



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

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

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

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

Cwestiynau ar Gyllid i'r Gweinidog Cyllid Questions on Finance to the Finance Minister

Portffolio Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth The Economic Development and Transport Portfolio

Q1 Glyn Davies: What considerations did the Minister take into account when considering the overall budget allocation to the economic development and transport portfolio? OAQ0041(FIN)

C1 Glyn Davies: Pa ystyriaethau a wnaeth y Gweinidog dalu sylw iddynt wrth ystyried y dyraniad cyffredinol yn y gyllideb i bortffolio datblygu economaidd a thrafnidiaeth? OAQ0041(FIN)

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): In preparing my budget, I had detailed discussions with the Minister for Economic Development and Transport concerning the programmes within his portfolio. The subject committee was also invited to submit its views on priorities, which were taken into consideration. By 2007-08, the economic development and transport delegated expenditure limit will have increased by over 150 per cent since 1999-2000.

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Wrth baratoi fy nghyllideb, cefais drafodaethau manwl gyda'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ynghylch y rhaglenni yn ei bortffolio. Gwahoddwyd y pwyllgor pwnc hefyd i gyflwyno ei sylwadau ar flaenoriaethau, a ystyriwyd. Erbyn 2007-08, bydd y terfyn gwariant dirprwyedig ar gyfer datblygu economaidd a thrafnidiaeth wedi cynyddu dros 150 y cant ers 1999-2000.

Glyn Davies: Over recent months, many good quality jobs have been lost in rural Wales. This is not an unemployment issue—it is about the loss of good quality jobs. The main reason for these losses is the isolation of mid Wales. In the discussions with the Minister for Economic Development and Transport to which you referred, how much attention was paid to mid Wales having its fair share of investment, and not becoming the forgotten part of Wales? Many people in mid Wales consider it to be a forgotten region at present.

Glyn Davies: Yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf, mae llawer o swyddi o safon wedi'u colli yng Nghymru wledig. Nid oes a wnelo hyn â diweithdra—mae a wnelo â cholli swyddi o safon. Y prif reswm dros golli'r swyddi hyn yw arwahanrwydd y Canolbarth. Yn y trafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth y cyfeiriasoch atynt, faint o sylw a roddwyd i sicrhau y caiff y Canolbarth ei gyfran deg o fuddsoddiad, ac na chaiff y rhan honno o Gymru ei hanghofio? Mae llawer o bobl yn y Canolbarth o'r farn bod pobl wedi anghofio amdano ar hyn o bryd.

Sue Essex: It is sad if they think that, because it is not forgotten. The spatial plan is also a part of my portfolio, and 'People, Places, Futures' has now been finalised. Carwyn Jones will be leading on that issue for central Wales, and it will be an important vehicle for achieving many of the objectives that you and others want to see achieved in mid Wales. It is not all doom and gloom. Obviously, it is sad when jobs are lost, but there has also been much job creation in mid

Sue Essex: Mae'n drist os credant hynny, achos nid ydym wedi anghofio amdano. Mae'r cynllun gofodol yn rhan o'm portffolio hefyd, ac mae 'Pobl, Lleodded, Dyfodol' bellach wedi'i gwblhau. Bydd Carwyn Jones yn gyfrifol am y mater hwnnw yn y Canolbarth, a bydd yn ddull pwysig o gyflawni llawer o'r amcanion yr ydych chi ac eraill am iddynt gael eu cyflawni yn y Canolbarth. Nid yw popeth yn ddu. Yn amlwg, mae'n drist pan gollir swyddi, ond

Wales. On your point about accessibility, there is always a problem with regard to that issue in rural areas. When I was the Minister responsible for transport, we looked at the A470, which is the main artery in mid Wales, and put in place the improvements that were needed. We are also looking at spreading some best practice. The Deeside integrated transport scheme was a way of looking at more demand-led transport to get people into jobs. There are issues where experience from elsewhere can be used, and where that experience can be aligned with the situation in central Wales.

Elin Jones: Gwyddoch fod ffigurau Eurostat ddoe yn dangos y gall y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd barhau i fod yn gymwys am arian Amcan 1 ar ôl 2007—credaf mai fel 'bonws' y disgrifiodd y Prif Weinidog hynny. A ydych yn derbyn bod y ffaith na dderbyniodd Cymru unrhyw gyllid cyfatebol o'r Trysorlys ar gyfer rhaglen Amcan 1 wedi arwain at gymryd arian o gyllidebau eraill y Cynulliad, a bod hynny wedi cael effaith andwyol ar lwyddiant, neu ddiffyg llwyddiant, Amcan 1?

Sue Essex: No, I do not. It was always understood that we would try to bring match funding in from the private sector and from other sources. This is making maximum use of the money. I am aware of the Eurostat figures—who knows what they will bring. However, there may be an opportunity to extend our pretty successful Objective 1 programme. If you look at the figures now, compared with the doom and gloom forecasted a few years ago, you will see that we are delivering on Objective 1. People understand that, and the more that we can do that, the happier we will be.

Jenny Randerson: As part of the Railways Bill, the Scottish Executive is being given additional powers over and above those new powers being given to Wales. It is a case of second-class devolution for Wales again. The Scottish Executive has been allocated £325 million, transferred from the Department of Transport as part of the Barnett formula, to ensure that it can carry out its new powers under the Railways Bill. Did your Government seek a similar allocation for enhanced powers for Wales and what

mae llawer o swyddi wedi'u creu yn y Canolbarth hefyd. O ran hygyrchedd, mae problem bob amser o ran hynny mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Pan oeddwn yn Weinidog yn gyfrifol am drafnidiaeth, bu inni edrych ar yr A470, sef y brif ffordd yn y Canolbarth, a chyflwynwyd y gwelliannau yr oedd eu hangen. Bwriadwn ledaenu rhai arferion gorau hefyd. Yr oedd cynllun trafnidiaeth integredig Glannau Dyfrdwy yn ffordd o edrych ar drafnidiaeth sy'n rhoi mwy o bwys ar y galw er mwyn rhoi swyddi i bobl. Mae materion lle y gellir defnyddio profiad o ardaloedd eraill, a lle y gellir cysoni'r profiad hwnnw â'r sefyllfa yn y Canolbarth.

Elin Jones: You will know that according to yesterday's Eurostat figures, west Wales and the Valleys will continue to qualify for Objective 1 funding after 2007—I believe that the First Minister described that as a 'bonus'. Do you accept that the fact that Wales received no Treasury match funding for the Objective 1 programme led to money being taken from other Assembly budgets, detrimentally affecting the success, or otherwise, of Objective 1?

Sue Essex: Nac ydwyf. Deellid bob amser y byddem yn ceisio cyflwyno arian cyfatebol o'r sector preifat ac o ffynonellau eraill. Mae hyn yn ffordd o fanteisio i'r eithaf ar yr arian. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o ffigurau Eurostat—pwy a wŷr beth y byddant yn ei olygu. Fodd bynnag, efallai y bydd cyfle i ehangu ein rhaglen Amcan 1 a fu'n weddol lwyddiannus. Os edrychwch ar y ffigurau yn awr, o gymharu â'r rhagolygon pesimistaidd ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl, fe welwch ein bod yn cyflawni o ran Amcan 1. Mae pobl yn deall hynny, a pho fwyaf y gallwn wneud hynny, y mwyaf bodlon y byddwn.

Jenny Randerson: Fel rhan o'r Mesur Rheilffyrdd, rhoddir pwerau i Weithrediaeth yr Alban sy'n ychwanegol at y pwerau newydd a roddir i Gymru. Mae'n enghraifft arall o ddatganoli eilradd i Gymru. Dyrannwyd £325 miliwn i Weithrediaeth yr Alban, a drosglwyddwyd o'r Adran Drafnidiaeth fel rhan o fformiwla Barnett, i sicrhau y gall gyflawni ei phwerau newydd o dan y Mesur Rheilffyrdd. A ofynnodd eich Llywodraeth am ddyraniad tebyg ar gyfer pwerau ychwanegol i Gymru a pha

discussions, if any, have taken place between you and the UK Government on this issue?

Sue Essex: That is in the realm of Andrew Davies's portfolio. I cannot give you a detailed answer on that, but I am sure that that would have come up in the discussions on the Transport Bill. I know that we are talking about the Railways Bill, but I would have expected that issue to have been covered in those discussions. If any details are available, I will ensure that they are provided to you.

draffodaethau a gynhaliwyd, os o gwbl, rhyngoch chi a Llywodraeth y DU ar y mater hwn?

Sue Essex: Mae hynny'n rhan o bortffolio Andrew Davies. Ni allaf roi ateb manwl ichi ar hynny, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai hynny wedi codi yn y trafodaethau ar y Mesur Trafnidiaeth. Gwn ein bod yn trafod y Mesur Rheilffyrdd, ond byddwn wedi disgwyl bod y mater wedi'i gwmpasu yn y trafodaethau hynny. Os oes unrhyw fanylion ar gael, byddaf yn sicrhau eich bod yn eu cael.

Cyllideb y Cynulliad i'r Tair Blynedd Nesaf The Assembly Budget for the Next Three Years

Q2 John Griffiths: Will the Minister make a statement on any considerations she has taken into account in allocating the Assembly budget for the next three years? OAQ0039(FIN)

Sue Essex: When setting the draft and final budgets, I had numerous discussions with my Cabinet colleagues, individually and collectively. I also considered the views of subject committees. Our internal spending review enabled us to align the budget with our strategic policy aims set out in 'Wales: A Better Country'.

John Griffiths: I recently attended a meeting with Hilary Benn, the Secretary of State for International Development, to discuss how the Assembly, the Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly might work together with Westminster to add value to international development activities. I know that work is ongoing to explore how the Assembly might add that value, but could you assure me that you will continue to look at ways in which the Assembly could develop that role within the devolution settlement?

Sue Essex: I know of your interest in this, and I was interested to hear what Hilary Benn said. As Rhodri said in his statement on the tsunami a few weeks ago, there are financial limitations upon us, but that does not preclude us from getting involved in other ways. I am due to meet my counterpart, Tom McCabe, in a week or so. I will be

C2 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am unrhyw ystyriaethau y mae wedi talu sylw iddynt wrth ddyrannu cyllideb y Cynulliad am y tair blynedd nesaf? OAQ0039(FIN)

Sue Essex: Wrth bennu'r cyllidebau drafft a therfynol, cefais sawl trafodaeth gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet, yn unigol ac ar y cyd. Ystyriais sylwadau'r pwyllgorau pwnc hefyd. Yn sgîl ein hadolygiad mewnol o wariant, yr ydym wedi gallu cysoni'r gyllideb â'n nodau polisi strategol fel y nodir yn 'Cymru: Gwlad Well'.

John Griffiths: Mynychais gyfarfod gyda Hilary Benn, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Ddatblygu Rhyngwladol, yn ddiweddar, i drafod sut y gallai'r Cynulliad, Senedd yr Alban a Chynulliad Gogledd Iwerddon gydweithio â San Steffan i ychwanegu gwerth at weithgareddau datblygu rhyngwladol. Gwn fod gwaith yn mynd rhagddo i archwilio sut y gallai'r Cynulliad ychwanegu'r gwerth hwnnw, ond a allech fy sicrhau y byddwch yn parhau i ystyried ffyrdd y gallai'r Cynulliad ddatblygu'r rôl honno o fewn y setliad datganoli?

Sue Essex: Gwn fod diddordeb gennych yn hyn, ac yr oedd diddordeb gennyf glywed yr hyn a ddywedodd Hilary Benn. Fel y dywedodd Rhodri yn ei ddatganiad ar y tswami ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, mae cyfyngiadau ariannol arnom, ond nid yw hynny'n ein hatal rhag cymryd rhan mewn ffyrdd eraill. Bwriadaf gyfarfod â'm

interested to hear about Scotland's experiences. However, we are putting in considerable effort, through many of our initiatives, in terms of sustainable development global arrangements. They may be more that we can do, certainly in partnership with the other administrations, and I will look at this issue and keep an eye on it.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): To take you back to Elin Jones's question on Objective 1 and European union structural funds, I think that you are aware, like everyone else, that the whole purpose of getting structural funds and an Objective 1 area is to narrow the prosperity gap between that area and elsewhere—in this case, between west Wales and the Valleys and the richer parts of the UK. The current figures published by Eurostat show that, over an average of three years, gross domestic product per capita in west Wales and the Valleys is now 73.8 per cent of the average in a European union of 25 member states. However, if you measure that against the average of the original 15 member states, we are doing even worse. The reality, therefore, is that we are becoming even poorer. Given that significant amounts of money have been allocated over and above Barnett, what on earth has the Government being doing with it?

Sue Essex: I will go back and look at your figures in terms of our relative position. Any expert will tell you that if you are to turn an economy around, as we are in Wales—the First Minister gave some impressive figures during questions to him yesterday, such as 118,000 additional jobs in Wales, and the incredible growth in gross value added figures over a year—it takes a long, sustainable attack on the underlying difficulties. To refer again to the spatial plan, I was with my colleague Jane Davidson in Swansea bay, which is in the Objective 1 area, speaking about this very issue, and everyone understood this. I will look at the figures again to see whether they endorse what you have said about Wales's relative position, but let us keep our eye on the ball, and concentrate on that long-term changing

Gweinidog cyfatebol yn yr Alban, Tom McCabe, ymhen tuag wythnos. Bydd diddordeb gennyf glywed am brofiadau'r Alban. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn ymdrechu'n galed drwy lawer o'n mentrau o ran trefniadau datblygu cynaliadwy bydeang. Efallai fod mwy y gallwn ei wneud, yn sicr mewn partneriaeth â'r gweinyddiaethau eraill, a byddaf yn ystyried y mater hwn ac yn cadw llygad arno.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I fynd â chi yn ôl at gwestiwn Elin Jones ynghylch cronfeydd strwythurol yr undeb Ewropeaidd ac Amcan 1, credaf eich bod yn gwybod, fel pawb arall, mai prif ddiben cael cronfeydd strwythurol ac ardal Amcan 1 yw lleihau'r bwch ffyniant rhwng yr ardal honno ac ardaloedd eraill—yn yr achos hwn, rhwng y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd a rhannau cyfoethocach y DU. Dengys y ffigurau presennol a gyhoeddwyd gan Eurostat fod cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen yn y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, dros gyfartaledd o dair blynedd, bellach yn 73.8 y cant o'r cyfartaledd mewn undeb Ewropeaidd o 25 o aelod wladwriaethau. Fodd bynnag, os byddwch yn mesur hynny yn erbyn cyfartaledd y 15 o aelod wladwriaethau gwreiddiol, gwnawn hyd yn oed yn waeth. Felly, y gwir amdani yw ein bod yn mynd hyd yn oed yn dlotach. O gofio'r symiau mawr o arian a ddyrannwyd yn ychwanegol at Barnett, sut ar y ddaear y bu'r Llywodraeth yn ei ddefnyddio?

Sue Essex: Byddaf yn edrych ar eich ffigurau unwaith eto o ran ein safle cymharol. Bydd unrhyw arbenigwr yn dweud wrthy, os bwriadwch newid economi er gwell, fel y gwnawn yng Nghymru—rhoddodd y Prif Weinidog rai ffigurau trawiadol inni yn ystod y cwestiynau iddo ddoe, megis 118,000 o swyddi ychwanegol yng Nghymru, a'r cynnydd anhygoel mewn gwerth ychwanegol crynswth dros flwyddyn—rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r anawsterau sylfaenol mewn ffordd gynaliadwy a thros gyfnod hir o amser. Gan gyfeirio at y cynllun gofodol unwaith eto, euthum gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Jane Davidson, i fae Abertawe, sydd yn yr ardal Amcan 1, i siarad am y mater penodol hwn, ac yr oedd pawb yn deall hyn. Byddaf yn edrych ar y ffigurau eto i weld a ydynt yn

around of the economy, so that we can reach 100 per cent of the European average GDP per capita. It will not happen within one year or five years—it will probably be 10 years or more.

cadarnhau'r hyn a ddywedasochoch am safle cymharol Cymru, ond gadewch inni gadw'n effro, a chanolbwyntio ar newid yr economi yn yr hirdymor, fel y gallwn gyrraedd 100 y cant CMC cyfartalog Ewropeaidd y pen. Ni fydd yn digwydd mewn blwyddyn neu bum mlynedd—bydd yn cymryd 10 mlynedd neu fwy, siŵr o fod.

2.10 p.m.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Minister, you are part of a Government that set out an economic development plan, which, by 2010, aims to have Welsh GDP per capita at 90 per cent of the UK average. In the first four years of your Government, the figure has fallen rather than risen. How is it possible for you to achieve the target by 2010?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Weinidog, yr ydych yn rhan o Lywodraeth a luniodd gynllun datblygu economaidd, sydd â'r nod o sicrhau, erbyn 2010, y bydd CMC Cymru y pen yn 90 y cant o gyfartaledd y DU. Yn ystod eich pedair blynedd cyntaf mewn grym, mae'r ffigur wedi gostwng yn hytrach na chodi. Sut y gallwch gyrraedd y targed erbyn 2010?

I also ask you to look at those figures, because you will find that the figures for west Wales and the Valleys are now below the figures for Malta and Slovenia. Both Malta and Slovenia are new entrants into the European Union, and the whole purpose of European structural funds is to pull up the poorest, so that they attain the average of the best. We are going below countries entering the European Union for the first time.

Gofynnaf ichi edrych ar y ffigurau hynny hefyd, oherwydd fe welwch fod y ffigurau ar gyfer y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd bellach yn is na'r ffigurau ar gyfer Malta a Slofenia. Mae Malta a Slofenia newydd ymuno â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, a phrif ddiben y cronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd yw gwella'r gwledydd tlotaf, fel eu bod yn cyrraedd cyfartaledd y gwledydd gorau. Yr ydym bellach yn is na gwledydd sy'n ymuno â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd am y tro cyntaf.

You have been allocated £555 million for the next three years. Can you persuade me that in those three years, you will come any nearer to achieving your target of 90 per cent?

Dyrannwyd £555 miliwn ichi ar gyfer y tair blynedd nesaf. A allwch fy narbwylllo y byddwch yn symud yn agosach at gyrraedd eich targed o 90 y cant, yn ystod y tair blynedd hynny?

Sue Essex: Your interpretation of the figures, Ieuan, and your suggestion that GDP is going down rather than up, can be disputed. As I have said, I will look at the figures again. I have had experience before of opposition parties quoting figures that I then find are not quite what they said.

Sue Essex: Gellir dadlau ynghylch eich dehongliad chi o'r ffigurau, Ieuan, a'ch awgrym bod CMC yn gostwng yn hytrach na chodi. Fel y dywedais, byddaf yn edrych ar y ffigurau eto. Cefais brofiad o'r blaen lle y mae'r gwrthbleidiau yn dyfynnu ffigurau ac yna gwelaf nad ydynt yn union fel y nodwyd.

On the issue of Slovenia, countries are coming into the European Union with different prosperity bases, so I am not sure what your point is. It is unlikely that I could convince you about this, because you do not want to be convinced. Whether or not we convince the people of Wales is a different proposition. People know that things are changing—[*Interruption.*] You can say that

O ran Slofenia, mae gwledydd yn ymuno â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd gyda sail ffyniant wahanol, felly nid wyf yn siŵr beth yw eich pwynt. Mae'n annhebygol y gallwn eich argyhoeddi o hyn, gan nad ydych am gael eich argyhoeddi. Mae pa un a ydym yn argyhoeddi pobl Cymru ai peidio yn wahanol. Mae pobl yn gwybod bod pethau yn newid—[*Torri ar draws.*] Gallwch

until you are blue in the face—

ddweud hynny faint fynnwch chi—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Not even the leader of the opposition can add to a supplementary from a seated position.

Y Llywydd: Trefn, ni all hyd yn oed arweinydd yr wrthblaid ychwanegu at gwestiwn atodol pan fo'n eistedd.

Sue Essex: I was in west Wales this morning, talking to people in the Swansea bay area, Llanelli, and Carmarthen. People know that things are changing for the better, and do not take kindly to this continual rubbishing of the progress that is being made and of the work that is being done. We are not complacent, but continual rubbishing of the progress does not help anyone.

Sue Essex: Yr oeddwn yn y Gorllewin y bore yma, yn siarad â phobl ardal bae Abertawe, Llanelli a Chaerfyrddin. Gŵyr pobl fod pethau yn newid er gwell, ac nid ydynt yn fodlon iawn ar y ffordd hon o ladd yn barhaus ar y cynnydd a wneir a'r gwaith a wneir. Nid ydym yn hunanfodlon ond nid yw lladd ar y cynnydd yn barhaus yn helpu neb.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Given that you challenged me on the figures, I will make sure that the Record correctly gives the figures. The average for Wales, for the three years to 2002, is 73.8 per cent of the average of the European Union of 25 member states. So that it is right in the Record, the figure for Slovenia is 74.4 per cent, and for Malta, 75 per cent. Will you answer a simple question: is Wales's figure higher or lower than those of Slovenia and Malta?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: O gofio eich bod wedi fy herio am y ffigurau, byddaf yn sicrhau bod y Cofnod yn rhoi'r ffigurau cywir. Y cyfartaledd i Gymru, ar gyfer y tair blynedd hyd at 2002, yw 73.8 y cant o gyfartaledd yr Undeb Ewropeaidd o 25 o aelod wladwriaethau. Fel ei fod yn gywir yn y Cofnod, 74.4 y cant yw'r ffigur ar gyfer Slofenia, a 75 y cant yw'r ffigur ar gyfer Malta. A atebwch gwestiwn syml: a yw ffigur Cymru yn uwch neu'n is na ffigurau Slofenia a Malta?

Sue Essex: It may surprise you to learn this, Ieuan, but when people were drawing up the economic strategy for Wales, they did not sit down and ask how it compared with Slovenia and Malta. It was not in the dialogue. The figures that you have quoted are three years old. This is a red herring. What matters is our experience in Wales and whether or not we are making progress. I know that it hurts you to admit it, but we are making progress, and people on the ground know it.

Sue Essex: Efallai y bydd yn eich synnu i glywed hyn, Ieuan, ond pan oedd pobl yn llunio'r strategaeth economaidd i Gymru, ni fu iddynt eistedd i lawr a gofyn sut yr oedd yn cymharu â Slofenia a Malta. Nid oedd yn rhan o'r drafodaeth. Ffigurau tair blynedd yn ôl yw'r ffigurau a ddyfynnwyd gennych. Yr ydych yn codi sgwarnog. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw ein profiad ni yng Nghymru a pha un a ydym yn gwneud cynnydd ai peidio. Gwn ei bod yn anodd ichi ei gyfaddef, ond gwnawn gynydd, ac mae pobl ar lawr gwlad yn gwybod hynny.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): In allocating the budget, what account did you take of Jane Davidson's so-called worst scenario in relation to free school breakfasts? Did you allocate £81.7 million, which is her so-called worst-case scenario—that is, that, having been promised free school breakfasts, every child in Wales takes up the offer?

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Wrth ddyrannu'r gyllideb, pa ystyriaeth a roddwyd gennych i'r hyn y cyfeiriodd Jane Davidson ato fel y sefyllfa waethaf bosibl mewn perthynas â brewcwast am ddim mewn ysgolion? A ddyrannwyd £81.7 miliwn gennych, sef y sefyllfa waethaf bosibl fel y'i galwyd—hynny yw, bod pob plentyn yn derbyn y cynnig i gael brewcwast am ddim yn yr ysgol?

Sue Essex: I will not comment on worst-case

Sue Essex: Ni chynigiaf sylwadau ar y

scenarios, but we have piloted what we believed to be a reasonable idea. During a pilot scheme—this is their purpose—you refine and use the information. We now have a better figure and better handle on what the final outturn will be, and that is accommodated in the budget for the future.

Nick Bourne: You have not quite answered the question as to whether or not you are providing an allocation on the basis of a 100 per cent take-up, as promised. Every child was promised a flying start, to use your words. We did not agree with the policy, but having promised breakfasts for every child, are you allocating money in the budget for every child? I can see that the First Minister is trying to help you; he may be in a better position to answer my question, but he had his chance yesterday.

The second important issue is that you originally said that one free school breakfast would cost £1, which was reduced to 35p and subsequently to 30p. What is it now? Is it £1, 35p or 30p? What percentage of children in Wales will receive a breakfast according to your budget?

Sue Essex: You may wish to check the Record, because you said that our policy regarding every child deserving a flying start was not one that you and the Conservatives support. I advise you to check that, because not even you would be callous enough to say that. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. The leader of the Welsh Conservatives also cannot ask his supplementary question from a sedentary position.

Sue Essex: We have gathered real information on how much this policy will cost. It is a simple process. When we have an idea—and I would hope that every party goes through this process—which we think is important, as it is in this case, it is taken from research and experience elsewhere, we estimate the costings. Parties make such plans before elections. We had a figure that was well over £1, which seemed excessive to us, but that was our first estimate. That

sefyllfaoedd gwaethaf posibl, ond yr ydym wedi cynnal cynllun peilot o'r hyn a oedd yn syniad rhesymol yn ein barn ni. Yn ystod cynllun peilot—dyna ei ddiben—yr ydych yn mireinio ac yn defnyddio'r wybodaeth. Mae ffigur gwell gennym yn awr a syniad gwell o beth fydd yr alldro terfynol, ac mae hynny wedi'i gynnwys yn y gyllideb ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Nick Bourne: Nid ydych wedi ateb y cwestiwn yn llawn o ran pa un a ydych yn darparu dyraniad ar sail pob plentyn yn derbyn y cynnig, fel yr addawyd. Fel y dywedasoeh chi, addawyd cychwyn da i bob plentyn. Ni chytunasom â'r polisi, ond ar ôl addo brecwast i bob plentyn, a ddyrannwch arian yn y gyllideb ar gyfer pob plentyn? Gwelaf fod y Prif Weinidog yn ceisio eich helpu; efallai ei fod mewn sefyllfa well i ateb fy nghwestiwn, ond cafodd ei gyfle ddoe.

Yr ail fater pwysig yw ichi ddweud yn wreiddiol y byddai un brecwast am ddim yn yr ysgol yn costio £1, a ostyngwyd i 35c ac wedyn i 30c. Beth yw'r gost yn awr? Ai £1, 35c neu 30c ydyw? Pa ganran o blant yng Nghymru a gaiff frecwast yn ôl eich cyllideb?

Sue Essex: Efallai yr hoffech edrych yn y Cofnod, oherwydd dywedasoeh nad oeddech chi na'r Ceidwadwyr yn cefnogi ein polisi bod pob plentyn yn haeddu cychwyn da. Fe'ch cynghoraf i wirio hynny, oherwydd ni fydddech chi hyd yn oed yn ddigon dideimlad i ddweud hynny. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni all arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru ofyn ei gwestiwn atodol pan fo'n eistedd ychwaith.

Sue Essex: Yr ydym wedi casglu gwybodaeth wirioneddol am gost y polisi hwn. Mae'n broses syml. Pan fo syniad gennym—a gobeithiwn fod pob plaid yn mynd drwy'r broses hon—y credwn ei fod yn bwysig, fel sy'n wir yn yr achos hwn, mae'n deillio o ymchwil a phrofiad rywle arall ac amcangyfrifwn y costau. Mae pleidiau yn gwneud cynlluniau o'r fath cyn etholiadau. Cawsom ffigur a oedd ymhell dros £1, a oedd yn rhy uchel yn ein barn ni, ond dyna ein

explains the £80 million. We then put this policy into practice, which has meant that we can refine that figure. The costs were excessive—

Nick Bourne: How much will it cost?

Sue Essex: We do not know because we do not know what the take-up will be. We are providing breakfasts in those schools which wish to take part, in order to realise our manifesto commitment. We are counting on 100 per cent take-up in schools. In those schools where the policy has been piloted, not all children have taken it up. We cannot force children to take it up, but, in the schools that I have visited, this policy is going down well. Therefore, you may not agree with every child getting a flying start, but parents, from my experience, do.

Nick Bourne: You are probably a better stand-up comedian than a Finance Minister. You know very well what I mean when I say that I do not agree with the policy; I do not agree with the free school breakfast policy. Evidently, you do not know how much it will cost. I have asked what the cost of one breakfast will be. You have no more idea than a fly in the air how much it will be, as you do not know how many people will take it up. Based on what is in the budget, how much take-up do you anticipate and what is the cost of one breakfast according to current proposals? Those are the questions that I asked. Are you able to answer those questions?

Sue Essex: I can provide the figures that come from the pilot scheme. You can have that. We will not know what the take-up will be until we roll the programme out. If you have a demand-led budget, Nick—and you do not seem to understand this—you cannot pre-determine what the demand will be. However, we have ensured that the reserves, and the way in which we are rolling forward the budget, will cater for the highest-demand scenario. That is how we are planning it. Neither you nor I know what will happen. However, I will have a much better idea, because I am following how the situation is

hamcangyfrif cyntaf. Mae hynny'n egluro'r £80 miliwn. Wedyn rhoddwyd y polisi hwn ar waith, sydd wedi golygu y gallwn fireinio'r ffigur hwnnw. Yr oedd y costau yn rhy uchel—

Nick Bourne: Faint y bydd yn ei gostio?

Sue Essex: Ni wyddom oherwydd ni wyddom faint o blant a fydd yn derbyn y cynnig. Darparwn frechwast yn yr ysgolion hynny sydd am gymryd rhan, er mwyn gwireddu'r ymrwymiad yn ein maniffesto. Yr ydym yn disgwyl i bob disgybl ysgol dderbyn y cynnig. Yn yr ysgolion hynny lle y cynhaliwyd cynllun peilot o'r polisi, nid yw pob plentyn wedi derbyn y cynnig. Ni allwn orfodi plant i'w dderbyn, ond, yn yr ysgolion yr ymwelais â hwy, mae'r polisi hwn yn boblogaidd. Felly, efallai nad ydych chi yn cytuno y dylai pob plentyn gael cychwyn da, ond mae rhieni yn cytuno â hynny, o'm profiad i.

Nick Bourne: Mae'n debyg eich bod yn ddigrifwr gwell na Gweinidog Cyllid. Gwyddoch yn dda beth yr wyf yn ei olygu pan ddywedaf na chytunaf â'r polisi; ni chytunaf â'r polisi o roi brechwast am ddim mewn ysgolion. Mae'n amlwg na wyddoch faint y bydd yn ei gostio. Gofynnais beth fydd cost un brechwast. Nid oes gennych syniad beth fydd y gost, oherwydd ni wyddoch faint o blant a fydd yn derbyn y cynnig. Yn seiliedig ar yr hyn sydd yn y gyllideb, faint o blant y disgwyliwch iddynt dderbyn y cynnig a beth yw cost un brechwast yn ôl eich cynigion presennol? Dyna'r cwestiynau a ofynnais. A allwch ateb y cwestiynau hynny?

Sue Essex: Gallaf ddarparu'r ffigurau sy'n deillio o'r cynllun peilot. Gallwch gael hynny. Ni fyddwn yn gwybod faint o blant a fydd yn derbyn y cynnig hyd nes ein bod yn cyflwyno'r rhaglen. Os oes gennych gyllideb ar sail galw, Nick—ac ymddengys nad ydych chi yn deall hyn—ni allwch ragweld beth fydd y galw. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi sicrhau bod y cronfeydd wrth gefn, a'r ffordd yr ydym yn cario'r gyllideb drosodd, yn darparu ar gyfer y sefyllfa lle y ceir y galw mwyaf posibl. Dyna sut yr ydym yn ei gynllunio. Nid ydych chi na minnau yn gwybod beth fydd yn digwydd. Fodd bynnag, bydd syniad

developing.

llawer gwell gennyf, oherwydd cadwaf lygad ar sut y mae'r sefyllfa yn datblygu.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Is capping local authority expenditure during the coming year one of your considerations regarding the Assembly budget?

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): A ydych yn ystyried capio gwariant awdurdodau lleol yn ystod y flwyddyn i ddod o ran cyllideb y Cynulliad?

Sue Essex: I do not know whether that is a question for me to answer today during questions on finance or during questions on local government. I expect all local authorities to bring their council tax levels or their budget growth to a reasonable level. I have made this point clear in the final settlement and in my statements.

Sue Essex: Ni wn a yw hynny'n gwestiwn imi ei ateb heddiw yn ystod cwestiynau ar gyllid neu yn ystod cwestiynau ar lywodraeth leol. Disgwyliaf i bob awdurdod lleol sicrhau bod eu lefelau treth gyngor neu dwf eu cyllideb yn rhesymol. Eglurais y pwynt hwn yn y setliad terfynol ac yn fy natganiadau.

Michael German: You have asked your officials to give you advice on the implementation of the powers available to you to restrict local authority budget increases in 2005-06. To my knowledge, that issue has never been discussed in committee or the Assembly. We are now being told that you are considering capping local authorities because I presume that you do not like the increases that they will have to introduce in order to maintain their services. What is important in terms of the Assembly budget is why you are doing this, and what restriction you anticipate placing on the Assembly budget as a whole over the coming years. This matter will have an enormous impact on local government services across Wales, as 78 per cent of local government funding comes from the National Assembly.

Michael German: Yr ydych wedi gofyn i'ch swyddogion roi cyngor ichi ar weithredu'r pwerau sydd ar gael ichi gyfyngu ar godiadau yng nghyllidebau awdurdodau lleol yn 2005-06. Hyd y gwn i, ni thrafodwyd y mater hwnnw erioed yn y pwyllgor na'r Cynulliad. Dywedir wrthym yn awr eich bod yn ystyried capio awdurdodau lleol oherwydd rhagdybiaf nad ydych yn hoffi'r cynnydd y bydd yn rhaid iddynt ei gyflwyno er mwyn cynnal eu gwasanaethau. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig o ran cyllideb y Cynulliad yw pam y gwnewch hyn, a pha gyfyngiad y disgwylwch ei roi ar gyllideb gyffredinol y Cynulliad yn ystod y blynyddoedd i ddod. Caiff y mater hwn effaith enfawr ar wasanaethau llywodraeth leol ledled Cymru, oherwydd daw 78 y cant o arian llywodraeth leol o'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

2.20 p.m.

Sue Essex: I do not understand what you are talking about with regard to the impact of the Assembly budget, as that budget has been set, Mike. I have made it clear to local authorities that I am looking for advice on what my powers are and that I am not a great fan of capping. However, I have also made it clear that I do not wish to see any local authority taking unfair advantage of the revaluation process. I am not doing anything that I have not made clear previously. It is early days in terms of setting council tax levels and budgets. The response that I am getting from many local authorities is that they are taking this issue seriously, and are

Sue Essex: Ni ddeallaf at beth y cyfeiriwch o ran effaith cyllideb y Cynulliad, am fod y gyllideb honno wedi'i phennu, Mike. Eglurais i awdurdodau lleol fy mod yn ceisio cyngor ar beth yw fy mhwerau ac nad wyf yn hoff iawn o gapio. Fodd bynnag, eglurais hefyd nad wyf am weld unrhyw awdurdodau lleol yn manteisio'n annheg ar y broses ailbrisio. Ni wnaf unrhyw beth nad wyf wedi'i egluro o'r blaen. Megis dechrau y mae'r broses o bennu lefelau'r dreth gyngor a chyllidebau. Yr ymateb a gaf gan lawer o awdurdodau lleol yw eu bod yn cymryd y mater hwn o ddifrif, ac yn ystyried rheoli twf eu cyllideb yn y ffordd a nodais yn fy

looking at containing their budget growth in the way that I said in my final statement. natganiad terfynol.

Michael German: When you threaten them that they will not be able to raise the necessary income to maintain services, what you are, effectively, saying to most local authorities is that they will have to make deeper cuts in services. That does impact on the budget. If you intend to use those capping proposals, tell us now what the limit will be. What is the maximum amount of council tax that you will permit—not what you might expect, but what you will permit?

Michael German: Pan fyddwch yn eu bygwth na fyddant yn gallu codi'r incwm angenrheidiol i gynnal gwasanaethau, yr hyn a ddywedwch, yn y bôn, wrth y rhan fwyaf o awdurdodau lleol yw y bydd yn rhaid iddynt gwtogi ymhellach ar wasanaethau. Caiff hynny effaith ar y gyllideb. Os bwriadwch ddefnyddio'r cynigion capio hynny, dywedwch wrthym yn awr beth fydd y terfyn. Beth yw uchafswm y dreth gyngor y byddwch yn ei chaniatáu—nid yr hyn y gallech ei ddisgwyl, ond yr hyn y byddwch yn ei ganiatáu?

Sue Essex: If you had listened to what I said, you would know that this is all about budget growth. I have said that budget growth, in my view, should not be higher than around 5 per cent. I refer to budget growth because that will respond to the financial pressures that the consultative forum on finance painstakingly evaluated and agree upon. I am not saying anything different from what I have said before. During my discussion with Ieuan on the local authority business-rate growth scheme, he made the reasonable point that local authorities were unsure of the current year's funding and whether it would be clawed back, so I have written to local authority leaders on that. This is exactly where I said that I would take this. I cannot reiterate enough that it is a difficult year in terms of the impact of revaluation. We have respected that by giving large sums of money through the moderation scheme and I expect councils to respect that. It is not necessarily about cuts, but looking at budgets and ensuring that their budget growth is kept to a reasonable level.

Sue Essex: Pe baech wedi gwranddo ar yr hyn a ddywedais, fe wyddech fod a wnelo hyn oll â thwf y gyllideb. Yr wyf wedi dweud na ddylai twf y gyllideb fod yn fwy na thua 5 y cant, yn fy marn i. Cyfeiriaf at dwf y gyllideb oherwydd bydd hynny'n ymateb i'r pwysau ariannol a werthuswyd gan y fforwm ymgynghorol ar gyllid yn drylwyr ac y cytunodd arnynt. Ni ddywedaf unrhyw beth yn wahanol i'r hyn a ddywedais o'r blaen. Yn ystod fy nhrafodaeth gydag Ieuan ar gynllun twf ardrethi busnes awdurdodau lleol, gwnaeth y pwynt rhesymol nad oedd awdurdodau lleol yn siŵr o gyllid y flwyddyn gyfredol a pha un a fyddai'n cael ei adfachu, ac felly yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu at arweinwyr awdurdodau lleol ynglŷn â hynny. Dyma'r hyn y dywedais a fyddai'n digwydd yn union. Ni allaf ailadrodd ddigon ei bod yn flwyddyn anodd o ran effaith ailbrisio. Yr ydym wedi parchu hynny drwy roi symiau mawr o arian drwy'r cynllun safoni a disgwyliaf i gynghorau barchu hynny. Nid oes a wnelo â thoriadau o anghenraid, ond ag ystyried cyllidebau a sicrhau bod twf y gyllideb yn rhesymol.

Adleoli'r Adran Tai i Ferthyr Tudful Relocation of the Housing Department to Merthyr Tydfil

Q3 Huw Lewis: Will the Minister provide an update on the Assembly Government's relocation of the housing department to Merthyr Tydfil? OAQ0040(FIN)

C3 Huw Lewis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am fwriad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i adleoli'r Adran Tai i Ferthyr Tudful? OAQ0040(FIN)

Sue Essex: Planning permission for the redesigned Merthyr office was granted on 21 December. Work will start on site at the end

Sue Essex: Rhoddwyd caniatâd cynllunio i swyddfa Merthyr ar ei newydd wedd ar 21 Rhagfyr. Bydd y gwaith yn dechrau ar y safle

of February. I can reaffirm that the Housing Directorate will move to the new Merthyr office, along with a number of other workgroups with a focus on social justice and economic regeneration.

Huw Lewis: I can assure you that, as far as the people of Merthyr are concerned, the welcome mat is out for this development. There is great anticipation locally about the positive impact that this might have on the economy in Merthyr Tydfil and the northern Valleys. Are you aware of Scottish Executive developments, where they have taken a close look at this kind of public sector investment in deprived areas? That work has caught the attention of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity, specifically in relation to the implementation of a career ladder that embeds a new institution in the community by providing career routes for local people through the institution, providing a local leg up, if you like, to a career in public service. In terms of the development in Merthyr, will you take a look at the exciting work that has been undertaken by the Scots at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh?

Sue Essex: Thank you, Huw. I was not aware of that idea, and if there is a good idea somewhere else, we are only too pleased to use it and follow it through. As I said to John, I will be speaking to my Scottish counterpart in a week or two, and I will try to pick that up. We have engaged in a recruitment exercise in the Merthyr area to try to encourage people to come through, but that sounds like an exciting idea and I would like a closer look at it.

William Graham: When the First Minister announced the move to Merthyr, it was anticipated that there would be 322 posts, of which 263 would be relocated from Cardiff, so not many would be recruited in Merthyr. Has that figure now changed?

Sue Essex: I do not know about that on the recruitment side. I believe that 454 posts are going to Merthyr. The figure that you have has probably expanded by now. Posts are being relocated out of Cathays park, which is

ar ddiwedd mis Chwefror. Gallaf ailgadarnhau y bydd y Gyfarwyddiaeth Dai yn symud i'r swyddfa newydd ym Merthyr, ynghyd â nifer o grwpiau gwaith eraill sy'n canolbwyntio ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio economaidd.

Huw Lewis: Gallaf eich sicrhau bod trigolion Merthyr yn croesawu'r datblygiad hwn. Mae llawer o obaith ymhlith pobl leol ynghylch yr effaith gadarnhaol y gallai hyn ei chael ar economi Merthyr Tudful a'r Cymoedd gogleddol. A wyddoch am ddatblygiadau Gweithrediaeth yr Alban, lle y maent wedi edrych yn ofalus ar y math hwn o fuddsoddiad gan y sector cyhoeddus mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig? Mae'r gwaith hwnnw wedi dal sylw'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â chyflwyno ysgol gyrfaedd sy'n ymgorffori sefydliad newydd yn y gymuned drwy ddarparu llwybrau gyrfa i bobl leol drwy'r sefydliad, gan ddarparu hwb lleol, os mynnwch, i ddilyn gyrfa mewn gwasanaeth cyhoeddus. O ran y datblygiad ym Merthyr, a wnewch edrych ar y gwaith cyffrous a wnaed yn yr Alban yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Caeredin?

Sue Essex: Diolch, Huw. Nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol o'r syniad hwnnw, ac os oes syniad da rywle arall, yr ydym yn fodlon iawn ei ddefnyddio a'i ddatblygu. Fel y dywedais wrth John, byddaf yn siarad â'm Gweinidog cyfatebol yn yr Alban ymhen wythnos neu ddwy, a byddaf yn ceisio trafod hynny. Yr ydym wedi cynnal ymarfer recriwtio yn ardal Merthyr i geisio annog pobl i wneud cais, ond mae hynny'n swnio fel syniad cyffrous a hoffwn ymchwilio ymhellach iddo.

William Graham: Pan gyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog y byddai'r swyddfa yn symud i Merthyr, rhagwelwyd y byddai 322 o swyddi, ac y byddai 263 ohonynt yn cael eu hadleoli o Gaerdydd, ac felly na fyddai llawer yn cael eu recriwtio ym Merthyr. Sut mae'r ffigur hwnnw wedi newid?

Sue Essex: Ni wn am hynny ar yr ochr recriwtio. Credaf fod 454 o swyddi yn mynd i Ferthyr. Mae'r ffigur sydd gennych wedi cynyddu erbyn hyn, siŵr o fod. Caiff swyddi eu hadleoli o barc Cathays, sy'n rhy llawn,

overloaded, the Wales European Funding Office is going to the Merthyr office, and a small office with a rent officer in Pontypool is also relocating there. The full list of who is going has still not been decided. Staff have been offered relocation, and while most have chosen to take that option, some have not. We will not know the final breakdown until the move happens. As Huw said, the move will inevitably allow some local recruitment, and, as time goes on, more people will be encouraged to come in to replace staff who leave. As Huw said, this office has been welcomed in the Merthyr area, because it shows that we are intent on making public sector jobs available in different places around Wales.

mae Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru yn symud i'r swyddfa ym Merthyr, ac mae swyddfa fach gyda swyddog rhenti ym Mhont-y-pŵl yn symud yno hefyd. Ni phenderfynwyd eto ar y rhestr lawn o bwy sy'n mynd. Cynigwyd i'r staff y gallent adleoli i'r swyddfa newydd, ac er bod y rhan fwyaf wedi dewis yr opsiwn hwnnw, nid yw pawb wedi ei ddewis. Bydd yn rhaid aros hyd nes y symudir i'r swyddfa newydd cyn gwybod beth yw'r dadansoddiad terfynol. Fel y dywedodd Huw, yn anochel bydd y symud yn caniatáu i rai pobl leol gael eu recriwtio, ac wrth i amser fynd heibio, caiff mwy o bobl eu hannog i weithio yno yn lle staff sy'n gadael. Fel y dywedodd Huw, croesawyd y swyddfa hon yn ardal Merthyr, oherwydd dengys ein bod yn benderfynol o sicrhau bod swyddi'r sector cyhoeddus ar gael mewn lleoedd gwahanol ledled Cymru.

Cynlluniau Mentrau Arian Preifat Private Funding Initiative Schemes

Q4 David Melding: What meetings has the Minister had in the last 12 months in connection with PFI schemes in Wales? OAQ0027(FIN)

C4 David Melding: Pa gyfarfodydd y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael yn y 12 mis diwethaf mewn perthynas â'r cynlluniau Menter Cyllid Preifat yng Nghymru? OAQ0027(FIN)

Sue Essex: I have not had any specific meetings on PFI schemes. However, I meet leaders of local authorities regularly and have discussed local PFI schemes with a few of them.

Sue Essex: Ni chefais unrhyw gyfarfodydd penodol ynghylch cynlluniau PFI. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn cyfarfod ag arweinwyr awdurdodau lleol yn rheolaidd ac yr wyf wedi trafod cynlluniau PFI lleol gydag ychydig ohonynt.

David Melding: Are you aware that the NHS in England now plans to deliver 15 per cent of NHS activity via the private and independent sector, including new-build schemes and special diagnostic and treatment centres? Do you think that one of the major reasons for the lack of innovation in the Welsh NHS is that we have not engaged with the private and independent sector?

David Melding: A ydych yn ymwybodol bod y GIG yn Lloegr bellach yn bwriadu darparu 15 y cant o weithgarwch y GIG drwy'r sector preifat ac annibynnol, gan gynnwys cynlluniau adeiladu newydd a chanolfannau diagnostig a thriniaeth arbennig? A gredwch mai un o'r prif resymau dros ddiffyg arloesedd yn y GIG yng Nghymru yw nad ydym wedi ymgysylltu â'r sector preifat ac annibynnol?

Sue Essex: I cannot answer that because I have come across good examples of where that engagement has made sense, certainly on my own patch. That engagement is there and it will engage in new technology. If you want any more information on that, you will have to direct your question to Brian Gibbons.

Sue Essex: Ni allaf ateb hynny am fy mod wedi gweld enghreifftiau da lle y mae'r ymgysylltiad hwnnw wedi gwneud synnwyr, yn sicr yn fy ardal i fy hun. Mae'r ymgysylltiad hwnnw yno a bydd yn ymgysylltu â thechnoleg newydd. Os hoffech ragor o wybodaeth am hynny, bydd yn rhaid ichi ofyn i Brian Gibbons.

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: I am sure that you agree that the national health service in Wales and in England has worked closely with private finance initiatives for a long time, particularly in terms of acquiring capital equipment such as MRI scanners, buying into the time that these can make available. I am sure that you agree that the confusion that we currently have with the opposition is that Plaid Cymru would have no PFI investment and the Conservatives would go the other way—

The Presiding Officer: Order. The Minister does not have responsibility for the Party of Wales or for the Welsh Conservatives.

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: I hope that she does not have responsibility for them, but I am sure that she would agree that our pragmatic approach to using PFI when necessary, as in the case of Pembroke Dock Community School in the constituency of my next-door neighbour, Christine Gwyther, is by far the most reasonable approach?

Sue Essex: No, I do not have any responsibility for the opposition parties, which is a relief. This goes back to my answer to David Melding. In my experience, there has been good, practical use of the private sector, and I have had discussions with the sector, particularly, as you say around new technological equipment, where some of those arrangements made a great deal of sense in terms of value for money, and similarly for PFI where it has been used.

Janet Davies: As you are aware, difficulties have arisen over land stabilisation for the new PFI-built comprehensive school in Maesteg. Will you make it a condition of the required variation of contract that the stability of the new embankment that overhangs some residential properties in Bro Dawel Close will be independently investigated and monitored before you sign that agreement?

Sue Essex: As it stands, we have not received a full business case, so the scheme, unfortunately, has not progressed to that stage. If you have a particular concern, you need to write to me with details, but, at the

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn cytuno bod y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru ac yn Lloegr wedi gweithio'n agos gyda mentrau cyllid preifat am amser hir, yn arbennig o ran caffael offer cyfalaf megis sganwyr MRI, gan brynu'r amser sydd ar gael drwy'r rhain. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn cytuno bod y dryswch sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd o ran y gwrthbleidiau yw na fyddai Plaid Cymru yn cael unrhyw fuddsoddiad PFI a byddai'r Ceidwadwyr yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad arall—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid yw'r Gweinidog yn gyfrifol am Blaid Cymru na Cheidwadwyr Cymru.

Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey: Gobeithiaf nad yw'n gyfrifol amdanynt, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai'n cytuno mai ein hymagwedd bragmatig tuag at ddefnyddio PFI pan fo angen, fel yn achos Ysgol Gymunedol Doc Penfro yn etholaeth yr Aelod cyfagos, Christine Gwyther, yw'r ymagwedd fwyaf rhesymol o bell ffordd?

Sue Essex: Nid wyf yn gyfrifol am y gwrthbleidiau, sy'n newyddion da. Mae hyn yn cyfeirio'n ôl at fy ateb i David Melding. Yn fy mhrofiad i, bu llawer o ddefnydd ymarferol da o'r sector preifat, a chefais drafodaethau gyda'r sector, yn arbennig, fel y dywedwch o ran offer technolegol newydd, lle y gwnaeth rhai o'r trefniadau hynny lawer o synnwyr o ran gwerth am arian, ac yn yr un ffordd lle y defnyddiwyd PFI.

Janet Davies: Fel y gwyddoch, mae anawsterau wedi codi ynghylch sefydlogi tir ar gyfer yr ysgol gyfun newydd i'w hadeiladu gan ddefnyddio PFI ym Maesteg. A sicrhewch mai un o amodau'r contract amrywio angenrheidiol yw y dylid ymchwilio'n annibynnol i sefydlogrwydd yr arglawdd newydd sy'n bargodi dros rai cartrefi yn Bro Dawel Close a'i fonitro cyn ichi lofnodi'r cytundeb hwnnw?

Sue Essex: Fel y mae, nid ydym wedi cael achos busnes llawn, ac felly, yn anffodus, nid yw'r cynllun wedi symud ymlaen i'r cam hwnnw. Os oes pryder penodol gennych, mae angen ichi ysgrifennu ataf gyda'r manylion,

moment, that is a little down the line.

ond, ar hyn o bryd, mae hynny'n eithaf pell i ffwrdd.

Portffolio Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol The Health and Social Services Portfolio

Q5 Christine Gwyther: Will the Minister make a statement on the funding that she has allocated to the overall budget for the health and social services portfolio in 2004-05? OAQ0035(FIN)

C5 Christine Gwyther: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cyllid y mae wedi'i ddyrannu i'r gyllideb gyffredinol ar gyfer portffolio Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn 2004-05? OAQ0035(FIN)

Sue Essex: The initial provision for this portfolio in 2004-05 was £4,583.2 billion. This represents an increase of £412.6 million, or 9.9 per cent, over the corresponding 2003-04 provision. Some £55.3 million has also been added in-year mainly to cover the costs of capital schemes and to reduce patient waiting times.

Sue Essex: Y ddarpariaeth gychwynnol ar gyfer y portffolio hwn yn 2004-05 oedd £4,583.2 biliwn. Mae hyn yn gynydd o £412.6 miliwn, neu 9.9 y cant, o gymharu â'r ddarpariaeth gyfatebol yn 2003-04. Mae rhyw £55.3 miliwn wedi'i ychwanegu yn ystod y flwyddyn hefyd, yn bennaf i dalu costau cynlluniau cyfalaf ac i leihau amseroedd aros cleifion.

2.30 p.m.

Christine Gwyther: In my own constituency of Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire—not Carmarthen East, as is stated on the agenda, Llywydd; I am sure that Rhodri Glyn Thomas would have something to say about that—there is current and planned massive capital investment in the health service, particularly in new hospitals at Pembroke Dock and Tenby. A new accident and emergency department is planned for Glangwili Hospital in Carmarthen, and, hopefully, £6 million is to be allocated for the accident and emergency department at Withybush Hospital in my neighbouring constituency of Preseli. Will you confirm for my constituents that the planned capital expenditure, which was approved by the previous Minister for Health and Social Services, Jane Hutt, will be honoured by the current Minister for Health and Social Services, Brian Gibbons?

Christine Gwyther: Yn fy etholaeth i, sef Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro—nid Dwyrain Caerfyrddin, fel y nodir ar yr agenda, Lywydd; yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai gan Rhodri Glyn Thomas rywbeth i'w ddweud am hynny—mae buddsoddiad cyfalaf enfawr cyfredol ac arfaethedig yn y gwasanaeth iechyd, yn arbennig mewn ysbytai newydd yn Noc Penfro a Dinbych-y-pysgod. Bwriedir adeiladu adran damweiniau ac achosion brys newydd yn Ysbyty Glangwili yng Nghaerfyrddin, a'r gobaith yw dyrannu £6 miliwn ar gyfer yr adran damweiniau ac achosion brys yn Ysbyty Llwyn Helyg ym Mhreseli, yr etholaeth gyfagos. A wnewch gadarnhau ar gyfer fy etholwyr y bydd y Gweinidog presennol dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Brian Gibbons, yn cadw at y gwariant cyfalaf arfaethedig, a gymeradwywyd gan y cyn-Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus, Jane Hutt?

Sue Essex: Brian is an honourable man, and I am sure that he has no intention of doing anything other than that. The money was in the budget, and one of the great pleasures of introducing the budget this time was the big emphasis that we could put on capital provision, not only for health, but also for education, local authorities and other areas. I

Sue Essex: Mae Brian yn ddyrn anrhydeddus, ac yr wyf yn siŵr nad oes unrhyw fwriad ganddo i wneud unrhyw beth yn wahanol i hynny. Yr oedd yr arian yn y gyllideb, ac un o bleserau mawr cyflwyno'r gyllideb y tro hwn oedd y pwyslais mawr y gallem ei roi ar ddarpariaeth gyfalaf, ym maes iechyd, ond hefyd ar gyfer addysg, awdurdodau lleol a

am delighted that your constituents, the adjoining constituency of Preseli, and everyone in Carmarthen East, will be able to benefit from this spectacular investment.

Laura Anne Jones: Do you not believe that more services should be commissioned from the independent sector to deliver a more flexible and efficient NHS?

Sue Essex: It is down to the commissioning agents. I am not an expert on this, Laura Anne—I do not know whether you are—but we employ people to do that management job for us and we give them the flexibility to make the best decisions.

David Lloyd: A ydych yn adolygu'r angen am fwy o arian ar gyfer unedau dialysis arenol yng Nghymru?

Sue Essex: Again, that is for Brian to take up. I am aware of the pressures, and I have certainly had discussions on this issue. However, Brian has responsibility for it, and I know that he will carry out that responsibility and make the best decisions.

meysydd eraill. Yr wyf yn falch y gall eich etholwyr ym Mhreseli, sef yr etholaeth gyfagos, a phawb yn Nwyrain Caerfyrddin, elwa ar y buddsoddiad sylweddol hwn.

Laura Anne Jones: Oni chredwch y dylid comisiynu rhagor o wasanaethau o'r sector annibynnol i ddarparu GIG mwy hyblyg ac effeithlon?

Sue Essex: Yr asiantwyr comisiynu sy'n gyfrifol am hyn. Nid wyf yn arbenigo yn y maes hwn, Laura Anne—ni wn a ydych chi'n arbenigo ynddo ychwaith—ond cyflogwn bobl i wneud y gwaith rheoli hwnnw drosom a rhown yr hyblygrwydd iddynt wneud y penderfyniadau gorau.

David Lloyd: Are you reviewing the need for increased funding for renal dialysis units in Wales?

Sue Essex: Unwaith eto, mater i Brian yw hynny. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r pwysau, ac yn sicr cefais drafodaethau ar y mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, Brian sy'n gyfrifol amdano, a gwn y bydd yn ymgymryd â'r cyfrifoldeb hwnnw ac yn gwneud y penderfyniadau gorau.

Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000 The Freedom of Information Act 2000

Q6 Mark Isherwood: Will the Minister make a statement on the implications to the overall Assembly budget of the Freedom of Information Act? OAQ0033(FIN)

Sue Essex: There are no implications for overall Assembly Government budgets resulting from this Act. A small team was established in January 2003 to advise on access to information matters. It is occasionally necessary to divert resources temporarily within the Assembly Government to deal with information requests.

Mark Isherwood: As Benjamin Franklin said, 'Look before or you will find yourself behind'. What research has been undertaken—and I hope that you will confirm that research has been done—to assess the cost to national and local government of administering the Freedom of

C6 Mark Isherwood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am oblygiadau'r Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth i gyllideb gyffredinol y Cynulliad? OAQ0033(FIN)

Sue Essex: Nid oes unrhyw oblygiadau i gyllidebau cyffredinol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o ganlyniad i'r Ddeddf hon. Sefydlwyd tîm bach ym mis Ionawr 2003 i roi cyngor ar faterion o ran gweld gwybodaeth. O bryd i'w gilydd mae angen ailgyfeirio adnoddau dros dro o fewn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ymdrin â cheisiadau am wybodaeth.

Mark Isherwood: Fel y dywedodd Benjamin Franklin, edrychwch ymlaen cyn ichi fod ar ei hôl hi. Pa ymchwil a gyflawnwyd—a gobeithiaf y byddwch yn cadarnhau bod gwaith ymchwil wedi'i wneud—i asesu'r gost i lywodraeth genedlaethol a lleol o weinyddu'r Ddeddf

Information Act? We know that the number of applications to local government, and, I presume, to national government, is increasing. What provision have you made in the Assembly budget to allow for this?

Sue Essex: We have an advantage here in that, before the Freedom of Information Act, we had our own code on access to information. That is why I highlighted the fact that that team was established in January 2003. We have had much experience on this, but we will keep it under review. There is a big spurt of interest at present because it is new legislation, and we will wait and see whether that interest continues. We will keep an eye on the ball.

Rhyddid Gwybodaeth? Gwyddom fod nifer y ceisiadau i lywodraeth leol, ac, fe ragdybiaf, i lywodraeth genedlaethol, yn cynyddu. Pa ddarpariaeth a wnaethoch yng nghyllideb y Cynulliad i ganiatáu ar gyfer hyn?

Sue Essex: Mae gennym fantais yma oherwydd, cyn y Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth, yr oedd gennym ein cod ein hunain ar ganiatáu i'r cyhoedd weld gwybodaeth. Dyna pam yr amlygais y ffaith bod y tîm hwnnw wedi'i sefydlu ym mis Ionawr 2003. Cawsom lawer o brofiad o hyn, ond byddwn yn parhau i'w adolygu. Mae llawer o ddiddordeb yn y mater ar hyn o bryd am mai deddfwriaeth newydd ydyw, a byddwn yn aros i weld a yw'r diddordeb hwnnw yn parhau. Byddwn yn cadw llygad ar y sefyllfa.

Canlyniadau Fformiwla Barnett Barnett Formula Consequential

Q7 Mick Bates: What process did the Minister use to determine the allocation of extra money received by the Barnett formula consequential of the UK Chancellor's pre-budget report? OAQ0010(FIN)

Sue Essex: I had discussions with my Cabinet colleagues, and we agreed that the extra £7.4 million received in 2005-06 was to be allocated to local government. This recognises the importance of local services and the need to support council taxpayers.

Mick Bates: Part of the process was the raising of expectations in all our local authorities that they would receive some of this consequential to support council tax. Nineteen of the 22 authorities did. However, Gwynedd, Wrexham and Cardiff did not. Can you justify the raising of expectations by this announcement and the fact that three authorities did not receive support from that consequential?

Sue Essex: I did not raise any expectations, because it was not a foregone conclusion that the money would go straight to local government—it was discussed with my colleagues in the Cabinet. It was included in

C7 Mick Bates: Pa broses a ddefnyddiodd y Gweinidog i benderfynu sut i ddyrannu'r arian ychwanegol a gafwyd yn sgîl canlyniadau fformiwla Barnett yn adroddiad rhag-gyllidebol y Canghellor? OAQ0010(FIN)

Sue Essex: Cefais drafodaethau gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet, a bu inni gytuno y dylid dyrannu'r £7.4 miliwn ychwanegol a gafwyd yn 2005-06 i lywodraeth leol. Mae hyn yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd gwasanaethau lleol a'r angen i gefnogi talwyr y dreth gyngor.

Mick Bates: Rhan o'r broses oedd codi disgwyliadau ym mhob un o'n hawdurdodau lleol y byddent yn cael rhywfaint o'r swm canlyniadol hwn i gynnal y dreth gyngor. Cafodd 19 o'r 22 o awdurdodau gymorth o'r fath. Fodd bynnag, ni chafodd Gwynedd, Wrecsam na Chaerdydd ddim byd. A allwch gyfiawnhau codi disgwyliadau yn sgîl y cyhoeddiad hwn a'r ffaith na chafodd tri awdurdod gymorth o'r swm canlyniadol hwnnw?

Sue Essex: Ni chodais unrhyw ddisgwyliadau, oherwydd nid oedd yn anochel y byddai'r arian yn mynd i lywodraeth leol yn uniongyrchol—trafodwyd hynny gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion yn y

the overall pot and I think that the local authorities expected me to approach the matter in the way that I did. Therefore, I am at a loss to understand why you raise the issue.

The £7.3 million was added to the total sum available to the budget for local authorities in Wales. That did not inflate the £3.5 million floor that had already been put in place. You look a little mystified, so I will explain the mathematics to you later. However, I had already put in place £3.5 million for the three authorities.

Alun Ffred Jones: Ddoe, rhoddodd y Prif Weinidog y bai am y trafferthion yn ysbyty Mynydd Bychan, Caerdydd ar ddiffyg gwelyau gofal. Y llynedd, defnyddiwyd arian ychwanegol o'r Trysorlys i roi grant penodol i gynghorau i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon. Eleni, mae'r arian ychwanegol, fel yr ydym newydd glywed, wedi ei ddsbarthu ar gyfer pwrpas arall. Sut y gall cynghorau drefnu eu hadnoddau dros gyfnod hir heb sicrwydd bod yr arian yn barhaol?

Sue Essex: When that money came from the Gordon Brown, it was after the local government settlement, and we could not alter that. Therefore, that money was included in the capacity grant issued to local authorities. I made it clear, after discussion with local authorities, that I would honour the provision of that money by including it in the baseline budget. Therefore, local authorities received that money last year and they knew within about a month that that would be followed through to this year, because I discussed that with Harry Jones. The money for dealing with delayed transfers of care and housing for the elderly was included in the budget and carried through. This year, the circumstances are different because, if you recall, I delayed the final local government settlement to the beginning of this term so that we could take into account any extra money for us that Gordon Brown might announce.

Alun Cairns: Given that achieving the targets outlined in 'A Winning Wales' is not progressing as the Welsh Assembly Government would like—there is no way

Cabinet. Cafodd ei gynnwys yn y gronfa gyffredinol a chredaf i'r awdurdodau lleol ddisgwyl imi ymdrin â'r mater yn y ffordd y gwneuthum. Felly, ni allaf ddeall pam yr ydych yn codi'r mater.

Ychwanegwyd y £7.3 miliwn at y cyfanswm a oedd ar gael i'r gyllideb ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru. Ni chwyddodd hynny'r terfyn isaf o £3.5 miliwn a oedd eisoes wedi'i bennu. Yr ydych yn edrych braidd yn syn, felly byddaf yn egluro'r fathemateg ichi yn ddiweddarach. Fodd bynnag, yr oeddwn eisoes wedi neilltuo £3.5 miliwn ar gyfer y tri awdurdod.

Alun Ffred Jones: Yesterday, the First Minister blamed the difficulties in the Heath hospital, Cardiff on bed blocking. Last year, additional funding from the Treasury was used to give councils a specific grant to tackle this problem. This year, the additional funding, as we just heard, has been distributed for another purpose. How can councils organise facilities over a long period of time without being certain that the funding is recurrent?

Sue Essex: Daeth yr arian hwnnw oddi wrth Gordon Brown ar ôl y setliad llywodraeth leol, ac ni allem newid hynny. Felly, cynhwyswyd yr arian hwnnw yn y grant adnoddau ymarferol a roddwyd i awdurdodau lleol. Eglurais, ar ôl trafod gydag awdurdodau lleol, y byddwn yn cadw at yr addewid i ddarparu'r arian hwnnw drwy ei gynnwys yn y gyllideb sylfaenol. Felly, cafodd awdurdodau lleol yr arian hwnnw y llynedd a gwyddent o fewn tua mis y byddai hynny ar gael eleni hefyd, am imi drafod hynny gyda Harry Jones. Cynhwyswyd yr arian ar gyfer ymdrin ag oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal a thai i'r henoed yn y gyllideb a chafodd ei gario drosodd. Eleni, mae'r amgylchiadau yn wahanol oherwydd, os cofiwch, gohiriais y setliad llywodraeth leol terfynol tan ddechrau'r tymor hwn er mwyn inni allu ystyried unrhyw arian ychwanegol y gallai Gordon Brown ei gyhoeddi ar ein cyfer.

Alun Cairns: O gofio nad ydym yn gwneud cymaint o gynnydd ag y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei ddymuno i gyrraedd y targedau a amlinellwyd yn 'Cymru'n Ennill'—nid

that we will achieve the target of 90 per cent of UK average GDP per capita—what representations did you receive from the Minister for Economic Development and Transport on the allocation of this funding? Did he say that because we will not achieve the target, we need extra money, or was he happy for the money to go elsewhere and whistle in the wind that the target would not be achieved?

Sue Essex: I had constructive discussions with Andrew Davies, because we have seen huge inflation in spending on economic development since we, thankfully, got rid of the Tories in Wales. Since that time, there has been additional growth and money has come from Gordon Brown. We were able to put a substantial amount in the economic development budget, which increased the level to an enormous baseline. To achieve many of our economic development goals, the Minister for Economic Development and Transport agreed that what we need is to invest in the knowledge economy to support the schemes that will attract better quality, higher skilled jobs. Turning to the skills agenda that Jane Davidson outlined yesterday, we know that in order to move Wales on to the next stage, we need to invest in education and skills, and that was a big thrust in the budget that I announced.

yw'n bosibl inni gyrraedd y targed o 90 y cant o CMC cyfartalog y DU y pen—pa sylwadau a gawsoch gan y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth o ran dyrannu'r arian hwn? A ddywedodd, gan na fyddwn yn cyrraedd y targed, fod angen arian ychwanegol arnom, neu a oedd yn fodlon i'r arian fynd i rywle arall gan wybod yn ofer na chât'r targed ei gyrraedd?

Sue Essex: Cefais drafodaethau adeiladol gydag Andrew Davies, oherwydd gwelsom chwyddiant mawr mewn gwariant ar ddatblygu economaidd ers inni gael gwared ar y Torïaid yng Nghymru, diolch byth. Ers hynny, bu twf ychwanegol ac mae arian wedi dod oddi wrth Gordon Brown. Gallem roi swm sylweddol yn y gyllideb datblygu economaidd, a gynyddodd y lefel i linell sylfaen fawr iawn. Er mwyn cyflawni llawer o'n nodau datblygu economaidd, cytunodd y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth mai'r hyn sydd ei angen arnom yw buddsoddi yn yr economi wybodaeth er mwyn cefnogi'r cynlluniau a fydd yn denu swyddi mwy crefftus o ansawdd gwell. Gan droi at yr agenda sgiliau a amlinellodd Jane Davidson ddoe, gwyddom, er mwyn sicrhau bod Cymru yn symud i'r cam nesaf, fod angen inni fuddsoddi mewn addysg a sgiliau, a dyna fyrdwn y gyllideb a gyhoeddais.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad Questions to the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside

Difrod Amgylcheddol gan Gerbydau oddi ar y Ffordd Environmental Damage Caused by Off-road Vehicles

Q1 Lynne Neagle: What representations has the Minister received on the subject of environmental damage caused by off-road vehicles? OAQ0005(EPC)

C1 Lynne Neagle: Pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael ar fater y difrod amgylcheddol a achosir gan gerbydau oddi-ar-y-ffordd? OAQ0005(EPC)

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): I have received many representations on this matter. I have visited your constituency to see some of the damage caused there. A range of legislative and non-legislative measures are being taken to encourage more responsible vehicular use in the countryside.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Yr wyf wedi cael llawer o sylwadau ar y mater hwn. Yr wyf wedi ymweld â'ch etholaeth i weld rhywfaint o'r difrod a wnaed yno. Cymerir nifer o gamau deddfwriaethol ac anneddfwriaethol er mwyn annog defnydd mwy cyfrifol o gerbydau yng nghefn gwlad.

2.40 p.m.

Lynne Neagle: Thank you for visiting Torfaen last year. I hope that you were able not only to see the environmental damage, but also to hear, at first hand, the problems of anti-social behaviour in the use of these vehicles. I welcome the establishment of the steering group, which the Assembly government is supporting, to address this issue. However, my constituents would welcome an assurance that work on this issue, and the work of the steering group, will be given priority and taken forward within a tight timescale. Can you give that assurance? It is an issue which affects a range of communities throughout Torfaen, not just Penyrheol, which you visited.

Carwyn Jones: This is being taken forward with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Many areas relating to this issue are non-devolved matters. DEFRA published the UK Government's framework for action on vehicles on rights of way on 20 January. It proposes new legislation to clarify and limit vehicular access to many parts of the countryside in England and Wales. The work is moving forward.

Brynle Williams: I thank Lynne for bringing up this issue—we also have the same problem in north Wales. As you are aware, Minister, the damage done by four-wheel drive vehicles on the Horseshoe Pass is visible from space. It is all very well saying that we will have a framework for legislation, but will you commit the money and the policing resources to this problem? It is a serious issue. Can you give us a pledge this afternoon that ample funds will be made available and that there will be police resources, or some kind of resources, to implement this?

Carwyn Jones: I do not fund the police, but part of the problem that you are alluding to is that there was a perception in communities that this particular offence was traditionally given a low priority by the police and local authorities. That is no longer true, because it is now being addressed by police, local

Lynne Neagle: Diolch am ymweld â Thorfaen y llynedd. Gobeithiaf ei bod yn bosibl ichi weld nid yn unig y difrod amgylcheddol, ond hefyd i glywed, o lygad y ffynnon, y problemau o ran ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol sy'n gysylltiedig â'r defnydd o'r cerbydau hyn. Croesawaf y penderfyniad i sefydlu'r grŵp llywio, y mae llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei gefnogi, er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, byddai fy etholwyr yn ddiolchgar pe byddech yn rhoi sicrwydd iddynt y rhoddir blaenoriaeth i waith ar y mater hwn, a gwaith y grŵp llywio, ac y caiff ei ddatblygu mewn byr o dro. A allwch roi'r sicrwydd hwnnw? Mae'n fater sy'n effeithio ar nifer o gymunedau drwy Dor-faen, nid dim ond Penyrheol, y bu ichi ymweld â hi.

Carwyn Jones: Caiff hyn ei ddatblygu gan Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig. Mae llawer o feysydd sy'n ymwneud â'r mater hwn yn faterion nad ydynt yn rhai datganoledig. Cyhoeddodd DEFRA fframwaith Llywodraeth y DU ar weithredu ar gerbydau ar hawliau tramwy ar 20 Ionawr. Mae'n cynnig deddfwriaeth newydd i egluro a chyfyngu ar fynediad cerbydau i rannau sylweddol o gefn gwlad yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Mae'r gwaith yn mynd rhagddo.

Brynle Williams: Hoffwn ddiolch i Lynne am godi'r mater hwn—mae'r un broblem yn bodoli yn y Gogledd hefyd. Fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, mae'r difrod a wneir gan gerbydau gyriant pedair olwyn ar yr Oernant i'w weld o'r gofod. Mae'n ddigon hawdd dweud y bydd gennym fframwaith ar gyfer deddfwriaeth, ond a wnewch neilltuo'r arian a'r adnoddau plismona ar gyfer y broblem hon? Mae'n fater difrifol. A allwch addo'r prynhawn yma y caiff digon o arian ei ddarparu ac y bydd adnoddau'r heddlu ar gael, neu ryw fath o adnoddau, i'w weithredu?

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf yn ariannu'r heddlu, ond rhan o'r broblem y cyfeiriwch ati yw'r ffaith yr oedd cymunedau yn teimlo mai ychydig o flaenoriaeth a roddwyd i'r trosedd penodol hwn yn draddodiadol gan yr heddlu ac awdurdodau lleol. Nid yw hynny'n wir bellach, oherwydd erbyn hyn mae'r heddlu,

authorities and community safety partnerships. In many parts of Wales, police swoops on problem areas are now beginning to bear fruit.

Owen John Thomas: I have received complaints from constituents in Rhondda, Cwm Cynon, St Mellons, St Fagans, Llanrhymney and Ely regarding scrambling bikes being ridden recklessly on the highway and onto common ground, endangering the public and damaging the environment. Has the Minister held meetings with the police to seek a solution to the problems caused by this behaviour, and, if so, what solutions are being implemented?

Carwyn Jones: My officials are in contact with the police. We have increased co-operation between the police, local authorities, the Forestry Commission and the Countryside Council for Wales on this matter. We are also working with DEFRA on new guidance for local authorities and the police on how best to deal with illegal use. Local authorities also need to identify where provision might be made in their local areas for people to pursue off-road biking in a responsible and lawful manner.

awdurdodau lleol a phartneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol yn mynd i'r afael â'r mater. Mewn sawl rhan o Gymru, mae ymgyrchoedd gan yr heddlu mewn ardaloedd lle ceir problemau yn dechrau dwyn ffrwyth.

Owen John Thomas: Yr wyf wedi cael cwynion gan etholwyr yn y Rhondda, Cwm Cynon, Llaneirwg, Sain Ffagan, Llanrhymni a Threlái ynghylch beiciau sgrialu a gaiff eu gyrru'n anghyfrifol ar y briffordd a thir cyffredin, gan beryglu'r cyhoedd a difrodi'r amgylchedd. A yw'r Gweinidog wedi cynnal cyfarfodydd gyda'r heddlu i geisio dod o hyd i ateb i'r problemau a achosir gan y math hwn o ymddygiad, ac, os felly, pa atebion a gaiff eu gweithredu?

Carwyn Jones: Mae fy swyddogion mewn cysylltiad â'r heddlu. Yr ydym yn cydweithio'n fwy â'r heddlu, awdurdodau lleol, y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth a Chyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru ar y mater hwn. Yr ydym hefyd yn gweithio gyda DEFRA ar ganllawiau newydd i awdurdodau lleol a'r heddlu ar y ffordd orau i ymdrin â defnydd anghyfreithlon. Hefyd mae angen i awdurdodau lleol nodi lle y gellid gwneud darpariaeth yn eu hardaloedd lleol er mwyn i bobl gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau beicio oddi-ar-y-ffordd mewn modd cyfrifol a chyfreithlon.

Arogleuon o Weithfeydd Trin Carthion Smells from Sewage Treatment Works

Q2 Lorraine Barrett: What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to help people complain about smells from sewage treatment works? OAQ0053(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: We recently went out to consultation on a draft code of practice on odour nuisance from sewage treatment works. The aim of the code is to provide practical advice for local authorities, water companies, regulators, and the public on developing a consistent step-by-step approach to handling and investigating odour problems.

Lorraine Barrett: You may or may not be aware of the concerns of some of my constituents in Tremorfa, which is quite near to a large sewage works. The smells from

C2 Lorraine Barrett: Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i helpu pobl achwyn am arogleuon sy'n dod o waith trin carthion? OAQ0053(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Yn ddiweddar cynhaliwyd ymgynghoriad gennym ar god ymarfer drafft ar arogleuon sy'n achosi niwsans o waith trin carthion. Nod y cod yw rhoi cyngor ymarferol i awdurdodau lleol, cwmnïau dŵr, rheoleiddwyr, a'r cyhoedd ar ddatblygu ymagwedd gam wrth gam gyson tuag at ymdrin â phroblemau sy'n ymwneud ag arogleuon ac ymchwilio iddynt.

Lorraine Barrett: Efallai eich bod yn ymwybodol o'r pryderon sydd gan rai o'm hetholwyr yn Nhremorfa, sy'n eithaf agos i waith carthion mawr. Mae'r arogleuon a

that sewage works affect their quality of life, and can be a major nuisance. How will you ensure that this code of practice will be disseminated? I can tell my constituents how to access the code and what their rights are, but do you have any plans to ensure that it is disseminated throughout Wales, for my constituents in Cardiff in particular?

Carwyn Jones: Ultimately, it is for local authorities to deal with this issue: the code of practice will primarily help them in terms of dealing with any problems efficiently and consistently. It will also place the onus on water companies to ensure that they are dealing with the problem appropriately. It is probably not possible to have a sewage treatment works that is completely odour-free—I know there have been problems in my constituency with a sewage treatment works. It is important for people to know to whom they should complain, how to complain, and that the action taken is consistent across the whole of Wales. That is what I want the water companies and local authorities to do.

Lisa Francis: Residents of Llanbadarn Fawr in Aberystwyth are also kicking up a stink about the smell emanating from the Glanyrafon sewage works. You may be aware of this, and perhaps you have been unfortunate enough to smell it. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order.

Lisa Francis: A local resident has written to Dŵr Cymru 200 times and phoned over 1,000 times to complain. It has promised improvements, but, to date, none have been made. Will you promise to look into this matter, even though you may be obliged to hold your nose?

Carwyn Jones: If you write to me, I will ensure that it is investigated, so that Llanbadarn Fawr may have a sweeter perfume in future.

Eleanor Burnham: To take a different tack, given that aromatherapy oils have a beneficial aroma and that their antibacterial

ddaw o'r gwaith carthion hwnnw yn effeithio ar ansawdd eu bywyd, a gall fod yn niwsans mawr. Sut y byddwch yn sicrhau y caiff y cod ymarfer hwn ei ledaenu? Gallaf ddweud wrth fy etholwyr sut i gael gafael ar y cod a'u hysbysu o'u hawliau, ond a oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau i sicrhau ei fod yn cael ei ledaenu ledled Cymru, ar gyfer fy etholwyr yng Nghaerdydd yn arbennig?

Carwyn Jones: Yn y pen draw, awdurdodau lleol sy'n gyfrifol am ymdrin â'r mater hwn: bydd y cod ymarfer yn eu helpu'n bennaf o ran ymdrin ag unrhyw broblemau mewn modd effeithlon a chyson. Bydd hefyd yn gofyn i gwmnïau dŵr sicrhau eu bod yn ymdrin â'r broblem mewn modd priodol. Nid yw'n bosibl fwy na thebyg i gael gwaith trin carthion sy'n gwbl ddi-arogl—Gwn y bu problemau yn fy etholaeth gyda gwaith trin carthion. Mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn gwybod at bwy y dylent gyfeirio cwynion, sut i gwyno, a bod y camau gweithredu a gymerir yn gyson drwy Gymru gyfan. Dyna'r hyn yr hoffwn i'r cwmnïau dŵr ac awdurdodau lleol ei wneud.

Lisa Francis: Mae trigolion Llanbadarn Fawr yn Aberystwyth hefyd yn cwyno am yr arogl sy'n dod o waith carthion Glanyrafon. Efallai eich bod yn ymwybodol o hyn, ac efallai eich bod wedi bod yn ddigon anffodus i'w arogleuo. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Lisa Francis: Mae un o'r trigolion lleol wedi ysgrifennu at Dŵr Cymru 200 o weithiau ac wedi ffonio 1,000 o weithiau i gwyno. Mae wedi addo gwelliannau, ond, hyd yma, ni wnaed dim byd. A wnewch addo ymchwilio i'r mater, er efallai y bydd angen ichi ddal eich trwyn?

Carwyn Jones: Os ysgrifennwch ataf, gwnaf sicrhau ymchwilio i'r mater, er mwyn i Lanbadarn Fawr arolygu'n well yn y dyfodol.

Eleanor Burnham: A mynd ar drywydd arall, o ystyried bod gan olew aromatherapi arogl buddiol a bod eu manteision

and antifungal qualities have recently been confirmed by an authoritative University of Manchester study, will you advocate the use of aromatherapy or essential oils around sewage treatment works?

Carwyn Jones: I am not sure that the addition of such oils would make any difference to the smell. However, I am sure that you, as an aromatherapist, would be able to provide professional advice on that point.

gwrthfacterol a gwrthffyingol wedi'u cadarnhau'n ddiweddar gan astudiaeth awdurdodol ym Mhrifysgol Manceinion, a wnewch gefnogi'r defnydd o olew aromatherapi neu olew naws o gwmpas gweithfeydd trin carthion?

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf yn siŵr a fyddai ychwanegu olew o'r fath yn gwneud unrhyw wahaniaeth i'r drawdod. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech chi, fel aromatherapydd, yn gallu rhoi cyngor arbenigol ar y pwynt hwnnw.

Llosgi Gwastraff The Incineration of Waste

Q3 Peter Black: Will the Minister make a statement on the incineration of waste? OAQ0052(EPC)

C3 Peter Black: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am losgi gwastraff? OAQ0052(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: While other methods of waste management further up the waste hierarchy are usually to be preferred, for some wastes, incineration is an appropriate means of disposal and can also be used to create energy.

Carwyn Jones: Er bod dulliau eraill o reoli gwastraff sy'n uwch i fyny'r hierarchaeth wastraff yn fwy dymunol fel arfer, ar gyfer rhai mathau o wastraff, mae llosgi yn ddull priodol o gael gwared ar wastraff a gellir ei ddefnyddio hefyd i greu ynni.

Peter Black: Given the public opposition to incineration, and given that waste management companies on the continent have incineration targets, would you encourage local authorities to minimise the amount of waste incinerated, and will you set targets on the recycling and reuse of waste in order to discourage the use of incineration?

Peter Black: O ystyried y gwrthwynebiad ymhlith y cyhoedd tuag at losgi gwastraff, ac o ystyried bod gan gwmnïau rheoli gwastraff ar y cyfandir dargedau llosgi, a fydddech yn annog awdurdodau lleol i losgi cyn lleied o wastraff â phosibl, ac a wnewch bennu targedau ar gyfer ailgylchu ac aildefnyddio gwastraff er mwyn annog awdurdodau lleol i beidio â llosgi gwastraff?

Carwyn Jones: We have recycling targets, which have been met and which will be increased in future. As I said earlier, incineration is further down the list in terms of the waste hierarchy. However, it is unavoidable, and some waste will continue to be incinerated for the foreseeable future. It is inevitable that people living close to incineration sites will be concerned about the process. That is human nature. We cannot avoid the fact that some incineration will be required. On a visit to the Isle of Man over a year ago, I was taken to see an energy-from-waste plant that was under construction. This plant was being built because all the landfill facilities had been used. Incineration is not the main method of waste disposal that we

Carwyn Jones: Mae gennym dargedau ailgylchu, a gyrhaeddwyd ac a gaiff eu cynyddu yn y dyfodol. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae llosgi gwastraff yn is i lawr y rhestr o ran yr hierarchaeth wastraff. Fodd bynnag, ni ellir ei osgoi, a bydd rhywfaint o wastraff yn parhau i gael ei losgi hyd y gellir rhagweld. Mae'n anochel y bydd pobl sy'n byw gerllaw safleoedd llosgi yn pryderu am y broses. Mae hynny'n naturiol. Ni allwn osgoi'r ffaith y bydd angen llosgi rhywfaint o wastraff. Yn ystod ymweliad ag Ynys Manaw dros flwyddyn yn ôl, trefnwyd imi weld gwaith ynni-o-wastraff a oedd yn cael ei adeiladu. Yr oedd angen adeiladu'r gwaith hwn oherwydd bod yr holl gyfleusterau tirlenwi wedi'u defnyddio. Nid llosgi

seek to promote in Wales, but it will continue to be used for the foreseeable future.

gwastraff yw'r prif ddull o waredu gwastraff yr ydym am ei hyrwyddo yng Nghymru, ond byddwn yn parhau i'w ddefnyddio hyd y gellir rhagweld.

Alun Cairns: You will be aware that the Environment Agency has refused permission to use the last phase of the Tir John landfill site in Swansea. Incineration may well become the likely alternative. What action are you taking to negotiate with the Environment Agency and the local authority in order to resolve the agency's issues in relation to opening the last phase of the Tir John site?

Alun Cairns: Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r ffaith bod Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi gwrthod rhoi caniatâd i ddefnyddio cam olaf safle tirlenwi Tir John yn Abertawe. Mae'n bosibl mai llosgi gwastraff fydd y dewis tebygol arall. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i gynnal trafodaethau gydag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a'r awdurdod lleol er mwyn datrys materion yr asiantaeth mewn perthynas ag agor cam olaf safle Tir John?

Carwyn Jones: It would be inappropriate for me to get involved in this case. It is for the Environment Agency, as an arm's-length body, to determine whether or not a landfill site should be used. It is for the operator of the landfill site to satisfy the Environment Agency that the site is suitable. As far as the refusal to re-license this part of the site is concerned, it is my understanding that this does not create much difficulty in terms of disposing of waste elsewhere. However, identifying a solution or deciding not to re-license the site is rightly a matter for the Environment Agency and the operator.

Carwyn Jones: Ni fyddai'n briodol imi ymwneud â'r achos hwn. Cyfrifoldeb Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd, fel corff hyd braich, yw penderfynu p'un a ddylid defnyddio safle tirlenwi ai peidio. Cyfrifoldeb gweithredwr y safle tirlenwi yw bodloni Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd fod y safle yn addas. O ran y penderfyniad i wrthod ail-drwyddedu'r rhan hon o'r safle, deallaf nad yw hyn yn peri gormod o anhawster o ran gwaredu gwastraff rywle arall. Fodd bynnag, mater i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a'r gweithredwr yw nodi ateb neu benderfynu ail-drwyddedu'r safle.

David Lloyd: Mae gwaredu gwastraff yn broblem yn Abertawe gan fod y safleoedd tirlenwi lleol bron yn llawn. Sut y bwriadwch hyrwyddo mwy o ailgylchu yn Abertawe?

David Lloyd: Waste disposal is a particular problem in Swansea as the local landfill sites are almost full. How will you encourage more recycling in Swansea?

Carwyn Jones: Mae safle ailgylchu Tywyn Crymlyn yn ardal Castell-nedd a Phort Talbot yn agos at Abertawe. Mae'r safle yn un pwysig, ac yr ydym am weld mwy o safleoedd ailgylchu'n agor ar draws y wlad. Mae pethau wedi mynd yn dda hyd yn hyn, a'n bwriad yw sicrhau bod llai o wastraff yn mynd i safleoedd tirlenwi ac felly yn cael ei waredu mewn ffordd anghynaliadwy, er y byddwn yn parhau i ddefnyddio safleoedd tirlenwi i raddau.

Carwyn Jones: The Crymlyn Burrows recycling plant in the Neath Port Talbot area is not far from Swansea. This is an important site, and we want to see more recycling sites opening across Wales. Things have gone well to date, and our aim is to ensure that less waste is sent to landfill and thus disposed of in an unsustainable way, although landfill will continue to be used to a certain extent.

Datblygu Gwledig Rural Development

C4 Ieuan Wyn Jones: Pa gynlluniau newydd y mae'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu eu cyflwyno yn y 12 mis nesaf ar gyfer datblygu

Q4 Ieuan Wyn Jones: What new plans for rural development does the Minister intend to introduce in the next 12 months?

gwledig? OAQ0033(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Erbyn hyn, mae'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd wedi cyhoeddi fersiwn drafft o'r rheoliad datblygu gwledig, ac mae trafodaethau yn mynd rhagddynt ar lefel Ewropeaidd. Yr ydym yn disgwyl y bydd cynllun datblygu gwledig newydd ar gyfer Cymru yn cael ei baratoi erbyn 2007.

2.50 p.m.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol mai un peth sy'n cael effaith andwyol ar yr economi wledig yw prisiau llaeth. Gwyddoch fod prisiau'n isel ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r undebau amaethyddol yn dweud wrthyf yw eu bod yn cael trafodaethau gydag archfarchnadoedd a chyrff cydweithredol ynglŷn â chytuno ar gynnydd o 3c ym mhris llaeth, a fyddai'n golygu bod 1.5c yn mynd i'r cynhyrchwyr ac 1.5c i'r proseswyr. Fodd bynnag, maent ar ddeall bod y Swyddfa Masnachu Teg yn dechrau ymyrryd yn y trafodaethau hynny, cyn y gallant gael y cytundeb. A ydych yn ymwybodol o'r ymyrraeth honno, ac a ydych wedi cael trafodaethau â'ch cyd-Weinidog yn Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig i sicrhau bod y cynnydd hwn yn dod i ffermwyr a chynhyrchwyr? Fel arall, bydd mwy o ffermwyr Cymru yn gadael y diwydiant llaeth.

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf wedi clywed hynny. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yr undebau yn sicrhau eu bod yn dweud wrthyf, os yw hynny wedi digwydd. Mae gennyf gyfarfod gydag Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru ddydd Llun, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn codi'r mater hwnnw bryd hynny, a chawn weld beth yn union yw'r sefyllfa.

Christine Chapman: What encouragement can be given to Welsh farmers to sell their produce more widely in urban areas? There have been some good examples recently of French and Italian markets coming to the Valleys in places such as Mountain Ash and Pontypridd. Do you agree that Welsh farmers should be proactive in introducing Welsh markets into these areas? That would surely help the rural economy to further develop by maximising the potential benefit of the consumer base in urban areas.

OAQ0033(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: The European Commission has now published a revised draft of the rural development regulation, and negotiations have commenced on the European level. We expect that a new rural development plan for Wales will be prepared by 2007.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am sure that you are aware that one factor that has a detrimental effect on the rural economy is the price of milk. You know that prices are low at present. Farming unions tell me that they are in negotiation with supermarkets and co-operatives regarding agreeing an increase of 3p in the price of milk, which would mean the producers getting 1.5p and the processors getting 1.5p. However, they are given to understand that the Office of Fair Trading is starting to interfere in those negotiations, before they can reach agreement. Are you aware of that interference, and have you had any discussions with your ministerial colleague in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to ensure that this increase is paid to farmers and producers? Otherwise, more Welsh farmers will leave the dairy industry.

Carwyn Jones: I have not heard that. I am sure that the unions will ensure that they inform me if that has happened. I have a meeting with the Farmers' Union of Wales on Monday, and I am sure that it will raise that issue with me then, and we will see exactly what the position is.

Christine Chapman: Pa anogaeth y gellir ei rhoi i ffermwyr yng Nghymru er mwyn iddynt werthu eu cynnyrch yn ehangach mewn ardaloedd trefol? Cafwyd rhai enghreifftiau da yn ddiweddar o farchnadoedd o Ffrainc a'r Eidal yn dod i'r Cymoedd mewn lleoedd fel Aberpennar a Phontypridd. A gytunwch y dylai ffermwyr yng Nghymru fod yn rhagweithiol wrth gyflwyno marchnadoedd i'r ardaloedd hyn i werthu eu cynnyrch eu hunain? Mae'n siŵr y byddai hynny'n helpu'r economi wledig i

ddatblygu ymhellach drwy fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y sylfaen defnyddwyr mewn ardaloedd trefol.

Carwyn Jones: I could not agree more. In my home town of Bridgend, we have been trying for a long time to get a farmers' market. However, the charter that the present market has in the town forbids that from happening in the town centre, unless the market traders agree. We are in negotiation to see whether that agreement can be forthcoming and the fears of some of the market traders can be reduced. However, French and continental markets are an increasing feature of many of our town centres, and Bridgend is one of them. It is sad that we cannot sell Welsh produce in the middle of Bridgend, even though we can sell French produce. I would encourage farmers' markets to develop further in urban areas, because it also helps to renew the link between urban and rural areas, and to facilitate understanding between them.

Carwyn Jones: Cytunaf yn llwyr. Yn fy nhref enedigol i sef Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, yr ydym wedi bod yn ceisio sefydlu marchnad ffermwyr ers amser maith. Fodd bynnag, mae'r siarter sydd gan y farchnad bresennol yn y dref yn gwahardd hynny rhag digwydd yng nghanol y dref, oni bai fod y masnachwyr yn cytuno ar hynny. Yr ydym wrthi'n cynnal trafodaethau er mwyn gweld pa un a ellid sicrhau'r cytundeb hwnnw a lleihau pryderon rhai o'r masnachwyr. Fodd bynnag, mae marchnadoedd o Ffrainc a'r cyfandir yn dod yn fwy amlwg mewn llawer o'n trefi, ac mae Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn un ohonynt. Mae'n drist na allwn werthu cynnyrch Cymreig yng nghanol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, er y gallwn werthu cynnyrch Ffrengig. Byddwn yn annog marchnadoedd ffermwyr i ddatblygu ymhellach mewn ardaloedd trefol, oherwydd mae hefyd yn helpu i adnewyddu'r cysylltiad rhwng ardaloedd trefol a gwledig, ac i hwyluso dealltwriaeth rhyngddynt.

Glyn Davies: An important matter impacting on development in rural Wales is the Hunting with Dogs Bill 2004. It is now clear that, under section 2.2, it is possible that the National Assembly could be allowed to amend the exempt hunting section of this Act. What steps have you taken to bring this sensible change about, and will you commit yourself to doing everything possible to persuade your Labour colleagues at Westminster to bring this sensible change about, so that we can implement this Act in a way that is appropriate to Wales?

Glyn Davies: Mater pwysig sy'n effeithio ar ddatblygu Cymru wledig yw Mesur Hela gyda Chŵn 2004. Mae bellach yn glir, o dan adran 2.2, ei bod yn bosibl y gellid caniatáu i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ddiwygio adran y Ddeddf hon sy'n ymwneud â mathau o hela sydd wedi'u heithrio. Pa gamau yr ydych wedi eu cymryd i gyflwyno'r newid synhwyrol hwn, ac a wnewch ymrwymo i wneud popeth o fewn eich gallu i ddarbwylllo eich cyd-aelodau Llafur yn San Steffan i gyflwyno'r newid synhwyrol hwn, er mwyn inni allu gweithredu'r Ddeddf hon mewn ffordd sy'n briodol i Gymru?

Carwyn Jones: I am not convinced that there is a link between rural development and hunting. The matter has been resolved at Westminster, and we do not have devolved powers to deal with hunting outside limited circumstances. If you believe that the law allows us to have much more flexibility than is our understanding, I would be interested to debate that point with you.

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf wedi fy narbwylllo bod cysylltiad rhwng datblygu gwledig a hela. Penderfynwyd ar y mater yn San Steffan, ac nid oes gennym bwerau datganoledig i ymdrin â hela y tu hwnt i amgylchiadau penodol. Os credwch fod y gyfraith yn caniatáu inni gael llawer mwy o hyblygrwydd na'r hyn a ddeallwn, byddai gennyf ddiddordeb mewn trafod y pwynt hwnnw gyda chi.

Cyflwr y 90 Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig
The Condition of the 90 Special Areas of Conservation

Q5 Helen Mary Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the condition of the 90 special areas of conservation that have been recently confirmed by the European Union as of international importance? OAQ0029(EPC)

C5 Helen Mary Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyflwr y 90 ardal cadwraeth arbennig y mae'r Undeb Ewropeaidd wedi cadarnhau yn ddiweddar bod iddynt bwysigrwydd rhyngwladol? OAQ0029(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: They include a total of 352 habitat and species features listed in annexes I and II of the habitats directive. Of the 126 terrestrial and freshwater features that have been assessed, 49 were in favourable or recovering condition, and 77 were in unfavourable condition.

Carwyn Jones: Maent yn cynnwys cyfanswm o 352 o gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau a restrir yn atodiad I a II y gyfarwyddeb cynefinoedd. O blith y 126 o fannau daearol a dŵr croyw a gafodd eu hasesu, yr oedd 49 mewn cyflwr ffafriol neu'n gwella, ac yr oedd 77 mewn cyflwr anffafriol.

Helen Mary Jones: I am sure that you would agree that that is an unacceptable state of affairs. What plans are you developing to bring all those special areas of conservation up to favourable conservation status, and what additional resources will you make available to enable that work to be undertaken?

Helen Mary Jones: Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno nad yw'r sefyllfa hon yn dderbyniol. Pa gynlluniau yr ydych yn eu datblygu i sicrhau bod yr holl ardaloedd cadwraeth arbennig hynny yn cyflawni statws cadwraeth ffafriol, a pha adnoddau ychwanegol a ddarperir gennych er mwyn ei gwneud yn bosibl i ymgymryd â'r gwaith hwnnw?

Carwyn Jones: Classifying a habitat as unfavourable does not imply that it is damaged, or that all parts of it are necessarily in a poor state. However, it indicates that a significant proportion of the land needs management attention. There is funding available through the European Community's life nature fund. The Countryside Council for Wales is also looking at what can be done to improve management in SACs.

Carwyn Jones: Nid yw dosbarthu cynefin fel un anffafriol yn awgrymu ei fod wedi cael ei difrodi, neu bod pob rhan ohono mewn cyflwr gwael o reidrwydd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n dynodi bod angen rheoli cyfran sylweddol o'r tir. Mae arian ar gael drwy gronfa natur bywyd y Gymuned Ewropeaidd. Mae Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru hefyd yn edrych ar yr hyn y gellir ei wneud i wella'r broses o reoli ardaloedd cadwraeth arbennig.

Laura Anne Jones: As you are aware, work has begun on dualling the Heads of the Valleys road between Abergavenny and Merthyr Tydfil. It is expected that the road will run through the Clydach gorge, which has SAC status. If this is the case, what does SAC status actually mean? It seems that, in this case, having SAC status has not protected the area. Can you enlighten me as to what, exactly, it is for?

Laura Anne Jones: Fel y gwyddoch, mae gwaith wedi dechrau ar ddeuoli ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd rhwng y Fenni a Merthyr Tudful. Disgwylir i'r ffordd redeg drwy geunant Clydach, sydd â statws ACA. Os yw hynny'n wir, beth mae statws ACA yn ei olygu mewn gwirionedd? Yn yr achos hwn, ymddengys nad yw cael statws ACA wedi diogelu'r ardal. A allwch fy ngoleuo o ran ei ddiben?

Carwyn Jones: SAC status provides areas of land with increased protection in terms of planning law in particular and increased

Carwyn Jones: Mae statws ACA yn rhoi mwy o ddiogelwch i ardaloedd o dir o ran cyfraith gynllunio yn arbennig a mwy o

requirements with regard to any planning application made on such land. The Countryside Council for Wales assesses road schemes, and you will recall that the First Minister had the experience of meeting someone counting bats near Dolgellau on the A487. These measures are taken to ensure that, where new works are proposed, the effect on wildlife is minimised.

Carl Sargeant: While I recognise that sites of special scientific interest and SAC sites are important issues, we are disaffected by European legislation. Some countries do not apply such designation to harbours, ports or other areas. With regard to the long-awaited decision on dredging facilities for the port of Mostyn affecting Airbus at Broughton, could your office, with your Cabinet colleagues, look at this matter and inform us of when this decision will be made?

Carwyn Jones: The port of Mostyn issue is complex that involves several bodies. However, I can categorically state that the Assembly is not trying to delay the decision, as was suggested in a letter that I read in yesterday's *Daily Post*. It is in everyone's interest to reach a satisfactory conclusion with regard to the port of Mostyn, but these matters can take time given that several environmental issues must be resolved.

Mick Bates: You will be aware of the possible conflict in the development of the Montgomery canal. Although it is defined as a SAC, there is a demand to use it as a canal. Is it possible to use barges on a canal that is specified as a site of special scientific interest and thereby disturb that habitat? Is that legal under the habitat regulations?

Carwyn Jones: That requires further research as it involves CCW and the British Waterways Board, which is a non-devolved organisation. It is CCW, however, that can give specialist advice on the specific example that you gave.

ofynion o ran unrhyw gais cynllunio a wneir ar dir o'r fath. Mae Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru yn asesu cynlluniau ffyrdd, ac fe cofiwch i'r Prif Weinidog gwrrd â rhywun yn cyfrif ystlumod ger Dolgellau ar yr A487. Cymerir y camau hyn er mwyn sicrhau bod gwaith newydd arfaethedig yn cael yr effaith leiaf posibl ar fywyd gwyllt.

Carl Sargeant: Er fy mod yn cydnabod bod safleoedd o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig a safleoedd ACA yn faterion pwysig, nid ydym yn fodlon ar ddeddfwriaeth Ewropeaidd. Nid yw rhai gwledydd yn cymhwysu dynodiad o'r fath i harbwr, porthladdoedd neu ardaloedd eraill. O ran y penderfyniad hirddisgwyliedig ar gyfleusterau carthu ar gyfer porthladd Mostyn sy'n effeithio ar Airbus ym Mrychdwn, a allai eich swyddfa, gyda'ch cyd-weinidogion yn y Cabinet, edrych ar y mater hwn a dweud wrthym pryd y gwneir y penderfyniad hwn?

Carwyn Jones: Mae mater porthladd Mostyn yn gymhleth ac yn cynnwys sawl corff. Fodd bynnag, gallaf eich sicrhau nad yw'r Cynulliad yn ceisio oedi'r penderfyniad, fel yr awgrymwyd mewn llythyr a ddarllenais yn y *Daily Post* ddoe. Mae dod i gasgliad boddhaol o ran porthladd Mostyn er budd pawb, ond gall y materion hyn gymryd amser o ystyried y ffaith bod angen datrys sawl mater amgylcheddol.

Mick Bates: Fe wyddoch am y gwrthdaro posibl o ran datblygu camlas Trefaldwyn. Er y caiff ei diffinio fel ardal cadwraeth arbennig, ceir galw i'w defnyddio fel camlas. A yw'n bosibl defnyddio cychod camlas ar gamlas a ddynodir yn safle o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig ac felly amharu ar y cynefin? A yw hynny'n gyfreithlon o dan y rheoliadau cynefinoedd?

Carwyn Jones: Mae angen gwneud gwaith ymchwil pellach ar hynny oherwydd mae'n cynnwys Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru a Bwrdd Dyfrffyrdd Prydain, sy'n sefydliad annatganoledig. Fodd bynnag, Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru a all roi cyngor arbenigol ar yr enghraifft benodol a roddwyd gennyh.

The Presiding Officer: Question 6, **Y Llywydd:** Tynnwyd cwestiwn 6,

OAQ0049(EPC), has been withdrawn.

OAQ0049(EPC) yn ôl.

Gwerth Ymwybyddiaeth Amgylcheddol The Value of Environmental Awareness

Q7 Val Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on promoting the value of environmental awareness? OAQ0008(EPC)

C7 Val Lloyd: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am hybu gwerth ymwybyddiaeth o'r amgylchedd? OAQ0008(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: It is exceptionally important that we appreciate our environment as well as the impact that we can have on it and how we might minimise that. Recently, I have facilitated the development of an ongoing environment strategy, so that we can provide the people of Wales with a vision of what we think an environment strategy should look like in the future.

Carwyn Jones: Mae'n hynod o bwysig ein bod yn gwerthfawrogi ein hamgylchedd yn ogystal â'r effaith y gallwn ei chael arno a sut y gallem leihau'r effaith honno. Yn ddiweddar, yr wyf wedi hwyluso'r gwaith o ddatblygu strategaeth ar gyfer yr amgylchedd, sy'n mynd rhagddo, er mwyn inni allu rhoi gweledigaeth i bobl Cymru o'r ffordd y dylai strategaeth ar gyfer yr amgylchedd gael ei llunio, yn ein barn ni, yn y dyfodol.

Val Lloyd: I welcome your reply. To move slightly away from that, I welcome the Assembly's success in a media campaign involving young children to spread the message that we must all recycle. Recent figures show that recycling is on the increase across Wales. Do you agree that these positive statistics prove that our approach to the promotion of environmental awareness—starting with schools—is working, and that by educating our children about the value of recycling, we are laying the foundation for an environmentally friendly generation?

Val Lloyd: Croesawaf eich ymateb. Gan newid y pwnc rywfaint, croesawaf lwyddiant y Cynulliad mewn ymgyrch yn y cyfryngau sy'n cynnwys plant ifanc yn lledaenu'r neges bod rhaid i bob un ohonom ailgylchu. Dengys ffigurau diweddar fod ailgylchu ar gynnydd ledled Cymru. A gytunwch fod yr ystadegau cadarnhaol hyn yn profi bod ein hymagwedd tuag at hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth amgylcheddol—gan ddechrau gydag ysgolion—yn gweithio, a'n bod, drwy addysgu ein plant ynghylch gwerth ailgylchu, yn gosod y sylfaen ar gyfer cenhedlaeth sy'n gofalu am yr amgylchedd?

Carwyn Jones: That is absolutely right, Val. I am impressed by the enthusiasm of children in schools for recycling and the environment, and it bodes well for us.

Carwyn Jones: Mae hynny'n hollol gywir, Val. Mae brwdfrydedd plant ysgol tuag at ailgylchu a'r amgylchedd wedi gwneud argraff arnaf, ac mae'n argoeli'n dda inni.

Janet Ryder: Promoting awareness of the environment stretches beyond individuals to include companies. When you reach the checkout in the supermarket, it is interesting to look at all the extra packaging that you will take home. What must we do to alter businesses' approach to packaging, to make them fully aware that the amount of packaging currently used is more than what we need and must be reduced for the good of everyone?

Janet Ryder: Mae hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth o'r amgylchedd yn mynd y tu hwnt i unigolion ac yn cynnwys cwmnïau. Pan gyrhaeddwch y man talu mewn archfarchnad, mae'n ddiddorol sylwi ar yr holl ddeunydd pecynnu ychwanegol y mae'n rhaid ichi fynd adref ag ef. Beth y mae'n rhaid inni ei wneud i newid ymagwedd busnesau tuag at becynnu, i'w gwneud yn hollol ymwybodol o'r ffaith eu bod yn defnyddio mwy o ddeunydd pecynnu ar hyn o bryd nag sydd ei angen arnom a bod yn rhaid ei leihau er budd pawb?

Carwyn Jones: I spent much of Christmas trying to unpack various children's toys. It probably took more time to get them out of the boxes and take away the packaging than it did to put them together in the first place. You are absolutely right that there are problems with packaging which will need to be addressed in future at a UK level, particularly, where the power lies. Nevertheless, there are packaging regulations in place and the Environment Agency prosecutes companies which breach those packaging regulations.

Carwyn Jones: Treuliais ran helaeth o'r Nadolig yn ceisio agor teganau plant amrywiol. Cymerodd mwy o amser i'w tynnu allan o'r bocsys, siŵr o fod, na'r amser a gymerodd i'w rhoi at ei gilydd yn y lle cyntaf. Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle bod problemau gyda deunydd pecynnu y bydd angen mynd i'r afael â hwy yn y dyfodol ar lefel y DU, yn arbennig, lle mae'r pwerau ar gael. Serch hynny, ceir rheoliadau pecynnu ac mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn erlyn cwmnïau sy'n torri'r rheoliadau pecynnu hynny.

3.00 p.m.

In terms of supermarkets and plastic bags, in particular, there is merit in looking at what has been done in the Republic of Ireland where reinforced paper bags rather than plastic bags are increasingly used in supermarkets. Again, this needs to be taken forward at a UK level due to the taxation questions involved. We are keen to work with supermarkets in Wales and we are now moving forward to see whether or not we can implement a voluntary scheme where the use of plastic bags is minimised. Some supermarkets already recycle plastic bags but there is still more to be done.

O ran archfarchnadoedd a bagiau plastig, yn arbennig, byddai'n fuddiol edrych ar yr hyn a wnaed yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon lle defnyddir bagiau papur wedi'u hatgyfnerthu yn hytrach na bagiau plastig yn gynyddol mewn archfarchnadoedd. Unwaith eto, mae angen datblygu hyn ar lefel y DU oherwydd y cwestiynau a geir ynghylch trethiant. Yr ydym yn awyddus i weithio gydag archfarchnadoedd yng Nghymru ac yr ydym bellach yn symud ymlaen i weld pa un a allwn gyflwyno cynllun gwirfoddol lle caiff y defnydd o fagiau plastig ei leihau. Mae rhai archfarchnadoedd eisoes yn ailgylchu bagiau plastig ond mae rhagor i'w wneud o hyd.

Cael Gwared ar Wastraff Niwclear The Disposal of Nuclear Waste

Q8 Janet Davies: Can the Minister make a statement on disposal of nuclear waste in Wales? OAQ0030(EPC)

C8 Janet Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gael gwared â gwastraff niwclear yng Nghymru? OAQ0030(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: The disposal of nuclear waste from our three licensed nuclear sites authorised for such disposal is tightly regulated and controlled by the HM Nuclear Installation Inspectorate and by the Environment Agency.

Carwyn Jones: Caiff y broses o gael gwared â gwastraff niwclear o'n tri safle niwclear trwyddedig a awdurdodir i gael gwared â gwastraff o'r fath ei rheoleiddio a'i rheoli'n ofalus gan Arolygiaeth Gosodiadau Niwclear EM ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd.

Janet Davies: A UK White Paper on energy states that it does not rule out the possibility that, at some point in the future, new nuclear build might be necessary if we are to meet the carbon targets. Given the fact that the National Assembly does not have planning powers for energy over 50 mw, what discussions are you having with your UK

Janet Davies: Yn ôl Papur Gwyn y DU ar ynni nid yw'n diystyru'r posibilrwydd y gallai fod angen adeiladu gorsafod niwclear newydd, rywbryd yn y dyfodol, er mwyn cyflawni targedau carbon. O ystyried y ffaith nad oes gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol bwerau cynllunio ar gyfer ynni dros 50 mw, pa drafodaethau yr ydych yn eu

counterparts with regard to this possibility, and how would you see the disposal of waste from any such new build managed safely both for the short and long-term?

Carwyn Jones: There are no concrete proposals yet for new nuclear power stations in Wales. In 2010, we may find that we do not have any operational nuclear power stations in Wales. It is right to say that one problem with nuclear power is finding somewhere to put the waste. Finding sites is never popular—people will inevitably protest against any site which might be used for the disposal of nuclear waste. There are no plans to look for such sites or for new nuclear power stations in Wales. If such a situation arises, we will have to consider it carefully.

Mark Isherwood: Taking into account both the difference of opinion over nuclear waste between the Trades Union Congress Wales and Friends of the Earth Cymru, and the debate over nuclear waste storage at Trawsfynydd, what consideration have you given to research highlighted at the current Birmingham Thinktank exhibition showing that we have the capability to reprocess waste with fewer risks?

Carwyn Jones: Nothing is without risk: everything carries a certain amount of risk. In terms of processing nuclear waste, it is right to say that at Trawsfynydd, there is currently a treatment and storage facility which deals with the intermediate level of waste which that power station produced. I am aware of strong feelings about how energy is generated and I have no doubt that there would be exceptionally strong feelings if a nuclear waste facility were proposed to be sited anywhere in Wales.

Cronfeydd Dŵr Llanisien a Llys-faen The Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoir Sites

Q9 Owen John Thomas: What discussions has the Minister had regarding the protection of the environment of the Llanishen and Lisvane reservoir sites? OAQ0069(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: These issues are principally

cynnal gyda'ch cyd-Weinidogion yn y DU o ran y posibilrwydd hwn, a sut y byddech yn rheoli'r broses o gael gwared â gwastraff o unrhyw orsaf newydd o'r fath yn ddiogel yn y byrdymor a'r hirdymor?

Carwyn Jones: Ni cheir unrhyw gynigion pendant eto ar gyfer gorsafoedd ynni niwclear newydd yng Nghymru. Yn 2010, efallai na fydd gennym unrhyw orsafoedd ynni niwclear gweithredol yng Nghymru. Mae'n gywir dweud mai un broblem gydag ynni niwclear yw dod o hyd i rywle i roi'r gwastraff. Nid yw dod o hyd i safleoedd byth yn boblogaidd—yn anochel bydd pobl yn gwrthwynebu unrhyw safle y gellid ei ddefnyddio i gael gwared â gwastraff niwclear. Ni fwriedir edrych am safleoedd o'r fath na gorsafoedd ynni niwclear newydd yng Nghymru. Os bydd sefyllfa o'r fath yn codi, bydd angen inni ei hystyried yn ofalus.

Mark Isherwood: Gan ystyried y gwahaniaeth barn o ran gwastraff niwclear rhwng Cyngres Undebau Llafur Cymru a Chyfeillion y Ddaear Cymru, a'r ddadl dros storio gwastraff niwclear yn Nhrawsfynydd, i ba raddau yr ydych wedi ystyried yr ymchwil a amlygwyd yn yr arddangosfa ddiweddar yn Thinktank Birmingham a ddangosodd ei bod yn bosibl inni ailbroseu gwastraff gan beri llai o risgiau?

Carwyn Jones: Ceir elfen o risg ym mhopeth. O ran prosesu gwastraff niwclear, mae'n gywir dweud bod gan Drawsfynydd gyfleuster trin a storio ar hyn o bryd sy'n ymdrin â'r lefel ganolraddol o wastraff a gynhyrchir gan yr orsaf ynni honno. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o deimladau cryf ynghylch y ffordd y caiff ynni ei greu ac nid oes amheuaeth gennyf y byddai teimladau cryf iawn pe byddai cyfleuster gwastraff niwclear yn cael ei gynnig mewn rhan arall o Gymru.

C9 Owen John Thomas: Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael ynghylch diogelu amgylchedd cronfeydd dwr Llanisien a Llys-faen? OAQ0069(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Materion ar gyfer

for landowners, Cardiff County Council and the Countryside Council for Wales to consider.

Owen John Thomas: In 1972, Lisvane reservoir was designated as a site of special scientific interest, to protect the wintering and migratory birds such as tufted ducks and mallards. Similar birds can also be found at Llanishen reservoir but their habitat is now threatened by the developer's bulldozers to build 150 houses on the land. Do you agree that there is no logical reason why the Llanishen site should not be granted SSSI status already held by the Lisvane site?

Carwyn Jones: I am aware of the strong feelings that exist about this site. I saw my colleague, Sue Essex, speaking to a number of people at the site—as a good constituency Assembly Member, of course. Given the fact that this is likely to end up as a planning matter, it would be inappropriate for me to comment at this stage, lest the matter be called-in or comes before the planning decision committee.

David Melding: I realise that you cannot talk about a specific case, but, in an urban environment, there is always a balance to be struck between tranquil areas that can be preserved and bringing on-stream other brownfield sites. Cardiff has an outstanding record due to the development of the bay and the vast amount of land that is coming into play. Do you agree that we should concentrate on building on brownfield sites?

Carwyn Jones: We would certainly encourage building on brownfield sites and reusing land in that way. However, planning applications can be made on any site by any person or any company, even if they do not own the site. How those applications are determined is then an issue for either local authorities or for the National Assembly. Any application that may be put before the local authority regarding the Llanishen reservoir site would inevitably at some stage be considered by me or by the planning decision committee. It would not be right for me to prejudice any planning application.

perchenogion tir, Cyngor Sir Caerdydd a Chyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru i'w hystyried yw'r rhain yn bennaf.

Owen John Thomas: Yn 1972, dynodwyd cronfa ddŵr Llys-faen fel safle o ddi-ddordeb gwyddonol arbennig, er mwyn diogelu'r adar gaeafu a mudol megis hwyaid copog a hwyaid gwylltion. Ceir adar tebyg hefyd yng nghronfa ddŵr Llanisien ond caiff eu cynefin ei beryglu bellach gan deirw dur y datblygwyr er mwyn adeiladu 150 o dai ar y tir. A gytunwch nad oes unrhyw reswm dros beidio â rhoi statws safle o ddi-ddordeb gwyddonol arbennig i safle Llanisien fel sydd gan safle Llys-faen eisoes?

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r teimladau cryf ynghylch y safle hwn. Gwelais fy nghyd-Aelod, Sue Essex, yn siarad â nifer o bobl ar y safle—fel Aelod Cynulliad etholaethol da, wrth gwrs. O gofio'r ffaith ei bod yn debygol y bydd yn fater cynllunio, ni fyddai'n briodol imi roi sylw ar hyn o bryd, rhag ofn i'r mater gael ei alw i mewn neu rhag ofn iddo ddod gerbron y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio.

David Melding: Deallaf na allwch siarad am achos penodol, ond, mewn amgylchedd trefol, mae angen sicrhau cydbwysedd bob amser rhwng ardaloedd llonydd y gellir eu cadw a defnyddio safleoedd tir llwyd eraill. Mae gan Gaerdydd record ragorol oherwydd datblygu'r bae a'r ardaloedd helaeth o dir sy'n cael eu defnyddio eto. A gytunwch y dylem ganolbwyntio ar adeiladu ar safleoedd tir llwyd?

Carwyn Jones: Yn sicr byddem yn annog adeiladu ar safleoedd tir llwyd ac ailddefnyddio tir yn y ffordd honno. Fodd bynnag, gellir gwneud ceisiadau cynllunio ar gyfer unrhyw safle gan unrhyw un neu unrhyw gwmni, hyd yn oed os nad ydynt yn berchen ar y safle. Mae'r modd y penderfynir ar y ceisiadau hynny yna'n fater i naill ai awdurdodau lleol neu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Yn anochel, byddai unrhyw gais y gellid ei roi gerbron yr awdurdod lleol o ran cronfa ddŵr Llanisien yn cael ei ystyried gennyf fi neu'r pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio ar ryw adeg. Ni fyddai'n briodol imi ragfarnu unrhyw gais cynllunio.

Poblogaethau Cornicyllod ym Mlaenau'r Cymoedd
Lapwing Populations in the Heads of the Valleys

Q10 Jocelyn Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on lapwing populations in the Heads of the Valleys? OAQ0026(EPC)

C10 Jocelyn Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y poblogaethau o gornicyllod ym Mlaenau'r Cymoedd? OAQ0026(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: The lapwing population in the Heads of the Valleys is one of the largest such populations in Wales. The lapwing is vulnerable, as only a few sites meet its specific habitat requirements. However, a partnership between Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, the Welsh Development Agency and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is considering additional sites for breeding lapwings in the area.

Carwyn Jones: Mae'r boblogaeth o gornicyllod ym Mlaenau'r Cymoedd ymhlith un o'r poblogaethau mwyaf o'i math yng Nghymru. Mae'r cornicyll mewn perygl, oherwydd dim ond ychydig o safleoedd sy'n bodloni gofynion penodol ei gynefin. Fodd bynnag, mae partneriaeth rhwng Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent, Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a'r Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Gwarchod Adar yn ystyried safleoedd ychwanegol i gornicyllod sy'n bridio yn yr ardal.

Jocelyn Davies: The lapwing population is reducing drastically. What plans do you have to do something to ensure that the population is maintained? [*Interruption.*]

Jocelyn Davies: Mae'r boblogaeth cornicyllod yn lleihau'n gyflym. Beth y bwriadwch ei wneud er mwyn sicrhau y cynhelir y boblogaeth? [*Torri ar draws.*]

Carwyn Jones: The birds are called lapwings or peewits. I had a meeting yesterday with the RSPB and this issue was discussed. It is clear that there is no easy solution. However, I want to work with the RSPB to find ways of increasing the habitat of lapwings. There has recently been a successful programme to increase the number of black grouse in Wales. Clearly, the number of lapwings has dropped quite dramatically over the past 10 or 15 years and we want provide more habitats for the species by working with the RSPB.

Carwyn Jones: Gelwir yr adar yn gornicyllod neu'n gornchwylod. Cyfarfûm ddoe â'r Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Gwarchod Adar a thrafodwyd y mater hwn. Mae'n amlwg nad oes ateb hawdd. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf am weithio gyda'r gymdeithas er mwyn canfod ffyrdd o gynyddu cynefin cornicyllod. Yn ddiweddar cynhaliwyd rhaglen lwyddiannus i gynyddu nifer y ceiliogod duon yng Nghymru. Yn amlwg, mae nifer y cornicyllod wedi lleihau'n sylweddol dros y 10 neu 15 mlynedd diwethaf ac yr ydym am ddarparu mwy o gynefinoedd ar gyfer y rhywogaeth drwy weithio'r gyda'r gymdeithas.

William Graham: The number of lapwings has fallen by some 70 per cent over the past century. It is a paradox that they seem to like industrial wasteland that has short grass and is relatively damp, as this suits their nesting needs. I am not sure whether you can suggest a way in which that could be introduced, but when the WDA is merged with the Welsh Assembly Government can you give an assurance that this will be considered in reclamation schemes?

William Graham: Mae nifer y cornicyllod wedi lleihau tua 70 y cant dros y ganrif ddiwethaf. Mae'n baradocs eu bod i'w gweld yn hoffi tir gwastraff diwydiannol sydd â phorfa fer ac sy'n eithaf llaith, gan fod hyn yn diwallu eu hanghenion nythu. Nid wyf yn siŵr pa un a allwch awgrymu ffordd y gellid cyflwyno hyn, ond pan gaiff y WDA ei gyfuno â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a allwch roi sicrwydd inni y caiff hyn ei ystyried mewn cynlluniau adfer?

Carwyn Jones: Some credit must be given

Carwyn Jones: Rhaid canmol y cyn-

to the former Conservative Government, as it did its best to increase lapwing habitats by trying to turn Blaenau Gwent into industrial wasteland. Fortunately, the situation has changed with a Labour Assembly Government. As I mentioned earlier, the RSPB, the WDA and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council are engaged in a project to provide permanent managed migration sites for lapwings in that area.

Lywodraeth Geidwadol i ryw raddau, oherwydd gwnaeth ei gorau i gynyddu cynefinoedd cornicyllod drwy geisio troi Blaenau Gwent yn dir gwastraff diwydiannol. Yn ffodus, mae'r sefyllfa wedi newid gyda Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad. Fel y soniais yn gynharach, mae'r Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Gwarchod Adar, y WDA a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent yn ymwneud â phrosiect i ddarparu safleoedd mudo rheoledig parhaol ar gyfer cornicyllod yn yr ardal honno.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Jocelyn Davies: This point of order arises from questions today, and I raise it under Standing Order No. 2.4, which requires the First Minister to notify the Assembly of the membership of the Assembly Cabinet and the responsibilities and accountability of each Minister. It also requires him to notify the Assembly of any changes as soon as possible after they are made. We have not yet been told about the responsibilities of each Minister. Can you aid us in interpreting whether three weeks means 'as soon as possible' and what the implications are for Assembly Members who are not in the Cabinet? We must hold the Cabinet to account, but how can we do that in tabling questions when we are in the dark as to the responsibilities of each Minister? If you agree that three weeks is not 'as soon as possible', will you impress upon the First Minister the urgency of this matter?

Jocelyn Davies: Mae'r pwynt o drefn hwn yn codi o gwestiynau heddiw, ac fe'i codaf o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 2.4, sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Prif Weinidog hysbysu'r Cynulliad am aelodaeth Cabinet y Cynulliad a chyfrifoldebau ac atebolrwydd pob Gweinidog. Rhaid iddo hefyd hysbysu'r Cynulliad cyn gynted ag y bo modd am unrhyw newidiadau a wnaed. Nid ydym wedi cael gwybod eto am gyfrifoldebau pob Gweinidog. A allwch ein cynorthwyo i ddehongli ai tair wythnos a olygir gan 'cyn gynted ag y bo modd' a beth yw'r goblygiadau i Aelodau'r Cynulliad nad ydynt yn y Cabinet? Rhaid inni ddwyn y Cabinet i gyfrif, ond sut y gallwn wneud hynny wrth gyflwyno cwestiynau os na wyddom beth yw cyfrifoldebau pob Gweinidog? Os cytunwch nad tair wythnos a olygir gan 'cyn gynted ag y bo modd', a wnewch chi sicrhau bod y Prif Weinidog yn deall pa mor bwysig yw'r mater hwn?

David Melding: Further to that point of order, I support Jocelyn Davies on this issue. It is important that matters are moved on as quickly as possible. In fairness to the First Minister, he made an immediate announcement on the reallocation of responsibilities in relation to children. However, there are some concerns that must be examined in that regard. I am not saying that it was the wrong decision, but it should be the subject of scrutiny as it affects the work of committees. It is important that this matter is clarified quickly.

David Melding: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwnnw, cefnogaf Jocelyn Davies ar y mater hwn. Mae'n bwysig i faterion gael eu symud yn eu blaenau cyn gynted ag y bo modd. A bod yn deg â'r Prif Weinidog, gwnaeth gyhoeddiad ar unwaith ynglŷn ag ailddosbarthu cyfrifoldebau o ran plant. Fodd bynnag, cyfyd rhai pryderon y mae'n rhaid eu hystyried yn hynny o beth. Nid wyf yn dweud mai'r penderfyniad anghywir ydoedd, ond dylid craffu arno gan ei fod yn effeithio ar waith y pwyllgorau. Mae'n bwysig cael eglurhad ynglŷn â'r mater hwn yn gyflym.

The Presiding Officer: I have observed on

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi gweld ar fy offer

my electronic equipment that a statement has now arrived.

electronig fod datganiad wedi cyrraedd bellach.

3.10 p.m.

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): I do not believe that the situation is as bad as Jocelyn Davies describes it. The issue is about a period of two days, not three weeks. We made a clear statement on the main Cabinet responsibilities as soon as we could. That was made shortly after, if not the day after, the Cabinet responsibilities were allocated. Since then, a detailed study has been made of the whole panoply of responsibilities for children across the Assembly Government. A separate statement has now been circulated to Assembly Members. If people observed me rushing back and forth out of Chamber, that was in order to try to get the full bible of all Cabinet responsibilities typed up and distributed before the close of play this afternoon. This involves checking with the heads of divisions, Ministers and so on, but we are proceeding quickly towards that. For the first time, the full bible of Cabinet responsibilities will denote separately, with an asterisk, responsibilities pertaining to children, so that it will be easier to see quickly who is responsible for what with regard to children. That bible is being reprinted in that way, I hope, this afternoon. I hope that that will put people's minds at rest.

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Ni chredaf fod y sefyllfa mor wael ag y mae Jocelyn Davies yn ei disgrifio. Mater o ddau ddiwrnod, nid tair wythnos sydd dan sylw. Gwnaethom ddatganiad clir ar brif gyfrifoldebau'r Cabinet cyn gynted ag y gallem. Gwnaethom hynny yn fuan wedi i gyfrifoldebau'r Cabinet gael eu dosbarthu, os nad y diwrnod ar ôl hynny. Ers hynny, mae'r holl gyfrifoldebau dros blant ar draws Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cael eu hastudio'n fanwl. Mae datganiad ar wahân wedi cael ei ddsbarthu i Aelodau'r Cynulliad bellach. Os gwelodd pobl fi yn rhuthro'n ôl ac ymlaen o'r Siambr, y rheswm oedd fy mod yn ceisio sicrhau bod beibl holl gyfrifoldebau'r Cabinet wedi'i baratoi a'i ddsbarthu cyn diwedd y Cyfarfod Llawn y prynhawn yma. Mae hyn yn golygu cadarnhau ffeithiau gyda phenaethiaid is-adrannau, Gweinidogion ac ati, ond yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen yn gyflym â hynny. Am y tro cyntaf, bydd beibl llawn cyfrifoldebau'r Cabinet yn dynodi ar wahân, gyda seren, gyfrifoldebau sy'n ymwneud â phlant, fel y bydd yn haws gweld yn gyflym pwy sy'n gyfrifol am beth o ran plant. Mae'r beibl hwnnw yn cael ei ailargraffu yn y modd hwnnw y prynhawn yma, gobeithio. Gobeithiaf y bydd hynny yn tawelu meddyliau pobl.

The Presiding Officer: If Members check the Chamberweb, they will find that the information to which the First Minister refers—I assume that that is the information he mentioned—has indeed been e-mailed to them. I therefore commend the Minister for being able to respond electronically before I was about to chastise him most severely.

Y Llywydd: Os edrycha Aelodau ar we'r Siambr, fe welant fod y wybodaeth y mae'r Prif Weinidog yn cyfeirio ati—tybiaf mai dyna'r wybodaeth a grybwyllodd—yn wir wedi cael ei hanfon atynt dros yr e-bost. Felly canmolaf y Gweinidog am allu ymateb yn electronig cyn imi ddechrau ei feirniadu'n hallt iawn.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.11 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.11 p.m.*

Cynllun yr Ail Gynnig The Second Offer Scheme

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, amendments 2 and 5 in the name of Kirsty Williams, and amendments 3 and 4 in the name of David Melding.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, gwelliannau 2 a 5 Kirsty Williams a gwelliannau 3 a 4 yn enw David Melding.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Cynigiad fod

the National Assembly for Wales

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. notes the progress made in reducing waiting times since the commencement of the second offer scheme in April 2004;

1. yn nodi'r hyn a wnaed i fyrhau amseroedd aros ers cychwyn cynllun yr ail gynnig ym mis Ebrill 2004;

2. endorses the decision of the Welsh Assembly Government to lower the waiting period covered by the scheme from 18 to 12 months by 31 March 2005;

2. yn cymeradwyo penderfyniad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i fyrhau'r cyfnod aros yn y cynllun o 18 i 12 mis erbyn 31 Mawrth 2005;

3. recognises that some patients will still decide to opt to be looked after by their local trust;

3. yn cydnabod y bydd rhai cleifion yn dal i benderfynu dewis derbyn gofal gan eu hymddiriedolaeth leol;

4. congratulates all those involved in the scheme for the energy, commitment and careful attention to individuals' needs and circumstances with which it is being implemented. (NDM2266)

4. yn llongyfarch pawb sy'n gysylltiedig â'r cynllun am ei roi ar waith gydag egni, ymrwymiad a sylw gofalus i anghenion ac amgylchiadau unigolion. (NDM2266)

The second offer scheme was first implemented on 1 April 2004, with an 18-month guarantee. This was supplemented at the end of June by the 12-month guarantee. It offers anyone in Wales who is waiting, or who is likely to wait, longer than the maximum target time for in-patient or day-case care, the opportunity of treatment at another hospital, if they cannot be treated locally. The scheme was backed by £17 million: £5 million to reduce the 18-month wait and an additional £12 million from April 2004 to back the second offer scheme for 12 months. The priority has been meeting in-patient and day-case targets, and the second offer scheme has played a major role in delivering the targets and reducing the numbers of long waits in Wales. This will either be delivered through in-house activity

Gweithredwyd cynllun yr ail gynnig yn gyntaf ar 1 Ebrill 2004, gyda gwarant 18 mis. Fe'i hategwyd gan warant 12 mis ddiwedd mis Mehefin. Mae'n cynnig i unrhyw un yng Nghymru sy'n aros, neu sy'n debygol o aros, am fwy na'r uchafswm amser targed am ofal fel cleifion mewnol neu ofal dydd, y cyfle i gael triniaeth mewn ysbyty arall, os na allant gael eu trin yn lleol. Neilltuwyd £17 miliwn ar gyfer y cynllun: £5 miliwn i leihau rhestrau aros o 18 mis a £12 miliwn arall o Ebrill 2004 i dalu am gynllun yr ail gynnig am 12 mis. Y flaenoriaeth oedd cyflawni targedau o ran cleifion mewnol ac achosion dydd, ac mae cynllun yr ail gynnig wedi chwarae rhan fawr i gyflawni'r targedau a lleihau nifer y bobl sy'n aros yn hir yng Nghymru. Caiff hyn ei ddarparu naill ai drwy weithgarwch mewnol neu mewn lleoliad

or at an alternative location, in Wales or outside the country.

The second offer commissioning team has been established and is based in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Its role is to operate the scheme and commission care on behalf of all local health boards across Wales. This will ensure that a consistent and cost-effective approach is adopted. With the introduction of a national tariff price in England, we have been able to use it as a basis to inform the contract negotiations. This should help to address some of the concerns about value for money that were mentioned recently in the National Audit Office Wales's report.

Since the second offer scheme began, 2,628 patients have been treated within the scheme who would otherwise have breached the 18-month target—1,384 were treated through in-house solutions and 1,244 were treated at alternative providers. In addition, 1,796 patients have been treated in advance of them reaching a 12-month waiting time, making a total of 4,424 patients treated to date. Of the 1,796 who were treated in advance, 402 were treated at alternative providers, but 1,394 were treated in-house. This means that the second offer scheme is not just about patients travelling for treatment, but about delivering better and quicker care for patients at their local trusts. Many people will have benefited from the second offer scheme without even realising it.

Some of the amendments that are before us refer to the patients who have declined to partake in the scheme. This is an important issue, and we have undertaken a research study with MORI designed to explore some of these issues. Of those who did not accept an offer of treatment, 43 per cent did not accept it because they did not want to be away from family and friends, with 27 per cent saying that they were happy to wait their turn on the waiting list.

Forty-four per cent would be encouraged to take up the offer if they had more information about the treatment that they were having and about the hospital concerned, and 37 per cent said that they would have liked to have had more general

amgen, yng Nghymru neu'r tu allan i'r wlad.

Mae tîm comisiynu'r ail gynnig wedi cael ei sefydlu ac mae wedi'i leoli yn Rhondda Cynon Taf. Ei rôl yw gweithredu'r cynllun a chomisiynu gofal ar ran pob bwrdd iechyd lleol ledled Cymru. Bydd hyn yn sicrhau ymagwedd gyson a chost effeithiol. Yn sgîl cyflwyno pris tariff cenedlaethol yn Lloegr, yr ydym wedi gallu ei ddefnyddio yn sail i lywio'r negodiadau ynghylch contractau. Dylai hyn helpu i ymdrin â rhai o'r pryderon ynglŷn â gwerth am arian y cyfeiriwyd atynt yn adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol Cymru.

Ers cychwyn cynllun yr ail gynnig, mae 2,628 o gleifion wedi cael eu trin o dan y cynllun, sef cleifion a fyddai, fel arall, wedi gorfod aros am fwy na'r targed o 18 mis i gael eu trin—triniwyd 1,384 drwy atebion mewnol a thriniwyd 1,244 gan ddarparwyr amgen. Yn ogystal, mae 1,796 o gleifion wedi cael eu trin cyn i'w hamseroedd aros gyrraedd 12 mis, gan wneud cyfanswm o 4,424 o gleifion a driniwyd hyd yma. O'r 1,796 a driniwyd cyn 12 mis, triniwyd 402 gan ddarparwyr amgen, ond triniwyd 1,394 yn fewnol. Golyga hyn fod cynllun yr ail gynnig yn helpu i ddarparu gofal gwell a chyflymach i gleifion yn eu hymddiriedolaethau lleol yn ogystal â threfnu i gleifion deithio am driniaeth. Bydd llawer o bobl wedi elwa ar gynllun yr ail gynnig heb sylweddoli hyd yn oed.

Cyfeiria rhai o'r gwelliannau sydd ger ein bron at y cleifion sydd wedi gwrthod cymryd rhan yn y cynllun. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig, ac yr ydym wedi ymgymryd ag astudiaeth ymchwil gyda MORI gyda'r nod o ymchwilio i rai o'r materion hyn. O blith y rhai na dderbyniasant y cynnig o driniaeth, gwrthododd 43 y cant am nad oeddent am gael triniaeth ymhell oddi wrth eu teuluoedd a'u ffrindiau, gyda 27 y cant yn dweud eu bod yn fodlon aros eu tro ar y rhestr aros.

Byddai 44 y cant yn barotach i dderbyn y cynnig pe baent yn cael mwy o wybodaeth am eu triniaeth ac am yr ysbty dan sylw, a dywedodd 37 y cant yr hoffent fod wedi cael mwy o gyngor a gwybodaeth gyffredinol. Ar ôl ystyried y pwyntiau hyn, yr ydym wedi

advice and information. Taking these points on board, we have ensured that, in future, patients will be provided with additional information on the types of procedures that will be undertaken and on the location in which those procedures will be carried out.

The second offer scheme is not an end in itself but is part of the Assembly Government's wider twin-track approach to reducing patients' waiting times, which requires trusts to improve their performance to deliver the Welsh Assembly Government's targets. In working to achieve this, it seems that the discipline of the second offer scheme has also had a general effect on smartening up the overall management of waiting lists in Wales. A measure of the success of this general smartening up has been that, at the end of December last year, just under 700 patients were waiting over 18 months for in-patient or day-care treatment, compared with just under 5,000 a year earlier.

David Melding: We have heard you use a particularly ingenious euphemism. Is 'smartening up' a way of saying that competitive pressure, at least in some degree, has been brought to bear in the NHS in Wales?

Brian Gibbons: I do not think that it would be fair to call it 'competitive pressure'. It means that trusts will have to focus more actively on the way in which they manage their lists. They are much more informed in terms of when patients are coming up to their waiting-time targets and so forth. However, this has been a good discipline and I think that everybody will welcome it.

At the end of December 2003, just under 12,000 patients were waiting over 12 months for in-patient and day-care treatment. This has now been reduced to approximately 6,250, which, again, is a fairly significant improvement. We have also seen progress on the out-patient waits, with the number of people waiting for 18-months coming down from 9,834 to 6,270, and those waiting for over 12 months coming down to 23,300.

We realise that this is only the start of a journey to improve waiting times for

sicrhau, yn y dyfodol, y caiff cleifion wybodaeth ychwanegol am y mathau o driniaethau a wneir ac am y lleoliad lle y caiff y triniaethau hynny eu gwneud.

Nid diben ynddo'i hun yw cynllun yr ail gynnig ond mae'n rhan o ffordd ddeuol ehangach Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o fynd ati i leihau amseroedd aros cleifion, sy'n gofyn i ymddiriedolaethau wella eu perfformiad er mwyn cyflawni targedau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Wrth weithio i gyflawni hyn, ymddengys fod disgyblaeth cynllun yr ail gynnig hefyd wedi cael effaith gyffredinol ar gaboli'r ffordd y caiff rhestrau aros yng Nghymru eu rheoli'n gyffredinol. Un mesur o lwyddiant y broses gaboli gyffredinol hon yw bod ychydig o dan 700 o gleifion, ar ddiwedd Rhagfyr y llynedd, wedi bod yn aros am fwy na 18 mis am driniaeth fel claf mewnol neu am ofal dydd, o gymharu ag ychydig o dan 5,000 flwyddyn ynghynt.

David Melding: Yr ydym wedi eich clywed yn defnyddio mwythair hynod gelfydd. A yw 'caboli' yn ffordd o ddweud bod pwysau cystadleuol, i ryw raddau o leiaf, wedi cael ei roi ar y GIG yng Nghymru?

Brian Gibbons: Ni chredaf y byddai'n deg galw hyn yn 'bwysau cystadleuol'. Golyga y bydd yn rhaid i ymddiriedolaethau ganolbwyntio'n well ar y ffordd y maent yn rheoli eu rhestrau. Maent yn cael mwy o wybodaeth ynghylch pryd y mae cleifion yn cyrraedd targedau amseroedd aros ac ati. Fodd bynnag, bu'n ddisgyblaeth dda a chredaf y bydd pawb yn ei groesawu.

Ar ddiwedd Rhagfyr 2003, yr oedd ychydig o dan 12,000 o gleifion yn aros am fwy na 12 mis am driniaeth fel claf mewnol neu am ofal dydd. Mae'r ffigur hwn wedi lleihau i oddeutu 6,250 sydd, unwaith eto, yn welliant eithaf sylweddol. Gwelwyd cynnydd hefyd o ran rhestrau aros ar gyfer cleifion allanol, gyda nifer y bobl sy'n aros 18 mis yn gostwng o 9,834 i 6,270, a'r rhai sy'n aros am fwy na 12 mis yn gostwng i 23,300.

Sylweddolwn mai megis cychwyn yr ydym ar y dasg o wella amseroedd aros i gleifion,

patients, and while only the most churlish would deny that good progress has been made over the last year, I would be the first to accept that, even if we achieve this year's targets, it will not be good enough for the many patients who are still waiting far too long on our waiting lists. We have made a commitment to continue to exert pressure year-on-year to achieve further improvements. We need to do this in a realistic and sustainable way, which involves full engagement with the wider Wanless agenda and taking on board constructive criticisms and recommendations from reports such as the those from the National Audit Office.

We have also made available additional investment, which will be necessary to create additional capacity, support greater efficiencies and to disseminate best practice so that patients will receive quality care as close to their own homes and communities as possible. This will be supplemented by the second offer scheme to produce further stepped-down reductions in the length of time that patients have to wait.

Therefore, the second offer scheme should be seen as a clear marker of the Assembly Government's clear intent to tackle excessive waiting times for treatment and as a practical measure to deliver this objective for patients who are waiting too long. Therefore, I call on the National Assembly to support the motion in the name of Jane Hutt and to reject all the amendments.

Jenny Randerson: Will you acknowledge that, however practical this scheme, it still has a phenomenally long way to go? A total of 1,467 people are waiting over 18 months for out-patient treatment in Cardiff, and, as a result, one of my constituents has been waiting over four years for a first out-patient's appointment for orthopaedic treatment. Do you acknowledge that this is scandalous and an inhuman way of treating people?

Brian Gibbons: Four years is far too long, and I hope that, having brought this matter to your attention, your constituent will also have brought the matter to the attention of the trust. If your constituent has not received a satisfactory answer from the trust, I would

ac er mai dim ond y rhai mwyaf sarrug a fyddai'n gwadu bod cynnydd da wedi'i wneud dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, fi fyddai'r cyntaf i ddweud, hyd yn oed os cyflawnwn dargedau'r flwyddyn hon, na fydd yn ddigon da i'r nifer fawr o gleifion sy'n dal i aros yn rhy hir ar ein rhestrau aros. Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i barhau i bwysu am welliannau pellach flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn. Mae angen inni wneud hyn mewn ffordd realistig a chynaliadwy, sy'n golygu ymgysylltu'n llwyr ag agenda ehangach Wanless a derbyn beirniadaeth adeiladol ac argymhellion adroddiadau megis rhai'r Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol.

Yr ydym hefyd wedi darparu rhagor o fuddsoddiad, y bydd ei angen i greu mwy o gapasiti, gweithredu'n fwy effeithlon a lledaenu arfer gorau fel y bydd cleifion yn cael gofal o safon mor agos â phosibl at eu cartrefi a'u cymunedau. Caiff hyn ei ategu gan gynllun yr ail gynnig i leihau unwaith eto'r amseroedd aros y mae cleifion yn gorfod eu hwynebu.

Felly, dylid ystyried cynllun yr ail gynnig yn arwydd clir o fwriad clir Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i fynd i'r afael ag amseroedd aros rhy hir am driniaeth ac yn fesur ymarferol i gyflawni'r amcan hwn i gleifion sy'n aros yn rhy hir. Felly, galwaf ar y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i gefnogi'r cynnig yn enw Jane Hutt a gwrthod pob un o'r gwelliannau.

Jenny Randerson: A wnewch chi gydnabod, waeth pa mor ymarferol yw'r cynllun hwn, fod cryn dipyn o ffordd i fynd o hyd? Mae cyfanswm o 1,467 o bobl yn aros am fwy na 18 mis am driniaeth fel cleifion allanol yng Nghaerdydd, ac, o ganlyniad, mae un o'm hetholwyr wedi bod yn aros am fwy na phedair blynedd am apwyntiad cyntaf fel claf allanol am driniaeth orthopedig. A gydnabyddwch fod hyn yn warthus ac yn ffordd annynol o drin pobl?

Brian Gibbons: Mae pedair blynedd yn amser llawer rhy hir a gobeithiaf y bydd eich etholwr, ar ôl tynnu'ch sylw chi at y mater hwn, hefyd yn tynnu sylw'r ymddiriedolaeth ato. Os nad yw eich etholwr wedi cael ateb boddhaol gan yr ymddiriedolaeth, byddwn yn

be grateful if you would give me the details.

ddiolchgar pe baech yn rhoi'r manylion imi.

3.20 p.m.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cynigiaf welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Dileu popeth ar ôl 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru' ac yn ei rhoi:

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I propose amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Delete all after 'National Assembly for Wales' and replace with:

1. yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gymryd camau brys i leihau anghydraddoldebau wrth gael mynediad at y gwasanaethau iechyd yng Nghymru;

1. calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to take urgent steps to reduce inequities in access to health services within Wales;

2. yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gasglu a chyhoeddi gwybodaeth am gyfnodau aros sydd yn dangos hyd y cyfnod aros ar ôl cyfeirio gan y meddyg teulu;

2. calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to collect and publish information on waiting times that shows the length of wait from GP referral;

3. yn mynegi pryder bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi methu â rhoi ar waith fentrau ar gyfnodau aros sy'n cynnig gwerth da am arian a chwtdogi cynaliadwy yn y cyfnodau aros;

3. expresses concern at the failure of the Welsh Assembly Government to implement waiting time initiatives that offer good value for money and sustainable reductions in waiting times;

4. yn gresynu'r ffaith na fu strategaeth gyffredinol eglur i gwtogi'r cyfnodau aros drwy Gymru;

4. deplures the fact that there has been no clear overall strategy to reduce waiting times across Wales;

5. yn galw am roi ar waith fesurau i sicrhau bod cleifion sy'n derbyn triniaeth mewn lleoliadau amgen o dan gynllun yr ail gynnig yn derbyn y gofal parhaus gorau posibl ar ôl y driniaeth.

5. calls for measures to be implemented that will ensure that patients who receive treatment at alternative settings under the second offer scheme will receive optimal continuous care after treatment.

Mae gwelliant 1 yn adlewyrchu realiti'r sefyllfa yn llawer gwell na chynnig gwreiddiol y Llywodraeth Lafur. Croesawaf y gostyngiadau mewn rhestrau aros, ond yr ydym yn sôn am gyfnodau hir a chwbl annerbyniol o aros. I osod hyn yn ei gyddestun, hyd yn oed o ystyried y ffigurau diweddaraf hyn, mae dros 6,000 o bobl yn dal i aros fwy na 12 mis ar gyfer apwyntiad ysbyty, ac mae dros 6,000 o bobl yn aros mwy na 18 mis am apwyntiadau cleifion allanol. Mae hynny'n golygu bod bron i 13,000 o bobl yn aros dwy flynedd a hanner i gael triniaeth. Gobeithiaf y bydd pawb yn y Siambr yn cytuno bod hynny'n annerbyniol, yn ogystal â'r ffaith bod dros 300,000 o bobl yn dal ar restrau aros yng Nghymru.

Amendment 1 reflects the reality of the situation far better than the Labour Government's original motion. I welcome the reductions in waiting lists, but we are talking about lengthy and totally unacceptable waiting times. To set this in context, even allowing for these latest figures, over 6,000 people are still waiting over 12 months for a hospital appointment, and over 6,000 people are waiting over 18 months for out-patient appointments. That means that almost 13,000 people are waiting two and a half years for treatment. I hope that everyone in the Chamber will agree that that is unacceptable, as is the fact that 300,000 people are still on waiting lists in Wales.

Mae'n bwyisg nodi bod, y tu ôl i'r ystadegau a'r ffigurau hyn, bobl sydd yn dioddef mewn

It is important to note that, behind these statistics and figures, there are people

ffordd cwbl annerbyniol. Nododd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol hynny yn ei adroddiad. Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol newydd yn dweud ei fod yn barod i wrando ar feirmiadaeth adeiladol. Nid oedd hynny'n digwydd gyda'i ragflaenydd, ac nid yw'n digwydd o hyd gyda'r Prif Weinidog.

Unfortunately, the First Minister continues to live in a world of his own that totally contradicts people's experience of the NHS in Wales, not only the experience of the patients and patients' families, but the experience of the professional people who work within the service. The chief executive of the Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust, Mr Huw Ross, says that,

'We're not achieving the standards of service that people have every right to expect'.

I remind the First Minister once again, although he is absent from the Chamber, that the people of Wales will not accept a situation where he stands up in the Chamber time and again to describe an NHS in Wales that directly contrasts with their own experiences. I welcome the fact that the Minister for Health and Social Services now accepts that things must change and improve. In terms of our amendment, I turn to some of the recommendations in the Auditor General's report. The first recommendation is that the Welsh Assembly Government should take urgent steps to reduce inequities in access to health services within Wales. That will allow for a far clearer situation in terms of how long exactly patients have to wait for treatment. We must have figures that are comparable with figures in England. We still do not refer to figures in terms of the time that people have to wait from their appointment with their GP to the time of treatment.

The second offer scheme is working, but we must look carefully, Brian, at the amount of money that is being spent on it and on its outcomes because we must accept the Auditor General's findings that the Welsh Assembly Government's policies over the last five and a half years have meant that we

suffering in a totally unacceptable way. The Auditor General noted that in this report. I was pleased to hear the new Minister for Health and Social Services saying that he is willing to listen to constructive criticism. That was not the case with his predecessor, and it is not the case with the First Minister.

Yn anffodus, mae'r Prif Weinidog yn parhau i fyw yn ei fyd bach ei hun sy'n hollol groes i brofiad pobl o'r GIG yng Nghymru, nid yn unig profiad y cleifion a theuluoedd y cleifion, ond profiad y bobl broffesiynol sy'n gweithio yn y gwasanaeth. Dywed prif weithredwr Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Caerdydd a'r Fro, Mr Huw Ross:

Nid ydym yn cyflawni'r safonau gwasanaeth y mae gan bobl berffaith hawl i'w disgwyl.

Atgoffaf y Prif Weinidog unwaith eto, er nad yw yn y Siambr, na fydd pobl Cymru yn derbyn sefyllfa lle y mae'n sefyll ar ei draed yn y Siambr dro ar ôl tro i ddisgrifio GIG yng Nghymru mewn ffordd sy'n hollol groes i'w profiadau eu hunain. Croesawaf y ffaith bod y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn derbyn bellach fod yn rhaid i bethau newid a gwella. O ran ein gwelliant, trof at rai o'r argymhellion yn adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol. Yr argymhelliad cyntaf yw y dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gymryd camau brys i leihau anghydraddoldebau o ran mynediad i wasanaethau iechyd yng Nghymru. Byddai hynny yn arwain at sefyllfa lawer mwy eglur o ran faint o amser yn union y mae'n rhaid i gleifion aros am driniaeth. Rhaid inni gael ffigurau y gellir eu cymharu â ffigurau yn Lloegr. Yr ydym yn methu o hyd â chyfeirio at ffigurau o ran faint o amser y mae pobl yn gorfod aros ar ôl eu hapwyntiad gyda'u meddyg teulu nes cael eu trin.

Mae cynllun yr ail gynnig yn gweithio, ond rhaid inni edrych yn ofalus, Brian, ar faint o arian sy'n cael ei wario arno ac ar ei ganlyniadau oherwydd rhaid inni dderbyn canfyddiadau'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol bod polisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru dros y pum mlynedd a hanner diwethaf wedi

have not had value for money from investment. I remind you of the Auditor General's warning about this particular scheme:

'the scheme acts as a possible perverse incentive to avoid tackling outpatient waiting times because that would increase the numbers waiting for in-patient/daycase treatment, with an increased risk on commissioners and providers for treating such patients under the second offer scheme and for breaching it.'

I ask you to take that warning on board and to ensure that this scheme will not lead to an increase in out-patient times and address the reality of people having to wait for treatment from seeing their GP to the treatment table.

Kirsty Williams: I propose the following amendments in my name. Amendment 2: delete all the words after 'National Assembly for Wales' and replace with:

believes that the slow pace of the second offer scheme in its first year of operation casts doubt on the ability of the scheme as presently constituted to reach Government targets.

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

calls on the Labour Assembly Government to publish all waiting lists, including the numbers waiting from the point of referral and those for all diagnostic procedures, in order to facilitate a full debate on the causes of the waiting lists in Wales.

When Brian first took up his post, one of his initial public comments was that waiting lists were not the be-all and end-all of a patient's experience in the NHS. I would accept that to a certain extent. It is all very well having speedy treatment, but if that treatment is inadequate and the outcome is not good, then it does not matter how fast you have been treated. However, until we move to a system that can incorporate qualitative data into an analysis of how the NHS is performing, I am afraid we are stuck, as politicians and as

golygu nad ydym wedi cael gwerth am arian o fuddsoddiad. Fe'ch atgoffaf o rybudd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol ynglŷn â'r cynllun penodol hwn:

'y cynllun yn gweithredu fel cymhelliant gwrthnysig posibl i osgoi mynd i'r afael ag amseroedd aros cleifion allanol oherwydd byddai hynny'n cynyddu'r nifer sy'n aros am driniaeth cleifion mewnol/achosion dydd, gyda risg uwch o ddyledion ariannol ar gomisiynwyr a darparwyr am drin cleifion o'r fath o dan gynllun yr ail gynnig, neu am fynd yn groes i'r cynllun.'

Gofynnaf ichi ystyried y rhybudd hwnnw a sicrhau na fydd y cynllun hwn yn arwain at amseroedd aros hwy i gleifion allanol a mynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa sydd ohoni lle y mae pobl yn gorfod aros am driniaeth ar ôl gweld eu meddyg teulu.

Kirsty Williams: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn fy enw i. Gwelliant 2: dileu popeth ar ôl 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru' a rhoi yn ei le:

yn credu bod arafwch cynllun yr ail gynnig yn y flwyddyn gyntaf y bu ar waith yn bwrw amheuaeth ar allu'r cynllun fel y mae ar hyn o bryd i gyflawni targedau'r Llywodraeth.

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

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Llafur y Cynulliad i gyhoeddi'r holl restrau aros, gan gynnwys y niferoedd sy'n aros o'r pwynt cyfeirio a'r holl rai ar gyfer gweithdrefnau diagnostig, er mwyn hwyluso dadl lawn ar achosion rhestrau aros yng Nghymru.

Pan ymgymerodd Brian â'i swydd, un o'i sylwadau cyhoeddus cyntaf oedd nad rhestrau aros oedd yr unig ffordd o fesur profiad claf yn y GIG. Byddwn yn derbyn hynny i ryw raddau. Mae'n ddigon teg mynnu triniaeth gyflym, ond os yw'r driniaeth honno yn annigonol ac nad yw'r canlyniad yn dda, yna nid oes wahaniaeth pa mor gyflym y cawsoch eich trin. Fodd bynnag, nes ein bod yn symud i system a all ymgorffori data ansoddol mewn dadansoddiad o berfformiad y GIG, nid oes

observers of the NHS, with waiting times as an adequate way of measuring the performance of the NHS in Wales. As all of us have heard and discussed on countless occasions during the last five years, the average experience for patients is that they are waiting too long.

The second offer scheme has had two effects since its inception: for some it has meant that they have received treatment, but for others it has made their situation worse. For the longest waiters, it has meant that they have finally received the treatment that they need. However, it should be noted that almost 25 per cent of patients that were offered a second offer turned it down: almost a quarter of those patients in the 18-month-plus category have said 'no'. That large figure blows a hole in the Government's aspiration of using the second offer scheme to cut headline waiting lists. Essentially, patients in Wales are not co-operating in the Government's public relations initiative.

It is also interesting to note that this is a rejection of the belief that people want to shop around for their healthcare peddled by Conservatives and New Labour in London. The fact that people turn down the second offer scheme demonstrates that what they want is a high-quality, timely service in local facilities, where that is clinically appropriate. They do not want to shop around and travel great distances.

Dr Gibbons referred earlier to a sharpening up of practice in some areas of the NHS. That is true. The fact that people have been treated by in-house solutions under the second offer scheme demonstrates to me that effective use has not been made in the past of existing capacity within NHS Wales. If one of the outcomes of the second offer scheme is to highlight the need for better performance management, then I welcome that greatly. If it results in NHS managers and commissioners sharpening up their act, it is to be welcomed. However, the other consequence of the second offer scheme is to shift the problem to another part of the system. While we have been tackling the longest waiters, the average length of a wait

dewis gennym, mae arnaf ofn, fel gwleidyddion ac fel arsylwyr y GIG, ond derbyn amseroedd aros fel ffordd ddigonol o fesur perfformiad y GIG yng Nghymru. Fel y mae pob un ohonom wedi clywed ac wedi trafod droeon yn ystod y pum mlynedd diwethaf, y profiad cyffredin ymhlith cleifion yw eu bod yn aros yn rhy hir.

Bu dwy effaith i gynllun yr ail gynnig ers ei sefydlu: i rai cleifion golygai eu bod wedi cael triniaeth, ond i eraill, mae eu sefyllfa wedi gwaethygu o'r herwydd. I'r rhai sy'n aros hwyaf, golygai eu bod wedi cael y driniaeth y mae arnynt ei hangen o'r diwedd. Fodd bynnag, dylid nodi i ymron i 25 y cant o'r cleifion y cynigiwyd ail gynnig iddynt ei wrthod: mae bron chwarter y cleifion hynny sy'n aros 18 mis neu hwy wedi dweud 'na'. Mae'r ffigur mawr hwnnw yn difetha uchelgais y Llywodraeth i ddefnyddio cynllun yr ail gynnig i leihau'r prif restrau aros. Yn y bôn, nid yw cleifion yng Nghymru yn cydweithredu â menter cysylltiadau cyhoeddus y Llywodraeth.

Mae'n ddiddorol nodi bod hyn yn mynd yn groes i'r gred y mae Ceidwadwyr a Llafur Newydd yn Llundain yn hoff o'i lleadaenu fod pobl am gael dewis o ran eu gofal iechyd. Mae'r ffaith bod pobl yn gwrthod cynllun yr ail gynnig yn dangos mai'r hyn a ddymunant yw gwasanaeth amserol o safon dda mewn cyfleusterau lleol, lle y mae hynny'n briodol yn glinigol. Nid ydynt am gael dewis o blith gwahanol opsiynau a theithio pellteroedd mawr.

Cyfeiriodd Dr Gibbons yn gynharach at gaboli arfer mewn rhai meysydd o'r GIG. Mae hynny yn wir. Mae'r ffaith i bobl gael eu trin drwy atebion mewnol o dan gynllun yr ail gynnig yn dangos imi na wnaed defnydd effeithiol o'r adnoddau a oedd ar gael yn y GIG yng Nghymru yn y gorffennol. Os mai un o ganlyniadau cynllun yr ail gynnig yw amlygu'r angen i reoli perfformiad yn well, yna croesawaf hynny'n fawr. Os bydd yn gwneud i reolwyr y GIG a chomisïynwyr gaboli eu dulliau rheoli, mae hynny i'w groesawu. Fodd bynnag, canlyniad arall cynllun yr ail gynnig yw ei fod yn symud y broblem i ran arall o'r system. Tra ein bod wedi bod yn mynd i'r afael â'r rhai sydd wedi aros hwyaf, mae'r amser aros ar

for Welsh patients has grown. In reality, less than 10 per cent of those waiting on in-patient lists fall outside the 18-month-plus bracket. The vast majority of those waiting are in the 12-month-plus bracket and below. Since the inception of the second offer scheme, the average length of their wait has become longer. While we have been treating those few whose wait has gone over 18 months, others' waits have increased. That is why the median wait for English patients compared with Welsh patients has swapped over since the inception of the second offer scheme: Welsh patients on average are waiting longer. There is nothing in the second offer scheme—nor did the Government ever claim that there was, it must be admitted—designed to help the vast majority of those who are waiting, who are those vast majority who find themselves on out-patient lists. It is interesting to note in today's figures that the drop in in-patient lists is simply matched by an increase in those coming onto the out-patient list. The waiting list for the waiting list is getting longer and longer. That must be addressed, and the second offer scheme, as currently constituted, will not do that.

gyfartaledd i gleifion yng Nghymru wedi mynd yn hwy. Y gwir yw bod llai na 10 y cant o'r bobl sy'n aros ar restrau cleifion mewnol yn aros 18 mis neu fwy. Mae mwyafrif helaeth y bobl ar y rhestrau aros yn aros 12 mis neu fwy neu am gyfnod llai na hynny. Ers sefydlu cynllun yr ail gynnig, maent wedi bod yn aros am fwy o amser ar gyfartaledd. Tra ein bod wedi trin yr ychydig rai sydd wedi gorfod aros am fwy na 18 mis, mae eraill wedi gorfod aros yn hwy. Dyna pam y mae'r amser aros canolrif i gleifion yn Lloegr o'i gymharu â chleifion yng Nghymru wedi cyfnewid ers sefydlu cynllun yr ail gynnig: mae cleifion yng Nghymru yn aros yn hwy ar gyfartaledd. Nid oes dim yng nghynllun yr ail gynnig—ac ni honnodd y Llywodraeth erioed fod dim byd ychwaith, rhaid cyfaddef—i helpu'r mwyafrif helaeth sy'n aros, sef y mwyafrif helaeth hynny sydd ar restrau cleifion allanol. Mae'n ddiddorol nodi yn ffigurau heddiw fod y gostyngiad yn y rhestrau ar gyfer cleifion mewnol yn cyfateb i gynnydd yn y rhai sy'n ymuno â'r rhestr ar gyfer cleifion allanol. Mae'r rhestr aros ar gyfer y rhestr aros yn mynd yn hwy ac yn hwy. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â hynny, ac ni fydd cynllun yr ail gynnig, fel y saif ar hyn o bryd, yn gwneud hynny.

3.30 p.m.

David Melding: I propose the following amendments. Amendment 3: in point 1 add 'lack of' between 'the' and 'progress'.

David Melding: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol. Gwelliant 3: ym mhwynt 1 ychwanegu 'diffyg yn' ar ôl 'nodi'.

I propose amendment 4. Delete point 2 and replace with:

Cynigiau welliant 4. Dileu pwynt 2 a rhoi yn ei le:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to match the UK Government's target wait of 18 weeks by 2008.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i weithredu i osod yr un targed o gyfnod aros o 18 wythnos â Llywodraeth y DU erbyn 2008.

I will start by looking at the waiting list figures as published today. The situation is mixed, but overall it is no better than mediocre in terms of improvement. The orthopaedic waiting list at the end of December stood at 924 people higher than a year before, and it is now at nearly 24,000 patients—an increase of 4 per cent. Orthopaedics is the most pressurised area of elective work. We are clearly not doing as well as we need to be doing in that key area

Dechreuaf drwy edrych ar ffigurau'r rhestrau aros fel y'u cyhoeddwyd heddiw. Cymysg yw'r sefyllfa, ond yn gyffredinol gweddol yn unig yw'r gwelliant a geir. Ar ddiwedd Rhagfyr yr oedd 924 yn fwy o bobl ar y rhestr aros orthopedig nag yr oedd flwyddyn ynghynt, ac mae wedi cyrraedd bron 24,000 o gleifion erbyn hyn—cynnydd o 4 y cant. Orthopedeg yw'r maes o waith dewisol lle y mae'r pwysau mwyaf. Mae'n amlwg nad ydym yn gwneud cystal ag y mae ei angen yn

of medicine, and we need to catch up a lot to get to a barely adequate situation, as there is in England.

The in-patient waiting list is up by 1,027 people this month, to 70,646. To be fair, that is a considerable fall on the year, but, a year ago, the list stood at a remarkable 79,223 people, so it is perhaps not that difficult to improve upon absolute failure. However, there has at least been a downward movement over the year. The out-patient figures on the year have gone up by 9,190 to 237,575 people. That is a colossal figure, which clearly indicates how badly, overall, the health service is doing when measured in terms of waiting lists. I accept that there are other measures, but this is a significant measure, as noted by the Auditor General.

This should be compared to the figures in June 1999, when the Assembly took over its responsibilities. The in-patient waiting list then stood at 67,279 people. The current figures are higher than that, despite the fact that the Labour Government promised the people of Wales that there would be a significant reduction in the number of in-patients on waiting lists. The out-patient waiting list then stood at 149,987 and it has gone up colossally since then. The Government cannot get off the hook in terms of its performance and responsibilities in this area.

It is no wonder that the Auditor General's report was so severe. He regards the waiting list measure as a significant NHS performance indicator. He says that waiting times in Wales are considerably longer than in Scotland and England, so we are in a relatively worse position in Wales. The Auditor General also says that the rate of improvement has been slow—an all too clear and obvious fact—and that Welsh waiting time targets have generally remained stable and unfulfilled, which is one of the most damning summaries I have ever read.

This Government has failed consistently to take these independent reports and try to act

y maes allweddol hwnnw o feddygaeth, ac mae angen inni wella'n sylweddol cyn cyrraedd sefyllfa nad yw ond prin yn ddigonol, fel ag a geir yn Lloegr.

Mae'r rhestr aros ar gyfer cleifion mewnol wedi cynyddu 1,027 y mis hwn, i 70,646. A bod yn deg, mae hynny yn ostyngiad mawr yn ystod y flwyddyn, ond, flwyddyn yn ôl, yr oedd 79,223 o bobl ar y rhestr, sef ffigur hynod, felly efallai nad yw mor anodd gwella ar fethiant llwyr. Fodd bynnag, o leiaf mae'r rhestr wedi mynd tuag at i lawr yn ystod y flwyddyn. Mae'r ffigurau ar gyfer cleifion allanol yn ystod y flwyddyn wedi cynyddu 9,190 i 237,575 o bobl, sef nifer anferth, sy'n dangos yn glir pa mor wael, yn gyffredinol yw perfformiad y gwasanaeth iechyd o'i fesur drwy restrau aros. Derbyniaf fod mesurau eraill, ond mae hwn yn fesur pwysig, fel y nodwyd gan yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol.

Dylid cymharu'r ffigurau hyn â'r ffigurau ym mis Mehefin 1999, pan ymgymrodd y Cynulliad â'i gyfrifoldebau. Bryd hynny yr oedd 67,279 o bobl ar y rhestr aros ar gyfer cleifion mewnol. Mae'r ffigurau presennol yn uwch na hynny, er i'r Llywodraeth Lafur addo i bobl Cymru y byddai gostyngiad sylweddol yn nifer y cleifion mewnol ar restrau aros. Bryd hynny yr oedd 149,987 o bobl ar y rhestr aros ar gyfer cleifion allanol, ac mae wedi cynyddu'n echrydus ers hynny. Nid oes dihangfa i'r Llywodraeth o ran ei pherfformiad a'i chyfrifoldebau yn y maes hwn.

Nid yw'n rhyfeddod bod adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol mor llym. Yn ei farn ef, mae rhestrau aros yn ddangosydd perfformiad pwysig i'r GIG. Dywed fod amseroedd aros yng Nghymru dipyn yn hwy nag ydynt yn yr Alban a Lloegr, felly yr ydym mewn sefyllfa gymharol waeth yng Nghymru. Dywed yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol hefyd fod y gyfradd wella wedi bod yn araf—ffaith hollol amlwg—a bod targedau amseroedd aros Cymru wedi aros yr un peth yn gyffredinol a heb eu cyflawni, sef un o'r crynodebau mwyaf damniol a ddarllenais erioed.

Mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi methu o hyd â derbyn yr adroddiadau annibynnol hyn a

upon them. Yesterday, the First Minister, who is absent today, tried to tell us that the NHS was a story of one triumph after another, and that the Government should be congratulated. In fairness, the tone of the Minister for Health and Social Services is a little more subdued, but will he become as complacent as the First Minister? I have visions of the First Minister trying to avoid responsibility for everything; I have visions of him as a small boy taking home his school report card to the Morgan household and telling his parents that the 'E's' stood for 'Excellent'. That is probably where he started to lose his grip on reality. 'E' also stands for England, and the English NHS—whatever else you say about it—is more ambitious; it has shorter waits, greater choice, and a bigger role for the private sector in up to 15 per cent of NHS activity.

It is not difficult to see where the smartening-up process has come from, to use the Minister's reference to competitive measures. The 'hidden waits', in the words of John Reid, are being tackled. The targets come into force from the time that patients see their GPs. This is crucial, and Dr Gibbons's predecessor refused to set the clock at the time of a GP consultation. I invite the Minister to change this policy and to start the clock ticking at this time. Waiting lists only measure a third of a patient's journey and start from the time that the patient sees a consultant. A target of 18 weeks from the GP consultation has been set in England.

Lynne Neagle: I begin by placing on record my congratulations to Brian Gibbons on his appointment as Minister for Health and Social Services. I am sure that Brian's tremendous experience as a GP and his commitment to the health service will stand him in good stead.

I welcome the progress made on waiting times under the second offer guarantee scheme. The reform being introduced is reaping some dividends. However, reform must go further and much faster if we are to completely eliminate the unacceptable long waiting times that still exist for too many patients. Too many people in Gwent are

cheisio gweithredu arnynt. Ddoe, ceisiodd y Prif Weinidog, sy'n absennol heddiw, ddweud wrthym fod y GIG yn cael un llwyddiant ar ôl y llall, ac y dylid llongyfarch y Llywodraeth. A bod yn deg, nid yw'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol mor uchel ei gloch, ond a aiff yr un mor hunanfodlon â'r Prif Weinidog? Gallaf weld y Prif Weinidog yn ceisio osgoi cyfrifoldeb dros bopeth. Gallaf ei weld yn fachgen bach yn mynd â'i gerdyn adroddiad ysgol adref i'w rieni ac yn dweud wrthynt fod pob un o'i farciau'n rhagorol waeth beth oedd ar y cerdyn. Dyna pryd y dechreuodd fynd ar gyfeiliorn siŵr o fod. Mae'r GIG yn Lloegr—beth bynnag arall a ddywedwch amdano—yn fwy uchelgeisiol; mae ganddo amseroedd aros byrrach, mwy o ddewis, a mwy o rôl i'r sector preifat mewn hyd at 15 y cant o weithgarwch y GIG.

Nid yw'n anodd gweld o ble y tarddodd y broses gaboli, gan ddefnyddio cyfeiriad y Gweinidog at fesurau cystadleuol. Eir i'r afael â'r amseroedd aros cudd fel y'u gelwir gan John Reid. Mae'r targedau'n dod yn weithredol o'r adeg y mae cleifion yn gweld eu meddygon teulu. Mae hyn yn hollbwysig, a gwrthododd rhagflaenydd Dr Gibbons ddechrau'r amser aros o'r adeg y mae claf yn gweld meddyg teulu. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog newid y polisi hwn a dechrau cyfrif o'r adeg honno. Dim ond traean o daith y claf a fesurir gan restrau aros ac maent yn dechrau o'r adeg y mae'r claf yn gweld meddyg ymgynghorol. Mae targed o 18 wythnos ar ôl gweld meddyg teulu wedi cael ei osod yn Lloegr.

Lynne Neagle: Dechreuaf drwy gofnodi fy llongyfarchiadau i Brian Gibbons ar ei benodiad yn Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd profiad enfawr Brian fel meddyg teulu a'i ymrwymiad i'r gwasanaethau iechyd o fudd mawr iddo.

Croesawaf y cynnydd a wnaed o ran amseroedd aros o dan gynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnydd. Mae'r diwygiad a gyflwynwyd yn dechrau dwyn ffrwyth. Fodd bynnag, rhaid diwygio eto ac yn llawer cynt os ydym am ddileu'n llwyr yr amseroedd aros annerbyniol o hir y mae'n rhaid i ormod o gleifion eu hwynebu o hyd. Mae gormod o bobl yng

waiting too long for operations. While the second offer guarantee scheme has removed waits of 18 months and over in Gwent, which is good news, too many people are forced to wait over 12 months.

The NHS needs a clear plan for tackling waiting times. We must consider what lies beyond the second offer guarantee scheme. How will we move beyond the scheme and work to eliminate long waits altogether? We need a clear strategy that lays out the action that will be taken to match the pace of reform being set by the UK Government in England. There, patients have witnessed a rapid decline in out-patient and in-patient waiting times, thanks to the strategic reform agenda of the UK Government. Patients in Torfaen do not see a Welsh NHS—they see one NHS. They look across the border to England and rightly expect the progress being made there to be replicated in their local services. They expect the same standards to apply throughout. In taking forward the reform agenda, the Assembly Government must examine the situation elsewhere in the UK, particularly in England. We need to examine reforms in England that could be introduced in Wales. Reforms such as the introduction of treatment and diagnostic centres have transformed the waiting times situation across the border. We could do more to ring-fence elective capacity and to face down provider interest to put the patient first.

David Melding: Will you give way?

Lynne Neagle: I have almost finished, David.

David Melding: I was going to praise you.

Lynne Neagle: Thank you, but I have almost finished.

We should never place the dogma of being distinctively Welsh above the needs of Welsh patients. The distinguishing factor that all patients in Wales share is not Welshness, but sickness. We must have the courage to adopt

Ngwent yn aros yn rhy hir am lawdriniaeth. Er bod cynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnig wedi cael gwared ar aros 18 mis a mwy yng Ngwent, sy'n newyddion da, mae gormod o bobl yn gorfod aros am fwy na 12 mis.

Mae angen cynllun clir ar y GIG i fynd i'r afael ag amseroedd aros. Rhaid inni ystyried beth fydd y tu hwnt i gynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnig. Sut y byddwn yn symud y tu hwnt i'r cynllun a mynd ati i ddileu amseroedd aros hir yn gyfan gwbl? Mae angen inni gael strategaeth glir sy'n nodi'r camau a gaiff eu cymryd i gyflwyno diwygiadau yr un mor gyflym yng Nghymru ag a wneir gan Lywodraeth y DU yn Lloegr. Yno, mae cleifion wedi gweld gostyngiad cyflym yn amseroedd aros i gleifion allanol a chleifion mewnol, diolch i agenda diwygio strategol Llywodraeth y DU. Nid yw cleifion yn Nhorfaen yn gweld GIG i Gymru yn unig—gwelant un GIG. Maent yn edrych dros y ffin i Loegr ac yn disgwyl, a hynny gyda phob rheswm da, i'r cynnydd a wneir yno gael ei efelychu yn eu gwasanaethau lleol. Disgwyliant i'r un safonau fod yn gymwys drwyddi draw. Wrth weithredu ar yr agenda ddiwygio, rhaid i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ystyried y sefyllfa mewn mannau eraill o'r DU, yn enwedig yn Lloegr. Mae angen inni ystyried diwygiadau yn Lloegr y gellid eu cyflwyno yng Nghymru. Mae diwygiadau megis cyflwyno canolfannau diagnostig a thriniaeth wedi trawsnewid y sefyllfa o ran amseroedd aros dros y ffin. Gallem wneud rhagor i neilltuo adnoddau'n benodol ar gyfer triniaethau dewisol a herio buddiannau darparwyr er mwyn rhoi'r claf yn gyntaf.

David Melding: A ildiwch?

Lynne Neagle: Yr wyf bron â gorffen, David.

David Melding: Eich canmol oedd fy mwriad.

Lynne Neagle: Diolch yn fawr, ond yr wyf bron â gorffen.

Ni ddylem byth roi'r dogma o fod yn wahanol yng Nghymru uwchlaw anghenion cleifion Cymru. Nid Cymreictod yw'r ffactor arbennig a rennir gan bob claf yng Nghymru, ond salwch. Rhaid inni fod yn ddigon dewr i

the measures that we know will work. Let us move forward with the patients' need at the forefront of our minds.

Eleanor Burnham: Mae sefyllfa'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru yn drychinebus. Mae cleifion yn fy rhanbarth i, fel mewn mannau eraill, yn gorfod aros llawer yn hwy am driniaeth na chleifion yn Lloegr, ac mae'n amlwg bod nifer ohonynt yn flin ac yn dioddef poen.

If the Welsh Assembly Government was running an effective and efficient health service, we would not need this complex second offer scheme. Given that a quarter of the patients on our waiting lists have been waiting for 18 months and have still not received treatment, the scheme is hardly a success story. As Kirsty noted, patients are merely being shunted around a creaking system, and even more people have been waiting for a slightly shorter time.

The nurse who wrote to Mike German and prompted his question to the First Minister yesterday demonstrates the dire effect that the health service is having on staff and their low morale. How does this help to improve the health service? Patients deserve the best possible care, as quickly as possible, and as locally as possible. Minister, show us that you care, and do something about the situation. The state of the health service needs to be investigated without delay, and more money may need to be invested. I urge the Minister to take immediate action.

Val Lloyd: We have already heard that the second offer scheme, despite its importance, is only one part of the overall health strategy. I acknowledge that the situation that led to the introduction of the scheme was unacceptable. However, the initial objective of that scheme was to provide immediate action for those waiting over 18 months for treatment, and achievement of that target, albeit patchy in its distribution, is well on the way. Furthermore, the scheme will soon apply to those waiting 12 months. I am confident that the lessons learned from the first tranche will inform and improve this next level of the second offer scheme, and, if

fabwysiadu'r mesurau y gwyddom y byddant yn gweithio. Gadewch inni symud ymlaen gan gadw anghenion cleifion ar flaen ein meddyliau.

Eleanor Burnham: The health service in Wales is a shambles. Patients in my region, as in other parts of Wales, have to wait longer for treatment than patients in England, and many of them are clearly infuriated and in pain.

Pe bai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn rhedeg gwasanaeth iechyd effeithiol ac effeithlon, ni fyddai angen cynllun cymhleth yr ail gynnig. O gofio bod chwarter y cleifion ar ein rhestrau aros wedi bod yn aros 18 mis ac nad ydynt wedi cael eu trin eto, prin y gellir dweud bod y cynllun yn llwyddiant. Fel y nododd Kirsty, y cyfan sy'n digwydd yw bod cleifion yn cael eu symud o amgylch system sy'n gwegian, ac mae hyd yn oed mwy o bobl wedi bod yn aros am ychydig llai o amser.

Mae'r nyrs a ysgrifennodd at Mike German ac a ysgogodd ei gwestiwn i'r Prif Weinidog ddoe yn dangos yr effaith druenus a gaiff y gwasanaeth iechyd ar y staff a'i morâl isel. Sut y mae hyn yn helpu i wella'r gwasanaeth iechyd? Mae cleifion yn haeddu'r gofau gorau posibl, mor gyflym â phosibl, ac mor lleol â phosibl. Weinidog, dangoswch inni fod hyn yn bwysig ichi, a gwnewch rywbeth ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa. Mae angen ymchwilio i gyflwr y gwasanaeth iechyd yn ddi-oed, ac mae angen buddsoddi mwy o arian. Apeliwch ar y Gweinidog i weithredu ar unwaith.

Val Lloyd: Yr ydym eisoes wedi clywed mai dim ond un rhan o'r strategaeth iechyd gyffredinol yw cynllun yr ail gynnig, er rhan mor bwysig ydyw. Cydnabyddaf fod y sefyllfa a arweiniodd at gyflwyno'r cynllun yn annerbyniol. Fodd bynnag, amcan y cynllun hwnnw i ddechrau oedd gweithredu ar unwaith dros y bobl hynny a oedd wedi bod yn aros am fwy na 18 mis am driniaeth ac, er nas darperir yn gyson ym mhob ardal, yr ydym yn sicr ar y ffordd i gyflawni'r targed hwnnw. At hynny, cyn hir bydd y cynllun yn gymwys i'r rhai sy'n aros 12 mis. Yr wyf yn ffyddiog y bydd y gwersi a ddysgwyd o'r cam cyntaf yn llywio cam

not, we should be asking some firm questions.

3.40 p.m.

Kirsty Williams: My local health board has been commissioning services at 12 month lists. They have had to abandon this in the case of operations carried out at Hereford Hospital, because that hospital is refusing to treat Welsh orthopaedic patients because of the difficulties of running differential access times for English and Welsh patients. My LHB has tried to deliver 12-month waiting times, but it is failing because of policies pursued by this Government. What message can you give to patients in Powys LHB who cannot get the treatment that they need, because of differential access times between England and Wales?

Val Lloyd: I would have to look at all the figures—you are on the spot, and know them. The Minister for Health and Social Services is listening to that point, and I am sure that he will give you an adequate answer.

I will not reiterate figures, as they speak for themselves. Waiting times have turned the corner, and in most areas are steadily falling. No-one is pretending that people are no longer waiting for treatment—I know that they are. However, the scheme must be recognised as one vehicle by which patients have been given accelerated access to high-quality treatment.

Significant inroads to tackling lengthy waiting lists have been made, which, let us not forget, are the collective sum of high sickness rates and an increasing number of referrals. Sometimes, as was documented in the Auditor General's report, these are quite inappropriate referrals. However, remember that this scheme must be just one element of a package of reforms and measures to improve access and, importantly, the patient experience.

My own area of Swansea continues to have lengthy waiting lists. It pains me to say that,

nesaf cynllun yr ail gynnig ac yn gwella arno, ac, os na wnaiff hynny, dylem fod yn gofyn rhai cwestiynau cadarn.

Kirsty Williams: Mae fy mwrdd iechyd lleol wedi bod yn comisiynu gwasanaethau ar gyfer rhestrau o 12 mis. Bu'n rhaid iddo roi'r gorau i hyn yn achos llawdriniaethau a wneir yn Ysbyty Henffordd, oherwydd penderfyniad yr ysbyty hwnnw i wrthod trin cleifion orthopedig o Gymru oherwydd anawsterau cynnal amseroedd mynediad gwahanol i gleifion yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Mae fy mwrdd iechyd lleol wedi ceisio cyflawni amseroedd aros o 12 mis, ond mae'n methu oherwydd polisiau'r Llywodraeth hon. Pa neges y gallwch ei rhoi i gleifion ym mwrdd iechyd lleol Powys na allant gael y driniaeth y mae arnynt ei hangen, oherwydd amseroedd mynediad gwahanol rhwng Cymru a Lloegr?

Val Lloyd: Byddai'n rhaid imi edrych ar yr holl ffigurau—yr ydych chi yn y man a'r lle, ac yr ydych yn eu gwybod. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn gwrandao ar y pwynt hwnnw, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn rhoi ateb digonol ichi.

Nid wyf am ailadrodd y ffigurau, gan eu bod yn siarad drostynt eu hunain. Mae amseroedd aros wedi dechrau gwella, ac yn y rhan fwyaf o feysydd maent yn gostwng yn raddol. Nid oes neb yn honni nad yw pobl yn aros am driniaeth mwyach—gwn eu bod yn aros. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i'r cynllun gael ei gydnabod fel un ffordd o sicrhau mynediad cyflymach i driniaeth o safon dda i gleifion.

Gwnaed cryn dipyn i fynd i'r afael â rhestrau aros hirfaith, sydd, a gadewch inni gofio hyn, yn codi o gyfuniad o gyfraddau salwch uchel a nifer gynyddol o atgyfeiriadau. Weithiau, fel y nodwyd yn adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol, mae'r rhain yn atgyfeiriadau hollol anaddas. Fodd bynnag, cofiwch mai dim ond un elfen o becyn o ddiwygiadau a mesurau i wella mynediad ac, yn bwysicach na dim, brofiad y claf yw'r cynllun hwn.

Yn fy ardal fy hun, sef Abertawe, ceir rhestrau aros hirfaith o hyd. Mae'n flin

but the figures cannot be argued with. However, Swansea is a regional centre, for treatment as for many other aspects, and one can understand that the demand of services in Swansea will be significantly higher than in other areas, although the long waits are not all in the regional specialties, and current action will have to be sustained. The direct action taken in Swansea includes a dedicated team of nurse specialists, who have now been employed to liaise directly with patients who have been offered treatment under the second offer programme. This personal service offered by the team has proved invaluable, offering guidance, advice, and reassurance to patients.

However, as I have already said, the second offer scheme is one measure. Funding from the Assembly has also supported a dedicated surgical day unit at Singleton Hospital, and a medical assessment unit at Morriston Hospital. Other initiatives, such as the general practitioners' specialist service, have the potential to increase access to service, as does the partial booking system to reduce the number of non-attenders, and ensure that patients are able to attend at the times available.

To conclude, I concur with earlier statements that we must look across the whole piece to address this issue, and to learn from what is happening and from good practice, as well as from practice that is not quite as good. I am sure that that will be the way forward.

Lisa Francis: According to official Assembly Government statistics released today, waiting lists have risen a total of 83 per cent in five years. Last week, the Auditor General's report claimed that there was no clear strategy to bring down waiting times. We know that, in the last two to three years, this administration's initiatives tried to cut waiting times by funding extra operations. Forty thousand patients were treated at a cost of £86 million. Yet, the Auditor General's report states that initiatives have not resulted in any substantial reduction in waiting times.

gennyf ddweud hynny, ond ni ellir dadlau â'r ffigurau. Fodd bynnag, mae Abertawe yn ganolfan ranbarthol, ar gyfer triniaeth yn ogystal â llawer o agweddau eraill, a gellir deall y bydd y galw am wasanaethau yn Abertawe dipyn yn uwch nag ydyw mewn ardaloedd eraill, er nad yw pob rhestr aros hir yn ymwneud â'r arbenigeddau rhanbarthol, a bydd yn rhaid parhau i weithredu fel ag a wneir ar hyn o bryd. Ymhlith y camau gweithredu uniongyrchol a gymerir yn Abertawe mae tîm penodol o nyrsys arbenigol, sydd wedi'u cyflogi i gysylltu'n uniongyrchol â chleifion sydd wedi cael cynnig triniaeth o dan raglen yr ail gynnig. Bu'r gwasanaeth personol hwn a gynnigir gan y tîm yn amhrisiadwy, gan gynnig arweiniad, cyngor a sicrwydd i gleifion.

Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais eisoes, un mesur yw cynllun yr ail gynnig. Mae arian oddi wrth y Cynulliad hefyd wedi cynnal uned llawdriniaeth ddydd benodol yn Ysbyty Singleton, ac uned asesu meddygol yn Ysbyty Treforys. Gallai mentrau eraill, megis gwasanaeth arbenigol y meddygon teulu roi gwell mynediad i wasanaethau, fel y gwna'r system bwcio'n rhannol er mwyn lleihau nifer y bobl sy'n colli eu hapwyntiadau, a sicrhau bod cleifion yn gallu dod ar yr amseroedd sydd ar gael.

I gloi, cytunaf â'r gosodiadau cynharach fod yn rhaid inni edrych ar bob agwedd er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, a dysgu oddi wrth yr hyn sy'n digwydd, ac oddi wrth arferion da, yn ogystal ag arfer nad yw cystal. Yr wyf yn siŵr mai dyna fydd y ffordd ymlaen.

Lisa Francis: Yn ôl ystadegau swyddogol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a gyhoeddwyd heddiw, mae amseroedd aros wedi cynyddu 83 y cant i gyd mewn pum mlynedd. Yr wythnos diwethaf, honnodd adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol nad oedd strategaeth glir i gwtogi ar amseroedd aros. Gwyddom, yn y ddwy neu dair blynedd diwethaf, i'r weinyddiaeth hon geisio lleihau amseroedd aros drwy ariannu llawdriniaethau ychwanegol. Triniwyd 40,000 o gleifion ar gost o £86 miliwn. Ac eto, noda adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol nad yw mentrau wedi arwain at unrhyw ostyngiad mawr mewn amseroedd aros.

Despite the second offer guarantee scheme, waiting times in Wales still remain longer than those in England, where Ministers have promised that, by 2008, no-one will have to wait longer than 18 weeks from being referred by their GP to being treated in hospital. The problem with the second offer guarantee scheme is that it distorts clinical priorities. As members of the Health and Social Services Committee have said in previous Plenary debates, it is a Government diktat that tells clinicians who they must treat within the 18-month target instead of clinicians deciding that for themselves. The BMA states that waiting list figures make its members weep with despair, yet, under the previous Minister's stewardship of health, the number of her staff—not doctors or nurses—doubled. What we end up with is not a lean, mean treating machine, but more a bureaucratic brontosaurus, and I am afraid that the policy of the second offer does nothing to resolve capacity issues. It is like trying to cut down a forest of trees with a nail file.

Last week, Minister, you acknowledged the Auditor General's report as an important document from which lessons are to be learnt. The BMA's Welsh council concluded that inexperienced local health boards have been unable to assess the demands on hospital services from general practice and the community. These shortcomings in management systems and in the commissioning of services make a substantial contribution to the appalling state of affairs—the BMA's Welsh council said that. Do you not now concede that it is time to change the strategy and to start the clock ticking from when you see a GP and not when you see the consultant, as David Melding has asked?

Lorraine Barrett: Unlike the rainbow coalition on the other side of the Chamber, I welcome the opportunity to debate the second offer scheme. The decision to lower the waiting period covered by the scheme

Er gwaethaf cynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnig, erys amseroedd aros yng Nghymru yn hwy nag amseroedd aros yn Lloegr, lle y mae Gweinidogion wedi addo na fydd neb, erbyn 2008, yn gorfod aros am fwy na 18 wythnos ar ôl i'w feddyg teulu ei atgyfeirio nes cael ei drin yn yr ysbyty. Y broblem o ran cynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnig yw ei fod yn ystumio blaenoriaethau clinigol. Fel y mae aelodau o'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wedi dweud mewn dadleuon blaenorol yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, y Llywodraeth sy'n dweud wrth glinigwyr pa gleifion y mae'n rhaid iddynt eu trin o fewn y targed o 18 mis yn hytrach na gadael iddynt hwy benderfynu hynny drostynt eu hunain. Noda Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain fod ffigurau rhestrau aros yn gwneud i'w haelodau wylo mewn anobaith, ac eto, o dan stiwardiaeth iechyd y cyn-Weinidog, cyfanswm y staff yn ei hadran hi—nid meddygon neu nyrsys—a ddyblodd. Yr hyn sydd gennym yn y pen draw yw nid system drin hynod effeithlon ond system hynod fiwrocataidd, ac mae arnaf ofn, nid yw polisi cynllun yr ail gynnig yn gwneud dim i ddatrys problemau o ran capasiti. Nid yw'n mynd yn agos at ddatrys y broblem.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, Weinidog, bu ichi gydnabod bod adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn ddogfen bwysig y dylid dysgu gwersi oddi wrthi. Daeth cyngor Cymru Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain i'r casgliad nad yw byrddau iechyd lleol dibrofiad wedi llwyddo i asesu'r galwadau ar wasanaethau ysbyty gan feddygon teulu a'r gymuned. Mae'r diffygion hyn o ran systemau rheoli ac o ran comisiynu gwasanaethau yn cyfrannu gryn dipyn at y sefyllfa warthus sy'n bodoli—cyngor Cymru Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain a ddywedodd hynny. Onid ydych yn cyfaddef yn awr ei bod yn bryd newid y strategaeth a dechrau cyfrif amseroedd aros o'r adeg y gwelwch feddyg teulu ac nid o'r adeg y gwelwch y meddyg ymgynghorol, fel y gofynnodd David Melding?

Lorraine Barrett: Yn wahanol i'r glymblaid o bob lliw ar ochr arall y Siambr, croesawaf y cyfle i drafod cynllun yr ail gynnig. Mae'r penderfyniad i ostwng y cyfnod aros o dan y cynllun o 18 mis i 12 mis yn newyddion da.

from 18 months to 12 months is good news. Figures have been mentioned, but I will repeat that, since the two initiatives on 1 January and up to 30 November last year came in, the number of people waiting over 12 months has been reduced by 44 per cent, and the number of those waiting over 18 months has been reduced by 86 per cent. That is progress.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: In terms of clarity and a reality check, you must accept that you are referring to in-patient waiting times. In addition, people are waiting up to and over 18 months on out-patient waiting lists. It is not a matter of 18 months or 12 months, but two and a half years in total. When you only refer to in-patient waiting lists, you are not actually offering a real picture of people's waiting times and their suffering during those waiting times.

Lorraine Barrett: There are many issues with regard to the length of time for out-patients to see a consultant. Val mentioned a level of inappropriate referrals, and there are many cases of non-attenders and many figures. Minister, what is being done to deal with the huge figures for non-attenders? There are many ways in which we can consider this matter, including, perhaps, alternative treatment. I have spoken to the chair of one of my health boards, which is looking at different ways of treating patients, other than going to see a consultant. There must be alternative ways, and we can be imaginative.

However, while I would expect the opposition to undermine the scheme, I did not expect a senior consultant to make comments that could affect a patient's decision to opt for an alternative offer of treatment, as happened a few weeks ago when a senior consultant wrote to 73 patients who were offered operations in Weston-super-mare. I was absolutely furious and raised the matter in a question to the Minister for Health and Social Services at the time. While I recognise that patients may still opt to be looked after by their local trust, this letter was damaging and caused an awful lot of stress and concern to patients—the majority of whom turned the offer down. A further letter was sent to all those patients,

Crybwyllwyd ffigurau, ond nodaf eto, ers cyflwyno'r ddwy fenter ar 1 Ionawr a hyd at 30 Tachwedd y llynedd, fod nifer y bobl sy'n aros am fwy na 12 mis wedi gostwng 44 y cant, ac mae nifer y bobl sy'n aros am fwy na 18 mis wedi gostwng 86 y cant. Cynnydd yw hynny.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Er mwyn eglurder a chywirdeb, rhaid ichi dderbyn eich bod yn cyfeirio at amseroedd aros ar gyfer cleifion mewnol. Yn ogystal, mae pobl yn aros hyd at a thros 18 mis ar restrau aros ar gyfer cleifion allanol. Nid mater o 18 mis neu 12 mis ydyw, ond dwy flynedd a hanner i gyd. Pan gyfeiriwch at restrau aros cleifion mewnol yn unig, nid ydych yn rhoi darlun gwirioneddol o amseroedd aros pobl a'u dioddefaint yn ystod yr amseroedd aros hynny.

Lorraine Barrett: Mae llawer o faterion yn codi o ran faint o amser y mae cleifion allanol yn aros i weld meddyg ymgynghorol. Soniodd Val am atgyfeiriadau amhriodol, ac mae llawer o achosion o bobl yn colli apwyntiadau, a llawer o ffigurau. Weinidog, beth sy'n cael ei wneud i ymdrin â'r niferoedd mawr o bobl sy'n colli eu hapwyntiadau? Mae sawl ffordd o ystyried y mater hwn, gan gynnwys, efallai, triniaeth amgen. Yr wyf wedi siarad â chadeirydd un o'm byrddau iechyd, sy'n ystyried gwahanol ffyrdd o drin cleifion, yn hytrach na mynd i weld meddyg ymgynghorol. Rhaid bod dulliau amgen, a gallwn fod yn greadigol.

Fodd bynnag, er y disgwyliwn i'r gwrthbleidiau danseilio'r cynllun, nid oeddwn yn disgwyl i uwch feddyg ymgynghorol wneud sylwadau a allai effeithio ar benderfyniad claf i ddewis cynnig arall o driniaeth, fel y digwyddodd ychydig wythnosau yn ôl pan ysgrifennodd uwch feddyg ymgynghorol at 73 o gleifion y cynigwyd llawdriniaeth yn Weston-super-mare iddynt. Yr oedd hyn wedi fy ngwylltio'n llwyr a chodais y mater mewn cwestiwn i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar y pryd. Er y cydnabyddaf y gall cleifion ddewis cael gofal gan eu hymddiriedolaeth leol o hyd, yr oedd y llythyr hwn yn niweidiol a pharodd gryn straen a phryder i'r cleifion—y penderfynodd

following assurances from the trust that the treatment that they would receive would be first class. In fact, two of those people are known to me personally. They have now had their operations in Weston-super-mare and are delighted with the treatment and the after care that they received. Minister, will you offer an assurance that, when patients receive a second offer for treatment, they can be certain that that treatment will be as good as any that they could expect from their own trust?

Also, Minister, will you comment on any assistance that might be given to patients who may want family support during the time of their operation if they have to go out of county, as it were, or out of country, even, as well as on any financial support that they might need on transportation costs?

3.50 p.m.

David Lloyd: Between April and November 2004, 11,264 patients received a second offer and fewer than 5,000 accepted. In his recent report on NHS waiting times, the Auditor General for Wales lists a number of key risks inherent in the second offer scheme. One is who is responsible for breaches in the waiting time target: is that the commissioner or the provider of services? The second is financial challenges if a single local health board or trust is forced to fund a large volume of treatments under the second offer scheme. Thirdly, and perversely, the Auditor General noted that the financial risks for potential breaches of in-patient targets may increase the incentive to avoid tackling out-patient waiting times, as my colleague, Rhodri Glyn Thomas, has already mentioned. Fourthly, significant numbers of patients were reluctant to travel, especially in the Swansea area, as the Auditor General notes.

A few months ago, over 600 patients in Swansea had been waiting over 18 months

y mwyafrif ohonynt wrthod y cynnig. Anfonwyd llythyr arall at bob un o'r cleifion hynny, ar ôl i'r ymddiriedolaeth roi sicrwydd y byddai'r driniaeth a gaent o'r radd flaenaf. Mewn gwirionedd, yr wyf yn adnabod dau o'r bobl hynny. Maent bellach wedi cael triniaeth yn Weston-super-mare ac maent wrth eu bodd gyda'r driniaeth a'r ôl-ofal a gawsant. Weinidog, a wnewch chi roi sicrwydd y gall cleifion, pan gânt ail gynnig o driniaeth, fod yn sicr y bydd y driniaeth honno cystal ag unrhyw beth y gallent ei ddisgwyl gan eu hymddiriedolaeth eu hunain?

Hefyd, Weinidog, a wnewch sylwadau ar unrhyw gymorth a allai gael ei roi i gleifion sydd am gael cymorth teuluol o bosibl pan fyddant yn cael eu llawdriniaeth os oes rhaid iddynt fynd y tu allan i'w sir, fel petai, neu'r tu allan i'r wlad hyd yn oed, yn ogystal â sylwadau ar unrhyw gymorth ariannol arall sydd ei angen arnynt o bosibl o ran costau cludo?

David Lloyd: Rhwng mis Ebrill a mis Tachwedd 2004, cafodd 11,264 o gleifion ail gynnig ac fe'i derbyniwyd gan lai na 5,000. Yn ei adroddiad diweddar ar amseroedd aros yn y GIG, mae Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru yn rhestru nifer o risgiau allweddol sy'n gysylltiedig â chynllun yr ail gynnig. Un risg yw pwy sy'n gyfrifol os methir â chyrraedd targed amseroedd aros: y comisiynydd ynteu'r darparwr gwasanaethau? Yr ail yw heriau ariannol os oes rhaid i fwrdd iechyd lleol neu ymddiriedolaeth ariannu nifer fawr o driniaethau o dan gynllun yr ail gynnig. Yn drydydd, ac yn groes i bob rheswm, nododd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol y gall y risgiau ariannol o ran achosion posibl o fethu â chyrraedd targedau cleifion mewnol fod yn gymhelliant ychwanegol i osgoi mynd i'r afael ag amseroedd aros cleifion allanol, fel y soniodd fy nghyd-aelod, Rhodri Glyn Thomas, eisoes. Yn bedwerydd, yr oedd nifer sylweddol o gleifion yn amharod i deithio, yn enwedig yn ardal Abertawe, fel y noda'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol.

Ychydig fisoedd yn ôl, yr oedd dros 600 o gleifion yn Abertawe wedi bod yn aros am

for in-patient surgery. At the time, only one in six Swansea residents, on receiving a second offer, took up the offer. Matters have improved, and in having a second offer scheme, its better application in an area such as Swansea needs to be addressed. As Lorraine Barrett mentioned, this would enable ease of visiting, address the costs of visiting, the issues of follow-up care and other related issues. According to consultant surgeons interviewed by the Auditor General for his report, the clinical responsibility for pre-operative and post-operative work was an area which needed clear definition in terms of which trust looks after the complications of any surgical procedure carried out under the second offer scheme.

There is an urgent need to tackle long waiting times, but as the Auditor General himself says, the various waiting time initiatives have not delivered sustainable reductions in waiting times. There needs to be a short-term increase in NHS capacity to treat more people. It is about more beds, nurses and doctors here in Wales; and it is also about protecting waiting list patients. This means separating cold elective surgery from the rising tide of emergency admissions in separate wards, ring-fenced, and in separate hospitals with the beds allocated to waiting list patients given absolute protection, so that there are no more cancellations on the day and no more cancellations on the way to the operating theatre after a patient has had their premedication. We need NHS treatment and diagnostic centres in Wales, which can be accommodated in community hospitals and, increasingly, in GP practices. Let us make use of primary care. Excellent GP premises can deliver day-case and diagnostic procedures. We must secure proper funding for the enhanced services so that they can deliver. From our background, Minister, we both know the capabilities of primary care. Organised and funded, it will deliver, as you know.

fwy na 18 mis am lawdriniaeth fel cleifion mewnol. Ar y pryd, dim ond un o bob chwech o bobl o Abertawe a dderbyniodd yr ail gynnig pan gynigiwyd ef. Mae'r sefyllfa wedi gwella, ac o weithredu cynllun yr ail gynnig, mae angen mynd ati i'w gymhwysu'n well mewn ardal megis Abertawe. Fel y soniodd Lorraine Barrett, byddai hyn yn ei gwneud yn haws i ymweld â'r claf, yn ymdrin â chostau ymweld, a materion o ran gofal dilynol a materion cysylltiedig eraill. Yn ôl llawfeddygon ymgynghorol a gyfwelwyd gan yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol ar gyfer ei adroddiad, yr oedd y cyfrifoldeb clinigol dros waith cyn ac ar ôl llawdriniaeth yn faes lle yr oedd angen diffiniad clir o ran pa ymddiriedolaeth sy'n gofalu am y claf ar ôl cymhlethdodau yn sgîl unrhyw lawdriniaeth a wneir o dan gynllun yr ail gynnig.

Mae angen mynd i'r afael ag amseroedd aros fel mater o frys, ond fel y dywed yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol ei hun, nid yw'r gwahanol fentrau ar amseroedd aros wedi arwain at ostyngiadau cynaliadwy mewn amseroedd aros. Mae angen cynnydd yn y byrdymor yng ngallu'r GIG i drin mwy o bobl. Mae a wnelo â mwy o welyau, nyrsys a meddygon yma yng Nghymru; ac mae a wnelo hefyd â diogelu cleifion ar restrau aros. Mae hyn yn golygu gwahanu llawdriniaeth ddewisol oddi wrth y llif cynyddol o dderbyniadau brys mewn wardiau ar wahân, wedi'u clustnodi'n benodol, ac mewn ysbytai ar wahân lle y mae'r gwelyau wedi'u dosbarthu i gleifion ar restrau aros gyda sicrwydd llwyr, fel na fydd triniaeth yn cael ei chanslo ar y diwrnod mwyach ac na fydd triniaeth yn cael ei chanslo ar y ffordd i'r ystafell lawdriniaeth ar ôl i glaf gael rhagfeddyginiaeth. Mae angen canolfannau diagnostig a thriniaeth GIG yng Nghymru, y gellir eu lleoli mewn ysbytai cymunedol ac, yn gynyddol, ym mhraetisau meddygon teulu. Gadewch inni ddefnyddio gofal sylfaenol. Gellir cyflawni gweithdrefnau diagnostig a gofal dydd mewn meddygfeydd ardderchog. Rhaid inni sicrhau cyllid priodol ar gyfer y gwasanaethau ychwanegol fel y gallant eu darparu. O'n cefndir ni, Weinidog, gŵyr y ddau ohonom alluoedd gofal sylfaenol. Os caiff ei drefnu a'i ariannu, fe fydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth, fel y gwyddoch.

Social care is also a part of this. The continued loss of care home beds must be addressed by addressing fee levels payable to homes and the whole-systems approach of previous excellent reports into waiting times such as 'A Question of Balance' by Paul Williams, some time ago.

In conclusion, with over 76,000 people in Wales waiting over six months to see a consultant for the first time, and with over 600 people waiting over 18 months for surgery today in Wales, sustained investment is required in NHS and social care capacity, locally, as well as the protection of waiting list surgery. Short-term initiatives have not delivered. The people of Wales deserve better.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): This has been a good debate and many useful points have been raised. It is a tribute to the quality of the debate that I will not have an opportunity to deal with all the points raised. As my time is limited, I shall try to do the best that I can. How much time do I have?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Seven and a half minutes.

Brian Gibbons: I will do my best in the time available. David Melding's point rankled slightly in terms of the situation that we inherited. Insofar as the waiting time figures are concerned, David is probably largely correct and I will not argue with that. However, he forgot to mention the obscenity of the continual cavalcade of patients going up and down the M4 when seriously ill patients were not being admitted to hospitals because of the Conservatives' complete obsession with the service that they were providing. That was not a sustainable situation. In many ways, a scandalous situation existed towards the middle and end of the 1990s when those unacceptable practices existed.

David Melding: You chose a curious way of acknowledging that the figures that I quoted are correct. You then leapt into an entirely different debate, which I am quite happy to

Mae gofal cymdeithasol hefyd yn rhan o hyn. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â nifer y gwelyau mewn cartrefi gofal a gollir o hyd drwy ymdrin â lefel y ffioedd sy'n daladwy i gartrefi a'r ymagwedd systemau cyfan a geir mewn adroddiadau ardderchog blaenorol ar amseroedd aros megis 'Cadw Cydbwysedd' gan Paul Williams, beth amser yn ôl.

I gloi, a thros 76,000 o bobl yng Nghymru yn aros am fwy na chwe mis i weld meddyg ymgynghorol am y tro cyntaf, a thros 600 o bobl yn aros am fwy na 18 mis am lawdriniaeth heddiw yng Nghymru, mae angen buddsoddiad parhaus yn y GIG ac mewn gofal cymdeithasol, yn lleol, yn ogystal â diogelu llawdriniaeth rhestrau aros. Nid yw mentrau byrdymor wedi llwyddo. Mae pobl Cymru yn haeddu mwy na hynny.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Bu hon yn ddadl dda a chodwyd llawer o bwyntiau defnyddiol. Mae'n glod i safon y ddadl na chaf gyfle i ymdrin â phob un o'r pwyntiau a godwyd. Gan mai cyfyngedig yw fy amser, ceisiaf fy ngorau glas. Faint o amser sydd gennyf?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Saith munud a hanner.

Brian Gibbons: Ceisiaf fy ngorau glas yn yr amser sydd ar gael. Yr oedd pwynt David Melding wedi codi fy ngwrychyn braidd o ran y sefyllfa a etifeddwyd gennym. O ran y ffigurau amseroedd aros, mae David siŵr o fod yn gywir ac ni fyddwn yn dadlau â hynny. Fodd bynnag, anghofiodd sôn am y sefyllfa warthus pan oedd llif o gleifion yn cael eu cludo yn ôl ac ymlaen ar hyd yr M4 pan nad oedd cleifion a oedd yn ddifrifol wael yn cael eu derbyn i ysbytai oherwydd obesiwn llwyr y Ceidwadwyr gyda'r gwasanaeth yr oeddent yn ei ddarparu. Nid oedd hynny yn sefyllfa gynaliadwy. Mewn sawl ffordd, bu sefyllfa warthus o tua chanol a diwedd yr 1990au pan fodolai'r arferion annerbyniol hynny.

David Melding: Gwnaethoch ddewis ffordd ryfedd o gydnabod bod y ffigurau a ddyfynnais yn gywir. Yna dechreuasoch ddadl hollol wahanol, yr wyf yn fwy na

engage in, but you were not talking about the subject of today's debate. Your complacency was summed up in your speech when you said that the second offer scheme was only the start of the journey to reduce waiting times. Heavens, your party has been in office for nearly six years and has made promises regarding waiting lists during all that time.

Brian Gibbons: I was making a point about sustainable solutions. I do not think that the situation that existed in the mid and late 1990s was sustainable because procedures were not in place to deal with the acute demand. The Wanless report has given us a clear steer as to how we need to deal with acute demand and address the elective capacity.

Many Members referred to the total waiting time initiative. In England, there are plans to consider the total waiting time experience, although it is recognised that more work needs to be done to ensure that that can be delivered. In Wales, we are looking specifically at the difficulties that the National Audit Office reported in relation to unnecessary delays in diagnostic procedures. A considerable amount of work is being carried out to try to see whether we can identify what the particular problems are in that regard. Until that work is done, it will be difficult to give an informed and sustainable solution to the total waiting time initiative.

There is no doubt that we can learn from the English experience and we must be able to look to England for best practice. However, we must recognise that Wales is significantly different from England because of the sheer volume of illness that exists in our population, which is older and poorer. Solutions that would work in England will not automatically work in Wales with an indiscriminate read across. We must learn from the good practice that exists. However, we must recognise that we must address particular features of the health service in Wales, which the Wanless report highlighted.

We need to learn from the English experience in terms of providing elective

pharod i gymryd rhan ynddi, ond nid sôn am bwnc y ddadl heddiw yr oeddech. Yr oedd eich hunanfodlonrwydd yn amlwg yn eich araith pan ddywedasoeh mai megis cychwyn ar y dasg o leihau amseroedd aros oedd cynllun yr ail gynnig. Er mwyn popeth, bu eich plaid mewn grym ers chwe blynedd bron ac mae wedi gwneud addewidion o ran rhestrau aros ar hyd yr amser hwnnw.

Brian Gibbons: Gwneud pwynt ynglŷn ag atebion cynaliadwy yr oeddwn i. Yn fy marn i, nid oedd y sefyllfa a fodolai yng nghanol a diwedd yr 1990au yn gynaliadwy am nad oedd gweithdrefnau ar waith i ymdopi â'r galw aciwt. Mae adroddiad Wanless wedi rhoi arweiniad clir inni ynghylch sut y mae angen inni ymdrin â galw aciwt a mynd i'r afael ag adnoddau i gynnal llawdriniaeth ddewisol.

Cyfeiriodd sawl Aelod at fenter cyfanswm yr amser aros. Yn Lloegr, bwriedir ystyried profiad cyfanswm yr amser aros, er y cydnabyddir bod angen gwneud mwy o waith i sicrhau y gellir cyflawni hynny. Yng Nghymru, yr ydym yn ystyried yn benodol yr anawsterau a nodwyd gan y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol o ran yr oedi diangen mewn gweithdrefnau diagnostig. Gwneir cryn dipyn o waith i geisio gweld a allwn nodi beth yw'r problemau penodol yn hynny o beth. Hyd nes y gwneir y gwaith hwnnw, bydd yn anodd rhoi ateb hyddysg a chynaliadwy o ran menter cyfanswm yr amser aros.

Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth y gallwn ddysgu o brofiad Lloegr a rhaid inni allu edrych tuag at Loegr am arfer gorau. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gydnabod bod Cymru yn wahanol iawn i Loegr oherwydd yr holl salwch mawr a geir ymhlith ein poblogaeth, sy'n hŷn ac yn dlotach. Ni fydd atebion a fyddai'n gweithio yn Lloegr o reidrwydd yn gweithio yng Nghymru os cânt eu hefelychu'n ddifeddwl. Rhaid inni ddysgu o'r arferion da sydd ar gael eisoes. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gydnabod bod yn rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â nodweddion arbennig y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru, fel y nodwyd yn adroddiad Wanless.

Mae angen inni ddysgu o brofiad Lloegr o ran darparu adnoddau ar gyfer llawdriniaeth

capacity. However, I am sure that anyone who has read the *Health Service Journal* over recent months and the *Financial Times*—and the First Minister has mentioned this—will know that there are real concerns regarding destabilising the mainstream NHS in England through an unsustainable dependence on elective and diagnostic treatment centres. Therefore, we need to learn from best practice, but in an informed way.

Mark Isherwood: The demographic differences between England and Wales also existed in 1999. Why, therefore, are 108,000 more people on waiting lists now than in 1999? What do you say to my constituent from Denbigh who is now stuck on four 18-month in-patient orthopaedic waiting lists to get into the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic and District Hospital in Gobowen on a cross-border basis?

Brian Gibbons: I do not quite understand your point about four waiting lists. However, if your constituent has been waiting 18 months, then surely he or she would have received an offer under the 12-month and 18-month guarantee. If not, I am sure that you have advised your constituent to take this up with the local trust, which has primary responsibility for this issue. If the trust is not responding appropriately, feel free to come back to me. However, the primary responsibility lies with the trust and it must manage the situation.

4.00 p.m.

We need to recognise that there are problems with the out-patient system in terms of the lengths of the waits. Significant progress is being made in reducing the long waits. In relation to the median waits—and Kirsty has made her point several times—I have asked my officials to look at not only the long wait for out-patients, but the experience of patients who are waiting for shorter periods. I am pleased to say that the number of patients on the out-patient waiting lists who are seen within six-months is increasing. Not only do we have a situation in which the long waiters have been reduced in number, but the number of patients who are seen within six

ddewisol. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siŵr y gŵyr pawb sydd wedi darllen yr *Health Service Journal* dros y misoedd diwethaf a'r *Financial Times*—ac mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi cyfeirio at hyn—fod pryderon gwirioneddol o ran ansefydlogi gwasanaethau prif ffrwd y GIG yn Lloegr drwy ddibyniaeth anghynaliadwy ar ganolfannau triniaeth ddewisol a diagnostig. Felly mae angen inni ddysgu o arfer gorau, ond ar sail gwybodaeth.

Mark Isherwood: Bodolai'r gwahaniaethau demograffig rhwng Cymru a Lloegr yn 1999 hefyd. Pam, felly, y mae 108,000 yn fwy o bobl ar restrau aros yn awr nag yr oedd yn 1999? Beth ydych yn ei ddweud wrth fy etholwr o Ddinbych sydd ar bedair rhestr aros orthopedig 18 mis ar gyfer cleifion mewnol er mwyn cael triniaeth yn Ysbyty Dosbarth ac Orthopedig Robert Jones ac Agnes Hunt yng Ngobowen ar sail drawsffiniol?

Brian Gibbons: Ni ddeallaf yn hollol eich pwynt ynglŷn â phedair rhestr aros. Fodd bynnag, os yw eich etholwr wedi bod yn aros 18 mis, yna mae'n rhaid ei fod wedi cael cynnig o dan y warant 12 mis a 18 mis. Os na chafodd ef, yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod wedi dweud wrth eich etholwr am godi'r mater hwn gyda'r ymddiriedolaeth leol, sydd â'r prif gyfrifoldeb dros y mater hwn. Os nad yw'r ymddiriedolaeth yn ymateb yn briodol, mae croeso ichi godi'r mater eto gyda mi. Fodd bynnag, yr ymddiriedolaeth sydd â'r prif gyfrifoldeb a rhaid iddi reoli'r sefyllfa.

Mae angen inni gydnabod bod problemau gyda system y cleifion allanol o ran amseroedd aros. Gwneir cryn gynnydd o ran lleihau'r amseroedd aros hir. O ran yr amseroedd aros canolrif—ac mae Kirsty wedi gwneud ei phwynt sawl gwaith—yr wyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion edrych nid yn unig ar yr amseroedd aros hir i gleifion allanol, ond profiad cleifion sy'n aros am gyfnodau byrrach. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod nifer y cleifion ar restrau aros cleifion allanol a gaiff eu gweld o fewn chwe mis ar gynnydd. Yr ydym mewn sefyllfa felly lle nid yn unig y mae nifer y bobl sy'n aros yn hir wedi gostwng, ond mae nifer y cleifion a

months, reflecting clinical priority, has also increased. There is good practice out there and we need to learn from that good practice.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will you take an intervention?

Brian Gibbons: No. On the point that Lynne Neagle made, we can certainly see from the fact that no patient is waiting over 18 months for in-patient or out-patient treatment at the Royal Gwent Hospital, when, three or four years ago, the situation there was dire, that with concerted effort, good practice and good leadership, progress can be made. The points that Lorraine made are true. There is a need for best practice in terms of taking action through partial-booking systems and so on, and to develop alternative clinical care pathways in the community, which Dai Lloyd mentioned. If we adopt a more patient-focused system using this scheme, more people will take it up.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: If amendment 1 is carried, amendments 2, 3 and 4 will fall. If amendment 2 is carried, amendments 3 and 4 will fall.

gaiff eu gweld o fewn chwe mis, gan adlewyrchu blaenoriaeth glinigol, hefyd wedi cynyddu. Mae arfer da i'w gael ac mae angen inni ddysgu o arfer da.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

Brian Gibbons: Na wnaeth. O ran y pwynt a wnaeth Lynne Neagle, gallwn yn sicr weld o'r ffaith nad oes yr un claf yn aros am fwy na 18 mis am driniaeth fel claf mewnol neu glaf allanol yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Gwent, o gofio'r sefyllfa ddirifol yno dair neu bedair blynedd yn ôl, y gellir gwneud cynnydd gydag ymdrech ar y cyd, arfer da ac arweiniad da. Mae'r pwyntiau a wnaeth Lorraine yn wir. Mae angen arfer gorau o ran cymryd camau drwy systemau archebu'n rhannol ac ati, ac i ddatblygu llwybrau gofal clinigol amgen yn y gymuned, a grybwyllwyd gan Dai Lloyd. Os ydym yn mabwysiadu system sy'n canolbwyntio ar y claf yn well wrth ddefnyddio'r cynllun hwn, bydd mwy o bobl yn cymryd rhan yn y cynllun.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Os derbynir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliannau 2,3 a 4 yn methu. Os derbynir gwelliant 2, bydd gwelliannau 3 a 4 yn methu.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 25, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
Amendment 1: For 25, Abstain 0, Against 29.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
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

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

Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 24, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 2: For 24, Abstain 0, Against 29.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 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, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 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
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 25, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 3: For 25, Abstain 0, Against 29.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn

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

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, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

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
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 15, Ymatal 10, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 4: For 15, Abstain 10, Against 29.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Brynle
 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
 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 25, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.
 Amendment 5: For 25, Abstain 0, Against 30.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 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, Brynle
 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 (NDM2266): O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 25.
 Motion (NDM2266): For 30, Abstain 0, Against 25.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, Glyn

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

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, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Llywydd i'r Gadair am 4.05 p.m.
 The Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.05 p.m.*

Adroddiad Blynyddol Pwyllgor y Tŷ The Annual Report of the House Committee

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

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 18.12, notes the Annual Report of the House Committee for 2003-04, which was laid in the Table Office on 13 January 2005. (NDM2265)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 18.12 yn nodi Adroddiad Blynyddol Pwyllgor y Tŷ ar gyfer 2003-04, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Ionawr 2005. (NDM2265)

Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh opened the Second Assembly in the year covered by the report, and we also received distinguished visitors from many countries around the world, including Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand, and President Minister Erwin Teufel of Baden-Württemberg, who addressed the Assembly.

Agorodd Ei Mawrhydi y Frenhines, Tywysog Cymru a Dug Caeredin yr Ail Gynulliad yn y flwyddyn a gwmpesir gan yr adroddiad, a chawsom hefyd ymwelwyr nodedig o sawl gwlad ledled y byd, gan gynnwys Helen Clark, Prif Weinidog Seland Newydd, a Llywydd Gweinidogol Baden-Württemberg, Erwin Teufel, a fu'n annerch y Cynulliad.

During this period, Members were active in formal Assembly proceedings. In 2003-04, Members tabled an increasing number of questions—all questions increased by 26 per cent and there was a 50 per cent increase in

Yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, bu Aelodau yn weithredol yn nhrefodion ffurfiol y Cynulliad. Yn 2003-04, cyflwynodd Aelodau nifer gynyddol o gwestiynau—cynyddodd yr holl gwestiynau 26 y cant a bu

written questions to Ministers and to the House Committee. The report contains much detail about the valuable work of committees and related statistics.

On facilities for Members, the House Committee has agreed to a verbatim record of committees, the expansion of simultaneous translation facilities, the registration of all party groups and arrangements for support to Members in respect of their contact with the European Union.

The House Committee agreed to the publication of Members' allowances, and Members will see this at the back of the report. The Presiding Officer also asked the Senior Salaries Review Board to review allowances, and I am pleased to report that the review board's report will be available from 1 p.m. today. That report is not for debate today, but the House Committee will no doubt consider it on 3 February, and I am sure that a further report and debate will be held as a result of that meeting.

Prudence in budget management has enabled us to agree major improvements to the Assembly estate, in particular, essential work on the Pierhead building, which will start in the spring. The House Committee has been considerably assisted by the work of its sub-groups, which advise upon information technology, arts, catering and support facilities for Members. Thanks are due to the chairs and members of these groups.

We have agreed a subsidised transport scheme for schools to visit the Pierhead building, and we recently extended the scheme to enable schools to visit the National Assembly for Wales centre in Colwyn Bay, north Wales. That was opened in March 2004 to allow Members from north Wales to use the Assembly Parliamentary Service facilities in their area and to provide public information and education facilities. Although the centre is used and has an outreach facility for north Wales schools, work is currently ongoing to expand the number of its visitors and contacts.

cynnydd o 50 y cant mewn cwestiynau ysgrifenedig i Weinidogion ac i Bwyllgor y Tŷ. Mae'r adroddiad yn cynnwys llawer o fanylion am waith gwerthfawr y pwyllgorau ac ystadegau cysylltiedig.

O ran cyfleusterau i Aelodau, mae Pwyllgor y Tŷ wedi cytuno ar gofnod gair am air o'r pwyllgorau, ehangu'r cyfleusterau cyfieithu ar y pryd, cofrestru pob grŵp plaid, a threfniadau i gefnogi Aelodau mewn perthynas â'u cyswllt â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd.

Cytunodd Pwyllgor y Tŷ i gyhoeddi lwfansau Aelodau, a bydd Aelodau yn gweld hyn ar gefn yr adroddiad. Gofynnodd y Llywydd hefyd i'r Bwrdd Adolygu Cyflogau Uwch-swyddogion adolygu lwfansau, ac yr wyf yn falch o'ch hysbysu y bydd adroddiad y bwrdd adolygu ar gael o 1 p.m. heddiw. Ni thrafodir yr adroddiad hwnnw heddiw, ond yn ddiau, bydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn ei ystyried ar 3 Chwefror, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd adroddiad pellach ar gael a dadl bellach yn cael ei chynnal o ganlyniad i'r cyfarfod hwnnw.

Mae arfer pwyll wrth reoli'r gyllideb wedi'n galluogi i gytuno ar welliannau mawr i ystad y Cynulliad, yn arbennig, gwaith hanfodol ar adeilad y Pierhead, a fydd yn dechrau yn y gwanwyn. Cynorthwywyd Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn sylweddol gan waith ei is-grwpiau, sy'n rhoi cyngor ar dechnoleg gwybodaeth, y celfyddydau, arlwyo a chyfleusterau cymorth i Aelodau. Mae'r diolch i gadeiryddion ac aelodau'r grwpiau hyn.

Yr ydym wedi cytuno ar gynllun trafniadaeth â chymhorthdal i ysgolion ymweld ag adeilad y Pierhead, ac yn ddiweddar estynnwyd y cynllun i alluogi ysgolion i ymweld â chanolfan Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru ym Mae Colwyn, yn y Gogledd. Fe'i hagorwyd ym mis Mawrth 2004 fel y gall Aelodau o'r Gogledd ddefnyddio cyfleusterau Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn eu hardal hwy ac i ddarparu gwybodaeth gyhoeddus a chyfleusterau addysg. Er bod y ganolfan yn cael ei defnyddio ac er bod ganddi gyfleuster allgymorth i ysgolion y Gogledd, mae gwaith yn mynd rhagddo ar hyn o bryd i gynyddu nifer ei hymwelwyr a'i chysylltiadau.

The House Committee's annual report is a valuable record of the work that the committee and the Assembly Parliamentary Service have done on our behalf in 2003-04. I thank all my colleagues on the committee for their hard work. I also thank the staff of APS, whose job it is to enable Plenary to be a forum for the nation.

Owen John Thomas: As a new member of the House Committee, I did not participate in the period that the report deals with, but I found the report to be an interesting account of the House Committee's deliberations during the first year of the Second Assembly. Although, at times, one gets a strong feeling of resistance to change in some quarters of the National Assembly, reading this report made me aware that it is a young institution that is in a continual process of development, despite the fact that its growth is somewhat hampered by Westminster's apron strings. The new title of the Assembly Parliamentary Service underscores this sense of advance.

4.10 p.m.

The report makes one more aware of the framework provided by the House Committee, its sub-groups and the Assembly Parliamentary Service, and provides a clear insight into these structures and their functions. It appears that the prudent use of the APS budget for 2003-04 will fund the renovation for the Pierhead building, which should be completed later this year. I would hope that the opportunity could be taken to look again at the possibility of using the building to display an exhibition on the growth of devolution from circa 1870 through to the present day, placing it against the changing historical background. This would prove a popular attraction and give visitors a better understanding of Wales's past and present. The House Committee's decision to permanently subsidise visits by distant schools to the Assembly and to extend the offer to colleges, is to be warmly welcomed. While the will does not seem to be strong enough at Cabinet level to markedly improve the links between north and south, with better road and rail provision,

Mae adroddiad blynyddol Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn gofnod gwerthfawr o'r gwaith y mae'r pwyllgor a Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad wedi ei wneud ar ein rhan yn 2003-04. Diolchaf i bob un o'm cyd-Aelodau ar y pwyllgor am eu gwaith caled. Diolchaf hefyd i staff Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad, sydd â'r dasg o alluogi'r Cyfarfod Llawn i fod yn fforwm i'r genedl.

Owen John Thomas: A minnau'n aelod newydd o Bwyllgor y Tŷ, ni chyfranogais yn y cyfnod y mae'r adroddiad yn ymdrin ag ef, ond yn fy marn i, yr oedd yr adroddiad yn gofnod diddorol o drafodaethau Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn ystod blwyddyn gyntaf yr Ail Gynulliad. Er bod rhywun yn teimlo bod rhai yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn gwrthsefyll newid, deuthum yn ymwybodol, drwy ddarllen yr adroddiad hwn, mai sefydliad ifanc ydyw sy'n datblygu'n barhaus, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod ei dwf wedi ei rwystro rhywfaint gan linyddau ffedog San Steffan. Mae teitl newydd Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn pwysleisio'r ymdeimlad hwn o ddatblygu.

Mae'r adroddiad yn gwneud rhywun yn fwy ymwybodol o'r fframwaith a ddarparwyd gan Bwyllgor y Tŷ, ei is-grwpiau a Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad, ac yn taflu goleuni ar y strwythurau hyn a'u swyddogaethau. Ymddengys y bydd defnydd doeth o gyllideb Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad ar gyfer 2003-04 yn ariannu'r gwaith o adnewyddu adeilad y Pierhead, y dylid ei gwblhau yn ddiweddarach eleni. Byddwn yn gobeithio y gellid manteisio ar y cyfle i ystyried eto y posibilrwydd o ddefnyddio'r adeilad i gynnal arddangosfa o dwf datganoli o tua 1870 hyd heddiw, a'i gosod yn erbyn y cefndir hanesyddol newidiol. Byddai hyn yn atyniad poblogaidd ac yn helpu ymwelwyr i ddeall yn well Gymru ddoe a heddiw. Rhaid croesawu'n gynnes benderfyniad Pwyllgor y Tŷ i sybsideiddio'n barhaol ymweliadau gan ysgolion o bell i'r Cynulliad ac i estyn y cynnig i golegau. Er nad oes digon o ewyllys yn ôl pob golwg ar lefel y Cabinet i wella'n sylweddol y cysylltiadau rhwng y Gogledd a'r De, gyda gwell darpariaeth o ran ffyrdd a rheilffyrdd, mae'r penderfyniad hwn gan y

this move by the committee is a step in the right direction. The opening by the Llywydd of a National Assembly office in Bae Colwyn is also another important step in strengthening national unity.

I look forward to the commencement, during this year, of a service providing verbatim records of committee meetings on a regular basis. As well as providing a full and permanent record of committee proceedings, this move should serve to strengthen the process of scrutiny, although not to the extent that would be provided by more regular meetings. The committee's decision to publish, as one document, the annual salaries and allowances for every Assembly Member is to be welcomed, as it is preferable to them being drip fed by individual Members over a long period of time to provide easy news for the press. The frequent visits by heads of government and delegations from many different countries to the Assembly are pleasant events and help cement good international relations and promote Wales's image across the world.

It is a pleasure to read about the volume of work carried out by the Assembly Parliamentary Service and especially to note the continued growth of a still young research service. The supportive work of all six sectors of APS is a credit to one of our youngest national institutions. As the youngest member of the House Committee, at least in terms of length of membership, I hope that I will still hold these positive views this time next year.

Edwina Hart: I will make a few comments about the House Committee report. It is incumbent upon all Assembly Members to thank the members of the House Committee for the tasks that they undertake. Some of their work is not recognised, but they do get into the nitty-gritty of issues that make life much easier for us here as Members. In particular, I praise them for the transparent manner in which we are now dealing with our allowances. The House Committee took the lead on that and it was shown in the documentation. That shows how open and transparent we are as an organisation and that we are prepared to share information with the wider public. I am particularly pleased to see

pwylgor yn gam i'r cyfeiriad cywir. Mae agoriad swyddfa'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ym Mae Colwyn gan y Llywydd yn gam pwysig arall i gryfhau undod cenedlaethol.

Edrychaf ymlaen at weld gwasanaeth yn dechrau, yn ystod y flwyddyn, a fydd yn darparu cofnodion gair am air o gyfarfodydd pwylgorau yn rheolaidd. Yn ogystal â darparu cofnod llawn a pharhaol o drafodion pwylgorau, dylai'r cam hwn gryfhau'r broses graffu, er nad i'r graddau y byddai cyfarfodydd mwy rheolaidd yn ei wneud. Rhaid croesawu penderfyniad y pwylgor i gyhoeddi, fel un ddogfen, gyflogau a lwfansau blynyddol pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad, gan fod hyn yn well na chael tamaid bach ar y tro gan Aelodau unigol dros gyfnod hir o amser i greu newyddion hawdd i'r wasg. Mae'r ymweliadau niferus â'r Cynulliad gan benaethiaid llywodraethau a dirprwyaethau o lawer o wahanol wledydd yn ddogwyddiadau plerus ac yn helpu i greu cysylltiadau rhyngwladol da ac i hyrwyddo delwedd Cymru ledled y byd.

Mae'n bleser darllen am yr holl waith a wneir gan Wasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad ac yn arbennig i nodi twf parhaol gwasanaeth ymchwil sy'n ifanc o hyd. Mae gwaith cefnogol chwe sector Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn glod i un o'n sefydliadau cenedlaethol ieuaf. Fel aelod ieuaf Pwyllgor y Tŷ, o leiaf o ran hyd aelodaeth, gobeithiaf y byddaf yn dal i arddel y safbwyntiau cadarnhaol hyn yr adeg hon y flwyddyn nesaf.

Edwina Hart: Gwnaf rai sylwadau am adroddiad Pwyllgor y Tŷ. Mae'n ddyletswydd arnom fel Aelodau'r Cynulliad i ddiolch i aelodau Pwyllgor y Tŷ am y tasgau a wnânt. Ni chydabyddir rhai agweddau ar eu gwaith, ond maent yn ymwneud â'r mân faterion sy'n gwneud bywyd yn haws o lawer inni yma fel Aelodau. Yn arbennig, fe'u canmolaf ar y ffordd dryloyw yr ydym yn ymdrin yn awr â'n lwfansau. Cymerodd Pwyllgor y Tŷ yr awenau ar hynny ac fe'i dangoswyd yn y ddogfennaeth. Dengys hynny pa mor agored a thryloyw ydym fel sefydliad a'n bod yn barod i rannu gwybodaeth â'r cyhoedd yn fwy cyffredinol. Yr wyf yn arbennig o falch o weld y gwaith

the enhanced work with schools and colleges and the way in which we are supporting transportation. Members see the delight on pupils' faces when schools from their own constituencies visit the Pierhead building and the Chamber. When they are shown around the new Chamber next year, I am sure that their delight and joy will be even greater. It is important to say that that kind of excellent work with schools must continue. With the opening of an Assembly presence in north Wales, there would be an added bonus if schools could be involved in visiting that building. I know that it is only an administrative building, but it shows the Assembly at work elsewhere in Wales.

I am also particularly pleased that we have sufficient funds to deal with the Pierhead building. It is a significant, historical building and it is part of our estate. As an emerging Parliament, it is important that our buildings are beautiful, that they are kept up to date, and that we spend the necessary resources on them. As Members, we are all pleased with the enhanced parliamentary service that we receive. I use the research and library service often, and I am pleased with any enhancements that can be made.

Brynle Williams: I reiterate what you say, particularly on the importance and significance of attracting north Walian people to the Assembly. They must see the Assembly working. The problem in north Wales, regrettably, is that it is as isolated psychologically as it is by the road. It is important that people come down to Cardiff to see the Assembly. I support that wholeheartedly.

Edwina Hart: Speaking as a west Walian, it is also important that west Walian visit Assembly buildings. It is equally important, particularly in relation to children, that we make the democratic arguments for them—seeing the Assembly at work, which might strengthen their perception of politicians. We nominate Members from different groups to sit on the House Committee and I feel that we often do not recognise how much effort is involved in making this building work properly.

ychwanegol a wneir gydag ysgolion a cholegau a'r ffordd yr ydym yn rhoi cymorth iddynt o ran cludiant. Gwêl Aelodau y pleser a gaiff disgyblion pan fydd ysgolion o'u hetholaethau hwy eu hunain yn ymweld ag adeilad y Pierhead a'r Siambr. Pan fyddant yn cael gweld y Siambr newydd y flwyddyn nesaf, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd eu pleser a'u llawenydd hyd yn oed yn fwy. Mae'n bwysig dweud bod yn rhaid i'r math hwnnw o waith rhagorol gydag ysgolion barhau. Yn dilyn agor swyddfa'r Cynulliad yn y Gogledd, byddai mantais ychwanegol pe gallai ysgolion ymweld â'r adeilad hwnnw. Gwn mai dim ond adeilad gweinyddol ydyw, ond mae'n dangos bod y Cynulliad ar waith rywle arall yng Nghymru.

Yr wyf yn arbennig o falch bod gennym ddigon o arian i ymdrin ag adeilad y Pierhead. Mae'n adeilad hanesyddol o bwys ac yn rhan o'n hystâd. Fel Senedd sy'n datblygu, mae'n bwysig bod ein hadeiladau yn hardd, eu bod yn cael eu hadnewyddu'n gyson, a'n bod yn gwario'r arian angenrheidiol arnynt. Fel Aelodau, mae pob un ohonom yn fodlon ar y gwasanaeth seneddol gwell a gawn. Defnyddiaf y gwasanaeth llyfrgell ac ymchwil yn aml, ac yr wyf yn falch o unrhyw welliannau y gellir eu gwneud.

Brynle Williams: Atefaff yr hyn a ddywedwch, yn arbennig o ran pwysigrwydd ac arwyddocâd denu pobl o'r Gogledd i'r Cynulliad. Rhaid iddynt weld y Cynulliad yn gweithio. Y broblem yn y Gogledd, yn anffodus, yw ei fod yn seicolegol wedi ei wahanu gymaint ag ydyw gan y ffordd. Mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn dod i Gaerdydd i weld y Cynulliad. Cefnogaf hynny yn llwyr.

Edwina Hart: A siarad fel un o'r Gorllewin, mae'n bwysig hefyd fod pobl o'r Gorllewin yn ymweld ag adeiladau'r Cynulliad. Mae yr un mor bwysig, yn arbennig mewn perthynas â phlant, ein bod yn rhoi'r ddadl ddemocrataidd o'u plaid—gweld y Cynulliad yn gweithio, a allai gryfhau eu canfyddiad o wleidyddion. Yr ydym yn enwebu Aelodau o grwpiau gwahanol i fod yn aelodau o Bwyllgor y Tŷ a theimlaf nad ydym yn aml yn cydnabod faint o ymdrech a wneir i geisio gwneud i'r adeilad hwn weithio'n iawn.

Glyn Davies: I begin by endorsing the thanks to the members of the House Committee. I served as a member of that committee for a considerable time and I appreciate that a considerable commitment is required.

I will talk about an issue that I have already raised. I note, from the Dirprwy Lywydd's report, that no mention was made of discussions about a gymnasium for the use of Members and others in this building. I have raised this issue on a number of occasions. In the past, it has been received with amusement by some, but not all. However, Members and others are increasingly recognising its importance. I do not mean luxurious facilities where the latest leisure wear is advertised—that is a matter for the private sector in Cardiff bay. It is important to have a basic exercise facility here for the use of everyone in the building.

Most of us would agree that no healthcare issue is more important than obesity among the Welsh nation. That must be addressed, not only in terms of what we eat and drink, but also in terms of the amount of exercise that we take. From a strictly personal perspective, if I had not spent my life as a fitness fanatic, I would not be in a position to be an Assembly Member today—fitness is crucial.

I sometimes see quite hypocritical approaches in the National Assembly. Some Members are quick to criticise companies such as MacDonald's because of the negative consequences of overeating its products, but I rarely see MacDonald's congratulated in the Chamber for the work that it undertakes to promote salads and reduce the amount of salt in a product that many people eat. We have been taking a one-eyed view of that. We often wring our hands about the need for exercise, but do not take the first basic step to set any sort of an example.

Every substantial employer in Wales should have an exercise facility in their building. The cost of it would quickly translate to a balance-sheet, bottom-line benefit. There is an awful lot of research to show that. We could not make a stronger statement about

Glyn Davies: Dechreuaf drwy ategu'r diolch i aelodau Pwyllgor y Tŷ. Gwasanaethais fel aelod o'r pwyllgor hwnnw am gryn amser a gwerthfawrogaf fod angen cryn ymrwymiad.

Soniaf am fater yr wyf eisoes wedi ei godi. Nodaf, o adroddiad y Dirprwy Lywydd, na soniwyd am drafodaethau ynghylch campfa at ddefnydd Aelodau ac eraill yn yr adeilad hwn. Yr wyf wedi codi'r mater hwn sawl gwaith o'r blaen. Yn y gorffennol, bu'n fater difyr i rai ond nid i bawb. Fodd bynnag, mae Aelodau ac eraill yn cydnabod ei bwysigrwydd yn gynyddol. Nid wyf yn golygu cyfleusterau moethus lle yr hysbysebir y dillad hamdden diweddaraf—mater i'r sector preifat ym mae Caerdydd yw hynny. Mae'n bwysig cael cyfleuster ymarfer corff sylfaenol yma at ddefnydd pawb yn yr adeilad.

Byddai'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn cytuno nad oes unrhyw fater gofal iechyd yn bwysicach na gordewdra ymhlith y Cymry. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â hynny, nid yn unig o ran yr hyn a yfwn ac a fwytawn, ond hefyd o ran faint o ymarfer corff a wnawn. O safbwynt hollol bersonol, pe na bawn wedi treulio fy mywyd yn ymdrechu i gadw'n heini, ni fyddem yn gallu bod yn Aelod Cynulliad heddiw—mae ffitrwydd yn hollbwysig.

Weithiau, gwelaf ymagweddau eithaf rhagrithiol yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Mae rhai Aelodau yn barod iawn i feirniadu cwmnïau megis MacDonald's oherwydd canlyniadau negyddol gorfwyta ei gynnyrch, ond anaml y gwelaf MacDonald yn cael ei longyfarch yn y Siambr am y gwaith a wna i hyrwyddo saladau ac i leihau'r halen sydd mewn cynnyrch a fwyteir gan lawer o bobl. Yr ydym wedi bod yn unlygeidiog ein barn ar hynny. Yn aml, anobeithiwn ynglŷn â'r angen i wneud ymarfer corff, ond ni chymerwn y cam sylfaenol cyntaf i osod unrhyw fath o esiampl.

Dylai pob cyflogwr o bwys yng Nghymru fod â chyfleuster ymarfer corff yn eu hadeilad. Byddai ei gost yn gyflym yn troi yn fudd sylfaenol ar y fantolen. Mae llawer iawn o ymchwil i ategu hynny. Ni allem wneud datganiad cryfach ynglŷn â'n hymrwymiad i

our commitment to tackling obesity and improving the general health of the people of Wales than by ensuring that, following a move to the new Assembly building, there is some sort of basic exercise facility in Crickhowell House, where we can exercise, shower and make ourselves an awful lot fitter.

Peter Law: I start by congratulating the Chair of the House Committee, who is obscured by a pillar at the moment—that is where some people feel he should be; he is certainly behind the pillar as far as I can see—and members of the House Committee on their work. They have produced a report on time this year, which is refreshing because, last time, it was a couple of years late, but we are now up-to-date. Running through this report is a thread of openness, transparency and accountability. That is exactly the approach that we are supposed to take and I mirror the comments that have been made by other Members in terms of complimenting the committee on its work. It is pleasing to see that the committee has now met in public and I hope that it will do so more often if possible because it helps in building public confidence in our work.

There is good stewardship of the committee thanks to the Chair and its members, underlined by the Llywydd's support. I was delighted to read that you had opened the new north Wales office. That was important for our constituents in north Wales and I would be pleased to see this Assembly sitting in north Wales some time. That would gain popular support, if it could ever be arranged—150 miles is a long way and we must be reaching out all the time to allow people to realise what the Assembly is achieving on their behalf and for Wales as a whole.

4.20 p.m.

I was pleased to read of the good work undertaken—and it never ceases to amaze me—in terms of looking after visitors from other parts of the world. The way the service operates is quite impressive in terms of showing around visiting politicians, ambassadors and heads of state. It puts Wales on the map. With that in mind, I hope that the

fynd i'r afael â gordewdra a gwella iechyd cyffredinol pobl Cymru na thrwy sicrhau, ar ôl symud i adeilad newydd y Cynulliad, fod rhyw fath o gyfleuster ymarfer corff sylfaenol yn Nhŷ Crucywel, lle y gallwn wneud ymarfer corff, cael cawod a gwneud ein hunain yn fwy heini o lawer.

Peter Law: Dechreuaf drwy longyfarch Cadeirydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ, sy'n cuddio y tu ôl i biler ar hyn o bryd—sef lle y dylai fod ym marn rhai; yn sicr y mae y tu ôl i'r piler hyd y gwelaf fi—ac aelodau Pwyllgor y Tŷ ar eu gwaith. Maent wedi cynhyrchu adroddiad ar amser eleni, sy'n newyddion calonogol, oherwydd, y tro diwethaf, yr oedd ychydig flynyddoedd yn hwyr, ond bellach mae ar amser. Mae pwyslais drwy'r adroddiad ar fod yn agored, tryloyw ac atebol. Dyna'n union yr ymagwedd y dylem ei mabwysiadu ac ategaf y sylwadau a wnaed gan Aelodau eraill o ran canmol y pwyllgor am ei waith. Mae'n braf gweld bod y pwyllgor bellach wedi cyfarfod yn gyhoeddus a gobeithiaf y gwnaiff hynny'n amlach os yw hynny'n bosibl oherwydd mae'n helpu i gynyddu hyder y cyhoedd yn ein gwaith.

Mae stiwardiaeth dda o'r pwyllgor, diolch i'r Cadeirydd ac i'w aelodau, a ategir gan gefnogaeth y Llywydd. Yr oeddwn yn falch o ddarllen ichi agor y swyddfa newydd yn y Gogledd. Yr oedd hynny'n bwysig i'n hetholwyr yn y Gogledd a byddwn yn falch o weld y Cynulliad hwn yn eistedd yn y Gogledd ryw bryd. Byddai hynny'n ennill cefnogaeth y cyhoedd, pe gellid ei drefnu byth—mae 150 o filltiroedd yn ffordd bell i fynd a rhaid inni ymestyn allan drwy'r amser fel y gall pobl sylweddoli beth y mae'r Cynulliad yn ei gyflawni ar eu rhan ac ar ran Cymru gyfan.

Yr oeddwn yn falch o ddarllen am y gwaith da a wnaed—ac nid wyf byth yn peidio â chael fy synnu—o ran gofalu am ymwelwyr o rannau eraill o'r byd. Mae'r ffordd y gweithreda'r gwasanaeth yn creu tipyn o argraff o ran y ffordd y mae'n rhoi croeso i wleidyddion, llysgenhadon a phenaethiaid gwladwriaethau sydd ar ymweliad. Mae'n

Chair will remember my request of a couple of months ago that we provide some kind of memento for people who act as ambassadors for Wales with various culture groups to present to their hosts, giving information about Wales and the National Assembly. It should be developed, and you gave me an assurance that the House Committee would look at providing that kind of memento.

I was pleased to see that there is to be an occupational health nurse in the Assembly, although I do not know whether the post has been filled. I agree with Glyn Davies's comments about giving Members an opportunity to try to keep fit, if a small development, such as a gymnasium, were possible in the future. The work of the occupational health nurse could link in with that. Some kind of screening would be useful for Members and other staff wherever possible, rather than us having to avail ourselves of voluntary visits from groups such as the Stroke Association, who do a very good job of taking our blood pressure. We also receive visits from other health associations who measure cholesterol rates, bone density, and so on. We should formalise such arrangements if possible, now that we are looking at the occupational health aspect.

With regard to healthy eating, I am pleased to say sandwiches went down in price after I raised the issue. They are now available in the Assembly building at a reasonable price—so somebody listens. Thank you for that, Chair.

In general, this is a very good report, and it shows that the Assembly is working well on behalf of the people of Wales, and I complement you and the committee on your work.

Mick Bates: I echo the remarks of previous speakers in congratulating the committee and the leadership of the Chair in particular. Those who have read the foreword by the Presiding Officer and the Chair will understand their grasp of the work, and their view of the way in which we can develop the Assembly into a more meaningful part of Welsh life. The Chair, to whom I have often

rhoi Cymru ar y map. Gan gofio hynny, gobeithiaf y bydd y Cadeirydd yn cofio fy nghais rai misoedd yn ôl inni ddarparu rhyw fath o gofrod i bobl sy'n gweithredu fel llysgenhadon i Gymru gyda grwpiau diwylliant amrywiol fel y gallant ei roi yn rhodd i'r rhai sy'n eu gwahodd, gan roi gwybodaeth am Gymru a'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol iddynt. Dylid ei ddatblygu, a bu ichi roi sicrwydd imi y byddai Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn ystyried darparu rhywbeth o'r fath.

Yr oeddwn yn falch o weld y bydd nyrs iechyd galwedigaethol yn y Cynulliad, er na wn a oes rhywun wedi ei benodi eto. Cytunaf â sylwadau Glyn Davies ynglŷn â rhoi cyfle i Aelodau geisio cadw'n heini, pe bai datblygiad bach, megis campfa, yn bosibl yn y dyfodol. Gallai gwaith y nyrs iechyd galwedigaethol gysylltu â hynny. Byddai rhyw fath o sgrinio yn ddefnyddiol i Aelodau ac aelodau eraill o'r staff lle bo hynny'n bosibl, yn hytrach na manteisio ar ymweliadau gwirfoddol gan grwpiau megis y Gymdeithas Strôc, sy'n gwneud gwaith da iawn drwy gymryd ein pwysedd gwaed. Cawn ymweliadau hefyd gan gymdeithasau iechyd eraill sy'n mesur cyfraddau colesterol, dwysedd esgyrn ac ati. Dylem ffurfioli trefniadau o'r fath os yw'n bosibl, a ninnau'n ystyried yr agwedd iechyd galwedigaethol bellach.

O ran bwyta'n iach, yr wyf yn falch o ddweud i bris brechdanau ostwng ar ôl imi godi'r mater. Maent ar gael yn awr yn adeilad y Cynulliad am bris rhesymol—felly mae rhywun yn gwrando. Diolch ichi am hynny, Gadeirydd.

Yn gyffredinol, mae hwn yn adroddiad da iawn, a dengys fod y Cynulliad yn gweithio'n dda ar ran pobl Cymru, a hoffwn eich canmol chi a'r pwyllgor ar eich gwaith.

Mick Bates: Atefag sylwadau siaradwyr blaenorol drwy longyfarch y pwyllgor ac arweiniad y Cadeirydd yn arbennig. Bydd y rhai sydd wedi darllen y rhagair gan y Llywydd a'r Cadeirydd yn deall eu hamgyffred o'r gwaith, a'u barn am y ffordd y gallwn ddatblygu'r Cynulliad yn rhan fwy ystyrion o fywyd Cymru. Mae'r Cadeirydd, yr wyf yn aml wedi cyfeirio ato fel 'the

referred as 'the mighty Marek', has led the committee with distinction. He has our thanks, and we hold him in great respect for the work that he has done.

I draw your attention to three particular issues in the report. One issue, on which the Chair has led us so ably, is the international dimension that the Assembly is gaining because of the visits and exchanges that take place. The status and credibility of the Assembly is enhanced tremendously by such activities. However, as someone who has visited other countries on behalf of the Assembly, I believe that Peter Law made an extremely valid point. When we visit other countries on behalf of the Assembly, in whatever capacity, we do not leave behind a memento which reflects our determination and vigour in representing the Assembly. The House Committee should examine this issue, and a competition could perhaps be set up among Welsh art colleges to design a memento, so that we can give something of which we can be truly proud when we visit other nations, and something which visitors can receive when visiting Wales. I look forward to seeing that develop.

The second issue I will talk about is referred to in the foreword, and it involves the Richard commission and, in particular, a desire to see the legislature and executive functions separated. The House Committee has increasingly been seen as an exemplar of transparency, in the way that the Assembly scrutinises the work that is needed on legislation. In the foreword, tremendous guidance is given by the Presiding Officer and the Deputy Presiding Officer.

The second issue is the democratic challenge that the House Committee has tried to meet. I am pleased with the continuation of the subsidised school transport scheme. However, I have not seen the costings, and, despite having said that you have moved the boundaries of transparency, could you point me towards the figures?

My colleague, Brynle Williams, made the comment about engaging with north Wales. Mid Wales can also feel neglected at times. Opportunities to engage with mid Wales

mighty Marek', wedi arwain y pwyllgor yn rhagorol. Diolchwn iddo, a pharchwn ef yn fawr am y gwaith y mae wedi ei wneud.

Tynnaf eich sylw at dri mater penodol yn yr adroddiad. Un ohonynt, y mae'r Cadeirydd wedi ein harwain mor fedrus arno, yw'r dimensiwn rhyngwladol sy'n datblygu yn y Cynulliad oherwydd yr ymweliadau a'r teithiau cyfnewid a gynhelir. Caiff statws a hygredd y Cynulliad ei wella'n aruthrol gan weithgareddau o'r fath. Fodd bynnag, fel rhywun sydd wedi ymweld â gwledydd eraill ar ran y Cynulliad, credaf i Peter Law wneud pwynt eithriadol o ddilys. Pan ymwelwn â gwledydd eraill ar ran y Cynulliad, ym mha rinwedd bynnag, nid ydym yn gadael rhodd sy'n adlewyrchu ein penderfyniad a'n hegni wrth gynrychioli'r Cynulliad. Dylai Pwyllgor y Tŷ ystyried y mater hwn, ac efallai y gellid sefydlu cystadleuaeth ymhlith colegau celf Cymru i ddylunio rhodd, fel y gallwn roi rhywbeth y gallwn wir ymfalchïo ynddo pan ymwelwn â gwledydd eraill a rhywbeth y gallai ymwelwyr ei gael pan fyddant yn ymweld â Chymru. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld hynny'n datblygu.

Cyfeirir at yr ail fater y soniaf amdano yn yr rhagair, ac mae'n ymwneud â chomisiwn Richard ac, yn arbennig, dymuniad i weld y ddeddfwrfa a'r swyddogaethau gweithredol yn cael eu gwahanu. Mae Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn gynyddol wedi cael ei ystyried yn enghraifft o dryloywder, yn y ffordd y mae'r Cynulliad yn craffu ar y gwaith sydd ei angen ar ddeddfwriaeth. Yn y rhagair, rhoddir arweiniad aruthrol gan y Llywydd a'r Dirprwy Lywydd.

Yr ail fater yw'r her ddemocrataidd y mae Pwyllgor y Tŷ wedi ceisio ei hateb. Yr wyf yn falch bod y cynllun trafndiaeth â chymhorthdal i ysgolion yn parhau. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf wedi gweld y costau, ac er ichi ddweud eich bod wedi symud ffiniau tryloywder, a allech fy nghyfeirio tuag at y ffigurau?

Cyfeiriodd fy nghyd-Aelod, Brynle Williams, at ymgysylltu â'r Gogledd. Ar adegau, gall y Canolbarth deimlo nad yw'n cael sylw hefyd. Cyflwynwyd cyfleoedd i

have been presented to the House Committee. For example, more support could have been offered to the commemoration of Owain Glyndwr's parliament in Machynlleth. The House Committee could have taken this opportunity to attach itself to great figures in Welsh history. Owen John referred to a heritage display in the Assembly, and we should have taken the opportunity to promote the history of mid Wales and the fundamental importance of Owain Glyndwr in establishing Wales's first parliament. This would have helped us to engage with the region.

On transparency, I seek the Chair's guidance on the impact of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on Members, for example, with the publication of allowances. The Act will increasingly become a tool used by many people to examine our activities, and we will need further guidance from the committee in this regard.

I look forward to the day when the new building becomes part of the Assembly estate under the auspices of the House Committee. We all look forward to entering the building, in the company of our Conservative colleagues, who, I am sure, will give their support when it is finally opened. In terms of sustainability, the work undertaken to improve aspects of catering and furniture for the new building is to be commended, and I hope that the House Committee will uphold our duty towards sustainable development in all of its work.

Rosemary Butler: Like other Members, I would also like to thank the staff who work in this building, particularly the front-of-house staff and the education service for the enjoyable and very informative tours that they give to members of the public. Many of my constituents have visited the Assembly, as they live just down the road. The tours are excellent, despite the lack of facilities. For example, we do not have a cloakroom, and this, particularly on a rainy day, can be inconvenient. We do not have enough public toilets, and the only refreshments available are to be found in the bowels of the building, and reaching them can seem like a mile-long journey. This can be difficult for some visitors. I look forward to the new building and the facilities that will make the tours

ymgysylltu â'r Canolbarth i Bwyllgor y Tŷ. Er enghraifft, gellid bod wedi cynnig mwy o gymorth i goffâu senedd Owain Glyndŵr ym Machynlleth. Gallai Pwyllgor y Tŷ fod wedi achub ar y cyfle hwn i ymgysylltu ag un o'r ffigyrau mawr yn hanes Cymru. Cyfeiriodd Owen John at arddangosfa treftadaeth yn y Cynulliad, a dylem fod wedi achub ar y cyfle i hyrwyddo hanes y Canolbarth a phwysigrwydd sylfaenol Owain Glyndŵr wrth sefydlu senedd gyntaf Cymru. Gallai hyn fod wedi ein helpu i ymgysylltu â'r rhanbarth.

O ran tryloywder, ceisiaf arweiniad y Cadeirydd ar effaith Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000 ar Aelodau, er enghraifft, drwy gyhoeddi lwfansau. Daw'r Ddeddf yn gynyddol yn rhywbeth a ddefnyddir gan lawer o bobl i archwilio ein gweithgareddau, a bydd angen arweiniad pellach y pwyllgor arnom yn hyn o beth.

Edrychaf ymlaen at y diwrnod pan ddaw'r adeilad newydd yn rhan o ystad y Cynulliad o dan nawdd Pwyllgor y Tŷ. Mae pob un ohonom yn edrych ymlaen at fynd i mewn i'r adeilad, yng nghwmni ein cyd-Aelodau Ceidwadol, a fydd, mae'n siŵr gennyf, yn rhoi eu cefnogaeth pan gaiff ei agor yn y pen draw. O ran cynaliadwyedd, rhaid canmol y gwaith a wnaed i wella agweddau ar arlwyo a dodrefnu'r adeilad newydd, a gobeithiaf y bydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ yn cynnal ein dyletswydd tuag at ddatblygu cynaliadwy ym mhob agwedd ar ei waith.

Rosemary Butler: Fel Aelodau eraill, hoffwn innau hefyd ddiolch i'r staff sy'n gweithio yn yr adeilad hwn, yn arbennig y staff derbyn ymwelwyr a'r gwasanaeth addysg am y teithiau dymunol a llawn gwybodaeth a roddant i aelodau o'r cyhoedd. Mae llawer o'm hetholwyr wedi ymweld â'r Cynulliad, gan eu bod yn byw mor agos. Mae'r teithiau yn rhagorol, er gwaethaf y diffyg cyfleusterau. Er enghraifft, nid oes ystafell gotiau gennym, a gall hyn, yn arbennig ar ddiwrnod glawog, fod yn anghyfleus. Nid oes digon o doiledau cyhoeddus gennym, ac mae'r unig luniaeth sydd ar gael ym mherfeddion yr adeilad a gall cyrraedd yno ymddangos fel taith milltir o hyd. Gall hyn fod yn anodd i rai ymwelwyr. Edrychaf ymlaen at yr adeilad

even more enjoyable and informative.

I am pleased that the Pierhead building continues to be refurbished. It is a fine building, and it is appropriate that it is part of the Assembly estate. I hope, Presiding Officer, that you and your office will be allocated a space in the building that is appropriate to the office of Presiding Officer. At present, your office is inaccessible, as visitors must go up three or four floors and walk through a work area to find you. This is not fair on the staff working in this area, and neither is it appropriate for senior politicians, visitors from abroad or member of the public who come here specifically to see you to have to wind their way through the corridors to reach your office. There should be a suitable, accessible space that is laid out in a manner appropriate to your office. I hope that there will also be an area where gifts given to the Assembly can be displayed. As chair of the erstwhile arts sub-committee, we regularly thank people for the offer of works of art but then have to tell them that we do not have an area where they can be displayed. Interesting gifts have been given, and it is a shame that they cannot be displayed.

4.30 p.m.

I would like to see front-of-house staff and ushers dressed in clothing that is specifically designed and appropriate for the new building. It should be similar to the clothing—I do not want to call it a uniform or livery, but maybe formal dress—that is used in our sister assemblies in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Westminster. I look forward to seeing that happen.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I thank Members for their kind comments and suggestions. I will ensure that the record of this debate is placed before each member of the House Committee, and we will consider every item. I am grateful to Edwina Hart, when she was the Finance Minister, that we did not have serious financial problems in terms of being able to run the estate. As I said, through prudent money management, we are able to spend a considerable sum on

newydd a'r cyfleusterau a fydd yn gwneud y teithiau hyd yn oed yn fwy dymunol a llawn gwybodaeth.

Yr wyf yn falch bod adeilad y Pierhead yn parhau i gael ei adnewyddu. Mae'n adeilad hardd, ac mae'n briodol ei fod yn rhan o ystad y Cynulliad. Gobeithiaf, Lywydd, y neilltuir lle i chi a'ch swyddfa a fydd yn briodol i swydd Llywydd. Ar hyn o bryd, nid yw eich swyddfa yn hygyrch, gan fod yn rhaid i ymwelwyr ddringo tri neu bedwar llawr a cherdded drwy ardal waith i ddod o hyd i chi. Nid yw hyn yn deg ar y staff sy'n gweithio yn yr ardal hon, ac nid yw'n briodol ychwaith i uwch wleidyddion, ymwelwyr o dramor neu aelodau o'r cyhoedd sy'n dod yma'n benodol i'ch gweld orfod ymlwybro drwy'r coridorau i gyrraedd eich swyddfa. Dylai fod lle addas a hygyrch ar gael sydd wedi ei gynllunio mewn ffordd sy'n briodol i'ch swydd. Gobeithiaf y bydd man hefyd lle y gellir arddangos y rhoddion a roddwyd i'r Cynulliad. Fel cadeirydd yr is-bwyllgor celf gynt, diolchwn yn rheolaidd i bobl am gynnig gweithiau celf, ond rhaid dweud wedyn nad oes gennym unman lle y gellir eu harddangos. Rhoddwyd rhoddion diddorol, ac mae'n drueni na ellir eu harddangos.

Hoffwn weld staff derbyn ymwelwyr a thywyswyr wedi eu gwisgo mewn dillad a gynlluniwyd yn benodol ar eu cyfer ac sy'n briodol ar gyfer yr adeilad newydd. Dylent fod yn debyg i'r dillad—nid wyf am ei alw'n wisg unffurf neu'n lifrai, ond gwisg ffurfiol efallai—a ddefnyddir yn ein chwaer gynulladau yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, yr Alban a San Steffan. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld hynny'n digwydd.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolchaf i Aelodau am eu sylwadau caredig a'u hawgrymiadau. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod cofnod o'r ddatl hon yn cael ei osod gerbron pob aelod o Bwyllgor y Tŷ, a byddwn yn ystyried pob eitem. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Edwina Hart, pan oedd yn Weinidog Cyllid, na chawsom broblemau ariannol difrifol o ran gallu rhedeg yr ystad. Fel y dywedais, drwy reoli arian yn ddoeth, gallwn wario swm sylweddol ar adnewyddu'r to ac adeiladwaith allanol arall adeilad

the refurbishment of the roof and other outside fabric of the Grade I listed Pierhead building, of which we are custodians for future generations.

I am in favour of a gymnasium, Glyn, and space will be available once we have the new building. That is, of course, a matter for the House Committee, but I give you my personal pledge that I will support it and will advocate it; I am not saying that you will see me in it. However, it is a valuable asset and, quite rightly, every large public building that people use for their everyday work should have such a facility available.

Peter was right about the memento. That is in progress, and I hope that it will not be too long before the House Committee will be able to answer that question and produce mementoes that we will be able to use when we entertain visitors or when we visit other jurisdictions elsewhere.

We have a part-time occupational health nurse—

Lorraine Barrett: If a gym were to be provided here, could you give us an assurance that anyone who used it would have to pay market rates for using it, and that it would not be a free facility for members or staff?

John Marek: I am not sure that I could give you that assurance. It is a matter for the Health and Social Services Committee. If we treat our staff well—Members, Assembly Members' support staff, and officials who work in this building—and they are healthier, we get better value out of them. Therefore, there may be a case for not charging them anything and making it free, I do not know. However, you raise an interesting point, and I am sure that it will be considered.

Guidance on freedom of information will be forthcoming. I believe that that will be discussed by the Business Committee in the near future. It is an important matter, and we need to get our procedures right. I hope that Members will forgive me if I do not mention

rhestredig Gradd 1 y Pierhead, y byddwn yn gofalu amdano am genedlaethau i ddod.

Yr wyf o blaid campfa, Glyn, a bydd lle ar gael unwaith y cawn yr adeilad newydd. Mae hynny, wrth gwrs, yn fater i Bwyllgor y Tŷ, ond rhoddaf fy addewid bersonol ichi y byddaf yn ei chefnogi ac yn ei hyrwyddo; nid wyf yn dweud y byddwch yn fy ngweld i ynddi. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ased gwerthfawr ac, yn hollol briodol, dylai pob adeilad cyhoeddus mawr a ddefnyddir gan bobl ar gyfer eu gwaith bob dydd fod â chyfleuster o'r fath.

Yr oedd Peter yn iawn ynglŷn â'r gofrodd. Mae hynny'n mynd rhagddo, a gobeithiaf na fydd yn rhaid aros yn rhy hir cyn y gall Pwyllgor y Tŷ ateb y cwestiwn hwnnw a chynhyrchu cofroddion y gallwn eu defnyddio pan fyddwn yn croesawu ymwelwyr neu pan fyddwn yn ymweld ag awdurdodaethau eraill.

Mae gennym nyrs iechyd galwedigaethol ran amser—

Lorraine Barrett: Pe bai campfa yn cael ei darparu yma, a allech roi sicrwydd inni y byddai unrhyw un a fyddai'n ei defnyddio yn gorfod talu cyfraddau'r farchnad er mwyn ei defnyddio, ac na fyddai'n gyfleuster am ddim i aelodau neu staff?

John Marek: Nid wyf yn siŵr y gallwn roi'r sicrwydd hwnnw ichi. Mater i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ydyw. Os byddwn yn trin ein staff yn dda—Aelodau, staff cymorth Aelodau'r Cynulliad, a swyddogion sy'n gweithio yn yr adeilad hwn—ac maent yn iachach, efallai y cawn fwy o fudd ohonynt. Felly, efallai y gellir dadlau na ddylid codi ffi o gwbl ac y dylai fod ar gael am ddim. Ni wn. Fodd bynnag, codwch bwynt diddorol, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y caiff ei ystyried.

Bydd canllawiau ar ryddid gwybodaeth ar gael maes o law. Credaf y caiff hynny ei drafod gan y Pwyllgor Busnes yn y dyfodol agos. Mae'n fater pwysig, ac mae angen inni sicrhau bod ein trefniadau yn gywir. Gobeithiaf y bydd Aelodau yn maddau imi os

everyone. I thank Members, and will pass on your kind words and suggestions to the House Committee. I hope that we will have another fruitful year in the year to come.

na soniaf am bawb. Diolchaf i Aelodau, a byddaf yn cyfleu eich geiriau caredig a'ch awgrymiadau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ. Gobeithiaf y cawn flwyddyn lwyddiannus arall yn y flwyddyn i ddod.

Cynnig (NDM2265): O blaid 40, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 1.

Motion (NDM2265): For 40, Abstain 0, Against 1.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

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

Idris Jones, Denise

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

Cymeradwyo Cod Ymddygiad Pwyllgor y Tŷ **Approval of the Code of Conduct for the House Committee**

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

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 18.14, approves the Code of Guidance for Members of the House Committee, which was laid in the Table Office on 13 January 2005. (NDM2264)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 18.14, yn cymeradwyo'r Cod Canllawiau i Aelodau Pwyllgor y Tŷ, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Ionawr 2005. (NDM2264)

I do not want to detain Plenary by staying long on this item. Standing Orders require this code to be drawn up for members of the House Committee, and they have been aware of this code for some time, and have abided by it. However, it needs Plenary approval. It has been seen by the Committee on Standards of Conduct, which, with some minor changes, has given it its blessing. Therefore, it is before us. It will enable us as House Committee members to do our job impartially and with integrity, and I commend it to Plenary.

Nid wyf am gadw Aelodau dros amser drwy aros yn hir ar yr eitem hon. Mae Rheolau Sefydlog yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r cod hwn gael ei lunio i aelodau Pwyllgor y Tŷ, ac maent wedi bod yn ymwybodol o'r cod hwn ers peth amser, ac wedi glynu wrtho. Fodd bynnag, mae angen cymeradwyaeth Cyfarfod Llawn arno. Fe'i gwelwyd gan y Pwyllgor Safonau Ymddygiad, sydd, gyda rhai mân newidiadau, wedi rhoi ei sêl bendith arno. Bydd yn ein galluogi fel aelodau Pwyllgor y Tŷ i wneud ein gwaith yn ddiduedd a chydag uniondeb, ac fe'i cymeradwyaf i'r Cyfarfod Llawn.

*Cynnig (NDM2264): O blaid 41, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2264): For 41, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

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

Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Pryd bydd 'Iaith Pawb' yn Iaith Pawb When will 'Iaith Pawb' be Everybody's Language

Owen John Thomas: Yr wyf wedi rhoi munud yr un i Eleanor Burnham, Lisa Francis a Leighton Andrews, yn y drefn honno, i wneud cyfranniad.

Owen John Thomas: I have allowed a minute each to Eleanor Burnham, Lisa Francis and Leighton Andrews, in that order, to make a contribution.

Mae sawl her yn wynebu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, ac, wrth gwrs, mae gan bob plaid ei pholisïau ei hun i gynnig atebion. Eithriad i hyn yw'r iaith Gymraeg. Cytunodd pob plaid yn y Cynulliad ar bolisi ar y cyd, 'Ein Hiaith: Ei Dyfodol', a chynllun gweithredu i gyflawni'r polisi hwn, 'Iaith Pawb'. Maen clo cytûn y polisi yw'r angen sylfaenol i godi nifer siaradwyr y Gymraeg. Wedi'r cyfan, pobl yw'r deunydd crai—y briciau adeiladu—ar gyfer llunio Cymru ddwyieithog. Ar ben hynny, nid oes rhaid dechrau o'r dechrau gyda'r prosiect hwn, gan y gellir dynodi 1944 fel trobwynt yn hanes yr iaith. Honno oedd blwyddyn y Ddeddf Addysg—deddf R.A. Butler, y Ceidwadwr oedd yn ormod o ddeallusyn ac yn rhy radicalaidd i ddod yn arweinydd ar ei blaid ei hun. Yn Llanelli, yn 1947, yn sgîl deddf R.A. Butler, agorwyd yr ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg benodedig gyntaf. Yr oedd y broses o adeiladu Cymru ddwyieithog wedi dechrau.

Many challenges face the National Assembly, and, of course, each party has its own policies to offer solutions. The exception to this is the Welsh language. All parties in the Assembly agreed a joint policy, 'Our Language: Its Future', and the action plan to achieve that policy, 'Iaith Pawb'. The agreed keystone to the policy is the fundamental need to increase the number of Welsh speakers. After all, people are the raw material—the building blocks—with which to create a bilingual Wales. In addition, there is no need to begin at the beginning with this project, because 1944 can be identified as the turning point in the history of the language. That was the year of the Education Act—the act introduced by R.A. Butler, the Conservative who was too intellectual and too radical to become leader of his own party. In Llanelli, in 1947, following R.A. Butler's act, the first designated Welsh-medium primary school was opened. The process of building a bilingual Wales had begun.

Bob degawd ers hynny, ar gyfartaledd, agorid 20 o ysgolion cynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg penodedig, ac erbyn hyn, mae 120 ohonynt, ynghyd â 23 ysgol uwchradd yn ymestyn o Gil-y-coed i Gaergybi ac o dref Penfro i gyffiniau Cei Connah, gydag un all-bost bach yn Llundain. Ymhellach, mae dylanwad y datblygiad gwyrthiol hwn wedi peri i rai awdurdodau lleol bennu rhyngddynt dros 300 o ysgolion cynradd a 25 o ysgolion uwchradd

In every decade since then, on average, 20 designated Welsh-medium primary schools have been opened, and today, there are 120, along with 23 secondary schools stretching from Caldicot to Holyhead and from Pembroke to Connah's Quay, with one small outpost in London. Furthermore, the influence of that miraculous development has given some local authorities cause to designate, between them, over 300 primary

yn ysgolion traddodiadol Cymraeg, neu ysgolion categori A, sy'n dysgu'n bennaf drwy'r Gymraeg. Gyda'i gilydd, mae'r ysgolion cynradd hyn yn rhoi addysg sydd yn bennaf, neu'n gyfan gwbl, yn gyfrwng Cymraeg i 20 y cant o blant Cymru rhwng tair ac 11 oed. Rhieni Cymraeg eu hiaith oedd yr arloeswyr cynnar pan sefydlwyd yr ysgolion cyntaf, ond wrth i nifer yr ysgolion dyfu, mae mwyfwy o rieni di-Gymraeg wedi dewis, ac yn dewis o hyd, addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg i'w plant, yn enwedig yn y De-ddwyrain a'r Gogledd-ddwyrain. Erbyn hyn, er enghraifft, yn ysgolion Cymraeg cymoedd dwyrain Morgannwg a Gwent, mae dros 95 y cant o'r plant yn dod o gartrefi di-Gymraeg. Mae'r twf hwn wedi digwydd yn unol â dymuniadau rhieni, ac mae'n dangos yn glir y potensial am hyrwyddo'r flaenoriaeth sydd yn angenrheidiol i greu Cymru ddwyieithog, sef cynyddu nifer y siaradwyr Cymraeg. Bydd y broses o reidrwydd yn raddol ac yn cymryd o leiaf ddwy genhedlaeth. Rhaid dechrau gyda phlant dan dair oed, gan ddod o hyd i'r rhieni hynny a fyddai'n dymuno i'w plant gael addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg pe bai'r ddarpariaeth ar gael o fewn cyrraedd rhesymol i'w cartrefi.

Ar hyn o bryd, nid yw un awdurdod lleol yn cynnal arolwg manwl o rieni plant ifanc i asesu'r galw am addysg Gymraeg. Wrth gwrs, nid oes angen gwneud hyn yn yr ychydig siroedd lle ystyrir y Gymraeg yn brif iaith addysg gynradd, ac i raddau llai, yn brif iaith addysg uwchradd hefyd.

4.40 p.m.

Serch hynny, ym mwyafrif y siroedd, nid yw llawer o rieni di-Gymraeg yn ymwybodol o'u hawl na'r dewis sydd ganddynt i gael addysg Gymraeg i'w plant. Yn y siroedd hyn, anfonir ffurflen at rieni plant dwyflwydd a theirblwydd oed, yn dweud wrthynt fod lle i'w plentyn ar ddechrau'r tymor canlynol yn yr ysgol gyfrwng Saesneg lleol. Weithiau, ceir brawddeg swta, digymorth a dinod yn y llythyr, yn datgan:

schools and 25 secondary schools as traditional Welsh-language schools, or category A schools, which teach mainly through the medium of Welsh. Collectively, these primary schools provide education that is either mainly or wholly delivered through the medium of Welsh to 20 per cent of Welsh children between three and 11 years of age. Welsh-speaking parents were the early pioneers when the first schools were established, but as the number of schools grows, increasing numbers of non-Welsh speaking parents have chosen, and continue to choose, Welsh-medium education for their children, especially in the south east and north west of Wales. Today, for example, in the Welsh-medium schools of the valleys of east Glamorgan and Gwent, over 95 per cent of the children come from non-Welsh speaking homes. This growth has occurred in line with parental demand, and it clearly demonstrates the potential to promote the priority that is essential to the creation of a bilingual Wales, namely an increase in the number of Welsh speakers. The process will inevitably be gradual and will take at least two generations. We must start with children under three years of age, by identifying those parents who would choose Welsh-medium education for their children were provision available within a reasonable distance of their homes.

Currently, not one local authority conducts a detailed survey of the parents of young children to assess demand for Welsh-medium education. This is, of course, unnecessary in those few counties where Welsh is considered the main language of primary education, and to a lesser extent, the main language of secondary education.

However, in the majority of counties, many non-Welsh speaking parents are unaware of either their right to Welsh-medium education or that they can choose it for their children. In these counties, parents receive a form telling them that their child has a place in the local English-medium school for the following term. Sometimes, there is a curt, unhelpful and insignificant sentence stating:

‘Perhaps you would prefer to send your child to a denominational or Welsh-medium school.’

Efallai y byddai'n well gennych anfon eich plentyn i ysgol enwadol neu ysgol cyfrwng Cymraeg.

Dyna'r cyfan y mae'n ei ddweud. Yn sicr, byddai llawn mor hawdd ac yn llawer mwy buddiol i awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio holiadur arbennig yn sôn am y ddarpariaeth bresennol o ran addysg Gymraeg yn y sir, ac yn gofyn i rieni a hoffent anfon eu plentyn i ysgol Gymraeg pe bai ysgol o'r fath ar gael o fewn cyrraedd rhesymol i'w cartref. Byddai hyn yn ffordd syml a chyflym o ddarganfod y galw posibl am addysg Gymraeg.

That is all it says. It would be just as easy and much more beneficial for local authorities to issue a questionnaire detailing the current Welsh-medium provision within the county, and asking parents whether or not they would like to send their child to a Welsh-medium school, if such a school were available within a reasonable distance of their home. This would be a simple and quick method of determining the potential demand for Welsh-medium education.

Byddai cynnal arolwg o'r fath, ym mhob sir lle nad yw'r Gymraeg yn iaith fwyafrifol, yn ffordd o greu strategaeth genedlaethol lle byddai twf yr iaith yn adlewyrchu'r galw lleol. Yn y modd hwn, gellid seilio cynlluniau addysg Gymraeg pob awdurdod lleol ar ymatebion eu harolwg iaith. Dangosai'n glir y ddarpariaeth ychwanegol sydd ei hangen ar gyfer addysg Gymraeg o fewn pob awdurdod lleol, a byddai'n gwneud gwaith monitro Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg neu uned iaith y Cynulliad yn fater hawdd.

Undertaking such a survey, in each county where Welsh is not the majority language, would be a way of creating a national strategy whereby the growth of the language would reflect local demand. In this way, each local authority's Welsh language scheme could be based on the responses to their language survey. It would give a clear indication of the additional provision needed for Welsh-medium education within each local authority and would make the monitoring work of the Welsh Language Board and the Assembly's language unit a simple task.

Hyd yn hyn, nid oes strategaeth genedlaethol gyfannol ar gyfer y Gymraeg, er mai etifeddiaeth genedlaethol yw'r iaith, ac yn eiddo felly i bob unigolyn yn y wlad, os ydynt yn ei siarad ai peidio.

So far, there is no holistic national strategy for the Welsh language despite the fact that the language is part of our national heritage, and therefore belongs to everyone in the country, whether they speak it or not.

Pe edrychem ar gynlluniau addysg Gymraeg pob un o'r 22 awdurdod lleol, gwelem nad yw'r mwyafrif ohonynt yn cynnwys cynlluniau ar gyfer ehangu addysg Gymraeg. Y cyfan a wneir yw adrodd lefel bresennol y ddarpariaeth. Polisiâu statig ac adweithiol sydd ganddynt. Er mwyn datblygu Cymru ddwyieithog yn raddol ac yn fwriadol, mae'n rhaid i bob awdurdod addysg lleol gyflawni polisi rhagweithiol. Mae hyn yn golygu cyflawni dau gam hanfodol. Yn gyntaf, dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad roi cyfarwyddyd manwl i bob awdurdod lleol allu cynnal arolwg o rieni plant dan eu teirblwydd drwy ddefnyddio holiadur safonol er mwyn sefydlu'r galw posibl am addysg Gymraeg. Yn ail, dylid peri rheidrwydd ar bob

If we were to look at the Welsh language schemes of each of the 22 local authorities, we would see that the majority do not contain any schemes for expanding Welsh-medium education. They merely report on the current level of provision. They are static and reactive policies. To develop a bilingual Wales gradually and purposefully, each local education authority must implement a proactive policy. This requires two crucial steps. First, the Assembly Government should give detailed instruction to each local authority to undertake a survey of parents of children under three years of age, using a standard questionnaire in order to establish the potential demand for Welsh-medium education. Secondly, it should be made

awdurdod lleol i ad-drefnu ei gynllun addysg Gymraeg er mwyn dangos sut y bydd yn diwallu'r galw ychwanegol a ddatgelir gan yr arolwg.

Yn anffodus, mae'r cam sylfaenol, angenrheidiol, amlwg a syml hwn i gryfhau'r iaith yn wynebu maen tramgwydd. Er bod y Llywodraeth wedi datgan ei chefnogaeth i 'Iaith Pawb', fe'i rhwystrir rhag gweithredu'n eofn i hyrwyddo'r dull mwyaf llwyddiannus o gynyddu nifer y siaradwyr Cymraeg, sef addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg. Er mai'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon sy'n gyfrifol am yr iaith, a'i fod yn frwd dros ei hyrwyddo, teimlaf fod ei ryddid i gyflawni'r dasg yn cael ei rwystro gan y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes.

Dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf, mae'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, droeon, wedi gwrthod annog awdurdodau lleol i gynnal arolwg er mwyn canfod dymuniadau rhieni. Mae hefyd wedi dangos agwedd elyniaethus tuag at addysg cyfrwng Gymraeg, a mynegi barn anwybodus amdani.

Gwelaf fod un Rhyddfrydwr yma.

Speaking in Cardiff almost a century ago, referring to the Welsh language, Lloyd George said:

'she has survived many storms; she has survived many Empires. Her time will come.'

With the establishment of the National Assembly for Wales, many people felt that the prophecy of Lloyd George for the language would finally come true and that her time, indeed, had come.

However, neither current optimists nor Lloyd George could have foreseen the possibility of a National Assembly for Wales having a Minister responsible for education who seems determined to ignore, and ride roughshod over, the opinion of worldwide and national authorities on reversing language shift. Linguists and prominent scholars, such as Joseph Fishman of New

mandatory for each local authority to amend its Welsh language scheme to demonstrate how it will respond to the additional demand highlighted by the survey.

Unfortunately, this fundamental, necessary, obvious and simple step that would bolster the language faces a stumbling block. Although the Government has stated its support for 'Iaith Pawb', it is being prevented from acting boldly to promote the most successful way of increasing the number of Welsh speakers, namely Welsh-medium education. Although responsibility for the language rests with the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport, and that he is enthusiastic about promoting it, I feel that his ability to carry out this task is being hampered by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning.

Over the last four years, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning has, on numerous occasions, refused to encourage local authorities to undertake surveys to determine parents' wishes. She has also displayed a hostile attitude towards Welsh-medium education, and has expressed an uninformed opinion on it.

I see that there is one Liberal here.

Gan siarad yng Nghaerdydd, bron i ganrif yn ôl, dywedodd Lloyd George am yr iaith Gymraeg:

mae wedi goroesi sawl storm; mae wedi goroesi sawl Ymerodraeth. Fe ddaw ei hamser hi.

Pan sefydlwyd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, teimlai llawer o bobl y byddai proffwydoliaeth Lloyd George ar gyfer yr iaith, o'r diwedd, yn dod yn wir a bod ei hamser hi, yn wir, wedi dod.

Fodd bynnag, ni allai'r optimyddion presennol na Lloyd George fod wedi rhagweld y posibilrwydd y byddai gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Weinidog yn gyfrifol am addysg a oedd fel pe bai'n benderfynol o anwybyddu barn awdurdodau ledled y byd ac awdurdodau cenedlaethol ar wrthdroi newid mewn iaith. Mae ieithyddion ac ysgolheigion amlwg, megis Joseph

York, and Professors Aitchison and Carter, Colin Williams and Colin Baker in Wales, all recognise that in countries with linguistic circumstances such as those in Wales, growing the language through full immersion is crucial. A visit to the Basque Country, which has a similar linguistic, demographic and political background to that of Wales, does not appear to have enlightened the self-confident, and absent, education Minister.

I mentioned the growth in Welsh-medium schools, with an average of 20 new primary schools and four new secondary schools being opened every 10 years since 1947. The comparable figures for the last eight years, from 1997 to 2004, are that six new primary schools and three new secondary schools have been opened. This shows a huge decline in the provision of Welsh-medium schools. This is not surprising when you consider the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning's crucial role in stopping three new Welsh-medium primary schools being established in Caerphilly, in slowing down the opening of a Welsh-medium primary school and a Welsh-medium secondary school in Pontypridd, and in stopping the extension of Welsh-medium education in three of Carmarthenshire's Welsh-medium secondary schools. However, she did not resist the closure of the Welsh-medium nursery unit in her adopted community of Gwaelod y Garth, which has been closed 1996 and will not be replaced until January 2006. It would be charitable to describe her attitude on the issue of Welsh-medium education as complacent.

In nations where a powerful international language, such as English or Spanish, has become predominant and the native language has lost much ground, it is the general opinion of linguistic authorities that the downward shift of the lesser-used language can only be reversed by using the process of total immersion. In Wales, that would mean that pupils, through parental choice, would receive their education in all subjects, except English, through the medium of Welsh. The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning seems to be of the misconceived

Fishman o Efrog Newydd, a'r Athrawon Aitchison a Carter, Colin Williams a Colin Baker yng Nghymru, oll yn cydnabod bod datblygu'r iaith drwy ymdrwytho pobl yn llwyr yn hollbwysig mewn gwledydd lle mae'r amgylchiadau ieithyddol yn debyg i'r rhai yng Nghymru. Nid yw ymweliad â Gwlad y Basg, sydd â chefnidir ieithyddol, demograffaid a gwleidyddol tebyg i un Cymru, wedi goleuo'r Gweinidog dros Addysg hunanhyderus, ac absennol, i bob golwg.

Soniais am y twf mewn ysgolion cyfrwng Cymraeg, gydag 20 ysgol gynradd newydd a phedair ysgol uwchradd newydd ar gyfartaledd wedi agor bob 10 mlynedd ers 1947. Y ffigurau cymharol ar gyfer yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf, o 1997 i 2004, yw bod chwe ysgol gynradd newydd a thair ysgol uwchradd newydd wedi cael eu hagor. Dengys hyn ddirywiad enfawr yn narpariaeth ysgolion cyfrwng Cymraeg. Nid yw hynny'n syndod pan ystyriwch y rhan hollbwysig a chwaraeodd y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes mewn atal tair ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd rhag cael eu sefydlu yng Nghaerffili, mewn arafu'r gwaith o agor ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg ac ysgol uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg ym Mhontypridd, ac mewn atal ehangu addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg mewn tair ysgol uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg yn sir Gaerfyrddin. Fodd bynnag, ni wnaeth unrhyw beth i atal yr uned feithrin cyfrwng Cymraeg rhag cau yn ei chymuned fabwysiedig sef Gwaelod y Garth, sydd wedi bod ar gau ers 1996, ac ni fwriedir agor un arall yn ei lle tan fis Ionawr 2006. Byddai'n garedig disgrifio ei hagwedd at addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg fel un hunanfodlon.

Mewn gwledydd lle mae iaith ryngwladol bwerus, megis Saesneg neu Sbaeneg, yn rheoli ac mae'r iaith frodorol wedi colli llawer o dir, barn gyffredinol awdurdodau ieithyddol yw mai dim ond drwy ddefnyddio'r broses o ymdrwytho pobl yn llwyr yn yr iaith honno y gellir gwrthdroi'r newid tuag at i lawr yn yr iaith y defnyddir llai ohoni. Yng Nghymru, byddai hynny'n golygu bod disgyblion ysgol, drwy ddewis rhieni, yn cael eu haddysg ym mhob pwnc, heblaw Saesneg, drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Ymddengys fod y Gweinidog dros Addysg a

opinion that teaching children half their subjects through the medium of Welsh and half through the medium of English will produce a sufficient number of thoroughly bilingual pupils. In making this uninformed assumption, she is registering her opposition to Welsh-medium education and ignoring the experience of nearly 60 years of this methodology. Instead, she is embracing an approach deployed in more than 100 primary schools by the schools council of Wales in the 1970s and 1980s, which was completely abandoned due to its failure to produce an acceptable proportion of pupils who had gained a reasonable level of proficiency in the Welsh language. The way in which she is continuing to misuse public money on this failed method and is deliberately holding back the growth of Welsh-medium education is unworthy of a Minister in the National Assembly of Wales Government. Who are her advisers and what is their understanding and experience of Welsh-medium education that they should be furnishing her with such bad advice? However, if it is the Minister's own decision to refuse to promote Welsh-medium education—and that possibility seems to fit—it can only be described as crass arrogance.

Whatever the reason, it is high time that the First Minister intervened to put an end to the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning's procrastination and prevarication on this matter by immediately empowering the Minister for Culture, the Welsh Language and Sport to communicate directly with local authorities with a view to making a proper determination of the demand for Welsh-medium education. Let parents take the lead.

Eleanor Burnham: Diolchaf i Owen John am y cyfle i siarad yn fyr ar fater pwysig. Yr ydym yn cymeradwyo gwaith safonol a thrwyadl Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg dros y blynyddoedd, ac yr ydym yn poeni'n fawr, pan gaiff y corff ei sugno i mewn i'r Llywodraeth, ynghylch pa mor effeithiol ac effeithlon fydd y broses graffu a faint o arian fydd y Llywodraeth yn ei fuddsoddi ac yn ei sicrhau. A yw Owen John yn cytuno â llywydd Canolfan Iaith a Threftadaeth Cymru Nant Gwrtheyrn y dylem gael corff newydd o'r enw Cymraeg i Bawb, i hybu dysgu Cymraeg i oedolion drwy fudiadau

Dysgu Gydol Oes o'r farn anghywir y bydd dysgu hanner y pynciau i blant yn Gymraeg a hanner yn Saesneg yn creu nifer ddigonol o ddisgyblion hollol ddwyieithog. Wrth wneud y dybiaeth anwybodus hon, mae'n cyfleu ei gwrthwynebiad i addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ac yn anwybyddu profiad bron 60 mlynedd o'r fethodoleg hon. Yn lle hynny, mae'n mabwysiadu ymagwedd a ddefnyddiwyd mewn mwy na 100 o ysgolion cynradd gan y cyngor ysgolion yng Nghymru yn y 1970au a'r 1980au, y cefnwyd arni'n llwyr am na lwyddodd i gynhyrchu cyfran dderbyniol o ddisgyblion a oedd wedi cyrraedd lefel dderbyniol o ruglder yn yr iaith Gymraeg. Mae'r ffordd y mae'n parhau i gamddefnyddio arian cyhoeddus drwy ddilyn y dull aflwyddiannus hwn ac yn fwriadol yn atal twf addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn annheilwng o Weinidog yn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Pwy yw ei chyngorwyr a beth yw eu dealltwriaeth a'u profiad o addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg o gofio eu bod yn rhoi'r fath gyngor gwael iddi? Fodd bynnag, os mai'r Gweinidog ei hun sydd wedi penderfynu gwrthod hyrwyddo addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg—ac ymddengys bod hynny'n bosibl—ni ellir ond disgrifio hyn fel trahauster dybryd.

Beth bynnag fo'r rheswm, mae'n hen bryd i'r Prif Weinidog ymyrryd i roi terfyn ar oedi ac anwadalu y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar y mater hwn drwy rymuso'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon ar unwaith i gysylltu'n uniongyrchol ag awdurdodau lleol gyda'r bwriad o ddod i benderfyniad priodol ar y galw am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg. Gadewch i rieni arwain y blaen.

Eleanor Burnham: I thank Owen John for giving me the opportunity to contribute briefly on an important issue. We applaud the work of the Welsh Language Board over the years, which has been of a high standard and thorough, and we are very concerned, when this body is merged with the Government, about how effective and efficient the scrutiny process will be and how much money the Government will invest and secure. Does Owen John agree with the president of the Nant Gwrtheyrn Welsh Language and Heritage Centre that we should have a new body called Cymraeg i Bawb to promote the

gwirfoddol fel yr wyf yn meddwl i mi ei ddarllen yn y *Daily Post* ddoe, yn yr un ffordd ag y mae Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin yn hybu dysgu Cymraeg i blant bach?

4.50 p.m.

Lisa Francis: Diolchaf i Owen John Thomas am gael munud yn y ddadl hon. Yr wyf am ofyn am y dyfodol, a rôl y dyfarnydd o ran Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg. Siaradodd y Gweinidog am hyn yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon y bore yma. Y mae wedi dweud nad yw rôl y dyfarnydd wedi ei ddiffinio yn fanwl hyd yma. Yn y cyfamser, cyn iddo ddod yn statudol, gosodir amodau yn eu lle a fydd yn sicrhau gonestrwydd a thryloywder o ran gwaith a chynngor y dyfarnydd. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes gwybodaeth bellach ar gael ynglŷn â natur a manylion yr amodau hyn. Pryd y gallwn ddisgwyl derbyn y wybodaeth bwysig hon, Weinidog?

Leighton Andrews: Diolch, Owen John. Yr oeddwn yn hapus i allu rhoi cerdyn Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen i fy ngwraig ddoe. Mae'n enghraifft o waith ardderchog Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg i hybu dathlu digwyddiadau yn y Gymraeg. Ym mhob man yr wyf yn mynd yn y Rhondda yr wyf yn cwrdd â phobl sy'n dysgu Cymraeg. Mae ar bobl angen hyder i ddysgu iaith arall. Dywedodd Cyngor Defnyddwyr Cymru ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn cefnogi cyfleoedd i bobl ddysgu Cymraeg yn y gwaith ac yn y gymuned. Efallai y dylem roi gwobrau i bobl sy'n ein helpu i ddysgu Cymraeg yn y gymuned, pobl fel athrawon, neu i bobl sy'n ein helpu i ddefnyddio Cymraeg, er enghraifft staff papurau bro fel *Y Gloran* yn y Rhondda. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog feddwl am y syniad hwn.

Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon (Alun Pugh): Yr wyf yn hapus i gael y cyfle i ail ddatgan polisi Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar yr iaith Gymraeg. Yr ydym am greu cymdeithas ddwyieithog. Mae gennym bolisi uchelgeisiol ac yr wyf yn gwybod bod pawb yn sylweddoli hynny. Ers ein dadl ddiwethaf, yr ydym wedi penderfynu dod â bwrdd yr iaith i mewn i galon y Llywodraeth, ond ni fu newid yn y polisi na'r cyllid. Yr ydym wedi

teaching of Welsh to adults through voluntary organisations as I think I read in the *Daily Post* yesterday, in the same way as Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin promotes teaching Welsh to young children?

Lisa Francis: I thank Owen John Thomas for allowing me a minute in this debate. I want to ask about the future, and the role of the dyfarnydd in relation to the Welsh Language Board. The Minister spoke about this in the Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee meeting this morning. He has said that the dyfarnydd's role has not yet been defined in detail. In the meantime, before it becomes statutory, conditions will be put in place to ensure the integrity and transparency of the dyfarnydd's work. At the moment, no further information is available on the nature or detail of these conditions. When can we expect this important information, Minister?

Leighton Andrews: Thank you, Owen John. I was pleased to be able to give my wife a Santes Dwynwen Day card yesterday. It is an example of the Welsh Language Board's excellent work in promoting the celebration of events in Welsh. Everywhere I go in the Rhondda I meet people who are learning Welsh. People need confidence to learn a second language. The Welsh Consumer Council said that it is important that we support opportunities for people to learn Welsh in the workplace and in the community. Perhaps we should give awards to people, such as teachers, who help us to learn Welsh in the community, or people who help us to use Welsh, for example, the staff of local papers such as *Y Gloran* in the Rhondda. I ask the Minister to consider this idea.

The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Alun Pugh): I am pleased to have the opportunity to restate the Assembly Government's policy on the Welsh language. We want to create a bilingual society. We have an ambitious policy and I know that everyone realises that. Since our last debate, we have decided to bring the language board into the heart of Government, but there has been no change in policy or funding. We have supported 'Iaith Pawb'

cefnogi 'Iaith Pawb' gydag arian sylweddol. Byddwn wedi buddsoddi £28 miliwn ychwanegol yn y Gymraeg rhwng 2003 a 2006.

Denise Idris Jones: Yr wyf am ddweud gair bach am rywbeth sydd, mewn ffordd, yn drist. Cefais fy magu mewn pentref, ddim yn bell o Loegr, lle yr oedd pawb yn siarad Cymraeg. Fodd bynnag, crewyd ysgol Gymraeg yn y pentref a gwahanodd y pentref. Yn awr, nid yw iaith y nefoedd i'w chlywed ar y strydoedd. Yr wyf yn teimlo ei bod yn llawer gwell i ni greu ysgolion dwyieithog, er mwyn i bob plentyn gael y cyfle i ddysgu Cymraeg.

Alun Pugh: In my community of Ruthin, which is not a million miles away from where you live, you will know that there is an excellent truly bilingual school where some students study through the medium of English, some *drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg*, or through the medium of Welsh, and some *hanner a hanner*, or half and half. That is a good model, but obviously it would not be acceptable in every part of our nation.

I ateb y ddadl, mae creu Cymru ddwyieithog yn strategaeth tymor hir. Ni fyddwn yn cyrraedd y nod dros nos. Yr ydym ar ddechrau'r broses, ond yr ydym wedi cyflawni llawer yn barod. Mae cyfrifiad 2001 yn dangos bod nifer a chanran y siaradwyr Cymraeg yn tyfu, a hynny am y tro cyntaf erioed yn hanes y cyfrifiad. Un o brif dargedau 'Iaith Pawb' yw cynyddu'r ganran sy'n siarad Cymraeg 5 pwynt canran erbyn cyfrifiad 2011.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn derbyn bod gennych darged uchelgeisiol i gynyddu nifer y siaradwyr Cymraeg 5 pwynt canran. Fodd bynnag, yn wyneb y ffaith bod y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn gwrthod gweithredu polisi o hyrwyddo addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg, pa ddull arall sydd gennych i greu'r cynnydd hwn yn nifer y siaradwyr Cymraeg?

Alun Pugh: You are being unfair to the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning. I will return to education shortly.

We are promoting Welsh across the board.

with substantial funding. We will have invested an additional £28 million in the Welsh language between 2003 and 2006.

Denise Idris Jones: I want to mention something that is quite sad, in a way. I was brought up in a village, not far from England, where everyone spoke Welsh. However, a Welsh school was established in the village and the village became divided. Nowadays, the language of heaven is not heard on the streets. I feel that it would be better for us to establish bilingual schools, so that every child has the opportunity to learn Welsh.

Alun Pugh: Yn fy nghymuned i yn Rhuthun, nid nepell o'ch cartref chi, fe wyddoch fod ysgol ddwyieithog wirioneddol ragorol lle mae rhai myfyrwyr yn astudio drwy gyfrwng y Saesneg, rhai drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, a rhai hanner a hanner. Mae hynny'n enghraifft dda, ond yn amlwg ni fyddai'n dderbyniol ym mhob rhan o'n gwlad.

To respond to the subject of the debate, creating a bilingual Wales is a long-term strategy. We will not achieve our aim overnight. We are at the beginning of the process, but we have achieved a great deal already. The 2001 census shows that both the number and percentage of Welsh speakers are increasing, for the first time in the history of the census. One of the main targets in 'Iaith Pawb' is to increase the percentage of Welsh speakers by 5 percentage points by the 2011 census.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I accept that you have an ambitious target of increasing the number of Welsh speakers by 5 percentage points. However, faced with the fact that the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning refuses to implement a policy to promote Welsh-medium education, what other strategies do you have to drive forward this increase in the number of Welsh speakers?

Alun Pugh: Yr ydych yn annheg i'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes. Dychwelaf at addysg yn y man.

Yr ydym yn hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg yn

Recent developments include its inclusion in passports, and that is not only in passports coming into Wales; it will be in every passport in the whole of the UK. A huge amount of important work is also taking place on the introduction of work into information technology systems.

You mentioned education, Rhodri Glyn, so let us have some facts about the education system rather than the abuse that has been heaped upon the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning this afternoon. The percentage of pupils being taught through the medium of Welsh is increasing. There are an extra seven Welsh-medium primary schools and an extra four Welsh-medium secondary schools since 1997. I simply do not believe that parents are unaware of the choices in terms of Welsh-medium education because the number of students in Welsh-medium education is growing. The number taking first-language Welsh GCSE examinations rose by 33 per cent between 1997 and 2004. The training programme for Welsh-medium, early-years practitioners, which is particularly important, will have trained some 450 practitioners by 2006, which is a three-fold increase on the figure in 'Iaith Pawb'.

Owen John Thomas: Will you give way?

Alun Pugh: You have had your full 15 minutes; please let me have mine.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning has a huge commitment to bilingual education and a personal commitment to the Welsh language. The people who have seen her personal development in terms of the Welsh language will attest to that. The Government has a huge commitment to Welsh-medium education and it is not acceptable to heap abuse upon the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning in such a way.

I will answer two points that the Conservatives raised. The role of the dyfarnydd will be fairly narrow. It is purely to take on those functions under the existing Welsh Language Act 1993 that are better exercised at arm's length from Government.

gyffredinol. Ymhlith y datblygiadau diweddar yr ydym wedi ei chynnwys mewn pasbortau, ac nid pasbortau a gaiff eu cyflwyno yng Nghymru yn unig; bydd ym mhob pasbort yn y DU gyfan. Mae llawer iawn o waith pwysig yn cael ei wneud hefyd ar gyflwyno gwaith i mewn i systemau technoleg gwybodaeth.

Bu ichi sôn am addysg, Rhodri Glyn, felly gadewch inni gael rhai ffeithiau am y system addysg yn hytrach na dilorni'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes fel y gwnaed y prynhawn yma. Mae canran y disgyblion sy'n cael eu haddysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn cynyddu. Mae saith ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg ychwanegol a phedair ysgol uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg ychwanegol wedi agor ers 1997. Ni chredaf nad yw rhieni yn ymwybodol o'r dewisiadau o ran addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg gan fod nifer y myfyrwyr mewn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn cynyddu. Cododd y nifer sy'n sefyll arholiadau TGAU Cymraeg iaith gyntaf 33 y cant rhwng 1997 a 2004. Bydd y rhaglen hyfforddi i ymarferwyr blynyddoedd cynnar, cyfrwng Cymraeg, sy'n hollbwysig, wedi hyfforddi tua 450 o ymarferwyr erbyn 2006, sy'n golygu bod y ffigur yn 'Iaith Pawb' wedi treblu.

Owen John Thomas: A ildiwch?

Alun Pugh: Yr ydych wedi cael eich 15 munud yn llawn; gadewch i mi gael fy amser i.

Mae gan y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ymrwymiad enfawr i addysg ddwyieithog ac ymrwymiad personol i'r iaith Gymraeg. Bydd y bobl sydd wedi gweld ei datblygiad personol o ran yr iaith Gymraeg yn dyst i hynny. Mae gan y Llywodraeth ymrwymiad enfawr i addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ac nid yw'n dderbyniol dilorni'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn y fath fodd.

Atebaf ddau bwynt a gododd y Ceidwadwyr. Bydd rôl y dyfarnydd yn eithaf cyfyng. Bydd yn ymgymryd â'r swyddogaethau hynny o dan Ddeddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 1993 y mae'n well eu harfer hyd braich oddi wrth y Llywodraeth yn unig. Felly, nid ydym yn

Therefore, we are not adding to this role in any way, but, as I explained in the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee meeting this morning, this work will require a small piece of primary legislation.

I want to maintain the consensus on the Welsh language that we have across the four parties, but, unfortunately the consensus sometimes breaks down. Unlike the Conservative Party, the Assembly Government is fully committed to maintaining the Welsh language as a compulsory part of the Welsh national curriculum. Any attempt to take Welsh out of the national curriculum would be a retrograde step.

Lisa Francis: Can you give us some assurance about when these safeguards, which were mentioned this morning, will be in place in relation to the dyfarnydd? We do not have any information on it. There appears to have been no research done it.

Alun Pugh: Work is currently outstanding. I was hoping that you were going to clarify Conservative policy in respect of taking Welsh out of the national curriculum. That would be a retrograde step.

Another retrograde step would be to create substantial numbers of spare, empty places in the Welsh education system to get competition going. The way forward for Welsh medium and English-medium education in Wales is to back our network of comprehensive schools, which do an excellent job for the people of Wales and their children.

Y Llywydd: Dyna ddiwedd ein trafodion am heddiw.

ychwanegu at y rôl hon mewn unrhyw ffordd, ond, fel yr eglurais yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol oes y bore yma, bydd angen darn bach o ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol ar y gwaith hwn.

Yr wyf am i'r consensws ar yr iaith Gymraeg sydd gennym ar draws y pedair plaid barhau, ond, yn anffodus, weithiau mae'r consensws yn chwalu. Yn wahanol i'r Blaid Geidwadol, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn hollol ymrwymedig i gadw'r iaith Gymraeg yn rhan orfodol o gwricwlwm cenedlaethol Cymru. Byddai unrhyw ymgais i ddileu'r Gymraeg o'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol yn gam yn ôl.

Lisa Francis: A allwch roi rhywfaint o sicrwydd inni ynglŷn â phryd y caiff y camau diogelu hynny, y soniwyd amdanynt y bore yma, eu rhoi ar waith mewn perthynas â'r dyfarnydd? Nid oes gennym unrhyw wybodaeth am hynny. Ymddengys na wnaed unrhyw ymchwil i hyn.

Alun Pugh: Mae gwaith heb ei wneud eto. Yr oeddwn yn gobeithio y byddech yn egluro polisi'r Ceidwadwyr mewn perthynas â dileu'r Gymraeg o'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol. Byddai hynny yn gam yn ôl.

Cam arall yn ôl fyddai creu nifer sylweddol o leoedd gwag, dros ben, yn y system addysg Gymraeg i hybu cystadleuaeth. Y ffordd ymlaen ar gyfer addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ac addysg cyfrwng Saesneg yng Nghymru yw drwy gefnogi ein rhwydwaith o ysgolion cyfun, sy'n gwneud gwaith rhagorol i bobl Cymru a'u plant.

The Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 4.58 p.m.
The meeting ended at 4.58 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)