



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

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

Dydd Mawrth, 11 Ionawr 2005

Tuesday, 11 January 2005

**Cynnwys
Contents**

- | | |
|----|--|
| 3 | Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog
Questions to the First Minister |
| 22 | Cwestiwn Brys: Colli Swyddi yn Nglyn Ebwy a Blaenau Gwent
Urgent Question: Job Losses in Ebbw Vale and Blaenau Gwent |
| 28 | Datganiad ar y Tswnami
Statement on the Tsunami |
| 48 | Datganiad ar y Llifogydd yng Ngogledd Cymru
Statement on the Flooding in North Wales |
| 56 | Datganiad yn Hysbysu'r Cynulliad am Newidiadau i'r Cabinet
Statement Notifying the Assembly of Changes to the Cabinet |
| 69 | Datganiad Busnes
Business Statement |
| 74 | Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Addysg (Gwybodaeth am Ddisgyblion Unigol) (Cymru)
(Diwygio) 2005
Approval of the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (Wales)
(Amendment) Regulations 2005 |
| 75 | Dirprwyo'r Swyddogaethau yn Neddf Argyfyngau Sifil 2004, neu o Dan y Ddeddf
Honno, i'r Prif Weinidog
Delegate Functions in or Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to the First Minister |
| 82 | Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru (Swyddogaethau
Ychwanegol) 2005
Approval of the General Teaching Council for Wales (Additional Functions) Order
2005 |
| 85 | Dadl Plaid Leiafrifol (Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales): Tai
Minority Party Debate (Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales): Housing |

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

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

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

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Y Diwydiant Llaeth The Dairy Industry

Q1 Mick Bates: Will the First Minister make a statement on the dairy industry in Wales? OAQ0014(FM)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): Blwyddyn newydd dda. I recognise that there are significant difficulties with low farm-gate prices for the Welsh dairy industry. We are not involved in the commercial negotiations that settle the price of milk or other agricultural commodities: our strategy focuses on adding value to Welsh milk by developing milk-based products that compete on quality and are well-branded.

Mick Bates: Blwyddyn newydd dda i chi. As someone who believes in fairness, you must be aware that supermarket profits on milk have risen from 3 per cent in 1995 to 28 per cent today. Despite your encouragement of added-value products, it is not being borne out in the Welsh milk industry. It appears that your Government has been negligent. In England and Scotland, investment has been made to encourage farmers to co-operate and meet the international pressures on the industry. What is your Government doing to help the industry compete with the international competitors who have support from their Governments?

The First Minister: We welcome the proposal from farmer co-operatives and the support organisations to increase the return to milk producers by 1.5p per litre, which would take the price up to just over 21p per litre. You will be aware of the £36.3 million investment in the dairy sector that we have managed to promote through good use of the processing and marketing grants. Grant recipients include South Caernarfonshire

C1 Mick Bates: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad ar y diwydiant llaeth yng Nghymru? OAQ0014(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Blwyddyn newydd dda. Cydnabyddaf fod y diwydiant llaeth yng Nghymru'n profi anawsterau sylweddol o ran prisiau isel wrth lidiart y fferm. Nid ydym yn ymwneud â'r negodiadau masnachol sy'n pennu pris llaeth neu nwyddau amaethyddol eraill: mae ein strategaeth yn canolbwyntio ar ychwanegu gwerth at laeth Cymru drwy ddatblygu cynhyrchion sy'n seiliedig ar laeth sy'n cystadlu ar sail ansawdd ac sydd wedi'u brandio'n dda.

Mick Bates: Blwyddyn newydd dda i chi. Fel un sy'n credu mewn tegwch, yr ydych yn sier o fod yn ymwybodol bod yr elw a gaiff archfarchnadoedd ar laeth wedi codi o 3 y cant yn 1995 i 28 y cant heddiw. Er gwaethaf eich cefnogaeth ar gyfer cynhyrchion sydd â gwerth ychwanegol, nid yw hynny'n dwyn ffrwyth yn y diwydiant llaeth yng Nghymru. Ymddengys y bu eich Llywodraeth yn esgeulus. Yn Lloegr a'r Alban, cafwyd buddsoddi i annog ffermwyr i gydweithredu ac ymateb i'r pwysau rhyngwladol sydd ar y diwydiant. Pa gamau y mae'ch Llywodraeth yn eu cymryd i helpu'r diwydiant i gystadlu â'r cwmnïau rhyngwladol sy'n cael cymorth gan eu Llywodraethau?

Y Prif Weinidog: Croesawn y cynnig gan fusnesau cydweithredol ffermwyr a'r cyrff cefnogol i gael 1.5c y litr yn fwy o elw i gynhyrchwyr llaeth, a fyddai'n codi y pris i ychydig yn fwy na 21c y litr. Gwyddoch am y buddsoddiad o £36.3 miliwn yn y sector llaeth yr ydym wedi llwyddo i'w hyrwyddo drwy wneud defnydd da o'r grantiau prosesu a marchnata. Ymysg y rhai sydd wedi derbyn grantiau y mae Hufenfa De Arfon, Caws

Creameries, Aeron Valley Cheese and Rachel's Dairy in Aberystwyth, which I visited just before Christmas.

Dyffryn Aeron a Rachel's Dairy yn Aberystwyth, yr ymwelais ag ef ychydig cyn y Nadolig.

Helen Mary Jones: Does your Government acknowledge that there is a crisis in the dairy industry in Wales? It is not a devolved matter, but would you be prepared to talk to Westminster Government Ministers about whether supermarkets' power over the milk industry falls foul of the competition regulations, and would you consider supporting Simon Thomas MP's call for a milk ombudsman to regulate milk pricing systems in Wales and across the UK, or at least to make them more transparent?

Helen Mary Jones: A yw'ch Llywodraeth yn cydnabod bod argyfwng yn y diwydiant llaeth yng Nghymru? Nid yw'n fater sydd wedi'i ddatganoli, ond a fydddech yn barod i siarad â Gweinidogion Llywodraeth San Steffan ynghylch a yw pwerau archfarchnadoedd dros y diwydiant llaeth yn groes i'r rheoliadau ar gystadlu, ac a ystyriech gefnogi'r alwad gan Simon Thomas AS am gael ombwdsmon llaeth i reoleiddio systemau prisio llaeth yng Nghymru a ledled y DU, neu i'w gwneud yn fwy tryloyw o leiaf?

The First Minister: There is an ongoing process of mergers of dairy farms in order to improve the bargaining strength of individual farmers in competing with and selling to big supermarket buyers and the intermediaries, the wholesalers. We recognise that, on their own, even the biggest farms with 3,000 dairy cows milked every day, will never have the same power as the agencies and intermediary bodies or big supermarket buyers. That is why farm co-operatives are the answer and why I welcome the recent proposal from the farmer co-operatives and support organisations that would result in an increase of 1.5p per litre for dairy producers.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ceir proses o gyfuno rhwng ffermydd llaeth sy'n mynd rhagddi ar hyn o bryd er mwyn rhoi hwb i allu ffermwyr unigol i fargeinio wrth gystadlu â phrynwyr yr archfarchnadoedd mawr a'r rhai yn y canol, y cyfanwerthwyr, ac wrth werthu iddynt. Yr ydym yn cydnabod na fydd hyd yn oed y ffermydd mwyaf sy'n godro 3,000 o wartheg llaeth bob diwrnod, byth yn meddu, ar eu pennau eu hunain, ar yr un grym ag sydd gan yr asiantaethau a'r cyrff rhyngol neu brynwyr yr archfarchnadoedd mawr. Dyna pam mai busnesau fferm cydweithredol sy'n cynnig yr ateb a pham y croesawaf y cynnig diweddar gan fusnesau cydweithredol ffermwyr a'r cyrff cefnogol a ddeuai â 1.5c y litr yn fwy i gynhyrchwyr llaeth.

William Graham: You remarked on the low price for milk. Would you reconsider the necessary finance for the required testing of post-1996 cattle so that they can be introduced into the food chain?

William Graham: Gwnaethoch sylw am bris isel llaeth. A wnewch ailystyried y cyllid sydd ei angen ar gyfer y profion gorfodol ar wartheg a aned ar ôl 1996 fel y gellir eu cyflwyno i'r gadwyn fwyd?

The First Minister: That is a slightly different issue, but I will look into that matter and get Carwyn Jones to write to you on whether there would be some value to be had from that, and whether that would improve the return to farmers. It would be extremely difficult to devise a structure in any part of the United Kingdom or any part of the European Union that targeted the price of milk or any other agricultural commodity. If there is a surplus, supermarkets can drive the price down; if there is a shortage—which does happen at certain times of the year—the

Y Prif Weinidog: Mater braidd yn wahanol yw hwnnw, ond ymchwiliat i hynny a chael Carwyn Jones i ysgrifennu atoch ynghylch a fyddai unrhyw fudd yn hynny, ac a ddeuai hynny â mwy o elw i ffermwyr. Tra anodd fyddai dyfeisio trefniadau mewn unrhyw ran o'r Deyrnas Unedig neu unrhyw ran o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd a fyddai'n targedu pris llaeth neu unrhyw nwydd amaethyddol arall. Os oes gorgynhyrchu, gall archfarchnadoedd yrru'r pris i lawr; os oes prinder—fel y ceir ar rai adegau o'r flwyddyn—bydd y pris yn tueddu i godi. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw sicrhau

price will tend to go up. What is important is to get parity of bargaining strength between sellers and buyers. The only way that farmers will come close to the bargaining strength of the supermarket purchasers or wholesalers is through banding together into farm co-operatives.

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiwn 2, OAQ0029(FM), yn ôl.

bod grym bargeinio'r gwerthwyr a'r prynwyr yn gyfartal. Yr unig ffordd y daw ffermwyr yn agos at gael y grym bargeinio sydd gan brynwyr yr archfarchnadoedd neu gyfanwerthwyr yw drwy ddod at ei gilydd mewn busnesau fferm cydweithredol.

The Presiding Officer: Question 2, OAQ0029(FM), has been withdrawn.

Bwlio mewn Ysgolion Bullying in Schools

Q3 Janet Ryder: How is the Government addressing the problem of bullying in schools? OAQ0019(FM)

The First Minister: The Assembly Government issued guidance called 'Respecting Others: Anti-bullying guidance' to all local education authorities and schools in Wales in September 2003, which aimed to provide information on tackling bullying in schools. Jane Davidson followed this up on 24 November 2004, asking all schools to send in a copy of their anti-bullying policy, to see how well they complied with the guidance.

Janet Ryder: As you said, all schools must have policies in place but, unfortunately, there are still too many incidences of bullying. I understand that it is the responsibility of governing bodies to monitor that anti-bullying policies are working properly and are accepted. Do you receive regular reports from governing bodies to ensure that they are monitoring how anti-bullying policies are implemented?

The First Minister: That is an interesting idea. We are assessing the replies that we have received from schools across Wales, which are patchy and variable. Some have clearly taken this seriously, while others have not yet done so—they will be prompted to do so. We will assess the replies that we have received from schools to see whether they comply with the policy set out in 'Respecting Others'. It is an important issue, and I pay tribute to my constituent, Delwyn Tatum, one of the world's authorities on combating bullying in schools, who has been badgering me on this issue since I became a Member of

C3 Janet Ryder: Sut mae'r Llywodraeth yn mynd i'r afael â phroblem bwlio mewn ysgolion? OAQ0019(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Rhoddodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ganllawiau o'r enw 'Parchu Eraill: Canllawiau gwrth-fwlio' i'r holl awdurdodau addysg lleol ac ysgolion yng Nghymru ym mis Medi 2003, a oedd â'r bwriad o gynnig gwybodaeth am sut i fynd i'r afael â bwlio mewn ysgolion. Cymerodd Jane Davidson gamau pellach ar hynny ar 24 Tachwedd 2004, gan ofyn i'r holl ysgolion anfon copi o'u polisi gwrth-fwlio, i weld i ba raddau yr oeddent yn cydymffurfio â'r canllawiau.

Janet Ryder: Fel y dywedasoeh, rhaid i bob ysgol roi polisi ar waith ond, gwaetha'r modd, ceir gormod o lawer o achosion o fwlio o hyd. Deallaf mai cyfrifoldeb cyrrff llywodraethu yw monitro bod polisïau gwrth-fwlio'n gweithio'n iawn a'u bod wedi'u derbyn. A ydych yn cael adroddiadau rheolaidd oddi wrth gyrff llywodraethu i sicrhau eu bod yn cadw golwg ar y modd y caiff polisïau gwrth-fwlio eu rhoi ar waith?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwnnw'n syniad diddorol. Yr ydym yn asesu'r atebion a gawsom oddi wrth ysgolion ledled Cymru, sy'n fylchog ac yn amrywiol. Mae'n amlwg bod rhai ohonynt wedi cymryd hyn o ddifrif, tra ceir eraill sydd heb wneud hynny eto—fe'u cymhellir i wneud hynny. Byddwn yn asesu'r atebion a gawsom oddi wrth ysgolion i weld a ydynt yn cydymffurfio â'r polisi a nodwyd yn 'Parchu Eraill'. Mae'n bwnc pwysig, a thalaf deyrnged i un o'm hetholwyr, Delwyn Tatum, un o'r awdurdodau mwyaf yn y byd ar fynd i'r afael â bwlio mewn ysgolion, a fu'n fy mhlagio

Parliament almost 18 years ago.

ynghylch y mater hwn ers imi ddod yn Aelod Seneddol bron 18 mlynedd yn ôl.

Denise Idris Jones: I welcome your comments. Would you agree that every school should ensure that its anti-bullying policy is effective and peer-led, and takes full advantage of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children's offer of workshops, advice and assistance? More work is being undertaken to understand and combat bullying in schools. I look forward to the findings and recommendations of the Children's Commissioner for Wales's review of this matter. Recent research has demonstrated that a number of young people who bully may be exposed to aggressive or abusive behaviour at home. In light of this evidence, would you agree that it is important that Welsh Assembly Government policy includes help and assistance in identifying bullies who may be victims of domestic abuse?

The First Minister: That is true; everybody would confirm that. Studying what it is about the personality or home background of the bully that makes them behave that way can be as important as the assistance and support given to the boy or girl bullied. We must never be complacent about this. There is best practice to be found, and schools should never throw up their hands in horror and say, 'Well, bullying always takes place'. Best practice is available which will help schools to devise the right policies for combating bullying. It is important that they do that. We are in the middle of the assessment stage at the moment. We will see which schools take this seriously, which take it seriously but do not follow best practice, and which schools are actively dealing with this problem, and have it under control.

Denise Idris Jones: Croesawaf eich sylwadau. A gytunech y dylai pob ysgol sicrhau bod ei pholisi gwrth-fwlio'n effeithiol ac yn cael ei arwain gan gymheiriaid, a'i bod yn manteisio'n llawn ar gynnig y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol er Atal Creulondeb i Blant o weithdai, cyngor a chymorth? Gwneir rhagor o waith i ddeall a mynd i'r afael â bwlio mewn ysgolion. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld y darganfyddiadau a'r argymhellion yn adolygiad Comisiynydd Plant Cymru o'r mater hwn. Mae ymchwil ddiweddar wedi dangos y gall rhai o'r bobl ifanc sy'n bwlio fod yn rhai sy'n agored i ymddygiad ymosodol neu ddifrifol yn eu cartrefi. Yng ngoleuni'r dystiolaeth hon, a gytunech ei bod yn bwysig bod polisi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n cynnwys cymorth i ganfod plant sy'n bwlio a allai fod yn dioddef gan gamdriniaeth yn y cartref?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n wir; byddai pawb yn cadarnhau hynny. Mae astudio'r hyn sydd ym mhersonoliaeth neu gefndir cartref y bwli sy'n peri iddo ymddwyn fel y mae yn gallu bod cyn bwysiced â'r cymorth a'r gefnogaeth a roddir i'r bachgen neu'r ferch a gaiff ei fwlio. Ni ddylem byth fod yn ddifater am hyn. Gellir darganfod yr arferion gorau, ac ni ddylai ysgolion byth codi eu dwylo mewn arswyd a dweud, 'Wel, mae bwlio'n digwydd bob amser'. Mae'r arferion gorau ar gael a fydd yn helpu ysgolion i ddyfeisio'r polisiau iawn i fynd i'r afael â bwlio. Mae'n bwysig iddynt wneud hynny. Yr ydym ar ganol y cyfnod asesu ar hyn o bryd. Gwelwn ba ysgolion sy'n cymryd hyn o ddifrif, pa rai sy'n ei gymryd o ddifrif ond sydd heb ddilyn yr arferion gorau, a pha ysgolion sy'n mynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon, ac sydd wedi cael rheolaeth arni.

Gwerth Ychwanegol Crynswth Gross Value Added

C4 Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar lefelau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth yng Nghymru? OAQ0018(FM)

Q4 The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Will the Minister make a statement on gross value added levels in Wales? OAQ0018(FM)

Q8 Jenny Randerson: Will the First Minister make a statement on the latest

C8 Jenny Randerson: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y ffigurau gwerth

regional gross value added figures?
OAQ0008(FM)

ychwanegol crynswth rhanbarthol
diweddaraf? OAQ0008(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Ar 22 Rhagfyr, cyhoeddwyd, am y tro cyntaf, y ffigurau penodol ar GVA—yr enw newydd ar GDP—sef gwerth ychwanegol crynswth. Yr hyn a ddangosodd y ffigurau hynny oedd pa mor dda y perfformiodd economi Cymru yn ystod 2003, gyda chynnydd o 6 y cant yn ein heconomi ni o'i gymharu â chynnydd o 5 y cant yn economi gweddill y Deyrnas Unedig. Un rhanbarth yn unig o'r Deyrnas Unedig a berfformiodd yn well na Chymru, sef dwyrain canolbarth Lloegr, lle gwelwyd cynnydd o 6.3 y cant.

The First Minister: On 22 December, for the first time, specific figures were published on GVA—the new name for GDP—which stands for 'gross value added'. Those figures illustrated how well the Welsh economy performed during 2003, with growth of 6 per cent in our economy compared with growth of 5 per cent in the economy of the United Kingdom as a whole. Only one region of the United Kingdom out-performed Wales, namely the English East Midlands, which experienced growth of 6.3 per cent.

2.10 p.m.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn deall pam ydych am roi'r *gloss* mwyaf ffafriol ar y ffigurau hyn, ond y realiti yw mai'r ffigurau isaf ym Mhrydain ydynt bellach. Maent hyd yn oed yn waeth na ffigurau gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr, gydag Ynys Môn, yn anffodus, ar waelod y rhestr. Mae tri o'r pump ardal gyda'r ffigurau isaf bellach yng Nghymru. Onid yw hynny'n dangos methiant llwyr eich polisi economaidd, yn arbennig yn ardal Amcan 1?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I understand why you want to put the most favourable gloss on these figures, but the reality is that they are now the worst figures in Britain. They are even worse than those for the north-east of England, with Anglesey, unfortunately, at the bottom of the list. Three of the five areas with the worst figures are now in Wales. Does that not highlight the abject failure of your economic policy, particularly in the Objective 1 area?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn hollol anghywir. Nid *gloss* ydoedd. Darllenais allan bron yn union yr hyn a ddywedodd y *Financial Times* ar y mater, felly nid fy ngeirau i oeddynt i raddau helaeth. Yr oeddwn ond yn ailadrodd dehongliad y *Financial Times*. Os oes gloss gennyf fi, mae'r un gloss gan y *Financial Times*.

The First Minister: You are completely wrong. It was not gloss. I read out almost exactly what the *Financial Times* had to say about the situation, so they were not, for the most part, my words. I was just reflecting the interpretation of the *Financial Times*. If I am putting a gloss on it, so is the *Financial Times*.

Yr ydych yn cymysgu ffigurau 2003 am ranbarthoedd a gwledydd y Deyrnas Unedig, sydd yn ffigurau sydd ar gael am y tro cyntaf erioed, gyda'r ffigurau am awdurdodau lleol neu ranbarthau Cymru, a ffigurau 2002 yn unig sydd gennym am y rheiny. Dangosodd y ffigurau am y tro cyntaf bod pethau wedi sefydlogi yng Nghymru, yn dilyn dirwyriad y degawd neu ddau ddegawd diwethaf, ers i'r Cynulliad ddod i fodolaeth ac ers Amcan 1. Mae'r codiad ar yr ochr bellaf i'r sefydlogi hyn wedi dechrau, a dylem i gyd groesawu'r ffigurau sydd yn dangos y codiad.

You are confusing the 2003 figures for the regions and countries of the UK, which are available for the first time ever, with the figures for local authorities or regions of Wales for which we only have the 2002 figures. The figures showed for the first time that, following the decline of the last decade or two, things have stabilised in Wales since the Assembly came into existence and since Objective 1. The upturn at the other end of that stabilisation has started, and we should all welcome these figures, which show the increase.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae'n amlwg nad ydych

Ieuan Wyn Jones: It is clear that you do not

yn dehongli'r ffigurau fel y byddai rhywun arall yn eu dehongli. Yr wyf wedi dweud wrthy ch fod y sefyllfa yn waeth yn ardal Amcan 1. Yn 1995, yr oedd cyfartaledd dwyrain Cymru o gynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen Prydain yn 101 y cant. Ar gyfer y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, yr oedd yn 101 y cant. Yr oedd ffigurau ardal Amcan 1 yn 1995 yn 74 y cant, a bellach maent yn 65 y cant. Felly, tra bod y sefyllfa yn nwyrain Cymru wedi aros yr un peth, mae'r sefyllfa yn ardal Amcan 1 wedi dirywio. Sut y gallwch ddehongli hynny fel llwyddiant?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn cymysgu 2003 gyda 2002. Mae gennym y ffigurau am Gymru ar gyfer 2003. Mae'r ffigurau am is-ranbarthoedd Cymru ar gyfer y flwyddyn cyn hynny. Maent yn dangos bod y sefyllfa, wedi'r dirywio, yn sefydlogi a bod y cynnydd wedi dechrau ar yr ochr bellaf.

O ran rhanbarthoedd Cymru, mae'n llawer anos i gael ffigurau nad ydynt yn dueddol o ddangos beth sydd yn digwydd o ran cymudo ar draws y ffin rhwng yr ardal Amcan 1 a'r ardaloedd nad ydynt o fewn Amcan 1, ac hefyd lle bod llawer o bensiynwyr yn byw. Mae hynny'n gwasgu'r lefel o GVA y pen i lawr. Gwelwch yr un ffenomenon yng Nghernyw ag yr ydych yn ei weld mewn ardaloedd gwledig yng Nghymru, megis Ynys Môn, lle mae llawer o gymudo ar draws y ffin rhwng Ynys Môn a Gwynedd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr ydych yn gweithio'n galed i geisio ein argyhoeddi, ond yr ydych yn methu'n llwyr. Mae'r ffigurau hyn yn siarad drostynt eu hunain. Pa bynnag ffordd yr ydych yn dehongli'r ffigurau, mae'r rhai ar gyfer ardal Amcan 1 yn waeth, ym mhob blwyddyn lle y cafwyd Llywodraeth Lafur, nag oeddynt yn 1995 a 1996—maent wedi dirywio bob blwyddyn. Dyna'r realiti. Pan sefydlwyd eich Llywodraeth, dywedaso ch eich bod am osod targed o sicrhau bod CMC y pen Cymru yn 90 y cant o gyfartaledd Prydain erbyn 2010. Onid yw hynny bellach yn freuddwyd gwrach ac onid yw'n amser ichi adolygu'r fformiwla hwnnw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych wedi mynd yn ôl at y ffigurau i Gymru gyfan am 2003, oherwydd bod eich dadl ynglŷn â'r ffigurau am is-ranbarthoedd Cymru wedi methu. Yr

interpret the figures as others would. I have told you that the situation is worse in the Objective 1 area. In 1995, eastern Wales averaged 101 per cent per capita of British gross domestic product. Last year, it was 101 per cent. The figures for the Objective 1 area in 1995 were 74 per cent, and they are now 65 per cent. Therefore, while the situation in eastern Wales has remained unchanged, the situation in the Objective 1 area has deteriorated. How can you interpret that as being a success?

The First Minister: You are confusing 2003 with 2002. We have the figures for Wales for 2003. The figures for the sub-regions within Wales are for the preceding year. They demonstrate that, following a period of decline, things have now stabilised, and are now starting to improve.

AS for regions within Wales, it is far more difficult to obtain figures that do not tend to reflect what is happening in terms of commuting across the border between the Objective 1 area and areas that are not within Objective 1 and also where many pensioners live. That has depressed the level of GVA per capita. You will see the same phenomenon in Cornwall as you see in rural areas of Wales, such as Anglesey, where there is a great deal of commuting across the bridge between Anglesey and Gwynedd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: You are working hard to try to convince us, but you are failing miserably. These figures speak for themselves. However you interpret the figures, those for the Objective 1 area are worse, in every year of having a Labour Government, than they were in 1995 and 1996—they have fallen every year. That is the reality. When your Government came to power, you said that you wanted to set a target of ensuring that Wales's GDP per capita was 90 per cent of the UK average by 2010. Is that not now a pipe dream and is it not time that you reviewed that formula?

The First Minister: You have gone back to the all-Wales figures for 2003, because your argument with regard to the figures for the sub-regions of Wales has failed. We are back

ydym yn mynd yn ôl at y dehongliad. Mae fy nhehongliad i yr un dehongliad yn union ag un y *Financial Times*. Nid oes pwynt siarad am roi *gloss* ar y sefyllfa pan yr ydych yn darllen yn y *Financial Times* yr un dehongliad yn union ag yr ydych wedi ei gael oddi wrthyf fi. Gwelaf nad ydych yn ceisio gwadu ei fod yr un dehongliad yn union â'r un yn y *Financial Times*. Mae hynny'n dangos, wedi'r dirywiad yn GVA cymharol Cymru dros ddegawd a hanner, fod pethau wedi sefydlogi yn ystod blynyddoedd cynnar y Cynulliad, ac yr ydym wedi gweld cynnydd. Yr ydym wedi perfformio'n dda ac mae'r ffigurau'n hollol glir—bu cynnydd o 6 y cant yn economi Cymru yn ystod 2003. Mae hynny'n well nag unrhyw ranbarth o'r Deyrnas Unedig, heblaw am ddwyrain canolbarth Lloegr.

Jenny Randerson: Whether you take the 2002 or 2003 figures, they still show an economy overwhelmingly dominated by London, and one where Wales is at the bottom of the league. Other figures for unemployment and economic inactivity in recent months have shown that after a period of optimism in 2003 and the early part of 2004, the economy appears to be stalling and running out of steam. First Minister, how will you change your policy on manufacturing, which is so important to our economy, to ensure that progress on GVA levels is maintained in the future?

The First Minister: If you consider the unemployment figures, which are a major component of GVA in Wales, you will find that from the time that we took over responsibility in 1999, the level of unemployment in Wales, as calculated by the International Labour Organisation—an internationally-accepted count—was 30 per cent higher than the United Kingdom average. Although unemployment in the UK has come down a lot, we have overtaken it in the fast lane. Having been 30 per cent higher, our figures are now lower than the United Kingdom unemployment figures. That will eventually show up, although there will be differences if much of our employment is made up of lower wages on average than those in London, the south-east and the City, where there are company headquarters and so

to the interpretation. My interpretation is exactly the same as that of the *Financial Times*. There is no point in talking about putting a gloss on things when you read in the *Financial Times* exactly the same interpretation as you have heard from me. I see that you are not trying to deny that it is exactly the same interpretation as that in the *Financial Times*. That clearly shows that, following the decline in Wales's comparative GVA over the last decade and a half, the situation has stabilised during the early years of the Assembly, and we have now seen an increase. We have performed well and the figures are clear—there was growth of 6 per cent in the Welsh economy during 2003. That is better than any other region of the United Kingdom, apart from the East Midlands.

Jenny Randerson: Pa un a gymerir y ffigurau am 2002 neu'r rhai am 2003, maent yn dal i ddangos economi sy'n cael ei llwyr dra-arglwyddiaethu gan Lundain, ac un lle y mae Cymru ar waelod y gynghrair. Mae ffigurau eraill am ddiweithdra ac anweithgarwch economaidd yn y misoedd diwethaf wedi dangos, ar ôl cyfnod gobeithiol yn 2003 a dechrau 2004, ei bod yn ymddangos bod yr economi yn arafu ac yn diffygio. Brif Weinidog, sut y newidiwch eich polisi ar weithgynhyrchu, sydd mor bwysig i'n heconomi, i sicrhau y gwneir cynnydd ar lefelau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth yn y dyfodol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Os ystyriwch y ffigurau diweithdra, sy'n elfen bwysig mewn gwerth ychwanegol crynswth yng Nghymru, gwelwch fod lefel diweithdra yng Nghymru, fel y'i cyfrifir gan y Corff Llafur Rhyngwladol—dull cyfrif a dderbynnir yn rhyngwladol—o'r adeg y cymerasom gyfrifoldeb yn 1999, yn 30 y cant yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Er bod diweithdra yn y DU wedi gostwng yn sylweddol, yr ydym ni wedi rhagori arni. A ninnau wedi bod yn 30 y cant yn uwch, mae ein ffigurau diweithdra ni'n is yn awr na rhai'r Deyrnas Unedig. Daw hynny i'r amlwg yn y diwedd, er y ceir gwahaniaethau os bydd llawer o'n cyflogaeth yn cynnwys cyflogau sy'n is ar gyfartaledd na'r rhai yn Llundain, yn ne-ddwyrain Lloegr ac yn y Ddinas, lle y ceir pencadlysoedd cwmnïau ac

on. The important issue, therefore, is to get transformational investments into the Welsh economy, which will tackle that differential. To illustrate what a wonderful start to 2005 we have had on that front, IBM, in conjunction with the Assembly and the new clinical school at the University of Wales, Swansea, has announced investment of £50 million. That will probably do more to transform the international competitiveness and perceptions of the Welsh economy, in terms of the drive into the knowledge economy, than any other investment in the last half century.

Alun Cairns: I cannot believe the First Minister's audacity in seeking to put a positive spin on these figures. I note that he quoted the *Financial Times*, but it is also worth reporting to the Chamber that a journalist from the *Financial Times* had a private briefing with the First Minister before Christmas. The stark reality is that the First Minister must realise that Wales is the poorest part of the United Kingdom, and that per capita figures in west Wales and the Valleys were 74 per cent in 1995, and are now down to 65 per cent. That is the stark result of the failure of the First Minister's policies. He sacked the Minister for Health and Social Services yesterday because of her failure to realise policies, so is it not time for him to sack the Minister for Economic Development and Transport?

The First Minister: Happy new year, Mr Misery-index. It does not matter how much the opposition parties—the Liberal Democrats, Plaid Cymru or the Conservatives—try to claim that an arrow pointing upwards is an arrow pointing downwards, you cannot change the iron laws of mathematics, Alun. A 6 per cent growth rate in the economy is just that. In 2003, the figures show clearly that we had a 6 per cent growth rate in the Welsh economy. Only one part of the United Kingdom, the East Midlands, did better than that at 6.3 per cent. That is much higher than the UK as a whole. The UK did well at 5 per cent, but we did better at 6 per cent. No amount of misery-index caterwauling by you, or any of your colleagues, can change an upward facing

yn y blaen. Y mater pwysig, felly, yw cael buddsoddiadau a fydd yn trawsnewid economi Cymru, a fydd yn mynd i'r afael â'r gwahaniaeth hwnnw. Er mwyn dangos y fath gychwyniad gwych a gawsom yn hynny o beth yn 2005, mae IBM, ar y cyd â'r Cynulliad a'r ysgol glinigol newydd ym Mhrifysgol Cymru, Abertawe, wedi cyhoeddi buddsoddiad o £50 miliwn. Mae'n debyg y gwnaiff hynny fwy i drawsnewid y canfyddiad o economi Cymru, a'i gallu i gystadlu'n rhyngwladol, o ran yr ymgais i greu economi wybodaeth, nag a wnaeth yr un buddsoddiad arall yn yr hanner canrif diwethaf.

Alun Cairns: Ni allaf gredu bod y Prif Weinidog mor haerllug a cheisio rhoi gwedd gadarnhaol ar y ffigurau hyn. Sylwaf ei fod wedi dyfynnu o'r *Financial Times*, ond mae'n werth hysbysu'r Siambr bod newyddiadurwr o'r *Financial Times* wedi cael cyfarfod briffio preifat gyda'r Prif Weinidog cyn y Nadolig. Y gwir plaen yw bod rhaid i'r Prif Weinidog sylweddoli mai Cymru yw'r rhan dlotaf o'r Deyrnas Unedig, a bod y ffigur o 74 y cant y pen ar gyfer y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd yn 1995 wedi gostwng bellach i 65 y cant. Mae'n amlwg bod hynny'n ganlyniad i fethiant polisïau'r Prif Weinidog. Diswyddodd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ddod oherwydd ei methiant i gyflawni polisïau, felly onid yw'n bryd iddo ddiswyddo'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth?

Y Prif Weinidog: Blwyddyn newydd dda, Mr Misery-index. Nid oes gwahaniaeth pa faint y bydd y gwrthbleidiau—y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, Plaid Cymru neu'r Ceidwadwyr—yn ceisio honni bod saeth sy'n pwyntio ar i fyny'n saeth sy'n pwyntio ar i lawr, ni ellir newid deddfau caeth mathemateg, Alun. Cyfradd twf o 6 y cant yn yr economi yw hyn a dim arall. Yn 2003, mae'r ffigurau'n dangos yn glir fod cyfradd twf o 6 y cant yn economi Cymru. Dim ond un rhan arall o'r Deyrnas Unedig, dwyrain canolbarth Lloegr, a wnaeth yn well na hynny ar 6.3 y cant. Mae hynny'n uwch o lawer na'r DU gyfan. Gwnaeth y DU yn dda ar 5 y cant, ond gwnaethom ni'n well ar 6 y cant. Nid oes unrhyw gwyno a nadu gennyh chi, neu unrhyw un o'ch cyd-Aelodau, a fydd

arrow into a downward facing one. You must understand that you cannot change mathematics by trying to claim that a 6 per cent growth rate is in some way a bad thing. It is a good thing, Alun—you cannot change the laws of mathematics.

The Presiding Officer: Question 5, OAQ0001(FM), has been withdrawn.

yn ddigon i droi saeth sy'n pwyntio ar i fyny'n un sy'n pwyntio ar i lawr. Rhaid ichi ddeall na allwch newid mathemateg drwy geisio honni bod cyfradd twf o 6 y cant yn beth drwg mewn rhyw fodd. Mae'n beth da, Alun—ni allwch newid deddfau mathemateg.

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiwn 5, OAQ0001(FM), yn ôl.

Cael Gwared ar Wastraff Waste Disposal

Q6 Janet Davies: Will the First Minister make a statement on waste disposal? (OAQ0021)

2.20 p.m.

The First Minister: This is another great Welsh success story. We started with a low waste recycling rate when we took over our responsibilities. You will be pleased to know that, according to the latest figures, for 2003-04, our authorities are now achieving a 16.25 per cent recycling and composting rate for that year, which exceeds our set target and which is, we believe, ahead of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Janet Davies: You have mentioned your high success rate in recycling, and you will be aware of the high economic and employment potential in waste disposal. Will you give a straight answer on the results that your Government has achieved in exploiting that potential to its maximum?

The First Minister: I hope that you do not imply that the figures that I gave you are faulty. As far as I am aware, no-one has contested the 16.25 per cent figure or the fact that it is an amazing improvement on the position that we inherited in 1999. There is a hierarchy in terms of dealing with waste—waste minimisation is important as is direct re-use of materials followed by recycling and composting. The former examples are the preferred ways of managing unavoidable waste. Clearly, segregation at source and kerbside collection are the best methods that we can encourage local authorities to use.

C6 Janet Davies: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar gael gwared ar wastraff? OAQ0021(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyma lwyddiant mawr arall i Gymru. Dechreuasom â chyfradd ailgylchu gwastraff isel pan ymgyerasom â'n cyfrifoldebau. Byddwch yn falch o gael gwybod bod ein hawdurdodau, yn ôl y ffigurau diweddaraf, ar gyfer 2003-04, bellach yn sicrhau cyfradd ailgylchu a chompostio o 16.25 y cant ar gyfer y flwyddyn honno, sy'n uwch na'r targed a osodasom ac yn golygu, yr ydym yn credu, ein bod ar y blaen i Loegr, yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon.

Janet Davies: Cyfeiriasoch at eich llwyddiant mawr o ran ailgylchu, a gwyddoch am y potensial mawr a geir mewn gwaredu gwastraff ar gyfer yr economi a chyflogaeth. A wnewch roi ateb syml am y canlyniadau y mae'ch Llywodraeth wedi'u sicrhau wrth elwa ar y potensial hwnnw i'r eithaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gobeithiaf nad ydych yn awgrymu bod y ffigurau a roddais i chi'n ddiffygiol. Hyd y gwn i, nid oes neb wedi herio'r ffigur o 16.25 y cant na'r ffaith ei fod yn welliant syfrdanol ar y sefyllfa a adawyd i ni yn 1999. Ceir hierarchaeth o ran delio â gwastraff—mae lleihau gwastraff yn bwysig fel y mae aildefnyddio deunyddiau'n uniongyrchol ac ar ôl hynny daw ailgylchu a chompostio. Yr enghreifftiau cyntaf yw'r dulliau gorau o drin gwastraff anocheladwy. Wrth gwrs, gwahanu gwastraff yn y man cychwyn a'i gasglu wrth ochr y ffordd yw'r dulliau gorau y gallwn annog awdurdodau

Carwyn Jones will write to local authorities because we need to go further than the 16.25 per cent.

David Davies: Do you share my concern and disappointment about how a waste furniture recycling facility based in Abergavenny was sent from the facilities in which it was operating and rejected by the Welsh Development Agency at extremely short notice last month?

The First Minister: I am not aware of that case and I would be grateful if you could write to me on that because I admire greatly the work undertaken by organisations such as Track 2000 in Cardiff, but it will, of course, be a different organisation in Abergavenny. I am not clear about why that organisation has lost its premises, so if you could supply us with the details, we will take that up with the WDA.

Kirsty Williams: You claim again that your Government has had great success in waste disposal, but will you tell that to the farmers of Brecon and Radnorshire who are now unable to bury fallen stock on their farms? The proposed scheme is in disarray and is a nightmare to operate even when it works. What are you doing to ensure that farmers in Brecon and Radnorshire can dispose of their stock through anaerobic digestion?

The First Minister: The figures that I gave you relating to the generality of municipal waste collected by local authorities are accurate. You are raising a different issue that has never been classified as municipal waste by any regulatory body. Fallen stock is a specific issue and I am aware that there are many new problems related to it. I will ask Carwyn Jones to write to you on the latest position.

lleol i'w harfer. Bydd Carwyn Jones yn ysgrifennu at awdurdodau lleol oherwydd rhaid inni ragori ar y 16.25 y cant hwnnw.

David Davies: A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryder a'm siom ynghylch y modd y cafodd cyfleuster ailgylchu dodrefn gwastraff yn y Fenni ei yrru o'r adeilad lle'r oedd yn gweithredu a'i wrthod gan Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru ar rybudd byr iawn y mis diwethaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni wn am yr achos hwnnw a byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech ysgrifennu ataf yn ei gylch gan fod gennyf feddwl mawr o'r gwaith a wneir gan gyrff fel Track 2000 yng Nghaerdydd, ond corff gwahanol sy'n gwneud y gwaith yn y Fenni, wrth gwrs. Nid wyf yn deall pam y mae'r corff hwnnw wedi colli ei adeilad, felly os gallech roi'r manylion i ni, codwn y mater hwnnw gyda'r WDA.

Kirsty Williams: Yr ydych yn honni eto fod eich Llywodraeth wedi cael llwyddiant mawr o ran gwaredu gwastraff, ond a ddywedwch hynny wrth ffermwyr Brycheiniog a sir Faesyfed nad ydynt bellach yn gallu claddu anifeiliaid marw ar eu ffermydd? Mae'r cynllun arfaethedig mewn anhrefn a gwaith annymunol yw ei roi ar waith hyd yn oed pan yw'n gweithio. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i sicrhau y gall ffermwyr Brycheiniog a sir Faesyfed gael gwared ar eu hanifeiliaid drwy dreulio anerobig?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r ffigurau a roddais i chi am gasglu gwastraff bwrdeistrefol yn gyffredinol gan awdurdodau lleol yn gywir. Yr ydych yn codi mater gwahanol nad yw erioed wedi'i ystyried yn wastraff bwrdeistrefol gan unrhyw gorff rheoleiddiol. Mae anifeiliaid marw'n fater penodol a gwn fod llawer o broblemau newydd yn gysylltiedig ag ef. Gofynnaf i Carwyn Jones ysgrifennu atoch ynghylch y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf.

Rôl Cymru yn y Byd Wales's Role in the World

Q7 John Griffiths: Will the First Minister make a statement on developments in Wales's role in the world? OAQ0027(FM)

C7 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y datblygiadau yn rôl Cymru yn y byd? OAQ0027(FM)

The First Minister: Wales will host a number of high-profile events, including some as part of the UK's presidency of the EU later this year.

John Griffiths: Devolution has been good for Wales's international profile with all the developments that flow from that. Will you continue to consider establishing an international development fund, which I have raised before, showing Wales and the Assembly Government looking outwards as part of the prosperous world? We could support non-governmental organisations operating in the international development field based in Wales. That would facilitate the exchange of skills and experience between people in Wales and the developing world, concentrating on countries such as Lesotho—with which we already have strong links—and supporting global citizenship, education in our schools and so on. We could add value to what happens on a UK level and it would be good for Wales and for the developing countries concerned.

The First Minister: I am sure that it would, but we have to be careful about the legal position because, much as we would like to extend our remit on a willy-nilly basis into areas such as international development, there is no way of doing that under current legislation. It is confined to the UK Government, operating under the International Development Act 2002. However, there are ways around that through educational exchanges and staff secondments, which would also benefit the staff. We are considering helping in that way. That gets you around the legal obstacle, if you like, because it can be done in other ways, and under other powers. I discussed that matter recently with the Permanent Secretary to see to what extent we can promote this area of activity through our staff, as is also being done in the case of the Scottish Executive.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats Group (Michael German): One area with which we are concerned is our role within Europe. The future of European structural funds will concern us greatly this year, which is the crunch year for changes likely to happen post-2006. What discussions

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd Cymru'n croesawu sawl digwyddiad pwysig, gan gynnwys rhai sy'n ymwneud â llywyddiaeth y DU ar yr UE yn ddiweddarach eleni.

John Griffiths: Bu datganoli'n beth llesol i amlygrwydd rhyngwladol Cymru gyda'r holl ddatblygiadau sy'n deillio o hynny. A wnewch barhau i ystyried sefydlu cronfa ddatblygu rhyngwladol, sy'n fater a godais o'r blaen, i ddangos bod Cymru a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn edrych tuag allan fel rhan o'r byd cyfoethog? Gallem gefnogi cyrff anllwydraethol sy'n gweithio yn y maes datblygu rhyngwladol sydd â'u canolfan yng Nghymru. Byddai hynny'n fodd i gyfnewid sgiliau a phrofiad rhwng pobl yng Nghymru a'r byd sy'n datblygu, gan ganolbwyntio ar wledydd fel Lesotho—y mae gennym gysylltiadau cryf â hi eisoes—a hyrwyddo dinasyddiaeth fyd-eang, addysg yn ein hysgolion ac yn y blaen. Gallem ychwanegu gwerth at yr hyn sy'n digwydd ar lefel y DU a byddai'n llesol i Gymru ac i'r gwledydd datblygol dan sylw.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai, ond rhaid inni fod yn ofalus ynghylch y sefyllfa gyfreithiol oherwydd, er cymaint y carem ymestyn ein cylch gwaith hwnt ac yma i feysydd fel datblygu rhyngwladol, nid oes modd gwneud hynny o dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol. Mae'n gyfyngedig i Lywodraeth y DU, yn gweithredu o dan Ddeddf Datblygu Rhyngwladol 2002. Er hynny, mae modd mynd â'r maen i'r wal drwy gyfnewidiadau addysgol a secondio staff, a byddai hynny o fudd i'r staff hefyd. Yr ydym yn ystyried helpu drwy wneud hynny. Mae hynny'n fodd i osgoi'r rhwystr cyfreithiol, os caf ei roi felly, oherwydd gellir ei wneud drwy dulliau eraill, ac o dan bwerau eraill. Trafodais y mater hwnnw'n ddiweddar gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol i weld i ba raddau y gallwn hyrwyddo'r maes gweithgarwch hwn drwy ein staff, fel y gwnaiff Gweithrediaeth yr Alban hefyd.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Un maes yr ydym yn pryderu yn ei gylch yw ein rôl yn Ewrop. Bydd dyfodol cronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd yn bwysig iawn inni y flwyddyn hon, sef y flwyddyn hollbwysig o ran y newidiadau sy'n debygol o ddigwydd

have you or your officials had with other regions of the United Kingdom that are currently Objective 1 regions and which might benefit from structural funds post-2006?

The First Minister: This is a crunch year, but I am not sure if it is 'the' crunch year—I would like to think that it was, so that the whole matter could be put to bed before December 31, in the latter part of the UK presidency. The information that I have seen recently suggests that that is unlikely, and that the early part of 2006 will be the crunch time in terms of finalising any deal. We are in close contact with the UK Government and the other regions with something to lose, as it were, from structural funds as they might be revised after 1 January 2007. It is important that we get the best deal for Wales, we are determined to do so, and we believe that we are going about it in the right way.

Michael German: If the other regions affected are affected in the same way as Wales might be, in terms of being in the intermediary category, surely it is important to bat for Wales by informing the Government of what would be the best deal for Wales? Have you taken a strong line with the UK Government? If it will be negotiating this position post-June—taking the lead in Europe to try to sort this matter out—have you taken a strong lead with it? You may not want to tell us what that lead is, but does the Government know what position the Welsh Assembly Government is taking in respect of Objective 1 funding post-2006?

The First Minister: We are almost back to the question about the relative levels of GDP or GVA per head that we discussed 20 minutes ago. If you look at the figure for Cornwall, its GVA per head remains at such a low level that it may well continue to be eligible for Objective 1 funding. It has similar characteristics to some parts of under-developed areas of rural Wales. It does not seem as if west Wales and the Valleys combined will have that potential, and therefore Wales would qualify as a transitional area, alongside south Yorkshire, the highlands and islands of Scotland and

ar ôl 2006. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch chi neu'ch swyddogion â rhanbarthau eraill yn y Deyrnas Unedig sy'n rhanbarthau Amcan 1 ar hyn o bryd ac a allai gael budd o'r cronfeydd strwythurol ar ôl 2006?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hon yn flwyddyn bwysig, ond nid wyf yn sicr ai hon yw'r bwysicaf un—byddai'n dda gennyf feddwl ei bod felly, fel y gellid datrys yr holl fater cyn 31 Rhagfyr, yn rhan olaf llywyddiaeth y DU. Mae'r wybodaeth a welais yn ddiweddar yn awgrymu bod hynny'n annhebygol, ac mai dechrau 2006 fydd yr adeg hollbwysig o ran taro unrhyw fargen. Yr ydym mewn cysylltiad agos â Llywodraeth y DU a'r rhanbarthau eraill a allai fod ar eu colled, fel petai, yn ôl y modd y gellid newid y cronfeydd strwythurol ar ôl 1 Ionawr 2007. Mae'n bwysig inni sicrhau'r fargen orau i Gymru, yr ydym yn benderfynol o wneud hynny, a chredwn ein bod yn mynd yn ei gylch yn gywir.

Michael German: Os effeithir ar y rhanbarthau eraill yn yr un modd ag y gellid effeithio ar Gymru, o ran bod yn y categori rhyngol, onid yw'n bwysig cadw rhan Cymru drwy roi gwybod i'r Llywodraeth am y fargen a fyddai orau i Gymru? A ydych wedi mynegi barn bendant wrth Lywodraeth y DU? Os bydd yn negodi ar sail y safbwynt hwn ar ôl mis Mehefin—gan arwain yn Ewrop er mwyn ceisio datrys y mater hwn— a ydych wedi rhoi arweiniad cadarn ar hyn? Efallai na fyddwch am ddweud wrthym beth yw'r arweiniad hwnnw, ond a wŷr y Llywodraeth beth yw safbwynt Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyllid Amcan 1 ar ôl 2006?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym bron ag ailgodi'r cwestiwn ynghylch lefelau cymharol cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth neu werth ychwanegol crynswth y pen a drafodasom 20 munud yn ôl. Os edrychwch ar y ffigur ar gyfer Cernyw, gwelwch fod ei gwerth ychwanegol crynswth y pen yn dal i fod mor isel fel ei bod yn ddigon posibl y bydd yn parhau'n gymwys i gael arian Amcan 1. Mae iddi nodweddion tebyg i rai rhannau o'r ardaloedd isddatblygedig yng Nghymru wledig. Nid yw'n ymddangos y gallai gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd gyda'i gilydd fod yn gymwys, ac felly byddai Cymru'n

Merseyside. Wales is likely to qualify for something, and the question is what? Does that sum of money come directly from the UK Treasury or from Europe? There is a long-running battle, which will continue until the moment when the budget settlement is made for the EU—whether that breaches 1 per cent of EU GDP, or whether it stays within that figure of 1 per cent.

Michael German: One of the clearest messages that you have received is from the Welsh Local Government Association—and that was before June of last year, when it was dominated by your party. The clear message that you received was that European funding provided an opportunity to do things in Wales which could not be done through mainstream funding. That is the main reason why the WLGA has continued to campaign so vigorously to ensure that the European offer is promoted strongly within the UK Government. You still have not answered my question. Which would be the best offer? Are you promoting a particular line with the UK Government? You may not wish to tell us what that line is, but have you taken a line or are you waiting to see what turns up?

The First Minister: It is not an European offer unless there is money in the bank to back it up. Until the budget negotiations are settled—and we see whether the 1 per cent ceiling remains, or whether it is breached and the resources available to the EU reach 1.1 or 1.2 per cent—there is nothing in the bank to back the so-called European offer, so it does not mean anything. The budget negotiations and the structural funds negotiations are being undertaken side by side. If the budget does not breach the 1 per cent ceiling, there is no money in the bank to support any expenditure by Europe on structural funds. Therefore, there is no point imagining that there is some European offer with real money involved in it that, somehow or other, we are failing to grasp. It is pure thin air at the moment; so you have to be involved in the budget negotiations at the same time as being involved in the post-2006 structural funds negotiations. That is where we are. We are at the heart of the debate, getting the best deal

cael ei hystyried yn ardal drosiannol, ochr yn ochr â de swydd Efrog, ucheldiroedd ac ynnysoedd yr Alban a Glannau Mersi. Mae Cymru'n debygol o fod yn gymwys i gael rhywbeth, a'r cwestiwn yw beth? A ddaw'r swm arian hwnnw'n uniongyrchol o Drysorlys y DU neu o Ewrop? Ceir brwydr hirfaith, a fydd yn parhau hyd yr adeg y gwneir y setliad cyllideb ar gyfer yr UE—pa un a fydd hwnnw'n uwch neu'n is nag 1 y cant o CMC yr UE.

Michael German: Un o'r negeseuon clirïaf a gawsoch yw'r un oddi wrth Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru—ac yr oedd hynny cyn mis Mehefin y llynedd, pan oedd eich plaid chi'n tra-arglwyddiaethu arni. Y neges glir a gawsoch oedd bod cyllid Ewropeaidd yn cynnig cyfle i wneud pethau yng Nghymru na ellid eu gwneud drwy gyllid prif ffrwd. Dyna'r prif reswm y mae CLILC wedi parhau i ymgyrchu mor frwdfrydig i sicrhau y caiff y cynnig Ewropeaidd ei hyrwyddo'n gryf yn Llywodraeth y DU. Nid ydych byth wedi ateb fy nghwestiwn. Pa un fyddai'r cynnig gorau? A ydych yn hyrwyddo safbwynt penodol gyda Llywodraeth y DU? Efallai nad ydych yn dymuno dweud wrthym beth yw'r safbwynt hwnnw, ond a ydych wedi mabwysiadu safbwynt neu a ydych yn disgwyl i weld beth a ddigwydd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes cynnig Ewropeaidd oni bai fod arian yn y banc yn gefn iddo. Hyd nes y daw'r negodiadau ar y gyllideb i ben—ac y gwelwn a fydd y terfyn uchaf o 1 y cant yn aros, neu a gaiff ei dorri fel y bydd yr adnoddau sydd ar gael i'r UE yn cyrraedd 1.1 neu 1.2 y cant—ni fydd dim yn y banc yn gefn i'r cynnig Ewropeaidd, fel y'i gelwir, felly mae'n ddiystyr. Ymgymeryd â'r negodiadau ar y gyllideb ochr yn ochr â'r negodiadau ar y cronfeydd strwythurol. Os na fydd y gyllideb yn codi'n uwch na'r terfyn o 1 y cant, ni fydd unrhyw arian yn y banc ar gyfer unrhyw wariant gan Ewrop ar gronfeydd strwythurol. Felly, nid oes unrhyw ddiben tybio bod rhyw gynnig Ewropeaidd ac arian yn gysylltiedig ag ef yr ydym, rywsut neu'i gilydd, yn methu â chael gafaél arno. Mae'n gwbl ddychmygol ar hyn o bryd; felly rhaid cymryd rhan yn y negodiadau ar y gyllideb yr un pryd â'r negodiadau ar y cronfeydd strwythurol ar ôl 2006. Felly yr ydym yn gwneud. Yr ydym ar ganol y ddadl,

for Wales.

yn cael y fargen orau i Gymru.

2.30 p.m.

Y Llywydd: Atebwyd cwestiwn 8; tynnwyd cwestiwn 9 OAQ0031(FM) yn ôl.

The Presiding Officer: Question 8 has been answered; question 9 OAQ0031(FM) has been withdrawn.

Gwasanaethau Iechyd Meddwl Mental Health Services

Q10 Eleanor Burnham: What is the Assembly Government doing to improve mental health services? OAQ0011(FM)

C10 Eleanor Burnham: Beth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i wella gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl? OAQ0011(FM)

The First Minister: Mental health services were one of the Assembly Government's highest priorities under Jane Hutt, and I am confident that they will remain so under Brian Gibbons. We are committed to improving mental health services and the experiences of service users, including older people and adults, and children and young people.

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl oedd un o brif flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o dan Jane Hutt, ac yr wyf yn ffyddiog y byddant yn dal i fod felly o dan Brian Gibbons. Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i wella gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl a phrofiadau defnyddwyr y gwasanaethau, gan gynnwys pobl hŷn ac oedolion, a phlant a phobl ifanc.

Eleanor Burnham: I am pleased to hear that. There is grave concern regarding inadequate mental health services in Wales. Do you agree that the new draft Mental Health Bill will do nothing to improve the situation? According to the Royal College of Nursing in Wales, there should be more focus on improving patient care, and other evidence received by the Assembly asserts that it will make matters worse because of its focus on coercion, which will discourage people from seeking help.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf yn falch o glywed hynny. Mae pryder dirfawr ynghylch gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl annigonol yng Nghymru. A ydych yn cytuno na fydd y Mesur Iechyd Meddwl drafft newydd yn gwneud unrhyw beth i wella'r sefyllfa? Yn ôl y Coleg Nyrsio Brenhinol yng Nghymru, dylid rhoi mwy o bwyslais ar wella gofal am gleifion, ac mae tystiolaeth arall a gafodd y Cynulliad yn dal y bydd yn gwaethygu pethau am ei fod yn canolbwyntio ar orfodaeth, gan y bydd hynny'n cymhell pobl i beidio â cheisio cymorth.

The First Minister: I understand your point. We have been down this road several times in the latter half of last year. It is extremely difficult to deal with someone who has perhaps committed a dangerous crime, or done something for which they have not been tried because it has been accepted that there was a mental health background to it. You have to both protect the public and offer the appropriate level of mental health support. There are extremely interesting recent cases in this regard. It is important to ensure that you have community-based services, which means a large number of highly qualified community psychiatric nurses. You

Y Prif Weinidog: Deallaf y pwynt a wnaethoch. Gwnaethom drafod hyn sawl gwaith yn hanner olaf y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Anodd iawn yw ymdrin â rhywun sydd efallai wedi cyflawni trosedd peryglus, neu wedi gwneud rhywbeth na roddwyd ef ar brawf o'i blegid am y derbyniwyd bod amgylchiadau a oedd yn ymwneud ag iechyd meddwl ynglŷn ag ef. Rhaid amddiffyn y cyhoedd a hefyd cynnig lefel briodol o gymorth iechyd meddwl. Cafwyd achosion tra diddorol mewn cysylltiad â hyn yn ddiweddar. Mae'n bwysig sicrhau bod gwasanaethau ar gael yn y gymuned, ac mae hynny'n golygu bod rhaid cael nifer fawr o

sometimes need forensic psychiatric facilities, and we are spending £12 million on redeveloping the Caswell Clinic, which I am sure you would welcome. That is a specialist unit and is the only one in Wales. Likewise, there are major investments in the mental health unit at Llandough Hospital and the unit at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, which I opened recently, and which has been redeveloped at a cost of £15 million. That is the bee's knees in terms of mental health facilities.

Jeff Cuthbert: Do you agree that one difficulty that people with mental health problems often face is returning to the workplace, where they often face prejudice from employers? Do you also agree that it is important that staff at Jobcentre Plus are properly trained to ensure that they give the right advice and guidance to those people with mental health problems who are seeking to get back into work, and that they help employers to overcome any prejudice that they may have?

The First Minister: This is at the heart of the Pathways to Work pilot scheme that is being carried out in the Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Mid Glamorgan district by the Department for Work and Pensions, with strong support from us on the professional side in terms of doctors and physiotherapists. Frequently, people assume that people on invalidity or incapacity benefit who could, under certain circumstances, go back to work have a bad back, arm, leg or some other physical disability, whereas, 50 per cent of the time, it is not a physical but a mental disability that has caused them to lose confidence and think that they could not hack it in the workplace. It is important to ensure that those people are given the same support as those who have physical disabilities. That is very much part of the pilot scheme. It is still a pilot scheme, but the early results from it are promising.

Jonathan Morgan: You will be aware that, before Christmas, there was quite a harrowing report into the case of Paul Khan, a mental health patient from Cardiff who travelled to north Wales, where he attacked

nyrsys seiciatrig cymunedol tra chymwys. Weithiau mae angen cyfleusterau seiciatrig fforensig, ac yr ydym yn gwario £12 miliwn ar ailddatblygu Clinig Caswell, y byddech yn ei groesawu, yr wyf yn siŵr. Uned arbenigol yw honno a hi yw'r unig un yng Nghymru. Yn yr un modd, ceir buddsoddiadau mawr yn yr uned iechyd meddwl yn Ysbyty Llandochau ac yn yr uned yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, a agorais yn ddiweddar, ac a ailddatblygwyd ar gost o £15 miliwn. Dyna'r cyfleusterau iechyd meddwl gorau a geir.

Jeff Cuthbert: A ydych yn cytuno mai un anhawster y mae rhai sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yn ei wynebu'n aml yw dychwelyd i'r gweithle, lle y maent yn aml yn wynebu rhagfarn o du cyflogwyr? A ydych hefyd yn cytuno ei bod yn bwysig hyfforddi staff Canolfan Byd Gwaith yn briodol i sicrhau y byddant yn rhoi'r cyngor a'r arweiniad cywir i rai sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl sy'n ceisio aildechrau gweithio, ac y byddant yn helpu cyflogwyr i chwalu unrhyw ragfarn sydd ganddynt?

Y Prif Weinidog: Hyn sydd wrth wraidd y cynllun peilot Llwybrau i Waith sy'n cael ei redeg yn ardal Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Rhondda Cynon Taf a Morgannwg Ganol gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, gyda chefnogaeth gadarn gennym ni ar yr ochr broffesiynol ar ffurf meddygon a ffisiotherapyddion. Yn aml, cymerir bod y bobl sy'n derbyn budd-dal analluedd neu analluogrwydd a allai aildechrau gweithio, o dan rai amgylchiadau, yn rhai sy'n dioddef oherwydd gwendid yn eu cefn, eu braich neu eu coes neu ryw anabledd corfforol arall, er mai anabledd meddyliol yn hytrach nag anabledd corfforol sydd wedi peri i hanner ohonynt ddigalonni a thybio na allent ymdopi yn y gweithle. Mae'n bwysig sicrhau y caiff y bobl hynny yr un cymorth â'r rhai sydd ag anableddau corfforol. Mae hynny'n rhan bwysig o'r cynllun peilot. Cynllun peilot ydyw o hyd, ond mae'r canlyniadau cyntaf yn addawol.

Jonathan Morgan: Gwyddoch fod adroddiad eithaf torcalonnus, cyn y Nadolig, ar achos Paul Khan, claf iechyd meddwl o Gaerdydd a deithiodd i'r Gogledd, lle yr ymosododd ar ŵr oedranus a'i ladd. Yn yr

and killed an elderly gentleman. That report highlighted a huge number of flaws in the level of care and the services that he was able to access as a mental health patient in Cardiff. Is your Government considering revising any of the guidance that it sends to the other 21 local health boards to ensure that that sort of case does not arise elsewhere?

The First Minister: Yes. I am glad that you have raised that issue. It is an extremely sad and painful issue, but you cannot dodge these sorts of issues. My understanding is that it was not a matter of the guidelines being deficient but of the guidelines not being followed. He was out on licence having committed a similar but not quite so tragic incident some time before, and was a patient under licence. The report indicates that Whitchurch Hospital, having had him back in, did not then inform the Home Office, as it should have done under the guidelines. Those are the major criticisms that are made in the report. I will go through the report and ensure that you receive a fuller answer on that matter. That, however, is my understanding of the main burden of the report.

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiynau 11, OAQ0025(FM), 12, OAQ0023(FM), a 13, OAQ0016(FM) yn ôl.

adroddiad hwnnw, tynnwyd sylw at nifer mawr iawn o ddiffygion yn lefel y gofal ac yn y gwasanaethau yr oedd yn gallu eu cael fel claf iechyd meddwl yng Nghaerdydd. A yw'ch Llywodraeth yn ystyried adolygu unrhyw ran o'r cyfarwyddyd y mae'n ei roi i'r 21 bwrdd iechyd lleol arall i sicrhau na fydd achos o'r fath yn digwydd mewn man arall?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydyw. Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi codi'r mater hwnnw. Mae'n fater trist a phoenus iawn, ond ni ellir osgoi materion o'r fath. Yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf, nid diffyg yn y canllawiau a welwyd yn yr achos hwn ond methiant i'w dilyn. Yr oedd allan o dan drwydded wedi iddo gyflawni gweithred a oedd yn debyg ond heb fod mor drychinebus rywdro o'r blaen, ac yr oedd yn glaf o dan drwydded. Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi nad oedd Ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd, wedi iddo ei aildderbyn, wedi hysbysu'r Swyddfa Gartref, fel y dylasai o dan y canllawiau. Dyna'r prif feirniadaethau a wneir yn yr adroddiad. Af drwy'r adroddiad a sicrhau y cewch ateb llawnach ar y mater hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, felly yr wyf fi'n deall prif fyrdwn yr adroddiad.

The Presiding Officer: Questions 11, OAQ0025(FM), 12, OAQ0023(FM), and 13, OAQ0016(FM), have been withdrawn.

Lleihau Lefelau Tlodi Reducing Poverty Levels

Q14 Denise Idris Jones: What action has the Welsh Assembly Government taken to reduce poverty levels in Wales? OAQ0005(FM)

C14 Denise Idris Jones: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'i wneud i leihau lefelau tlodi yng Nghymru? OAQ0005(FM)

The First Minister: The number of people, particularly pensioners and families with children, living in low-income households continues to fall. Last Thursday, I was pleased to accompany Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, during his visit to Cardiff to launch the public awareness campaign for the child trust fund in Wales, which the Assembly Government will be assisting in promoting as part of our own child poverty strategy.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae nifer y bobl, a'r pensynwyr a'r teuluoedd â phlant yn benodol, sy'n byw mewn cartrefi sydd ag incwm isel yn dal i ostwng. Ddydd Iau diwethaf, yr oeddwn yn falch o fod yng nghwmni Gordon Brown, Canghellor y Trysorlys, yn ystod ei ymweliad â Chaerdydd i lansio'r ymgyrch gyhoeddusrwydd ar gyfer y gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant yng Nghymru, y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn rhoi cymorth i'w hyrwyddo fel rhan o'n strategaeth tlodi plant ein hunain.

Denise Idris Jones: Do you agree that this

Denise Idris Jones: A ydych yn cytuno bod

time of year particularly brings pensioner poverty to light, with many older people concerned about the rising cost of heating their homes throughout the winter months? Would you encourage older people in Wales to check that they have received their winter fuel allowance for this year, including the one-off payment to those aged over 70, where they are eligible, to cover the costs of extra heating? Would you also encourage older people to check their entitlement to assistance under the home energy efficiency scheme?

The First Minister: Those are two extremely good schemes. In the case of the winter fuel payments, you do not have to apply for them; they are provided automatically. There is a payment for any household where there is a person aged 70 and over and an additional payment of £100 for those aged 80 or 85 and over, which takes the amount up to £300 in those cases. The home energy efficiency scheme is a brilliant scheme, and we encourage people to take it up because not only should you be getting winter fuel payments pretty well automatically, you should try to ensure that you have the maximum benefit of the warmth by ensuring that your house is properly draught-proofed and insulated.

Jocelyn Davies: When will child poverty in Wales end?

The First Minister: That is a difficult question to answer and to set a particular date for. The Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and I are agreed that there is an issue regarding trying to extinguish child poverty within a generation, starting from 1997. A generation is normally taken to be 30 years. That is an ambitious target, but I think that it is possible to achieve it. The early years of the Labour Government saw major achievements in eliminating poverty among families with smallish numbers of children, that is, two to three children. Those families have gained a great deal more. Families with large numbers of children have not done as well as they are more likely to be dependent on benefits and, therefore, get less benefit from the tax credits and working families tax credits and the other priorities of the Labour Government.

tlodi pensynwyr yn dod i'r amlwg ar yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn yn enwedig, gan fod llawer o bobl hŷn yn poeni am y gost gynyddol o wresogi eu cartrefi drwy fisoedd y gaeaf? A wnewch annog pobl hŷn yng Nghymru i sicrhau eu bod wedi cael eu lwfans tanwydd gaeaf ar gyfer y flwyddyn hon, gan gynnwys y taliad unigol i'r rhai dros 70 oed, os ydynt yn gymwys, i dalu am gostau gwresogi ychwanegol? A wnewch hefyd annog pobl hŷn i gael gwybod a ydynt yn gymwys i gael cymorth o dan y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r ddau gynllun hynny'n rhagorol. Yn achos y taliadau tanwydd gaeaf, nid oes raid ymgeisio amdanynt; fe'u rhoddir yn awtomatig. Mae taliad ar gyfer unrhyw deulu lle y mae rhywun sy'n 70 oed a throsodd a thaliad ychwanegol o £100 i'r rhai sy'n 80 neu 85 oed a throsodd, gan wneud cyfanswm o £300 yn yr achosion hynny. Mae'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref yn un gwych, ac yr ydym yn annog pobl i gymryd rhan ynddo oherwydd nid yn unig y dylech gael taliadau tanwydd gaeaf yn awtomatig bron, ond dylech hefyd geisio sicrhau y cewch y budd mwyaf posibl o'r gwres drwy ofalu bod eich tŷ wedi'i ddiogelu rhag drafftiau ac wedi'i insiwleiddio'n iawn.

Jocelyn Davies: Pa bryd y daw tlodi plant i ben yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwnnw'n gwestiwn anodd i'w ateb ac i bennu dyddiad penodol ar ei gyfer. Mae'r Prif Weinidog, Canghellor y Trysorlys a minnau'n cytuno mai gwaith anodd fydd dileu tlodi plant o fewn cenhedlaeth, gan ddechrau o 1997. Cymerir bod cenhedlaeth yn 30 mlynedd fel arfer. Mae hwnnw'n darged uchelgeisiol, ond credaf fod modd ei gyrraedd. Ym mlynnyddoedd cyntaf y Llywodraeth Lafur, gwelwyd cyflawniadau pwysig o ran dileu tlodi mewn teuluoedd sydd â nifer eithaf bach o blant, hynny yw, dau neu dri o blant. Mae'r teuluoedd hynny wedi ennill llawer mwy. Nid yw teuluoedd sydd â nifer mawr o blant wedi gwneud cystal gan eu bod yn fwy tebygol o ddibynnu ar fudd-daliadau ac, felly, cânt lai o fudd o'r credydau treth a'r credydau treth i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio a blaenoriaethau eraill y Llywodraeth Lafur.

William Graham: You will be aware of the recently published Joseph Rowntree Foundation report on routes out of poverty. That report describes, colloquially, many of the policies devoted to it by your Government and central Government as snakes and ladders. Those policies have helped people out of poverty. The problem is that they slip back into poverty. How are your Government's policies designed to ensure that people do not slip back into poverty?

The First Minister: The Pathways to Work experiment covers 12 per cent of Wales, but probably covers 15 per cent to 16 per cent of actual incapacity benefit and invalidity benefit dependency where you might expect that some of the excess levels of that dependency could be brought down closer to the average. That directly addresses that problem in that, if you get a job, you will keep your eligibility for benefits for, I think, 12 months in case the job becomes too difficult for you. You do not, then, have the fear of losing access to your invalidity benefit package. It is meant to address that fear, and you should not worry as it sets a floor. After 12 months, you should have worked out whether you can cope in the workplace, even though you may not have worked for 10 years or more before that.

William Graham: Gwyddoch am yr adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree ar lwybrau allan o dlodi. Mae'r adroddiad hwnnw'n disgrifio, â naws lafar, lawer o'r polisiau y mae'ch Llywodraeth chi a Llywodraeth ganolog wedi'u llunio i'r diben hwnnw gan ddweud eu bod yn debyg i gêm neidr. Mae'r polisiau hynny wedi helpu pobl i godi allan o dlodi. Y broblem yw eu bod yn llithro'n ôl i dlodi. Ym mha fodd y dyfeisiwyd polisiau'ch Llywodraeth i sicrhau na fydd pobl yn llithro'n ôl i dlodi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r arbrawf Llwybrau i Waith yn cynnwys 12 y cant o Gymru, ond mae'n debyg ei fod yn cynnwys 15 y cant i 16 y cant o'r rhai sy'n dibynnu ar fudd-daliadau analluedd ac analluogrwydd lle y gellid disgwyl y byddai modd lleihau rhywfaint o'r orddibyniaeth a geir fel y bydd yn agosach i'r cyfartaledd. Mae hynny'n fodd i ymdrin yn uniongyrchol â'r broblem honno oherwydd, os bydd rhywun yn cael swydd, bydd yn dal i fod yn gymwys i gael budd-daliadau am 12 mis, yr wyf yn credu, rhag ofn y bydd y swydd yn mynd yn drech nag ef. Drwy hynny, nid oes raid ofni colli'r hawl i dderbyn pecyn budd-dal analluogrwydd. Mae i fod i leddfu'r ofn hwnnw, ac ni ddylai rhywun boeni gan ei fod yn cynnig lle i gamu'n ôl iddo. Ar ôl 12 mis, mae'n debyg y bydd wedi gweld a yw'n gallu ymdopi yn y gweithle, er na fydd wedi gweithio am 10 mlynedd neu fwy cyn hynny o bosibl.

Mesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru) The Transport (Wales) Bill

Q15 Carl Sargeant: Will the First Minister make a statement on the Transport (Wales) Bill? OAQ0030(FM)

The First Minister: The Transport (Wales) Bill, with the Railways Bill, will give the Assembly a coherent set of transport powers for the first time. This will enable us to speed up the delivery of our integrated transport agenda, including the updated programme outlined to the Assembly by Andrew Davies, the relevant Minister, on 7 December.

C15 Carl Sargeant: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad ar Fesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru)? OAQ0030(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd Mesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru), ynghyd â'r Mesur Rheilffyrdd, yn rhoi set o bwerau cydlynol dros drafndiaeth i'r Cynulliad am y tro cyntaf. Bydd hyn yn ein galluogi i gyflawni ein hagenda ar drafndiaeth integredig yn gynt, gan gynnwys y rhaglen ddiwygiedig y rhoddwyd disgrifiad ohoni i'r Cynulliad gan Andrew Davies, y Gweinidog perthnasol, ar 7 Rhagfyr.

Carl Sargeant: The Bill is welcomed, particularly by me as the directly-elected Member for Alyn and Deeside. It will have a profound impact on the future of the transport policy in Wales. In the light of this Bill, what work is the Government undertaking to ensure that the Bill is swiftly implemented when it receives Royal Assent?

Carl Sargeant: Croesewir y Mesur, yn enwedig gennyf fi fel yr Aelod a etholwyd yn uniongyrchol dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy. Caiff effaith bellgyrhaeddol ar ddyfodol polisi trafndiaeth yng Nghymru. Yng ngoleuni'r Mesur hwn, pa waith y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ymgymryd ag ef i sicrhau y rhoddir y Mesur hwn ar waith yn fuan wedi iddo gael Cydsyniad Brenhinol?

2.40 p.m.

The First Minister: It has been published, but we hope that the second reading will take place before long. This is a short parliamentary session. If the Bill gets its second reading next week or the following week, which we hope will happen, there will be around 120 working days of Parliament left to get it through. We will need to know what the start date is for transferring those powers to us consequent upon Royal Assent, and then we will want to get on with the job immediately.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae wedi'i gyhoeddi, a gobeithiwn y bydd yr ail ddarlleniad yn digwydd cyn hir. Mae'r sesiwn seneddol hwn yn un byr. Os caiff y Mesur ail ddarlleniad yr wythnos nesaf neu'r un wedyn, fel yr ydym yn gobeithio, bydd tua 120 o ddiwrnodau gwaith ar ôl yn y Senedd i fynd ag ef drwodd. Bydd yn rhaid inni gael gwybod ar ba ddyddiad y dechreuir trosglwyddo'r pwerau i ni o ganlyniad i dderbyn Cydsyniad Brenhinol, ac wedyn byddwn am gychwyn ar y gwaith ar unwaith.

Alun Cairns: In view of the fact that the Welsh branch of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport has stated that your estimate of the cost for establishing a joint transport authority is wholly inadequate, what plans do you have to revise that and when will you publish an accurate figure?

Alun Cairns: Yng ngolwg y ffaith bod cangen Cymru Sefydliad Siartredig Logisteg a Thrafnidiaeth wedi datgan bod eich amcangyfrif o gost sefydlu awdurdod trafndiaeth ar y cyd yn gwbl annigonol, pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i adolygu hynny a pha bryd y cyhoedddech ffigur cywir?

The First Minister: I am not sure who is claiming that the figure is in any way inaccurate. We have made a detailed case study for having a JTA and we are carrying that out now, subject to consultation with the affected authorities. That will be scrutinised by the Economic Development and Transport Committee, of which you are a member.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn sicr pwy sy'n honni bod y ffigur hwnnw'n anghywir mewn unrhyw fodd. Gwnaethom astudiaeth achos fanwl ar gyfer awdurdod trafndiaeth ar y cyd ac yr ydym yn cymryd camau ynghylch hynny'n awr, yn amodol ar ymgynghori â'r awdurdodau yr effeithir arnynt. Creffir ar hynny yn y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth, yr ydych yn aelod ohono.

Janet Davies: As an elected Member for seven constituencies, I have a remit that gives me an understanding of the comparative needs of a whole region. Bearing in mind the increasing concerns with regard to climate change, will you press the UK Government to include and embed safeguards for the environment and sustainable transport within this Bill?

Janet Davies: Fel Aelod etholedig dros saith etholaeth, mae gennyf gylch gwaith sy'n rhoi imi ddealltwriaeth o anghenion cymharol rhanbarth cyfan. Gan gofio'r pryderon cynyddol ynghylch newid yn yr hinsawdd, a wnewch bwysu ar Lywodraeth y DU i gynnwys a sicrhau amddiffyniadau i'r amgylchedd a thrafnidiaeth gynaliadwy yn y Mesur hwn?

The First Minister: I am not aware of any criticisms that the Bill is inadequate in that

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni wn am unrhyw feirniadaethau i'r perwyl bod y Mesur yn

regard. There is a great deal of emphasis now on ensuring that everything that we do is proof against any deterioration in the environment that might arise from climate change. That could include a sea level rise or other problems, such as railways being washed out as a result of increased flooding or heavy rain. We try to ensure that everything that we do is proof against the kind of climate change impact that we might expect.

Jenny Randerson: You will be aware that concerns have been raised that this Bill gives the Secretary of State greater powers to close rural railways. Can you give us an assurance that you or your Minister have made representations to the UK Government that this is not a course of action that the Welsh Assembly Government wishes to pursue and that we value our rural railways and the service that they provide?

The First Minister: I think that you may be referring to the Railways Bill rather than to the Transport (Wales) Bill. I accept that they are closely intertwined. It is important that we have a 15-year franchise based on the existing rail network, plus the new railway lines that are currently under construction in terms of the Vale of Glamorgan and the Ebbw valley lines. They are important investments to extend the railway network. I am not aware of any proposals to shrink the size of the railway network in Wales.

annigonol yn hynny o beth. Rhoddir pwys mawr yn awr ar sicrhau bod popeth a wnawn yn ddiogel rhag unrhyw ddirywiad yn yr amgylchedd a allai fod yn ganlyniad i newid yn yr hinsawdd. Gallai hynny gynnwys codiad yn lefel y môr neu broblemau eraill, fel boddi rheilffyrdd am fod mwy o lifogydd neu law trwm. Ceisiwn sicrhau bod popeth a wnawn yn ddiogel rhag y math o effaith y gallem ei disgwyl o ganlyniad i newid yn yr hinsawdd.

Jenny Randerson: Gwyddoch fod pryderon wedi'u codi am fod y Mesur hwn yn rhoi mwy o bwerau i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol gael cau rheilffyrdd gwledig. A allwch ein sicrhau eich bod chi neu'ch Gweinidog wedi cyflwyno sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU i'r perwyl nad yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn dymuno cymryd camau o'r fath a'n bod yn trysori ein rheilffyrdd gwledig a'r gwasanaeth a ddarparant?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf eich bod yn cyfeirio efallai at y Mesur Rheilffyrdd yn hytrach na Mesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru). Derbyniaf eu bod ynghlwm wrth ei gilydd. Mae'n bwysig bod gennym fasnachfaint 15 mlynedd sy'n seiliedig ar y rhwydwaith rheilffyrdd presennol, ynghyd â'r rheilffyrdd newydd sy'n cael eu hadeiladu ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer Bro Morgannwg a glyn Ebwy. Maent yn fuddsoddiadau pwysig er mwyn ymestyn y rhwydwaith rheilffyrdd. Ni wn am unrhyw gynigion i leihau'r rhwydwaith rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru.

Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question

Colli Swyddi yn Nglyn Ebwy a Blaenau Gwent Job Losses in Ebbw Vale and Blaenau Gwent

The Presiding Officer: I have accepted a request from Peter Law to ask a question on an urgent matter of public importance under Standing Order No. 6.34.

Peter Law: Will the Minister make a statement on the action that he is taking to deal with 220 redundancies announced at Yuasa Batteries in Ebbw Vale and a further approximate 100 redundancies at Merton Packaging, Llanhilleth, Blaenau Gwent? EAQ0062(EDT)

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi derbyn cais gan Peter Law i ofyn cwestiwn ar fater o bwys cyhoeddus brys o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.34.

Peter Law: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y camau y mae'n eu cymryd i ymdrin â'r 220 o ddiswyddiadau a gyhoeddwyd yn Yuasa Batteries yng Nglynebwy a'r diswyddo pellach o tua 100 o weithwyr yn Merton Packaging, Llanhilleth, Blaenau Gwent? EAQ0062(EDT)

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): The prospect of these job losses is extremely disappointing. Yuasa Batteries made a commercial decision due to market forces, and officials are working to help those affected. Regarding the situation at Merton Packaging, the position remains unclear. My officials and those of the Welsh Development Agency are attempting to speak to the owners of the company to ascertain what help might be given.

Peter Law: With the disgraceful lock-out after their Christmas and new year holiday of the 100 Merton Packaging workers—loyal and productive workers who have worked for the company for most of the 20 years that it has existed—job losses in Blaenau Gwent have now reached nearly 1,000 in the past two years. That includes the Corus redundancies. Can you reassure me that you are taking all steps to encourage new companies into Blaenau Gwent and are asking them to provide the quality jobs that we desperately need? Will you work with Yuasa Batteries in particular and try to attract a successor company for Merton Packaging to save as many jobs as possible for these good people who find themselves out of work through no fault of their own?

Andrew Davies: I can certainly give you that commitment, Peter. Like you, I regret the way in which the company has handled this matter. As a Government, we are committed to good governance in terms of corporate social responsibility. I always deplore any company exiting in this way—I extend that to include companies such as Dewhirst, which exited Wales some years ago, and affected many Members' constituencies, including mine. Such an exit does not demonstrate good corporate responsibility.

In terms of attracting additional investment into Blaenau Gwent, and into south Wales and the Valleys, there has been a drop of just over 30 per cent in unemployment in Blaenau

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Andrew Davies): Mae'r rhagolwg o golli'r swyddi hyn yn dra siomedig. Gwnaeth Yuasa Batteries benderfyniad masnachol oherwydd grymoedd y farchnad, ac mae swyddogion yn gweithio i helpu'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt. Ynghylch y sefyllfa yn Merton Packaging, mae'r sefyllfa'n dal i fod yn aneglur. Mae fy swyddogion i a rhai Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru'n ceisio siarad â pherchnogion y cwmni i ganfod pa gymorth y gellid ei roi.

Peter Law: Gyda'r cloi allan gwarthus o 100 o weithwyr Merton Packaging ar ôl gwyliau'r Nadolig a'r flwyddyn newydd—a hwythau'n weithwyr teyrngar a chynhyrchiol a weithiodd i'r cwmni dros y rhan fwyaf o'r 20 mlynedd y bu mewn bodolaeth—mae nifer y swyddi a gollwyd ym Mlaenau Gwent yn y ddwy flynedd diwethaf bellach wedi cyrraedd bron i 1,000. Mae hynny'n cynnwys y swyddi a gollwyd yng ngwaith Corus. A allwch fy sicrhau eich bod yn cymryd pob cam posibl i ddenu cwmnïau newydd i Flaenau Gwent ac a ydych yn gofyn iddynt gynnig y swyddi da y mae arnom eu taer angen? A wnewch weithio gyda Yuasa Batteries yn benodol a cheisio denu cwmni i ddilyn Merton Packaging fel y gellir arbed cynifer o swyddi ag y bo modd ar gyfer y bobl dda hyn sy'n eu cael eu hunain yn ddi-waith heb fod unrhyw fai arnynt hwy am hynny?

Andrew Davies: Gallaf roi ymrwymiad o'r fath i chi'n sicr, Peter. Mae'r modd y mae'r cwmni wedi trafod y mater hwn yn peri gofid i mi, fel y mae i chi. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i hyrwyddo llywodraethu da yng nghyd-destun cyfrifoldeb cymdeithasol corfforaethol. Byddaf bob amser yn gresynu at unrhyw gwmni sy'n gadael fel hyn—yr wyf yn cynnwys yn hynny gwmnïau fel Dewhirst, a adawodd Gymru rai blynyddoedd yn ôl, ac a effeithiodd ar etholaethau sawl Aelod, gan gynnwys fy un i. Nid yw gadael yn y fath fodd yn dangos cyfrifoldeb corfforaethol da.

Gyda golwg ar ddenu buddsoddiadau ychwanegol i Flaenau Gwent, ac i dde Cymru a'r Cymoedd, mae diweithdra wedi gostwng ychydig yn fwy na 30 y cant ym Mlaenau

Gwent since 1999. Just before Christmas, I was able to announce that EnviroWales Ltd will open a lead-acid battery recycling facility in your constituency, in Ebbw Vale, which will create 128 jobs. This is supported by financial assistance from me, through regional selective assistance. The announcement that I made before Christmas complements the work of the Heads of the Valley initiative, in the context of the Wales spatial plan, in dealing with the regeneration needs of constituencies such as yours, and those of other Members in south Wales.

Jocelyn Davies: Minister, as Peter said, the Merton Packaging management up and left without a word to its workforce, which, as you rightly point out, is morally unacceptable. What action can you take to ensure that companies do not escape their responsibilities?

Andrew Davies: Ultimately, companies operating in the private sector will react to market forces. Therefore, in many cases, there is little that we, or any government, can do regarding a company making a commercial decision to exit Wales or any other part of the United Kingdom. However, if we, as a Government, have given financial assistance through regional selective assistance or Assembly investment grants, and the company is still under conditions, we can reclaim that grant if the company has not fulfilled those conditions. We have acted vigorously in that regard, and I refer you to the hard negotiations that we conducted with LG in Newport, and the substantial repayment of regional selective assistance—in fact, the Assembly Government and its partners in Team Wales negotiated a record level of repayment. It was the biggest repayment of RSA ever seen.

Irene James: As you are aware, Minister, I contacted you last week regarding this matter as many of the workers at Merton Packaging, who now face an uncertain future, live in my constituency. Many of them have worked at the plant all their working lives, including one couple who would lose both incomes.

Gwent er 1999. Ychydig cyn y Nadolig, gallais gyhoeddi y bydd EnviroWales Cyf yn agor cyfleuster ailgylchu batris plwm-asid yn eich etholaeth, yng Nglynebwy, gan greu 128 o swyddi. Yr wyf wedi rhoi cymorth ariannol ar gyfer hynny, drwy gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol. Mae'r cyhoeddiad a wneuthum cyn y Nadolig yn ategu'r gwaith a wnaiff menter Blaenau'r Cymoedd, yng nghyd-destun cynllun gofodol Cymru, wrth ddelio ag anghenion adfywio etholaethau fel eich un chi, ac etholaethau Aelodau eraill yn y De.

Jocelyn Davies: Weinidog, fel y dywedodd Peter, gwnaeth rheolwyr Merton Packaging godi a mynd heb ddweud gair wrth eu gweithlu, ac mae hynny, fel y dywedasoeh, yn foesol annerbyniol. Pa gamau y gallwch eu cymryd i sicrhau na fydd cwmnïau'n dianc rhag eu cyfrifoldebau?

Andrew Davies: Yn y pen draw, bydd cwmnïau sy'n gweithredu yn y sector preifaf yn ymateb i rymoedd y farchnad. Felly, mewn llawer achos, nid oes fawr ddim y gallwn ni, neu unrhyw lywodraeth, ei wneud ynghylch cwmni sy'n gwneud penderfyniad masnachol i adael Cymru neu unrhyw ran arall o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Fodd bynnag, os ydym ni, fel Llywodraeth, wedi rhoi cymorth ariannol drwy gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol neu grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad, a'r cwmnïau'n dal i fod yn ddarostyngedig i amodau, gallwn hawlio'n ôl y grant hwnnw os nad yw'r cwmni wedi cyflawni'r amodau hynny. Yr ydym wedi cymryd camau pendant mewn cysylltiad â hynny, ac fe'ch cyfeiriaf at y negodiadau caled a gynaliasom ag LG yng Nghasnewydd, a'r swm sylweddol o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a dalwyd yn ôl—mewn gwirionedd, gwnaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'i phartneriaid yn Nhîm Cymru negodi'r ad-daliad mwyaf erioed. Hwnnw oedd yr ad-daliad mwyaf o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a welwyd erioed.

Irene James: Fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, cysylltais â chi yr wythnos diwethaf ynghylch y mater hwn gan fod llawer o weithwyr Merton Packaging, sydd bellach yn wynebu dyfodol ansicr, yn byw yn fy etholaeth. Mae llawer ohonynt wedi gweithio yn y ffatri honno gydol eu hoes gwaith, gan

Although the factory is in Blaenau Gwent, the closure would have a severe effect on the local economy of Islwyn. I support Peter's comments about the staff, who have been poorly treated and are desperate for information. I ask that you do everything possible to support any package that would see business continue at the plant and save the many jobs that are now at risk.

Andrew Davies: I can certainly give that commitment. As Members know, in many of your constituencies, whether publicly or privately, we have worked closely with many companies, including in assisting with management buy-outs, to maintain production and employment. We stand ready, as Team Wales, to do that. That is over and above the investment that we are already making. I gave the example of EnviroWales Ltd, and we are actively working with companies to bring new and fresh jobs to communities such as yours and Peter Law's.

William Graham: I endorse the remarks made by the previous speakers in regretting the loss of jobs in the area. As we well know, this does not only affect those who lose their jobs in the factories, but those whose jobs were created in that community by that local factory employment. Is this again not a case of your response being too little, too late? Are you so unapproachable—we have not heard the excuse about Team Wales today, which you usually trot out—that manufacturers do not come to you early on, when the first indications of a problem arise, to see what real and practical assistance you can truly afford them? Yet again, this is a question of Labour's betrayal of the Valleys.

Andrew Davies: Those are crocodile tears from the Tories. I seem to remember that when Lynne Neagle held a short debate on the Valleys, only a couple of years ago, not one Conservative Assembly Member was present in the Chamber.

2.50 p.m.

So, I will not take lessons from the Tories

gynnwys un cwpl a fydd yn colli dau incwm. Er bod y ffatri ym Mlaenau Gwent, byddai ei chau'n cael effaith ddifrifol ar economi leol Islwyn. Ategaf sylwadau Peter am y staff, sydd wedi'u trin yn wael ac sy'n daer am wybodaeth. Gofynnaf ichi wneud popeth a allwch i gefnogi unrhyw becyn a fyddai'n sicrhau parhad y busnes yn y ffatri ac yn achub y nifer mawr o swyddi sydd mewn perygl yn awr.

Andrew Davies: Gallaf roi ymrwymiad o'r fath i yn sicr. Fel y gŵyr Aelodau, yr ydym wedi cydweithio'n agos â llawer o gwmnïau mewn sawl etholaeth, yn gyhoeddus ac yn breifat, ac mae'r gwaith hwnnw'n cynnwys estyn cymorth i brynu busnesau gan reolwyr, i gadw cynhyrchu a chyflogaeth. Yr ydym yn barod bob amser, fel Tîm Cymru, i wneud hynny. Mae hynny'n ychwanegol at y buddsoddiadau yr ydym yn eu rhoi eisoes. Cyfeiriais at EnviroWales Cyf fel enghraifft, ac yr ydym wrthi'n gweithio gyda chwmnïau i ddod â swyddi newydd i gymunedau fel eich un chi ac un Peter Law.

William Graham: Ategaf y sylwadau a wnaed gan y siaradwyr blaenorol o ran gofidio am golli swyddi yn yr ardal. Fel y gwyddom yn iawn, mae hyn yn effeithio nid yn unig ar y rhai sy'n colli eu swyddi yn y ffatrioedd, ond ar y rhai y crëwyd eu swyddi yn y gymuned honno gan y gyflogaeth yn y ffatri leol honno. Onid yw hyn eto'n enghraifft o ymateb annigonol ar eich rhan a ddaeth yn rhy hwyr? A ydych mor anodd mynd atoch—ni chlywsom yr esgus am Dîm Cymru heddiw, sydd yn barod gennych fel arfer—fel na ddaw gweithgynhyrchwyr atoch yn gynnar, pan welir yr arwyddion cyntaf o broblem, i weld pa gymorth sylweddol ac ymarferol y gallwch ei roi iddynt? Unwaith eto, mae hyn yn fater o fradychu'r Cymoedd gan Lafur.

Andrew Davies: Dagrau crocodeil yw'r rheini gan y Torïaid. Mae fel petawn yn cofio, pan gynhaliodd Lynne Neagle ddadl fer ar y Cymoedd, ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl, nad oedd yr un Aelod Cynulliad Ceidwadol yn bresennol yn y siambr.

Felly, ni chymeraf wersi gan y Torïaid

about concern for the Valleys. As I said, there has been a 30 per cent drop in unemployment in Blaenau Gwent and a more dramatic drop in other Valleys constituencies and areas. For those on the Tory benches who may need reminding, 20,000 manufacturing jobs were lost in each of the Tories' 18 years in power. This means that a total of 360,000 manufacturing jobs were lost between 1979 and 1997. I will not take lectures from the Tories about concern for Valleys communities or about our economy's manufacturing base.

Michael German: Returning to the job losses in question, they were an appalling Christmas present and slap in the face for the workforce. The job losses raise several issues. Rumours about Yuasa Batteries were circulating in November. What methods do you have for picking up early warnings about job losses? Do you act upon early warnings, and what systems do you have in place in order to respond? Issues relating to Yuasa Batteries could have been picked up in advance, which may not have led to locking the doors on its employees. You say that many of the workers will find alternative employment, but the problem for Blaenau Gwent is that these jobs will be located outside the county and away from the Heads of the Valleys area. This raises an issue about quality, well-paid jobs not being available locally. When will you ensure that the brakes are taken off the train so that the rail service from Ebbw Vale to Cardiff and Newport commences? When will you be able to give a definite date on which the service will start?

A statement made by Yuasa Batteries in relation to the job losses referred to the fact that it intends to move low-value production to the far east, while maintaining added-value production in Ebbw Vale. What assistance are you providing—not what you might provide—to a company that has clear growth potential in added-value production in battery manufacturing in the United Kingdom and Europe? This is an important company, which, given the right assistance, could create better job prospects and salaries for potential workers and higher value-added products.

ynghylch pryder am y Cymoedd. Fel y dywedais, mae diweithdra wedi gostwng 30 y cant ym Mlaenau Gwent a chafwyd gostyngiad mwy trawiadol mewn etholaethau ac ardaloedd eraill yn y Cymoedd. Er mwyn y rhai ar feinciau'r Torïaid y mae angen eu hatgoffa, collwyd 20,000 o swyddi gweithgynhyrchu ym mhob un o'r 18 mlynedd y bu'r Torïaid mewn grym. Mae hynny'n golygu bod cyfanswm o 360,000 o swyddi gweithgynhyrchu wedi'u colli rhwng 1979 a 1997. Ni chymeraf wersi gan y Torïaid am bryder am gymunedau'r Cymoedd ac am sylfaen gweithgynhyrchu ein heconomi.

Michael German: Gan fynd yn ôl at y swyddi a gollwyd, yr oedd hynny'n anrheg Nadolig ofnadwy ac yn ergyd gas i'r gweithwyr. Mae colli'r swyddi hyn yn codi sawl cwestiwn. Yr oedd sïon ar led am Yuasa Batteries ym mis Tachwedd. Pa ddulliau sydd gennych o gael rhybudd buan am golli swyddi? A ydych yn cymryd camau ar ôl cael rhybudd buan, a pha systemau sydd ar waith gennych i ymateb? Gellid bod wedi cael gwybod am faterion a oedd yn ymwneud â Yuasa Batteries o flaen llaw, fel na fyddai o bosibl wedi cau'r drysau ar ei weithwyr. Dywedwch y bydd llawer o'r gweithwyr yn dod o hyd i waith arall, ond y broblem i Flaenau Gwent yw y bydd y swyddi hynny y tu allan i'r sir ac yn bell o ardal Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Mae hyn yn codi mater sy'n ymwneud â diffyg swyddi da, â chyflog da, yn yr ardal. Pa bryd y byddwch yn sicrhau y codir y brêc ar y trêen fel y bydd y gwasanaeth rheilffordd o Lynebwyr i Gaerdydd ac i Gasnewydd yn dechrau? Pa bryd y byddwch yn gallu rhoi dyddiad pendant ar gyfer dechrau'r gwasanaeth?

Yr oedd datganiad a wnaed gan Yuasa Batteries am golli'r swyddi yn cyfeirio at y ffaith ei fod yn bwriadu symud cynhyrchu gwerth isel i'r dwyrain pell, gan gadw cynhyrchu â gwerth ychwanegol yng Nglynebwyr. Pa gymorth yr ydych yn ei roi—nid pa gymorth y gallech ei roi—i gwmmi y mae'n amlwg bod ganddo'r gallu i dyfu ym maes cynhyrchu batris â gwerth ychwanegol yn y Deyrnas Unedig ac yn Ewrop? Mae hwn yn gwmmi pwysig ac, os câr cymorth priodol, gallai greu gwell rhagolygon am swyddi a chyflogau i ddarpar weithwyr a

chynhyrchion â gwerth ychwanegol uwch.

Andrew Davies: You are right in many ways, Mike. We need to make a distinction between Yuasa Batteries and Merton Packaging. My criticism related to the way in which Merton Packaging exited and left employees in the lurch. We have made two substantial regional selective assistance grant offers to Yuasa Batteries. The first was accepted and meant that 52 jobs were safeguarded and 137 were created. A subsequent offer of RSA was not taken up. As a Government, we will do everything that we can to make the transition that you talked about. The Welsh economy does not operate in a vacuum but in an intensely competitive global market. As you rightly said, many of the jobs have been lost to areas that have lower employment costs. We will work with companies such as Yuasa Batteries and many others in Wales to help them make the transition to higher value-added production. This is the whole thrust of Wales for Innovation and of the recommendations of the manufacturing task and finish group that I established last year. We are helping many companies to make this transition.

On the Ebbw valley railway line, I am delighted to say that advance works are expected to start later this month. This work involves clearing undergrowth and clearing the line ready for the main works contract to be let. I expect tenders to be given towards the end of this month or the beginning of next month. To use your metaphor, we are on track, and I am delighted that progress has been made.

The Government is committed to Valleys communities and is reversing the lack of investment in our railway infrastructure. We are introducing passenger services on the Vale of Glamorgan line and on the Ebbw valley line. This will be the first passenger service on this line since the Beeching cuts of the early 1960s.

Andrew Davies: Yr ydych yn gywir ar lawer ystyr, Mike. Rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng Yuasa Batteries a Merton Packaging. Yr oedd fy meirniadaeth yn ymwneud â'r modd yr oedd Merton Packaging wedi mynd a gadael gweithwyr ar y clwt. Yr ydym wedi cynnig dau grant sylweddol ar ffurf cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol i Yuasa Batteries. Derbyniwyd y cyntaf fel bod 52 o swyddi wedi'u diogelu a 137 wedi'u creu. Cynigiwyd cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol ar ôl hynny ond nis derbyniwyd. Fel Llywodraeth, gwnawn bopeth a allwn i sicrhau'r trawsnewid y cyfeiriasoch ato. Nid yw economi Cymru'n gweithio mewn gwagle ond mewn marchnad ryngwladol dra chystadleuol. Fel y dywedasoch, collwyd llawer o'r swyddi i ardaloedd sydd â chostau cyflogaeth is. Gweithiwn gyda chwmnïau fel Yuasa Batteries a llawer un arall yng Nghymru i'w helpu i droi at gynhyrchu â gwerth ychwanegol uwch. Dyna holl bwyslais Cymru o Blaid Arloesi ac argymhellion y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen ar weithgynhyrchu a sefydlais y llynedd. Yr ydym yn helpu sawl cwmni i newid fel hyn.

Ynghylch rheilffordd glyn Ebwy, yr wyf yn falch iawn o ddweud bod disgwyl y bydd gwaith paratoadol yn dechrau'n ddiweddarach y mis hwn. Mae'r gwaith hwn yn ymwneud â chlirio prysgwydd a chlirio'r llinell yn barod i osod y contract am y prif waith. Disgwyliaf y caiff tendrau eu cynnig tua diwedd y mis hwn neu ddechrau'r mis nesaf. Gan ddefnyddio'r un trosiad â chi, yr ydym ar y llwybr cywir, ac yr wyf yn falch iawn bod cynnydd wedi'i wneud.

Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ymrwmo i gymunedau'r Cymoedd ac mae'n gwrthdroi'r diffyg buddsoddi yn ein seilwaith rheilffyrdd. Yr ydym yn cyflwyno gwasanaethau i deithwyr ar reilffordd Bro Morgannwg ac ar reilffordd glyn Ebwy. Hwn fydd y gwasanaeth cyntaf i deithwyr ar y rheilffordd hon ers toriadau Beeching ar ddechrau'r 1960au.

Datganiad ar y Tswnami **Statement on the Tsunami**

The First Minister: The terrifying scale of the events that took place on Sunday, 26 December and the subsequent devastation caused by the tsunami, shattering communities from as far apart as Malaysia and Indonesia through to Kenya and Somalia in Africa, have made us all stop and think about the world's vulnerability to shockwaves from natural catastrophe.

The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, and representatives of the countries struck by the tsunami, as well as all political parties and charities operating in Wales, joined us at Cathays park on 5 January to take part in a three-minute silence, which was recognised across Europe. This gave us all an opportunity, not only to remember the victims of the tsunami, but to reflect on the right response from Wales to such devastation.

The immediate and generous response of the people of Wales to this disaster has been little short of astounding, and I am proud that Wales has responded so quickly to the appeal for aid, with donations now standing at over £7.5 million. Many individuals from Wales are providing direct assistance in the worst affected areas, and others have co-ordinated fund raising here. Aid agencies led a major push outside retail outlets over the weekend, which is expected to push that £7.5 million figure for Wales even higher.

I commend the efforts of Paul Sargeant and his team at the Wales Millennium Stadium for their initiative in speedily setting up the disaster relief concert, which will take place under the covered roof on 22 January. Again, it is remarkable that all of the tickets have already been sold.

The Department for International Development is responsible for co-ordinating the UK response to the tsunami, and, so far, some £50 million has been pledged for the

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae graddfa arswydus y digwyddiadau ar ddydd Sul, 26 Rhagfyr a'r dinistr a gafwyd wedyn oherwydd y tswnami, a chwalodd gymunedau a oedd mor bell oddi wrth ei gilydd â Maleisia ac Indonesia drwodd i Genia a Somalia yn Affrica, wedi peri i bob un ohonom aros a meddwl ynghylch cyflwr diamddiffyn y byd yn wyneb ysgytwad trychinebau naturiol.

Gwnaeth y Canghellor, Gordon Brown, a chynrychiolwyr y gwledydd a drawyd gan y tswnami, yn ogystal â'r holl bleidiau gwleidyddol ac elusennau sy'n gweithredu yng Nghymru, ddod atom ym mharc Cathays ar 5 Ionawr i gymryd rhan mewn tri munud o ddistawrwydd, a gydnabuwyd ledled Ewrop. Rhoddodd hynny gyfle inni i gyd, nid yn unig i gofio am y rhai a ddiodefodd oherwydd y tswnami, ond i fyfrio ynghylch y modd y dylai Cymru ymateb i ddinistr o'r fath.

Mae'r ymateb hael a gafwyd ar unwaith gan bobl Cymru i'r drychineb hon wedi bod yn syfrdanol bron, ac yr wyf yn falch bod Cymru wedi ymateb mor gyflym i'r apêl am gymorth, gan fod mwy na £7.5 miliwn o roddion wedi'u cyflwyno bellach. Mae llawer o unigolion o Gymru'n rhoi cymorth uniongyrchol yn yr ardaloedd a effeithiwyd waethaf, ac mae eraill wedi cyd-drefnu'r gwaith codi arian yma. Gwnaeth asiantaethau cymorth gychwyn ymgyrch fawr y tu allan i fannau adwerthu dros y penwythnos, a disgwylir y bydd hynny'n fodd i ychwanegu mwy byth at y ffigur o £7.5 miliwn ar gyfer Cymru.

Canmolaf ymdrechion Paul Sargeant a'i dîm yn Stadiwm Mileniwm Cymru ar eu menter wrth fynd ati'n gyflym i drefnu'r cyngerdd i gynorthwyo dioddefwyr y drychineb, a gynhelir o dan y to ar 22 Ionawr. Unwaith eto, mae'n rhyfeddol bod yr holl docynnau wedi'u gwerthu eisoes.

Yr Adran Datblygu Rhyngwladol sy'n gyfrifol am gyd-drefnu ymateb y DU i'r tswnami a, hyd yma, addawyd swm o £50 miliwn ar gyfer y gwaith dechreuol i

immediate disaster relief operation. As the Welsh Assembly Government, our powers to allocate funding do not include overseas disaster relief, and there are legal obstacles to the direct contribution of funding. That does not mean that we cannot be effective in supporting the relief effort.

On the afternoon of 5 January, I met with several aid agencies, including Oxfam Cymru, CAFOD Wales, the Welsh Centre for International Affairs, British Red Cross Wales and Christian Aid to discuss how we could assist with aid work. Among the topics discussed were the provision of expertise through staff secondments and the co-ordination of specialist advice. I have also agreed to meet representatives of these agencies regularly to be kept up to date with the progress made, as we recognise that it is now vital that the aid effort is sustained and is effective. We intend to provide appropriate support where we can add value to the operation through commitment and expertise. That work is ongoing. The Permanent Secretary and I have agreed that we should draw up a grid of expertise available among our own staff, NHS Wales staff and researchers in our universities, which we will make available to the Department for International Development.

The thousands whose families and livelihoods have been destroyed need our support now. We must thank those who provided cash, clothes, blankets and other goods in the immediate aftermath of the event. Aid agencies have told us that, henceforth, the best means of support is via cash donations, and not in-kind donations, to the Disasters Emergency Committee. Cash donations can be transferred immediately and can be used to boost damaged local economies in the most fitting way.

We are also helping to co-ordinate the response in Wales and have facilitated a meeting involving the voluntary sector, religious and community leaders and aid agencies. This meeting, held last Thursday,

gynorthwyo dioddefwyr y drychineb. Fel Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, nid yw ein pwerau i ddyrannu cyllid yn cynnwys cymorth i ddioddefwyr trychinebau mewn gwledydd tramor, ac mae rhwystrau cyfreithiol rhag cyfrannu cyllid yn uniongyrchol. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na allwn fod yn effeithiol wrth gefnogi'r gwaith o estyn cymorth.

Yn y prynhawn ar 5 Ionawr, cyfarfûm â sawl asiantaeth gymorth, gan gynnwys Oxfam Cymru, CAFOD Cymru, Canolfan Gymreig Materion Rhyngwladol, y Groes Goch Brydeinig yng Nghymru a Chymorth Cristnogol i drafod sut y gallem helpu gyda gwaith cymorth. Ymysg y pynciau a drafodwyd yr oedd darparu arbenigedd drwy secondio staff a chyd-drefnu cyngor arbenigol. Yr wyf hefyd wedi cytuno i gwrdd yn rheolaidd â chynrychiolwyr yr asiantaethau hynny er mwyn cael gwybod am y datblygiadau diweddaraf, gan ein bod yn cydnabod yn awr ei bod yn hollbwysig i'r gwaith cymorth fod yn barhaus ac yn effeithiol. Bwriadwn gynnig cymorth priodol lle y gallwn ychwanegu gwerth at y gwaith drwy ymroddiad ac arbenigedd. Mae'r gwaith hwnnw'n mynd rhagddo. Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol a minnau wedi cytuno y dylem lunio rhestr o'r arbenigedd sydd ar gael ymysg ein staff ein hunain, staff GIG Cymru ac ymchwilwyr yn ein prifysgolion, y byddwn yn trefnu iddi fod ar gael i'r Adran Datblygu Rhyngwladol.

Mae ar y miloedd y dinistriwyd eu teuluoedd a'u bywoliaeth angen ein cymorth yn awr. Rhaid inni ddiolch i'r rhai a roddodd arian, dillad, blancedi a nwyddau eraill yn union ar ôl y digwyddiad. Mae asiantaethau cymorth wedi dweud wrthym mai'r dull gorau o roi cymorth, o hyn ymlaen, yw drwy roi arian, yn hytrach na nwyddau, i'r Pwyllgor Argyfwng Trychinebau. Gellir trosglwyddo rhoddion ariannol ar unwaith a gellir eu defnyddio i hybu economïau lleol sydd wedi'u niweidio a hynny yn y modd mwyaf addas.

Yr ydym hefyd yn helpu i gyd-drefnu'r ymateb yng Nghymru a threfnasom gyfarfod a oedd yn cynnwys y sector gwirfoddol, arweinwyr crefyddol a chymunedol ac asiantaethau cymorth. Yn y cyfarfod hwn, a

raised issues of a co-ordinated approach to disasters in Wales, support from business and town halls in the longer term and support for the Live-Aid-type concert at the Millennium Stadium.

The sheer scale of this disaster has also meant that several practical steps have needed to be taken here. Our health department is working closely with the UK Department of Health to co-ordinate the response required, involving the repatriation of injured UK residents and health advice to those who have returned. We need to ensure a close liaison between agencies providing support and counselling to relatives of the bereaved. Primary care, social care and mental health services, together with voluntary agencies such as the Red Cross, may all have a role in providing appropriate support to those affected by this disaster. It is understood that every bereaved family will have a police family-liaison officer, and these officers are expected to arrange specialist health or social service support for families where necessary.

3.00 p.m.

As the communities around the Indian Ocean shoreline begin the process of rebuilding their economies, homes, businesses and public services in the coming months and years, we must turn our thoughts to how we as a Government, and the people of Wales, can help in the medium to long term. Many of those who have suffered want to be able to develop their economies and not be dependent on aid in the future. Devolution provides opportunities for Wales to complement the United Kingdom effort through contributing expertise in the medium to long term. The significant amount of cash made available now, and in the coming months, must be channelled in the right way, and it is imperative that the support provided looks to the future development and regeneration of local economies in these areas.

We and our partner organisations in the public sector in Wales are already working with communities across the world. This

gynhaliwyd ddydd Iau diwethaf, codwyd materion a oedd yn ymwneud â dull cydlynol o ymateb i drychinebau yng Nghymru, cymorth oddi wrth fusnesau a chynghorau yn y tymor hwy a chefnogaeth i gyngerdd tebyg i Live Aid yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm.

Oherwydd maint y drychineb hon, bu'n rhaid hefyd gymryd sawl cam ymarferol yma. Mae ein hadran iechyd yn cydweithio'n agos ag Adran Iechyd y DU i gyd-drefnu'r ymateb sy'n ofynnol, sy'n golygu dychwelyd trigolion y DU a anafwyd i'r wlad hon a rhoi cynghorion ar iechyd i'r rhai a ddychwelodd. Rhaid inni sicrhau y ceir cysylltiadau agos rhwng asiantaethau sy'n cynnig cymorth a chynghor i berthnasau'r rhai sydd mewn galar. Mae'n bosibl y bydd rôl i ofal sylfaenol, gofal cymdeithasol a gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl, ynghyd ag asiantaethau gwirfoddol fel y Groes Goch, wrth roi cymorth priodol i'r rhai a effeithiwyd gan y drychineb hon. Deallir y bydd heddwes cyswllt teuluol ar gyfer pob teulu sydd mewn galar, a disgwylir y bydd yr heddwision hyn yn trefnu cymorth iechyd arbenigol neu gymorth gan wasanaethau cymdeithasol ar gyfer y teuluoedd os oes angen.

Wrth i'r cymunedau o gylch glannau Cefnfor India ddechrau ar y gwaith o ailgodi eu heconomïau, eu cartrefi, eu busnesau a'u gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod, rhaid inni droi ein meddwl at y modd y gallwn ni fel Llywodraeth, a phobl Cymru, roi cymorth yn y tymor canolig a hir. Mae llawer o'r rhai a ddioddefodd yn dymuno datblygu eu heconomïau a pheidio â bod yn ddibynnol ar gymorth yn y dyfodol. Mae datganoli'n cynnig cyfleoedd i Gymru ategu gwaith y Deyrnas Unedig drwy gyfrannu arbenigedd yn y tymor canolig a hir. Bydd yn rhaid sianelu'r arian sylweddol a ddarperir yn awr, ac yn y misoedd i ddod, yn y modd cywir, ac mae'n hollbwysig y bydd y cymorth a roddir yn ystyriol o'r angen i ddatblygu ac adfywio economïau lleol yn yr ardaloedd hynny yn y dyfodol.

Yr ydym ni a'n partner gyrff yn y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn gweithio eisoes gyda chymunedau ledled y byd. Mae hyn yn

involves direct secondments, as well as training and research exchanges. I understand, for example, that a number of doctors from the Maldives have trained in NHS Wales recently, and specialists from across the region have previously spent time here. The Assembly Government has also taken a proactive role through the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development, which Wales co-chairs. The network will discuss ways to support regions affected by the crisis at the forthcoming general assembly, which was due to take place in Sumatra, although it has now been postponed, for obvious reasons, until later in 2005. I will be discussing with my Cabinet colleagues how appropriate activity in their portfolio areas could provide support to the stricken areas.

Yr wyf yn siŵr bod ein cydymdeimlad a'n meddyliau gyda'r bobl sydd yn galaru, neu a anafwyd o ganlyniad i'r tswami hwn. Yr ydym yn cydymdeimlo gyda'r holl deuluoedd ym Mhrydain yr effeithwyd arnynt gan y drychineb hon. Cydymdeimlwn hefyd gyda'r miliynau o bobl yn Asia sydd yn awr yn ddigartref neu'n ddi-waith, a chyda phawb a ddiodefodd ar Ddydd San Steffan.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ddatganiad. Yr oedd yn gwbl briodol gwneud datganiad o'r fath yn sgîl trychineb enfawr y tswami yn ne-ddwyrain Asia. Deallaf fod o leiaf tri o Gymru ymhlith y 150,000 o bobl a gollodd eu bywydau yno, ac mae'r ffigur hwnnw'n debygol o godi yn ystod yr wythnosau a'r misoedd nesaf. Yr wyf yn uno gyda'r Prif Weinidog i ddangos ein cydymdeimlad â'r teuluoedd sydd wedi colli anwyliaid, a hefyd i anfon ein cyfarchion at y rhai sydd wedi dioddef anafiadau difrifol, ac i'r cymunedau sydd wedi dioddef cymaint mewn rhan o'r byd sy'n eithaf tlawd.

Cydnabyddaf yr hyn a ddywedodd y Prif Weinidog ynglŷn â haelioni pobl Cymru a gweddill y byd. Cyfeiriodd at y £7.5 miliwn sydd eisoes wedi'i godi yng Nghymru, ac mae'r ffigur hwnnw yn debygol o godi. Ategfaf hefyd yr hyn a ddywedodd ynglŷn â'r

cynnwys secondiadau uniongyrchol, yn ogystal â chyfnewidiadau ar gyfer hyfforddi ac ymchwil. Yr wyf yn deall, er enghraifft, fod nifer o feddygon o'r Maldives wedi hyfforddi yn GIG Cymru yn ddiweddar, ac mae arbenigwyr o bob rhan o'r rhanbarth wedi treulio amser yma yn y gorffennol. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cymryd rôl ragweithiol drwy Rwydwaith y Llywodraethau Rhanbarthol dros Ddatblygu Cynaliadwy, y mae Cymru'n gyd-gadeirydd arno. Bydd y rhwydwaith yn trafod dulliau o gynorthwyo'r rhanbarthau y mae'r drychineb wedi effeithio arnynt yn y gynhadledd gyffredinol, sydd i'w chynnal cyn hir yn Sumatra, er ei bod wedi'i gohirio bellach, am resymau amlwg, hyd yn ddiweddarach yn 2005. Byddaf yn trafod gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion pa weithgarwch priodol ym meysydd eu portffolios a allai fod o gymorth i'r ardaloedd sy'n dioddef.

I am sure that our condolences and our thoughts are with those people who have been bereaved, and those who were injured as a result of this tsunami. We sympathise with all the families in the United Kingdom who have been affected by this disaster. We also sympathise with the millions of people in Asia who are now homeless or out of work, and with all those who suffered on Boxing Day.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank the First Minister for his statement. It was perfectly appropriate that such a statement be made following the massive tsunami disaster in south-east Asia. I understand that at least three people from Wales were among the 150,000 people who lost their lives and that that figure is likely to increase during the coming weeks and months. I join with the First Minister in sympathising with those families who have lost loved ones, and in sending our good wishes to those who have suffered serious injury, and to those communities that have suffered so much in a part of the world that is relatively poor.

I acknowledge the First Minister's comments regarding the generosity of the people of Wales and the rest of the world. He referred to the £7.5 million which has already been raised in Wales, and that figure is also likely to increase. I also endorse what he said with

awdurdodau sy'n helpu'r trueiniaid hyn. Arian, nid nwyddau, yw'r ffordd orau o gyfrannu ar hyn o bryd. Cydnabyddaf hefyd yr hyn a ddywedodd ynglŷn â'r angen am gymorth tymor hir, yn ogystal â chymorth tymor byr, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd hynod o dlawd. Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog ei fod yn gobeithio na fydd yr ardaloedd hyn yn ddibynnol ar gymorth yn y tymor hir, ac mae hynny'n awgrymu ei fod yn cefnogi'r bwriad gan wledydd mwyaf cyfoethog y byd i ddileu dyledion y gwledydd hyn. A wnaiff gyfleu'r neges, ar ran pobl Cymru, i Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfunol, y dylid dileu'r dyledion hyn unwaith ac am byth? Byddai hynny'n codi rhywfaint o faich oddi ar ysgwyddau'r gwledydd hyn.

I also ask the First Minister whether he is prepared to raise with the UK Government, and the international community, the need for an early warning system in the Indian ocean. One of the immediate responses to this tragedy was to ask why people were not sufficiently forewarned about the impending disaster. Technology is now available in the United States which could be made available to others. Will you impress upon the UK Government the need for it to take a lead to ensure that an early warning system is put in place?

I press you on the direct help that the Assembly can provide. You have indicated that there are legal constraints on providing direct financial aid and that you are facilitating meetings with the aid and voluntary agencies and religious and community leaders and that you are prepared to consider staff secondment and providing expertise to the stricken areas. Will you further elaborate on why it is not possible to give direct financial aid? The people of Wales need to know. They have been generous in their voluntary contributions and would like to hear why the Assembly Government cannot provide financial aid.

Finally, I offer the First Minister a fully non-partisan, all-party approach and my personal support for all his efforts to provide as much relief and assistance as possible to the stricken communities. To confirm that all-party approach, will the First Minister

regard to the agencies that are assisting these people. The best way to contribute at present is by giving cash, rather than goods. I also acknowledge his comments on the need for long-term assistance, in addition to short-term assistance, particularly in the exceptionally poor areas. The First Minister said that he hopes that these areas will not be dependent on assistance in the long term, which suggests that he supports the proposal to write off their debts. Will he convey the message, on behalf of the people of Wales, to the United Kingdom Government, that these debts should be written off once and for all? That would lift some of the burden off these countries' shoulders.

Gofynnaf hefyd i'r Prif Weinidog a yw'n barod i godi gyda Llywodraeth y DU, a'r gymuned ryngwladol, yr angen am system rhybudd cynnar yng nghefnfor India. Un o'r ymatebion cyntaf i'r drychineb hon oedd gofyn pam na chafodd pobl ddigon o rybudd am y drychineb a oedd yn bygwth. Mae technoleg ar gael yn awr yn yr Unol Daleithiau y gellid ei darparu i eraill. A wnewch roi ar ddeall i Lywodraeth y DU fod angen iddi gynnig arweiniad er mwyn sicrhau y caiff system rhybudd cynnar ei rhoi ar waith?

Pwysaf arnoch ynghylch y cymorth uniongyrchol y gall y Cynulliad ei roi. Yr ydych wedi nodi bod cyfyngiadau cyfreithiol ar ddarparu cymorth ariannol uniongyrchol a'ch bod yn trefnu cyfarfodydd gyda'r asiantaethau cymorth a gwirfoddol ac arweinwyr crefyddol a chymunedol a'ch bod yn barod i ystyried secondio staff a chynnig arbenigedd i'r ardaloedd sy'n dioddef. A wnewch ymhelaethu ymhellach ar y rheswm nad yw'n bosibl rhoi cymorth ariannol uniongyrchol? Rhaid i bobl Cymru gael gwybod. Rhoesant yn hael drwy eu cyfraniadau gwirfoddol a charent glywed pam nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gallu cynnig cymorth ariannol.

Yn olaf, cynigaf i'r Prif Weinidog ddull gweithredu cwbl amhleidiol a thrawsbleidiol a'm cefnogaeth bersonol i'w holl ymdrechion i roi cymaint o gymorth a chynhorthwy ag y bo modd i'r cymunedau sy'n dioddef. Er mwyn cadarnhau'r dull gweithredu

undertake to brief a member of each Assembly group, perhaps party leaders for the sake of convenience, so that we can make it clear to the people of Wales that the parties in the Assembly are united in our efforts to try to do what we can to help these communities?

The First Minister: Thank you for the spirit in which those remarks were made. I will start with your latter remarks and work backwards. I undertake to use the mechanisms that we have established to meet with you, Nick Bourne and Mike German to keep you fully briefed on what is happening and on what point we have reached in terms of doing what we can to stimulate, co-ordinate and pursue these efforts in the medium and long terms, as will be required.

We first came across the legal constraints during the time of the earthquake in Gujarat three years ago, when we investigated the possibility of helping because of the size of the Gujarati community in south-east Wales. The issue relates to the International Development Act 2002. The Westminster Government operates under that Act, and it does not apply to us—we have no powers in that regard. Many have made a comparison with the Scottish Executive and have asked whether or not it has a budget line for international disaster relief or aid. It has made it clear that it does not. However, what the Scottish Executive does, and what we propose to do, is to enable staff secondments and educational exchanges with charities. I think that 11 members of its staff are involved at the moment—10 are working in Edinburgh in charity co-ordination and one, who happens to be of Sri Lankan origin, is working in Sri Lanka and is regarded as a staff secondment from the Scottish Executive. We would like to pursue that line because it avoids the issue of our being subject to legal challenge for spending money that is ultra vires. People will understand that we are anxious to do all that we can, but it must be legal and proof against challenge. We will be as creative as we can be. We will keep you informed about that. We must have the power to do something, as I am sure the Presiding Officer would agree, and we will investigate what we can do within our powers.

trawsbleidiol hwnnw, a wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ymgymryd i friffio aelod o bob grŵp yn y Cynulliad, arweinwyr y pleidiau efallai er mwyn hwylustod, fel y gallwn ddangos i bobl Cymru fod y pleidiau yn y Cynulliad yn cydymdrechu i wneud yr hyn a allwn i helpu'r cymunedau hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch i chi am naws y sylwadau hynny. Dechreuaf â'r sylwadau a wnaethoch yn olaf a gweithio'n ôl. Ymgymeraf i ddefnyddio'r dulliau gweithredu yr ydym wedi'u sefydlu i gwrdd â chi, Nick Bourne a Mike German i'ch hysbysu'n llawn am yr hyn sy'n digwydd a pha mor bell yr aethom o ran gwneud yr hyn a allwn i ysgogi, cyd-drefnu a hyrwyddo'r ymdrechion hyn yn y tymor canolig a hir, fel y bydd raid.

Daethom ar draws y cyfyngiadau cyfreithiol yn gyntaf ar adeg y ddaeargryn yn Gujarat dair blynedd yn ôl, pan ymchwiliadom i'r posibilrwydd o helpu oherwydd maint y gymuned Gujarati yn y De-ddwyrain. Mae'r mater hwn yn ymwneud â Deddf Datblygu Rhyngwladol 2002. Llywodraeth San Steffan sy'n gweithredu o dan y Ddeddf honno, ac nid yw'n berthnasol i ni—nid oes gennym unrhyw bwerau yn hynny o beth. Mae llawer wedi gwneud cymhariaeth â Gweithrediaeth yr Alban ac wedi gofyn a oes ganddi linell gyllideb ar gyfer cymorth i rai sy'n dioddef gan drychinebau mewn gwledydd tramor. Mae wedi egluro nad oes un ganddi. Er hynny, yr hyn a wnaiff Gweithrediaeth yr Alban, a'r hyn y bwriadwn ni ei wneud, yw trefnu i secondio staff a hwyluso cyfnewidiadau addysgol ag elusennau. Credaf fod 11 aelod o'i staff yn ymwneud â hyn ar hyn o bryd—mae 10 yn gweithio yng Nghaeredin yn cyd-drefnu gwaith elusennol ac mae un, sy'n digwydd hano o Sri Lanka, yn gweithio yn Sri Lanka ac yn cael ei ystyried yn un sydd ar secondiad o staff Gweithrediaeth yr Alban. Carem ddilyn y llwybr hwnnw gan ei fod yn fodd i osgoi'r mater o fod yn agored i her gyfreithiol am wario arian heb awdurdod. Bydd pobl yn deall ein bod yn awyddus i wneud y cwbl a allwn, ond rhaid iddo fod yn gyfreithlon ac yn ddiogel rhag her. Byddwn mor ddyfeisgar ag y gallwn fod. Rhoddaf wybod ichi am unrhyw ddatblygiadau ynghylch hynny. Mae'n sicr bod gennym bŵer i wneud

rhywbeth, fel y cytunai'r Llywydd, yr wyf yn siŵr, ac ymchwiliwn i ganfod yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud o fewn ein pwerau.

Soniasoch am system rhybudd cynnar, sy'n bwysig. Mae Siapan, lle mae poblogaeth enfawr yn byw ar arfordir gyda risg uchel o gael ei daro gan ddaeargryn neu tswami—yn llawer uwch na chefnfor India—wedi dangos yr hyn y mae modd ei gyflwani. Bob prynhawn am 2.30 p.m., wrth i'r gloch ganu yn eu hysgolion, y mae pob plentyn ysgol yn Siapan yn cymryd rhan mewn ymarfer dyddiol o'r hyn i'w wneud rhag ofn i ddaeargryn daro eu rhan o'r arfordir. Gallai miliynau fyw ar arfordir lle ceir risg, ond, os oes gennych y dechnoleg a'r ymroddiad, gallwch baratoi ar gyfer y fath risg.

You mentioned an early warning system, which is important. Japan, which has a huge population living on a coastline at high risk of being struck by an earthquake or tsunami—much higher than the Indian ocean—has shown what can be achieved. Every afternoon at 2.30 p.m., as the bell rings in their schools, every schoolchild in Japan takes part in a daily exercise in preparation for the possibility of an earthquake striking their part of the coastline. Millions could live on a coastline where there is risk, but, if you have the technology and commitment, you can prepare for such a risk.

3.10 p.m.

Nid oedd unrhyw un yn barod am yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yng Nghefnfor India, gan nad oedd rhywbeth fel hyn wedi digwydd ers dros ganrif, ac efallai bod gwendid o ran rhoi blaenoriaeth i'r system rybudd môr. Yr wyf yn siwr y rhoddir blaenoriaeth yn awr. Fel sy'n digwydd yn aml mewn gwleidyddiaeth, mae'n fater o roi bollt yn nrws y stabl ar ôl i'r ceffyl ddianc.

No-one was prepared for the events in the Indian Ocean, because nothing like that had happened for over a century, and perhaps the priority given to the sea warning system was insufficient. I am sure that it will now become a priority. As is so often the case in politics, it is a case of locking the stable door after the horse has bolted.

O ran yr haelioni anhygoel a ddangoswyd gan bobl Cymru, yr hyn sydd yn bwysig am y cyngerdd wythnos i ddydd Sadwrn yw ein bod yn gobeithio y bydd y BBC yn darlledu'r cyngerdd a defnyddio techneg Plant mewn Angen er mwyn ei gwneud mor hawdd ag sy'n bosibl i fwrw ymlaen â'r haelioni a ddangoswyd gan bobl Cymru, Prydain Fawr ac Ewrop eisoes.

With regard to the extraordinary generosity shown by the people of Wales, what is important about the concert a week on Saturday is that we hope that the BBC will broadcast the concert and use the Children in Need method to make it as easy as possible to further extend the generosity already shown by the people of Wales, Great Britain and Europe.

O ran y nifer o bobl o Gymru sydd wedi marw, nid wyf yn cydnabod y ffigur o dri o bobl. Mae'r ffigurau yn parhau i fod yn niwlog, oherwydd bod cyrff wedi diflannu. Os yw cyrff yn diflannu i'r môr ac yna'n cael eu golchi yn ôl ar y llanw ymhen wythnos neu bythefnos, mae'n anodd dros ben eu hadnabod os nad oes cofnodion deintyddol neu DNA ar gael. Rhaid inni dderbyn ei bod yn bosibl na fyddwn yn gwybod y ffigurau penodol yn y pen draw. Er mwyn helpu teuluoedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan farwolaeth neu'r ffaith bod rhywun ar goll, dylem fwrw ymlaen gyda darparu

In terms of the number of Welsh people killed, I do not recognise the figure of three. The figures remain uncertain, because bodies have been washed away. If bodies disappear into the sea and are washed up by the tide a week or two later, it is very difficult to identify those bodies if dental or DNA records are not available. We must accept that we may never know the exact number of fatalities. In order to help families who have been affected by a death or the fact that someone is missing, we should go ahead with providing social and medical services, to allow them to grieve properly. We must also

gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a meddygol, fel eu bod yn gallu galaru mewn modd teilwng. Mae'n rhaid inni hefyd ailadeiladu'r cymunedau, nad ydynt am fod yn ddibynnol ar elusen o'r Gorllewin cyfoethog am gyfnod rhy hir.

Nick Bourne: I thank the First Minister for an appropriate and timely statement. Our thoughts and sympathies are with the bereaved and with the victims of the dreadful tsunami that took place just over a fortnight ago. I was relatively close to the dreadful destructive force when it happened, as I was in Kuala Lumpur, therefore I was much closer to seeing the full horror of what has happened.

To begin with some relatively global points, I ask the First Minister to use whatever influence he can with Cabinet colleagues at Westminster in this regard. The leader of the opposition has, rightly, spoken of the need for an early warning system. Many lives were lost unnecessarily. Had there been an early warning system, many lives would have been saved. In Malaysia, many lives were saved because coastguards at Penang managed to clear some beaches, because they saw the tsunami coming. Had that not been the case, the effect in Malaysia would have been much worse.

It is clear that we need an international agency within the United Nations to co-ordinate the response to the kind of disaster which we are now seeing. It has been a disaster like no other, but it has illustrated the importance of having a body in place which is able to respond quickly to people's needs in such cases. Many of the people affected had little or nothing in terms of material goods, and are now left with even less.

I ask the First Minister to also use his good offices in relation to the relief of world debt. It is an important part of the equation that needs to be pushed in relation, at the very least, to the countries that are directly affected, but also much more widely. Linked to that, there is a need for tariff reform for the Sri Lankan textile industry in particular, which will suffer further from tariff barriers that will prevent it from competing in the

rebuild the communities, which do not want to be dependent on charity from the affluent West for too long.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am ddatganiad priodol ac amserol. Estynnwn ein cydymdeimlad i'r rhai sydd mewn galar a'r rhai a ddioddefodd oherwydd y tswnami ofnadwy a ddigwyddodd ychydig dros bythefnos yn ôl. Yr oeddwn yn gymharol agos i'r grym dinistriol ofnadwy hwnnw pan ddigwyddodd, gan fy mod yn Kuala Lumpur, felly yr oeddwn yn llawer agosach at weld holl arswyd yr hyn a ddigwyddodd.

Gan ddechrau â rhai pwyntiau cymharol gyffredinol, gofynnaf i'r Prif Weinidog arfer pa bynnag ddylanwad a allo dros ei gymheiriad yn y Cabinet yn San Steffan yn hyn o beth. Mae arweinydd yr wrthblaid wedi cyfeirio'n briodol at yr angen am system rhybudd cynnar. Collwyd llawer o fywydau heb fod angen. Pe buasai system rhybudd cynnar, byddai llawer o fywydau wedi'u hachub. Ym Maleisia, achubwyd llawer o fywydau am fod gwylwyr y glannau yn Penang wedi llwyddo i glirio rhai traethau, gan iddynt weld y tswnami'n dynesu. Pe na ddigwyddasai hynny, buasai'r effaith ym Maleisia'n waeth o lawer.

Mae'n amlwg bod arnom angen asiantaeth ryngwladol oddi mewn i'r Cenhedloedd Unedig i gyd-drefnu'r ymateb i'r math o drychineb a welwn yn awr. Ni fu trychineb debyg, ond mae wedi dangos mor bwysig yw cael corff sy'n gallu ymateb yn gyflym i anghenion pobl mewn achosion o'r fath. Yr oedd llawer o'r rhai a effeithiwyd heb fawr ddim o ran pethau materol, a bellach mae ganddynt lai byth.

Gofynnaf hefyd i'r Prif Weinidog arfer ei ddylanwad o ran lleihau dyled ryngwladol. Mae'n agwedd bwysig ar y mater y mae'n rhaid rhoi pwys arni mewn cysylltiad â'r gwledydd a effeithiwyd yn uniongyrchol o leiaf, ond hefyd yn llawer mwy cyffredinol. Yn gysylltiedig â hynny, mae angen diwygio'r tollau er lles diwydiant gwelyddu Sri Lanka yn benodol, gan y bydd yn dioddef ymhellach oherwydd tollau a fydd yn ei atal

outside world. The First Minister is right about the need for money rather than anything else at this stage. It can be used to buy what is necessary to help over there.

Volunteers are also needed. The First Minister has rightly spoken about how proud we are of the response from the United Kingdom and Wales. It has been an awesome human response, but we need to recognise that it is an ongoing problem. There is an issue regarding restoring the infrastructure, which will take many years. We need to encourage people to give money not just now, but in the future. We also need to encourage people to go overseas to volunteer to provide help to stricken communities—again, there is a proud tradition of that in Wales. Could you consider some means of encouraging that, as well as of considering the financial position of people who go overseas, so that they are not prejudiced by any possible changes to tuition fees regimes, for example? We should at least provide a level playing field for people who are willing to go overseas to provide assistance to these stricken communities.

I endorse what you said about Paul Sergeant and the team that has put together the concert at the Millennium Stadium. That is a fantastic idea, and it has already sold out. I know from personal experience how difficult it was to get through to book tickets, but I managed it eventually. However, if royalties come in from records and so on, we need to ensure that those funds continue to go through to address what will continue to be a problem for at least a generation to come, and possibly longer.

The First Minister: I am grateful for the spirit of your remarks. I apologise to Ieuan Wyn Jones for forgetting to answer his question on writing off debt. I believe that the Government, or Gordon Brown, may be speaking on behalf of the G8—the UK took over the presidency of the G8 from 1 January—about an immediate deferral for one year of the debt while the wider issue of whether the debt should be written off altogether is considered. Delaying debt repayments this year will be of major benefit

rhag cystadlu'n rhyngwladol. Mae'r Prif Weinidog yn iawn wrth ddweud bod angen arian yn hytrach nag unrhyw beth arall ar hyn o bryd. Gellir ei ddefnyddio i brynu'r hyn y mae ei angen i helpu draw yn y fan honno.

Mae angen gwirfoddolwyr hefyd. Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi sôn yn briodol am y balchder a deimlwn yn yr ymateb gan y Deyrnas Unedig a Chymru. Cafwyd ymateb rhyfeddol gan bobl, ond rhaid inni gydnabod ei bod yn broblem barhaus. Mae mater yn codi o ran adfer y seilwaith, a gymer flynyddoedd lawer. Rhaid inni annog pobl i roi arian yn y dyfodol, nid yn awr yn unig. Rhaid inni hefyd annog pobl i fynd i wledydd tramor i wirfoddoli i helpu cymunedau sy'n dioddef—unwaith eto, mae traddodiad anrhydeddus o hynny yng Nghymru. A allech ystyried rhyw ddull i hyrwyddo hynny, yn ogystal ag ystyried sefyllfa ariannol y rhai a aiff i wledydd tramor, fel na fyddant yn dioddef oherwydd unrhyw newidiadau posibl i drefniadau ffioedd dysgu, er enghraifft? Dylem o leiaf sicrhau chwarae teg i rai sy'n barod i fynd i wledydd tramor i roi cymorth i'r cymunedau sy'n dioddef.

Ategaf yr hyn a ddywedasoich am Paul Sergeant a'r tîm sydd wedi trefnu'r cyngerdd yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm. Mae hwnnw'n syniad gwych, ac mae'r holl docynnau wedi'u gwerthu eisoes. Gwn o brofiad personol mor anodd oedd cysylltu er mwyn archebu tocynnau, ond llwyddais yn y diwedd. Fodd bynnag, os ceir breindaliadau drwy werthu recordiau ac yn y blaen, rhaid inni sicrhau y bydd yr arian hwnnw'n dal i gael ei ddefnyddio i ymdrin â'r hyn a fydd yn dal i fod yn broblem am genhedlaeth i ddod o leiaf, ac efallai'n hwy.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am naws eich sylwadau. Ymddiheuraf i Ieuan Wyn Jones am anghofio ateb ei gwestiwn am ddileu dyledion. Credaf ei bod yn bosibl bydd y Llywodraeth, neu Gordon Brown, yn siarad ar ran y G8—gwnaeth y DU gymryd drosodd llywyddiaeth y G8 ar 1 Ionawr—am ohirio'r ddyled am un flwyddyn ar unwaith tra ystyrir y mater mwy cyffredinol ynghylch a ddylid dileu'r ddyled yn gyfan gwbl. Bydd gohirio'r ad-daliadau ar ddyledion eleni yn dod â budd mawr i Indonesia, Sri Lanka a'r

to Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the other countries involved, regardless of what happens to the wider issue of writing off the debt. I will pass on the idea that the writing off of debt altogether will need to be considered seriously to assist the countries concerned. I believe that that would be widely supported across the Assembly.

Your points about Malaysia are also interesting. Good public servants, such as coastguards who have their eyes fixed on the horizon for things going wrong, can save lives. It requires initiative, and that is just the kind of public servant that we want to see praised. Others, such as the officials who allegedly decided not to pass on the warning because they thought that it would harm the tourism industry, would not fit into that category, and I am sure that lessons have been learned there.

I am sure that the lessons about the development of south-east Asia for tourism and for industrial purposes will also be learned, and that that will be one of the major subjects of the conference that was to take place in Sumatra shortly about sustainable development in our regions. People will be considering whether it makes sense to pack so much development along the shoreline if the area is regarded as one where there are liable to be tsunamis. However, as I mentioned earlier, if you have early warning systems and drills, and if people accept that there is a risk that, if they holiday in that area, their holiday may be ruined by a tsunami, then you can have intensive development. However, you must have drills, early warning systems, coastguards, and the ability to get off the beach quickly on to higher ground or the higher storeys of buildings, which must be proofed against tsunamis. People ask how come only 38,000 lives were lost when Krakatoa exploded 120-odd years ago, which was four times bigger than this tsunami. It was because there was far less development on the shoreline, because the population of south-east Asia was much smaller then and they had not tended to concentrate so much development on the shoreline. However, you can have that development if you do it as the Japanese have, with immense self-discipline regarding early warning systems and drills,

gwledydd eraill dan sylw, beth bynnag a ddigwyddo o ran y mater mwy cyffredinol o ddileu'r ddyled. Pasiaf ymlaen y syniad y bydd yn rhaid ystyried o ddifrif a ddylid dileu'r dyledion yn llwyr er mwyn helpu'r gwledydd sydd dan sylw. Credaf y byddai cefnogaeth gyffredinol i hynny ar draws y Cynulliad.

Mae'r pwyntiau a wnaethoch ynghylch Maleisia yn ddi-ddorol hefyd. Mae gweision cyhoeddus da, fel gwylwyr y glannau sy'n craffu ar y gorwel i weld pethau a allai fynd o chwith, yn gallu achub bywydau. Mae'n gofyn menter, a dyna'r math o was cyhoeddus y carwn weld ei ganmol. Mae eraill, fel y swyddogion yr honnir iddynt benderfynu peidio â throsglwyddo'r rhybudd am eu bod yn credu y gwnâi ddrwg i'r diwydiant twristiaeth, nad ydynt yn y categori hwnnw, ac yr wyf yn siŵr bod gwersi wedi'u dysgu yn hynny o beth.

Yr wyf yn siŵr y dysgir gwersi hefyd am ddatblygu de-ddwyrain Asia ar gyfer twristiaeth ac i ddibenion diwydiannol, ac mai hwnnw fydd un o'r prif bynciau yn y gynhadledd a oedd i'w chynnal yn Sumatra cyn hir ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy yn ein rhanbarthau. Ystyrir a yw'n synhwyrol gwasgu cynifer o ddatblygiadau at ei gilydd ar hyd y glannau os bernir bod yr ardal yn un sy'n agored i tswnamis. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, os ceir systemau rhybudd cynnar a driliau, ac os yw pobl yn derbyn bod perygl y gallai eu gwyliau gael eu difetha gan tswnami, os ânt ar eu gwyliau i'r ardal honno, gellir cael datblygu dwys. Fodd bynnag, rhaid cael driliau, systemau rhybudd cynnar, gwylwyr y glannau, a'r gallu i adael y traeth yn gyflym a mynd i dir uwch neu i'r lloriau uwch mewn adeiladau, y mae'n rhaid iddynt gael eu diogelu rhag tswnamis. Mae rhai'n gofyn pam mai dim ond 38,000 o fywydau a gollwyd pan ffrwydrodd Krakatoa ryw 120 o flynyddoedd yn ôl, gan fod hynny'n bedair gwaith yn fwy na'r tswnami hwn. Y rheswm am hynny yw yr oedd llai o lawer o ddatblygiad ar y glannau, gan fod poblogaeth de-ddwyrain Asia yn llai o lawer bryd hynny ac nid oeddent yn tueddu i grynhoi cynifer o ddatblygiadau ar y glannau. Er hynny, gellir cael datblygu o'r fath os gwneir fel a wnaeth pobl Siapan, gyda hunanddisgyblaeth aruthrol ynghylch

and what happens when you must get off the beach because of an earthquake or a tsunami.

Your points on tariff reform and the effect on the Sri Lankan textile industry are of huge importance, and I will pass those on also. On seconding staff, we cannot spend taxpayers' money, but we can second staff as long as someone else pays for it, namely through charitable gifts. We can supply the experts by way of secondment, but lottery money, or the money that has been raised through charitable appeals, or the Department for International Development, would need to pay for that. That is why we are supplying this grid, when we have completed it, of people who have the expertise and who might be persuaded to go and work in an appropriate way to help rebuild those communities. That is provided that it does not involve us establishing a budget line, due to the legal constraints involved. That stops you doing some things, but not everything, and we are currently exploring what we can do.

I take on board your point about the royalties from that concert, if it has the same impact as the Live Aid concert 20 years ago to raise funds for Ethiopia in terms of royalties.

3.20 p.m.

Michael German: I thank the First Minister for his statement and welcome the comments contained within it. It is sometimes difficult to express in words the horror, which I am sure all Members felt over the last two weeks, at such devastating loss of life and consequences. It is appropriate that you should make this statement today, particularly in paying tribute to the generosity of the Welsh people and how they have responded. I, too, pay tribute to Paul Sargent, as it is not an easy task to bring together major acts at such short notice. He has had the support of the BBC network, but he has had to work extremely hard to secure the level of concert that he was looking for in a tight time window. It may be the means by which many people can express their support

systemau rhybudd cynnar a driliau, a'r hyn a ddigwydd pan fo raid ichi adael y traeth oherwydd daeargryn neu tswnami.

Mae'r pwyntiau a wnaethoch am ddiwygio tollau a'r effaith ar ddiwydiant gwehyddu Sri Lanka yn bwysig dros ben, ac fe'u pasiaf hwy ymlaen hefyd. Ynghylch secondio staff, ni allwn wario arian y trethdalwyr, ond gallwn secondio staff ar yr amod y bydd rhywun arall yn talu am wneud hynny, sef drwy roddion elusennol. Gallwn ddarparu'r arbenigwyr drwy secondio, ond byddai'n rhaid talu am hynny drwy ddefnyddio arian y loteri, neu'r arian a godwyd drwy apelau gan elusennau, neu arian yr Adran dros Ddatblygu Rhyngwladol. Dyna pam y byddwn yn darparu'r rhestr, wedi inni ei chwblhau, sy'n nodi'r rhai sy'n meddu ar arbenigedd ac y gellid eu perswadio i fynd i weithio mewn modd priodol i helpu i ailgodi'r cymunedau hynny. Gellir gwneud hynny ar yr amod na fyddwn yn creu llinell gyllideb ar ei gyfer, oherwydd cyfyngiadau cyfreithiol. Mae hynny'n atal rhywun rhag gwneud rhai pethau, ond nid pob dim, ac yr ydym yn ymchwilio i'r hyn y gallwn ei wneud ar hyn o bryd.

Derbyniaf y pwynt a wnaethoch am y breindaliadau o'r cyngerdd hwnnw, os caiff yr un effaith ag a gafodd cyngerdd Live Aid 20 mlynedd yn ôl wrth godi arian ar gyfer Ethiopia ar ffurf breindaliadau.

Michael German: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ddatganiad a chroesawaf y sylwadau a gafwyd ynddo. Mae weithiau'n anodd mynegi mewn geiriau yr arswyd, yr wyf yn siŵr bod yr holl Aelodau wedi'i deimlo dros y pythefnos diwethaf, at y fath golli bywyd a chanlyniadau ofnadwy. Mae'n briodol ichi wneud y datganiad hwn heddiw, yn enwedig o ran talu teyrnged i haelioni pobl Cymru a'u hymateb i hyn. Talaf finnau deyrnged i Paul Sargent, oherwydd nid gwaith hawdd yw dod â pherfformwyr enwog at ei gilydd ar fyr rybudd fel hyn. Cafodd gymorth gan rwydwaith y BBC, ond bu'n rhaid iddo weithio'n galed dros ben i sicrhau'r math o gyngerdd yr oedd yn ei geisio mewn cyn lleied o amser. Efallai mai drwy hwn y bydd llawer o bobl yn gallu

for the longer-term aid necessary. We must ensure that support does not just trail away as this issue disappears from our television screens.

I understand your talking of the need for cash, First Minister. I think that it was the understandable frustration of people in Wales that giving cash was not enough that led to so much giving of materials at the time. However, there are lessons to be learned in that regard, and the aid agencies in Wales make that point strongly, and I know that they did so to you. Within hours of the devastation, the aid agencies in many Welsh communities were mobilised: volunteers and staff across Wales went into work on Boxing Day. They came in during the night and started co-ordinating our response in Wales. I know that you have met representatives of the aid agencies, and I attended the meeting to which you referred in your statement, at which it was clear that there is a role for Wales to play—a role in which the Welsh Assembly Government and the National Assembly must take the lead.

Despite our being curtailed from giving direct aid, you rightly say that we can give aid in kind. We can also play a facilitation role, to enable people to feel that their efforts are being best co-ordinated. That issue was raised at the meeting. Another issue that I would like you to contemplate, and which will perhaps be part of a much longer-term discussion, is whether we need a disaster and emergencies committee for Wales, because we have communities in Wales that can be the eyes, ears and hands of their related communities elsewhere in the world, and there are aid agencies here that wish to co-ordinate with them. In fact, in embryo, that meeting was a distinct example of how best we can talk to each other. Perhaps the Welsh Assembly Government and the National Assembly can ensure that we pull together as effectively as possible in providing that sort of lead.

I assure you, First Minister, that you have our support in all the work being undertaken

dangos eu cefnogaeth i'r cymorth tymor hwy y mae ei angen. Rhaid inni sicrhau na fydd y gefnogaeth yn dirwyn i ben wrth i'r pwnc hwn fynd oddi ar ein sgriniau teledu.

Deallaf yr hyn a ddywedasoich am yr angen i roi arian, Brif Weinidog. Credaf mai'r rhwystredigaeth naturiol a deimlodd pobl Cymru o feddwl nad oedd rhoi arian yn ddigon a arweiniodd at roddi cymaint o ddeunyddiau ar y pryd. Fodd bynnag, mae gwersi i'w dysgu yn hyn o beth, ac mae'r asiantaethau cymorth yng Nghymru'n dweud hynny'n daer, a gwn eu bod wedi dweud hynny wrthoch chi. O fewn oriau i'r dinistr, yr oedd asiantaethau cymorth mewn sawl cymuned yng Nghymru wedi dechrau gweithio: aeth gwirfoddolwyr a staff ledled Cymru i mewn i'r gwaith ar Wyl San Steffan. Daethant i mewn yn ystod y nos a dechrau cyd-drefnu ein hymateb yng Nghymru. Gwn eich bod wedi cwrdd â chynrychiolwyr yr asiantaethau cymorth, a bûm yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod y cyfeiriasoch ato yn eich datganiad, lle'r oedd yn amlwg bod gan Gymru rôl i'w chyflawni—rôl y bydd yn rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol roi arweiniad arni.

Er na chawn roi cymorth uniongyrchol, yr oeddech yn iawn wrth ddweud y gallwn roi cymorth ar ffurf nwyddau. Gallwn hefyd chwarae rhan drwy hwyluso, fel y gall pobl deimlo bod eu hymdrechion yn cael eu cyd-drefnu yn y modd gorau. Codwyd y mater hwnnw yn y cyfarfod. Mater arall y carwn ichi ei ystyried, ac a fydd yn rhan efallai o drafodaeth dros dymor hwy o lawer, yw a oes arnom angen pwyllgor trychinebau ac argyfyngau i Gymru, gan fod gennym gymunedau yng Nghymru a all fod yn llygaid, yn glustiau ac yn ddwylo dros gymunedau sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy mewn manau eraill yn y byd, ac mae asiantaethau cymorth yma sy'n dymuno cyd-drefnu â hwy. A dweud y gwir, yr oedd y cyfarfod hwnnw, yn ei ffurf gychwynnol, yn esiampl o'r dull gorau o siarad â'n gilydd. Efallai y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn gallu sicrhau y byddwn yn cyd-dynnu mor effeithiol ag y bo modd wrth roi arweiniad o'r fath.

Yr wyf yn eich sicrhau, Brif Weinidog, y cewch gefnogaeth gennym ni ar gyfer yr holl

through your Government and through your civil servants. This does not have to be a party political issue, and I know that many Members wish to contribute to the discussion that follows. Tomorrow, with the Presiding Officer's permission, I will try to curtail my remarks in my short debate to enable any Member who wishes to contribute to do so because, during this statement, Members are only allowed to ask questions to you. I feel that the opportunity to contribute ought to be widened, and, hopefully, Members will avail themselves of that opportunity tomorrow. We have an opportunity, through devolution, to make an appropriate response and build for the longer term, because the one conclusion that we must take from this experience is that, whatever aid and support we give, it must be sustainable and for the longer term.

The First Minister: Thank you for your remarks. You raised a difficult point about how we should co-ordinate efforts as the Assembly Government. A remarkable aspect of the response from people in all parts of Wales has been the welling up of voluntary effort from the bottom up, with people deciding, in this chapel, this women's group, this young farmers' group, this group of aid workers or whatever, that they are going to go out and collect, set up a little concert, raise £1,000 here and £500 there or whatever it might be. I am not sure that you can co-ordinate that kind of effort as it is either there or it is not. It is very much a welling up of action, with people feeling that they must get involved and do something. I commend those who have chosen the route of organising small concerts that raise big money, rather than putting effort into collecting materials. The charities made the point to us that clothes, for example, must be cleaned and screened. It is not quite more trouble than it is worth, but it comes near to it, because you must ensure that you are not carrying germs to affected areas or you will make the situation worse.

Your point about Paul Sergeant was also well made. There is always a risk involved in starting such an enterprise. Was he going to end up with egg on his face? He might have done. It is somewhat like the situation of the coastguard in Penang. He could have got it wrong and been accused of ruining the

waith a wneir drwy'ch Llywodraeth a thrwy'ch gweision sifil. Nid oes raid i hyn fod yn fater o wleidyddiaeth plaid, a gwn fod sawl Aelod yn dymuno cyfrannu i'r drafodaeth a fydd yn dilyn. Yfory, gyda chaniatâd y Llywydd, ceisiaf gwtogi fy sylwadau yn fy nadl fer fel y gall unrhyw Aelod gyfrannu yn ôl ei ddymuniad oherwydd, yn ystod y datganiad hwn, nid yw Aelodau ond yn cael gofyn cwestiynau i chi. Teimlaf y dylid rhoi mwy o gyfle i gyfrannu, ac yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd Aelodau'n achub ar y cyfle hwnnw yfory. Mae gennym gyfle, drwy ddatganoli, i ymateb yn briodol ac adeiladu ar gyfer y tymor hwy, oherwydd y wers bwysicaf y mae'n rhaid inni ei dysgu o'r profiad hwn yw, pa bynnag gymorth a chefnogaeth a roddwn, fod rhaid iddo fod yn gynaliadwy a pharhau yn y tymor hwy.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch i chi am eich sylwadau. Gwnaethoch godi pwynt anodd ynghylch y modd y dylem gyd-drefnu ymdrechion fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Un agwedd ryfeddol ar yr ymateb gan bobl ym mhob rhan o Gymru fu'r ymchwydd o waith gwirfoddol a gafwyd o'r gwaelod i fyny, wrth i bobl benderfynu, mewn capel, mewn grŵp menywod, mewn grŵp ffermwyr ifanc, mewn grŵp gweithwyr cymorth neu beth bynnag, eu bod am fynd allan i gasglu, trefnu cyngerdd bach, codi £1,000 yma a £500 acw neu ba beth bynnag. Nid wyf yn sicr a ellir cyd-drefnu ymdrechion o'r fath oherwydd un ai y maent yn bod neu nid ydynt. Ymchwydd o weithredu a gafwyd, a phobl yn teimlo bod rhaid iddynt gymryd rhan a gwneud rhywbeth. Canmolaf y rhai a ddewisodd drefnu cyngherddau bach i godi arian mawr, yn hytrach na mynd ati i gasglu deunyddiau. Eglurodd yr elusennau i ni fod rhaid glanhau a sgrinio dillad, er enghraifft. Nid yw'n fwy o drafferth na'i werth, yn hollol, ond mae'n agos at fod felly, oherwydd rhaid sicrhau na chaiff germau eu cario i'r ardaloedd a effeithiwyd neu bydd hynny'n peri i'r sefyllfa fod yn waeth.

Gwnaethoch bwynt da hefyd am Paul Sergeant. Mae perygl bob amser wrth gychwyn menter o'r fath. A fyddai'n codi cywilydd arno'i hun yn y diwedd? Gallai fod wedi gwneud. Mae braidd yn debyg i sefyllfa gwylwr y glannau yn Penang. Gallai fod wedi camgymryd a chael ei gyhuddo o

tourism industry. Again, you must say that this is a person who knows what he is doing, is willing to take the risk and willing to back his own judgment, and thank God that he did. That applies just as much to Paul Sergeant in the not-for-profit sector as it does to a public servant such as the one that Nick Bourne referred to earlier. Thank goodness that, by backing his own judgment, he managed to get the telephone wires humming, to speak to the right people, to find the right place and to set the right time, and gathered enough big names to fill the stadium and to sell out the concert. All credit to him for taking that risk and showing the enterprise and the voluntary effort by getting involved. He knew that the only place where a concert could be held in January was somewhere with a covered roof. The only place with a covered roof that could hold a concert like the one held in Wembley around 20 years ago is the Millennium Stadium. It had to be organised quickly because the pitch will soon have to be laid for the opening of the six nations rugby tournament. That reflects on a large scale what could be replicated on hundreds of thousands of occasions by voluntary bodies the length and breadth of Wales, in villages, towns and cities. That is why I believe that we must somehow not co-ordinate out of existence, but channel, those efforts so that the extraordinary willingness of volunteers is not removed but pointed in the direction where it will have the biggest and the most sustainable impact.

Lorraine Barrett: Thank you for the statement, First Minister. I wish to raise an issue that I will also raise with my MP, Alun Michael, namely whether you will take the opportunity, at the appropriate time, to raise with the UK Prime Minister the idea of setting up a world disaster fund into which countries could perhaps contribute a certain amount of money each year, perhaps on a formula basis, which could then be drawn down when natural disasters occur. You already mentioned the Gujarat earthquake. I hope that a fund would not prevent or discourage people from making voluntary donations following such disasters, but it would be an immediate resource to set in train an early response for rescue or repair operations in affected countries, as long as it did not become too bureaucratic. What do

ddifetha'r diwydiant ymwelwyr. Unwaith eto, rhaid dweud bod hwn yn rhywun sy'n gwybod beth y mae'n ei wneud, sy'n barod i fentro ac yn barod i ddal at ei farn, a diolch i Dduw iddo wneud hynny. Mae hynny yr un mor berthnasol i Paul Sergeant yn y sector di-elw ac ydyw i was cyhoeddus fel yr un y cyfeiriodd Nick Bourne ato'n gynharach. Diolch i'r drefn ei fod wedi llwyddo, drwy ddal at ei farn, i roi'r gair ar led, i siarad â'r bobl iawn, i ddod o hyd i'r lle iawn a phennu'r amser iawn, a dod â digon o'r enwau mawr at ei gilydd i lenwi'r stadiwm a gwerthu'r holl docynnau. Pob clod iddo ef am fentro a dangos y dyfeisgarwch a'r ymdrech gwirfoddol drwy gymryd rhan. Gwyddai mai'r unig fan y gellid cynnal cyngerdd ym mis Ionawr oedd rhywle â tho. Yr unig le â tho lle y gellid cynnal cyngerdd tebyg i'r un a gynhaliwyd yn Wembley tua 20 mlynedd yn ôl yw Stadiwm y Mileniwm. Bu'n rhaid ei drefnu'n gyflym oherydd bydd yn rhaid gosod y cae cyn hir ar gyfer dechrau twrnaint rygbi'r chwe gwlad. Mae hynny'n dangos ar raddfa fawr yr hyn y gellid ei ailadrodd gannoedd o filoedd o weithiau gan gyrff gwirfoddol ar hyd a lled Cymru, mewn pentrefi, trefi a dinasoedd. Dyna pam y credaf fod rhaid inni rywsut beidio â chyd-drefnu i'r fath raddau fel na fydd dim ar ôl, ond, yn hytrach, y dylem sianelu'r ymdrechion hynny fel na chwalar parodrwydd rhyfeddol y gwirfoddolwyr ond ei gyfeirio fel y caiff yr effaith helaethaf a mwyaf cynaliadwy.

Lorraine Barrett: Diolch i chi am y datganiad, Brif Weinidog. Dymunaf godi mater y byddaf hefyd yn ei godi gyda'm AS, Alun Michael, sef a wnewch achub ar y cyfle, ar yr adeg briodol, i godi gyda Phrif Weinidog y DU y syniad o sefydlu cronfa drychinebau ryngwladol y gallai gwledydd efallai gyfrannu swm penodol o arian iddi bob blwyddyn, yn ôl fformiwla efallai, y gellid ei defnyddio wedyn pan geir trychinebau naturiol. Yr ydych eisoes wedi sôn am y ddaeargryn yn Gujarat. Gobeithiaf na fyddai cronfa o'r fath yn atal neu'n anghymell pobl rhag cyfrannu rhoddion o'u gwirfodd yn dilyn trychinebau o'r fath, ond byddai'n adnodd a fyddai ar gael ar unwaith i ymateb yn fuan ar gyfer ymgyrchoedd achub neu atygyweirio yn y gwledydd a effeithir, ar yr amod nad oedd yn mynd yn rhy

you think of that idea?

The First Minister: I am happy to pass that on. I am pleased that, from what I have heard, the city of Gujarat, which was virtually destroyed, has now been almost completely rebuilt three years on. However, I believe that it will take a great deal longer to rebuild following the tsunami. It is beyond the scope of even such a large country as India to cope with such a disaster quickly on its own. It will require a co-ordinated effort, because some eight or nine countries are quite heavily affected. Indonesia and Sri Lanka in particular have been affected on a massive scale.

You raised the issue of ensuring that the money is channelled in the right direction, does not get skimmed off, and that such a fund would act as a non-bureaucratic way of making disaster relief available. It would be like the world taking out an insurance policy against the fact that natural hazards occur, because our planet is not made of solid concrete but is a boiling hot mass with plates on the surface that grind against each other and occasionally the pressure builds up and there are earthquakes and tsunamis. We must accept that; that is the risk of living on this planet. There is less risk of that in this part of the world than there is in places such as Indonesia, Iran, Turkey, parts of the Mediterranean and so on. Every so often, there will be a disaster of this kind. Can you prepare for it? Japan and California are the models to follow. The second largest city in California is built on top of the San Andreas fault. It does not make life impossible, but you must be prepared for the fact that there will be a major earthquake some day.

Laura Anne Jones: Thank you for your statement. All our prayers have been with those who have lost relatives and friends in the tsunami disaster and our immense thanks go out to everyone who has worked so hard in so many ways to provide help for those who have suffered such loss. Across the world, people have been touched by loss. In Wales, ordinary people have shown immense generosity in making their biggest-ever donation to an overseas charity appeal. What

fiwrocraidd. Beth yw'ch barn am y syniad hwnnw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Byddaf yn falch o basio hynny ymlaen. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod dinas Gujarat, a ddinistriwyd bron, wedi'i hailadeiladu'n gyfan gwbl, yn ôl yr hyn a glywais, wedi tair blynedd. Fodd bynnag, credaf y bydd yn cymryd mwy o lawer o amser i ailadeiladu ar ôl y tswami. Mae y tu hwnt i allu gwlad fawr fel India, hyd yn oed, i ymdopi â thrychineb o'r fath yn gyflym ar ei phen ei hun. Bydd yn gofyn ymdrech sydd wedi'i chyd-drefnu, gan fod rhyw wyth neu naw gwlad wedi'u heffeithio'n eithaf drwg. Mae Indonesia a Sri Lanka yn enwedig wedi'u heffeithio'n ddirfawr.

Gwnaethoch godi'r mater o sicrhau y caiff yr arian ei sianelu i'r cyfeiriad iawn, na chaiff ei sgimio, ac y byddai cronfa o'r fath yn ddull anfiwrocraidd o gynnig cymorth ar ôl trychinebau. Byddai yr un fath â phetai'r byd yn codi yswiriant rhag y ffaith bod peryglon naturiol yn codi, gan nad yw ein planed wedi'i gwneud o goncrid solet am mai crynswth chwilboeth ydyw â phlatiau ar yr wyneb sy'n rhygnu yn erbyn ei gilydd ac weithiau mae'r pwysau'n crynhoi a cheir daeargrynfeydd a tswnamis. Rhaid inni dderbyn hynny; dyna'r perygl o fyw ar y blaned hon. Mae llai o berygl yn y rhan hon o'r byd nag mewn mannau fel Indonesia, Iran, Twrci, rhannau o Fôr y Canoldir ac yn y blaen. Bob hyn a hyn, ceir trychineb o'r math hwn. A ellir paratoi ar ei chyfer? Siapan a Chalifornia yw'r patrymau i'w dilyn. Mae'r ddinas ail fwyaf yng Nghalifornia wedi'i chodi ar ben ffawt San Andreas. Nid yw hynny'n peri bod bywyd yn amhosibl, ond rhaid bod yn barod ar gyfer y ffaith y ceir daeargryn fawr ryw ddiwrnod.

Laura Anne Jones: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad. Buom yn cofio yn ein gweddiâu am y rhai a gollodd berthnasau a ffrindiau yn nhrychineb y tswami ac yr ydym yn diolch o waelod calon i bawb a weithiodd mor galed mewn sawl dull a modd i roi cymorth i'r rhai a brofodd y fath gollod. Ledled y byd, mae pobl wedi teimlo colled. Yng Nghymru, mae pobl gyffredin wedi amlygu haelioni aruthrol drwy gyfrannu'r rhodd fwyaf erioed i apêl elusennol ar gyfer gwledydd tramor. Pa

are we doing to ensure that the money raised by the people of Wales is being carefully monitored to ensure that it gets where it needs to go and should go? How are you responding to the call by the United Nations that money that has been pledged by public and private donors gets to the disaster areas urgently? In your statement, you also spoke about finding sustainable ways to help those affected by the tsunami disaster. Do you therefore agree with the Conservative Party that twinning communities in Wales with those hit by the disaster is a good idea? I am sure that you agree that it is vital that, as the media spotlight moves on, our interest in these communities does not.

gamau yr ydym yn eu cymryd i sicrhau y cedwir golwg manwl ar yr arian a godir gan bobl Cymru i ofalu y bydd yn mynd at y mannau y mae ei angen? Sut yr ydych yn ymateb i'r alwad gan y Cenhedloedd Unedig am i arian a addawyd gan roddwyr cyhoeddus a phreifat gyrraedd yr ardaloedd trychineb yn fuan? Yn eich datganiad, gwnaethoch hefyd sôn am ddod o hyd i dulliau cynaliadwy o helpu'r rhai a effeithir gan drychineb y tswami. A ydych yn cytuno â'r Blaid Geidwadol, felly, ei fod yn syniad da gefeillio cymunedau yng Nghymru â'r rhai a drawyd gan y drychineb? Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch ei bod yn hollbwysig, wrth i sylw'r cyfryngau droi at bethau eraill, na fydd ein diddordeb yn y cymunedau hyn yn pylu.

3.30 p.m.

The First Minister: I strongly commend you on your final remarks, Laura Anne. Your opening remarks about the staggering generosity shown so far in Wales were also right. I am getting long in the tooth, but I have never known anything like it.

Y Prif Weinidog: Fe'ch canmolaf yn fawr ar eich sylwadau olaf, Laura Anne. Yr oedd eich sylwadau agoriadol am yr haelioni rhyfeddol a amlygwyd hyd yma yng Nghymru hefyd yn gywir. Yr wyf yn dechrau mynd i oed, ond ni allaf gofio dim byd tebyg iddo.

Your point about ensuring that the money is not in any way skimmed off, misdirected, or spent on bureaucracy rather than direct assistance, was well made. I intended to say that Gordon Brown asked me to get in touch with the Millennium Stadium authorities, which we did, but he has made a public statement since then that any concert that charges for tickets in such a way that VAT might be payable, will have that VAT repaid. If you make a charge, it incurs VAT, but he has said that all VAT will be returned via a Treasury instruction to HM Customs and Excise. That is part of the effort to ensure that all moneys raised go to the disaster relief, not to HM Customs and Excise.

Gwnaethoch bwynt da am sicrhau na chaiff arian ei sgimio neu ei gamgyfeirio rywsut, neu ei wario ar fiwrocratiaeth yn hytrach nag ar gymorth uniongyrchol. Yr oeddwn wedi bwriadu dweud bod Gordon Brown wedi gofyn imi gysylltu ag awdurdodau Stadiwm y Mileniwm, a gwnaethom hynny, ond gwnaeth ddatganiad cyhoeddus ers hynny gan ddweud y bydd unrhyw gyngerdd sy'n codi tâl am docynnau yn y fath fodd fel y gallai TAW fod yn daladwy arnynt, yn cael ad-daliad TAW ar eu cyfer. Os codwch dâl, mae'n agored i TAW, ond dywedodd y bydd yr holl TAW yn cael ei dychwelyd drwy gyfarwyddyd gan y Trysorlys i Dollau Tramor a Chartref EM. Mae hynny'n rhan o'r ymgais i sicrhau y bydd yr holl arian a godir yn mynd at gymorth ar ôl y drychineb, nid at Dollau Tramor a Chartref EM.

In parallel, you must ensure that the same process occurs in the countries themselves—that the money is not spent on bureaucracy, but on the front line. I will have to report back to the party leaders on that, because I cannot give that kind of guarantee today.

Ochr yn ochr â hynny, rhaid sicrhau bod yr un broses yn digwydd yn y gwledydd eu hunain—na chaiff yr arian ei wario ar fiwrocratiaeth, ond ar y rheng flaen. Bydd yn rhaid imi adrodd yn ôl i arweinyddion y pleidiau ar hynny, gan na allaf roi gwarant

Everybody accepts that it is a risk and that the UN must ensure that that risk is minimised. It is a big test for those countries, because desperate people will take something off the top if they get the opportunity. If they are desperate, and have lost their livelihoods and so on, there will be a temptation to say, 'Right, I am going to make sure, whatever happens, that I get my little percentage of it'. You can understand why that might happen, so it must be excluded from the supply pipeline. When disaster relief reaches those countries it must go directly and in an organised way to those who need it most. We must accept that there will not be systems in place, particularly in the worst affected communities, to make that process easy. I am sure that the UN will be vigilant, but I will report back on it.

I think that the twinning of communities is an excellent idea. We must explore the practicalities and, again, perhaps we can do that through the four party leaders. As you know, twinning between local authorities does not have the best of reputations regarding its exact purpose because it has been seen as a jolly. Converting it from a jolly would be well regarded, in the same way as the educational exchanges and secondments that I was talking about earlier, which we are trying to facilitate through the Permanent Secretary.

John Griffiths: Rhodri, this terrible emergency situation puts into stark relief the need for the Assembly to add value to international development issues. I welcome your statement, which shows how the Assembly can be effective, and that it is being considered how we follow the lines established by the Scottish Executive to have an identified role. In this emergency appeal scenario, do you agree that one aspect of that sort of approach would be a leading role for the Welsh Assembly Government in co-ordinating and auditing what is happening in Wales and so on? Much is happening and many organisations are involved, so a baseline audit to avoid duplication and to ensure that value is being added would be important. For example, I had not appreciated

o'r fath heddiw. Mae pawb yn derbyn bod risg a bod yn rhaid i'r Cenhedloedd Unedig sicrhau bod y risg hwnnw wedi'i leihau. Mae'n her fawr i'r gwledydd hynny, gan y bydd pobl sydd mewn anobaith yn cymryd rhywbeth o ben y pentwr os cânt gyfle. Os ydynt mewn anobaith, ac wedi colli eu bywoliaeth ac yn y blaen, ceir temtasiwn i ddweud, 'lawn, yr wyf am wneud yn siŵr, beth bynnag a ddigwydd, y caf fy rhan fach i ohono'. Gellir deall pam y gallai hynny ddigwydd, felly rhaid ei gau allan o'r llinell gyflenwi. Pan fydd cymorth i'r rhai a ddioddefodd gan y drychineb yn cyrraedd y gwledydd hynny, rhaid iddo fynd yn syth ac yn drefnus at y rhai y mae arnynt ei angen fwyaf. Rhaid inni dderbyn na fydd systemau ar waith, yn enwedig yn y cymunedau a effeithiwyd waethaf, i hwyluso'r broses honno. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y Cenhedloedd Unedig yn wyladwrus, ond adroddaf yn ôl ar hynny.

Credaf fod y syniad o efeillio cymunedau'n un rhagorol. Rhaid inni ymchwilio i'r agweddau ymarferol ac, unwaith eto, efallai y gallwn wneud hynny drwy'r pedwar arweinydd plaid. Fel y gwyddoch, nid oes enw da i'r arfer o efeillio awdurdodau lleol gyda golwg ar ei union bwrpas gan iddo gael ei weld fel esgus i gael hwyl. Byddai ei droi o fod yn esgus i gael hwyl yn cael ei ystyried yn beth da, yn yr un modd â'r cyfnewidiadau addysgol a'r secondiadau y soniais amdanynt yn gynharach, yr ydym yn ceisio'u hwyluso drwy'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol.

John Griffiths: Rhodri, mae'r argyfwng ofnadwy hwn yn dangos yn eglur bod angen i'r Cynulliad ychwanegu gwerth at faterion sy'n ymwneud â datblygu rhyngwladol. Croesawaf eich datganiad, sy'n dangos sut y gall y Cynulliad fod yn effeithiol, a bod ystyriaeth i'r modd y byddwn yn dilyn y polisiau a sefydlwyd gan Weithrediaeth yr Alban er mwyn cael rôl benodol. Yng ngolwg yr apêl frys sy'n mynd rhagddi, a gytunwch mai un agwedd ar ddull gweithredu o'r fath fyddai rôl arweiniol i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o ran cyd-drefnu ac archwilio'r hyn sy'n digwydd yng Nghymru ac yn y blaen? Mae llawer yn digwydd ac mae sawl corff yn cymryd rhan, felly byddai'n bwysig cael archwiliad o'r llinell sylfaen i osgoi dyblygu a sicrhau bod

that Newport YMCA is heavily involved and that it is able to do quite a lot through overseas YMCAs. I am sure that all sorts of other organisations are involved that many people do not know about. Finally, I reinforce the point that ethnic minority communities in Wales feel strongly that they can contribute a lot in terms of their knowledge of the overseas countries concerned, and perhaps we could develop their role in these situations.

The First Minister: I agree with all those points. I was looking at what is being done in Scotland, and I am not sure that it is that different from what is happening in Wales. What has happened to our charities is that they have started to work together to ensure that there is no overlap: CAFOD, which is a Catholic aid society, Christian Aid, which is not, Oxfam, the Red Cross, and the United Nations Children's Fund all work together to ensure that there is no duplication, that no area of aid is overlooked and that the whole waterfront is covered. The same applies in Scotland, where a formal body ties all of the charities together. I do not have the body's name to hand, but it is responsible for formally co-ordinating the efforts of charities in Scotland. As I understand it, the members of staff seconded from the Scottish Executive are working with these bodies. If we could follow this sort of process with Welsh charities, I would be happy to do so.

You mentioned the concerns of people from affected communities and countries living in Wales. These people may be Indonesian students at the University of Glamorgan or members of the Thai restaurateur community in Cardiff, many of whom were present outside Cathays park last week. They will naturally be concerned. Some countries, particularly India and Sri Lanka, are strongly represented in the medical and paramedical professions in Wales. These professionals will want to contribute and share their expertise in hospital or general practice. It would be unnatural if they were not concerned about how public services are re-established in their home countries. Where

gwerth yn cael ei ychwanegu. Er enghraifft, nid oeddwn wedi sylweddoli bod YMCA Casnewydd yn cymryd rhan flaenllaw a'i fod yn gallu gwneud cryn dipyn drwy'r YMCA mewn gwledydd tramor. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod pob math o gyrff eraill yn cymryd rhan na wŷr llawer o bobl amdanynt. Yn olaf, ategaf y pwynt bod cymunedau lleiafrifol ethnig yng Nghymru'n teimlo'n gryf y gallant gyfrannu llawer o ran eu gwybodaeth am y gwledydd tramor dan sylw, ac efallai y gallem ddatblygu eu rôl yn y sefyllfaoedd hyn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Cytunaf â'r holl bwyntiau hynny. Bûm yn edrych ar yr hyn a wneir yn yr Alban, ac ni chredaf ei fod yn wahanol iawn i'r hyn sy'n digwydd yng Nghymru. Yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yw bod ein helusennau wedi dechrau cydweithio i sicrhau na cheir gorgyffwrdd: mae CAFOD, sy'n gymdeithas gymorth Gatholig, Cymorth Cristnogol, nad ydyw'n gymdeithas o'r fath, Oxfam, y Groes Goch, a Chronfa Plant y Cenhedloedd Unedig oll yn cydweithio i sicrhau na cheir dyblygu, nad esgeulusir unrhyw fath o gymorth a bod darpariaeth ar gyfer pob dim. Mae'r un peth yn wir am yr Alban, lle y ceir corff ffurfiol sy'n clymu'r holl elusennau wrth ei gilydd. Nid yw enw'r corff hwnnw gennyf wrth law, ond ei gyfrifoldeb ef yw cyd-drefnu'n ffurfiol ymdrechion yr elusennau yn yr Alban. Yn ôl yr hyn yr wyf yn ei ddeall, mae aelodau staff a secondiwyd o Weithrediaeth yr Alban yn gweithio gyda'r cyrff hyn. Os gallem ddilyn proses o'r fath gydag elusennau yng Nghymru, byddwn yn falch o wneud hynny.

Gwnaethoch sôn am bryderon y rhai o gymunedau a gwledydd yr effeithiwyd arnynt sy'n byw yng Nghymru. Gallent fod yn fyfyrwyr o Indonesia ym Mhrifysgol Morgannwg neu'n rhai sy'n cadw bwyntai Thai yng Nghaerdydd, y bu llawer ohonynt yn bresennol y tu allan i barc Cathays yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae'n naturiol iddynt fod yn bryderus. Mae rhai gwledydd, yn enwedig India a Sri Lanka, y ceir llawer sy'n hanu ohonynt yn y proffesiynau meddygol a pharmeddygol yng Nghymru. Bydd y gweithwyr proffesiynol hyn am gyfrannu a rhannu o'u profiad mewn ysbytai ac ymarfer cyffredinol. Byddai'n annaturiol pe na baent yn bryderus ynghylch y modd yr ailsefydlir

practicable, we will want to ensure that their expertise is made available. There are all sorts of ways in which we can tap into people's reasons for contributing—be they charity reasons or because people hail from affected countries or because they are activists with ideas about international development—in order to pull everything together to best effect.

Helen Mary Jones: Thank you for your statement, First Minister. I have some brief questions that seek to elicit more detail about some of the points you made. I welcome your statement about secondments from public services in Wales, particularly in the medium term. Will you give an assurance that the Government will fully support secondments by meeting the travel and living costs, and ensure that health authorities and NHS trusts can release staff members who may wish to go by reimbursing the costs of employing staff to cover their posts? Will you look at expertise within the social services or the police—although the latter is not a devolved responsibility—when exploring the expertise that we could offer to help protect children orphaned by the disaster from the threat of trafficking, as highlighted by voluntary organisations working in affected countries? Will you ensure that we are ready to take any steps necessary to protect children who may end up in Wales if such trafficking unfortunately takes place?

Finally, I wish to develop a further question raised by John Griffiths. In your statement, you mentioned the special support that will be needed by bereaved families. As well as dealing with families who have suffered bereavement because family members were on holiday in the region, there may well be families among our ethnic minority communities who have lost family members and are very distressed. Can you assure us that, as well as supporting the positive aid efforts of these communities, we will ensure that culturally appropriate support is available to any of their members who need additional counselling or support to help them deal with

gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn eu gwledydd genedigol. Os yw'n ymarferol, byddwn am sicrhau y bydd eu harbenigedd ar gael. Mae sawl dull a modd i wneud defnydd o resymau pobl dros gyfrannu—boed hwy'n rhai elusengar neu'n rhai sy'n bod am fod pobl yn hanu o'r gwledydd yr effeithiwyd arnynt neu am eu bod yn ymgyrchwyr sydd â syniadau am ddatblygu rhyngwladol—er mwyn trefnu pethau yn y modd mwyaf effeithiol.

Helen Mary Jones: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad, Brif Weinidog. Mae gennyf rai cwestiynau byr sy'n ceisio mwy o fanylion am rai o'r pwyntiau a wnaethoch. Croesawaf eich datganiad am secondiadau o wasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, yn enwedig yn y tymor canolig. A wnewch roi sicrwydd y bydd y Llywodraeth yn llawn gefnogi secondiadau drwy dalu am gostau byw a theithio, ac yn sicrhau y gall awdurdodau iechyd ac ymddiriedolaethau GIG ryddhau aelodau staff sy'n dymuno mynd drwy ad-dalu'r costau o gyflogi staff i ddirprwyo drostynt? A wnewch ystyried arbenigedd yn y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol neu'r heddlu—er nad yw'r olaf yn fater a ddatganolwyd—wrth ymchwilio i'r arbenigedd y gallem ei gynnig i helpu i amddiffyn plant a gollodd eu rhieni yn y drychineb rhag y bygythiad o fasnachu, y mae cyrff gwirfoddol sy'n gweithio yn y gwledydd yr effeithiwyd arnynt wedi tynnu sylw ato? A wnewch sicrhau ein bod yn barod i gymryd unrhyw gamau sy'n angenrheidiol i amddiffyn plant a allai gyrraedd Cymru yn y diwedd os ceir masnachu o'r fath, fel y gallai ddigwydd, gwaetha'r modd?

Yn olaf, dymunaf ymhelaethu ar gwestiwn pellach a gododd John Griffiths. Yn eich datganiad, cyfeiriasoch at y cymorth arbennig y bydd ei angen ar deuluoedd sydd mewn galar. Yn ogystal â delio â theuluoedd sydd wedi colli anwyliaid am fod aelodau o'u teulu ar wyliau yn y rhanbarth, mae'n bosibl y ceir teuluoedd ymysg ein cymunedau lleiafrifoedd ethnig a gollodd aelodau o'u teulu ac sydd mewn gofid mawr. A allwch ein sicrhau y byddwn, yn ogystal â chefnogi ymdrechion y cymunedau hynny i roi cymorth, yn sicrhau bod cymorth diwyllianol briodol ar gael i unrhyw un o'u haelodau y mae arnynt angen cyngor neu

the loss of relatives?

The First Minister: I am grateful for your questions. The Red Cross mentioned family counselling and bereavement counselling, and it has been active in sending dozens of people from this country with expertise in grief and bereavement counselling to Sri Lanka. This counselling will be offered to people from this country who were on holiday or on business in the region. We do not know how many will require counselling because the nature of the catastrophe has meant that many bodies have not been recovered and many of those recovered were unidentifiable. A situation where bodies have not been recovered or identified calls for a different kind of grief counselling, and professional counsellors say that this is the most difficult form of bereavement to deal with.

You also mentioned the threat of child trafficking. Many children have been orphaned, and many parents have lost their children. We have heard innumerable tales of fathers who tried to hold on to their young children, but the strength of the waves ripped them from their arms. The ideal situation would be to ensure as much matching as possible within individual countries. International adoption should only be considered as a last resort when a child cannot be adopted within the nation. I have read stories of trafficking, as I am sure that you have, but I am not sure how much weight we should put on them as yet.

3.40 p.m.

If there is evidence of trafficking, we would want to pick that up and ensure that it is stamped on as quickly as possible.

Finally, there are issues in relation to post-traumatic stress disorder. I am sure that everybody who lived through those events will have flashbacks and nightmares for years to come and will require particular attention appropriate to that condition.

gymorth ychwanegol i'w helpu i ddelio â'u teimladau o golli perthnasau?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich cwestiynau. Gwnaeth y Groes Goch sôn am gynghori teuluol a chynghori rhai mewn galar, ac mae wedi cymryd camau drwy anfon dwsinau o bobl o'r wlad hon sydd ag arbenigedd mewn cynghori rhai mewn gofid a galar i Sri Lanka. Cynigir cynghori o'r fath i rai o'r wlad hon a fu ar wyliau neu ar fusnes yn y rhanbarth. Ni wyddom pa nifer y bydd arnynt angen eu cynghori gan fod natur y drychineb yn peri bod llawer o gyrff nas darganfuwyd ac na fu modd adnabod llawer o'r rhai a ddarfanfuwyd. Mae sefyllfa lle y mae cyrff na ddarganfuwyd neu nas adnabuwyd yn galw am fath gwahanol o gynghori i rai sydd mewn galar, a dywed cynghorwyr proffesiynol mai hwn yw'r math anoddaf o alar i ddelio ag ef.

Soniasoch hefyd am y bygythiad o fasnachu plant. Mae llawer o blant wedi colli eu rhieni, ac mae llawer o rieni wedi colli eu plant. Clywsom hanesion di-rif am dadau a geisiodd ddal eu gafael yn eu plant ifanc, ond bod cryfder y tonnau wedi'u tynnu o'u breichiau. Y sefyllfa orau fyddai sicrhau cymaint o baru ag y bo modd mewn gwledydd penodol. Ni ddylid ond ystyried mabwysiadu gan rai mewn gwledydd eraill wedi i bopeth arall fethu, pan na ellir mabwysiadu plentyn o fewn y wlad. Yr wyf wedi darllen hanesion am fasnachu, fel yr ydych chi, yr wyf yn siŵr, ond nid wyf yn sicr faint o bwyslais y dylid ei roi arnynt hyd yma.

Os ceir tystiolaeth o fasnachu, byddem am ddilyn hynny a sicrhau y câi ei ddileu cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Yn olaf, mae materion yn codi mewn cysylltiad ag anhwylderau a achosir gan straen ôl-drawmatig. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd pawb a brofodd y digwyddiadau hynny'n cael ôl-fflachiau a hunllfau am flynyddoedd i ddod ac y bydd arnynt angen sylw penodol ar gyfer yr anhwylder hwnnw.

Datganiad ar y Llifogydd yng Ngogledd Cymru **Statement on the Flooding in North Wales**

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): I offer my sympathies to those affected by the floods. It must be very distressing to be flooded for a second time in a year. I will visit the affected area later this week to see the situation for myself.

Following intense rainfall, approximately 50 properties were flooded in the Conwy valley over the weekend, with the communities of Llanrwst and Trefriw again being most badly affected. Roads were flooded, and the Conwy valley railway line was damaged and remains closed, with a replacement bus service in operation. The damage to the track will be assessed over the next few days.

My officials are in close contact with the Environment Agency on its operational response, and I understand that flood warnings were issued on Friday afternoon and updated over the weekend. The Environment Agency reports that the existing defences, which had been repaired following last year's event, were again breached and overtopped by the floodwaters. A further review of the flood risk and defences in the area will now be undertaken.

The Assembly provides funding to the agency for flood-defence improvement works, and the level of support has increased in recent years. It is £3.77 million in the current year, rising to £6.0 million in 2005-06 and 2006-07, and to £6.5 million in 2007-08.

I understand that the agency is considering the options for longer-term solutions to flood alleviation at Llanrwst and Trefriw, and I would encourage it to come forward with proposals as soon as possible.

Helen Mary Jones: I echo the sympathy that you have expressed for those families affected for the second time within a year. Do you acknowledge that, in this dreadful

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Estynnaf fy nghydeimdeimlad i'r rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan y llifogydd. Mae cael llifogydd am yr eildro mewn blwyddyn yn sicr o beri gofid mawr. Byddaf yn ymweld â'r ardal yr effeithiwyd arni yn ddiweddarach yr wythnos hon i weld y sefyllfa drosod fy hun.

Yn dilyn y glaw mawr, cafwyd llifogydd mewn tua 50 o adeiladau yn nyffryn Conwy dros y penwythnos, a chymunedau Llanrwst a Threfriw oedd y rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt waethaf eto. Bu ffyrdd dan ddŵr, a difrodwyd rheilffordd dyffryn Conwy ac mae'n dal i fod ar gau, ac mae gwasanaeth bws yn rhedeg yn ei lle. Asesir y difrod i'r cledrau dros y dyddiau nesaf.

Mae fy swyddogion mewn cysylltiad agos ag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd i gael gwybod am y camau y mae'n eu cymryd i ymateb, a deallaf fod rhybuddion rhag llifogydd wedi'u cyhoeddi brynhawn Gwener a'u diweddarau dros y penwythnos. Mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn adrodd bod yr amddiffynfeydd presennol, a atgyweiriwyd ar ôl y digwyddiad y llynedd, wedi'u bylchu eto a bod dŵr wedi'u gorlifo. Ymgymerir ag adolygiad pellach yn awr o'r perygl o lifogydd ac o'r amddiffynfeydd yn yr ardal.

Mae'r Cynulliad yn darparu cyllid i'r asiantaeth ar gyfer gwaith i wella amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd, ac mae lefel y cymorth wedi codi yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Rhoddir £3.77 miliwn eleni, a bydd y swm hwnnw'n codi i £6.0 miliwn yn 2005-06 a 2006-07, ac i £6.5 miliwn yn 2007-08.

Deallaf fod yr asiantaeth yn ystyried y dewisiadau ar gyfer lliniaru llifogydd yn y tymor hwy yn Llanrwst a Threfriw, ac fe'i hanogwn i gyflwyno cynigion cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Helen Mary Jones: Fel chithau, estynnaf fy nghydymdeimlad i'r teuluoedd hynny yr effeithiwyd arnynt am yr eildro o fewn blwyddyn. A ydych yn cydnabod, yn y

situation, many of those people are feeling angry as well as distressed? Almost a year has gone by and they feel that they are no better off than they were. In that context, I welcome your decision to visit the area and speak to the people directly.

Will you undertake to fully fund any request made by the local authority under the Bellwin formula to meet its costs in dealing with the immediate aftermath? Will you accept that it is clear that the current flood defences are no longer adequate? They may once have been adequate but they are no longer so. Will you accept that further work will be needed? You say in your statement that you will encourage the agency to come forward with longer-term solutions, and I press you to ensure that it does so as a matter of urgency, given what this community has suffered in the last year. I ask you to come back to us if you cannot give us today some sort of timescale as to when the agency will be able to make those recommendations to you.

Will you commit to fully funding those recommendations when the agency brings them forward? I realise that there are always priorities to be met within any budget, but I hope that you accept that this matter has now become a priority. Will you discuss with the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration how the Government might work with insurance companies to see if there is any way of providing insurance cover to those families who are repeatedly affected by flooding? Those affected by the most recent flooding, and others in other parts of Wales, cannot get insurance—not only flood insurance but any household insurance—because they live in areas that are subject to flooding. I have raised this with you before, and I urge you to discuss it with the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration to see whether you can get a sympathetic response from the insurance companies.

Carwyn Jones: I can imagine that people

sefyllfa ofnadwy hon, fod llawer o'r bobl hynny'n teimlo dicter yn ogystal â gofid? Aeth bron flwyddyn heibio a theimlant nad yw'n ddim gwell arnynt nag yr oedd o'r blaen. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, croesawaf eich penderfyniad i ymweld â'r ardal a siarad â'r bobl wyneb yn wyneb.

A wnewch ymgymryd i dalu unrhyw swm a ofynnir gan yr awdurdod lleol o dan fformiwla Bellwin i dalu'r costau a gaiff wrth ddelio â'r canlyniadau cyntaf? A wnewch dderbyn ei bod yn amlwg nad yw'r amddiffynfeydd presennol rhag llifogydd yn ddigonol bellach? Efallai iddynt fod yn ddigonol unwaith ond nid ydynt bellach. A wnewch dderbyn bod angen gwaith pellach? Dywedwch yn eich datganiad y byddwch yn annog yr asiantaeth i gyflwyno atebion ar gyfer y tymor hwy, a phwysaf arnoch i sicrhau y gwnaiff hynny fel mater o frys, yng ngolwg yr hyn y mae'r gymuned hon wedi'i ddiodef yn y flwyddyn a aeth heibio. Gofynnaf ichi ddod yn ôl atom os na allwch gynnig rhyw fath o amserlen inni heddiw o ran pa bryd y bydd yr asiantaeth yn rhoi'r argymhellion hynny i chi.

A wnewch ymrwymo i dalu'n llawn i roi'r argymhellion hynny ar waith pan fydd yr asiantaeth yn eu cyflwyno? Sylweddolaf fod blaenoriaethau y mae'n rhaid ymateb iddynt bob amser mewn unrhyw gyllideb, ond gobeithiaf eich bod yn derbyn bod y mater hwn yn flaenoriaeth bellach. A wnewch drafod gyda'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio sut y gallai'r Llywodraeth weithio gyda chwmnïau yswiriant i weld a oes unrhyw fodd i ddarparu yswiriant ar gyfer y teuluoedd hynny sy'n cael llifogydd dro ar ôl tro? Mae'r rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan y llifogydd diweddaraf, ac eraill mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru, yn methu â chael yswiriant—nid yswiriant rhag llifogydd yn unig ond unrhyw fath o yswiriant ar gyfer y cartref—gan eu bod yn byw mewn ardaloedd sy'n agored i lifogydd. Yr wyf wedi codi hyn gyda chi o'r blaen, a phwysaf arnoch i'w drafod gyda'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i weld a allwch gael ymateb cydymdeimladol gan y cwmnïau yswiriant.

Carwyn Jones: Gallwn feddwl y bydd pobl

will be angry and upset at being flooded for the second time. I know the sort of damage that floodwater can do; it is not pleasant, and it creates a tremendous sense of vulnerability when it happens for the second time.

It is difficult to make any commitment with regard to funding because we do not yet know what is being proposed. I know that the agency is committed to improving the flood defences at Trefriw in particular, and it will, inevitably, be looking to secure funding in order to rebuild and strengthen those defences. As I outlined in my statement, a great deal more money will be invested in flood defence in the future, which is a sign of the Government's commitment.

It is clear now that the defences on the Trefriw side of the river Conwy are inadequate. Last year, it was believed that the amount of rain that fell was unusual—we have now seen it for a second time. That means that the agency will have to reassess the situation in the Conwy valley. A number of reasons are suggested as to why we experience the kind of weather that we are currently seeing. One reason is climate change. It is clear that areas that were not previously believed to be at great risk from flooding may now be within the at risk category. The breaches that were destroyed last year, and which have been repaired, held firm during the flooding this time, but the dyke itself, which protects the village of Trefriw, was breached in other areas. Clearly, there is a weakness there that engineers will need to assess. I will say to the people of Trefriw and Llanrwst on Friday that engineers will have to find a way through this. There is no easy answer, and it will take some time to discover the best way forward with regard to protecting Trefriw, in particular, in the future.

We have put money on the table and we now have one flood defence committee for the whole of Wales, which will be beneficial in terms of releasing funding for all parts of Wales. However, it is important that the agency's flood engineers bring forth proposals on how to deal with this issue in the future. It is clear that what we believed was an unusual event cannot be regarded as

yn ddig ac yn ofidus o gael llifogydd am yr eildro. Gwn am y math o ddifrod y gellir ei gael o lifogydd; mae'n annymunol, ac mae'n peri i rywun deimlo'n ofnadwy o ddiamddiffyn pan ddigwydd yr eildro.

Anodd yw gwneud unrhyw ymrwymiad mewn cysylltiad ag ariannu gan na wyddom eto beth a gynigir. Gwn fod yr asiantaeth wedi ymrwymo i wella'r amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd yn Nhrefriw'n benodol, ac y bydd yn sicr o geisio cael cyllid er mwyn ailgodi ac atgyfnerthu'r amddiffynfeydd hynny. Fel y nodais yn fy natganiad, buddsoddir mwy o lawer o arian mewn amddiffyn rhag llifogydd yn y dyfodol, ac mae hynny'n arwydd o ymrwymiad y Llywodraeth.

Mae'n amlwg bellach fod yr amddiffynfeydd ar ochr Trefriw i afon Conwy yn annigonol. Y llynedd, credwyd bod maint y glaw a gafwyd yn anarferol—fe'i gwelsom bellach am yr eildro. Oherwydd hynny, bydd yn rhaid i'r asiantaeth ailasesu'r sefyllfa yn nyffryn Conwy. Awgrymir sawl rheswm am y math o dywydd yr ydym yn ei brofi ar hyn o bryd. Un rheswm yw newid yn yr hinsawdd. Mae'n amlwg bod ardaloedd y tybid cynt nad oeddent mewn perygl mawr oddi wrth lifogydd yn cael eu hystyried yn rhai a allai fod mewn perygl bellach. Yr oedd y bylchau a gafwyd y llynedd, ac a atgyweiriwyd, wedi dal yn gadarn yn ystod y llifogydd y tro hwn, ond yr oedd y clawdd ei hun, sy'n amddiffyn pentref Trefriw, wedi cael ei fylchu mewn mannau eraill. Mae'n amlwg bod gwendid yn y fan honno y bydd yn rhai i beirianwyr ei asesu. Dywedaf wrth bobl Trefriw a Llanrwst ddydd Gwener y bydd peirianwyr yn gorfod datrys hyn mewn rhyw fodd. Nid oes ateb hawdd, a chymer gryn amser i ddarganfod y ffordd orau ymlaen gyda golwg ar amddiffyn Trefriw, yn benodol, yn y dyfodol.

Rhoesom arian ar y bwrdd a bellach mae gennym un pwyllgor amddiffyn rhag llifogydd i Gymru gyfan, a fydd yn llesol o ran rhyddhau arian ar gyfer pob rhan o Gymru. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig i beirianwyr amddiffyn rhag llifogydd yr asiantaeth gyflwyno cynigion ynghylch sut i ddelio â'r mater hwn yn y dyfodol. Mae'n amlwg na fydd modd ystyried yr hyn y

such in the future.

Denise Idris Jones: I also express my sympathy for those in the Conwy valley, and thank the Minister for his comments. We must consider this issue in the long term. There is also a problem on the A55 if you are travelling from Llandudno to Bangor. Part of the A55 in Llanfairfechan floods, resulting in gridlock. There are warning signs, but if the traffic could be stopped and made to turn around in Penmaenmawr and come back to Llandudno, that would stop the long queues.

Carwyn Jones: We must realise that some areas of Wales will still be prone to flooding, and it will take some time for some of them to be better protected against flooding. The reason for that is that we are now seeing more flash floods and more low-risk areas being affected by severe floods, with all the damage that those floods bring in their wake. Engineers must assess the situation in the Conwy valley. A draft of TAN 15, the technical advice note that deals with flooding, has been put out for consultation, on the basis that we must recognise that previously low-risk areas are now higher-risk areas, with the Conwy valley being one such example.

Lisa Francis: Our sympathies go out to the people of the Conwy valley, who are suffering from the consequences of flooding for a second time in less than a year, and we sympathise with the financial implications that this will have for them in the future. The damage is yet to be fully assessed, but, as you said, at Trefriw, where water entered properties at a rate of 2ft in 10 minutes, and where two rivers converge, cobs and flood defences were again breached. There has been much local criticism and anger that those defences were inadequately reinforced and repaired last year. Will you give assurances that this work will be prioritised and carried out to a safe and satisfactory standard? Householders at Trefriw have also reported that discussions with the Environment Agency last November revealed that an 85 per cent grant could have been made available to them to purchase special

credwyd ei fod yn ddigwyddiad anarferol yn rhywbeth o'r fath o hyn allan.

Denise Idris Jones: Yr wyf finnau'n estyn fy nghydymdeimlad i'r rhai yn nyffryn Conwy, a diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am ei sylwadau. Rhaid inni ystyried y mater hwn yn y tymor hir. Ceir problem hefyd ar yr A55 wrth deithio o Landudno i Fangor. Ceir llifogydd ar ran o'r A55 yn Llanfairfechan, sy'n arwain at dagfeydd. Ceir arwyddion rhybudd, ond os gellid atal y traffig a pheri iddo droi'n ôl ym Mhenmaen-mawr a dod yn ôl i Landudno, byddai hynny'n fodd i gael gwared â'r ciwiau hir.

Carwyn Jones: Rhaid inni sylweddoli y bydd rhai ardaloedd yng Nghymru'n dal i fod yn agored i lifogydd, ac y cymer gryn amser i gael gwell amddifynfeydd rhag llifogydd ar gyfer rhai ohonynt. Y rheswm am hynny yw ein bod yn profi mwy o fflachlifoedd yn awr ac mae rhagor o ardaloedd risg isel yn cael eu heffeithio gan lifogydd difrifol, a'r holl ddifrod a ddaw yn sgîl llifogydd o'r fath. Rhaid i beirianwyr asesu'r sefyllfa yn nyffryn Conwy. Mae drafft o TAN 15, y nodyn cyngor technegol sy'n ymdrin â llifogydd, wedi'i ddsbarthu ar gyfer ymgynghori arno, gan gymryd bod rhaid inni dderbyn bod ardaloedd a oedd cynt yn rhai risg isel bellach yn rhai risg uchel, a bod dyffryn Conwy'n un enghraifft o hynny.

Lisa Francis: Estynnwn ein cydymdeimlad i bobl dyffryn Conwy, sy'n dioddef canlyniadau llifogydd am yr eildro o fewn llai na blwyddyn, a chydymdeimlwn â hwy oherwydd y goblygiadau ariannol a ddaw yn eu sgîl yn y dyfodol. Nid yw'r difrod wedi'i asesu'n llawn eto, ond, fel y dywedaso, yn Nhrefriw, lle y daeth 2 droedfedd o ddŵr i mewn i adeiladau mewn 10 munud, a lle y daw dwy afon ynghyd, cafodd y cloddiau a'r amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd eu bylchu eto. Cafwyd llawer o feirniadaeth a dichter yn lleol am fod y gwaith o atgyfnerthu ac atgyweirio'r amddiffynfeydd hynny y llynedd yn annigonol. A wnewch roi sicrwydd y bydd y gwaith hwn yn cael blaenoriaeth ac y caiff ei gyflawni at safon ddiogel a boddhaol? Dywedodd deiliaid tai yn Nhrefriw hefyd eu bod wedi darganfod drwy drafodaethau a gawsant ag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd fis Tachwedd diwethaf y

flood doors, which provide a seal when the water strikes, but that the 15 per cent shortfall in the grant could not be found by Conwy County Borough Council. The doors were, therefore, not provided. Will you discuss with your colleagues the possibility of an increase in the revenue support grant for Conwy County Borough Council, which could go towards supporting a flood alleviation scheme for the entire valley?

3.50 p.m.

Finally, you mentioned the railway line: following the £4.6 million that was spent last year on repairing the line, will you have discussions with Network Rail about future repairs, and will the standard of those repairs be commensurate with what is required, for example, by Alfred McAlpine's slate scheme to remove slate aggregates from Blaenau Ffestiniog, which is important for the area? The railway is important for commuters and tourism in the area as well as industry, but it also provides a bulwark or defence against flooding for many of the properties that flank the line. Therefore, it is essential that repairs to the line are carried out posthaste.

Carwyn Jones: Many railway lines in Wales are prone to flooding, for example, the Cambrian coast line. Traditionally, the area around what was Llanrwst railway station—now Llanrwst north railway station—was often prone to flooding because it was so close to the river. I should emphasise that the repairs carried out following last year's flooding held firm. The flood defences were breached in other areas. Therefore, there was not a problem with the repairs. That said, it does show that there may well be a need, which the agency has accepted, to strengthen the defences throughout the area—I have seen the defences so I know what they look like—given the fact that the river has now breached its banks twice.

Ultimately, it is a matter for the agency as to how it deals with this. We provide the money and it provides the expertise in terms of

gellid bod wedi cynnig grant o 85 y cant iddynt i brynu drysau llifogydd arbennig, sy'n selio pan yw'r dŵr yn taro, ond na allai Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy ddod o hyd i'r diffyg o 15 y cant yn y grant. Oherwydd hynny, ni ddarparwyd y drysau. A wnewch drafod gyda'ch cyd-Weinidogion y posibilrwydd o roi swm ychwanegol yn y grant cynnal refeniw i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy, y gellid ei roi tuag at gynnal cynllun lliniaru llifogydd ar gyfer y dyffryn cyfan?

Yn olaf, cyfeiriasoch at y rheilffordd: yn dilyn y £4.6 miliwn a wariwyd y llynedd ar atgyweiriadau, a wnewch gynnal trafodaethau â Network Rail ynghylch gwaith atgyweirio yn y dyfodol, ac a fydd safon yr atgyweiriadau hynny'n bodloni'r gofynion, er enghraifft, ar gyfer cynllun llechi Alfred McAlpine i gludo llechfeini mân o Flaenau Ffestiniog, gan fod hynny'n bwysig i'r ardal? Mae'r rheilffordd yn bwysig i gymudwyr ac i dwristiaeth yn yr ardal yn ogystal â diwydiant, ond mae hefyd yn glawdd neu'n amddiffynfa rhag llifogydd i lawer o'r tai sydd wrth ochr y rheilffordd. Felly, mae'n bwysig gwneud gwaith atgyweirio ar y rheilffordd rhag blaen.

Carwyn Jones: Mae llawer o reilffyrdd yng Nghymru'n agored i lifogydd, er enghraifft, rheilffordd arfordir y Cambrian. Yn y gorffennol, ceid llifogydd yn aml yng nghyffiniau cyn-orsaf reilffordd Llanrwst—gorsaf reilffordd gogledd Llanrwst bellach—am ei bod mor agos i'r afon. Dylwn bwysleisio bod yr atgyweiriadau a wnaed ar ôl y llifogydd y llynedd wedi aros yn gadarn. Bylchwyd yr amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd mewn mannau eraill. Felly, nid oedd dim o'i le ar yr atgyweiriadau. Wedi dweud hynny, mae'n dangos ei bod yn ddigon posibl bod angen, a gydnabuwyd gan yr asiantaeth, i atgyfnerthu'r amddiffynfeydd ledled yr ardal—gwelais yr amddiffynfeydd felly gwn pa olwg sydd arnynt—yn wyneb y ffaith bod yr afon wedi torri ei glannau ddwywaith bellach.

Yn y pen draw, mater i'r asiantaeth yw'r modd y bydd yn delio â hyn. Yr ydym ni'n darparu'r arian a hi sy'n cynnig yr

finding a solution that is acceptable in the area. I have not heard of anyone complaining this time that the warning system was inadequate. However, I will find out more about that on Friday. That was one of the problems in February, when it was suggested that the warning system was inadequate, but I have not heard that said this time.

I will have to investigate the matter of the grant further. I have not heard that complaint made before, and certainly not from Conwy County Borough Council, but I will be able to discuss that on Friday when I visit the area.

It is important that the railway line is repaired to the appropriate standard. Andrew Davies will have heard what you said and I am sure that he will keep a close eye on how those repairs are carried out.

Eleanor Burnham: I, too, sympathise with the Conwy valley residents; the situation is quite appalling. There are enough floods around Ross, let alone in the Conwy valley.

What are you doing immediately to tackle this and how much Assembly flood grant is available? When I heard you say on the radio the other day that money was not a problem, it took my breath away. The Environment Agency would like to hear that, perhaps. How are you ensuring that people in the Conwy valley and other areas are aware of this money and that can access it easily and in their hour of need? How can people like Mrs Aylwood of Trefriw afford £80,000 to refurbish her home, replace her furniture and effects? How can people be helped with their household insurance? Will you also undertake to arrange for companies to display their flood protection systems, which Lisa Francis mentioned, which are on sale in the worst-affected areas, and encourage their use to protect properties and provide access grants for the systems available?

Finally, will you assure us that you and the Environment Agency are doing enough? I have attended various Environment Agency

arbenigedd o ran canfod ateb sy'n dderbyniol yn yr ardal. Ni chlywais neb yn cwyno'r tro hwn fod y system rhybudd yn annigonol. Fodd bynnag, caf wybod mwy am hynny ddydd Gwener. Honno oedd un o'r problemau ym mis Chwefror, pan awgrymwyd bod y system rhybudd yn annigonol, ond ni chlywais neb yn dweud hynny y tro hwn.

Bydd yn rhaid imi ymchwilio ymhellach i fater y grant. Ni chlywais y gŵyn honno o'r blaen, ac nid gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy yn sicr, ond byddaf yn gallu trafod hynny ddydd Gwener pan ymwelaf â'r ardal.

Mae'n bwysig i'r rheilffordd gael ei hatgyweirio at safon briodol. Bydd Andrew Davies wedi clywed yr hyn a ddywedasocho ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn cadw llygad barcud ar y gwaith atgyweirio hwnnw.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf finnau'n cydymdeimlo â thrigolion dyffryn Conwy; mae'r sefyllfa'n gwbl warthus. Mae digon o lifogydd o gwmpas Ross, heb sôn am ddyffryn Conwy.

Pa gamau cyntaf yr ydych yn eu cymryd i ymdrin â hyn a beth yw maint grant llifogydd y Cynulliad sydd ar gael? Pan glywais chi'n dweud ar y radio y diwrnod o'r blaen nad oedd arian yn broblem, fe'm syfrdanwyd. Efallai y byddai Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn falch o glywed hynny. Sut yr ydych yn gofalu bod pobl yn nyffryn Conwy ac mewn ardaloedd eraill yn gwybod am yr arian hwn a bod modd iddynt ei gael yn rhwydd ar awr gyfyng? Sut y gall rhai fel Mrs Aylwood yn Nhrefriw fforddio £80,000 i adnewyddu ei chartref a phrynu dodrefn ac eiddo personol yn lle'r rhai a gollodd? Sut y gellir helpu pobl gydag yswiriant ar gyfer eu cartrefi? A wnewch ymgymryd hefyd i drefnu i gwmnïau arddangos eu systemau amddiffyn rhag llifogydd, y cyfeiriodd Lisa Francis atynt, sydd ar werth yn yr ardaloedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt waethaf, ac i hyrwyddo defnydd ohonynt i ddiogelu tai ac i gynnig grantiau mynediad ar gyfer y systemau sydd ar gael?

Yn olaf, a wnewch ein sicrhau eich bod chi ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn gwneud digon? Bûm yn amryw o gyfarfodydd

meetings and I sometimes wonder, given that it spends so much money and expends so much energy on feasibility studies, whether it is doing the work. Can you assure us that it is getting to grips with medium to long-term preventative measures, so that Conwy valley residents can rest peacefully in their beds every time it rains? When it rains now people get so upset, they are beside themselves. We must have rigorous flood defence systems—that is the issue—that do not just get blown away by a few days of overwhelming rain. The Environment Agency always refers to a given flood as the biggest flood in living memory. That is not good enough for the residents of the Conwy valley and others.

Carwyn Jones: It is difficult to predict how a river will behave, particularly given that the weather has been unusually bad on two occasions. It suggests that there will be a need in the future to consider the weather that we have had recently when looking at the flood defence scheme.

You suggested that I said on the radio that money was not a problem. I did say that, but the question I was asked was whether money was a problem in terms of the flood defences at Trefriw. That clearly is not the case, because they were repaired after the last floods. That is why I said that money was not a problem.

In terms of the people in Trefriw, I remember asking, the last time that flooding happened, whether anybody in Trefriw did not have insurance. As far as I am aware, everyone had insurance then and that is still the case, therefore the insurance should cover their financial losses. It may well be more difficult for people to get insurance in the future. We need to recognise that and I want to discuss that with the people that I will meet in Trefriw on Friday, when I am in the area.

It would be unfair to say that the Environment Agency has done nothing. The agency has been studying at least four models

Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a byddaf yn meddwl weithiau, gan ei bod yn gwario cymaint o arian ac yn cysegru cymaint o'i hegnïon i wneud astudiaethau dichonoldeb, a yw'n cyflawni'r gwaith? A allwch ein sicrhau ei bod yn mynd i'r afael â mesurau ataliol ar gyfer y tymor canolig a hir, fel y gall trigolion dyffryn Conwy gysgu'n dawel yn eu gwelyau bob tro y mae'n bwrw glaw? Pan yw'n bwrw glaw'n awr mae pobl yn mynd o'u cof gan eu bod yn poeni cymaint. Rhaid inni gael systemau cadarn i amddiffyn rhag llifogydd—dyna'r pwnc pwysig—na fyddant yn cael eu chwalu ar ôl ychydig ddyddiau o law trwm. Mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd bob amser yn dweud am achos penodol o lifogydd mai hwnnw oedd y mwyaf o fewn cof. Nid yw hynny'n ddigon da i drigolion dyffryn Conwy ac eraill.

Carwyn Jones: Anodd yw rhagweld sut y bydd afon yn ymddwyn, yn enwedig o gofio'r ffaith bod y tywydd wedi bod yn anarferol o ddrwg ar ddau achlysur. Mae hynny'n awgrymu y bydd angen ystyried yn y dyfodol y tywydd a gawsom yn ddiweddar wrth edrych ar y cynllun amddiffyn rhag llifogydd.

Awgrymasoch imi ddweud ar y radio nad oedd arian yn broblem. Dywedais hynny, ond y cwestiwn a ofynnwyd imi oedd a oedd arian yn broblem o ran yr amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd yn Nhrefriw. Mae'n amlwg nad ydyw, gan eu bod wedi cael eu hatgyweirio ar ôl y llifogydd diwethaf. Dyna pam y dywedais nad oedd arian yn broblem.

Mewn cysylltiad â phobl Trefriw, cofiaf ofyn, y tro diwethaf y cafwyd llifogydd, a oedd unrhyw un yn Nhrefriw a oedd heb yswiriant. Hyd y gwn i, yr oedd gan bawb yswiriant bryd hynny ac felly y mae o hyd, felly mae'r yswiriant yn debygol o fod yn ddigon i wneud iawn am eu colledion ariannol. Mae'n ddigon posibl y bydd yn anos i bobl gael yswiriant yn y dyfodol. Rhaid inni gydnabod hynny a dymunaf drafod hynny gyda'r rhai y byddaf yn cwrdd â hwy yn Nhrefriw ddydd Gwener, pan fyddaf yn yr ardal honno.

Annheg fyddai dweud nad yw Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi gwneud dim. Bu'r asiantaeth yn astudio o leiaf bedwar model o

of flood defence for the Trefriw area, in considering what would be most effective and provide the maximum protection against flooding. It is not the case that the barrier was repaired and that that was the end of it—the agency has been working proactively to find a way to deal with the situation. There are many ideas out there. I heard some of them expressed on the radio yesterday, and it will be a case of picking the best one to provide the protection required.

Janet Ryder: I live in a town which has in the past been badly affected by flooding. Thankfully, after a big public outcry, flood defences have now been put in place. When the rain came this time, people in most parts of Ruthin were able to sleep peacefully in their beds. Flood defences can work when they are brought up to standard, but it is a costly job for the Environment Agency and the county council to undertake. In response to Helen Mary, you said that you were not sure whether the Bellwin scheme would kick in to support the county council. Will you and your Cabinet Colleagues look at the extra expenses that might fall on Conwy County Borough Council as a result of the flooding, and consider whether any extra financial support will be given to it?

What Cabinet pressure will be brought to bear on the rail company? The railway line is a major economic route for the Conwy valley and it is crucial for tourism. The repairs must not only be up to standard, but done quickly: people from the coast travelling up the valley need the railway to be open for the Easter season. Will you or your Cabinet colleagues put pressure on the rail companies to ensure that that work is carried out so that the line is open by the beginning of the Easter season?

Carwyn Jones: If I remember correctly, it is for a local authority to apply for the Bellwin scheme. As yet, no application has come forward. It may well be that the local authority, having looked at the situation, may conclude that it does not come under the Bellwin scheme. However, it is for a local authority to consider whether it wants to apply under the Bellwin scheme.

amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd ar gyfer ardal Trefriw, wrth ystyried beth a fyddai'n fwyaf effeithiol ac yn cynnig y diogelwch gorau rhag llifogydd. Nid yw'n wir dweud bod y clawdd wedi'i atgyweirio a dyna ben arni—mae'r asiantaeth wedi gweithio'n rhagweithiol i ddarganfod dull o ddelio â'r sefyllfa. Mae llawer o syniadau i'w cael. Clywais fynegi rhai ohonynt ar y radio ddoe, a bydd yn fater o ddewis y gorau i roi'r amddiffyniad y mae ei angen.

Janet Ryder: Yr wyf yn byw mewn tref yr effeithiwyd yn ddrwg arni yn y gorffennol gan lifogydd. Diolch byth, ar ôl protestiadau mawr gan y cyhoedd, mae amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd wedi'u codi bellach. Pan ddaeth y glaw y tro hwn, yr oedd pobl yn y rhan fwyaf o dref Rhuthun yn gallu cysgu'n dawel yn eu gwelyau. Gall amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd lwyddo os cânt eu codi at y safon, ond mae'n waith drud i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a'r cyngor sir. Mewn ymateb i Helen Mary, dywedasoch nad oeddech yn sicr a fyddai cynllun Bellwin yn dod i'r adwy i helpu'r cyngor sir. A wnewch chi a'ch cyd-Weinidogion edrych ar y costau ychwanegol a allai ddod i ran Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy o ganlyniad i'r llifogydd, ac ystyried a roddir unrhyw gymorth ariannol ychwanegol iddo?

Pa bwysau y bydd y Cabinet yn ei roi ar y cwmni rheilffyrdd? Mae'r rheilffordd yn llwybr economaidd o bwys i ddyffryn Conwy ac mae'n hollbwysig i dwristiaeth. Rhaid i'r atgyweiriadau fod yn foddhaol, a rhaid eu gwneud yn gyflym hefyd: rhaid i'r rhai o'r arfordir sy'n teithio i fyny'r dyffryn gael gweld y rheilffordd yn agored ar gyfer tymor y Pasg. A wnewch chi neu'ch cyd-Weinidogion ddwyn pwysau ar y cwmnïau rheilffyrdd i sicrhau y gwneir y gwaith hwnnw fel y bydd y rheilffordd yn agored erbyn dechrau tymor y Pasg?

Carwyn Jones: Os cofiaf yn iawn, lle'r awdurdod lleol yw ymgeisio am gynllun Bellwin. Hyd yma, ni chafwyd cais. Mae'n ddigon posibl y bydd yr awdurdod lleol, wedi iddo ystyried y sefyllfa, yn dod i'r casgliad nad yw'n gymwys ar gyfer cynllun Bellwin. Fodd bynnag, lle'r awdurdod lleol yw ystyried a yw'n dymuno ymgeisio o dan gynllun Bellwin.

The railway line is important. It will be used in future to take slate from Blaenau Ffestiniog, as it is not practical to take it by road. I would be less concerned about the railway not being used in the longer term, as it clearly will be. However, we need to ensure that the flooding risk to the railway is minimised in the future, as it is particularly expensive to repair railway lines.

In terms of Ruthin, you are right to say that Mwrog street was an area that suffered much from flooding in the past. As you say, there was a public outcry, which was ably led by my colleague, Alun Pugh.

Y Llywydd: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad ac am ei barodrwydd i ymweld â'r ardal.

Mae'r rheilffordd yn bwysig. Fe'i defnyddir yn y dyfodol i gludo llechi o Flaenau Ffestiniog, gan nad yw'n ymarferol mynd â hwy ar hyd y ffyrdd. Ni welaf gymaint o le i bryderu na chaiff y rheilffordd ei defnyddio yn y tymor hwy, gan ei bod yn amlwg y caiff. Er hynny, rhaid inni sicrhau y bydd y perygl o lifogydd i'r rheilffordd yn cael ei leihau yn y dyfodol, gan mai gwaith arbennig o ddrud yw atgyweirio rheilffyrdd.

Mewn cysylltiad â Rhuthun, yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud bod stryd Mwrog yn ardal a ddioddefodd lawer oddi wrth lifogydd yn y gorffennol. Fel y dywedwch, bu protestiadau cyhoeddus, a arweiniwyd yn alluog gan fy nghyd-Weinidog, Alun Pugh.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the Minister for his statement and for his willingness to visit the area.

Datganiad yn Hysbysu'r Cynulliad am Newidiadau i'r Cabinet Statement Notifying the Assembly of Changes to the Cabinet

The First Minister: Yesterday I carried out a minor reallocation of Cabinet ministerial responsibilities. Brian Gibbons becomes the Minister for Health and Social Services. Jane Hutt becomes the Business Minister, with overall strategic responsibility within the Government for communications, equal opportunities, liaison with Westminster and co-ordinating the Assembly Government's change programme.

I have decided to split the job of Business Minister and chief whip. Karen Sinclair will therefore continue as the Government's chief whip and will attend Cabinet meetings, although no longer as a member of it. I am grateful to her for the work that she has undertaken in helping this Labour administration to translate the manifesto on which we were elected into measures on the floor of the Assembly with a majority of one. That we have lost so few votes under these circumstances is a tribute not only to group discipline but also to the respect felt for the chief whip.

4.00 p.m.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ddoe gwneuthum newid bach o ran ailddyranu cyfrifoldebau gweinidogol y Cabinet. Daw Brian Gibbons yn Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Daw Jane Hutt yn Drefnydd, a chanddi gyfrifoldeb strategol cyffredinol o fewn y Llywodraeth dros gyfathrebu, cyfle cyfartal, cysylltu â San Steffan a chydlynu rhaglen newid Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Yr wyf wedi penderfynu rhannu swydd y Trefnydd a'r prif chwip. Gan hynny, bydd Karen Sinclair yn parhau fel prif chwip y Llywodraeth a bydd yn bresennol yng nghyfarfodydd y Cabinet, er na fydd yn aelod ohono bellach. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar iddi am y gwaith a wnaeth o ran helpu'r weinyddiaeth Lafur hon i droi'r maniffesto y'n hetholwyd ar ei sail yn fesurau ar lawr y Cynulliad â mwyfrif o un. Mae'r ffaith ein bod wedi colli cyn lleied o bleidleisiau o dan yr amgylchiadau hyn yn deyrnged i ddisgyblaeth y grŵp a hefyd i'r parch a deimlir at y prif chwip.

Jane Hutt has made a huge contribution to developing health and social services in a devolved Wales, as any fair-minded Assembly Member will recognise. She now hands on the baton of responsibility for health and social services to Brian Gibbons, with the downward trajectory of long waits in the NHS firmly established. The corner has clearly been turned. On the 90 per cent of NHS activity that does not involve waiting lists—the public health agenda, the primary care agenda, and accident and emergency services—the five years and eight months that Jane Hutt has served have put us at the forefront of health reform. I have now asked Jane to take on another key Cabinet position where she can help co-ordinate and communicate our agenda and translate it into practical action.

If anyone has served an apprenticeship to be Minister for Health and Social Services in Wales, it is Brian Gibbons—or should I say Dr Brian Gibbons—with his unique experience of having served as a general practitioner in the heart of the Valleys for several decades and having been Deputy Minister to Jane Hutt for two years, and, more recently, to Andrew Davies. I commend this reshuffle to the Assembly.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank the First Minister for his second statement today and for apprising the Assembly of changes to his Cabinet at the earliest opportunity.

We congratulate Brian Gibbons on his appointment as Minister for Health and Social Services. He will have a difficult task, as I will mention in a minute, but we wish him well. We also thank Karen Sinclair for the duties she performed as Business Minister. I am sure that she and I will remember the differences that we had across the Chamber. However, I always found Karen to be approachable on a personal level, and we wish her well—although perhaps not too well—in carrying out her duties as chief whip; I hope that she is not as successful as she has been in the last 12 months during the next 12 months. Only time will tell.

Mae Jane Hutt wedi gwneud cyfraniad aruthrol tuag at ddatblygu iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn y Gymru ddatganoledig, fel y bydd unrhyw Aelod Cynulliad teg ei farn yn cydnabod. Yn awr mae'n trosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb dros iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i Brian Gibbons, a'r gostyngiad yn yr arosiadau hir yn y GIG wedi'i sefydlu'n gadarn. Mae'n amlwg bod pethau'n newid er gwell. Ar fater y 90 y cant o weithgarwch y GIG nad yw'n ymwneud â rhestrau aros—yr agenda iechyd cyhoeddus, yr agenda gofal sylfaenol, a gwasanaethau argyfwng ac achosion brys—mae'r pum mlynedd ac wyth mis a wasanaethodd Jane Hutt wedi ein rhoi ar y blaen o ran diwygio ym maes iechyd. Yr wyf wedi gofyn yn awr i Jane gymryd swydd allweddol arall yn y Cabinet lle y gall helpu i gydlynu a chyfleu ein hagenda a'i throi'n gamau ymarferol.

Os oes rhywun a fwriodd brentisiaeth i fod yn Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yng Nghymru, Brian Gibbons—neu efallai y dylwn ddweud Dr Brian Gibbons—yw hwnnw, gan fod ganddo brofiad unigryw o fod wedi gwasanaethu fel ymarferwr cyffredinol yng nghanol y Cymoedd am sawl degawd ac o fod yn Ddirprwy Weinidog i Jane Hutt am ddwy flynedd, ac, yn fwy diweddar, i Andrew Davies. Cymeradwyaf yr ad-drefnu hwn i'r Cynulliad.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ail ddatganiad heddiw ac am roi gwybod i'r Cynulliad am newidiadau i'w Cabinet ar y cyfle cynharaf.

Llongyfarchwn Brian Gibbons ar ei benodi'n Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Fe'i caiff yn waith anodd, fel y nodaf mewn munud, ond dymunwn yn dda iddo. Yr ydym hefyd yn diolch i Karen Sinclair am y dyletswyddau a gyflawnodd fel Trefnydd. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hi a minnau'n cofio'r gwahaniaethau barn a fu rhyngom ar draws y Siambr. Er hynny, yr wyf bob amser wedi cael Karen yn un hawdd mynd ati ar lefel bersonol, a dymunwn yn dda iddi—er nad yn rhy dda efallai—wrth iddi gyflawni ei dyletswyddau fel prif chwip; gobeithiaf na fydd mor llwyddiannus ag y bu yn y 12 mis diwethaf yn ystod y 12 mis

nesaf. Amser yn unig a ddengys.

I have no doubt either that Jane Hutt is a dedicated and principled politician. She has worked extremely hard in her post as Minister for Health and Social Services. However, I am afraid that politics can be a harsh taskmaster, as the First Minister and I know from our experience of some 17 years in the frontline of politics. The harsh reality is that, despite whatever other achievements might have been made, long waiting lists have bedevilled your Government. We tabled a motion of no confidence, not in the Minister for Health and Social Services, but in your Government's health policies. With a change of Minister, we expected a recognition that the policy on waiting lists must now change, given that there are 100,000 additional people on the waiting lists than there were when Labour came to Government in 1999.

I have not seen any sign that you and your new Minister for Health and Social Services will change policy. We need some firm assurances from you today that there will be a change in policy, with a strategy to reduce these long waiting lists much faster than is currently being proposed, because the judgment of the people of Wales will not be based on Dr Brian Gibbons as a former GP, but on the extent to which he and your Government can reduce waiting lists. You have indicated that your Minister for Health and Social Services is to be given a free rein in developing health policy. That is, frankly, an astounding statement. There must be a Government strategy for which you as First Minister are responsible. Unless there is that change of policy, I am afraid that Dr Brian Gibbons will have one of the shortest political honeymoons in history.

The First Minister: I was grateful for the opening remarks, when the ability to find some sort of greater unity beyond partisanship seemed to overcome the leader of the opposition. However, that was only for him to fall back into the usual ritualistic attacks.

I accept what you said, Ieuan, about politics being a harsh taskmaster, but you must

Nid oes gennyf unrhyw amheuaeth ychwaith nad yw Jane Hutt yn wleidydd ymroddedig ac egwyddorol. Gweithiodd yn galed dros ben yn ei swydd fel Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Er hynny, mae arnaf ofn y gall gwleidyddiaeth fod yn feistr caled, fel y gŵyr y Prif Weinidog a minnau o'n profiad o ryw 17 flynedd yn y rheng flaen mewn gwleidyddiaeth. Y gwir creulon yw, er gwaethaf unrhyw gyflawniadau eraill o'i heiddo, fod rhestrau aros hir wedi plagio'ch Llywodraeth. Cyflwynasom gynnig o ddiffyg hyder, nid yn y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ond ym mholisiau iechyd eich Llywodraeth. O newid Gweinidog, yr oeddem yn disgwyl gweld cydnabod bod rhaid i'r polisi ar restrau aros newid yn awr, gan fod 100,000 yn fwy o bobl ar y rhestrau aros nag yr oedd pan ddaeth Llafur i rym yn 1999.

Ni welais unrhyw arwydd y byddwch chi neu'ch Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol newydd yn newid polisi. Rhaid inni gael rhyw sicrwydd pendant gennych heddiw y ceir newid mewn polisi, gyda strategaeth i leihau'r rhestrau aros hir hynny'n gynt o lawer nag a gynigir ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd bydd barn pobl Cymru'n seiliedig nid ar Dr Brian Gibbons fel cyn-feddyg teulu, ond ar y graddau y gall ef a'ch Llywodraeth leihau rhestrau aros. Yr ydych wedi nodi y bydd eich Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn cael rhwydd hynt i ddatblygu polisi iechyd. Mae hwnnw'n ddatganiad syfrdanol, a dweud y gwir. Rhaid cael strategaeth o eiddo Llywodraeth yr ydych chi fel Prif Weinidog yn gyfrifol amdani. Os na cheir newid polisi o'r fath, mae arnaf ofn y bydd Dr Brian Gibbons yn cael un o'r misoedd mël gwleidyddol byrraf a fu erioed.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn ddiolchgar am y sylwadau agoriadol, pan ymddangosai fod y gallu i ganfod rhyw fath o undod amgenach y tu hwnt i bleidgarwch wedi gafael yn arweinydd yr wrthblaid. Er hynny, y cwbl a wnaeth wedyn oedd troi'n ôl at yr ymosodiadau defodol arferol.

Yr wyf yn derbyn yr hyn a ddywedasoeh, Ieuan, am y ffaith bod gwleidyddiaeth yn

accept, and, indeed, you did not try to deny, what I said about the downward trajectory on the long waiting lists having already been clearly established. The figures indicate that clearly and the progress has been made, and that is point at which Jane Hutt is handing the baton on to Brian Gibbons. Through the second offer guarantee scheme, we have an 18 month-limit for out-patient and in-patient waits, which will soon change to 12 months by March 2006. I am sure that it will not end there. People will make comparisons with England, of course—

Ieuan Wyn Jones: And Scotland.

The First Minister: And more recently, with Scotland. We will look at the target set for England for over three years from now, namely the end of March 2008, of a wait of no more than 18 weeks. That is an impressive target. Three and a half years have been allocated to achieve that target in England, following John Reid's statement. We will look at that, and I am sure that we will wish to parallel it—we may not get there as fast, or get as low as that, but the trajectory, now that it is already firmly pointing downwards, will continue downwards in Wales, and that will be part of the job. One must not, however, lose sight of the fact that 90 per cent of the health service, as I said earlier, does not involve elective waiting lists. It is because it is so easy to measure, and because the figures are so plain, that everybody tends to concentrate on the 10 per cent of NHS activity that involves elective waiting lists. In other areas, such as primary care, Jane Hutt's targets were more ambitious than those of John Reid, with 24-hour access to the primary care team compared to 48 hours in England. However, people do not look at that so much. You, I notice, have almost never referred to it, because of the partisanship with which you have regarded the matter. We do not hear about the bits on which we are doing better than England, because, where we do not do as well as England, you want to play with that like a terrier with a bone. However, you must also consider such matters as MRSA rates: the rates are 50 per cent higher in England than they are in Wales.

feistr caled, ond rhaid ichi dderbyn, ac, yn wir, ni'ch clywais yn ceisio gwadu hynny, fod y gostyngiad yn y rhestrau aros hir wedi'i sefydlu eisoes. Mae'r ffigurau'n dangos hynny'n glir, a'r cynnydd a wnaed, ac ar y pwynt hwnnw y mae Jane Hutt yn trosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb i Brian Gibbons. Drwy gynllun gwarant yr ail gynnig, mae gennym derfyn o 18 mis ar gyfer arosiadau gan gleifion allanol a chleifion mewnol, a bydd hynny'n newid i 12 mis erbyn mis Mawrth 2006. Yr wyf yn siŵr yr aiff ymhellach na hynny. Bydd pobl yn gwneud cymariaethau â Lloegr, wrth gwrs—

Ieuan Wyn Jones: A'r Alban.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ac yn fwy diweddar, â'r Alban. Edrychwn ar y targed a osodwyd ar gyfer Lloegr ymhen tair blynedd a mwy o hyn, sef erbyn diwedd Mawrth 2008, o arhosiad o ddim mwy na 18 wythnos. Mae hwnnw'n darged anodd. Rhoddwyd tair blynedd a hanner i gyrraedd y targed hwnnw yn Lloegr, yn dilyn y datganiad gan John Reid. Edrychwn ar hynny, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwn yn dymuno gwneud yn debyg—efallai na chyrhaeddwn y nod mor fuan, neu fynd mor isel â hynny, ond bydd y gostyngiad, gan ei fod yn un pendant bellach, yn parhau yng Nghymru, a bydd hynny'n rhan o'r gwaith. Er hynny, rhaid peidio â cholli golwg ar y ffaith bod 90 y cant o'r gwasanaeth iechyd, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, nad yw'n ymwneud â rhestrau aros am driniaeth ddewisol. Am ei fod mor hawdd ei fesur, ac am fod y ffigurau mor glir, y mae pawb yn tueddu i ganolbwyntio ar y 10 y cant o weithgarwch y GIG sy'n ymwneud â rhestrau aros am driniaeth ddewisol. Mewn meysydd eraill, fel gofal sylfaenol, yr oedd targedau Jane Hutt yn fwy uchelgeisiol na rhai John Reid, gyda mynediad o fewn 24 awr at y tîm gofal sylfaenol o'i gymharu â 48 awr yn Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, nid yw pobl yn edrych ar hynny gymaint. Yr wyf yn sylwi nad ydych erioed wedi cyfeirio ato bron, oherwydd eich pleidgarwch wrth edrych ar y mater hwn. Ni chlywn am y meysydd lle y gwnawn yn well na Lloegr, oherwydd, lle na wnawn gystal â Lloegr, yr ydych am chwarae â hynny fel y mae daeargi ag asgwrn. Fodd bynnag, rhaid ichi hefyd ystyried materion fel cyfraddau MRSA: mae'r cyfraddau'n 50 y cant yn

uwch yn Lloegr nag y maent yng Nghymru.

We have mentioned infant mortality rates, which used to be higher here than in England, and which are now considerably lower, as the recently-published figures showed clearly. Again, you find it difficult to utter congratulations to Jane Hutt on that matter, preferring to give her a kicking over the areas in which we are doing less well than England. Under devolution, it is inevitable that England will do better than us in some areas, and that we will do better than England in others. Are we afflicted by pride in some way by refusing to learn from England? Of course we are not; we have been hiring staff from England with expertise in waiting list management left, right and centre over the past two years. Why? It is because we are not too proud to learn. If England has some new techniques, then we want to borrow them. We borrow staff and we use their techniques, which is one reason why the waiting lists are on a firmly downward trend.

Yr ydym wedi sôn am gyfraddau marwolaeth babanod, a arferai fod yn uwch na'r rhai yn Lloegr, ac sydd bellach yn is o lawer, fel y mae'r ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar yn dangos yn glir. Unwaith eto, fe'i cewch yn anodd llongyfarch Jane Hutt ar y mater hwnnw, gan ei bod yn well gennyh ymosod arni ynghylch y meysydd lle na wnawn gystal â Lloegr. O dan ddatganioli, mae'n anorod y bydd Lloegr yn gwneud yn well na ni mewn rhai meysydd, ac y gwnawn ninnau'n well na Lloegr mewn eraill. A ydym yn dioddef gan falchder rywsut drwy wrthod dysgu oddi wrth Lloegr? Nac ydym, wrth gwrs; buom yn hurio staff o Lloegr sy'n arbenigo mewn rheoli rhestrau aros ar bob llaw dros y ddwy flynedd diwethaf. Pam? Am nad ydym yn rhy falch i ddyysgu. Os oes gan Lloegr rai technegau newydd, yr ydym am eu benthyca. Yr ydym yn benthyca staff ac yn defnyddio eu technegau, a dyna un rheswm y mae'r rhestrau aros yn gostwng yn bendant.

I do not think that you need to be quite so gloomy about Brian Gibbons's honeymoon being short. I do not appoint someone with Brian Gibbons's background and then tell him what he must do and to say so within 24 hours. It is his baby now, and he must come up with the solution after reading himself into the post. I am sure that he will be able to read himself into the post faster than anyone else, because of his background. That is the point of appointing somebody who has served such a remarkable apprenticeship—he can do it faster than anybody else. However, he is the new Minister, and one should not expect an instantaneous recipe for changing everything in the health service within 24 hours of his appointment. That would be totally absurd. I have every confidence that Brian will do the job, and I have every confidence that his honeymoon will last much longer than the gloomy predictions of the leader of the opposition would suggest.

Ni chredaf y dylech fod mor ddigalon wrth dybio y bydd mis mêl Brian Gibbons yn un byr. Ni fyddaf yn penodi rhywun a chanddo gefndir tebyg i un Brian Gibbons ac yn dweud wrtho wedyn yr hyn y mae'n gorfod ei wneud gan ddweud hynny o fewn 24 awr. Ei fabi ef yw hyn yn awr, a rhaid iddo ganfod yr ateb ar ôl ymgyfarwyddo â'r swydd. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn gallu ymgyfarwyddo â'r swydd yn gynt na neb arall, oherwydd ei gefndir. Dyna bwrpas penodi rhywun a fwriodd y fath brentisiaeth hynod—gall ei wneud yn gynt na neb arall. Fodd bynnag, ef yw'r Gweinidog newydd, ac ni ddylid disgwyl cael rysait ar unwaith i newid popeth yn y gwasanaeth iechyd cyn pen 24 awr ar ôl ei benodi. Byddai hynny'n gwbl hurt. Mae gennyf bob ffydd y bydd Brian yn mynd â'r maen i'r wal, ac mae gennyf bob ffydd y bydd ei fis mêl yn hwy o lawer nag y mae proffwydoliaethau digalon arweinydd yr wrthblaid yn awgrymu.

Nick Bourne: Thank you, for a second time today, for a timely statement. I disagree with your opening line. I do not think that this is a minor reallocation of ministerial responsibilities: this portfolio accounts for the largest section of the Assembly's budget,

Nick Bourne: Diolch i chi, am yr eildro heddiw, am ddatganiad amserol. Anghytunaf â'ch llinell agoriadol. Ni chredaf mai mân newid o ran ailddyrranu cyfrifoldebau gweinidogol yw hwn: y portffolio hwn sy'n gyfrifol am y rhan fwyaf o gyllideb y

and judging by the reaction throughout Wales, it is a major reallocation of responsibilities.

I wish Karen Sinclair all the best in the future. It has been difficult for her, as your press statement recognised, to be chief whip and Business Minister. It is like riding two horses going in divergent directions, which is an impossible task. I therefore welcome your recognition of that difficulty and wish Karen all the best. I also wish Jane Hutt all the best in her new role. There has been nothing personal on any Member's part about attacks in relation to health policy. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh.'] Well, read the Record.

4.10 p.m.

Health policy is important. As I have said before, if there is a different health Minister but no change in policy, we will have the same results. One in 10 of the Welsh population will still be on a waiting list. We have had these arrows pointing on upwards or downwards trajectories—I forget which it is—but if you consider the figures, that is not the truth. You keep saying that we single out waiting lists and say nothing about anything else in the health service, but I remind you of the promises that you made on health in your manifesto. They were on the waiting lists; they were not on other issues. They were promises to eliminate the six-month outpatient waiting list and the 18-month in-patient waiting list. That has not happened and there are more people on waiting lists in Wales now than there were when Jane Hutt came into office. The figures have increased nearly every month. That is not her fault; it is the fault of the policy. It is not just the Minister's policy; it is also your policy. You say that it is Brian's baby now, that he has already read into the job and that there is nobody better qualified for it. Have you not discussed health policy with him? Is Brian Gibbons able to go away with a clean canvas as far as policy is concerned, and come back and say, 'We will do this'? That could be an arch-Thatcherite policy—I doubt it, as I suspect that the new Minister for Health and Social Services is even more ideological than the former Minister—but he might have a more pragmatic policy. From what you are

Cynulliad, ac o farnu yn ôl yr ymateb ledled Cymru, mae'n newid mawr o ran ailddyrranu cyfrifoldebau.

Dymunaf yn dda i Karen Sinclair yn y dyfodol. Bu'n anodd, fel y cydnabu'ch datganiad i'r wasg, iddi fod yn brif chwip ac yn Drefnydd. Mae'n debyg i farchogaeth dau geffyl sy'n mynd i gyfeiriadau gwahanol, sy'n dasg amhosibl. Gan hynny, croesawaf y ffaith eich bod yn cydnabod yr anhawster hwnnw a dymunaf yn dda i Karen. Yr wyf hefyd yn dymuno'n dda i Jane Hutt yn ei rôl newydd. Ni ddywedwyd dim byd personol gan unrhyw Aelod wrth ymosod ar bolisiau iechyd. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O.'] Wel, darllenwch y Cofnod.

Mae polisi iechyd yn bwysig. Fel y dywedais o'r blaen, os ceir Gweinidog iechyd gwahanol heb newid polisi, cawn yr un canlyniadau. Bydd un o bob 10 o boblogaeth Cymru'n dal i fod ar restr aros. Clywsom sôn am saethau'n pwyntio i fyny neu i lawr—anghofiaf ba un—ond os ystyriwch y ffigurau, nid yw hynny'n wir. Daliwch i ddweud ein bod yn dewis sôn am restrau aros yn anad dim arall yn y gwasanaeth iechyd, ond fe'ch atgoffaf am yr addewidion a wnaethoch ar iechyd yn eich maniffesto. Yr oeddent yn ymwneud â'r rhestrau aros; nid oeddent yn ymwneud â materion eraill. Yr oeddent yn addewidion i ddileu'r rhestr aros o chwe mis i gleifion allanol a'r rhestr aros o 18 mis i gleifion mewnol. Ni ddigwyddodd hynny ac mae mwy o bobl ar restrau aros yng Nghymru'n awr nag yr oedd pan ymgymherodd Jane Hutt â'i swydd. Mae'r ffigurau wedi codi bob mis bron. Nid hi sydd ar fai am hynny; bai'r polisi ydyw. Nid polisi'r Gweinidog yn unig ydyw; eich polisi chi ydyw hefyd. Dywedwch mai babi Brian ydyw'n awr, ei fod eisoes wedi ymgyswddo â'r swydd ac nad oes neb cymhwysach i'w gwneud. Onid ydych wedi trafod polisi iechyd gydag ef? A gaiff Brian Gibbons ddechrau ar ddalen wag o ran polisi, a dod yn ôl a dweud, 'Gwnawn hyn'? Gallai fod yn bolisi arch-Thatcheraidd—nid yw'n debygol, gan fy mod yn amau bod y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol newydd yn fwy ideolegol na'r cyn-Weinidog hyd yn oed—ond efallai y

saying, it seems that you have no idea what the policy is. You are the First Minister. What is the policy now? Has it changed or is it the same?

You pass this off as being a minor reallocation. However, it is clear that you reacted to pressure to move the Minister for Health and Social Services. A change of policy is also needed. You have also reacted to pressure from Labour backbenchers who are afraid of losing their seats in Monmouth, the Vale of Clwyd, the Vale of Glamorgan, Preseli Pembrokeshire and, I dare say, Cardiff North—I can understand that—so the pressure has not just come from opposition politicians. We need a change of policy, and we will be pressing for a debate on this issue if you are unable to indicate now whether there will be a change of policy or whether it will be more of the same.

The First Minister: I was trying to find a question in the middle of those absurd propositions, Nick, but I did not find one. You state that I reacted to pressure, but you cannot demonstrate in any way that that is the case. I can assure you that I did not react to pressure. I agreed with Jane Hutt, when I reappointed her in May 2003, that at some point during the middle years of this Assembly she would cease to be the Minister for Health and Social Services. No-one in British history has been the Minister responsible for health and social services under any Government dispensation for more than six years, as far as I am aware, and Jane had been in that post for nearly six years, which is a long time. That was the agreement that I made with her back in May 2003. That question does not arise. You recognised that by failing to put it as a question. You knew it was wrong and you therefore put it as an absurd proposition. Likewise, you mentioned Brian possibly forming arch-Thatcherite policies. They could possibly be arch-Thatcherite policies modulated through 25 years of serving as a GP in the upper Afan valley. That is about as likely as having two moons in the sky.

I agree with your comments on whether we

bydd ganddo bolisi mwy ymarferol. Yn ôl yr hyn a ddywedwch, ymddengys nad oes gennych unrhyw syniad beth yw'r polisi. Chi yw'r Prif Weinidog. Beth yw'r polisi'n awr? A yw wedi newid neu a yw yr un fath?

Ceisiwch honni mai mân newid o ran ailddyrranu yw hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg eich bod wedi ymateb i bwysau i symud y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Mae angen newid polisi hefyd. Yr ydych hefyd wedi ymateb i bwysau oddi wrth feincwyr cefn Llafur sy'n ofni colli eu seddau ym Mynwy, Dyffryn Clwyd, Bro Morgannwg, Preseli Sir Benfro a hefyd, os caf fentro dweud, Gogledd Caerdydd—gallaf ddeall hynny—felly nid o du gwleidyddion y gwrthbleidiau'n unig y daeth y pwysau. Mae arnom angen newid polisi, a byddwn yn pwysu i gael dadl ar y mater hwn os na allwch ddweud yn awr a fydd newid polisi neu a geir rhagor o'r un peth.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn ceisio canfod cwestiwn yng nghanol y gosodiadau hurt hynny, Nick, ond ni welais yr un. Dywedwch fy mod wedi ymateb i bwysau, ond ni allwch brofi hynny mewn unrhyw fodd. Gallaf eich sicrhau na wneuthum ymateb i bwysau. Cytunais â Jane Hutt, pan ailbenodais hi ym mis Mai 2003, y byddai ar ryw adeg yn ystod blynyddoedd canol y Cynulliad hwn yn peidio â bod yn Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Nid oes neb yn hanes Prydain a fu'n Weinidog yn gyfrifol am iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol o dan unrhyw Lywodraeth am fwy na chwe blynedd, hyd y gwn i, a bu Jane yn y swydd honno am bron i chwe blynedd, ac mae hynny'n amser hir. Hynny a gytunais â hi yn ôl ym mis Mai 2003. Nid yw'r cwestiwn hwnnw'n codi. Cydnabuoch hynny drwy beidio â'i godi fel cwestiwn. Gwyddech ei fod yn anghywir ac felly fe'i geiriasoch fel gosodiad hurt. Yn yr un modd, cyfeiriasoch at y posibilrwydd o lunio polisiâu arch-Thatcheraidd gan Brian. Gallent fod yn bolisiâu arch-Thatcheraidd a luniwyd yng ngoleuni 25 mlynedd o wasanaethu fel meddyg teulu yng nghwm Afan uchaf. Mae hynny mor debygol ag y byddai cael dwy leud yn y nen.

Cytunaf â'ch sylwadau ynghylch a ddylem

refer to this as being a major or a minor reshuffle. You are right in terms of the size of the budget. The health budget is large—it is a great deal bigger than it was during the Tory years—as it is around 40 per cent of the total budget. To that extent, it is a big reshuffle. In terms of personnel, you are wrong, as it is a small reshuffle. We could argue about that, but that is just quibbling. The oddest comment that you made referred to my phrase on the downward trajectory on long waits being firmly established being ‘not the truth’. You must look at the figures on long waits. Compare the last figures that were published for the last quarter of 2004 with where we were at the end of 2003, 2002 and 2001 and you will see that you cannot say that that is not the truth. I think that you will want to write to me to withdraw that proposition when you read the Record tomorrow. It would have been much better if you had concentrated on asking questions. *[Interruption.]*

Stop wagging your finger at me. You are now sitting down; you had your chance and it is now mine to put you in your place. Do not use phrases such as ‘that is not the truth’, unless you can back them up. When you look at the figures and compare those for long waits at the end of 2001, 2002, 2003 with those for the last quarter, you will see that it is you who is using language that I can describe as not being the truth. The downward trajectory is clearly established, and I am sure that Brian Gibbons will use that platform to further press downwards the long waits for out-patient and in-patient treatment, and further developing the short waits for access to primary care.

Like Ieuan Wyn Jones, you find it difficult to comment when I say that access to primary care is guaranteed to be twice as fast as in England. Neither of you can bring yourselves to say, ‘I agree with that, but what about the hospital waiting lists?’. You seem to have a problem in not being able to give credit, where it is due, to the 90 per cent of the health service that does not involve elective waiting lists. I recognise that it is your political football, but the people of Wales know that it is different from their experience of the national health service.

alw hyn yn ad-drefniant mawr neu fach. Yr ydych yn iawn wrth gyfeirio at faint y gyllideb. Mae'r gyllideb iechyd yn fawr—mae'n fwy o lawer nag yr oedd yn ystod blynyddoedd y Toriaid—gan ei bod tua 40 y cant o'r gyllideb gyfan. I'r graddau hynny, mae'n ad-drefniant o bwys. O ran personél, yr ydych yn anghywir, gan mai ad-drefniant bach ydyw. Gallem ddadlau am hynny, ond hollti blew fyddai hynny. Y sylw rhyfeddaf a wnaethoch oedd dweud nad oedd yr hyn a ddywedais am y gostyngiad pendant yn yr arosiadau hir yn wir. Rhaid ichi edrych ar y ffigurau am arosiadau hir. Cymharwch y ffigurau diwethaf a gyhoeddwyd ar gyfer chwarter olaf 2004 â'r sefyllfa ar ddiwedd 2003, 2002 a 2001 a gwelwch na allwch ddweud nad yw hynny'n wir. Credaf y byddwch am ysgrifennu ataf i dynnu'n ôl y gosodiad hwnnw pan ddarllenwch y Cofnod yfory. Buasai'n well o lawer ichi ganolbwyntio ar ofyn cwestiynau. *[Torri ar draws.]*

Peidiwch â chodi'ch bys arnaf. Yr ydych yn eistedd yn awr; cawsoch eich cyfle ac mae gennyf finnau gyfle'n awr i'ch rhoi yn eich lle. Pediwch â defnyddio ymadroddion fel ‘nid yw hynny'n wir’ oni bai y gallwch eu profi. Pan edrychwch ar y ffigurau a chymharu'r rhai am arosiadau hir ar ddiwedd 2001, 2002, 2003 a'r rhai ar gyfer y chwarter diwethaf, gwelwch mai chi sy'n defnyddio geiriau y gallaf ddweud nad ydynt yn wir. Mae'r gostyngiad wedi'i sefydlu'n glir, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd Brian Gibbons am ddefnyddio hynny fel man cychwyn i leihau ymhellach yr arosiadau hir ar gyfer triniaeth i gleifion allanol a chleifion mewnol, ac i ddatblygu ymhellach yr arosiadau byr am fynediad i ofal sylfaenol.

Fel Ieuan Wyn Jones, fe'i cewch yn anodd gwneud sylw pan ddywedaf fod gwarant y bydd mynediad i ofal sylfaenol ddwywaith yn gyflymach nag yn Lloegr. Nid oes yr un ohonoch sy'n barod i ddweud, ‘Cytunaf â hynny, ond beth am restrau aros yr ysbytai?’. Ymddengys eich bod yn ei chael yn anodd rhoi canmoliaeth, pan fo'n briodol, i'r 90 y cant o'r gwasanaeth iechyd nad yw'n ymwneud â rhestrau aros am driniaeth ddewisol. Cydnabyddaf mai'ch pêl wleidyddol chi yw hon, ond mae pobl Cymru'n gwybod ei bod fel arall yn ôl eu

profiad o'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol.

Michael German: I am intrigued by your statement. I looked in the statement for the reasoning behind the move, but there is nothing that says why you have done it, therefore we must rely on the remarks that you just made and on those that you made to the media. We are told that the move was not about pressure from anybody else, but the fact that the Minister's time was up—she had served five years and eight months, and, somehow, that means that she could not carry on. You should explain whether there is a time limit of five years and eight months for all Government Ministers. I will tell you what that means for you later, First Minister, because I can do the maths as well.

Michael German: Mae'ch datganiad yn peri penbleth i mi. Chwiliais yn y datganiad am y sail resymegol i'r newid, ond nid oes dim i ddweud pam yr ydych wedi'i wneud, felly rhaid inni ddibynnu ar sylwadau yr ydych newydd eu gwneud a'r rhai a wnaethoch ar y cyfryngau. Dywedir wrthym nad oedd a wnelo'r newid â phwysau oddi wrth unrhyw un arall, ond â'r ffaith bod amser y Gweinidog ar ben—yr oedd wedi gwasanaethu am bum mlynedd ac wyth mis, ac, am ryw reswm, mae hynny'n golygu na allai barhau. Dylech egluro a oes cyfyngiad amser o bum mlynedd ac wyth mis i holl Weinidogion y Llywodraeth. Dywedaf wrthy ch beth y mae hynny'n ei olygu i chi'n ddiweddarach, Brif Weinidog, oherwydd gallaf fi gyfrif hefyd.

It is interesting that you talked about trajectories today because if you take an average of all waiting lists in Wales and in England, we passed each other in the last six months. In other words, England's average fell below ours—we are going up and they are going down. Therefore, the trajectory is upwards—that may be the issue that forced you to take these decisions.

Mae'n ddiddorol eich bod wedi sôn am dueddiadau heddiw oherwydd os cymerwch gyfartaledd yr holl restrau aros yng Nghymru ac yn Lloegr, gwelwch ein bod wedi mynd heibio i'n gilydd yn y chwe mis diwethaf. Mewn geiriau eraill, aeth y cyfartaledd yn Lloegr yn is na'n cyfartaledd ni—yr ydym ni'n mynd yn uwch ac maent hwy'n mynd i lawr. Felly, mae'r tuedd ar i fyny—efallai mai'r dyna a'ch gorfododd i wneud y penderfyniadau hyn.

If this were to happen in the UK Parliament, there would have been an exchange of letters. Has there been an exchange of letters between you and the Ministers concerned, and, if so, will you publish them?

Pe digwyddai hyn yn Senedd y DU, byddai llythyru rhwng y naill a'r llall. A fu llythyru rhyngoch chi a'r Gweinidogion dan sylw, ac, os bu, a wnewch chi gyhoeddi'r llythyrau?

I welcome Brian Gibbons to his new post, but I think that his honeymoon period will be quite short unless you have some new policy up your sleeve to tell us about. You could start by telling us what you said to Brian Gibbons when you gave him the job. What did you tell him about your priorities for the health and social services portfolio? Did you give him a priority? You say that this is now Brian Gibbons's baby, but what precisely did you tell him to do with that baby, if anything at all?

Croesawaf Brian Gibbons i'w swydd newydd, ond credaf y bydd ei fis mêl yn eithaf byr os na fydd gennych ryw bolisi newydd i'w ddatguddio. Gallech ddechrau drwy ddweud wrthym beth a ddywedasoch wrth Brian Gibbons pan roesoch y swydd iddo. Beth a ddywedasoch wrtho am eich blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y portffolio iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol? A wnaethoch bennu blaenoriaeth ar ei gyfer? Dywedwch mai babi Brian Gibbons yw hwn yn awr, ond beth yn union y dywedasoch wrtho am ei wneud gyda'r babi hwnnw, os rhywbeth?

Finally, you said that five years and eight months is a long time for a Minister to be in

Yn olaf, dywedasoch fod pum mlynedd ac wyth mis yn amser hir i Weinidog fod mewn

one job. I have done the mathematics and I wonder whether we should pencil in May 2005 as the time for a Labour leadership election?

The First Minister: You seem to be having great sport with the five years eight months, but I said to the press yesterday that all ministerial careers are finite, including my own. I do not exempt myself from that, although there is no current proposition to have a Labour leadership election. All ministerial careers are finite, as you know, Mike. Reshuffles are a part of politics—sometimes you are born to be reshuffled and sometimes reshuffles are forced on you. These things happen.

On your point about an exchange of letters, I do not know whether that was heartfelt because I did not send you a letter, or for another reason—that matter has not concerned me much. I do not think that Karen or Jane lost any sleep last night over the fact that I had not followed formalities that, as far as I am aware, we have not followed in the Assembly. I may be wrong, and it may have slipped my mind and the minds of my staff, but I do not think that I have followed that pattern, regardless of the pattern in other dispensations.

Waiting lists are an important issue, there is no question about that. They account for only 10 per cent of the NHS, but that is an important 10 per cent because of its high profile. We all accept that, including Jane, Brian and me. The major health gain over the next 20 years, as I have mentioned before—I bored for Wales on the subject of my visit to Finland—and which we all recognise, will be achieved outside the hospital service, through lifestyle changes in terms of reduced salt and animal fat consumption, reduced smoking and increased exercise.

4.20 p.m.

I will not rehearse these points. However, we recognise that if something is not done about waiting lists they become a major distraction from attempts to persuade people to listen to the messages about obesity and reducing

un swydd. Yr wyf wedi chwarae gyda'r ffigurau ac yr wyf yn meddwl tybed a ddylem nodi Mai 2005 fel yr adeg ar gyfer etholiad am arweinyddiaeth Llafur?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymddengys eich bod yn cael hwyl fawr â'r pum mlynedd ac wyth mis, ond dywedais wrth y wasg ddoe fod pob gyrfa weinidogol yn dod i ben rywbryd, gan gynnwys fy un i. Nid wyf yn fy eithrio fy hun o hynny, er nad oes bwriad ar hyn o bryd i gael etholiad am arweinyddiaeth Llafur. Daw pob gyrfa weinidogol i ben, fel y gwyddoch, Mike. Mae ad-drefnu gweinidogol yn rhan o wleidyddiaeth—weithiau fe'ch genir i gael eich ad-drefnu ac weithiau yr ydych yn gorfod ad-drefnu. Mae pethau o'r fath yn digwydd.

Ynghylch y pwynt a wnaethoch am gyfnewid llythrau, ni wn a oedd hwnnw'n gwestiwn a oedd yn codi o'r galon gan nad anfonais lythyr atoch chi, neu a ofynasoch ef am reswm arall—nid yw'r mater hwnnw wedi fy mhoeni ryw lawer. Ni chredaf fod Karen na Jane wedi colli cwsig neithiwr am nad oeddwn wedi dilyn ffurfioldeb nas dilynwyd, hyd y gwn, yn y Cynulliad. Efallai fy mod yn camgymryd, ac efallai fy mod i a'm staff wedi anghofio hynny, ond ni chredaf imi ddilyn y patrwm hwnnw, beth bynnag fo'r patrwm mewn llywodraethau eraill.

Mae rhestrau aros yn fater pwysig, nid oes amheuaeth am hynny. Nid ydynt ond yn cyfateb i 10 y cant o'r GIG, ond mae hwnnw'n 10 y cant pwysig oherwydd ei amlygrwydd. Yr ydym oll yn derbyn hynny, gan gynnwys Jane, Brian a minnau. Daw'r cynnydd pennaf mewn iechyd dros yr 20 mlynedd nesaf, fel y dywedais o'r blaen—yr wyf wedi sôn hyd syrffed am fy ymweliad â'r Ffindir—fel yr ydym oll yn cydnabod, y tu hwnt i'r gwasanaeth ysbytai, a hynny drwy newid ffyrdd o fyw o ran bwyta llai o halen a braster anifeiliaid, ysmygu llai a gwneud mwy o ymarfer.

Nid ailadroddaf y pwyntiau hynny. Er hynny, yr ydym yn cydnabod, os na wneir rhywbeth ynghylch rhestrau aros, y byddant yn tynnu sylw oddi wrth ymdrechion i berswadio pobl i wrando ar negeseuon ynghylch gordewdra a

their chance of suffering a stroke or ischaemic heart disease, which are major killers.

You mentioned performance in England. Hospital waiting lists in England and Wales are sometimes remarkably more similar than those in the picture that you painted. As far as I am aware, the percentage of people receiving in-patient treatment within six months of referral in Wales and in England is very similar. The figures I saw earlier today showed that it is somewhere in the region of 62 or 63 per cent. Therefore, this is not in line with the picture that you painted.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf am estyn fy niolch i Karen Sinclair a Jane Hutt am y cyfraniadau a wnaethant a dymuno'n dda iddynt yn eu swyddi newydd. Estynnaf groeso cynnes i Brian Gibbons fel y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn ei sicrhau bod y croeso hwnnw yn gynnes ac y bydd yn cynhesu dros yr wythnosau nesaf wrth inni drafod polisiau iechyd. Dywedaf wrth Brian fod y mis mêl yn para tua 24 awr a'i fod eisoes wedi dod i ben. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cawn gyfle yn y pwyllgor yfory i drafod ei fwriadau ar gyfer y portffolio pwysig hwn.

Mae'n anffodus na chawsom ddatganiad gan Brian ynglŷn â'i fwriadau a'i flaenoriaethau. Derbyniad bwynt y Prif Weinidog na allwn ddisgwyl y manylion i gyd yn awr, ond byddai wedi bod yn braf pe bai Brian wedi sôn am ei flaenoriaethau ar y cyfle cyntaf. Apeliad ar i'r Prif Weinidog sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd cyn gynted â phosibl.

Yr oeddwn yn dechrau amau mathemateg y Prif Weinidog wrth iddo drafod ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth. Mae gennyf feddwl mawr o'i allu ymenyddol, ond ni chredaf mai mathemateg yw ei bwnc cryfaf. Fel y dywedodd Ieuan Wyn Jones, mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi gwasanaethu fel aelod etholedig am 17 o flynyddoedd. Serch hynny, yr oedd y Prif Weinidog fel pe bai'n tybio mai dim ond am 10 mlynedd y bu'n aelod etholedig, a hynny yn ystod Llywodraeth Lafur yn unig. Yr ydym yn cofio'r Prif Weinidog fel aelod mainc gefn a llafarydd ar

lleihau'r tebygolrwydd o brofi strôc neu isgemia'r galon, sy'n lladd nifer fawr o bobl.

Cyfeiriasoch at y perfformiad yn Lloegr. Yn ddigon rhyfedd, mae rhestrau aros ysbytai yn Lloegr ac yn Nghymru'n debycach weithiau na'r rhai a ddisgrifiwyd gennych. Hyd y gwn i, mae canran y rhai sy'n cael triniaeth fel cleifion mewnl o fewn chwe mis ar ôl eu hatgyfeirio'n debyg iawn yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Yr oedd y ffigurau a welais yn gynharach heddiw'n dangos ei bod tua 62 neu 63 y cant. Felly, nid yw hynny'n cydfynd â'ch disgrifiad chi.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I extend my gratitude to Karen Sinclair and Jane Hutt for their contributions and wish them well in their new posts. I warmly welcome Brian Gibbons to the office of Minister for Health and Social Services. I assure him that it is most definitely a warm welcome, and one that will become even warmer over the coming weeks as we discuss health policies. Brian should be aware that the honeymoon period only lasts for 24 hours and that his has already come to an end. I am sure that we will have an opportunity in committee tomorrow to discuss his intentions with regard to this important portfolio.

It is unfortunate that Brian has not yet made a statement on his intentions and priorities. I accept the First Minister's point that we cannot expect all of the details at this stage, but it would have been nice to hear Brian set out his priorities at the earliest possible opportunity. I appeal to the First Minister to ensure that such a statement is made as soon as possible.

I was starting to doubt the First Minister's mathematics as he discussed the gross value added figures. I have every confidence in his intellectual ability, but I do not think that mathematics is his strongest subject. As Ieuan Wyn Jones said, the First Minister has served as an elected representative for 17 years. However, the First Minister seemed to suggest that he had only been an elected representative for 10 years, and only during a Labour Government. We all remember the First Minister's time as a backbencher and Labour Party spokesperson. His attitude at

ran y Blaid Lafur. Yr oedd ei agwedd bryd hynny yn dra gwahanol, wrth iddo feirniadu polisïau'r Llywodraeth Geidwadol yn hallt. Yr oedd yn barod i ddewis a dethol yr hyn i'w feirniadu yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw. Felly, mae elfen o ddiffyg diffuantrwydd yn dod i'r wyneb wrth i'r Prif Weinidog feirniadu'r gwrthbleidiau am graffu ar y Llywodraeth. Mae'n ymddangos fel pe bai'n credu nad oes hawl gan neb i feirniadu, hyd yn oed pan fydd gofyn gwneud hynny, fel yn achos y polisi methodig hwn. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog, wrth gyflwyno'r newidiadau hyn, gymryd y cyfle i gefnu ar bolisi a fethodd a gwneud newidiadau sylfaenol er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r problemau sy'n wynebu'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn siŵr beth oedd y pwynt yr oeddech yn ceisio'i wneud ynglŷn â mathemateg fy nghyfnod i fel aelod etholedig. Cefais fy ethol yn Aelod Seneddol yn 1987, sef 18 mlynedd yn ôl. Mae 18 mlynedd yn 18 mlynedd, ac ni all neb ym Mhlaid Cymru newid y fathemateg. Yr wyf wedi gwneud y pwynt yn glir. Yr oeddwn yn trafod amser cinio fod Brian Gibbons a Jane Hutt wedi bod yn aelodau o'r panel ymgynghorol ar ddyfodol iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru pan oeddwn yn llefarydd yr wrthblaid ar iechyd yng Nghymru rhwng 1992 ac 1997. Aeth hynny'n angof wrth benderfynu penodi Brian, gan fy mod yn canolbwyntio ar y chwarter canrif y bu'n gweithio fel meddyg teulu yng Nghwmafan ac ar ei gyfnod fel dirprwy i Jane Hutt rhwng 2001 a 2003.

O ran ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth, ni all neb wadu'r cynnydd o 6 y cant yn economi Cymru yn 2003 o gymharu â 2002. Felly, edrychwch eto ar y ffigurau.

Arferwn barchu barn Phil Williams ar fathemateg, ond ni fyddwn am gyfnwid fy ngallu mathemategol i am allu Rhodri Glyn yn y maes—credaf fod eich cryfderau chi mewn mannau eraill, Rhodri, os gallaf ei rhoi fel hynny.

Bydd yn rhaid ichi roi amser i Brian Gibbons ymgyswrtio â'r portffolio. Byddwch yn ceisio distrywio hynny—mae hynny'n naturiol, dyna bwrpas craffu a phwrpas y cecru sydd yn digwydd mewn

that time was very different, as he harshly criticised the policies of the then Conservative Government. He was more than willing to be selective when it came to his criticism of policy at that time. Therefore, there is a degree of insincerity in the First Minister's criticism of the opposition's scrutiny of Government. He gives the impression that no-one has the right to criticise, even when there is room to do so, as is the case with this failed policy. Will the First Minister, in making these changes in personnel, take the opportunity to ditch this failed policy and make fundamental changes in order to get to grips with the problems facing the health service in Wales?

The First Minister: I am not sure what point you were trying to make about the mathematics of my time as an elected representative. I was first elected to the House of Commons in 1987, which was 18 years ago. Eighteen years is 18 years, and no-one in Plaid Cymru can change the mathematics of that. This point has been unequivocally made. I was discussing over lunch the fact that Brian Gibbons and Jane Hutt were members of the advisory panel on the future of health and social services in Wales during my time as the opposition's spokesperson on health in Wales between 1992 and 1997. This had no bearing on Brian's appointment, as I focused on his work as a general practitioner in Cwmafan over a quarter of a century and on his time as Jane Hutt's deputy between 2001 and 2003.

Turning to the gross value added figures, no-one can deny the 6 per cent growth in the Welsh economy in 2003 as compared with 2002. Therefore, look again at the figures.

I used to respect Phil Williams's opinion on mathematics, but I would not want to swap my mathematical abilities with those of Rhodri Glyn—I believe that your strengths lie elsewhere, Rhodri, if I can put it like that.

You will have to give Brian Gibbons time to read into the portfolio. You will try to destroy that—that is natural, and it is the purpose of scrutiny and the purpose of the knockabout that happens in politics—but it is

gwleidyddiaeth—ond nid yw'n rhesymol dweud y gallwch dministrio mis mêl Brian Gibbons o fewn 24 awr. Mae'n naturiol ichi ymdrechu i wneud hynny, ond ni chredaf y byddwch yn llwyddo.

David Melding: As far as I can work out, the main reason for your change is that Jane Hutt needed a rest. I am not sure that she agrees with that, but it seems an odd reason to make a partial change to the structure of your Cabinet. It is the only change in terms of a subject portfolio.

On your telling us that Dr Gibbons needs time to read into his portfolio and that we ought to be responsible, you could, perhaps, have made these changes just before Christmas instead of making them on the last day before we reconvene, the Monday before the spring session. That would have allowed Dr Gibbons a month to read into his role and Jane Hutt a month to prepare for her new role. The timing raises questions about why this had to be done in this manner.

However, I welcome Dr Gibbons's promotion to the Cabinet; he is a talented individual, and I am sure that he will serve well as Minister. When the press was talking about this yesterday, he was my tip for promotion. Given, however, that 40 per cent of the Assembly's expenditure goes to health and social services and the fact that it is the most dynamic and challenging policy area for anyone of any political party, in any western country, did you give some serious thought to giving this portfolio to another colleague with substantial Cabinet experience?

The First Minister: I am grateful for your pretty unalloyed welcome to Brian Gibbons's promotion, and I commend that. It is perhaps only natural that you would feel as you do. Brian is the only person who knows that, when you refer to things such as the 'narthex', you are not referring to a medical disease but to an architectural feature.

I agree that social services are conjointly

not reasonable to say that you can destroy Brian Gibbons's honeymoon period within 24 hours. It is natural for you to attempt to do so, but I do not believe that you will succeed.

David Melding: Hyd y gallaf weld, y prif reswm sydd gennych dros y newid yw bod ar Jane Hutt angen seibiant. Nid wyf yn sicr ei bod yn cytuno â hynny, ond mae'n ymddangos yn rheswm rhyfedd dros newid trefn eich Cabinet yn rhannol. Hwn yw'r unig newid o ran portffolio pwnc.

Ynghylch yr hyn a ddywedasoeh i'r perwyl bod ar Dr Gibbons angen amser i ymgysfarwyddo â'i bortffolio ac y dylem ni fod yn gyfrifol, efallai y byddech wedi gallu gwneud y newidiadau hyn ychydig cyn y Nadolig yn lle eu gwneud ar y diwrnod olaf cyn inni ailymgynnull, sef y dydd Llun cyn sesiwn y gwanwyn. Drwy wneud hynny, cawsai Dr Gibbons fis i ymgysfarwyddo â'i rôl a chawsai Jane Hutt fis i baratoi ar gyfer ei rôl newydd. Mae'r amseru'n codi cwestiynau ynghylch pam yr oedd yn rhaid gwneud hyn fel y gwnaed.

Er hynny, croesawaf ddyrchafu Dr Gibbons i'r Cabinet; mae'n ddynt talentog, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn gwasanaethu'n dda fel Gweinidog. Pan oedd y wasg yn sôn am hyn ddoe, awgrymais mai ef a oedd yn fwyaf tebygol o gael ei ddyrchafu. Fodd bynnag, gan fod 40 y cant o gyllid y Cynulliad yn cael ei wario ar iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ac am mai hwn yw'r maes polisi mwyaf deinamig ac ymestynnol i unrhyw un mewn unrhyw blaid wleidyddol, mewn unrhyw wlad orllewinol, a wnaethoch ystyried o ddifrif roi'r portffolio hwn i un arall o'ch cyd-Weinidogion sydd â phrofiad helaeth o'r Cabinet?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich croeso eithaf digymysg i ddyrchafiad Brian Gibbons, a chymeradwyaf hynny. Nid yw ond yn naturiol efallai eich bod yn teimlo fel yr ydych. Brian yw'r unig un sy'n gwybod, pan gyfeiriwch at bethau fel y 'narthechs', nad ydych yn cyfeirio at anhwylder meddygol ond at nodwedd bensaernïol.

Cytunaf fod gwasanaethau cymdeithasol gyn

important with health, because of bedblocking and many other issues. It is part of that overall package and function, and that is why we are keeping them together.

If the worst aspect of this that the opposition can come up with is that either I should have left making the change until later because there is no particular rationale to five years and eight months, or that I should have made it earlier, namely at the beginning of the Christmas holidays or earlier still, then I am more than happy, as the opposition does not have any ideas to offer in this field, other than a little quibble about timing.

It is important that we appreciate the sheer size of the health and social services budget. When Nye Bevan brought in the national health service, he made the famous comment that one of its main effects would be that the dropped bedpan in Tredegar would reverberate around the corridors of Whitehall. He did not mean that the Minister takes personal responsibility for the dropped bedpan in Tredegar but that he or she takes responsibility for awareness that there might be something wrong with the system that causes too many bedpans to be dropped in a hospital in Tredegar or any other area. You cannot micromanage every hospital. Despite Brian's medical qualifications, he cannot carry out the operations to get people off the waiting lists, but he will run the system. He will be in charge of health and social services policy—he will not micromanage it. It is a big and onerous role, but I am sure that there is nobody better qualified in the whole of Britain, or I should say in the whole of the British isles, given his origins in Ireland, to carry out this role.

bwysied ag iechyd, a hynny oherwydd blocio gwelyau a sawl mater arall. Mae'n rhan o'r pecyn a'r swyddogaeth gyffredinol, a dyna pam yr ydym yn eu cadw gyda'i gilydd.

Os mai'r agwedd waethaf ar hyn y gall y gwrthbleidiau feddwl amdani yw y dylaswn un ai bod wedi gadael y newid tan yn ddiweddarach am nad oes unrhyw sail resymegol bendant i gyfnod o bum mlynedd ac wyth mis, neu y dylaswn fod wedi'i wneud yn gynharach, sef ar ddechrau gwyliau'r Nadolig neu'n gynharach byth, yna yr wyf yn fodlon iawn, gan nad oes gan y gwrthbleidiau unrhyw syniadau i'w cynnig yn y maes hwn, heblaw ychydig o hollti blew am amseru.

Mae'n bwysig inni werthfawrogi pa mor fawr yw cyllideb iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Pan sefydlodd Nye Bevan y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, gwnaeth sylw enwog i'r perwyl mai un o'i brif effeithiau fyddai peri bod y sŵn o ollwng padell wely yn Nhredegar yn atseinio yng nghoridorau Whitehall. Nid oedd yn golygu bod y Gweinidog yn ymgymryd â chyfrifoldeb personol dros y badell wely a ollyngwyd yn Nhredegar ond ei fod yn ymgymryd i fod yn ymwybodol y gallai rhywbeth fod o'i le â system sy'n peri gollwng gormod o bedyll gwelyau mewn ysbyty yn Nhredegar neu unrhyw ardal arall. Ni ellir meicroreoli pob ysbyty. Er bod gan Brian gymwysterau meddygol, ni all gyflawni'r llawdriniaethau i dynnu pobl oddi ar y rhestrau aros, ond bydd yn rhedeg y system. Bydd yn gyfrifol am bolisi iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol—ni fydd yn ei feicroreoli. Mae'n rôl fawr a beichus, ond yr wyf yn sicr nad oes neb mwy cymwys ym Mhrydain gyfan, neu holl ynysoedd Prydain fel y dylwn ddweud, gan ei fod yn hanu o Iwerddon, i gyflawni'r rôl hon.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I pay tribute to Karen Sinclair for carrying out her duties as Business Minister so effectively since May 2003.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Talaf deyrnged i Karen Sinclair am gyflawni ei dyletswyddau fel Trefnydd mor effeithiol ers mis Mai 2003.

4.30 p.m.

I also reiterate the First Minister's comments in wishing my colleague, Dr Brian Gibbons, well in his new role as Minister for Health and Social Services. I am taking on my new role with enthusiasm, and I was pleased to be able to attend the Business Committee meeting this morning. I look forward to constructive working relationships, which I am confident that we will achieve, and I am grateful for the courtesies and good wishes that I have received this afternoon.

In view of this afternoon's statements, I have postponed the debate on the skills and employment action plan until Tuesday 25 January. Business for the next three weeks is as set out in the draft statement, which can be found on the Chamberweb under supporting documents. Further to this morning's deliberations in the Business Committee, it has been determined that, under Standing Order No. 24.6, the following items of subordinate legislation need not be referred to a Subject Committee for extended consideration: the Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005 and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005.

Y Llywydd: A oes gwrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes? Gwelaf nad oes. A oes sylwadau?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Manteisiaf ar y cyfle i groesawu Jane Hutt i'w swydd newydd fel Trefnydd. Gofynnaf am nifer o bethau. Yn gyntaf, gofynnaf am ddatganiad gan Edwina Hart, y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, ar y sefyllfa sy'n wynebu pobl sydd wedi derbyn gordaliadau o gredyd treth, ac sydd yn awr yn wynebu ymgais i hawlio'r arian yn ôl. Mae'r mater hwn yn peri pryder mawr i lawer o Aelodau. Mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog, Huw Lewis, ar hyn o bryd yn cynnal adolygiad o ddyled yng Nghymru, a byddai'n briodol inni gael datganiad gan y Gweinidog ar y mater hwnnw.

Yr wyf wedi gofyn i'r Prif Weinidog, a ddewisodd anwybyddu fy nghais, am ddatganiad buan gan Brian Gibbons ar ei

Yr wyf finnau'n ategu sylwadau'r Prif Weinidog wrth ddymuno'n dda i'm cyd-Weinidog, Dr Brian Gibbons, yn ei rôl newydd fel y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn ymgymryd â'm rôl newydd yn frwdfrydig, ac yr oeddwn yn falch o fod yn bresennol yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma. Edrychaf ymlaen at weithio'n adeiladol gydag eraill, ac yr wyf yn ffyddiog y gwnawn ni hynny. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y sylwadau cwrtais a'r dymuniadau da a estynnwyd i mi y prynhawn yma.

Yng ngolwg y datganiadau a gafwyd y prynhawn yma, yr wyf wedi gohirio'r ddadl ar gynllun gweithredu sgiliau a chyflogaeth tan ddydd Mawrth 25 Ionawr. Mae busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf fel y mae wedi'i nodi yn y datganiad drafft, y gellir ei weld ar we'r Siambr o dan ddogfennau ategol. Ymhellach i'r trafodaethau y bore yma yn y Pwyllgor Busnes, penderfynwyd, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.6, nad oes angen cyfeirio'r eitemau canlynol o is-ddeddfwriaeth i Bwyllgor Pwnc i'w hystyried yn helaethach: Rheoliadau Deunyddiau ac Eitemau Plastig mewn Cysylltiad â Bwyd (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005 a Rheoliadau Cyfrifon ac Archwilio (Cymru) 2005.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the business statement? I see that there are none. Are there any comments?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I take this opportunity to welcome Jane Hutt to her new post as Business Minister. I have a number of requests. First, I ask for a statement by Edwina Hart, the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, on the situation facing people who have received overpayments of tax credit, and who are now facing an attempt to reclaim that money. This is an issue of great concern for many Members. The Deputy Minister, Huw Lewis, is currently reviewing debt in Wales, and it would be appropriate for the Minister to make a statement on that matter.

I have asked the First Minister, who chose to ignore my request, for an early statement by Brian Gibbons on his priorities for his new

flaenoriaethau ar gyfer ei bortffolio iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol newydd. Fodd bynnag, gan na fydd newid polisi, efallai y gallwch chi wneud hynny, gan y bydd yn dilyn yr un polisiau a chi.

Gofynnaf hefyd am ddatl ar ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth. Ceisiodd y Prif Weinidog ein hargyhoeddi eu bod yn codi. Yn ôl y ffigurau a welaf innau, maent yn disgyn. Fodd bynnag, mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi gweld rhywbeth gwahanol, yn yr un modd ag y mae'n llwyddo i weld rhywbeth gwahanol i bawb arall yn ffigurau rhestrau aros y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Gan fod y ffigurau hyn mor galonogol, nid wyf yn deall pam y dewisodd ryddhau'r wybodaeth hon ar 23 Rhagfyr. Nid oedd y ffigurau'n debygol o gael llawer o sylw ar y dyddiad hwnnw, a byddai rhywun yn tybio y byddai'r Prif Weinidog, â'i awydd mawr i roi newyddion da i'w Lywodraeth, am eu rhyddhau ar adeg pan dderbynent sylw priodol. Gan fod y Prif Weinidog mor hyderus ynglŷn â'r ffigurau, hwyrach y cawn ni ddatl lawn arnynt yn y Siambr.

Gofynnaf hefyd am ddatganiad gan y Gweinidog newydd dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar yr argyfwng sy'n wynebu'r gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau arferol yng ngogledd Cymru.

David Melding: If I ever get sacked, I hope it is in the manner you have been, because you seem to be prospering; the use of language is important in this place. I wish you well as Business Minister. I was appointed as my party's shadow business minister a couple of months ago, and little did I think our paths would cross again in terms of a policy role. I put on record my thanks to Karen Sinclair for her personal kindnesses and the direct conversations that I had with her in the short time that I served on the Business Committee while she was Business Minister. We are content with the current business statement. However, I believe that abnormal service will soon be interrupted, and there will be many items that I will want to be brought before the Assembly. We called for a statement on the tsunami and on the Cabinet changes today, and those statements were brought forward. I

health and social services portfolio. However, as there will be no change of policy, perhaps you can do that, as he will be sticking to your policies.

I also ask for a debate on the gross value added figures. The First Minister tried to convince us that there has been an upturn in the figures. The figures that I have seen show that there has been a downturn. However, the First Minister has seen something different, in the same way as he manages to see something different from everyone else in the NHS waiting list figures in Wales. Given that these figures are so encouraging, I do not understand why he chose to release this information on 23 December. The figures were not likely to receive much attention on that date, and one would presume that the First Minister, who is so eager to share good news stories with his Government, would have wanted to release them at a time when they would have received proper attention. As the First Minister is so confident about the figures, perhaps we will have a full debate on them in the Chamber.

I also request a statement from the new Minister for Health and Social Services on the crisis facing the out-of-hours service in north Wales.

David Melding: Os byth y caf fy niswyddo, gobeithiaf y bydd hynny yn y modd y digwyddodd i chi, oherwydd ymddengys eich bod yn ffynnu; mae'r defnydd o iaith yn bwysig yn y lle hwn. Dymunaf yn dda i chi fel Trefnydd. Fe'm penodwyd yn rheolwr busnes fy mhlaid fy hun fis neu ddau yn ôl, ac ychydig a feddyliais y byddai ein llwybrau'n croesi eto yng nghyd-destun polisi. Rhoddaf ar glawr fy niolch i Karen Sinclair am ei chymwynasau personol a'r sgysiau uniongyrchol a gefais â hi yn y cyfnod byr y gwasanaethais ar y Pwyllgor Busnes tra oedd yn Drefnydd. Yr ydym yn fodlon ar y datganiad busnes presennol. Er hynny, credaf newidir y sefyllfa anarferol hwn cyn hir, ac y bydd llawer o eitemau y byddaf am weld eu dwyn gerbron y Cynulliad. Galwasom am ddatganiad ar y tswami ac ar y newidiadau i'r Cabinet heddiw, a rhoddwyd y datganiadau hynny

hope that you keep that hit rate up in responding to our requests.

Kirsty Williams: I, too, on behalf of the Liberal Democrat group, thank Karen for her efforts as Business Minister and I welcome Jane to her new role. What is certain is that there will always be plenty of business—we will always be told that everything is absolutely fine and I hope that we will not have to wait too long for that business.

I raise the issue of job losses in Newtown, which have been significant and are worthy of Government time in terms of a statement or an opportunity to discuss the issue in the Chamber. As I did this morning, I call on the Government to schedule a debate in its own time on the worrying gross value added figures. It is appropriate that the Chamber should hear from the new Minister for Health and Social Services what he intends to do with his new portfolio. The First Minister referred to the portfolio as Brian Gibbons's baby: I hope that the gestation period will not be a long one, and that, when Brian finally delivers, it will be more than a mouse.

Finally, given that we have new opportunities in health and social services and in the organisation of Assembly business, I urge you to reconsider the committee cycle and the wider workings of the Assembly. There is a new opportunity to reopen dialogue in this important area and I trust that you will be amenable to that.

Rosemary Butler: I congratulate Jane on her new job and hope that she undertakes her duties in Karen Sinclair's able manner. Would it be possible to have a debate on the excellent progress made by the urban regeneration company set up by the Government in Newport following the job losses at Llanwern and Corus in Ebbw Vale? There is much innovation in Newport and the rest of Wales could share in that best practice. I would appreciate a debate on that.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): Thank

gerbron. Gobeithiaf y byddwch yn dal ati yn yr un modd wrth ymateb i'n ceisiadau.

Kirsty Williams: Yr wyf finnau'n diolch i Karen ar ran grŵp y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am ei hymdrechion fel Trefnydd a chroesawaf Jane i'w rôl newydd. Yr hyn sy'n sicr yw y bydd digon o fusnes bob amser—dywedir wrthym bob amser fod popeth yn berffaith iawn a gobeithiaf na fyddwn yn yn gorfod disgwyl yn rhy hir am y busnes hwnnw.

Codaf fater y swyddi a gollwyd yn y Drenewydd, gan y collwyd nifer sylweddol ohonynt a phriodol yw eu hystyried yn amser y Llywodraeth drwy roi datganiad neu gyfle i'w trafod yn y Siambr. Fel y gwneuthum y bore yma, galwaf ar y Llywodraeth i amserlennu dadl yn ei hamser ei hun ar ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth, gan eu bod yn peri pryder. Mae'n briodol i'r Siambr glywed gan y Gweinidog newydd dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol am yr hyn y mae'n bwriadu ei wneud â'i bortffolio newydd. Cyfeiriodd y Prif Weinidog at y portffolio fel babi Brian Gibbons: gobeithiaf na fydd y beichiogrwydd yn un hir ac y cawn ni, pan fydd Brian yn esgor, rywbeth amgenach na llygoden.

Yn olaf, gan fod gennym gyfleoedd newydd ym maes iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ac o ran trefnu busnes y Cynulliad, pwysaf arnoch i ailystyried cylch y pwyllgorau a phrosesau'r Cynulliad yn gyffredinol. Mae cyfle newydd i aildechrau deialog yn y maes pwysig hwn a hyderaf y byddwch yn barod i ystyried hynny.

Rosemary Butler: Llongyfarchaf Jane ar ei swydd newydd a gobeithiaf y bydd yn ymgymryd â'i dyletswyddau yn y modd galluog a wnaeth Karen Sinclair. A fyddai modd cael dadl ar y cynnydd rhagorol a wnaeth y cwmni adfywio trefol a sefydlwyd gan y Llywodraeth yng Nghasnewydd ar ôl colli swyddi yn Llanwern ac yng ngwaith Corus yng Nglynebwy? Mae llawer o waith arloesol yn mynd rhagddo yng Nghasnewydd, a gallai gweddill Cymru elwa o'r arferion gorau hynny. Byddwn yn gwerthfawrogi dadl ar hynny.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Diolch i chi am

you for your comments and questions. First, on Rhodri Glyn's remarks on the overpayment of the tax credits, it is not an issue for our Government, but you have rightly linked it to the work that Huw Lewis is undertaking on debt. I have already discussed this with Edwina Hart and have informed the party business managers that I will report back to Business Committee on this next week.

On a statement to outline the priorities of the Minister for Health and Social Services, which Kirsty raised, they have been well covered in today's statement. I know that Brian is already delivering and, unlike me in my new role, he has hit the ground running.

On a debate on the GVA figures, what is extraordinary about Rhodri Glyn's point is that these figures are published by National Statistics, not a Government department. They are published independently of Government, and they are provided to us. We heard during today's questions to the First Minister that the record is clear—there has been 6 per cent growth in Wales's economy. That is real, on the record, and higher than the UK's growth rate. This will be covered in the report on 'A Winning Wales' to the Economic Development and Transport Committee next week.

On the other points, I am glad that David Melding has recognised that his party is content with the statement today and I am sure that we will have a constructive working relationship; I thank him for his comments.

On Kirsty's points, I will seek to discuss with each party business manager, and through the Business Committee, many issues relating to our working relationships in the Assembly. Kirsty, David Melding and I have worked together over the past five years and eight months in many capacities.

On job losses in Newtown, it is a commercial matter for the company, but Team Wales will provide all possible support to assist the affected workers in finding alternative

eich sylwadau a'ch cwestiynau. Yn gyntaf, ar sylwadau Rhodri Glyn am ordalu credydau treth, nid yw'n fater i'n Llywodraeth ni, ond yr ydych wedi'i gysylltu'n briodol â gwaith Huw Lewis ar ddyled. Yr wyf eisoes wedi trafod hyn gydag Edwina Hart ac wedi rhoi gwybod i reolwyr busnes y pleidiau y byddaf yn adrodd yn ôl i'r Pwyllgor Busnes ar hynny yr wythnos nesaf.

Ynghylch cais Kirsty am ddatganiad i nodi blaenoriaethau'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ymdrinwyd yn helaeth â hwy yn y datganiad heddiw. Gwn fod Brian eisoes wrth ei waith ac, yn wahanol i mi yn fy rôl newydd, mae wedi dechrau arno ar unwaith.

Ynghylch cynnal dadl ar ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth, yr hyn sy'n rhyfedd am y pwynt a wnaeth Rhodri Glyn yw bod y ffigurau hyn wedi'u cyhoeddi gan y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, nid gan un o adrannau'r Llywodraeth. Cânt eu cyhoeddi'n annibynnol a fe'u trosglwyddir inni. Clywsom yn ystod cwestiynau heddiw i'r Prif Weinidog fod yr hyn a gyhoeddwyd yn glir—bu 6 y cant o dwf yn economi Cymru. Mae hynny'n bendant ac ar gof a chadw, ac mae'n uwch na chyfradd twf y DU. Ymdrinnir â hyn yn yr adroddiad ar 'Cymru'n Ennill' a gyflwynir i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth yr wythnos nesaf.

Ynghylch y pwyntiau eraill, yr wyf yn falch bod David Melding wedi cydnabod bod ei blaid yn fodlon ar y datganiad heddiw ac yr wyf yn siŵr y cawn berthynas waith adeiladol; diolchaf iddo am ei sylwadau.

Ynghylch y pwyntiau a wnaeth Kirsty, byddaf yn ceisio trafod gyda phob un o reolwyr busnes y pleidiau, a thrwy'r Pwyllgor Busnes, lawer o faterion sy'n ymwneud â pherthynas waith Aelodau. Mae Kirsty, David Melding a minnau wedi gweithio gyda'n gilydd mewn sawl swyddogaeth dros y pum mlynedd ac wyth mis diwethaf.

Ynghylch y swyddi a gollwyd yn y Drenewydd, mater masnachol i'r cwmni ydyw, ond bydd Tîm Cymru'n cynnig pob cymorth posibl i helpu'r gweithwyr a

employment.

effeithiwyd i ddod o hyd i waith arall.

Excellent work is being undertaken in Newport and I assure Rosemary that I will discuss her request with my colleague, Andrew Davies, to ensure that we can get this good news to the Assembly.

Gwneir gwaith rhagorol yng Nghasnewydd a rhoddaf sicrwydd i Rosemary y byddaf yn trafod ei chais gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Andrew Davies, i sicrhau y gallwn gyfleu'r newydd da hwn i'r Cynulliad.

*Derbyniwyd y datganiad busnes.
Business statement adopted.*

4.40 p.m.

**Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Addysg (Gwybodaeth am Ddisgyblion Unigol) (Cymru)
(Diwygio) 2005
Approval of the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (Wales)
(Amendment) Regulations 2005**

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 24.25, this motion is not subject to debate.

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25, ni chynhelir dadl ar y cynnig hwn.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 24.25:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25:

1. a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 7 December 2004 on the draft regulations, the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005; and

1. a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 7 Rhagfyr 2004, mewn perthynas â'r rheoliadau drafft, Rheoliadau Addysg (Gwybodaeth am Ddisgyblion Unigol) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2005; a

b) approves the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 is made in accordance with:

b) yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Addysg (Gwybodaeth am Ddisgyblion Unigol) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2005 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol ag:

i) the draft regulations laid in the Table Office on 23 November 2004; and

i) y rheoliadau drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 23 Tachwedd 2004; a

ii) regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 23 November 2004. (NDM2228)

ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 23 Tachwedd 2004. (NDM2228)

*Cynnig (NDM2228): O blaid 54, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2228): For 54, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine

Bates, Mick
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
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, Helen Mary
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, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

**Dirprwyo'r Swyddogaethau yn Neddf Argyfyngau Sifil 2004, neu o Dan y Ddeddf
Honno, i'r Prif Weinidog
Delegate Functions in or Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to the First
Minister**

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar y Prif Weinidog i siarad, yr wyf yn credu, am y tro olaf heddiw.
The Presiding Officer: I call on the First Minister to speak for what is, I believe, the last time today.

Y Prif Weinidog: Cynigiaf fod

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, gan weithredu o dan adran 62(1) (b) Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, yn penderfynu dirprwyo holl swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol sydd yn Neddf Argyfyngau Sifil 2004 (c.36) ac oddi tani, i Brif Weinidog y Cynulliad, heblaw am y rhai hynny na ellir eu dirprwyo yn gyfreithiol.

Ni fydd unrhyw beth yn y cynnig hwn yn golygu y caiff goruchafiaeth awdurdod y Cynulliad llawn na rôl pwyllgorau'r Cynulliad o ran gweithredu'r swyddogaethau uchod eu lleihau.

Nid oes dim yn y cynnig hwn sy'n effeithio ar y modd y caiff Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 26 ei gweithredu.

Caiff y swyddogaethau hyn eu dirprwyo gan ei gwneud yn hysbys y byddant yn cael eu dirprwyo ymhellach i'r Gweinidog priodol yn y Cynulliad ac i staff, fel y bo hynny'n briodol. (NDM2227)

Diolchaf am y cyfeiriad at y nifer o weithiau yr wyf wedi siarad heddiw. Mae hwn yn gwestiwn pwysig ger ein bron.

The recent tsunami disaster in Asia has highlighted how important it is for us in Wales and in the UK to be prepared, and to have the capability to respond to major incidents and wide area civil disruptions. The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 provides legislation that supports emergency planning and response. It is the culmination of a broad consultation with the emergency planning community dating back to 2001. This consultation process is still ongoing, with the draft part I regulations and guidance which supports this Act being subject to public consultation until 3 March 2005.

It is important to make the limitations of this Act clear from the start. Emergency planning is not a devolved function; it is linked with police powers, which are not a devolved function either. It is not the Act's intention to devolve the responsibility. However, the Act impacts on a number of the Assembly's

The First Minister: I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under section 62(1) (b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, resolves to delegate all the functions of the National Assembly contained in and under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (c.36) to the Assembly First Minister, save those which by law cannot be so delegated.

Nothing in this motion will have the effect of reducing the pre-eminence of the authority of the full Assembly or of reducing the role of the Assembly committees in the exercise of the above functions.

Nothing in this motion affects the operation of Standing Order No. 26.

This delegation will be made in the knowledge that those functions will, as appropriate, be further delegated to the appropriate Assembly Minister and to staff. (NDM2227)

I am grateful for the reference to the number of times that I have spoken today. We are faced with an important question.

Mae trychineb y tswami yn Asia yn ddiweddar wedi dangos mor bwysig ydyw i ni yng Nghymru ac yn y DU fod yn barod, a bod â'r gallu i ymateb i ddigwyddiadau mawr ac i aflonyddwch sifil dros ardal eang. Mae Deddf Argyfyngau Sifil 2004 yn darparu deddfwriaeth sy'n hybu cynllunio rhag argyfyngau ac ymatebion iddynt. Mae'n ddiweddglo i ymgynghori eang a gafwyd â rhai sy'n ymwneud â chynllunio rhag argyfwng sy'n dyddio'n ôl i 2001. Mae'r broses ymgynghori hon yn parhau, a cheir ymgynghori cyhoeddus ar y rheoliadau a'r canllawiau rhan I drafft sy'n ategu'r Ddeddf hon tan 3 Mawrth 2005.

Mae'n bwysig egluro cyfyngiadau'r Ddeddf hon o'r cychwyn. Nid yw cynllunio rhag argyfwng yn swyddogaeth a ddatganolwyd; mae'n gysylltiedig â phwerau'r heddlu, nad ydynt ychwaith yn swyddogaeth a ddatganolwyd. Nid oes bwriad yn y Ddeddf i ddatganoli'r cyfrifoldeb. Er hynny, mae'r

functions, and the legislation sets out to take account of that fact. Part I of the Act is about emergency planning in advance of an emergency. It establishes a new statutory framework for it at a local level.

The Act sets out the roles and responsibilities of local responders, whether those are local authorities, the police, the ambulance service, the NHS, or coastguard and other uniformed services. It sets out to ensure consistency in emergency planning activity and in enhancing the performance that will result from the planning. Those planning activities are carried out by local responders, and they will need to ensure that they are prepared for handling emergencies, whether they are local incidents or major emergencies.

The legislation goes further by ensuring that local authorities provide advice and assistance to business and voluntary organisations about business continuity management. Given the increasing dependence on computers, business continuity preparation is becoming more important year by year, because of the potential disruption that can be caused.

We are already involved in emergency planning activity, even though we do not have the responsibility devolved to us. We work closely with the UK Government in this regard, especially the Cabinet Office. We have also strengthened our relationship with our partners in Wales by establishing the Wales resilience forum, which has a wide range of bodies ranging from the Army and other armed forces. We also have a relationship with every service, some of which are responsible to us, such as the fire service—that is a crucial area that is now devolved to us—ambulance services, the police, which is not devolved, our health service and public health service, which has lot of expertise in that area. It does not matter whether the service is devolved or not—we are still heavily engaged, which is why I chair the Wales resilience forum. It is a symbol of the way in which we work together on an all-Wales basis to confront new challenges.

Ddeddf yn effeithio ar nifer o swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad, ac mae'r ddeddfwriaeth yn ceisio rhoi sylw i'r ffaith honno. Mae rhan I y Ddeddf yn ymwneud â chynllunio rhag argyfwng cyn y ceir argyfwng. Mae'n gosod fframwaith statudol newydd ar gyfer hynny ar lefel leol.

Mae'r Ddeddf yn nodi rolau a chyfrifoldebau cyrff ymateb lleol, boed hwy'n awdurdodau lleol, yr heddlu, y gwasanaeth ambiwlans, y GIG, neu wylwyr y glannau a gwasanaethau lifreio eraill. Mae'n ceisio sicrhau cysondeb wrth gynllunio rhag argyfyngau ac wrth hyrwyddo'r perfformiad a geir o ganlyniad i'r cynllunio. Cyflawnir y gweithgareddau cynllunio hynny gan gyrff ymateb lleol, a bydd yn rhaid iddynt sicrhau eu bod yn barod i ymdrin ag argyfyngau, boed hwy'n ddigwyddiadau lleol neu'n argyfyngau mawr.

Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth hon yn mynd ymhellach drwy sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn rhoi cyngor a chymorth i fusnesau a chyrff gwirfoddol ynghylch trefnu i fusnes barhau. Gan fod mwy o ddibyniaeth ar gyfrifiaduron, mae paratoi ar gyfer parhad busnes yn dod yn bwysicach o flwyddyn i flwyddyn, oherwydd yr amhariadau a allai gael eu hachosi.

Yr ydym eisoes yn ymwneud â gweithgarwch cynllunio rhag argyfwng, er na ddatganolwyd y cyfrifoldeb i ni. Yr ydym yn cydweithio'n agos â Llywodraeth y DU yn hyn o beth, yn enwedig Swyddfa'r Cabinet. Yr ydym hefyd wedi cryfhau ein perthynas â'n partneriaid yng Nghymru drwy sefydlu fforwm Cymru gydnerth, sy'n cynnwys amrediad eang o gyrff a'r Fyddin a lluoedd arfog eraill yn eu plith. Mae gennym berthynas hefyd â phob gwasanaeth, y mae rhai ohonynt yn atebol i ni, fel y gwasanaeth tân—mae hwnnw'n faes hanfodol sydd bellach wedi'i ddatganoli i ni—gwasanaethau ambiwlans, yr heddlu, sydd heb ei ddatganoli, ein gwasanaeth iechyd a'n gwasanaeth iechyd cyhoeddus, sydd â llawer o arbenigedd yn y maes hwnnw. Nid oes gwahaniaeth a yw'r gwasanaeth wedi'i ddatganoli ai peidio—yr ydym yn ymwneud yn helaeth ag ef, beth bynnag, a dyna pam yr wyf yn gadeirydd ar fforwm Cymru gydnerth. Mae'n symbol o'r modd yr ydym yn cydweithio drwy Gymru gyfan i wynebu heriau newydd.

The delegation motion delegates functions under this Act to the First Minister from the Assembly, the Act having delegated certain functions to the Assembly. Therefore, it allows the Assembly Government to play its usual full part under the Act in the way in which we have interpreted the devolution settlement over the past five years and eight months, to refer to that famous period of time. It enables functions to be exercised immediately when emergency regulations are made in response to an emergency situation.

Under the emergency regulations, the UK may confer additional functions, including powers, on this Assembly. It is therefore important that we are able to exercise those functions on an urgency basis during an emergency affecting Wales, or large parts of Wales. There is a duty on the UK Government under this part of the Act to obtain the Assembly's consent whenever those powers are exercised in relation to the local responders—police, ambulance, fire and rescue services in Wales. Whenever they are exercised in Wales, they must obtain the Assembly's consent if it involves those devolved functions, such as fire and ambulance services.

There is also a duty on the UK Government when exercising a wide range of powers under part I—that is, the planning side of the Act—to consult the Assembly whenever the powers are exercised in relation to Wales. That is why we should follow our normal procedure and devolve this function from the UK Government to the Assembly; this motion devolves functions from the Assembly to the First Minister in the normal way. I commend the motion to the Assembly.

Michael German: I thank the First Minister for proposing this motion. This is an important Act, which must be enacted in Wales. I will question the First Minister on one area only—perhaps he can respond to this in his reply.

The Assembly is considering a change to its

Mae'r cynnig dirprwyo'n dirprwyo swyddogaethau o dan y Ddeddf hon i'r Prif Weinidog oddi wrth y Cynulliad, gan fod y Ddeddf wedi dirprwyo rhai swyddogaethau i'r Cynulliad. Gan hynny, mae'n caniatáu i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad chwarae ei rhan lawn arferol o dan y Ddeddf yn yr un modd ag yr ydym wedi dehongli'r ardrefniant datganoli dros y pum mlynedd ac wyth mis diwethaf, os caf gyfeirio at y cyfnod amser enwog hwnnw. Mae'n cynnig modd i arfer swyddogaethau ar unwaith pan wneir rheoliadau brys mewn ymateb i argyfwng.

O dan y rheoliadau brys, gall y DU roi swyddogaethau ychwanegol, gan gynnwys pwerau, i'r Cynulliad hwn. Mae'n bwysig, felly, y gallwn arfer y swyddogaethau hynny ar frys yn ystod argyfwng sy'n effeithio ar Gymru, neu rannau helaeth o Gymru. Mae Llywodraeth y DU o dan ddyletswydd yn ôl y rhan hon o'r Ddeddf i gael cydsyniad gan y Cynulliad pryd bynnag yr arferir y pwerau hynny mewn cysylltiad â'r cyrff ymateb lleol—yr heddlu a'r gwasanaethau ambiwlans a thân ac achub yng Nghymru. Pryd bynnag y'u harferir yng Nghymru, rhaid iddynt gael cydsyniad gan y Cynulliad os ydynt yn ymwneud â'r swyddogaethau datganoledig hynny, fel y gwasanaethau tân ac ambiwlans.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU o dan ddyletswydd hefyd wrth arfer amrywiaeth mawr o bwerau o dan ran I—hynny yw, yr agwedd ar y Ddeddf sy'n ymwneud â chynllunio—i ymgynghori â'r Cynulliad pryd bynnag yr arferir y pwerau hynny mewn cysylltiad â Chymru. Dyna pam y dylem ddilyn ein gweithdrefn arferol a datganoli'r swyddogaeth hon oddi wrth Llywodraeth y DU i'r Cynulliad; mae'r cynnig hwn yn datganoli swyddogaethau oddi wrth y Cynulliad i'r Prif Weinidog yn ôl yr arfer. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Cynulliad.

Michael German: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am gynnig y cynnig hwn. Mae hon yn Ddeddf bwysig, y mae'n rhaid ei rhoi ar waith yng Nghymru. Holaf y Prif Weinidog ynghylch un maes yn unig—efallai y gall ymateb i hyn yn ei ateb.

Mae'r Cynulliad yn ystyried newid ei Reolau

Standing Orders to be able to give effect to some of the parts of this Act, particularly in relation to the recall of the Assembly, how and under what circumstances that recall would take place, and the time limits for bringing forward regulations for the Assembly to pass. That is all good and proper. It is not for the First Minister to tell us when those Standing Orders will be brought before the Assembly for us to approve. However, there are other matters relating to how this Act would have practical implications for the information flow that must happen in the Assembly as a whole.

The powers that the First Minister will now exercise will be carried forward to a UK Minister of the Crown. In a sense, powers have been devolved in the Act to the First Minister, but most of the powers still relate to a Minister of the Crown. However, as we learned from our experience during the foot and mouth disease crisis, significant actions must be taken and will be taken in Wales—with a leadership role taken by the National Assembly.

Does the First Minister believe that there is a case for an internal protocol on information flow, which might be appropriate—either through the party political mechanisms that exist through the leadership of the various political groupings, or through the Business Committee or the party business managers—and some way of ensuring that the daily information flow, which occurred, for example, during the foot and mouth disease crisis, between Assembly Members and the Cabinet, will be continued? Does he also believe that that is a necessary way of ensuring that the First Minister is not put under pressure by the UK Parliament and UK Government Ministers to undertake actions that he feels he should—quite properly—discuss with the Assembly as a whole?

The First Minister: I am grateful for the spirit in which Mike German has asked those questions about the recall of the Assembly and the proposal that has been made that Standing Orders should be amended to provide for that automatic recall.

Everyone has to guess here—the very nature

Sefydlog er mwyn gallu rhoi rhai rhannau o'r Ddeddf hon ar waith, yn enwedig y rhai sy'n ymwneud ag ailgynnull y Cynulliad, sut ac o dan ba amgylchiadau y byddid yn ei ailgynnull, a'r cyfyngiadau amser ar gyflwyno rheoliadau i'w derbyn gan y Cynulliad. Mae hynny i gyd yn dda ac yn briodol. Nid lle'r Prif Weinidog yw dweud wrthym pa bryd y dygir y Rheolau Sefydlog hynny gerbron y Cynulliad i'w cymeradwyo gennym. Fodd bynnag, mae materion eraill sy'n ymwneud â'r effaith a gâi'r Ddeddf hon ar y llif gwybodaeth y mae'n rhaid ei gael yn y Cynulliad yn ei gyfanrwydd.

Bydd y pwerau a arferir yn awr gan y Prif Weinidog yn cael eu cario ymlaen i un o Weinidogion y Goron yn y DU. Ar un ystyr, mae pwerau wedi'u datganoli yn y Ddeddf i'r Prif Weinidog, ond mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r pwerau'n ymwneud o hyd ag un o Weinidogion y Goron. Er hynny, fel y dysgasom o'n profiad yn ystod argyfwng clwy'r traed a'r genau, rhaid cymryd camau pwysig ac fe'u cymerir yng Nghymru—a hynny o dan arweiniad y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn credu bod dadl dros gael protocol mewnol ar lif gwybodaeth, a allai fod yn briodol—naill ai drwy drefniadau'r pleidiau a geir drwy arweinwyr y gwahanol grwpiau gwleidyddol, neu drwy'r Pwyllgor Busnes neu reolwyr busnes y pleidiau—a rhyw fodd i sicrhau y bydd y llif gwybodaeth beunyddiol a gafwyd, er enghraifft, yn ystod argyfwng clwy'r traed a'r genau, rhwng Aelodau'r Cynulliad a'r Cabinet, yn parhau? A yw hefyd yn credu bod hynny'n ddull angenrheidiol o sicrhau na roddir y Prif Weinidog o dan bwysau gan Senedd y DU a Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y DU i gymryd camau y mae'n credu y dylai—yn gwbl briodol—eu trafod gyda'r Cynulliad cyfan?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am naws cwestiynau Mike German am ailgynnull y Cynulliad ac am y cynnig a wnaed i'r perwyl y dylid newid Rheolau Sefydlog fel y gellid ei ailgynnull yn awtomatig.

Rhaid i bawb ddyfalu yn hyn o beth—mae

of an emergency is that you cannot foresee it, so this is all guesswork. Emergency regulations made by the UK Government under this non-devolved power would probably not be made until an emergency had commenced and had been running for a while, simply because you cannot write them that quickly and you have to respond before you can write them. It would be the subject of political interest for a while, and would have been running for a while in that political sense, as well as in the sense of a massive amount of publicity.

If it were a very serious emergency—for example, a 9/11-type emergency, or a tsunami-size emergency—the expectation is that that would be handled, as it has been in the past, without recourse to these part II-type regulations, which came into force just before Christmas. Therefore, officials are considering whether to recommend that we should propose a change in Standing Orders to allow a wider emergency executive procedure that would cover the use of existing secondary legislative powers, and we would want to be able to give clear examples and cases to Ministers before we come back to the Assembly and give you examples of those.

4.50 p.m.

On recalling the Assembly, and I give this undertaking, I do not believe that there would be any circumstances under which I would not recommend that we confer on recalling the Assembly at the earliest practical juncture in the case of a civil emergency in which there was political interest which required cross-party support and on which we required to test political opinion. I give you my guarantee that we would want to do that as quickly as possible. If the Assembly was not sitting—on a weekend or during a holiday season—I believe that we would wish to do it that way. It is right and proper that we should do that. I give you a guarantee that we would take every practical step, in line with our powers to undertake such action, to bring people back to test political opinion.

Jenny Randerson: I have no doubt, given

argyfwng yn rhywbeth na ellir ei ragweld drwy ddiffiniad, felly dyfalu yw hyn i gyd. Mae'n debyg na fyddai rheoliadau brys a wneid gan Lywodraeth y DU o dan y pŵer annatganoledig hwn yn cael eu gwneud hyd nes yr oedd argyfwng wedi dechrau ac wedi parhau am ychydig, a hynny'n syml am na ellir eu llunio mor gyflym â hynny a rhaid ymateb cyn y gellir eu llunio. Byddai'n destun diddordeb gwleidyddol am ychydig a byddai wedi parhau am ychydig yn yr ystyr wleidyddol honno, a hefyd o ran denu cyhoeddusrwydd anferth.

Pe byddai'n argyfwng difrifol iawn—er enghraifft, argyfwng o'r math a gafwyd ar 11 Medi, neu argyfwng ar raddfa un y tswnami—byddai disgwyl iddo gael ei drafod, fel y gwnaed yn y gorffennol, heb droi at y math o reoliadau a geir o dan ran II, a ddaeth i rym ychydig cyn y Nadolig. Felly, mae swyddogion yn ystyried a ddylent argymhell inni gynnig newid i Reolau Sefydlog i ganiatáu gweithdrefn weithredol frys ehangach a fyddai'n ymwneud ag arfer pwerau a geir ar hyn o bryd o dan is-ddeddfwriaeth, a byddem am allu cynnig enghreifftiau ac achosion pendant i Weinidogion cyn dod yn ôl at y Cynulliad a rhoi enghreifftiau ohonynt i chi.

Ynghylch ailgynnull y Cynulliad, a rhoddaf yr ymgymeriad hwn, ni chredaf y byddai unrhyw amgylchiadau lle na fyddwn yn argymhell y dylem ymgynghori ynghylch ailgynnull y Cynulliad ar y cyfle cynharaf posibl yn achos argyfwng sifil yr oedd diddordeb gwleidyddol yn ddo a oedd yn gofyn cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol ac yr oedd yn rhaid inni roi prawf ar y farn wleidyddol yn ei gylch. Rhoddaf sicrwydd i chi y byddem am wneud hynny cyn gynted ag y byddai modd. Os nad oedd y Cynulliad yn eistedd—ar y penwythnos neu yn ystod tymor gwyliau—credaf y byddem yn dymuno ei wneud felly. Mae'n iawn ac yn briodol inni wneud hynny. Rhoddaf sicrwydd i chi y cymerem bob cam ymarferol, yn unol â'r pwerau sydd gennym i gymryd camau o'r fath, i ddod â phobl yn ôl i roi prawf ar y farn wleidyddol.

Jenny Randerson: Nid oes gennyf unrhyw

my knowledge of your way of working, that you would operate in that way. However, do you accept, given the draconian powers in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, that it would only come into force in the greatest emergency? Under those circumstances, we need guarantees that those powers would only be wielded with cross-party agreement. Does that not mean that there must be a protocol or a change to Standing Orders, or both?

The First Minister: Yes, but the spirit of my remarks is that, for reasons of urgency, you might have to start without such cross-party support, but you would want to secure it at the earliest practical juncture, which is why I give you my guarantee to that effect now. However, in turn, I hope that you will accept that it may be that, for practical reasons, you must start the response more quickly than you can organise the recall of the Assembly. Any reaction to a major civil emergency that involves in any way the use of draconian powers requires cross-party support and must be tested for that cross-party support by recalling the Assembly should we not be in session. I give you that guarantee.

amheuaeth, ar sail yr hyn a wn am eich dull o weithio, na fydddech yn gweithredu felly. Er hynny, a ydych yn derbyn, yng ngolwg y pwerau unbenaethol a geir yn Neddf Argyfyngau Sifil 2004, na ddeuai i rym ond yn achos yr argyfyngau mwyaf? O dan yr amgylchiadau hynny, rhaid inni gael sicrwydd na fyddai'r pwerau hynny ond yn cael eu harfer gyda chytundeb trawsbleidiol. Onid yw hynny'n golygu bod yn rhaid cael protocol neu bod yn rhaid newid y Rheolau Sefydlog, neu'r ddau?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydyw, ond yr hyn y ceisiais ei gyfleu yn fy sylwadau yw, oherwydd y brys, ei bod yn bosibl y byddai'n rhaid dechrau heb gael cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol o'r fath, ond y byddid yn ceisio ei sicrhau ar y cyfle cynharaf posibl, a dyna pam y rhoddaf sicrwydd i chi i'r perwyl hwnnw yn awr. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn gobeithio y byddwch chi, yn eich tro, yn derbyn bod yn rhaid dechrau ymateb, am resymau ymarferol, yn gynt nag y gellir trefnu i ailgynnull y Cynulliad. Rhaid cael cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i unrhyw ymateb i argyfwng sifil mawr sy'n golygu unrhyw ddefnydd o bwerau unbenaethol a rhaid profi bod cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol iddo drwy ailgynnull y Cynulliad os nad ydym yn eistedd. Yr wyf yn eich sicrhau o hynny.

*Cynnig (NDM2227): O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2227): 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
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
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
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, Helen Mary
 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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru
 (Swyddogaethau Ychwanegol) 2005
 Approval of the General Teaching Council for Wales
 (Additional Functions) Order 2005**

**Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol
 Oes (Jane Davidson):** Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru (Swyddogaethau Ychwanegol) 2005 y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 22 Rhagfyr 2004. (NDM2229)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru (Swyddogaethau Ychwanegol) 2005 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 22 Rhagfyr 2004. (NDM2230)

Y Llywydd: Nid oes siaradwyr, felly awn yn

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the General Teaching Council for Wales (Additional Functions) Order 2005, a copy of which was laid in Table Office on 22 December 2004. (NDM2229)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales approves that the General Teaching Council for Wales (Additional Functions) Order 2005 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 22 December 2004. (NDM2230)

The Presiding Officer: There are no

syth at y bleidlais.

speakers, so we will move directly to the vote.

Cynnig (NDM2229): O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion (NDM2229): 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
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
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
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, Helen Mary
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

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

*Cynnig (NDM2230): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2230): For 50, 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
Cairns, Alun
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
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, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
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, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.54 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.54 p.m.*

**Dadl Plaid Leiafrifol (Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales)
Minority Party Debate (Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales)**

**Tai
Housing**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, and amendments 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 in the name of Kirsty Williams.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, a gwelliannau 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 a 10 yn enw Kirsty Williams.

Alun Ffred Jones: Cynigiau fod

Alun Ffred Jones: I propose that

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gresynu at fethiant y Llywodraeth i ymyrryd yn yr argyfwng tai. (NDM2226)

the National Assembly of Wales deplores the failure of the Government to intervene in the housing crisis. (NDM2226)

Cynigiau welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Dileu'r cyfan ac yn ei le rhoi:

I propose amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Delete all and replace with:

1. yn cydnabod bod cyflenwad digonol o dai fforddiadwy yn hanfodol mewn cymdeithas wâr, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad i:

1. acknowledges that an adequate supply of affordable housing is essential in a civilised society and calls on the Labour Assembly Government to:

a) rhoi hawl i awdurdodau lleol beidio â gweithredu'r cynllun hawl i brynu;

a) grant local authorities the power not to implement the right to buy scheme;

b) sefydlu uned ymddiriedolaeth tir cymunedol gyda'i chyllideb ei hun;

b) establish a community land trust unit with its own budget;

c) rhoi hawl i awdurdodau lleol fynnu bod cartrefi fforddiadwy o fewn pob datblygiad newydd o dros 10 o dai.

c) grant local authorities the power to demand that there are affordable homes in all new developments of more than 10 houses.

Pan oeddwn yn gweithio fel newyddiadurwr i HTV, flynyddoedd yn ôl, ac yn chwilio am destun i raglenni materion cyfoes, yr oedd pwnc tai yn cael ei gynnig yn fisol. Cyflwr tai yn y sector preifat ar rent oedd y broblem. Anaml, fodd bynnag, y byddwn yn gwneud rhaglen ar y pwnc gan nad oedd yn ddigon 'secsi', a defnyddio terminoleg yr oes. Dyna yw agwedd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad hefyd tuag at y mater hwn. Mae'r maes yn gymhleth a'r problemau'n amlweddog, ac yr wyf yn cyfaddef nad yw'r atebion yn syml nac yn hawdd, ond nid yw osgoi problemau anodd yn ddigon da.

As a current affairs journalist working for HTV many years ago, the issue of housing would be put forward as a programme topic every month. The problem was the state of housing in the private rented sector. However, programmes on this issue were seldom made because the subject was not deemed 'sexy' enough, to use the current vernacular. That is also the Assembly Government's attitude towards this issue. The issue is complex and the problems multi-faceted, and I confess that the solutions are not simple or easy, but ducking difficult issues is just not good enough.

Nid oes strategaeth gyflawn, hyd y gwelaf. Mae gennym gynllunio ar un llaw a'r sector tai cyhoeddus ar y llall, ac mae popeth arall yn syrthio rhwng y ddwy stôl hyn. Heb

As far as I can see, there is no coherent strategy. On the one hand we have planning, and public sector housing on the other, and everything else falls between these two

strategaeth, ni allwch flaenoriaethu gwariant. Ystyriwch rai o'r problemau. Yn ôl adroddiadau diweddar, mae digartrefedd yng Nghymru wedi cynyddu'n ddifrifol er 1997. Cafwyd cynnydd o 20 y cant rhwng 2002 a 2003. Mae prynwyr tro cyntaf, sy'n bobl ifanc neu'n deuluoedd ifanc fel arfer, yn cael eu cau allan o'r farchnad dai. Gwelwyd chwyddiant o tua 125 y cant, a 150 y cant mewn rhai mannau, ym mhrisiau tai ers i Lafur ddod i rym. A all unrhyw un esbonio pam mae chwyddiant yn yr economi yn beth drwg ac yn rhywbeth i'w osgoi tra yr ystyrir chwyddiant yn y farchnad dai yn rhywbeth da? Canlyniad hynny yw bod pobl ifanc yn gorfod ysgwyddo morgeisi cwbl afresymol sydd hyd at bum neu chwe gwaith eu cyflog. Maent felly yn cael eu cau allan o'u cymunedau. Mae'n rhaid cydnabod bod dylanwad y farchnad ail gartrefi yn cael effaith niweidiol ar amryw o gymunedau gwledig ac arfordirol. Bu i wallgofrwydd y farchnad effeithio ar y sector rhentu, gyda llai o dai preifat ar gael i'w rhentu. Wrth i denantiaid brynu eu tai, ni all cymdeithasau tai a chynghorau wneud iawn am y colledion. Yn 2002, gwerthwyd bron i 4,500 o dai cyngor yng Nghymru. Yn yr un flwyddyn, dim on 750 o unedau newydd a godwyd i'w gosod ar rent. Am ba hyd y gall hynny barhau?

O ran cyflwr ein stoc tai, sut y mae'r Llywodraeth am i gynghorau lleol gyrraedd ei nod o godi safonau tai erbyn 2012? Ai model Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yw'r un y dylid ei ddilyn? Pam nad oes unrhyw un arall yn dilyn y patrwm hwnnw? O ran yr hen stoc tai sydd mewn dwylo preifat, yn enwedig tai teras mewn ardaloedd ôl-ddiwydiannol, mae grantiau i'w gwella wedi gostwng yn gyson ers y 1990au. Mae rhwystredigaeth gyffredinol o ran hyn. Cyflwynodd y Llywodraeth rai mesurau ac ymatebodd yma ac acw. Gwelwyd cynnydd yn y gyllideb grant tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer 2005, ac mae hynny i'w groesawu. Fodd bynnag, prin bod hynny'n gwneud iawn am y gostyngiadau er 1999. Mae'r cynllun cymorth prynu yn helpu yma ac acw hefyd. Fodd bynnag, nid oes arwydd bod cynllunio cydlynol bwriadol. Meddyliaf yn aml bod yn rhaid i Lywodraeth gael y pethau sylfaenol yn iawn cyn dechrau ymhel â'r manylion. Dylai'r Llywodraeth, er enghraifft, fod wedi gorfodi cynghorau lleol i

stools. Without a strategy, you cannot prioritise expenditure. Consider some of the problems. According to recent reports, homelessness in Wales has increased significantly since 1997. There was an increase of 20 per cent between 2002 and 2003. First-time buyers, who are usually young people or young families, are being shut out of the housing market. We have seen inflation of around 125 per cent, and over 150 per cent in some places, in house prices since Labour came to power. Can someone explain why inflation in the economy is a bad thing and should be avoided while inflation in the housing market is considered a good thing? As a result, young people are forced to take on completely unrealistic mortgages that are up to five or six times their salaries. They are therefore excluded from their own communities. We must acknowledge that the influence of the second homes market is having a damaging effect on many rural and coastal communities. The frenzied activity within the market has affected the rental sector, with fewer private houses available for rent. As tenants buy their houses, housing associations and councils cannot make up for the losses. In 2002, almost 4,500 council houses were sold in Wales. In the same year, only 750 new units were built for rent. How long can this carry on?

Regarding the condition of our housing stock, how does the Government want local councils to achieve its aim of raising the standard of housing by 2012? Should we follow the Bridgend model? Why is no-one else following that pattern? In terms of the old housing stock in private ownership, particularly terraced houses in post-industrial areas, the grants to improve them have shrunk consistently since the 1990s. There is general frustration in that regard. The Government introduced some measures and it has responded here and there. There has been an increase in the social housing grant budget for 2005, and that is to be welcomed. However, that does not really make up for the decreases since 1999. The homebuy scheme also helps here and there. However, there is no sign that there is any co-ordinated strategic planning. I often think that a Government must get the fundamentals right before starting to tinker with the details. The Government, for example, should have

gynnal asesiadau tai cyn iddynt fwrw ati i lunio eu cynlluniau unedol. Methwyd â gwneud hynny, ac o ganlyniad mae llanastr llwyr gyda llond drwm o gynghorau wedi cynhyrchu cynlluniau, ac eraill wrthi'n eu paratoi, tra bod rhai wedi rhoi'r gorau iddi.

These problems are not confined to Wales. However, if you glance over the border it seems that action is being taken and that the issues are at least being taken seriously. Whatever you may think of his record and muddled thinking, John Prescott has publicly berated house builders for profiteering and is now talking about providing £70,000 homes. He has a good point. Why have the prices of new homes tracked the inflation of the general market? Wages have not exploded, but the price of land has. This is another example of the free market working against the public good.

The price of land is a central issue, and that is why the Government should facilitate the setting up of community land trusts and community housing trusts, so that we can build genuinely affordable homes, and not just small houses, which will be affordable in perpetuity.

Lord Haskins, a Government adviser, stated publicly in 2003 that second-home owners and urbanites moving to the countryside are causing a housing crisis. He also said that the enforced change in the social fabric has led to severe labour shortages. The Labour Government in Wales has made no such admission. This pressure and change is at work in our Welsh-speaking heartlands, and is having a consequential, dramatic effect on Welsh as a community language. What are we doing about it? Apparently a committee will begin to consider related matters in a few months. However, all over England, authorities are already tackling the problem with the backing of planning inspectors. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority is the latest to confine new build to local people and key workers. Whatever you may think of the suggestion, at least that authority is attempting to tackle the problem, following the examples set by the Peak district, north

forced local councils to undertake housing assessments before they started producing their unitary plans. They failed to do that, and, as a result, the situation is a complete shambles with only a few councils having produced plans, and others still in the process of doing so, while some have given up altogether.

Nid yw'r problemau hyn yn gyfyngedig i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, os edrychwch yr ochr draw i'r ffin ymddengys fod camau'n cael eu cymryd a bod y materion sy'n codi yn cael eu cymryd o ddifrif o leiaf. Beth bynnag fo'ch barn am ei record a'i feddwl dryslyd, mae John Prescott wedi ceryddu adeiladwyr tai ar goedd am orelwa ac mae'n sôn yn awr am ddarparu cartrefi am bris o £70,000. Gwnaeth bwynt da. Pam y mae prisiau tai newydd wedi dilyn chwyddiant y farchnad gyffredinol? Nid yw cyflogau wedi codi i'r entrychion, ond mae pris tir. Dyma enghraifft arall o'r farchnad rydd yn mynd yn erbyn lles y cyhoedd.

Mae pris tir yn fater canolog, a dyna pam y dylai'r Llywodraeth hwyluso'r gwaith o sefydlu ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol ac ymddiriedolaethau tai cymunedol, fel y gallwn godi tai gwirioneddol fforddiadwy, ac nid rhai bach yn unig, a fydd yn fforddiadwy am byth.

Gwnaeth yr Arglwydd Haskins, un o gynghorwyr y Llywodraeth, ddweud ar goedd yn 2003 fod perchnogion ail gartrefi a threfwyr sy'n symud i gefn gwlad yn creu argyfwng tai. Dywedodd hefyd fod y newid a orfodwyd i'r gwead cymdeithasol wedi arwain at brinder llafur difrifol. Nid yw'r Llywodraeth Lafur yng Nghymru wedi gwneud unrhyw gyfaddefiad o'r fath. Mae'r pwysau a'r newid hwn i'w weld ar waith yng nghadarnleoedd y Gymraeg, ac mae'n cael effaith drawiadol o ganlyniad ar y Gymraeg fel iaith gymunedol. Beth yr ydym yn ei wneud yn ei gylch? Mae'n debyg y bydd pwyllgor yn dechrau ystyried materion cysylltiedig ymhen rhai misoedd. Fodd bynnag, ledled Lloegr, mae awdurdodau eisoes yn mynd i'r afael â'r broblem gyda chefnogaeth arolygwyr cynllunio. Parc Cenedlaethol Glynnoedd Swydd Efrog yw'r un diweddaraf a gyfyngodd dai newydd i bobl leol a gweithwyr allweddol. Beth

Devon and south Shropshire. In Wales, there is an ominous inertia.

bynag fo'ch barn am yr awgrym hwnnw, o leiaf bod yr awdurdod hwnnw'n ceisio mynd i'r afael â'r broblem, gan ddilyn yr esiamplau a osodwyd gan ardal y Peak, gogledd Dyfnaint a de sir Amwythig. Yng Nghymru, ceir syrthni anffodus.

5.00 p.m.

Beth a ddylem ei wneud? Yr ydym wedi cyfyngu ein hunain yn fwriadol yng ngwelliant l i rai syniadau ac enghreifftiau yn unig, fel rhoi'r hawl i lywodraeth leol beidio â gweithredu'r hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle y mae prinder tai ar rent. Mae hon yn broblem wirioneddol, a dychrynais o glywed bod Llafur yn bwriadu ehangu'r hawl hon i denantiaid cymdeithasau tai yn ei manifesto nesaf. Nid wyf yn deall hynny, gan mai agenda asgell dde ydyw, nid un sosialaidd.

What should we do? We have deliberately limited ourselves in amendment 1 to just a few suggestions and examples, such as giving local authorities the power not to implement the right-to-buy scheme in areas where there is a shortage of rented accommodation. This is a serious problem, and I was shocked to hear that Labour intends to extend this right to housing association tenants in its next manifesto. I do not understand it, because that is a right-wing agenda, not a socialist one.

Huw Lewis: I have two quick questions. Might any of the ragbag of policies that you have put before us this afternoon—most of which are already within the powers of local authorities—be taken up by Gwynedd Council? Secondly, do you anticipate that any of these Plaid Cymru policies will survive a future pact with the Welsh Conservative and Unionist Party, which your leader has been working so assiduously to construct?

Huw Lewis: Mae gennyf ddau gwestiwn sydyn. A allai Cyngor Gwynedd ymgymryd ag unrhyw un o'r gybolfa o bolisiau yr ydych wedi'u rhoi ger ein bron y prynhawn yma, y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt o fewn gallu awdurdodau lleol eisoes? Yn ail, a ydych yn rhagweld y bydd unrhyw un o'r polisiau hyn o eiddo Plaid Cymru'n parhau ar ôl cytundeb yn y dyfodol â Phlaid Geidwadol ac Unoliaethol Cymru, y bu'ch arweinydd yn gweithio mor ddiwyd i'w greu?

Alun Ffred Jones: We will dismiss the second remark as irrelevant. The first remark was interesting because authorities in England are acting with the backing of the inspectorate—the fact that nothing has been done in Wales shows that there is no leadership from the Welsh Assembly Government in planning or housing, as far as I can see.

Alun Ffred Jones: Anwybyddwn yr ail sylw gan ei fod yn amherthnasol. Yr oedd y sylw cyntaf yn ddiddorol gan fod awdurdodau yn Lloegr yn gweithredu gyda chefnogaeth yr arolygwyr—mae'r ffaith na wnaed dim yng Nghymru'n dangos na cheir unrhyw arweiniad gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ym maes cynllunio neu dai, hyd y gallaf weld.

Mae angen newid y rheoliadau cynllunio i ganiatáu i gynghorau fynnu ar ganran o dai fforddiadwy mewn datblygiadau o fwy na 10 o dai. Mae'n beth syml i'w wneud, ond mae'n elfennol i gryfhau braich cynghorau lleol. Fel y dywedais, mae angen hefyd sefydlu uned ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol i roi hwb ac arweiniad i bobl. Mae angen arweiniad gan y Llywodraeth—nid aros i'r 22 awdurdod lleol feddwl am 22 o syniadau. Mae angen arweiniad strategol

The planning regulations need to be changed to allow councils to insist that developments of more than 10 houses include a percentage of affordable homes. It is a simple step, but it is fundamental in strengthening the hand of local authorities. As I said, we also need to establish community land trust units to encourage and guide people. We need guidance from the Government—we cannot wait for the 22 local authorities to come up with 22 proposals. We need strategic

fydd yn dweud, 'O fewn y fframwaith hwn, gallwch ddatblygu polisiau penodol'. Mae hynny'n glir, nid yn unig ynglŷn â'r ymddiriedolaethau tir, ond yn fwy cyffredinol o lawer.

Rhai syniadau yn unig yw'r rhain, ond mae angen meddwl yn strategol ac yn greadigol os nad ydym am gau llawer o bobl allan o'r farchnad dai breifat, neu eu cau i fewn i anheddau is-safonol. Cynigiais welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, ond, o ran gwelliannau 2 i 10 y Rhyddfrydwyr, yr wyf yn rhyfeddu at eu digywilydd-dra yn condemnio papur trafod Plaid Cymru ac yna'n cynnwys amryw o'r syniadau yn eu gwelliannau. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn disgwyl gwell.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Before I call Peter Black, I should say that I will limit speakers strictly to three minutes. Peter Black can have five minutes to move the amendments and the Minister can have eight minutes, and then there will be three or four minutes left for winding up.

Peter Black: I propose the following amendments in the name of Kirsty Williams. Amendment 2: add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls for the development of a Welsh home improvement lending agency to help elderly homeowners and others release equity in their homes in order to improve them.

I propose amendment 3. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Assembly Government to invest more in new social housing in areas of high demand.

I propose amendment 4. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

recognises that although the homebuy scheme has made a significant contribution to providing affordable housing, it has done so by eating into the money available to build new homes for rent. Accordingly, this Assembly calls on the Government to

guidance that will say, 'Within this framework, you can develop specific policies'. That is clear not only in relation to the land trusts, but on a much more general basis.

These are only a few proposals, but we need strategic and creative thinking if we are to avoid locking many people out of the private housing market, or locking them into substandard accommodation. I moved amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, but, in terms of the Liberals' amendments 2 to 10, I am surprised by their impudence in condemning Plaid Cymru's discussion paper and then including many of its proposals in their amendments. However, we expect no better.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Cyn imi alw Peter Black, dylwn ddweud y byddaf yn cyfyngu siaradwyr yn llym i dri munud. Caiff Peter Black bum munud i gynig y gwelliannau a chaiff y Gweinidog wyth munud, ac wedyn bydd tri neu bedwar munud ar ôl i gloi.

Peter Black: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Kirsty Williams. Gwelliant 2: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw am ddatblygu asiantaeth fenthyca ar gyfer gwella cartrefi Cymru i helpu pobl oeddrannus ac eraill sy'n berchen ar dai i ryddhau'r ecwiti yn eu cartrefi er mwyn eu gwella.

Cynigiau welliant 3. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i fuddsoddi mwy mewn tai cymdeithasol newydd mewn ardaloedd lle bo'r galw'n uchel.

Cynigiau welliant 4. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

er yn cydnabod bod y cynllun cymorth prynu wedi gwneud cyfraniad sylweddol at ddarparu tai fforddiadwy, gwnaed hynny drwy ddefnyddio'r arian a fyddai wedi bod ar gael i adeiladu tai newydd i'w rhentu. O ganlyniad, mae'r Cynulliad hwn yn galw ar y

establish a separate homebuy budget line in addition to the existing resources available for social housing grant.

Llywodraeth i sefydlu llinell cymorth prynu ar wahân yn y gyllideb sy'n ychwanegol i'r adnoddau sydd ar gael ar gyfer y grant tai cymdeithasol.

I propose amendment 5. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 5. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

recognises that homelessness is best tackled at a local level and calls for more effective local homelessness strategies supported by Welsh Assembly Government investment.

yn cydnabod mai ar y lefel leol yr eir i'r afael â digartrefedd orau ac yn galw am strategaethau lleol mwy effeithiol i helpu'r digartref gyda buddsoddiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

I propose amendment 6. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 6. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls for restrictions on the right to buy in areas of high demand.

yn galw am gyfyngiadau ar yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle bo'r galw'n uchel.

I propose amendment 7. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 7. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

requires the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure that all local authorities carry out local housing needs surveys and recognises the need for planning authorities to undertake surveys on a community level in order to establish local housing needs.

yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru sicrhau bod yr holl awdurdodau lleol yn cynnal arolygon o anghenion tai lleol ac yn cydnabod yr angen i awdurdodau cynllunio gynnal arolygon ar lefel y gymuned er mwyn cadarnhau anghenion tai lleol.

I propose amendment 8. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 8. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to encourage and promote the formation of community housing trusts.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog a hyrwyddo ymdrechion i ffurfio ymddiriedolaethau tai cymunedol.

I propose amendment 9. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 9. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Assembly Government to support and encourage local planning authorities in engendering greater flexibility for different affordable housing planning policies to be developed. In particular calls for the use of exceptions policies to provide affordable housing in rural areas.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i gefnogi ac annog awdurdodau cynllunio lleol i annog mwy o hyblygrwydd er mwyn datblygu polisiau cynllunio tai fforddiadwy gwahanol. Yn arbennig, mae'n galw am ddefnyddio polisiau eithrio i ddarparu tai fforddiadwy mewn ardaloedd gwledig.

I propose amendment 10. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 10. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

condemns the cut in the Welsh Assembly Government's budget for disabled improvement grants.

yn condemnio'r toriad yng nghyllideb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer grantiau gwella i'r anabl.

I welcome the opportunity to debate this subject today. It is important that we debate housing in Plenary as often as possible because there are some important issues that must be tackled. The original motion, which was tabled by Plaid Cymru, presented us with a blank sheet, so we took the opportunity to fill it in, to try to cover as many points as possible.

Alun Ffred's last point was quite interesting because what we criticised was Plaid Cymru's policy on second homes. There is much common ground on housing, and on some of the other issues that have been raised, between the Welsh Liberal Democrats and Plaid Cymru. That is evident from the amendments that we have tabled, because, as Alun Ffred has said, they have much in common with what Plaid Cymru suggested in its amendment and elsewhere. In terms of second homes, there is not that same common ground, because we do not believe that punitive taxation is an effective means of dealing with this issue, although we agree that second-home owners should pay full council tax, as do others in the community. It should be noted, however, that councils in Wales already have the power to ignore the 50 per cent discount, and it is only in England that that discount applies. Any suggestion that we should introduce such a measure in Wales is superfluous, and that was the point that we made in criticising Plaid's original policy.

There are many pressing issues in housing around Wales, but I do not know whether they add up to a crisis.

However, there is an urgent need for action in many instances, which would be better facilitated if the Assembly had primary lawmaking powers. A number of issues raised in our amendments and in Plaid Cymru's amendment require those powers. I was pleased to hear that Nick Bourne is coming round to this point of view and to supporting primary lawmaking powers, therefore my Conservative colleagues may support the issue when we discuss it in future.

Croesawaf y cyfle i gael dadl ar y pwnc hwn heddiw. Mae'n bwysig inni gael dadleuon ar dai yn y Cyfarfod Llawn mor aml ag y bo modd gan fod rhai materion pwysig y mae'n rhaid mynd i'r afael â hwy. Yr oedd y cynnig gwreiddiol, a gyflwynwyd gan Plaid Cymru, yn cynnig dalen wag i ni, felly gwnaethom achub ar y cyfle i'w llenwi, i geisio ymdrin â chynifer o bwyntiau ag y bo modd.

Yr oedd y pwynt olaf a wnaeth Alun Ffred yn eithaf diddorol oherwydd yr hyn a feirniadasom oedd polisi Plaid Cymru ar ail gartrefi. Ceir llawer o dir cyffredin ar fater tai, ac ar rai o'r materion eraill a godwyd, rhwng Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru a Phlaid Cymru. Mae hynny'n amlwg o'r gwelliannau yr ydym wedi'u cyflwyno, oherwydd, fel y dywedodd Alun Ffred, mae llawer yn gyffredin ynddynt â'r hyn y mae Plaid Cymru wedi'i awgrymu yn ei gwlliant ac mewn mannau eraill. Yng nghyd-destun ail gartrefi, ni cheir tir cyffredin i'r un graddau, gan nad ydym yn credu bod trethu cosbol yn ddull effeithiol o ddelio â'r mater hwn, er ein bod yn cytuno y dylai perchnogion ail gartrefi dalu treth gyngor lawn, fel y gwnaiff eraill yn y gymuned. Dylid nodi, er hynny, fod cynghorau yng Nghymru eisoes yn meddu ar y pŵer i anwybyddu'r gostyngiad o 50 y cant, ac mai dim ond yn Lloegr y ceir y gostyngiad hwnnw. Mae unrhyw awgrym y dylem gyflwyno mesur o'r fath yng Nghymru'n ddiangen, a hwnnw oedd y pwynt a wnaethom wrth feirniadu polisi gwreiddiol Plaid Cymru.

Mae llawer o faterion sy'n mynnu sylw ym maes tai o gwmpas Cymru, ond nid wyf yn sicr a ydynt yn gwneud argyfwng.

Er hynny, mae taer angen cymryd camau mewn llawer achos, a byddai hynny'n haws pe byddai'r Cynulliad yn meddu ar bwerau deddfu sylfaenol. Mae sawl mater a godir yn ein gwelliannau ac yng ngwlliant Plaid Cymru yn gofyn bwerau o'r fath. Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed bod Nick Bourne yn dod i dderbyn y safbwynt hwn ac i gefnogi bwerau deddfu sylfaenol, felly efallai y bydd fy nghyd-Aelodau Ceidwadol o blaid y mater hwn pan drafodwn ef yn y dyfodol.

In talking to the amendments, I wish to group together those relating to high demand and those relating to the condition of existing stock. There is a huge problem around Wales where pockets of high demand make it difficult for local people to access and afford housing and remain in their own communities. This applies to urban Wales as well as to rural Wales. I am currently standing in an area of high demand, where there is huge pressure on social housing, where house prices are soaring and where people have difficulty in accessing the housing market through renting or buying property. The Welsh Assembly Government must respond by investing more in housing, particularly in social housing. We welcome the additional money in the budget for this purpose, but the investment must be better targeted.

Amendment 4 refers to issues relating to homebuy, which is of particular importance in rural areas. The homebuy budget must be separate from the social housing grant so that it does not impact on the supply of affordable housing and so that the grant's use by local authorities can be properly monitored. There is evidence that local councils use the social housing grant for homebuy purchases and do not build rental accommodation at the same time. Therefore, the budgets must be separated. The right to buy also raises an issue relating to demand. I would support any measure that limits the right to buy in high-demand areas. Local councils and the Assembly should have the right to suspend the right to buy when there are issues around the supply of social housing and where people cannot access this housing. The Government has made representations to the UK Government about the issue, and the Assembly needs to have the powers to take this action.

There are problems with existing stock. The condition of the social housing stock is a problem, and I repeat the call for alternatives to stock transfer and the community mutual, even though this is an option at present. Instead of writing off debts with stock transfer, it would be nice if the Government

Gyda golwg ar y gwelliannau, dymunaf grwpio'r rhai sy'n ymwneud â galw uchel a'r rhai sy'n ymwneud â chyflwr y stoc bresennol. Ceir problem enbyd hwnt ac yma yng Nghymru lle y mae mannau lle y mae galw uchel yn peri ei bod yn anodd i bobl leol gael a fforddio tai ac aros yn eu cymunedau. Mae hyn yn berthnasol i Gymry drefol yn ogystal â Chymru wledig. Yr wyf yn sefyll yn awr mewn ardal lle y ceir galw uchel, lle y mae pwysau aruthrol ar dai cymdeithasol, lle y mae prisiau tai'n codi i'r entrychion a lle y mae pobl yn ei chael yn anodd mynd i mewn i'r farchnad dai drwy rentu neu brynu eiddo. Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ymateb drwy fuddsoddi rhagor mewn tai, a thai cymdeithasol yn enwedig. Croesawn yr arian ychwanegol a geir yn y gyllideb i'r diben hwn, ond rhaid targedu'r buddsoddiadau'n well.

Mae gwelliant 4 yn cyfeirio at faterion sy'n ymwneud â'r cynllun cymorth prynu, sy'n arbennig o bwysig mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Rhaid gwahanu cyllideb y cynllun cymorth prynu oddi wrth y grant tai cymdeithasol fel na fydd yn effeithio ar y cyflenwad o dai fforddiadwy ac fel y gellir cadw golwg priodol ar y defnydd a wnaiff awdurdodau lleol o'r grant. Ceir tystiolaeth sy'n dangos bod cynghorau lleol yn defnyddio'r grant tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer prynu o dan y cynllun prynu cartref ac nad ydynt yn codi tai i'w rhentu yr un pryd. Felly, rhaid gwahanu'r cyllidebau. Mae'r hawl i brynu hefyd yn codi mater sy'n ymwneud â galw. Cefnogwn unrhyw fesur sy'n cyfyngu ar yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle y ceir galw uchel. Dylai cynghorau lleol a'r Cynulliad gael yr hawl i atal yr hawl i brynu os oes problemau ynghylch y cyflenwad o dai cymdeithasol ac os nad yw pobl yn gallu cael tai o'r fath. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi cyflwyno sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU ar y mater hwn, a rhaid i'r Cynulliad gael pwerau i gymryd y cam hwn.

Ceir problemau mewn cysylltiad â'r stoc bresennol. Mae cyflwr y stoc dai cymdeithasol yn peri problem, a galwaf eto am gael dewisiadau eraill yn ogystal â throsglwyddo stoc a'r gymdeithas gydfuddiannol gymunedol, er bod y dewis hwn ar gael ar hyn o bryd. Yn hytrach na

gave us the money to invest in existing social housing. We must tackle the backlog of repairs in the private sector, which amounts to about £1 billion, and address the fact that one in five homes in the private rented sector are unfit for human habitation. Reducing the disabled facilities grant by around £40 million is another issue that gives rise to huge concern. I commend the amendments to the Assembly.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I urge Members to limit their speeches to exactly three minutes.

Janice Gregory: The Social Justice and Regeneration Committee has long stated that housing is its top priority. In its last six meetings, the committee has considered papers on homelessness, social housing grants and rethinking construction. Over the same period, the Minister's report to the committee has included updates on nine housing-related issues, including affordable housing, the national homelessness strategy, Welsh housing quality standards and the rapid response adaptation programme.

Turning to some of the issues raised, the call for the development of a Welsh home improvement lending agency was a recommendation in the committee's report on its policy review of housing for older people. My recollection is that the Minister, in her written response to the report, agreed that loans need to be considered but that investigations had indicated that this would not be feasible on a national, organisational basis. The Welsh Assembly Government is talking to several players in the field in considering with Welsh local authorities the scope for a pilot scheme—or pilot schemes—in Wales. This is a positive reaction to the recommendation.

I turn to the issue of greater investment in social housing in areas of high demand. I remind the Assembly that the budget increase in the housing spending programme reflects an increase of £16 million in the social

dileu dyledion drwy drosglwyddo stoc, byddai'n beth braf pe byddai'r Llywodraeth yn rhoi'r arian i ni i'w fuddsoddi yn y tai cymdeithasol presennol. Rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â'r ôl-groniad o waith atgyweirio yn y sector preifat, sy'n dod i tua £1 biliwn, a rhaid inni roi sylw i'r ffaith bod un ym mhob pump o'r tai yn y sector rhent preifat yn anaddas i bobl fyw ynddynt. Mae'r ffaith bod y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl wedi'i ostwng o tua £40 miliwn yn fater arall sy'n peri pryder dybryd. Cymeradwyaf y gwelliannau i'r Cynulliad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Anogaf Aelodau i gyfyngu eu hareithiau i dri munud yn union.

Janice Gregory: Mae'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio wedi dweud ers amser maith mai tai yw ei flaenoriaeth bennaf. Yn ei chwe chyfarfod diwethaf, mae'r pwyllgor wedi ystyried papurau ar ddigartrefedd, grantiau tai cymdeithasol ac ailfeddwl ynghylch adeiladu. Dros yr un cyfnod, mae adroddiad y Gweinidog i'r pwyllgor wedi cynnwys y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am naw mater sy'n ymwneud â thai, gan gynnwys tai fforddiadwy, y strategaeth ddigartrefedd genedlaethol, safonau ansawdd tai Cymru a'r rhaglen addasiadau brys.

Gan droi at rai o'r materion a godwyd, yr oedd yr alwad am ddatblygu asiantaeth fenthyca ar gyfer gwella cartrefi Cymru yn argymhelliad yn adroddiad y pwyllgor ar ei adolygiad polisi o dai ar gyfer pobl hŷn. Yn ôl yr hyn a gofiau, cytunodd y Gweinidog, yn ei hymateb ysgrifenedig i'r adroddiad, fod angen ystyried cynnig benthyciadau ond bod ymchwil wedi dangos na fyddai'n ymarferol gwneud hynny drwy gorff cenedlaethol. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n siarad â sawl un sydd yn y maes hwn wrth ystyried gydag awdurdodau lleol Cymru y posibilrwydd o gael cynllun peilot—neu gynlluniau peilot—yng Nghymru. Mae hyn yn ymateb cadarnhaol i'r argymhelliad.

Trof yn awr at fater buddsoddi mwy mewn tai cymdeithasol mewn ardaloedd lle y ceir galw uchel. Yr wyf yn atgoffa'r Cynulliad bod y cynnydd yn y gyllideb yn y rhaglen gwariant ar dai yn adlewyrchu cynnydd o £16

housing grant in 2005-06 and an additional £30 million in years 2 and 3.

miliwn yn y grant tai cymdeithasol yn 2005-06 a £30 miliwn ychwanegol ym mlynnyddoedd 2 a 3.

5.10 p.m.

The suggestion that the Government establish a separate homebuy budget line in addition to the existing resources available to the social housing grant is another matter that has been the subject of intense discussion in the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. Members of the committee are well aware that the Minister has recently consulted on the social housing grant. The results of that consultation, although imminent, have not yet been received. The Minister has given an undertaking to consider the prospect of homebuy being included as a separate budget line. Perhaps we should wait and see what transpires.

Mae'r awgrym y dylai'r Llywodraeth sefydlu llinell gyllideb ar wahân ar gyfer y cynllun cymorth prynu yn ychwanegol ar yr adnoddau sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd yn y grant tai cymdeithasol yn fater arall y bu trafod mawr arno yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Mae aelodau'r pwyllgor yn dra ymwybodol bod y Gweinidog wedi ymgynghori'n ddiweddar ar y grant tai cymdeithasol. Er bod canlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw i ddod cyn hir, ni ddaethant i law eto. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi ymgymryd i ystyried y posibilrwydd o gynnwys y cynllun cymorth prynu fel llinell gyllideb ar wahân. Efallai y dylem ddisgwyl i weld beth a ddigwydd.

The committee also regularly visits the issue of homelessness. I recall that the committee last considered this subject in its meeting of 17 November, which was held in the Muni Arts Centre in Pontypridd. At that meeting, members accepted that the Welsh Assembly Government had been conducting a review of the homelessness strategy since September 2004. Again, perhaps we should await the results of the review before criticising the possible outcome.

Bydd y pwyllgor yn ystyried mater digartrefedd yn rheolaidd hefyd. Cofiaf mai'r tro diwethaf y gwnaeth y pwyllgor ystyried y pwnc hwn oedd yn ei gyfarfod ar 17 Tachwedd, a gynhaliwyd yng Nghanolfan Gelfyddydau'r Muni ym Mhontypridd. Yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, gwnaeth aelodau dderbyn bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi bod yn cynnal adolygiad o'i strategaeth ddigartrefedd ers mis Medi 2004. Unwaith eto, efallai y dylem ddisgwyl i weld beth a ddaw o'r adolygiad cyn beirniadu'r canlyniad.

Time does not allow me to discuss all of the amendments to the motion. Suffice it to say that many seem to have emerged from the committee's report on housing for older people and I remind the Assembly that the Minister's written and oral responses to that report were positive and caused little or no dissent among those who were invited to comment on them, including in Plenary debates.

Nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser i drafod yr holl welliannau i'r cynnig. Digon yw dweud ei bod yn ymddangos bod llawer wedi dod o adroddiad y pwyllgor ar dai ar gyfer pobl hŷn ac atgoffaf y Cynulliad fod ymatebion ysgrifenedig a llafar y Gweinidog i'r adroddiad hwnnw'n rhai cadarnhaol ac nad oeddent wedi peri fawr ddim anghydwelldd ymysg y rhai a wahoddwyd i wneud sylw amdanynt, gan gynnwys rhai yn nadleuon y Cyfarfod Llawn.

Alun Ffred talked about a community land chest—

Soniodd Alun Ffred am gronfa dir gymunedol—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I am sorry, Janice, you have had your three minutes.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Janice, cawsoch eich tri munud.

Jocelyn Davies: Not that long ago, housing in the Valleys remained affordable for first-time buyers, but recent statistics show that that is no longer the case, and it would now be wrong to assume that the lack of affordable social housing is confined to rural Wales. This is an all-Wales problem. Seven of the UK's top 20 towns for house-price growth are in Wales. Port Talbot is top, with an average rise of 50 per cent; in Ebbw Vale the average price rise is 45 per cent, in Neath it is 44 per cent, and in Merthyr it is 45 per cent. These towns started last year with relatively low price levels, but houses are being snapped up and, as the demand for houses outstrips the supply, the price is driven up, and those on lower wages are outbid.

In turn, the demand for social housing is squeezed, and the social housing stock available has declined drastically. Housing is by far the most common problem that constituents bring to my office, and I am sure that this is the experience of all Members. The right-to-buy scheme has virtually ended new build by councils. In 2003, only 20 new council houses were completed, and only two were completed in 2002. Treasury rules prevent local authorities from investing in housing, and it was disappointing that the UK Treasury declined the Minister's request to allow wholly owned local authority companies in Wales. The cost of bringing our current council house stock up to standard will require £3 billion in investment, and that is without increasing the number of houses available.

More people are competing for a diminishing supply of houses, and you do not have to be very clever to work out that some people therefore lose out. Homelessness is a growing problem, and it exists in all parts of Wales. This is outrageous in the world's fourth richest economy. Many house buyers say that they are mortgaged to the hilt, and a slight rise in the interest rate can result in repossession. That is one of the many reasons why recorded homelessness is growing each year and is at a record level in Wales, with

Jocelyn Davies: Hyd yn eithaf diweddar, yr oedd tai yn y Cymoedd yn dal i fod yn fforddiadwy i brynwyr tro cyntaf, ond mae ystadegau diweddar yn dangos nad felly y mae bellach, ac mai anghywir yn awr fyddai cymryd bod diffyg tai cymdeithasol fforddiadwy'n gyfyngedig i Gymru wledig. Problem i Gymru gyfan yw hon. O blith yr 20 o drefi yn y DU lle y cafwyd y cynnydd mwyaf ym mhrisiau tai, mae saith yng Nghymru. Port Talbot sydd ar ben y rhestr, gyda chynnydd cyfartalog o 50 y cant; yng Nglynebwy, y cynnydd yn y pris cyfartalog yw 45 y cant, yng Nghastell-nedd mae'n 44 y cant, ac ym Merthyr Tudful mae'n 45 y cant. Yr oedd y prisiau yn y trefi hyn yn gymharol isel ddechrau'r flwyddyn ddiwethaf, ond mae tai'n cael eu bachu a, gan fod y galw am dai yn fwy na'r cyflenwad, gyrrir y pris i fyny, ac mae'r rhai sydd ar gyflogau is yn methu â chystadlu.

Yn sgîl hynny, ceir mwy o alw am dai cymdeithasol, ac mae nifer y tai cymdeithasol sydd ar gael wedi gostwng yn sylweddol. Tai yw'r broblem fwyaf cyffredin o lawer y mae etholwyr yn ei chodi gyda mi yn fy swyddfa, ac yr wyf yn siŵr bod hynny'n wir am bob Aelod. Mae'r cynllun hawl i brynu wedi rhoi pen ar adeiladu tai newydd gan gynghorau i bob pwrpas. Yn 2003, dim ond 20 o dai cyngor newydd a gwblhawyd, a dim ond dau a gwblhawyd yn 2002. Mae rheolau'r Trysorlys yn atal awdurdodau lleol rhag buddsoddi mewn tai, a siom oedd bod Trysorlys y DU wedi gwrthod cais y Gweinidog i ganiatáu cwmnïau a lwyf berchnogir gan awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru. Bydd angen buddsoddiad o £3 biliwn i godi ein stoc dai cyngor bresennol at y safon, a hynny heb ddarparu mwy o dai.

Mae mwy o bobl yn cystadlu am gyflenwad o dai sy'n lleihau, ac nid oes raid bod yn benig i weld y bydd rhai ar eu colled o'r herwydd. Mae digartrefedd yn broblem gynyddol, ac fe'i ceir ym mhob rhan o Gymru. Mae hyn yn beth gwarthus yn yr economi bedwaredd gyfoethocaf yn y byd. Dywed llawer o brynwyr tai eu bod at eu clustiau mewn taliadau morgais, a bydd codiad bach yn y gyfradd llog yn gallu arwain at adfeddiannu tai. Dyna un o blith llawer o resymau y mae nifer y rhai digartref

providing bed and breakfast accommodation becoming a significant financial burden for councils. It is estimated to cost £4 million this year, and it provides highly inappropriate accommodation for those who are housed in it.

More families are homeless now than at any time since records began in 1977, and we should all be ashamed of that. Homelessness in childhood affects your health, your relationships, your education and all your life chances. A recent Shelter report states that children born to the poorest households in 2004 are far less likely to escape poverty than those of any previous generation and predicts that the lack of housing will represent a deep social division. If we do not address the housing problem, we neglect a growing number of people all over Wales.

William Graham: We welcome this debate and support many of the Liberal Democrats' amendments. The development of affordable housing may be further eased by keeping to the rural exceptions policy, which allows councils to give planning permission for affordable homes and, by redesigning the planning policy guidance note 3, to enable affordable housing for local people to be built on sites otherwise not available for development.

There are good and proven examples of the use of the section 106 agreement in a local context. It is about devolving funding and decision-making to local levels, by strengthening the network of rural partners and targeting resources towards specific local needs and lagging areas, where poor economic performance is often coupled with social deprivation.

We also call for the simplifying of the rural funding framework to reduce the number of funding schemes to perhaps three major programmes. The problems facing rural people trying to buy their own homes might be exacerbated by a further continuing rise in rural land prices. The rural land survey, published at the end of November last year, identified that farmland was being targeted

a gofnodir yn cynyddu bob blwyddyn a pham y mae ar ei lefel uchaf erioed yng Nghymru, fel bod yr angen i ddarparu llety gwely a brecwast yn dod yn faich ariannol sylweddol ar gynghorau. Amcangyfrifir y bydd hynny'n costio £4 miliwn eleni, ac mae'n llety tra amhriodol i'r rhai a gartrefir felly.

Mae mwy o deuluoedd yn ddigartref yn awr nag ar unrhyw adeg ers dechrau cofnodi'r niferoedd yn 1977, a dylem oll deimlo cywilydd o hynny. Mae digartrefedd yn ystod plentyndod yn effeithio ar eich iechyd, eich perthynas ag eraill, eich addysg a'ch holl gyfleoedd mewn bywyd. Mae adroddiad diweddar gan Shelter yn dweud bod plant a aned i'r teuluoedd tlotaf yn 2004 yn llawer llai tebygol o ddianc rhag tlodi na'r rhai mewn unrhyw genhedlaeth cyn hynny ac mae'n rhagweld y bydd prinder tai'n dangos hollt gymdeithasol ddwfn. Os nad ymatebwn i'r broblem tai, byddwn yn esgeuluso mwyfwy o bobl ym mhob rhan o Gymru.

William Graham: Croesawn y ddatl hon a chefnogwn lawer o welliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Gellir hwyluso'r gwaith o ddatblygu tai fforddiadwy ymhellach drwy gadw at y polisi eithriadau gwledig, sy'n gadael i gynghorau roi caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer cartrefi fforddiadwy a, thrwy ail-lunio nodyn canllaw polisi cynllunio 3, fel y gellir codi tai fforddiadwy ar gyfer pobl leol ar safleoedd na fyddent ar gael i'w datblygu fel arall.

Ceir enghreifftiau da a phroffedig o'r defnydd o'r cytundeb adran 106 mewn cyd-destun lleol. Mae'n golygu datganoli arian a phenderfyniadau i lefelau lleol, drwy gryfhau'r rhwydwaith o bartneriaid gwledig a thargedu adnoddau ar anghenion lleol penodol ac ardaloedd sydd ar ôl, lle y mae perfformiad economaidd gwael yn cyd-fynd yn aml ag amddifadedd cymdeithasol.

Galwn hefyd am symleiddio'r fframwaith ariannu gwledig er mwyn gostwng nifer y cynlluniau ariannu fel bod tair rhaglen fawr, efallai. Mae'n bosibl y bydd y problemau y mae pobl wledig yn eu hwynebu wrth geisio prynu cartref yn cael eu gwaethygu ymhellach gan gynnydd pellach ym mhrisiau tir gwledig. Yn yr arolwg o dir gwledig, a gyhoeddwyd ddiwedd Tachwedd y llynedd,

by a new breed of investors, fuelling demand and raising land prices. The average price of farmland, on a national basis in the third quarter of 2004, exceeded £10,000 per hectare for the first time. Farmland prices are therefore rising in the same way as residential house prices. The survey found that overall prices rose by 30 per cent in the last 12 months. More and more people are buying land, not only as a viable investment, but also to protect their rural homes from further development. I ask the Minister to initiate some further studies into the possibility of a new market emerging in rented rural land, in respect of the payment of subsidies, where there may be split from the land and where they may become tradeable as separate commodities. That would not be in the interest of anyone in Wales, and I ask the Minister to comment.

Elin Jones: Mae'r Blaid Lafur yn lansio ymgyrch bosteri heddiw, sy'n clodfori'r ffaith bod cyfraddau llog dipyn yn is yn awr nag oeddent o dan y Toriaid. Fodd bynnag, pa fath o gysur yw hynny i'r rhai sy'n methu â dod o hyd i gartref yn eu cymuned i'w rentu neu i'w brynu? Efallai y gall pobl gael morgais am dŷ sydd dair neu bedair gwaith eu hincwm, ond yng Ngheredigion, mae prisiau tai chwech neu saith gwaith incwm tŷ. Dangosodd adroddiad diweddar mai Ceredigion yw un o'r siroedd lleiaf fforddiadwy i fyw a gweithio ynddi yn y Deyrnas Gyfunol—llai fforddiadwy erbyn hyn na phob bwrdeistref yn Llundain. Mae'r bwlch rhwng cyflogau a phrisiau tai yn lletach yng Ngheredigion nag yn unrhyw le arall yng Nghymru. Rhwng 1997 a 2004, mae pris tŷ ar gyfartaledd yng Ngheredigion wedi codi 147 y cant yn ôl y Gofrestrfa Dir. Dros gyfnod tebyg, o 1995 i 2002, mae'r economi a lefel gwerth ychwanegol crynswth yn y De-orllewin wedi disgyn o 71 i 59 y cant o'r lefel gyfartalog.

Gwn fod y broblem hon ymhell o fod yn unigryw i Geredigion, ac nid oes atebion cyflym i'r broblem. Fodd bynnag, mae rhai o'n cymunedau yng Nghymru, a gosodaf Ceredigion yn gyfan yn y categori hwn, yn gwbl anghynaliadwy. Maent yn wan yn economaidd, ac nid ydynt yn cynhyrchu

canfuwyd bod tir fferm yn cael ei dargedu gan fath newydd o fuddsoddwr, gan chwyddo'r galw a chodi prisiau tir. Yr oedd pris tir fferm, ledled y wlad yn nhrydydd chwarter 2004, wedi codi i fwy na £10,000 yr hectar ar gyfartaledd am y tro cyntaf. Felly, mae prisiau tir fferm yn codi yn yr un modd â phrisiau tai preswyl. Canfu'r arolwg fod prisiau wedi codi o 30 y cant yn gyffredinol yn y 12 mis diwethaf. Mae mwy a mwy o bobl yn prynu tir, nid yn unig fel buddsoddiad dichonadwy, ond hefyd i ddiogelu eu cartrefi gwledig rhag datblygu pellach. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog gychwyn rhai astudiaethau pellach i ganfod a yw marchnad newydd yn datblygu ar gyfer tir gwledig i'w rentu, mewn cysylltiad â thalu cymorthdaliadau, lle y gallent gael eu gwahanu oddi wrth y tir a dod yn werthadwy fel nwyddau ar wahân. Ni fyddai hynny o les i neb yng Nghymru, a gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog wneud sylw.

Elin Jones: The Labour Party is launching a poster campaign today, which celebrates the fact that interest rates are significantly lower now than they were under the Tories. However, what comfort is that to those who cannot find a home to buy or rent in their community? People may be able to get a mortgage that is two or three times their income, but in Ceredigion, house prices are six or seven times household incomes. A recent report showed that Ceredigion is one of the least affordable counties in which to live and work in the United Kingdom—less affordable now than every London borough. The gap between salaries and house prices is wider in Ceredigion than anywhere else in Wales. Between 1997 and 2004, the average house price in Ceredigion increased by 147 per cent according to the Land Registry. Over a similar period, between 1995 and 2002, the economy and the GVA level in south-west Wales fell from 71 to 59 per cent of the average level.

I know that this problem is far from being unique to Ceredigion, and there are no quick fixes to the problem. However, some of our communities in Wales, and I include the whole of Ceredigion in this category, are totally unsustainable. They are economically weak, and they do not generate enough

digon o gyfoeth. Mae hyn yn gorfodi eu cenedlaethau nesaf i adael eu cymunedau gan eu bod yn rhy ddrud iddynt fyw ynddynt.

I gloi, cyfeiriaf at y broses o lunio cynlluniau datblygu unedol, yng Ngheredigion yn benodol. Mae'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus ar y cynllun datblygu unedol ar fin dechrau yng Ngheredigion yn y dyddiau nesaf, a beth bynnag mae rhywun yn ei feddwl am gynnwys y cynllun datblygu unedol hwnnw, mae'r holl broses o'i lunio wedi bod yn gwbl aneffeithiol a thrwsgl. Er enghraifft, clustnodwyd tir ar gyfer tai newydd ar ddechrau'r broses o lunio'r cynllun datblygu unedol, ond rhyw dair blynedd yn ddiweddarach, cynhaliodd y cyngor asesiad o'r angen am dai yn lleol, heb fod hynny'n cael unrhyw ddylanwad ar faint o dir mae'r cyngor yn bwriadu'i glustnodi ar gyfer datblygiadau tai newydd—gan osod y cert o flaen y ceffyl.

5.20 p.m.

Pan gyhoeddodd y Llywodraeth ei bwriad i newid y gyfundrefn cynlluniau datblygu unedol, dylid bod wedi atal y broses bryd hynny a dylai awduroddau lleol fod wedi cael eu gorfodi i ddechrau eto o dan system newydd i osgoi'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus a fydd yn digwydd yng Ngheredigion, oherwydd ni chredaf y bydd ymchwiliad cyhoeddus, trwsgl, aneffeithiol o'r fath yn cael unrhyw ddylanwad ar greu cymunedau lle y mae mwy o dai ar gyfer pobl ifanc.

Mark Isherwood: Last November's 'Consumer Issues in Housing' report by the Welsh Consumer Council states that the shortage of affordable housing is restricting people's choice and is placing extra pressure on the availability of social housing. It also states that unless house building and renovation of existing homes are stepped up, Wales could face a housing crisis in coming years.

Wales has the oldest housing stock of any western European nation, with 8.5 per cent classified as unfit, and poor quality housing impacting on people's health and wellbeing. To help tackle the £1.1 billion backlog in

wealth. This is forcing the next generations to leave their communities because it is too expensive to live in them.

To close, I refer to the process of producing unitary development plans, in Ceredigion in particular. The public inquiry on the unitary development plan is about to start in Ceredigion in the next few days, and whatever we think of the content of that unitary development plan, its production has been completely ineffective and clumsy. For example, land was earmarked for new housing at the beginning of the process of producing the unitary development plan, but some three years later, the council assessed local housing needs, without that having any influence upon how much land the council intends to set aside for new housing development—thus putting the cart before the horse.

When the Government announced its intention to change the unitary development plan system, the process should have been stopped, and local authorities should have been forced to start again under a new system. This would have avoided the kind of public inquiry that is to be conducted in Ceredigion, because I do not think that such an ineffectual, clumsy public inquiry will have any influence on creating communities where there are more houses available to young people.

Mark Isherwood: Mae'r adroddiad a gafwyd fis Tachwedd diwethaf o'r enw 'Materion Defnyddwyr ar gyfer Tai' gan Gyngor Defnyddwyr Cymru yn datgan bod prinder tai fforddiadwy'n cyfyngu ar ddewis pobl ac yn rhoi pwysau ychwanegol ar argaeledd tai cymdeithasol. Mae hefyd yn datgan os na chodir mwy o dai, ac os na chaiff mwy o'r tai presennol eu hadnewyddu, gallai Cymru wynebu argyfwng tai yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

Yng Nghymru y ceir y stoc dai hynaf o holl wledydd gorllewin Ewrop, gydag 8.5 y cant ohonynt yn cael eu hystyried yn anaddas, ac mae tai gwael yn effeithio ar iechyd a lles pobl. Er mwyn helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r ôl-

urgent private sector housing, the Council of Mortgage Lenders Cymru proposed a Welsh home improvement lending agency that would provide low-interest home repair loans to asset-rich, cash-poor homeowners who are otherwise financially excluded.

We understand that the Minister is now looking at local private schemes in Wales, with some of the loan finance provided by local authorities and some by commercial lenders accessed by intermediary organisations from London or Birmingham. I hope that adequate loan finance from local authorities will be available at a time when cuts in local services or big council tax increases are expected.

We are told by the Welsh Assembly Government that the explanation for the shortage of affordable housing for rent or assisted purchase, and the reason for rising housing waiting lists and homelessness, and the justification for a 40 per cent fall in the number of first-time buyers in Wales since 1997, is increasing house prices in a commercial marketplace. In contrast, a letter that I received from the Principality Building Society accurately states that high house prices are being driven by a lack of supply of both private and social housing. On the right-to-buy scheme, research by Steve Wilcox, professor of housing policy at York University, concluded that simply stopping the right to buy in high-demand areas will have little or no immediate effect on re-let levels in those areas. The real cause of the growing Welsh housing market is the collapse in the supply of affordable housing across rural and urban Wales, created by Labour's Welsh housing cuts.

Funding for the Welsh social housing grant programme was £173.7 million in 1996-97, but this year it totals just £96.4 million—that is a 45 per cent fall, with devolved Government funding cut by £42.2 million. Consequently, new social housing dwellings completed in Wales by local authorities and registered social landlords fell from 14,500 between 1992 and 1996 to 4,500 between

groniad o £1.1 biliwn sy'n gofyn sylw brys yn nhai'r sector preifat, mae Cyngor y Benthycwyr Morgeisi Cymru wedi awgrymu sefydlu asiantaeth benthyciadau gwella cartrefi i Gymru a roddai fenthyciadau ar log isel i atgyweirio cartrefi i berchnogion tai sy'n gyfoethog o ran asedau ond yn brin o arian, na allant gael arian fel arall.

Deallwn fod y Gweinidog yn awr yn ystyried cynlluniau preifat lleol yng Nghymru, gyda rhywfaint o'r arian ar gyfer benthyciadau wedi'i ddarparu gan awdurdodau lleol a rhywfaint gan fenthycwyr masnachol y cysylltir â hwy gan gyrff rhyngol yn Llundain neu Birmingham. Gobeithiaf y bydd digon o gyllid ar gael oddi wrth awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer benthyciadau ar adeg y mae disgwyl toriadau mewn gwasanaethau lleol neu godiadau mawr yn y dreth gyngor.

Dywed Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wrthym mai'r rheswm am brinder y tai fforddiadwy i'w rhentu neu eu prynu gyda chymorth, ac am y rhestrau aros hwy am dai a digartrefedd, a'r cyfiawnhad am ostyngiad o 40 y cant yn nifer y prynwyr tro cyntaf yng Nghymru er 1997, yw'r cynnydd ym mhrisiau tai yn y farchnad. Mewn cyferbyniad â hynny, mae llythyr a gefais oddi wrth Gymdeithas Adeiladu'r Principality yn nodi'n gywir fod y prisiau tai uchel wedi'u hysgogi gan brinder tai preifat a thai cymdeithasol. Ynghylch cynllun yr hawl i brynu, mae ymchwil gan Steve Wilcox, athro polisi tai ym Mhrifysgol Caerefrog, wedi dod i'r casgliad na fydd atal yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle y mae galw uchel yn cael fawr ddim effaith ar ei ben ei hun ar y lefelau ailosod tai yn yr ardaloedd hynny. Gwir achos y farchnad dai gynyddol yng Nghymru yw'r cwmp yn y cyflenwad o dai fforddiadwy ledled Cymru wledig a threfol, a grëwyd gan y toriadau ym maes tai gan Lafur yng Nghymru.

Cafwyd cyllid o £173.7 miliwn ar gyfer y rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru yn 1996-97, ond eleni ni cheir ond £96.4 miliwn—dyna ostyngiad o 45 y cant, a'r cyllid gan Lywodraeth ddatganoledig wedi'i dorri o £42.2 miliwn. O ganlyniad i hynny, mae nifer y tai cymdeithasol newydd a gwblhawyd yng Nghymru gan awdurdodau lleol a landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig

1997 and 1999 and then to 3,200 between 1999 and 2003. That is the stark reality.

In its budget for Wales last month, the Welsh Assembly Government announced an extra £16 million in the social housing grant for 2005-06, which will then flatline for three years. That is £26 million below its 1996-97 level.

I conclude by quoting—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. No, you will not; your time has, sadly, run out.

Helen Mary Jones: I begin by taking issue with Mark Isherwood's comment—anyone who thinks that the right to buy has not had, and does not continue to have, an impact on the provision of social housing is living in cloud-cuckoo land. We all know, and I hope that the Government will be prepared to acknowledge today, that the housing situation in Wales is reaching crisis point—

Huw Lewis: Will you give way?

Helen Mary Jones: In a moment, Huw. [*Interruption.*] Huw wants to be nice? I hardly think so.

We all know the situation from attending our surgeries. Homelessness cases in my surgeries have quadrupled in the last year. In the last two months alone, I have seen 12 families in different parts of my region who have lost private rented accommodation because the owners were selling up while the market was at a high.

This may not feel like a crisis to the Government, but it feels like one to those families and to me. It would be wrong to say that the Government has done nothing, and I acknowledge what Janice Gregory said in that respect, but its response has been patchy, piecemeal and slow.

I will make some brief remarks on some of the things that could be done on planning.

wedi gostwng o 14,500 rhwng 1992 a 1996 i 4,500 rhwng 1997 a 1999 ac wedyn i 3,200 rhwng 1999 a 2003. Dyna'r gwir plaen.

Yn ei chyllideb ar gyfer Cymru y mis diwethaf, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru y bydd £16 miliwn ychwanegol yn y grant tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer 2005-06, a fydd wedyn yn aros yn ei unfan am dair blynedd. Mae hynny'n £26 miliwn yn is na'i lefel yn 1996-97.

Terfynaf drwy ddyfynnu—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Na wnewch; mae'ch amser wedi dod i ben, gwaetha'r modd.

Helen Mary Jones: Dechreuaf drwy anghytuno â'r sylw a wnaeth Mark Isherwood—mae unrhyw un sy'n credu nad yw'r hawl i brynu wedi cael effaith, ac yn dal i gael effaith, ar ddarparu tai cymdeithasol yn byw ym myd ffansi. Yr ydym oll yn gwybod, a gobeithiaf y bydd y Llywodraeth yn barod i gydnabod hyn heddiw, fod y sefyllfa o ran tai yng Nghymru bron â throi'n argyfwng—

Huw Lewis: A wnewch ildio?

Helen Mary Jones: Mewn eiliad, Huw. [*Torri ar draws.*] Mae Huw am fod yn ddymunol? Mae'n anodd gennyf gredu hynny.

Yr ydym oll yn gwybod am y sefyllfa drwy ein cymorthfeydd. Mae achosion digartrefedd yn fy nghymorthfeydd wedi cynyddu bedair gwaith yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Yn y ddau fis diwethaf yn unig, gwelais 12 teulu mewn gwahanol rannau o'm rhanbarth a gollodd lety rhent preifat am fod y perchnogion yn ei werthu tra oedd y farchnad ar ei hanterth.

Efallai nad yw hyn yn ymddangos fel argyfwng i'r Llywodraeth, ond mae'n ymddangos felly i'r teuluoedd hynny ac i mi. Anghywir fyddai dweud nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi gwneud dim, a derbynaf yr hyn a ddywedodd Janice Gregory am hynny, ond bu ei hymateb yn fylchog, yn dameidiog ac yn araf.

Gwnaf rai sylwadau byr am rai o'r pethau y gellid eu gwneud ynghylch cynllunio. Mae

Elin Jones has already mentioned that we desperately need to integrate overall development planning and housing planning. That needs to be done both nationally and locally. It is currently difficult to see who is in overall control, who is taking the lead, and it is difficult for people in need to know who they need to be putting pressure on.

We need to get that sorted by means of national guidance. We need to give freedom to local authorities, but they need to work within a framework that strengthens their position. In that context, specific measures that might affect rural areas are needed. We need to require language impact assessments for all proposed developments of more than 10 homes in areas where the language is an issue. We need to facilitate a much wider use of section 106 conditions, so that we can ensure that development is restricted to local need.

Huw Lewis: I worry about how you will bridge the gap between Mark's housing policy and Plaid Cymru's housing policy, given the oncoming Tory-Plaid Cymru coalition that we are expecting, as reported in the press?

Helen Mary Jones: Huw Lewis's homeless constituents will be disappointed that he chooses to make cheap points about fantasy coalitions, rather than deal with the issues on the ground.

What has this Government done in terms of planning? It has rejected legislation that would allow local authorities to limit the percentage of second homes in the areas where they thought that it was a problem. It has rejected the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee's recommendation to give clearer guidance on putting locals-only policies into operation. The Government has said that local authorities can do it already, but local authorities tell us they cannot. Do the Ministers share the views of Huw Lewis that it would be spiteful to protect poor people in local communities across Wales from the disastrous effect that the open market has on their chances of getting a home?

To conclude, this is a crisis. There are

Elin Jones wedi crybwyll eisoes fod taer angen inni integreiddio cynllunio datblygu cyffredinol a chynllunio tai. Rhaid gwneud hynny'n genedlaethol ac yn lleol. Ar hyn o bryd, anodd yw gweld pwy sy'n rheoli'r cyfan, pwy sy'n arwain, ac mae'n anodd i bobl mewn angen gael gwybod ar bwy y dylent roi pwysau.

Rhaid inni ddatrys hynny drwy gael canllawiau cenedlaethol. Rhaid inni roi rhyddid i awdurdodau lleol, ond rhaid iddynt weithio oddi mewn i fframwaith sy'n eu hatgyfnerthu. Rhaid inni fynnu asesiadau effaith iaith ar gyfer pob datblygiad arfaethedig o fwy na 10 tŷ mewn ardaloedd lle y mae'r iaith yn bwysig. Rhaid inni hwyluso mwy o ddefnydd o amodau adran 106, fel y gallwn sicrhau y bydd datblygu'n cael ei gyfyngu i fodloni anghenion lleol.

Huw Lewis: Yr wyf yn poeni ynghylch y modd y byddwch yn pontio rhwng polisi tai Marx a pholisi tai Plaid Cymru, yng ngolwg y glymblaid yr ydym yn ei disgwyl cyn hir rhwng y Torïaid a Phlaid Cymru, y cafwyd adroddiad amdani yn y wasg.

Helen Mary Jones: Bydd yn siom i etholwyr digartref Huw Lewis ei fod yn dewis gwneud pwyntiau diwerth am glymbleidiau dychmygol, yn hytrach na delio â'r materion sy'n codi ar lawr gwlad.

Beth a wnaeth y Llywodraeth hon o ran cynllunio? Mae wedi gwrthod deddfwriaeth a ganiatâi i awdurdodau lleol gyfyngu ar ganran yr ail gartrefi yn yr ardaloedd lle'r oeddent yn credu eu bod yn peri problem. Mae wedi gwrthod argymhelliad Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad y dylid rhoi cyfarwyddyd cliriach ynghylch gweithredu polisiau pobl leol yn unig. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi dweud y gall awdurdodau lleol wneud hynny'n barod, ond dywed awdurdodau lleol wrthym na allant. A yw'r Gweinidogion yn rhannu barn Huw Lewis mai maleisus fyddai amddiffyn pobl dlawd mewn cymunedau lleol ledled Cymru rhag yr effaith drychinebus a gafodd y farchnad agored ar eu cyfle i gael cartref?

I gloi, argyfwng yw hwn. Mae miloedd o

thousands of individuals and families suffering this evening—their lives are blighted, communities are under pressure and the Assembly needs to insist that the Government inject a sense of urgency into its response to the crisis. I urge the Assembly to support the motion and amendment 1.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): From the nature of today's discussion, I see that we are into a vast area of discussion when it comes to housing. You cannot discuss affordable housing in isolation from all the other issues associated with housing.

As a Government, we raised the political priority given to housing on the day that we adopted the first national housing strategy in Wales. I remind Members that when we debated affordable housing on 16 March last year, we reaffirmed the vision set out in 'Better Homes for People in Wales', that everyone should have the opportunity to live in good-quality, affordable housing, to choose where they live, and to decide whether buying or renting is best for them. That is the important basis from which we must start when considering housing policy.

Given the time constraints, I will deal with the amendments and then pick up on some of the points made in the debate. Regarding Plaid Cymru's amendment of its own motion, my views on right to buy are well known. I do not accept—and I do not care what any professor from anywhere says—that right to buy does not have implications for certain parts of the housing marketplace within Wales. I have continued to lobby for further measures for the Assembly Government to deal with right-to-buy issues, and I will continue to do so.

We are also investigating the role of community land trusts, which was also a point made, and the various models that currently operate in the UK. I am aware of what is happening in Scotland, but, at this stage, I want to get a Welsh solution to issues, and do not necessarily want to base anything necessarily on the Scottish experience.

unigolion a theuluoedd yn dioddef heno—mae eu bywydau wedi'u difetha, mae cymunedau o dan bwysau a rhaid i'r Cynulliad fynnu y bydd y Llywodraeth yn dechrau ymateb ar fyrder i'r argyfwng. Anogaf y Cynulliad i gefnogi'r cynnig a gwelliant 1.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Yn ôl natur y drafodaeth a gafwyd heddiw, gwelaf ein bod mewn maes trafod enfawr wrth ystyried tai. Ni ellir trafod tai fforddiadwy ar wahân i'r holl faterion eraill sy'n gysylltiedig â tai.

Fel Llywodraeth, rhoesom fwy o flaenoriaeth wleidyddol i dai y diwrnod y mabwysiad som y strategaeth dai genedlaethol gyntaf yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn atgoffa Aelodau ein bod, pan gawsom ddadl ar dai fforddiadwy ar 16 Mawrth y llynedd, wedi ailddatgan y weledigaeth a nodir yn 'Cartrefi Gwell i Bobl yng Nghymru', y dylai pawb gael cyfle i fyw mewn tai fforddiadwy o ansawdd da, i ddewis lle y maent am fyw, ac i benderfynu ai prynu ai rhentu sydd orau iddynt hwy. Dyna'r man cychwyn pwysig wrth ystyried polisi tai.

Oherwydd y cyfyngiadau ar amser, deliaf â'r gwelliannau ac wedyn ymdrin â rhai o'r pwyntiau a wnaed yn y ddadl. Ynghylch gwelliant Plaid Cymru i'w chynnig ei hun, mae fy mam am yr hawl i brynu'n hysbys iawn. Nid wyf yn derbyn—ac nid oes wahaniaeth gennyf beth a ddywed unrhyw athro coleg yn unman—nad oes goblygiadau yn yr hawl i brynu i rai rhannau o'r farchnad dai yng Nghymru. Yr wyf wedi parhau i lobïo dros gael mesurau pellach fel y gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ddelio â materion sy'n ymwneud â'r hawl i brynu, a daliaf i wneud hynny.

Yr ydym hefyd yn ymchwilio i rôl ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol, sy'n bwynt a godwyd hefyd, ac i'r gwahanol fodolau sydd ar waith yn y DU ar hyn o bryd. Gwn am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn yr Alban, ond, ar hyn o bryd, yr wyf am gael atebion Cymreig i faterion sy'n codi, ac nid wyf o reidrwydd am seilio unrhyw beth ar y profiad a gafwyd yn yr Alban.

On point c in amendment 1, local planning authorities can already set out their policy in their development plans for elements of affordable housing to be provided. If they do not have the courage of their convictions in these areas—and some of the views expressed today leads me to think that perhaps there should be greater centralisation in terms of housing policy, especially when you consider that local authorities have not been effective with regard to some areas of housing. Some homelessness strategies have not come in, and we will have to consider the whole housing agenda in the future.

Helen Mary Jones: In the process of the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee's review on these matters, local authorities made it clear that they wanted clearer guidance about what was and what was not acceptable in terms of local-only policies. That recommendation was rejected by your colleague. In the light of what you have just said about the possible need to give more central guidance, could you look at that issue again?

Edwina Hart: We are looking at the full range of issues concerning what we can do with local government. I am actively discussing all these housing issues with local government. Local government might say to you that it wants further guidance, but when I try to give further guidance on other aspects of the housing agenda, I sometimes get looks of horror from local government about my interfering with their democratic responsibilities and their particular processes. Therefore, it is sometimes not quite what it seems, Helen.

5.30 p.m.

As you know, targets and quotas for affordable housing have already been discussed as part of the current revision of technical advice note 2 on planning and affordable housing. That has been undertaken with advice from the technical advisory group that includes external stakeholders. It would therefore not be appropriate for me, even on that basis, to support this amendment at this stage.

Ynghylch pwynt c yng ngwelliant 1, mae awdurdodau cynllunio lleol eisoes yn cael nodi eu polisi yn eu cynlluniau datblygu ar gyfer darparu elfennau o dai fforddiadwy. Os nad ydynt yn barod i sefyll dros eu hegwyddorion yn y meysydd hyn—ac mae rhai o'r sylwadau a wnaed heddiw yn peri imi feddwl y dylid cael mwy o ganoli efallai o ran polisi tai, yn enwedig pan ystyrir nad yw awdurdodau lleol wedi bod yn effeithiol gyda golwg ar rai meysydd tai. Mae rhai strategaethau digartrefedd nad ydynt wedi dod i law, a bydd yn rhaid inni ystyried yr agenda ar dai yn ei chyfanrwydd yn y dyfodol.

Helen Mary Jones: Yn ystod adolygiad Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad o'r materion hyn, eglurodd awdurdodau lleol eu bod am gael canllawiau cliriach ynghylch yr hyn a oedd a'r hyn nad oedd yn dderbyniol o ran polisïau pobl leol yn unig. Gwrthodwyd yr argymhelliad hwnnw gan eich cyd-Weinidog. Yng ngoleuni'r hyn yr ydych newydd ei ddweud am yr angen a all fod i roi mwy o ganllawiau canolog, a allech ailystyried y mater hwnnw?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym yn ystyried yr holl faterion sy'n ymwneud â'r hyn y gallwn ei wneud gyda llywodraeth leol. Yr wyf wrthi'n trafod yr holl faterion sy'n ymwneud â thai gyda llywodraeth leol. Efallai y dywed llywodraeth leol wrthoch chi ei bod am gael canllawiau pellach, ond pan geisïaf roi canllawiau pellach ar agweddau eraill ar yr agenda tai, bydd llywodraeth leol weithiau'n edrych arnaf mewn arswyd gan ddweud fy mod yn ymyrryd â'u cyfrifoldebau democrataidd a'u prosesau penodol. Felly, weithiau, nid yw'n hollol fel yr ymddengys, Helen.

Fel y gwyddoch, mae targedau a chwotâu ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy wedi'u trafod eisoes fel rhan o'r adolygiad presennol o nodyn cyngor technegol 2 ar gynllunio a thai fforddiadwy. Ymgwymerwyd â hynny gyda chyngor gan y grŵp ymgynghorol technegol sy'n cynnwys rhanddeiliaid allanol. Gan hynny, ni fyddai'n briodol imi gefnogi'r gwelliant hwnnw ar hyn o bryd, hyd yn oed ar y sail honno.

I turn to the amendments tabled in the name of Kirsty Williams. On amendment 2, we are considering the issue of the improvement lending agency, but in a wider context, as my response to the committee reports. On amendment 3, the proposals that I am considering on the social housing grant will improve the position in that respect. On amendment 4, the budgets have been set, but I am happy, again, to consider the homebuy budget line in future years, as I indicated in the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee meeting. On amendment 5, it is important for us to understand that we are investing a lot of money, as well as considering what local authorities are doing in this area, and we are providing help and assistance.

The issue in amendment 6 requires primary legislation. On the issue raised in amendment 7, local authorities should already be doing that as part of their statutory responsibility. I am not sure what you mean in amendment 8—do you mean community land trusts, or community housing mutuals? I am not quite clear about that amendment. On the points raised in amendment 9, everything can be done under existing arrangements. On amendment 10, I believe that you are talking about the disabled facilities grant, which has not been cut. The extent of funding is a matter for local authority priorities, and we will shortly have the outcome of deliberations on our review on the disabled facilities grants.

Therefore, we need to understand a few facts of life here, and have a degree of realism. I have little control over house-price cycles and the so-called ripple effect from the south-east of England—I have no control over the marketplace there. I can only deal with some of the issues over which I have control. I have indicated today, as well as in committee, that all the areas emerging from discussions here will form part of my report to the committee in February, when I intend to bring all the strands together. I agree with Jocelyn that one major issue facing us is the homelessness agenda. There is no doubt that,

Trof at y gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd yn enw Kirsty Williams. Ynghylch gwelliant 2, yr ydym yn ystyried mater yr asiantaeth benthyciadau gwella, ond mewn cyd-destun ehangach, fel y nodir yn fy ymateb i'r pwyllgor. Ynghylch gwelliant 3, bydd y cynigion yr wyf yn eu hystyried ar y grant tai cymdeithasol yn gwella'r sefyllfa yn hynny o beth. Ynghylch gwelliant 4, mae'r cyllidebau wedi'u pennu, ond yr wyf yn fodlon, unwaith eto, ystyried llinell gyllideb y cynllun cymorth prynu yn y dyfodol, fel y dywedais yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Ynghylch gwelliant 5, mae'n bwysig inni ddeall ein bod yn buddsoddi llawer o arian, yn ogystal ag ystyried yr hyn y mae awdurdodau lleol yn ei wneud yn y maes hwn, ac yr ydym yn cynnig cymorth a chynhorthwy.

Mae'r mater a godir yng ngwelliant 6 yn gofyn deddfwriaeth sylfaenol. Ynghylch y mater a godir yng ngwelliant 7, dylai awdurdodau lleol fod yn gwneud hynny eisoes fel rhan o'u cyfrifoldeb statudol. Nid wyf yn sicr beth a olygwch yng ngwelliant 8—a ydych yn golygu ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol, neu gymdeithasau tai cydfuddiannol cymunedol? Nid wyf yn llwyr ddeall y gwelliant hwnnw. Ynghylch y pwyntiau a godir yng ngwelliant 9, gellir gwneud popeth o dan y trefniadau presennol. Ynghylch gwelliant 10, credaf eich bod yn sôn am y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl, nad yw wedi'i dorri. Mae maint y cyllid yn fater i'w bennu yn ôl blaenoriaethau awdurdodau lleol, a chyn hir cawn ganlyniad y trafodaethau ar ein hadolygiad o grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl.

Felly, rhaid inni ddeall rhai o ffeithiau bywyd yn hyn o beth, ac ystyried hyn yn ymarferol. Ychydig o reolaeth sydd gennyf dros gylchoedd prisiau tai a'r effaith crychdonni, fel y'i gelwir, o dde-ddwyrain Lloegr—nid oes gennyf unrhyw reolaeth dros y farchnad yn y fan honno. Ni allaf ond delio â rhai o'r materion y mae gennyf reolaeth drostynt. Yr wyf wedi nodi heddiw, ac yn y pwyllgor hefyd, y bydd yr holl feysydd sy'n codi mewn trafodaethau yma'n rhan o'm hadroddiad i'r pwyllgor ym mis Chwefror, pan fwriadaf ddod â'r holl elfennau ynghyd. Cytunaf â Jocelyn mai un mater o bwys sy'n

by our bravery in changing categories and by looking at this holistically, we have upped the numbers. It is important that we grapple with that, and we are grappling with it in respect of further legislation. I am pleased that Gwenda has also won a ballot for further legislation in an area that will also impact on housing, which I must consider, and which she will raise later.

I am pleased that we have had this debate on housing. However, if opposition parties consider tabling further motions, I ask them to make them more specific; I cannot do justice in my response to all the issues that have been raised today in the time that is allocated for this debate, although we will have full discussions in committee.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Diolchaf i bawb sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon. Bu'n ddadl bwysig, ac mae nifer o Aelodau, o wahanol bleidiau, yn teimlo'n gryf ynglŷn â mater tai. Mae'r ddadl hon wedi profi bod pob plaid yn cydnabod bod problemau, ond bod gwahaniaethau amlwg yn y ffordd yr ydym yn ymateb i'r problemau hynny. Canolbwyntiaf ar rai o'r gwahaniaethau hynny ar ddiwedd y ddadl.

Wrth agor y ddadl, tynnodd Alun Ffred ein sylw at y ffaith bod prisiau tai wedi codi mor aruthrol—hyd at 150 y cant mewn rhai lleoedd—sydd yn gwneud morgeisi yn gwbl afresymol ac yn cloi pobl allan o'u cymunedau. I ateb cwestiwn Mark Isherwood ynglŷn â'r hawl i brynu tai cyngor, yr oedd Alun Ffred yn cyfeirio at y ffaith bod 4,500 o dai cyngor wedi cael eu gwerthu yng Nghymru yn 2002, tra mai dim ond 750 o unedau newydd a adeiladwyd. Mae hynny'n dangos, felly, fod pum gwaith yn fwy—

Mark Isherwood *rose*—

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Mark, nid oes gennyf amser i ildio—ychydig funudau sydd gennyf.

Gwerthwyd pum gwaith yn fwy o dai nag o

ein hwynebu yw'r agenda ar ddiartrefedd. Nid oes amheuaeth nad ydym wedi peri cynnydd yn y niferoedd, drwy fod mor ddewr â newid categorïau ac edrych ar hyn yn gyfannol. Mae'n bwysig inni fynd i'r afael â hynny, ac yr ydym yn gwneud felly mewn cysylltiad â deddfwriaeth bellach. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch bod Gwenda wedi ennill cyfle drwy dynnu tocyn i gyflwyno deddfwriaeth bellach yn y maes hwnnw a fydd hefyd yn effeithio ar dai, y mae'n rhaid imi ei hystyried, ac y bydd yn ei chodi'n ddiweddarach.

Yr wyf yn falch ein bod wedi cael y ddadl hon ar dai. Fodd bynnag, os bydd gwrthbleidiau'n ystyried cyflwyno gwelliannau pellach, gofynnaf iddynt sicrhau eu bod yn fwy penodol; ni allaf wneud cyfiawnder yn fy ymateb â'r holl faterion a godwyd heddiw yn yr amser a neilltuwyd ar gyfer y ddadl hon, er y cawn drafodaethau llawn yn y pwyllgor.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank everyone who has participated in this debate. It has been an important debate, and several Members, from different parties, feel strongly about the issue of housing. This debate has proved that every party acknowledges that there are problems, but there are obvious differences in the way that we respond to those problems. I will concentrate on some of those differences at the end of the debate.

In opening the debate, Alun Ffred drew our attention to the fact that house prices had increased so incredibly—up to 150 per cent in some areas—which pushes mortgages to quite unreasonable levels and excludes people from their communities. To answer Mark Isherwood's question on the right to buy council houses, Alun Ffred referred to the fact that 4,500 council houses had been sold in Wales in 2002, while only 750 new units were built. That proves, therefore, that five times more—

Mark Isherwood *a gododd*—

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am sorry, Mark, I have no time to give way—I only have a few minutes.

Five times more houses were sold than there

unedau newydd a adeiladwyd yn eu lle.

Peter Black proposed several amendments. I was rather surprised that the Liberal Democrats sought to rewrite their own policy in the Plaid Cymru motion, but, nevertheless, it was an opportunity for him to explain his party's policy. He acknowledged that the right to buy is creating a problem, which all parties—other than the Conservatives—have acknowledged. I thank Janice Gregory for her positive statements, saying that several of these issues are currently being considered. Jocelyn widened the debate by making clear that the issue of affordable housing is not limited to rural Wales, but is an all-Wales issue, and she pointed out that local authorities built only 20 new houses in 2003. That clearly shows a massive lack of affordable housing to buy and to rent. William Graham brought his professional experience to bear on the debate, calling for the use of the rural exceptions policy and an increased use of section 106 agreements. I agree with his statement that we should be targeting resources to meet local needs, because the picture differs in various parts of Wales, and you cannot apply a one-size-fits-all solution. We need flexibility within a national framework to allow local authorities and other agencies to work.

Yr oedd Elin Jones yn llygad ei lle wrth ddweud, er bod morgeisi ar gael, ei bod yn anodd mewn ardal fel Ceredigion—ac mae'n wir yn Ynys Môn—cael morgais pan fo gwerth tai dros chwech neu saith gwaith incwm cyfartalog. Tynnodd sylw hefyd at yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd i'r economi yn y De-orllewin o ran ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth diweddar.

Apart from the issue of right to buy, Mark Isherwood made some interesting remarks about the condition of the Welsh housing stock, which is, of course, among the worst in Europe. Helen Mary Jones referred to the increase in cases of homelessness, which is being brought to the attention of all Members. She made the important point that many private landlords are cashing in on the high equity in their properties, thereby reducing the private sector further.

were new units built to replace them.

Cynigiodd Peter Black sawl gwelliant. Synnais braidd fod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi ceisio ailysgrifennu eu polisi eu hunain yng nghynnig Plaid Cymru, ond, er hynny, yr oedd yn gyfle iddo egluro polisi ei blaid. Cydnabu fod yr hawl i brynu'n creu problem, y mae'r holl bleidiau—heblaw'r Ceidwadwyr—wedi'i chydabod. Diolchaf i Janice Gregory am ei datganiadau cadarnhaol, yn dweud bod nifer o'r materion hyn yn cael eu hystyried ar hyn o bryd. Gwnaeth Jocelyn ehangu'r ddadl drwy egluro nad yw pwnc tai fforddiadwy'n gyfyngedig i Gymru wledig, a'i fod yn fater i Gymru gyfan, a nododd nad oedd awdurdodau lleol ond wedi codi 20 o dai newydd yn 2003. Mae hynny'n dangos yn glir y prinder enbyd o dai fforddiadwy i'w prynu a'u rhentu. Gwnaeth William Graham gyfrannu o'i brofiad proffesiynol i'r ddadl, gan alw am ddefnyddio'r polisi eithriadau gwledig ac am fwy o ddefnydd o gytundebau adran 106. Cytunaf â'i osodiad i'r perwyl y dylem dargedu adnoddau i fodloni anghenion lleol, gan fod y darlun yn wahanol mewn gwahanol rannau o Gymru, ac ni ellir cymhwyso'r un ateb ym mhob man. Mae arnom angen hyblygrwydd oddi mewn i fframwaith cenedlaethol fel y gall awdurdodau lleol ac asiantaethau eraill gyflawni eu gwaith.

Elin Jones was spot on in saying that, although mortgages are available, it is difficult in areas such as Ceredigion—and the same is true of Anglesey—to obtain mortgages when houses cost over six or seven times the average income. She also drew our attention to what has happened to the economy of south-west Wales with regard to recent GVA figures.

Ar wahân i fater yr hawl i brynu, gwnaeth Mark Isherwood rai sylwadau diddorol am gyflwr y stoc dai yng Nghymru, sydd, wrth gwrs, ymysg y gwaethaf yn Ewrop. Cyfeiriodd Helen Mary Jones at y cynnydd yn nifer yr achosion o ddigartrefedd, a ddygir i sylw'r holl Aelodau. Gwnaeth bwynt pwysig i'r perwyl bod llawer o landlordiaid preifat yn manteisio ar yr ecwiti uchel yn eu heiddo, fel bod y sector preifat yn mynd yn llai byth.

I thank the Minister for her response. Our differences with her are not in some of the sentiments that she has expressed, and on which we all agree, but rather in our desire to see firmer action developed quickly in response to the current crisis. She mentioned that she was looking for a Welsh solution to community land trusts, and she said that, as the Government has always said—and we disagree on this matter—local authorities have existing powers. However, we want the Government to provide an overall strategy and a lead so that local authorities know precisely what they can do. It is no good asking local authorities to do what she suggests as we need a national strategy. That is not a matter of telling local authorities what to do, but to tell them what they can achieve within the framework. We would like the Government to adopt the kind of framework set out in our amendment, which is why we ask you to support our amendment 1.

Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am ei hymateb. Nid yw'r gwahaniaethau barn rhyngom a hi'n ymwneud â rhai o'r teimladau a fynegodd, yr ydym oll yn cytuno arnynt, ond yn hytrach â'n hawydd i weld datblygu camau gweithredu cadarnhach mewn ymateb i'r argyfwng presennol. Dywedodd ei bod yn chwilio am ateb Cymreig i ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol, a dywedodd, fel y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi dweud erioed—ac yr ydym yn anghytuno ar y mater hwn—fod gan awdurdodau lleol bwerau yn awr. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym am weld y Llywodraeth yn cynnig strategaeth gyffredinol ac arweiniad fel y gŵyr awdurdodau lleol beth yn union y gallant ei wneud. Nid oes diben gofyn i awdurdodau lleol wneud yr hyn y mae'n ei awgrymu gan fod arnom angen strategaeth genedlaethol. Nid yw hynny'n fater o ddweud wrth awdurdodau lleol beth y dylent ei wneud, ond o ddweud beth y gallant ei gyflawni o fewn y fframwaith. Carem weld y Llywodraeth yn mabwysiadu'r math o fframwaith a nodir yn ein gwelliant, a dyna pam y gofynnwn ichi gefnogi gwelliant 1 o'n heiddo.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 16, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 38.
Amendment 1: For 16, Abstain 0, Against 38.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw

Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 16, Ymatal 8, Yn erbyn 30.
Amendment 2: For 16, Abstain 8, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Laura Anne
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.

Amendment defeated.

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 14, Ymatal 10, Yn erbyn 30.
Amendment 3: For 14, Abstain 10, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Laura Anne
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 13, Ymatal 10, Yn erbyn 30.
Amendment 4: For 13, Abstain 10, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine

Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Williams, Kirsty

Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 40.
 Amendment 5: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 40.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 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, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 6, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 47.
 Amendment 6: For 6, Abstain 0, Against 47.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 German, Michael
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 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
 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, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn

Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 7: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.
 Amendment 7: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 8: O blaid 13, Ymatal 10, Yn erbyn 30.
 Amendment 8: For 13, Abstain 10, Against 30.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 9: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.
 Amendment 9: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian

Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 10: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.
 Amendment 10: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

Cynnig (NDM2226): O blaid 21, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.

Motion (NDM2226): For 21, Abstain 0, Against 30.

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
Motion defeated.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â
concludes business for this afternoon. chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.40 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.40 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)