cyhoeddus ei wario dro ar ôl tro i ddweud wrth bobl nad oes angen iddynt dalu'r sylw lleiaf i draddodiadau'r gymuned frodorol, nid yw'n syndod bod cyfran gynyddol yn teimlo nad oes angen iddynt wneud hynny. Yn hytrach nag ystyried eu hunain yn Brydeinwyr, mae gormod o lawer o bobl yn y wlad hon yn diffinio eu hunain yn ôl cenedligrwydd y gwledydd y maent wedi eu gadael, gan ystyried eu hunain fel rhai sy'n byw ym Mhrydain, ond nad ydynt mewn unrhyw ffordd yn rhan o'r wlad hon. [*Torri ar draws.*] Os oes rhywun am ymyrryd, fe ildiaf; clywais rywun yn dweud 'Michael Howard'.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I hear a great deal about Michael Howard somewhere else.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Clywaf lawer o sôn am Michael Howard rywle arall.

David Davies: I am happy to take an intervention, Presiding Officer.

David Davies: Yr wyf yn fodlon derbyn ymyriad, Lywydd.

The Presiding Officer: Order. This debate is about the report of the Assembly's

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae a wnelo'r ddadl hon ag adroddiad Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal y

Committee on Equality of Opportunity on mainstreaming equality in the Assembly's work. I fail to see how Michael Howard, though a distinguished Welshman of Jewish descent he may be, has any particular locus in this debate.

David Davies: I did not mention him, Presiding Officer, but I would be happy to take an intervention, as I always am, from any Member. Those who make speeches should be willing to take interventions; those who are unable to do so evidently have a lack of confidence in their own arguments. If Labour Members want to intervene, please feel free to do so.

The Presiding Officer: Order. That is within a limit of five minutes, plus injury time.

David Davies: Indeed. There is another issue of concern, which is that the emphasis on cultural diversity has created a growing sense of resentment among some British people who see the equality organisations not as vehicles for creating a fairer society, but as pressure groups for certain interests. We hear about demands that the Royal Mail should refrain from putting nativity scenes on stamps—

The Presiding Officer: Order. I am sorry, David, but there is no reference to Royal Mail in this report.

David Davies: I am merely making the point that the Committee on Equality of Opportunity is taking a great deal of evidence from organisations that have called for such things. That increases tension in this country. Finally, America is an example of a nation that has successfully integrated millions of people from all kinds of diverse backgrounds. It has succeeded by emphasising to those people the importance of seeing themselves as Americans first and foremost, not as Mexicans, Hispanics, Cubans or whatever. We should do the same, and if we fail to do so—I see that you wish to say something, Presiding Officer.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I was about to say that I see no reference to Mexico in this report either.

Cynulliad ar brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb yng ngwaith y Cynulliad. Ni allaf weld sut y mae gan Michael Howard, er ei fod yn Gymro nodedig o dras Iddewig, unrhyw ran arbennig yn y ddadl hon.

David Davies: Ni soniais amdano, Lywydd, ond byddwn yn falch o dderbyn ymyriad, fel yr wyf bob tro, gan unrhyw Aelod. Dylai'r rhai sy'n gwneud areithiau fod yn fodlon derbyn ymyriadau; yn amlwg nid oes gan y rhai na allant wneud hynny unrhyw hyder yn eu dadleuon eu hunain. Os yw Aelodau Llafur am ymyrryd, mae rhyddid iddynt wneud hynny.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae hynny o fewn terfyn o bum munud, ynghyd ag amser ychwanegol.

David Davies: Yn wir. Mae mater arall sy'n achosi pryder, sef bod y pwyslais ar amrywiaeth diwylliannol wedi creu drwgdeimlad cynyddol ymhlith rhai Prydeinwyr sy'n ystyried y sefydliadau cydraddoldeb nid fel cyfryngau ar gyfer creu cymdeithas decach, ond fel carfanau pwysu ar gyfer buddiannau penodol. Clywn am alwadau y dylai'r Post Brenhinol ymatal rhag rhoi golygfeydd gŵyl y geni ar stampiau—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, David, ond nid oes unrhyw gyfeiriad at y Post Brenhinol yn yr adroddiad hwn.

David Davies: Yr hyn a wnaif yw pwysleisio bod y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yn cymryd llawer iawn o dystiolaeth oddi wrth fudiadau sydd wedi galw am bethau o'r fath. Mae hynny'n cynyddu tensiwn yn y wlad hon. Yn olaf, mae America yn enghraifft o wlad sydd wedi integreiddio miliynau o bobl yn llwyddiannus o bob math o gefndiroedd amrywiol. Mae wedi llwyddo drwy bwysleisio i'r bobl hynny bwysigrwydd ystyried eu hunain fel Americanaid yn gyntaf, nid fel Mecsicanaid, Sbaenigwyr, Ciwbanaid neu beth bynnag. Dylem wneud yr un peth, ac os methwn â gwneud hynny—gwelaf eich bod am ddweud rhywbeth, Lywydd.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr oeddwn ar fin dweud na welaf unrhyw gyfeiriad at Fecsico yn yr adroddiad hwn ychwaith.

David Davies: The report is about equality of opportunity and the work of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, and I am simply making the point that if we want to see real equality of opportunity and equality, then we must encourage people to integrate. I end by suggesting that we continue with the citizenship ceremonies, which have been successful, and that we look at other ways of getting people to feel proud of being British.

Eleanor Burnham: As a former member of the committee, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak in this crucial debate. I welcome the report and commend the committee and all its supporters and advisers, including Kate Bennett. I support the recommendations for Assembly best practice, but I will focus briefly on recommendation 4, which recommends that the Welsh Assembly Government should seek best practice from across the public sector and encourage other public bodies to match the standard of the best. The Equal Opportunities Commission believes, as do I, that the Welsh Assembly Government should seek best practice across Wales at all times. A who's who of Wales's top jobs shows that women hold only one in five of the senior positions in many sectors and organisations. Regrettably, there are no female party leaders in our Assembly, despite the fact that 50 per cent of Assembly Members and 56 per cent of the Cabinet is female. Scandalously, only 27 per cent of senior Assembly civil servants are women. Generally, there is a woeful lack of women holding top jobs in Wales—10 per cent of MPs, 20 per cent of newspaper editors, 14 per cent of council leaders, and only 23 per cent of councillors. The list goes on.

As far as I am aware, there is only one woman chief executive in Wales, which is equally scandalous. There are no female chairs of police authorities and no female vice chancellors and so on. There is also only a small proportion of company chairs and chief executives who are women. The Equal Opportunities Commission asserts that inequality costs us, and that inequalities at the top make for a weaker nation, waste talent and mean that services that do not give people what they want.

David Davies: Mae a wnelo'r adroddiad â chyfle cyfartal a gwaith y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, a'r hyn a wnaif yw pwysleisio bod yn rhaid inni annog pobl i integreiddio, er mwyn cael cyfle cyfartal a chydaddoldeb gwirioneddol. Terfynaf drwy awgrymu ein bod yn parhau â'r seremonïau dinasyddiaeth, sydd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus, a'n bod yn edrych ar ffyrdd eraill o gael pobl i deimlo'n falch o fod yn Brydeinwyr.

Eleanor Burnham: Fel cyn aelod o'r pwyllgor, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i siarad yn y ddadl hollbwysig hon. Croesawaf yr adroddiad a chymeradwyaf y pwyllgor a'i holl gefnogwyr a chynghorwyr, gan gynnwys Kate Bennett. Cefnogaf yr argymhellion ar gyfer arfer gorau'r Cynulliad, ond canolbwyntiaf yn fras ar argymhelliad 4, sy'n argymhell y dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru geisio arfer gorau ar draws y sector cyhoeddus ac annog cyrff cyhoeddus eraill i gyrraedd safon y gorau. Cred y Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal, fel minnau, y dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru geisio arfer gorau ar draws Cymru bob amser. Dengys rhestr o swyddi gorau Cymru mai dim ond un o bob pump o swyddi ar y lefel uchaf a ddelir gan fenywod mewn sawl sector a mudiad. Yn anffodus, nid oes unrhyw fenywod yn arweinwyr plaid yn ein Cynulliad, er bod 50 y cant o Aelodau'r Cynulliad a 56 y cant o'r Cabinet yn fenywod. Mae'n warthus mai dim ond 27 y cant o uwch weision sifil y Cynulliad sy'n fenywod. Yn gyffredinol, mae prinder dybryd o ferched sy'n dal swyddi uchel yng Nghymru—10 y cant o ASau, 20 y cant o olygyddion papur newydd, 14 y cant o arweinwyr cyngor, a dim ond 23 y cant o gynghorwyr. Â'r rhestr yn ei blaen.

Hyd y gwn i, dim ond un fenyw sy'n brif weithredwr yng Nghymru, sydd yr un mor warthus. Nid oes unrhyw fenywod yn gadeiryddion awdurdodau'r heddlu nac yn is-gangellorion ac yn y blaen. Dim ond cyfran fach hefyd o gadeiryddion cwmni a phrif weithredwyr sy'n fenywod. Mae'r Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal yn honni bod anghydaddoldeb yn gostus inni, a bod anghydaddoldebau ar y lefel uchaf yn creu cenedl wannach, yn gwastraffu talent ac yn golygu nad yw gwasanaethau yn rhoi yr hyn y mae pobl am ei gael iddynt.

I also agree with the Equal Opportunities Commission's belief that if we select our leaders from only half of the population, we do not necessarily get the best person. Ensuring that everyone's views are represented leads to more responsive services and allows everyone to have a fair stake in society. The Welsh Assembly Government should put its money where its mouth is to ensure that, throughout Wales, this change of culture becomes a reality sooner rather than later.

Laura Anne Jones: As a member of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, I completely support, as does my party, the aims of this report. It is important that we consider how to achieve those aims and consider equality issues more effectively.

On Eleanor Burnham's point about being more representative and having more women in the Chamber, it is good that the Chamber is more representative of women. I think that people will vote because we have an equal number of women and men, but women-only shortlists and how they are achieved is unfair to men and demeaning to women. I am glad that the Liberal Democratic Party has seen the light in that respect.

During evidence-taking sessions and discussions on this review in committee, it became clear that Members have different views on how the aims of this report should be achieved, often informed by differing definitions of inequality. That in itself is a problem if this policy is to be adopted in all areas. It has often been commented that equality, or social inclusion, has been used so often as a term that it has become a politically-correct cliché. Could it be that the more these terms are used, the more difficult it becomes to understand their meanings? Our committee's aims are far-reaching and at the heart of every portfolio and agenda—*[Interruption.]* Presiding Officer, I cannot hear above this noise.

The Presiding Officer: Order. It is important that Laura Ann Jones be heard.

Cytunaf hefyd â chred y Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal nad ydym yn cael y person gorau o reidrwydd os dewiswn ein harweinwyr o hanner y boblogaeth yn unig. Mae sicrhau bod safbwyntiau pawb yn cael eu cynrychioli yn arwain at wasanaethau mwy ymatebol ac yn caniatáu i bawb chwarae rhan deg mewn cymdeithas. Dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru roi ei harian ar ei gair i sicrhau, ledled Cymru, fod y newid diwylliant hwn yn digwydd cyn gynted â phosibl.

Laura Anne Jones: Fel aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, cefnogaf nodau'r adroddiad hwn yn llwyr, fel y gwna fy mhleid. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn ystyried sut i gyflawni'r nodau hynny ac ystyried materion cydraddoldeb yn fwy effeithiol.

O ran pwynt Eleanor Burnham ynglŷn â bod yn fwy cynrychioliadol a chael mwy o fenywod yn y Siambr, mae'n dda bod y Siambr yn fwy cynrychioliadol o fenywod. Credaf y bydd pobl yn pleidleisio oherwydd bod gennym nifer gyfartal o fenywod a dynion, ond mae rhestrau byr o fenywod yn unig a'r ffordd y'u cyflawnir yn annheg i ddynion ac yn ddiraddiol i fenywod. Yr wyf yn falch bod Plaid y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi gweld y goleuni yn hynny o beth.

Yn ystod y sesiynau clywed tystiolaeth a'r trafodaethau ar yr adolygiad hwn yn y pwyllgor, daeth yn amlwg bod gan Aelodau safbwyntiau gwahanol am y ffordd y dylid cyflawni nodau'r adroddiad hwn, yn aml wedi eu llywio gan ddiffiniadau gwahanol o anghydraddoldeb. Mae hynny ynddo'i hun yn broblem os mai'r nod yw mabwysiadu'r polisi hwn ym mhob maes. Yn aml soniwyd bod cydraddoldeb, neu gynhwysiant cymdeithasol, wedi cael ei ddefnyddio mor aml fel term fel ei fod wedi dod yn ystrydeb wleidyddol gywir. Ai'r gwir yw po fwyaf y defnyddir y termau hyn, anos fydd i ddeall eu hystyron? Mae nodau ein pwyllgor yn bellgyrhaeddol ac wrth wraidd pob portffolio ac agenda—*[Torri ar draws.]* Lywydd, ni allaf glywed uwchben y sŵn hwn.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae'n bwysig bod Laura Anne Jones yn cael ei chlywed.

Laura Anne Jones: Thank you. Our committee's aims are far-reaching and at the heart of every portfolio and agenda. Is it this all-encompassing nature of equality projects that makes defining this term sometimes impossible?

I was interested to read a report by a teacher who discussed the effect that equality policies had on education. She stated that, in schools and colleges, policies that seemed to be purely concerned with education and training were being re-written to promote social inclusion. The overriding concern of this report was regarding this key issue about equality, and education as a political goal rather than an educational one.

As education finds itself under increasing pressure to include all children by modifying their attitudes and boosting their self-esteem, educating them seems to be increasingly less of a priority. I would appeal to this Assembly that any exercise in mainstreaming equality should not, in any way, sacrifice the original function that that particular body was designed to promote. I, therefore, agree with the point set out in the report that mainstreaming is not an end in itself—it is a process that leads to the better understanding of the diverse needs of the people of Wales, the development of policies and services that are responsive to those needs, and a measurable improvement in the service outcomes and the experience of the people of Wales. It has been stated that one of the most important and difficult aspects of mainstreaming equality is the monitoring and evaluation of what has been achieved.

It is important that an organisation that has mainstreamed equality in its work should be able to report back on the progress made. I therefore feel that it is important that we should have regular reports from Ministers on what has been achieved in their portfolios. They need to be held to account for this to work. As a member of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, I look forward to playing a part in monitoring the Assembly's performance on equality and agree that we need to play a key scrutiny role and lead by

Laura Anne Jones: Diolch ichi. Mae nodau ein pwyllgor yn bellgyrhaeddol ac wrth wraidd pob portffolio ac agenda. Ai natur hollgynhwysfawr y prosiectau cydraddoldeb sy'n creu cymaint o anhawster wrth geisio diffinio'r term hwn weithiau?

Yr oedd diddordeb gennyf ddarllen adroddiad gan athro a drafododd yr effaith yr oedd polisïau anghydraddoldeb yn ei chael ar addysg. Dywedodd fod polisïau, mewn ysgolion a cholegau, a oedd yn ymddangos fel pe baent yn ymwneud ag addysg a hyfforddiant yn unig, yn cael eu hailysgrifennu i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol. Pryder pennaf yr adroddiad hwn oedd y mater allweddol hwn ynglŷn â chydraddoldeb, ac addysg fel nod gwleidyddol yn hytrach na nod addysgol.

Wrth i addysg ddod o dan bwysau cynyddol i gynnwys pob plentyn drwy addasu eu hagweddau a hybu eu hunanbarch, ymddengys bod eu haddysgu yn mynd yn llai o flaenoriaeth. Byddwn yn apelio ar y Cynulliad hwn i sicrhau na ddylai unrhyw ymarfer prif ffrydio cydraddoldeb, mewn unrhyw ffordd, aberthu'r swyddogaeth wreiddiol yr oedd y corff penodol hwnnw i fod i'w hyrwyddo. Felly, cytunaf â'r pwynt a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad nad yw prif ffrydio yn ddiwedd ynddo'i hun—mae'n broses sy'n arwain at well dealltwriaeth o anghenion amrywiol pobl Cymru, datblygiad polisïau a gwasanaethau sy'n ymatebol i'r anghenion hynny, a gwelliant mesuradwy yng nghanlyniadau'r gwasanaeth a phrofiad pobl Cymru. Nodwyd mai un o'r agweddau pwysicaf ac anos ar brif ffrydio cydraddoldeb yw'r gwaith o fonitro a gwerthuso'r hyn a gyflawnwyd.

Mae'n bwysig y dylai mudiad sydd wedi prif ffrydio cydraddoldeb yn ei waith allu adrodd yn ôl ar y cynnydd a wnaed. Felly teimlaf ei fod yn bwysig y dylem gael adroddiadau rheolaidd gan Weinidogion ar yr hyn a gyflawnwyd yn eu portffolios. Mae angen iddynt fod yn gyfrifol am hyn er mwyn iddo weithio. Fel aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal edrychaf ymlaen at chwarae rhan wrth fonitro perfformiad y Cynulliad ar gydraddoldeb a chytunaf fod angen inni chwarae rôl graffu allweddol ac arwain drwy

example.

esiempl.

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, under Standing Order No. 6.18, extends the time available for this debate by 15 minutes.

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.18, yn ymestyn yr amser ar gyfer y ddadl hon gan 15 munud.

Y Llywydd: Rhaid i o leiaf 10 Aelod gefnogi'r cynnig i ymestyn y Cyfafod Llawn gan 15 munud rhag i ni gollu'r ddadl fer. Gwelaf fod o leiaf 10 Aelod o blaid y cynnig, felly symudwn at bleidlais.

The Presiding Officer: At least 10 Members must support this motion to extend Plenary by 15 minutes so that we do not lose the short debate. I see that at least 10 Members support the motion, therefore we will move to a vote.

Cynnig: O blaid 42, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion: For 42, Abstain 0, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Hart, Edwina
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine

Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

5.00 p.m.

**Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal ar Brif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb yng
 Ngwaith y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol: Parhad
 The Committee on Equality of Opportunity's Report on Mainstreaming
 Equality in the Work of the National Assembly: Continued**

The Deputy Presiding Officer (John Marek): The remit of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity extends to auditing the equality arrangements of the Assembly as a whole, and I welcome this report from the committee, which takes an overview of the way in which the Assembly is taking account of equality issues.

I look forward with interest to the Assembly Government's responses to the recommendations for which it is accountable, and to the response of the Permanent Secretary and the executive board to recommendations relating to the Assembly's corporate policies on human resources, for example. I welcome the creation of a mainstreaming equality working group, which includes senior officials from both the Welsh Assembly Government and the Assembly Parliamentary Service, and which is assisting the process of providing a co-ordinated response to the committee.

A number of recommendations are specific to the work of the Assembly Parliamentary Service. The House Committee will consider these when it meets on 18 November, before agreeing a written response on behalf of the Assembly Parliamentary Service. I can give that assurance to the chair, Gwenda Thomas, straight away. The House Committee will also consider those recommendations that apply to the Assembly as a whole. I do not wish to prejudge what the House Committee may decide, but I will comment on the three recommendations that are specific to the Assembly Parliamentary Service.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd (John Marek): Mae cylch gwaith y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yn estyn i archwilio trefniadau cydraddoldeb y Cynulliad yn gyffredinol, a chroesawaf yr adroddiad hwn gan y pwyllgor, sy'n cymryd trosolwg o'r ffordd y mae'r Cynulliad yn ystyried materion cydraddoldeb.

Edrychaf ymlaen gyda diddordeb at ymatebion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i'r argymhellion y mae ganddi gyfrifoldeb drostynt, ac at ymateb yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol a'r bwrdd gweithredol i'r argymhellion sy'n ymwneud â pholisïau corfforaethol y Cynulliad ar adnoddau dynol, er enghraifft. Croesawaf y ffaith bod gweithgor prif ffrydio cyfartaledd wedi'i greu, ac mae'r pwyllgor yn cynnwys uwch swyddogion o Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad, sy'n helpu yn y broses o ddarparu ymateb cydgysylltiedig i'r pwyllgor.

Mae nifer o argymhellion sy'n benodol i waith Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad. Bydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn ystyried y rhain pan fydd yn cyfarfod ar 18 Tachwedd, cyn cytuno ar ymateb ysgrifenedig ar ran Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad. Gallaf roi'r sicrwydd hwnnw i'r cadeirydd, Gwenda Thomas, ar unwaith. Bydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ hefyd yn ystyried yr argymhellion hynny sy'n berthnasol i'r Cynulliad yn gyffredinol. Nid wyf am ragfarnu'r hyn y bydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn ei benderfynu, ond byddaf yn gwneud sylwadau am y tri argymhelliad sy'n benodol i Wasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad.

The report recommends that all Assembly Members undertake further specific equality training. While many Members have undertaken some form of equality training, there can be no mandatory requirement for them to do so. In some cases, in relation to committees on the appointment of people, for example, there can be a mandatory requirement for Members to undertake such training. I am sorry to disappoint Leanne Wood, as she made that suggestion. However, we will be considering how further equality training or briefing might be made available to help all Members meet their statutory equality obligations. It is important; it cannot be mandatory, but we can strongly encourage it, and I hope that every one of us, including myself, would take advantage of the training available.

The Panel of Chairs has twice considered equality issues since the report was published. The recommendation that all subject committees submit their forward work programmes to the Committee on Equality of Opportunity has been accepted by the panel, and that is already happening. I am sure that it will be accepted by all subject committees.

With regard to annual reporting on how they are taking account of equality, subject committee chairs have also requested further guidance from the Committee on Equality of Opportunity. The provision of this guidance serves as a response to the report's final recommendation, recommendation 27, that an equality checklist be devised for committees to use. Members may wish to note that the Chair of the Equality of Opportunity Committee has already arranged a meeting with the committee's standing equality advisers. I welcome this report.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I also welcome the report of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, and support the direction it takes. The mainstreaming of equality will be essential to the creating of a fairer Welsh society. The Chair of the

Mae'r adroddiad yn argymhell bod pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad yn ymgymryd â hyfforddiant penodol pellach ym maes cydraddoldeb. Er bod llawer o Aelodau wedi ymgymryd â rhyw fath o hyfforddiant ym maes cydraddoldeb, ni ellir ei gwneud yn orfodol iddynt wneud hynny. Mewn rhai achosion, mewn perthynas â phwyllgorau ar benodi pobl, er enghraifft, gellir ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Aelodau ymgymryd â hyfforddiant o'r fath. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf siomi Leanne Wood, gan mai hi a wnaeth yr awgrym hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn ystyried sut y gellid sicrhau bod hyfforddiant neu friffio pellach ar gydraddoldeb ar gael i bob Aelod fel y gallant fodloni eu rhwymedigaethau statudol o ran cydraddoldeb. Mae'n bwysig; ni all fod yn orfodol, ond gallwn ei annog yn gryf, a gobeithiaf y byddai pob un ohonom, gan gynnwys fi fy hun, yn manteisio ar yr hyfforddiant sydd ar gael.

Mae'r Panel Cadeiryddion wedi ystyried materion cydraddoldeb ddwywaith ers i'r adroddiad gael ei gyhoeddi. Mae'r argymhelliad y dylai pob pwyllgor pwnc gyflwyno eu blaenraglenni gwaith i'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal wedi cael ei dderbyn gan y panel, ac mae hynny eisoes yn digwydd. Yr wyf yn siŵr y caiff ei dderbyn gan bob pwyllgor pwnc.

O ran cyflwyno adroddiadau blynyddol ar sut y maent yn ystyried cydraddoldeb, mae cadeiryddion y pwyllgorau pwnc hefyd wedi gofyn am ganllawiau pellach gan y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal. Mae darparu'r canllawiau hyn yn ffordd o ymateb i argymhelliad olaf yr adroddiad, argymhelliad 27, y dylid llunio rhestr wirio ar gydraddoldeb i'r pwyllgorau ei defnyddio. Efallai yr hoffai Aelodau nodi bod Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal eisoes wedi trefnu cyfarfod gyda chynghorwyr sefydlog y pwyllgor ar gydraddoldeb. Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Yr wyf fi hefyd yn croesawu adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, a chefnogaf y cyfeiriad y mae'n ei gymryd. Bydd prif ffrydio cydraddoldeb yn hanfodol er mwyn creu cymdeithas decach yng Nghymru.

committee, in her opening speech, spoke about the inclusive approach that the committee took in the way in which it gathered evidence, and the total support that it had from its standing invitees in that regard. That can be seen in the quality of the report before us today. I compliment the committee Chair, and all those involved in the preparation of the report.

The report covers a wide sphere of activity, some of which, as the Deputy Presiding Officer said, is specific to the Assembly Parliamentary Service. I was delighted by the Deputy Presiding Officer's speech, in which he listed how the Assembly Parliamentary Service is taking matters forward. Some recommendations are primarily for the Permanent Secretary, who is listening to the debate today, while others are for us to take forward in Government. I assure Gwenda Thomas that the recommendations that we are taking forward will be reported to committee according to the process laid down by the Assembly and within the appropriate timescale.

There are other recommendations that apply to all of us. The report has proved particularly challenging for us, not only in terms of the policy directions that we must take, but the response that we must now give, and, most importantly, the budgetary considerations that will surround all this, if this report is to be implemented across the public sector within Wales.

The committee has defined mainstreaming, and while I support the principles embedded in its definition, I want to be satisfied, in the context of the Government, that we can deliver all that is required by that definition. There are several specific recommendations which fall to the Government. One of them—I believe it is recommendation 5, to which Leanne alluded—recommends that all Ministers should ensure that equality is mainstreamed throughout portfolios, and I will pursue this matter further with my ministerial colleagues. That is how we will mainstream equality—as it goes through all portfolios and is seen in the work of all Ministers and all committees.

Soniodd Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, yn ei haraith agoriadol, am yr ymagwedd gynhwysol a fabwysiadwyd gan y pwyllgor o ran y modd yr oedd yn casglu tystiolaeth, a chefnogaeth lwy'r ei wahoddedigion sefydlog yn hynny o beth. Gellir gweld hynny yn ansawdd yr adroddiad sydd ger ein bron heddiw. Hoffwn longyfarch Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, a phawb a fu'n gysylltiedig â pharatoi'r adroddiad.

Mae'r adroddiad yn cwmpasu cylch eang o weithgaredd, y mae peth ohono, fel y dywedodd y Dirprwy Lywydd, yn benodol i Wasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad. Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn o araith y Dirprwy Lywydd, lle y nododd sut y mae Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn mynd â materion yn eu blaen. Mae rhai argymhellion yn bennaf ar gyfer yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol, sy'n gwranddo ar y ddadl heddiw, tra bod eraill i'r Llywodraeth fynd â hwy yn eu blaen. Hoffwn sicrhau Gwenda Thomas y caiff yr argymhellion yr ydym yn mynd â hwy yn eu blaen eu cyflwyno i'r pwyllgor yn ôl y broses a osodwyd gan y Cynulliad ac o fewn yr amserlen briodol.

Ceir argymhellion eraill sy'n berthnasol i bob un ohonom. Mae'r adroddiad wedi bod yn arbennig o heriol inni, nid yn unig o ran y cyfeiriadau polisi y mae'n rhaid inni eu cymryd, ond o ran yr ymateb y mae'n rhaid inni ei roi yn awr, ac, yn bwysicaf oll, yr ystyriaethau cyllidebol a fydd ynghlwm wrth hyn i gyd, os caiff yr adroddiad hwn ei weithredu ar draws y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

Mae'r pwyllgor wedi diffinio prif ffrydio, ac er fy mod yn cefnogi'r egwyddorion sydd wrth wraidd ei ddiffiniad, yr wyf am gael fy modloni, yng nghyd-destun y Llywodraeth, y gallwn gyflawni'r cyfan sy'n ofynnol yn ôl y diffiniad hwnnw. Mae sawl argymhelliad penodol y mae'r Llywodraeth yn gyfrifol am eu gweithredu. Mae un ohonynt—credaf mai argymhelliad 5 ydyw, y cyfeiriodd Leanne ato—yn argymhell y dylai pob Gweinidog sicrhau bod cydraddoldeb yn cael ei brif ffrydio drwy bortffolios, a gweithredaf ymhellach ar y mater hwn gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion. Dyna sut y byddwn yn prif ffrydio cydraddoldeb—wrth iddo fynd drwy bob portffolio ac wrth iddo gael ei weld yng ngwaith pob Gweinidog a phwyllgor.

Other recommendations are also specifically for Government, and I intend to provide a formal response to each of these as soon as possible. One recommendation, to which the Deputy Presiding Officer alluded, was on training. In light of some of today's contributions from you, Mark, Laura and David, training is vital to develop your understanding of equality. If you are frightened of diversity, should you really be in public life?

Gwenda Thomas: I thank Leanne Wood, Mark Isherwood, Jenny Randerson and Laura Jones, who are members of the committee, and Eleanor Burnham, who is not, for their constructive remarks, albeit tinged with sincere concerns. I absolutely defend your right to be heard, David, but I would have expected you to have indicated a degree of respect, however small, for the diversity of human kind.

When it laid its report, the committee requested that the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration provide a detailed development plan of what was achievable in relation to each of the report's 27 recommendations, and by when. However, the cross-cutting nature of the report means that the 27 recommendations apply variously to the Welsh Assembly Government, the Assembly Parliamentary Service, and the Assembly's corporate policies, and are therefore not all the Minister's responsibility. The lead responsibility for each recommendation has been agreed in correspondence between the Chair, the Minister, the Presiding Officer and the Permanent Secretary. The Permanent Secretary has established a mainstreaming equality working group to examine each of the report's recommendations, agree responses and facilitate a co-ordinated response to the Committee on Equality of Opportunity.

The working group includes representatives from the Welsh Assembly Government, the human resources group, the Assembly Parliamentary Service and the strategic policy unit. The Assembly's executive board is due to consider the working group's report

Mae argymhellion eraill hefyd yn benodol i Lywodraeth, a bwriadaf roi ymateb ffurfiol i bob un ohonynt cyn gynted â phosibl. Yr oedd un argymhelliad, y cyfeiriodd y Dirprwy Lywydd ato, yn ymwneud â hyfforddiant. Yng ngoleuni rhai o'r cyfraniadau heddiw gennyh chi, Mark, Laura a David, mae hyfforddiant yn hollbwysig i ddatblygu eich dealltwriaeth o gydraddoldeb. Os oes ofn amrywiaeth arnoch, a ddylech fod mewn bywyd cyhoeddus?

Gwenda Thomas: Diolchaf i Leanne Wood, Mark Isherwood, Jenny Randerson a Laura Jones, sy'n aelodau o'r pwyllgor, ac i Eleanor Burnham, nad yw'n aelod, am eu sylwadau adeiladol, er bod rhywfaint o bryder gwirioneddol ynghlwm wrthynt. Amddiffynnaf yn llwyr eich hawl i gael eich clywed, David, ond byddwn wedi disgwyl ichi ddangos rywfaint o barch, waeth pa mor fach, at amrywiaeth y ddynoliaeth.

Pan osododd ei adroddiad, gofynnodd y pwyllgor am i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ddarparu cynllun datblygu manwl o'r hyn a oedd yn gyraeddadwy mewn perthynas â phob un o 27 o argymhellion yr adroddiad, ac i nodi erbyn pryd y gellid eu cyflawni. Fodd bynnag, golyga natur drawsbynciol yr adroddiad fod y 27 o argymhellion yn berthnasol i raddau amrywiol i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad, a pholisïau corfforaethol y Cynulliad, ac felly nad cyfrifoldeb y Gweinidog ydynt i gyd. Cytunwyd ar y prif gyfrifoldeb dros bob argymhelliad mewn gohebiaeth rhwng y Cadeirydd, y Gweinidog, y Llywydd a'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol. Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol wedi sefydlu gweithgor prif ffrydio cydraddoldeb i ystyried pob un o argymhellion yr adroddiad, cytuno ar ymatebion a hwyluso ymateb cydgysylltiedig i'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal.

Mae'r gweithgor yn cynnwys cynrychiolwyr o Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, y grŵp adnoddau dynol, Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad a'r uned polisi strategol. Mae disgwyl i fwrdd gweithredol y Cynulliad ystyried adroddiad y gweithgor ar ddechrau

in early December. We will now expect the Minister to respond on recommendations 1 to 5 and 14 to 25. We will expect a response from the Welsh Assembly Government, through the Permanent Secretary, on recommendations relating to corporate matters for the Assembly—recommendations 6 to 12—and we are expecting a response from the Assembly Parliamentary Service, presumably through the Presiding Officer or his Deputy, on recommendations 13, 26 and 27.

I gloi, diolchaf i'r Gweinidog a'r Dirprwy Lywydd am eu hymateb cadarnhaol i'r adroddiad.

Rhagfyr. Byddwn yn disgwyl yn awr i'r Gweinidog ymateb ar argymhellion 1 i 5 ac 14 i 25. Byddwn yn disgwyl ymateb gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, drwy'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol, ar yr argymhellion sy'n ymwneud â materion corfforaethol i'r Cynulliad—argymhellion 6 i 12—ac yr ydym yn disgwyl ymateb gan Wasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad, drwy'r Llywydd neu ei Ddirprwy, yn ôl pob tebyg, ar argymhellion 13, 26 a 27.

To conclude, I thank the Minister and the Deputy Presiding Officer for their positive response to the report.

*Cynnig (NDM2163): O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2163): For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy

Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 5.08 p.m.
 The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 5.08 p.m.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Y Diwylliant Alcohol Alcohol Culture

Janet Davies: I have had three requests to speak for a minute each from Lisa Francis, John Griffiths and Peter Black, who asked me in that order. I will try to finish within 12 minutes.

Janet Davies: Cefais dri chais i siarad am funud yr un gan Lisa Francis, John Griffiths a Peter Black, a ofynnodd imi yn y drefn honno. Ceisiaf ddod i ben o fewn 12 munud.

5.10 p.m.

Alcohol is the lubricant for many social events, for spending time happily with other people, making friends and acquaintances and forgetting the stresses of everyday life. After all, what could be more pleasant than a meal with friends over a bottle, or more, of good wine? A summer afternoon drinking cool white wine in an orchard, or an increasingly incoherent evening with friends, can be cherished memories. There is, however, another side to this, the dark side of alcohol misuse, with terrible effects from frequent and heavy drinking sessions. On a superficial level, these effects may be embarrassing, which perhaps lead many people to make jokes about the behaviour instead of facing the stark realities of the alcohol culture that wrecks so many lives.

Mae alcohol yn elfen ganolog mewn llawer o ddigwyddiadau cymdeithasol, wrth dreulio amser yn hapus gyda phobl eraill, gwneud ffrindiau a dod i adnabod pobl ac anghofio am bwysau bywyd pob dydd. Wedi'r cyfan, beth allai fod yn fwy plerurus na phryd o fwyd gyda ffrindiau gan rannu potelaid, neu fwy, o win da? Gall prynhawn o haf yn yfed gwin gwyn oer mewn perllan, neu noson gynyddol hwyliog gyda ffrindiau, greu atgofion melys. Fodd bynnag, mae ochr arall i'r geiniog, sef ochr dywyll camddefnyddio alcohol, gydag effeithiau ofnadwy yn deillio o sesiynau yfed rheolaidd a thrwm. Ar lefel arwynebol, gall yr effeithiau hyn godi cywilydd, sydd efallai yn gwneud i lawer o bobl drin yr ymddygiad fel jôc yn hytrach na wynebu realiti difrifol y diwylliant alcohol sy'n dinistrio cymaint o fywydau.

Given the failure of older generations to tackle this problem, we now see an upsurge in binge drinking among young people. It is

O gofio methiant cenedlaethau hŷn i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon, gwelwn yn awr gynnnydd sylweddol mewn goryfed yn

widespread and particularly bad in Wales. Fifteen-year-olds here are more likely to drink alcohol weekly than 15-year-olds in 35 other countries and regions. A *Wales on Sunday* investigation showed that most 14-year-olds see heavy drinking sessions as part of the normal growing-up process, with some starting at the age of 10. The peak age in Wales for emergency hospital admissions due to alcohol poisoning is between 15 and 19. This is not, however, an urban problem only. Four studies of parts of rural Britain, including mid Wales, found that teenage drinking sessions in friends' homes is common. The consumption of dangerous quantities of spirits, cider and alcopops, alongside cannabis and ecstasy, are the norm. The younger a person starts drinking alcohol, the greater the likelihood that he or she will suffer physical damage and, obviously, the more likely he or she is to drop out of education. Teenagers across the social and educational spectrum are encouraged to drink by peer pressure, by advertising pressure and by their need to relieve stress. They find it easy to buy, or to get someone older to buy, alcohol from off-licences. Parents, remembering their own youth, accept this culture, but do not on the whole understand the likely consequences for their children.

What, then, are these consequences? Young people are more susceptible, physically, to alcohol poisoning, and they fail to understand the dangers of mixing alcohol with other drugs. They are inexperienced and are more apt to have an accident, or to become violent and injure others. For a family, seeing a young person who has to spend his or her life coping with an injury sustained in a drunken attack is painful every single day. Casualty department figures are frightening. In the longer term, the effects of heavy or frequent drinking are hideous, with damage to the liver, intestines and brain—in every bout of heavy drinking, millions of brain cells are destroyed—and cancer occurs at relatively young ages. The cost to the NHS of treating alcohol-related conditions is between £1.4

gymdeithasol ymhlith pobl ifanc. Mae'n rhemp ac yn arbennig o wael yng Nghymru. Mae plant 15 oed yng Nghymru yn fwy tebygol o yfed alcohol bob wythnos na phlant 15 oed mewn 35 o wledydd a rhanbarthau eraill. Dangosodd ymchwiliad gan *Wales on Sunday* fod y rhan fwyaf o blant 14 oed o'r farn bod sesiynau yfed trwm yn rhan o'r broses aeddfedu arferol, gyda rhai yn dechrau yn 10 oed. Mae'r oedran brig yng Nghymru ar gyfer cael eich derbyn fel achos brys i'r ysbyty o ganlyniad i wenwyn alcohol rhwng 15 a 19 oed. Fodd bynnag, nid problem drefol yn unig yw hon. Canfu pedair astudiaeth o rannau o Brydain wledig, gan gynnwys canolbarth Cymru, fod sesiynau yfed i bobl ifanc yn eu harddegau yng nghartrefi ffrindiau yn gyffredin. Mae yfed gwirodydd, seidr ac alcopops i lefel beryglus, ochr yn ochr â chymryd cannabis ac ecstasi, yn ddigwyddiad cyffredin. Po ifancaf y bydd person ifanc yn dechrau yfed alcohol, y mwyaf tebygol ydyw y bydd yn dioddef niwed corfforol ac, yn amlwg, y mwyaf tebygol ydyw y bydd yn rhoi'r gorau i'w addysg. Anogir pobl ifanc yn eu harddegau ar draws y sbectrwm cymdeithasol ac addysgol i yfed o ganlyniad i bwysau gan eu cyfoedion, pwysau hysbysebu a'u hangen i ryddhau tyndra. Mae'n hawdd iddynt brynu alcohol, neu i gael rhywun arall hŷn i'w brynu, o siopau trwyddedig. Mae rhieni, gan gofio eu hieuentid hwy, yn derbyn y diwylliant hwn, ond nid ydynt, yn gyffredinol, yn deall y canlyniadau tebygol i'w plant.

Beth, felly, yw'r canlyniadau hyn? Mae pobl ifanc yn fwy agored, yn gorfforol, i wenwyn alcohol, ac nid ydynt yn deall peryglon cymysgu alcohol â chyffuriau eraill. Maent yn ddibrofiad ac yn fwy tueddol o gael damwain, neu o fod yn dreisgar ac anafu eraill. I deulu, mae gweld person ifanc sydd wedi gorfod treulio ei fywyd yn ymdopi ag anaf a gafwyd mewn ymosodiad meddw yn achosi gofid beunyddiol. Mae ffigurau adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys yn arswydus. Yn y tymor hwy, mae effeithiau yfed trwm neu reolaidd yn erchyll, gyda niwed i'r afu, y coluddion a'r ymennydd—ym mhob sesiwn yfed trwm, caiff miliynau o gelloedd yr ymennydd eu dinistrio—a gall cancer ddigwydd i rywun cymharol ifanc. Mae trin cyflyrau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol

billion and £1.7 billion annually in the UK. I have not been able to obtain separate figures for Wales, but 5 per cent of the median figure comes to a cost of £77.5 million to the national health service in Wales. Statistics are cold, but seeing someone suffer from cirrhosis of the liver is an experience not to be forgotten. First comes the loss of desire to drink alcohol itself, then to eat, then severe pain, severe haemorrhages and, finally, death: it burns into the memory of anyone who witnesses it.

To look at a slightly older age group, campaigns against combining drinking and driving have had some success. For the individuals injured, their lives are damaged to a greater or lesser extent. The families of those killed have to live with the totally unnecessary loss for ever. One of my bad memories is of an accident outside my house, when a car carrying six men, who had enjoyed a 'happy hour' at a pub a couple of miles away, turned over at 90 mph. When I rushed out, the car was the right way up, but four of them sat dead, their necks broken. A few months later at a children's disco that I used to run, a small girl came up to me and asked, 'Do you know that my father was killed outside your house?'. There is now evidence that binge drinking by young people is sending the numbers of these deaths and injuries soaring. These younger people do not remember earlier drink-driving campaigns, and the number of related deaths is now increasing.

Within families with an alcoholic, there is acute misery, as they suffer from outbursts of temper, from breaking of the trust that is so important to families and, often, from poverty. How seriously do we take this? Most domestic violence occurs during drunken outbursts. It is usually women, and sometimes children, who are attacked. This is not only physical abuse, but it leaves families emotionally and mentally traumatised.

The 24-hour opening of public houses can worsen the bad effects and has serious implications for the number of police

yn costio rhwng £1.4 biliwn ac £1.7 biliwn bob blwyddyn yn y DU. Ni lwyddais i gael ffigurau ar wahân i Gymru, ond daw 5 y cant o'r canolrif i gost o £77.5 miliwn i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru. Mae'r ystadegau yn llwm, ond nid yw gweld rhywun sy'n dioddef o sirosis yr afu yn brofiad a anghofir. Yn gyntaf collir yr awydd i yfed alcohol ei hun, wedyn i fwyta, wedyn ceir poen difrifol, gwaedlifau difrifol ac, yn olaf, marwolaeth: bydd wedi'i serio ar gof unrhyw un a'i welodd.

Gan edrych ar grŵp oedran ychydig yn hŷn, bu ymgyrchoedd yn erbyn yfed a gyrru yn llwyddiannus i ryw raddau. I'r unigolion a gaiff eu hanafu, caiff eu bywydau eu dinistrio i raddau mwy neu lai. Rhaid i deuluoedd y rhai a gaiff eu lladd fyw gyda'r golled gwbl ddiangen am byth. Un o'm hatgofion gwael yw gweld damwain y tu allan i'm tŷ, lle y bu i gar a oedd yn cludo chwe dyn, a oedd wedi bod yn yfed diodydd rhad mewn tafarn ychydig filltiroedd i ffwrdd, droi drosodd ar gyflymder o 90 mya. Pan ruthrais allan, yr oedd y car yn ôl yn ei safle arferol, ond yr oedd pedwar ohonynt yn farw, wedi torri eu gyddfau. Ychydig fisoedd yn ddiweddarach mewn disgo yr arferwn ei gynnal i blant, daeth merch fach ataf gan ofyn, 'A wyddech i'm tad gael ei ladd y tu allan i'ch tŷ?'. Ceir tystiolaeth erbyn hyn bod goryfed yn gymdeithasol ymhlith pobl ifanc yn cynyddu'n sylweddol nifer y marwolaethau a'r anafiadau hyn. Nid yw'r bobl iau hyn yn cofio ymgyrchoedd yfed a gyrru cynharach, ac mae nifer y marwolaethau cysylltiedig bellach yn cynyddu.

Mewn teuluoedd lle mae rhywun yn gaeth i alcohol, ceir dioddefaint difrifol, gan eu bod yn dioddef o ffrwydradau tymer, o chwalu'r ymddiriedaeth sydd mor bwysig i deuluoedd ac, yn aml, o dlodi. Pa mor ddifrifol yw'r broblem hon i ni? Mae'r rhan fwyaf o achosion o drais yn y cartref yn deillio o ffrwydradau meddw. Fel arfer, ymosodir ar fenywod, ac weithiau plant. Nid cam-drin corfforol yn unig yw hyn, ond mae'n achosi trawma emosiynol a meddyliol i deuluoedd.

Gall y cynnig i agor tafarndai am 24 awr waethygu'r effeithiau gwael ac mae iddo oblygiadau difrifol i nifer yr heddlu sydd ar

available. There is not adequate evidence to put this in place, and the UK Government needs to reconsider this.

As well as the cost to the health service from violence in the street and in the home, from bad behaviour in casualty departments and from long-term illnesses, heavy drinking and alcoholism damage the economy through absenteeism and people's inability to carry out their work properly. The cost to the UK economy annually is estimated to be £6.3 billion. It is a major cause of social disturbance and crime. One Assembly Member who recently visited Walton Gaol was told by a number of prisoners that, in their view, alcohol and drugs have damaged their lives and that both should be classified.

It is agreed by many that if alcohol were a new drug it would be classified. It is only its use over centuries that makes it socially acceptable. At the beginning of this debate, I spoke about the pleasures of alcohol in moderation. I believe that that is partly the reason for alcohol being socially acceptable. Also, there is a feeling, even among mature adults, that it is somehow clever, macho or superior to be able to drink heavily. Maybe there is an element of looking back to younger days with nostalgia. The dark side of alcohol is put to the back of most people's minds if they are not involved with a sufferer. It is an issue which society does not face.

I have painted a grim picture and one that is of great sadness for many people. I have tried to understand why such a major social ill is largely ignored—not all that successfully, perhaps—but I now need to turn to action to tackle this challenge, while recognising that such a deep-seated culture will not change easily or quickly. That makes it more important to act.

Starting at an individual level, all Assembly Members have a degree of influence on the

gael. Nid oes tystiolaeth ddigonol i roi'r cynnig ar waith, ac mae angen i Lywodraeth y DU ei ailystyried.

Yn ogystal â'r gost i'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn deillio o drais ar y stryd ac yn y cartref, o ymddygiad gwael mewn adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys ac o salwch hirdymor, mae yfed trwm ac alcoholiaeth yn cael effaith andwyol ar yr economi drwy absenoldeb ac anallu pobl i wneud eu gwaith yn iawn. Amcangyfrifir mai £6.3 biliwn yw'r gost flynyddol i economi'r DU. Dyma un o brif achosion aflonyddwch cymdeithasol a throseddau. Wrth ymweld â Charchar Walton yn ddiweddar, dywedodd nifer o garcharorion wrth un o Aelodau'r Cynulliad fod alcohol a chyffuriau, yn eu barn hwy, wedi dinistrio eu bywydau ac y dylai'r ddau fod yn sylweddau dosbarthedig.

Mae llawer yn cytuno y byddai alcohol yn sylwedd dosbarthedig pe bai'n gyffur newydd. Dim ond ei ddefnydd dros y canrifoedd sy'n golygu ei fod yn gymdeithasol dderbiniol. Ar ddechrau'r ddadl hon, soniais am bleserau alcohol os caiff ei yfed yn gymedrol. Credaf yn rhannol mai dyma'r rheswm pam mae alcohol yn gymdeithasol dderbiniol. Hefyd, ceir teimlad, hyd yn oed ymhlith oedolion aeddfed, bod y gallu i yfed yn drwm yn rhywbeth clyfar a 'macho' ac yn rhywbeth i ymfrostio yn ei gylch. Efallai fod a wnelo hyn i raddau ag edrych yn ôl i'r gorffennol yn hiraethus. Caiff ochr dywyll alcohol ei rhoi i gefn meddyliau'r rhan fwyaf o bobl os nad ydynt yn adnabod rhywun sy'n dioddef. Mae'n broblem nad yw cymdeithas yn ei hwynebu.

Yr wyf wedi creu darlun diflas ac un sy'n peri tristwch mawr i lawer o bobl. Yr wyf wedi ymdrechu i ddeall pam y caiff problem gymdeithasol mor ddifrifol ei hanwybyddu i raddau helaeth—yn aflwyddiannus, efallai—ond yn awr mae angen imi weithredu i fynd i'r afael â'r her hon, tra'n cydnabod na fydd diwylliant sydd wedi'i wreiddio mor gadarn yn newid yn hawdd nac yn gyflym. Mae hynny'n ei gwneud yn bwysicach gweithredu.

Gan ddechrau ar lefel unigol, mae gan bob un o Aelodau'r Cynulliad rywffaint o ddylanwad

thinking of others. We need to acknowledge ourselves that heavy drinking has dreadful effects for individuals and society. We should stop treating this as a joke and refusing to see it as more serious than using soft drugs. It is noticeable that we have set up a working party to look at smoking in public places, which is good, and that we do not allow smoking in the Assembly except in one designated room. Have we seen any similar action to tackle alcohol misuse? Smoking and drinking alcohol are both legal for adults.

The UK Government needs to get to grips with alcohol advertising, and seriously consider a total ban. One influential group of organisations that is changing its attitude to alcohol is the insurance industry. It is now considering refusing to pay for claims arising out of actions occurring when alcohol is misused.

I am pleased that the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee is reviewing our substance misuse policy, but I find it unsurprising that, although alcohol is the substance of most damaging misuse, Assembly policies seem to focus on other things.

The Assembly Government and committees should use the much-vaunted joined-up thinking approach to take an overall view on the policies needed. It is good that there are drink-driving campaigns, that plastic should be used instead of glasses in pubs, and that the police mount sting actions on off-licence stores. However, these tackle only the worst symptoms. Any Government actions, here or at the UK level, should be founded on good evidence and have the support of those people who have to implement them. Good evidence to support 24-hour opening of public houses is lacking, and will require more police than are probably available at present.

Is anyone looking at the stresses of everyday

ar ffordd o feddwl pobl eraill. Mae angen inni gydnabod ein hunain bod yfed trwm yn cael effaith ddifrifol ar unigolion a chymdeithas. Dylem roi'r gorau i drin y broblem fel jôc a gwrthod cydnabod ei bod yn fwy difrifol na defnyddio cyffuriau meddal. Mae'n hysbys ein bod wedi sefydlu gweithgor i edrych ar ysmegu mewn mannau cyhoeddus, sy'n beth da, ac nad ydym yn caniatáu i bobl ysmegu yn y Cynulliad heblaw mewn un ystafell benodedig. A welsom unrhyw gamau tebyg i fynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio alcohol? Mae ysmegu ac yfed alcohol ill dau yn gyfreithlon i oedolion.

Mae angen i Lywodraeth y DU fynd i'r afael â hysbysebu alcohol, gan roi ystyriaeth ddifrifol i waharddiad llwyr. Un grŵp dylanwadol o fudiadau sy'n newid ei agwedd tuag at alcohol yw'r diwydiant yswiriant. Mae wrthi'n ystyried y posibilrwydd o wrthod talu am hawliadau sy'n deillio o weithredoedd sy'n digwydd pan gaiff alcohol ei gamddefnyddio.

Yr wyf yn falch bod y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yn adolygu ein polisi camddefnyddio sylweddau, ond nid yw'n syndod gennyf, er mai alcohol yw'r sylwedd y mae ei gamddefnyddio yn achosi'r niwed mwyaf, fod polisiâu'r Cynulliad yn tueddu i ganolbwyntio ar bethau eraill.

Dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r pwyllgorau ddefnyddio'r ymagwedd meddwl cyd-gysylltiedig y bu llawer o frolio yn ei chylch i lunio barn gyffredinol ar y polisiâu sydd eu hangen. Mae'n dda o beth bod ymgyrchoedd yfed a gyrru ar waith, bod plastig yn cael ei ddefnyddio yn lle gwydrau mewn tafarndai, a bod ymgyrchoedd gan yr heddlu i ymweld â siopau trwyddedig yn ddirybudd. Fodd bynnag, dim ond y symptomau gwaethaf y mae'r rhain yn mynd i'r afael â hwy. Dylai unrhyw gamau gweithredu gan y Llywodraeth, yma neu ar lefel y DU, fod yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth gadarn a dylent ennyn cefnogaeth y bobl hynny sy'n gorfod eu rhoi ar waith. Nid oes dystiolaeth gadarn i gefnogi'r cynnig i agor tafarndai am 24 awr, a bydd angen mwy o heddlu na'r nifer sydd ar gael, fwy na thebyg, ar hyn o bryd.

A oes unrhyw un yn ymchwilio i bwysau

life, particularly for young people? Is the present education system so intent on producing adults with the right skills for the economy that it is forgetting the need for balanced, mature adults who can deal with the pressures of life? Are employers forgetting that, while employees owe them a good day's work for their pay, they also need adequate holidays and working conditions? What attempt is made to break the cycle of heavy drinking, binge drinking and alcoholism?

bywyd pob dydd, yn arbennig y pwysau ar bobl ifanc? A yw'r system addysg bresennol mor benderfynol o gynhyrchu oedolion sy'n meddu ar y sgiliau priodol ar gyfer yr economi fel ei bod yn anghofio'r angen am oedolion aeddfed a chytbwys a all ymdrin â phwysau bywyd? A yw cyflogwyr yn anghofio, er bod disgwyl i gyflogeion wneud diwrnod da o waith am eu cyflog, bod angen gwyliau ac amodau gwaith digonol arnynt hefyd? Pa ymdrech a wneir i dorri'r cylch o yfed trwm, goryfed yn gymdeithasol ac alcoholiaeth?

5.20 p.m.

The National Assembly must take a lead on such a crucial issue for our future generations. We need to take a hard look at this issue and recognise our responsibilities. If the Assembly Government does not take a lead—I am not saying that it will not—backbench Members should exercise their role of giving constructive criticism.

Rhaid i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol gymryd yr awenau ar fater sydd mor hanfodol i genedlaethau'r dyfodol. Mae angen inni edrych yn ofalus ar y mater hwn a chydabod ein cyfrifoldebau. Os na fydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cymryd yr awenau—nid wyf yn dweud na wnaiff hynny—dylai Aelodau'r meinciau cefn gyflawni eu rôl o roi beirniadaeth adeiladol.

It was with some trepidation that I decided to speak on this issue because I feared that I would be considered a bit prudish. That speaks volumes about the attitude of many people. Please stop sliding over and away from this important issue.

Yr oeddwn braidd yn ansicr pan benderfynais drafod y mater hwn gan fy mod yn ofni y byddwn yn ymddangos braidd yn fursennaidd. Mae hynny'n dweud y cyfan am agwedd llawer o bobl. Mae angen inni roi'r gorau i ddiystyru ac osgoi'r mater pwysig hwn.

Lisa Francis: I thank Janet for highlighting this important issue. The increase in teenage alcoholism makes it essential that every available place in alcohol rehabilitation centres in Wales is kept. We do not have an abundance of them, and the problem is worsening. Rhoserchen Centre, just outside my home town of Aberystwyth, provides rehabilitation and detox services for many people. I believe that it has saved the lives of many of my friends. I am concerned about the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales's standard 18, which is prescriptive and may be applied to this type of care home, which could result in its deregistration. I ask the Minister to consider that standard specifically, because there are three such care homes in Wales providing detox and rehabilitation services and we cannot afford to lose any of them.

Lisa Francis: Diolchaf i Janet am amlygu'r mater pwysig hwn. Mae'r cynnydd mewn alcoholiaeth ymhlith pobl ifanc yn eu harddegau yn golygu ei bod yn hanfodol bod pob lle sydd ar gael mewn canolfannau adsefydlu alcohol yn cael ei gadw. Nid oes gennym lawer ohonynt, ac mae'r broblem yn gwaethygu. Mae Canolfan Rhoserchen, ar gyrion Aberystwyth, lle mae fy nghartref, yn darparu gwasanaethau adsefydlu a dadwenwyno i lawer o bobl. Credaf ei bod wedi achub bywydau llawer o'm ffrindiau. Yr wyf yn pryderu am safon 18 Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru, sy'n nodi gofynion penodedig ac sy'n un y gellir ei chymhwyso i'r math hwn o gartref gofal, a allai arwain at ei ddadgofrestru. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ystyried y safon honno yn benodol, gan fod tri chartref gofal o'r fath yng Nghymru sy'n darparu gwasanaethau dadwenwyno ac adsefydlu ac ni allwn fforddio colli yr un

ohonynt.

John Griffiths: I congratulate Janet on bringing this important issue forward in this short debate. When I was a solicitor, many of the crimes of violence that I dealt with were the result of people drinking alcohol excessively. The people who committed the crimes wished that they had not drunk to excess, as did their victims, and they often could not remember what they had done. It is a big problem in terms of crimes of violence and domestic violence. The drinks industry has a great deal to do to put its house in order. The inducements to drink to excess and to indulge in binge drinking, which are particularly aimed at young people, are disgraceful. At one end of the spectrum there are schemes where you pay a certain amount and drink as much as you like within a specified period of time, and at the other there are happy hours. The drinks industry needs to take a hard look at how it conducts itself and Government needs to take a hard look at how it is regulated and controlled.

Peter Black: I also congratulate Janet on a moving speech and an interesting presentation. The alcohol culture must be tackled. Police officers often say that they would rather face someone who is high on drugs than someone who has been drinking alcohol. As John has said, most violent crime and a great deal of domestic abuse is linked to alcohol. The binge-drinking culture, to which John referred, must be tackled. There must be stronger sanctions against those clubs and pubs that encourage it through the special offers that they introduce. Lisa mentioned Rhoseren Centre and the number of detox beds there. We need to consider the number of detox beds available around Wales. We often discuss drugs and gateway drugs; alcohol is a gateway drug and people who are addicted to it can suffer nasty deaths. We need to provide appropriate treatment and care for them and we need a proper number of beds and facilities available to assist in that.

John Griffiths: Llongyfarchaf Janet ar gyflwyno'r mater pwysig hwn yn y ddadl fer hon. Pan oeddwn yn gyfreithiwr, pobl yn yfed gormod o alcohol oedd yn gyfrifol am lawer o'r troseddau treisgar yr oeddwn yn ymdrin â hwy. Yr oedd yn edifar gan y bobl a gyflawnodd y troseddau eu bod wedi yfed yn ormodol, felly hefyd ddioddefwyr y troseddau, ac yn aml ni allent gofio yr hyn a wnaethant. Mae'n broblem fawr o ran troseddau treisgar a thrais yn y cartref. Mae gan y diwydiant diodydd lawer i'w wneud i roi trefn ar bethau. Mae'r cymhellion i yfed yn ormodol ac i oryfed yn gymdeithasol, sydd wedi'u hanelu'n benodol at bobl ifanc, yn gywilyddus. Ar un pegwn ceir cynlluniau lle y talwch swm penodol i yfed cymaint ag y mynnwch o fewn cyfnod penodol o amser, ac ar y pegwn arall ceir oriau lle y gwerthir diodydd rhad. Mae angen i'r diwydiant diodydd roi ystyriaeth ddifrifol i'w ffordd o weithredu ac mae angen i'r Llywodraeth roi ystyriaeth ddifrifol i'r modd y caiff ei reoleiddio a'i reoli.

Peter Black: Hoffwn innau longyfarch Janet ar araith deimladwy a chyflwyniad diddorol. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r diwylliant alcohol. Dywed swyddogion yr heddlu yn aml y byddai'n well ganddynt wynebu rhywun sydd wedi cymryd cyffuriau na rhywun a fu'n yfed alcohol. Fel y dywedodd John, mae'r rhan fwyaf o droseddau treisgar a chyfran sylweddol o'r achosion o drais yn y cartref yn gysylltiedig ag alcohol. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r diwylliant goryfed yn gymdeithasol, y cyfeiriodd John ato. Rhaid pennu cosbau mwy llym yn erbyn y clybiau a'r tafarndai hynny sy'n ei annog drwy gyflwyno cynigion arbennig. Soniodd Lisa am Ganolfan Rhoseren a nifer y gwelyau dadwenwyno sydd yno. Mae angen inni ystyried nifer y gwelyau dadwenwyno sydd ar gael ledled Cymru. Yr ydym yn aml yn trafod cyffuriau a chyffuriau porth; mae alcohol yn gyffur porth a gall pobl sy'n gaeth iddo ddioddef marwolaeth erchyll. Mae angen inni ddarparu triniaeth a gofal priodol iddynt ac mae angen sicrhau bod nifer briodol o welyau a chyfleusterau ar gael i gynorthwyo yn hynny o beth.

The Minister for Social Justice and Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder

Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I thank Janet for her excellent speech, which vividly illustrated the impact of drinking on society in terms of road accidents, crime, domestic abuse and health—a plethora of issues that impact on us can stem from alcohol abuse. Alcohol has always been included in the Welsh substance misuse strategy, as it is a drug. Tackling alcohol abuse is a key issue for me as an Assembly Minister. I must always aim to promote sensible drinking in the context of a healthy lifestyle.

I gave the 22 community safety partnerships in Wales responsibility for taking forward the Welsh strategy in April 2003. They put together action plans, based on a thorough assessment of existing services and local need, and I insisted that measures to tackle alcohol problems were included. They are now putting together three-year plans, which, again, must include alcohol issues. Those plans will help us to assess what the provision is across Wales, and, perhaps, what more needs to be done. To some extent we are ahead of the game, as the English alcohol harm reduction strategy was only published earlier this year—it has a wider remit than ours, because it covers those matters that are not devolved to Wales, for example, licensing and advertising, to which I will return. I support the approach that has been taken, and the Assembly will contribute to the work that is being taken forward.

As you know, licensing is not devolved to Wales, but I am keen to ensure that any of the new laws that clamp down on crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour—particularly with regard to alcohol abuse—are upheld in Wales. I meet the chief constables regularly and we have discussed measures to tackle alcohol-related crime, including the impact of these new laws. I will certainly take up the points about drinking and driving that Janet made with senior police officers. For the last few years I have supported the Welsh police forces' Christmas spiked drinks campaign, and I was pleased that they also included

Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Diolchaf i Janet am ei haraith ardderchog, a lwyddodd i ddangos effaith yfed ar gymdeithas o ran damweiniau ar y ffordd, troseddau, trais yn y cartref ac iechyd—amrywiaeth o faterion sy'n effeithio arnom a all ddeillio o gamddefnyddio alcohol. Cynhwyswyd alcohol bob tro yn strategaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau Cymru, gan mai cyffur ydyw. Mae mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio alcohol yn fater allweddol imi fel Gweinidog y Cynulliad. Rhaid imi anelu bob tro at hyrwyddo yfed synhwyrol yn nghyd-destun ffordd o fyw iach.

Rhoddais gyfrifoldeb i'r 22 o bartneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol yng Nghymru dros ddatblygu strategaeth Cymru ym mis Ebrill 2003. Bu iddynt lunio cynlluniau gweithredu, yn seiliedig ar asesiad trwyadl o'r gwasanaethau sy'n bodoli eisoes a'r angen lleol, a mynnais fod mesurau i fynd i'r afael â phroblemau yn ymwneud ag alcohol yn cael eu cynnwys. Maent bellach wrthi'n llunio cynlluniau tair blynedd y mae'n rhaid iddynt, unwaith eto, gynnwys materion sy'n ymwneud ag alcohol. Bydd y cynlluniau hynny yn ein helpu i asesu'r ddarpariaeth ledled Cymru, ac, efallai, beth yn rhagor y mae angen ei wneud. I ryw raddau yr ydym ar y blaen, gan mai dim ond yn gynharach eleni y cyhoeddwyd strategaeth lleihau niwed alcohol Lloegr—mae ganddi gylch gwaith ehangach na'n strategaeth ni, gan ei bod yn cwmpasu'r materion hynny nad ydynt wedi'u datganoli i Gymru, er enghraifft, trwyddedu a hysbysebu, y dychwelaf atynt. Cefnogaf yr ymagwedd a fabwysiadwyd, a bydd y Cynulliad yn cyfrannu at y gwaith sy'n mynd rhagddo.

Fel y gwyddoch, nid yw trwyddedu yn fater sydd wedi'i ddatganoli i Gymru, ond yr wyf yn awyddus i sicrhau y caiff unrhyw rai o'r cyfreithiau newydd sy'n anelu at leihau troseddau, anhrefn ac ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol—yn arbennig o ran camddefnyddio alcohol—eu parchu yng Nghymru. Cynhaliad gyfarfodydd rheolaidd gyda'r prif gwnstablaiad a thrafodwn fesurau i fynd i'r afael â throseddau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol, gan gynnwys effaith y cyfreithiau newydd hyn. Yn sicr, cyflwynaf y pwyntiau a wnaeth Janet am yfed a gyrru i uwch swyddogion yr heddlu. Dros yr ychydig

warnings about the risks of binge drinking last year. I would be more than happy to support this again on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government.

On advertising, I am concerned about how alcohol is advertised and portrayed, particularly on television. I was pleased that the Assembly Government was given the opportunity to comment on Ofcom's consultation on alcohol advertising on television. We took a robust line in the comments that we made on each of the proposals, but our final response went one step further—we have made it clear that we would prefer alcohol advertising to be banned altogether, like cigarette advertising.

I must also comment on the role of the alcohol industry. I make no secret of the fact that I feel that the alcohol industry has a key role to play in tackling alcohol problems. The various drink promotions that have been mentioned by Members, such as happy hours and two-for-the-price-of-one offers, particularly in our city centres, encourage the binge-drinking culture. This needs to be tackled with the industry itself. I am keen to support initiatives that seek to promote a sensible approach to drinking alcohol.

I say to Members that have commented that I will check the Record for any other points that may have been made, and I will respond to them. I am grateful to Janet for bringing this debate forward today. This alcohol culture needs to be tackled. It has a massive impact on families and communities, and we need to do what we can in Wales, within our legislative framework, but, unfortunately, some of this is outside our hands.

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

flynyddoedd diwethaf, bûm yn cefnogi ymgyrch diodydd diogel digyffur y Nadolig heddluoedd Cymru, ac yr oeddwn yn falch o weld iddynt gynnwys rhybuddion am beryglon goryfed yn gymdeithasol hefyd y llynedd. Byddwn yn fwy na pharod i'w chefnogi eto ar ran Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

O ran hysbysebu, yr wyf yn pryderu ynglŷn â sut y caiff alcohol ei hysbysebu a'i bortredu, yn arbennig ar y teledu. Yr oeddwn yn falch i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gael cyfle i gyflwyno sylwadau ar ymgyngoriad Ofcom ar hysbysebu alcohol ar y teledu. Cyflwynwyd sylwadau cadarn gennym ar bob un o'r cynigion, ond aeth ein hymateb terfynol gam ymhellach—eglwyrwyd y byddai'n well gennym pe bai hysbysebion alcohol yn cael eu gwahardd yn gyfan gwbl, fel hysbysebion sigarêts.

Rhaid imi hefyd sôn am rôl y diwydiant alcohol. Nid yw'n gyfrinach fy mod o'r farn bod gan y diwydiant alcohol ran allweddol i'w chwarae wrth fynd i'r afael â phroblemau sy'n ymwneud ag alcohol. Mae'r amrywiol ddigwyddiadau hyrwyddo diodydd a grybwyllwyd gan Aelodau, megis oriau gwerthu diodydd rhad a chynigion dau-ambris-un, yn arbennig yng nghanol ein dinasoedd, yn annog y diwylliant goryfed yn gymdeithasol. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â hyn gyda'r diwydiant ei hun. Yr wyf yn awyddus i gefnogi mentrau sy'n ceisio hyrwyddo ymagwedd synhwyrol tuag at yfed alcohol.

Dywedaf wrth yr Aelodau sydd wedi cyflwyno sylwadau y byddaf yn edrych ar y Cofnod i nodi unrhyw bwyntiau eraill a wnaed, ac yn ymateb iddynt. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Janet am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon heddiw. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â'r diwylliant alcohol hwn. Mae ei effaith ar deuluoedd a chymunedau yn aruthrol, ac mae angen inni wneud popeth o fewn ein gallu yng Nghymru, o fewn ein fframwaith deddfwriaethol, ond, yn anffodus, mae rhywfaint o hyn y tu hwnt i'n rheolaeth.

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

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.27 p.m.

The meeting ended at 5.27 p.m.

Aelodau a'u Pleidiau
Members and their Parties

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
 Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
 Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
 Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
 Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Glyn (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin (Llafur - Labour)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Essex, Sue (Llafur – Labour)
 Francis, Lisa (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
 Gwyther, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Idris Jones, Denise (Llafur – Labour)
 Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Laura Anne (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Law, Peter (Llafur – Labour)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Marek, John (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
 Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
 Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
 Pugh, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
 Randerson, Jenny (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Ryder, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)
 Sinclair, Karen (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Catherine (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Owen John (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)