



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

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(The Official Record)**

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Cynnwys
Contents

Cwestiynau ar Lywodraeth Leol i'r Gweinidog Cyllid Questions on Local Government to the Finance Minister	3
Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes Questions to the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning	19
Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question	31
Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Diwygio Rheoleiddio (Cyfrifon ac Archwilio Ymddiriedolaethau Elusennol ac Anelusennol y GIG) 2005 Approval of the Regulatory Reform (NHS Charitable and non-Charitable Trust Accounts and Audit) Order 2005	36
Ceisiadau ar gyfer Deddfwriaeth Sylfaenol Primary Legislation Bids	38
Cymeradwyo Fframwaith Cenedlaethol Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub Cymru Approval of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales	85
Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion	94
Cymeradwyo Fframwaith Cenedlaethol Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub Cymru: Parhad Approval of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales: Continued.....	95
Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn y Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub (Fframwaith Cenedlaethol) (Cymru) 2005 Approval of the Fire and Rescue Services (National Framework) (Wales) Order 2005	102
Dadl Fer: Cartrefu Tai yng Nghymru Short Debate: Give Housing a Home in Wales	104

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 Lywodraeth Leol i'r Gweinidog Cyllid Questions on Local Government to the Finance Minister

Ymgyfranogi o'r Broses Ddemocrataidd Participation in the Democratic Process

Q1 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement on any plans she is considering within her portfolio responsibilities that will improve participation in the democratic process? OAQ0117(LGP)

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): The Assembly Government does not have direct responsibility for elections in Wales. However, we will continue to support the Electoral Commission in its role of promoting voter awareness and participation. We will also continue to work with other organisations such as local authorities to improve participation in the democratic process.

Eleanor Burnham: In view of the fact that the Electoral Commission has discovered differences between Wales and the UK as a whole in terms of voting, particularly among young people, do you agree with the Liberal Democrat policy to lower the voting age to 16, and that we should include voting and related issues within the citizenship aspect of the national curriculum?

Sue Essex: We must all be concerned about young people's lack of participation in voting. If people do not vote when they can, this will continue for a long time. We have had some interesting discussions in committee on this issue, and it will be studied in the committee's next report. I have always been in favour of lowering the voting age but, when the Electoral Commission considered this proposal, it discovered a lot of pros and cons, and strong views were expressed. We must pick up best practice wherever it may exist and try to mainstream it here. I concur with the spirit of your question.

C1 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar unrhyw gynlluniau y mae'n eu hystyried o fewn cyfrifoldebau ei phortffolio a fydd yn gwella cyfranogiad yn y broses ddemocrataidd? OAQ0117(LGP)

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Nid oes gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gyfrifoldeb uniongyrchol dros etholiadau yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn parhau i gefnogi'r Comisiwn Etholiadol yn ei rôl o hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth pleidleiswyr a'u hannog i gymryd rhan. Byddwn hefyd yn parhau i weithio gyda sefydliadau eraill megis awdurdodau lleol i gynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n cymryd rhan yn y broses ddemocrataidd.

Eleanor Burnham: O ystyried bod y Comisiwn Etholiadol wedi canfod gwahaniaethau rhwng Cymru a'r DU gyfan o ran pleidleisio, yn arbennig ymhlith pobl ifanc, a gytunwch â pholisi'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i ostwng yr oedran pleidleisio i 16 oed, ac y dylem gynnwys pleidleisio a materion cysylltiedig yn y rhan o'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol sy'n ymdrin â dinasyddiaeth?

Sue Essex: Dylai amharodrwydd pobl ifanc i bleidleisio fod yn achos pryder i bawb. Os nad yw pobl yn pleidleisio pan fo modd iddynt, bydd hyn yn parhau am amser hir eto. Yr ydym wedi cael rhai trafodaethau diddorol yn y pwyllgor ar y mater hwn, a chaiff ei astudio yn adroddiad nesaf y pwyllgor. Yr wyf erioed wedi bod o blaid gostwng yr oedran pleidleisio ond, pan ystyriodd y Comisiwn Etholiadol y cynnig hwn, gwelodd nifer fawr o fanteision ac anfanteision, a mynegwyd safbwyntiau cadarn. Rhaid inni arddel arfer gorau lle bynnag y bo a cheisio ei brif ffrydio yma. Cytunaf ag ysbryd eich cwestiwn.

David Lloyd: Does the Minister think that her proposals to cap local authority budgets undermine local democracy?

David Lloyd: A yw'r Gweinidog yn credu bod ei chynigion i gapio cyllidebau awdurdodau lleol yn tanseilio democratiaeth leol?

Sue Essex: No.

Sue Essex: Nac ydwyf.

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 2, OAQ0121(LGP), ar gyfer ateb ysgrifenedig.

The Presiding Officer: Question 2, OAQ0121(LGP), has been transferred for written answer.

Setliad Ariannol Llywodraeth Leol The Local Government Finance Settlement

C3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y setliad cyllid ar gyfer llywodraeth leol? OAQ0148(LGP)

Q3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on the finance settlement for local government? OAQ0148(LGP)

Sue Essex: Sorry, I have just noticed that you are not Laura Anne Jones asking question 2, therefore I am not on the right page.

Sue Essex: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, yr wyf newydd sylwi nad Laura Anne Jones yn gofyn cwestiwn 2 ydych, felly nid yw'r dudalen gywir gennyf.

I refer you to the written statement I released on 14 December 2004 and the Plenary debate on 12 January 2005 regarding the 2005-06 final local government settlement.

Fe'ch cyfeirïaf at y datganiad ysgrifenedig a gyhoeddais ar 14 Rhagfyr 2004 a'r ddatl yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 12 Ionawr 2005 o ran setliad terfynol llywodraeth leol 2005-06.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: It was very observant of you to discover that I am not Laura Anne Jones.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Buoch yn graff iawn i sylwi nad Laura Anne Jones ydwyf.

On the financial settlement in relation to education, there are plans—or at least there is a perception that there are plans—to close several small rural schools throughout Wales. There is also a perception that this is down to the financial constraints on local authorities. Although there are financial implications to keeping small rural schools open, because the cost of educating pupils in these schools is more than it is in a larger urban school or an area school, do you think that the education of our children should be decided according to financial matters, or should it be made in the context of the broader educational issues?

O ran y setliad ariannol mewn perthynas ag addysg, mae cynlluniau—o leiaf teimlir bod cynlluniau—i gau nifer o ysgolion gwledig bach ledled Cymru. Teimlir hefyd mai'r cyfyngiadau ariannol ar awdurdodau lleol sy'n gyfrifol am hyn. Er bod goblygiadau ariannol i gadw ysgolion gwledig bach ar agor, oherwydd mae'r gost o addysgu disgyblion yn yr ysgolion hyn yn uwch nag ydyw mewn ysgol drefol fwy neu ysgol ardal, a gredwch y dylai penderfyniadau ar addysg ein plant gael eu gwneud yn ôl materion ariannol, neu a ddylent gael eu gwneud yng nghyd-destun y materion addysgol ehangach?

Sue Essex: I do not quite agree with your view that there is a perception that the closure of rural schools is down to finance. Jane Davidson, as the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, is closer to this issue than I am, but I believe that this is very much

Sue Essex: Ni chytunaf yn hollol â'ch barn y teimlir mai cyllid sydd wrth wraidd unrhyw benderfyniadau i gau ysgolion gwledig. Mae Jane Davidson, fel y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, yn ymwneud yn fwy â'r mater hwn na minnau, ond credaf mai

about the quality of education. I may be wrong but, I think, in terms of Jane's responsibility as Minister, that that is the deciding factor when it comes to whether or not she agrees to the closure of a certain school. I understand that finance plays a part, but I think that you are wrong. Many authorities are looking at changing the nature of the distribution of their education provision, particularly at primary level, to fit with the distribution patterns of settlements in the future. This is a difficult job, and I am not in the business of criticising any authority in this regard. I think that Brynle made the point during previous Plenary questions that it is important that authorities do their best to take with them communities, and parents in particular.

David Melding: Do you agree that, as well as the block grant that local authorities will receive from the Assembly, it is important that they can use other finance methods, including private finance and community funds, if they have capital projects, for example, that are developed in an innovative way? Is it not part of your job to encourage this?

Sue Essex: One of the main encouragements has been the new regime of prudential borrowing, which puts the initiative back with local authorities.

The scope for them to look at different methods of capital financing has been greatly enhanced by prudential borrowing. I also remind you of the budget settlement. Capital provision went up by 16 per cent this year, which includes capital of about 8 per cent for schools. There has been a much-needed injection of capital funding, because local authorities are now renewing many assets that may be a bit weary after many years' use.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Yr ydych yn gwybod, oherwydd trafodaethau rhyngom yn yn gorffennol, fod pwysau difrifol wedi bod ar gyllideb Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn. Hyd yn oed gyda'r setliad yr ydych wedi'i roi i'r cyngor, mae'n gorfod codi'r dreth gyngor 4 y cant a thorri'n ôl ar wasanaethau, yn arbennig i'r sector gwirfoddol. O gymryd y 4 y cant hwnnw

ansawdd addysg yw'r ystyriaeth bwysicaf. Efallai fy mod yn anghywir, ond, credaf, o ran cyfrifoldeb Jane fel Gweinidog, mai dyna yw'r ffactor pwysig wrth ystyried a fydd yn cytuno i ysgol benodol gael ei chau. Deallaf fod cyllid yn rhan o'r ystyriaeth, ond ni chredaf fod yr hyn a ddywedasoch yn gywir. Mae llawer o awdurdodau yn ystyried newid natur dosbarthiad eu darpariaeth addysg, yn enwedig o ran ysgolion cynradd, i gydweddu â phatrymau dosbarthiad anheddau yn y dyfodol. Mae'n waith anodd, ac nid wyf am feirniadu unrhyw awdurdod yn hyn o beth. Credaf i Brynle wneud y pwynt yn ystod cwestiynau'r Cyfarfod Llawn blaenorol ei bod yn bwysig bod awdurdodau yn gwneud eu gorau i ennyn cefnogaeth cymunedau, a rhieni yn arbennig.

David Melding: A gytunwch ei bod yn bwysig bod awdurdodau lleol, yn ogystal â'r grant bloc y bydd y Cynulliad yn ei roi iddynt, yn gallu defnyddio dulliau cyllid eraill, gan gynnwys cyllid preifat ac arian cymunedol, os oes ganddynt brosiectau cyfalaf, er enghraifft, sy'n cael eu datblygu mewn ffordd arloesol? Onid yw'n rhan o'ch gwaith i annog hyn?

Sue Essex: Un o'r prif anogaethau fu'r gyfundrefn newydd o fenthycu darbodus, sy'n ei gwneud yn bosibl i awdurdodau lleol wneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain.

Mae benthycu darbodus wedi rhoi llawer mwy o gyfle iddynt ystyried gwahanol dulliau o gyllido cyfalaf. Fe'ch atgoffaf hefyd o setliad y gyllideb. Cynyddodd darpariaeth gyfalaf 16 y cant eleni, sy'n cynnwys cyfalaf o tua 8 y cant i ysgolion. Bu chwistrelliad o gyllid cyfalaf mawr ei angen, oherwydd mae awdurdodau lleol yn adnewyddu llawer o asedau a allai fod braidd yn dreuliedig ar ôl blynyddoedd lawer o ddefnydd.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): You know, from previous discussions between us, that there has been serious pressure on the Isle of Anglesey County Council's budget. Even with the settlement that you have given the council, it has to raise council tax by 4 per cent and cut back on services, especially to the voluntary sector. Taking that 4 per cent with the 22 per cent

gyda'r 22 y cant y bydd yn rhaid i draean o drethdalwyr Môn ei dalu, mewn 11,000 o gartrefi, oherwydd yr ailfandio, bydd rhai trethdalwyr yn gorfod talu 26 y cant yn fwy o dreth gyngor. O ystyried mai yn Ynys Môn y mae'r cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen isaf yng Nghymru, oni chredwch fod hynny'n annheg? Onid ydych yn derbyn bellach fod y dreth gyngor yn gwbl anghyfiawn? Mewn ardaloedd fel Ynys Môn, oni fyddai'n well cael treth sy'n seiliedig ar incwm pobl yn hytrach nag ar werth eu tai?

Sue Essex: I do not want to get into the debate on local income tax versus property tax again, but there is variation in council tax levels across Wales. I cannot give you the figure for Ynys Môn off the top of my head; I am sure that you have it. Going back to the rebanding, on which we have had many discussions, I have always made it clear that people who go up a band will pay more council tax, but I have also, of course, introduced the moderation scheme. In Ynys Môn, as you said, there has also been a band D rise of 4 per cent. We have tried our best, and this is why we brought in the principles, to tell local authorities to keep additional increases as low as possible, bearing in mind that many households will be going up a band. I know that this is a difficult year. I was in Anglesey a few weeks ago talking to the local authority. In fairness, the authority has moved on and has coped quite well with the situation. It has faced up to reality and produced its budget. I have done my best, as a representative of the Government, to try to bring these revaluation changes through in a fair and equitable way. I hope that people will make that judgment. If you have a property tax, there has to be a revaluation at some point; the only regret is that it has taken so long to do this. If you look back to when council tax was introduced, you will see that there were flaws in its introduction that have led to this 12-year break before what is quite a dramatic change.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): I have asked this question before in relation to the local government settlement, but can you tell me

that a third of all Anglesey taxpayers, in 11,000 households, will have to pay as a result of rebanding, some taxpayers will have to pay 26 per cent more council tax. Given that Anglesey has the lowest gross domestic product per capita in Wales, do you not believe that that is unfair? Do you not now accept that council tax is totally unjust? In areas such as Anglesey, would it not be better to have a tax based on people's income rather than on the value of their homes?

Sue Essex: Nid wyf am aildechrau'r ddad ynglŷn â threth incwm leol yn erbyn treth eiddo eto, ond mae amrywiad yn lefel y dreth gyngor ledled Cymru. Ni allaf roi'r ffigur ichi am Ynys Môn yn awr; mae'r ffigur hwnnw gennych mae'n siŵr. Gan droi at ailfandio eto, y cawsom lawer o drafodaethau yn ei gylch, yr wyf bob amser wedi dweud yn glir y bydd pobl sy'n symud i fyny un band yn talu mwy o dreth gyngor, ond yr wyf hefyd, wrth gwrs, wedi cyflwyno'r cynllun cymedroli. Ar Ynys Môn, fel y dywedasoeh, bu cynnydd ym mand D o 4 y cant hefyd. Yr ydym wedi gwneud ein gorau, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi cyflwyno'r egwyddorion, i ddweud wrth awdurdodau lleol am gadw cynnydd ychwanegol mor fach â phosibl, o gofio y bydd llawer o gartrefi yn symud i fyny un band. Gwn fod hon yn flwyddyn anodd. Yr oeddwn ar Ynys Môn ychydig wythnosau yn ôl yn siarad â'r awdurdod lleol. A bod yn deg, mae'r awdurdod wedi symud yn ei flaen ac wedi ymdopi â'r sefyllfa'n eithaf da. Wynebodd realiti'r sefyllfa a lluniodd ei gyllideb. Gwneuthum fy ngorau, fel cynrychiolydd o'r Llywodraeth, i geisio cyflwyno'r newidiadau ailbrisio hyn mewn ffordd deg. Gobeithiaf y bydd pobl yn cydfynd â hynny. Os oes treth eiddo, rhaid wrth ymarfer ailbrisio ryw bryd neu'i gilydd; yr unig beth anffodus yw iddo gymryd cyhyd i'w wneud. Os edrychwch yn ôl at y cyfnod pryd y cyflwynwyd y dreth gyngor, fe welwch iddi gael ei chyflwyno mewn ffordd ddiffygiol sydd wedi arwain at y toriad hwn o 12 mlynedd cyn gwneud y newid eithaf dramatig hwn.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Gofynais y cwestiwn hwn o'r blaen o ran setliad llywodraeth leol, ond a allwch ddweud

whether the amount that you have paid into local authority budgets for the teachers' workload agreement means that, when teachers are absent from school as a result of working on other parts of their agreement, the full cost of a replacement teacher will be funded, or is the situation, as described to me by many local authorities, that the funding is for an assistant teacher rather than a fully qualified teacher?

Sue Essex: I will probably give you the same answer again, Mike. When the cost of the teachers' workload agreement—which, as you know, has been introduced in phases—was assessed for this year, quite a lot of detailed work was done on the replacement element and on what would be needed. The calculation was, therefore, based on teachers being replaced by teachers, and teachers being replaced by teachers' assistants where that is appropriate. *[Interruption.]* That is the work that was done, and it was not, as you suggested, all based on teachers' assistants. It was based on a discerning piece of work, looking at the breakdown of teachers' workloads and how the implications would impact upon local authorities and schools. That is the basis of the calculation in relation to the money provided.

wrthf a yw'r swm yr ydych wedi'i dalu i mewn i gyllidebau awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer cytundeb llwyth gwaith yr athrawon yn golygu, pan fo athrawon yn absennol o'r ysgol am eu bod yn gweithio ar rannau eraill o'u cytundeb, y caiff cost lawn athro cyflenwi ei hariannu, neu, ai cyllid ar gyfer athro cynorthwyol sydd ar gael yn hytrach nag athro cwbl gymwysedig, fel y dywed llawer o awdurdodau lleol wrthf?

Sue Essex: Rhoddaf yr un ateb ichi eto, siŵr o fod, Mike. Pan aseswyd cost cytundeb llwyth gwaith athrawon—sydd wedi cael ei gyflwyno fesul cam, fel y gwyddoch—ar gyfer y flwyddyn hon, gwnaed cryn dipyn o waith manwl ar yr elfen cyflenwi ac ar yr hyn a fyddai ei angen. Felly, yr oedd y cyfrifiad yn seiliedig ar athrawon yn cyflenwi ar ran athrawon, a chynorthwywyr athrawon yn cyflenwi ar ran athrawon lle y bo'n briodol. *[Torri ar draws.]* Dyna'r gwaith a wnaed, ac nid oedd yn seiliedig ar gynorthwywyr athrawon yn unig, fel yr awgrymasoch. Yr oedd yn seiliedig ar ddarn craff o waith, a edrychai ar ddadansoddiad o lwythi gwaith athrawon a'r ffordd y byddai'r goblygiadau yn effeithio ar awdurdodau lleol ac ysgolion. Dyna sylfaen y cyfrifiad o ran yr arian a ddarparwyd.

Setliad Ariannol Sir Ddinbych Denbighshire's Financial Settlement

Q4 Karen Sinclair: Could the Minister make a statement on the financial settlement for Denbighshire in 2005-2006? OAQ0176(LGP)

Sue Essex: For 2005-06, Denbighshire will receive £111.9 million in non-hypothecated funding from the Welsh Assembly Government, which includes £1 million in performance incentive grant, £0.1 million in deprivation grant, and £0.2 million in the local authority business growth incentive scheme.

2.10 p.m.

Karen Sinclair: Following Gordon Brown's budget statement at Westminster today, can you confirm that the chancellor has provided substantial assistance to the citizens of Denbighshire and the rest of Wales?

C4 Karen Sinclair: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y setliad cyllid ar gyfer sir Ddinbych yn 2005-2006? OAQ0176(LGP)

Sue Essex: Ar gyfer 2005-06, caiff sir Ddinbych £111.9 miliwn mewn arian heb ei glustnodi gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, sy'n cynnwys £1 filiwn mewn grant cymell perfformiad, £0.1 miliwn mewn grant amddifadedd, a £0.2 miliwn yng nghynllun awdurdodau lleol i gymell twf busnesau.

Karen Sinclair: Yn sgîl datganiad cyllideb Gordon Brown yn San Steffan heddiw, a allwch gadarnhau bod y canghellor wedi rhoi cryn gymorth i ddinasyddion sir Ddinbych a gweddill Cymru?

Sue Essex: We have only just heard the budget announcements, but the headline figures, as I see them, mean that there is help for pensioners across Wales. There is £200 in council tax refund this year, which will come out with the winter fuel payments. There is additional money to help deprived communities, which will, presumably, benefit the area around Rhyl, which Ann Jones represents. There is additional money for child tax credit, and to support 16 to 19-year-olds. These are the headline figures, but there are also other provisions.

Sue Essex: Newydd glywed y cyhoeddiadau ynglŷn â'r gyllideb yr ydym, ond mae penawdau'r ffigurau, fel y gwelaf hwy, yn golygu bod cymorth i bensiynwyr ledled Cymru. Mae ad-daliad o £200 yn y dreth gyngor eleni, a ddaw gyda'r taliadau tanwydd gaeaf. Mae arian ychwanegol i helpu cymunedau difreintiedig, a fydd, siŵr o fod, o fudd i'r ardal o amgylch y Rhyl, y mae Ann Jones yn ei chynrychioli. Mae arian ychwanegol ar gyfer credyd treth plentyn, ac i gynorthwyo pobl ifanc 16 i 19 oed. Dyma benawdau'r ffigurau, ond mae darpariaethau eraill hefyd.

I was delighted to hear that the concessionary fares scheme will now be taken up in England. Although it is not for the benefit of Wales, it exhibits the devolution dividend that the First Minister talks about so eloquently. That scheme has been going in Wales for many years, and has been incredibly successful on the ground. I am delighted for pensioners in England that they will benefit from the same scheme.

Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed y caiff y cynllun consesiynau teithio ei fabwysiadu yn Lloegr yn awr. Er na fydd Cymru yn elwa, mae'n dangos y difidend datganoli y mae'r Prif Weinidog yn ei ddisgrifio mor huawdl. Mae'r cynllun hwnnw wedi bod ar waith ers sawl blwyddyn, a bu'n hynod lwyddiannus ar lawr gwlad. Yr wyf yn falch dros bensiynwyr Lloegr a fydd yn elwa ar yr un cynllun.

Janet Ryder: I am sure that you have also received a copy of the e-mail sent by the lead member for finance in Denbighshire County Council to several Assembly Members for North Wales outlining his fears that the council will suffer a £10.8 million deficit in its adult social services budget. Can you confirm that you have been contacted by the county council and that you are opening negotiations over that figure?

Janet Ryder: Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod chithau hefyd wedi cael copi o'r e-bost a anfonwyd gan yr aelod arweiniol dros gyllid yng Nghyngor Sir Ddinbych at sawl Aelod o'r Cynulliad sy'n cynrychioli Gogledd Cymru, yn nodi ei fod yn ofni y bydd diffyg o £10.8 miliwn yng nghyllideb gwasanaethau cymdeithasol oedolion y cyngor. A allwch gadarnhau bod y cyngor sir wedi cysylltu â chi a'ch bod yn dechrau trafodaethau ynglŷn â'r ffigur hwnnw?

Sue Essex: I have received a letter from Rhiannon Wyn Hughes, the leader of the council, and I replied to her yesterday. However, we do not quite agree with the figures quoted by Denbighshire County Council, and we cannot understand where they have come from, mainly because they conflict with another set of figures supplied to the local government data unit. It would be wise for Denbighshire County Council to refrain from bandying any figures around, accusing us of short-changing it, until we can agree on the figures. I can see that you agree with me on that, Janet.

Sue Essex: Cefais lythyr oddi wrth Rhiannon Wyn Hughes, arweinydd y cyngor, ac atebais ei llythyr ddoe. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn cytuno â'r ffigurau a ddyfynnwyd gan Gyngor Sir Ddinbych, ac ni allwn ddeall o ble y maent wedi dod, yn bennaf am eu bod yn groes i set arall o ffigurau a ddarparwyd gan uned data llywodraeth leol. Doeth fyddai i Gyngor Sir Ddinbych ymatal rhag crybwyll ffigurau yn fyrbwyll, gan ein cyhuddo o beidio â rhoi digon o arian iddo, nes ein bod yn gallu cytuno ar y ffigurau. Gallaf weld eich bod yn cytuno â mi ar hynny, Janet.

Mark Isherwood: With regard to the first party-political grandstanding, this is a too-

Mark Isherwood: O ran yr ymgais gyntaf gan unrhyw blaid i chwarae i'r oriel, rhy

little-too-late budget from a discredited Chancellor, who got all his forecasts wrong.

ychydig yn rhy hwyr yw'r gyllideb hon gan Ganghellor mewn anfri, sydd wedi cael ei ragolygon yn anghywir.

Moving on to Denbighshire council, which is what this question is supposed to be about, I endorse Janet's comments of concern. The council's figures indicate that it has received only 3.06 per cent of adult social services funding, yet it has more than 9.5 per cent of the all-Wales caseload. What plans do you have, Minister, to rectify that imbalance, and will you now address your failure to specify your separate inference that there is an inconsistency in reports from officers in Denbighshire?

Gan droi at Gyngor Sir Ddinbych, sef y cwestiwn dan sylw mae'n debyg, ategaf sylwadau Janet yn mynegi pryder. Awgryma ffigurau'r cyngor mai dim ond 3.06 y cant o gyllid gwasanaethau cymdeithasol oedolion a gafodd, ac eto mae ganddo fwy na 9.5 y cant o lwyth gwaith Cymru gyfan. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych, Weinidog, i unioni'r diffyg cydbwysedd hwnnw, ac a wnewch ymdrin â'ch methiant i nodi eich casgliad gwahanol bod anghysondeb mewn adroddiadau gan swyddogion yn sir Ddinbych?

Sue Essex: I do not think that you were listening to the answer that I just gave to Janet. If you had been, and had you acknowledged it, you would have heard exactly that, and would not have needed to ask your question.

Sue Essex: Ni chredaf ichi wrando ar yr ateb yr wyf newydd ei roi i Janet. Pe baech wedi bod yn gwrandao arno, ac wedi ei gydnabod, dyna'n union y byddech wedi ei glywed, ac na fyddai wedi bod yn angenrheidiol ichi ofyn eich cwestiwn.

In relation to the first part of your question, when I get a question on the budget, which has implications for the residents of Denbighshire and for people across Wales, it would be remiss of me not to answer it. It is a great shame that you cannot welcome the additional resources coming into Wales.

O ran rhan gyntaf eich cwestiwn, pan gaf gwestiwn ar y gyllideb ac iddo oblygiadau i drigolion sir Ddinbych a phobl ledled Cymru, byddwn ar fai pe na bawn yn ei ateb. Mae'n drueni mawr na allwch groesawu'r adnoddau ychwanegol sy'n dod i ran Cymru.

Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus yn Sir Ddinbych Public Services in Denbighshire

Q5 Ann Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the delivery of public services in Denbighshire? OAQ0141(LGP)

C5 Ann Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar gyflwyno gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn sir Ddinbych? OAQ0141(LGP)

Sue Essex: It is Denbighshire's afternoon. Since 1999-2000, Denbighshire has seen an overall increase in central Assembly Government support of 40 per cent. A key challenge for this second Assembly term is to ensure that the extra investment in public services in Wales makes the maximum possible difference, both improving the quality and extending the quantity of services for people in Denbighshire and throughout Wales.

Sue Essex: Sir Ddinbych sy'n cael sylw y prynhawn yma. Ers 1999-2000, bu cynnydd o 40 y cant yng nghyfanswm y cymorth canolog y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei roi i sir Ddinbych. Her allweddol i ail dymor y Cynulliad hwn yw sicrhau bod y buddsoddiad ychwanegol mewn gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn gwneud y gwahaniaeth mwyaf posibl, gan wella ansawdd a chynyddu nifer y gwasanaethau i bobl yn sir Ddinbych a ledled Cymru.

Ann Jones: Just to comment briefly on that previous question, Minister, do you not agree

Ann Jones: Os caf wneud ychydig sylwadau ar y cwestiwn blaenorol hwnnw, Weinidog,

that some of the statistical analysis used by Denbighshire council has been less than novel? Following the equitable and above-inflation increases in the local government settlement for Denbighshire, will you join me in welcoming the authority's announcement that the council tax increase there is a moderate 4.5 per cent rather than the originally alarmist and incredible figure of some 17 per cent?

If Denbighshire feels short-changed under the formula, where has it been until now? It has been almost 10 years. Do you not find that these plans, together with its incredible 17 per cent outrage, are nothing but an alarmist stunt, designed to make cheap political points, and that it shows irresponsible leadership by the authority?

Sue Essex: Denbighshire's figures were novel, and that is the point. We need to assess the data, and do so calmly and accurately. That is what is important. I believe that Denbighshire's treasurer has also been on the distribution sub-group, and while I would say that every treasurer is not on the group to represent his or her own authority, the treasurer was certainly alert to how the formula was put together. The funding in 2005-06, if expressed as a figure per person—it is one of the interesting figures, I think—is £1,160. That is the support that the Assembly Government is giving. I tried to warn authorities—and only some authorities do this—not to put figures on council tax rises in the public domain early on, before the accurate work had been done. Whatever the political persuasion of the council, I do not think that that is a good way to behave, because it does raise fears and worries people unnecessarily. I am glad that that figure has come down. We all recognise that this is a difficult year of change, and I am glad that Denbighshire has responded to that.

Brynle Williams: The press has widely reported on a survey conducted by Save the Children, which states that a quarter of Welsh children are living in households at or below the poverty threshold. With regard to the child poverty strategy, can you advise

oni chytunwch fod rhywfaint o'r dadansoddiad ystadegol a ddefnyddiwyd gan gyngor sir Ddinbych ymhell o fod yn newydd? Yn sgîl y cynnydd teg yn uwch na chwyddiant yn setliad llywodraeth leol i sir Ddinbych, a ymunwch â mi i groesawu cyhoeddiad yr awdurdod mai 4.5 y cant yw'r cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor, sef swm gweddol fach, yn hytrach na thua 17 y cant sef y ffigur anhygoel a dychrynlyd a grybwyllwyd yn wreiddiol.

Os teimla sir Ddinbych nad yw wedi cael ei chyfran deg o dan y fformiwla, beth mae wedi bod yn ei wneud hyd yma? Mae bron 10 mlynedd wedi mynd heibio. Oni chredwch fod y cynlluniau hyn, ynghyd â'i honiad anhygoel a gwarthus o 17 y cant, yn ddim byd mwy nag ymgais i godi bwganod, gyda'r nod di-urddas o elwa'n wleidyddol, a bod hynny yn dangos arweiniad anghyfrifol ar ran yr awdurdod?

Sue Essex: Yr oedd ffigurau sir Ddinbych yn wahanol, a dyna'r pwynt. Mae angen inni asesu'r data, a hynny'n bwyllog ac yn fanwl. Dyna beth sy'n bwysig. Credaf fod trysorydd sir Ddinbych hefyd wedi bod yn aelod o'r is-grŵp dosbarthu, ac er na ddywedwn fod pob trysorydd yn y grŵp er mwyn cynrychioli ei awdurdod ef, yr oedd y trysorydd yn sicr yn ymwybodol o'r ffordd y lluniwyd y fformiwla. Y cyllid yn 2005-06, o'i fynegi fel ffigur y pen—mae'n un o'r ffigurau diddorol, i'm tyb i—yw £1,160. Dyna'r cymorth y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei roi. Ceisiais rybuddio awdurdodau—a dim ond rhai o'r awdurdodau sy'n gwneud hynny—i beidio â chyhoeddi ffigurau am gynnydd yn y dreth gyngor yn gynnar, cyn i'r gwaith manwl gael ei wneud. Waeth pa blaid sy'n rheoli'r cyngor, ni chredaf fod hynny yn ffordd dda o weithredu gan ei fod yn codi dychryn ac yn peri gofid i bobl yn ddiangen. Yr wyf yn falch bod y ffigur hwnnw wedi gostwng. Mae pob un ohonom yn cydnabod bod eleni yn flwyddyn anodd o newid, ac yr wyf yn falch bod sir Ddinbych wedi ymateb i hynny.

Brynle Williams: Bu llawer o sylw yn y wasg ynglŷn ag arolwg a gynhaliwyd gan Achub y Plant, sy'n nodi bod chwarter plant Cymru yn byw mewn cartrefi sydd ar y trothwy tlodi neu oddi tano. O ran y strategaeth tlodi plant, a allwch ddweud wrth

Members of the proposed levels of funding over the next three years that will be targeted via local authorities to improve early years' services?

Sue Essex: I cannot give you a figure now, Brynle, but I will provide you with the information in a letter. One of the most significant features that marks out this administration is the priority that we give to children. As you will remember, when I launched the budget at the end of last year, I made it clear that children were our priority, and, in particular, targeting children in poverty and in deprived communities. Many of our programmes, such as Communities First, are determined to support the children most in need in Wales.

Aelodau faint o arian dros y tair blynedd nesaf y bwriedir ei dargedu drwy awdurdodau lleol i wella gwasanaethau blynyddoedd cynnar?

Sue Essex: Ni allaf roi ffigur ichi yn awr, Brynle, ond rhoddaf y wybodaeth ichi mewn llythyr. Un o nodweddion amlycaf y weinyddiaeth hon yw'r flaenoriaeth a roddwn i blant. Fel y cofiwch, pan lansiais y gyllideb ddiwedd y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, eglurais mai plant oedd ein blaenoriaeth, ac, yn enwedig, targedu plant mewn tlodi ac mewn cymunedau difreintiedig. Mae llawer o'n rhaglenni, megis Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yn benderfynol o gefnogi'r plant mwyaf anghenus yng Nghymru.

Cymorth y Llywodraeth i Lywodraeth Leol Government Support for Local Government

Q6 Jeff Cuthbert: Will the Minister make a statement on the level of Assembly Government support for local government since the establishment of the National Assembly? OAQ0178(LGP)

Sue Essex: The Assembly's financial support for local government has increased by over 53 per cent from £2.5 billion in 1999-2000, to approximately £3.9 billion in 2005-06. These figures include non-hypothecated and hypothecated funding.

Jeff Cuthbert: Will you join me in welcoming the new funding package for the people of Caerphilly, after agreement was reached between the Assembly Government and the borough council? That package, agreed in February, will bring clear improvements to the lives of people in the borough over the next two years, including increased jobs, a reduction in crime, improved help for older people at home, and will ensure that more young people stay on in education or enter work-based learning after the age of 16. Do you not agree that policy agreements such as these should be encouraged, and that they signal the clear benefit of joint working between the Assembly and local government?

Sue Essex: I think that every local authority in Wales will have signed up to the policy

C6 Jeff Cuthbert: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar lefel y cymorth y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei roi i lywodraeth leol ers sefydlu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? OAQ0178(LGP)

Sue Essex: Mae cymorth ariannol y Cynulliad i lywodraeth leol wedi cynyddu dros 53 y cant o £2.5 biliwn yn 1999-2000 i oddeutu £3.9 biliwn yn 2005-06. Mae'r ffigurau hyn yn cynnwys arian heb ei glustnodi ac arian wedi'i glustnodi.

Jeff Cuthbert: A ymunwch â mi i groesawu'r pecyn ariannu newydd i bobl Caerffili, wedi cytundeb rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r cyngor bwrdeistrefol? Bydd y pecyn hwnnw y cytunwyd arno ym mis Chwefror yn dod â gwelliannau amlwg i fywydau pobl yn y fwrdeistref dros y ddwy flynedd nesaf, gan gynnwys mwy o swyddi, lleihad mewn troseddau, mwy o gymorth i bobl hŷn gartref, a bydd yn sicrhau bod mwy o bobl ifanc yn parhau â'u haddysg neu'n dechrau dysgu seiliedig ar waith ar ôl 16 oed. Oni chytunwch y dylid annog cytundebau polisi megis y rhain a'u bod yn dangos y fantais amlwg a ddaw o gydweithio rhwng y Cynulliad a llywodraeth leol?

Sue Essex: Credaf y bydd pob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru wedi ymrwymo i'r

agreement that you referred to by the end of this financial year. It is a really good example of partnership working. Policy agreements tackle national, strategic objectives and local objectives in the way that you mentioned. I think that they give people the confidence that we are working together.

William Graham: Do you agree that it is these sorts of partnerships that have seen such an enormous rise in council tax rates in South Wales East? The average is 109 per cent. In Blaenau Gwent, which is a deprived community by anyone's standards, it has risen 142 per cent.

2.20 p.m.

Sue Essex: We have seen a huge increase in the public expenditure going in to local authorities, because there have been much greater ambitions in terms of service delivery. If you go back to the figures that I gave to Jeff, there is a big percentage rise. Inevitably, in some areas, council tax will be part of that. We still have far lower council tax in Wales than in England, which is good news that reflects the relative position. I have discussed this in committee, but I think that, first, we are seeing an increase in people's expectations about the delivery of public services—I think that we would all agree on that—and, secondly, we are possibly reaching the limit of the volatility of council tax. That is a personal opinion, but you have seen what has happened during the last couple of years, and this year has seen the lowest rise in band D council tax. There is an issue about how much the public will accept a considerable, unexplained rise in council tax.

Elin Jones: A ydych yn credu y dylai pawb fod yn gyson o ran polisi ar ariannu llywodraeth leol? Os felly, a ydych yn cytuno bod gallu'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i bleidleisio o blaid dileu'r dreth gyngor yn y Siambr hon, tra bo holl aelodau'r blaid ar gyngor Ceredigion wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn dileu'r dreth gyngor, yn dangos bod ganddynt y gallu rhyfeddaf i ddweud a gwneud pethau cwbl wahanol ar yr un pryd?

cytundeb polisi y cyfeiriasoch ato erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Mae'n enghraifft wirioneddol dda o weithio mewn partneriaeth. Mae cytundebau polisi yn mynd i'r afael ag amcanion cenedlaethol, strategol ac amcanion lleol yn y modd a grybwyllwyd gennych. Credaf eu bod yn rhoi hyder i bobl ein bod yn cydweithio.

William Graham: A gyntunwch mai'r math hwn o bartneriaethau sydd wedi arwain at gynnydd mor fawr yn y dreth gyngor yn Nwyrain De Cymru? Y cyfartaledd yw 109 y cant. Ym Mlaenau Gwent, sy'n gymuned ddifreintiedig waeth beth fo'r llinyn mesur, mae wedi cynyddu 142 y cant.

Sue Essex: Bu cynnydd enfawr yn y gwariant cyhoeddus i awdurdodau lleol, oherwydd bu llawer mwy o uchelgais o ran darparu gwasanaethau. Os edrychwch eto ar y ffigurau a roddais i Jeff, gwelir cynnydd mawr fel canran. Yn anochel, mewn rhai ardaloedd, bydd y dreth gyngor yn rhan o hynny. Mae'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru yn dal i fod yn llawer is nag ydyw yn Lloegr, sy'n newyddion da sy'n adlewyrchu'r sefyllfa gymharol. Yr wyf wedi trafod hyn yn y pwyllgor, ond credaf, yn gyntaf, ein bod yn gweld disgwyliadau pobl yn codi o ran y ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau cyhoeddus eu darparu—credaf y byddem oll yn cytuno ar hynny—ac, yn ail, yr ydym o bosibl yn tynnu at derfyn yr ansefydlogrwydd yn y dreth gyngor. Fy marn bersonol yw hynny, ond fe welsoch beth sydd wedi digwydd yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, ac eleni cafwyd y cynnydd isaf ym mand D y dreth gyngor. Cyfyd problem o ran i ba raddau y bydd y cyhoedd yn derbyn cynnydd mawr heb ei esbonio yn y dreth gyngor.

Elin Jones: Do you believe that everyone should be consistent in terms of policy on local government funding? If so, do you agree that the Liberal Democrats' ability to vote in this Chamber in favour of abolishing council tax, while all the party's members on Ceredigion council voted against the abolition of council tax, shows that they have an amazing ability to say one thing and do another?

Sue Essex: I hoped that I had pointed that out yesterday in answer to a point that Mike German raised. If you are inconsistent in that way, it reduces public confidence. We need to do better to explain to people what we believe and why we believe it, and try to be consistent at all levels of government.

Sue Essex: Yr oeddwn yn gobeithio fy mod wedi nodi hynny ddoe wrth ateb pwynt a godwyd gan Mike German. Os ydych yn anghyson yn hynny o beth, mae'n amharu ar hyder y cyhoedd. Mae angen inni wella sut yr ydym yn esbonio i bobl yr hyn a gredwn a pham y credwn hynny, a cheisio bod yn gyson ar bob lefel o lywodraeth.

Ailfandio'r Dreth Gyngor Council Tax Rebanding

Q7 Jenny Randerson: Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of council tax rebanding? OAQ0127(LGP)

C7 Jenny Randerson: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar effaith ailfandio'r dreth gyngor? OAQ0127(LGP)

Sue Essex: Council tax revaluation and rebanding will redistribute council tax more fairly across the population of Wales, on the basis of 1 April 2003 domestic property values. The impact will vary depending on the valuation bands ascribed to individual homes and the areas in which those homes are situated.

Sue Essex: Bydd yr ymarfer ailbrisio ac ailfandio'r dreth gyngor yn ailddosbarthu'r dreth gyngor yn decach ar draws poblogaeth Cymru, ar sail gwerthoedd eiddo domestig ar 1 Ebrill 2003. Bydd yr effaith yn amrywio yn dibynnu ar y bandiau prisio a roddwyd i gartrefi unigol a'r ardaloedd lle y mae'r cartrefi hynny.

Jenny Randerson: In Cardiff, the council has reduced council tax, yet the houses that have been rebanding will see an increase in council tax of between 11 and 22 per cent. How can you defend a system that has resulted in the rebanding of over 90 per cent of houses in Adamsdown, one of the poorest wards in the city, while only 52 per cent of houses in Lisvane, a leafy suburb, have been rebanding, and will therefore face the impact of those increases? In view of Sir Michael Lyons's review of council tax, which I acknowledge was not on the horizon when you started the project, why have you persisted in going ahead with rebanding?

Jenny Randerson: Yng Nghaerdydd, mae'r cyngor wedi gostwng y dreth gyngor, ac eto, ar gyfer y tai sydd wedi cael eu hailfandio bydd cynnydd o rhwng 11 a 22 y cant yn y dreth gyngor. Sut y gallwch amddiffyn system sydd wedi arwain at ailfandio dros 90 y cant o gartrefi yn Adamsdown, sef un o'r wardiau tlotaf yn y ddinas, ac eto dim ond 52 y cant o gartrefi yn Llys-faen, sef maestref lewyrchus, a ailfandiwyd ac a fydd felly'n wynebu effaith y cynnydd hwnnw? Ym marn adolygiad Syr Michael Lyons o'r dreth gyngor, yr wyf yn cydnabod nad oedd ar y gorwel pan ddechreuasoch ar y prosiect, pam yr ydych wedi mynnu bwrw ymlaen â'r ymarfer ailfandio?

Sue Essex: You have asked quite an extraordinary question, and it goes to the heart of what you said yesterday. On the first element, two thirds of properties in Cardiff have gone up a band, and that reflects the rises in property prices in the city, which will not surprise anyone. You mentioned the difference between Adamsdown and Lisvane, which goes to the heart of the problem of not doing frequent revaluations, or not doing it incrementally. If you know Lisvane, which I do, you will know that

Sue Essex: Yr ydych wedi gofyn cwestiwn hynod iawn, ac mae'n mynd at graidd yr hyn a ddywedasoch ddoe. O ran yr elfen gyntaf, mae dau o bob tri eiddo yng Nghaerdydd wedi symud i fand uwch, ac mae hynny yn adlewyrchu'r cynnydd ym mhrisiau eiddo yn y ddinas, na fydd yn syndod i neb. Bu ichi sôn am y gwahaniaeth rhwng Adamsdown a Llys-faen, sy'n mynd at graidd y broblem o fethu ag ailbrisio'n aml, neu fethu â gwneud hynny yn gynyddrannol. Os ydych yn gyfarwydd â Llys-faen, fel minnau, fe

many houses there are modern and have, therefore, come in on an up-to-date valuation. In Adamsdown, the properties are 120 or 130 years old; it is those properties that have seen an increase in their property value. They have not had incremental revaluations and they are not new properties coming in. This matter arises because of a flaw when council tax was introduced, but I am not being too condemnatory because at least the council tax was a great relief from the poll tax. However, if you have a property tax—and I have looked at this matter across the world—it must keep pace with the value of properties.

On your second point that we have the Michael Lyons review so we should pull the plug on the whole thing, do you honestly think that that would be the right way for the Government to proceed? Michael Lyons is compiling a report for which his terms of reference are based on council tax and making it work more effectively. He is not due to present his report until the end of the year, we do not know what it will say, we do not know whether any Government will act on it, yet you are saying that, in the light of those possibilities, having spent the money and undertaken the revaluation, we should pull the plug on something that is essential. As I said yesterday, you were part of the Government that agreed that a revaluation should take place. That is why I cannot believe that you are in the real world. There are people out there who will have gone down a band and are subsequently paying less tax. You are saying to those people that you would pull the plug on this, and all the money that has gone into it. It does not make sense for the Government to do that.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne) My comments relate to the impact of revaluation on individuals. I can understand the reasons for revaluation but, in Powys, 41.1 per cent of properties have gone up by at least one band—most have gone up by only one band. That, together with increases in council tax which, as you have confirmed to me by letter, are marginally higher in Wales than in England, and much higher than in Scotland, has a massive impact on many people, especially those who do not

wyddoch fod llawer o'r tai yno yn fodern ac felly wedi ymuno â'r system ar brisiad diweddar. Yn Adamsdown, tai a adeiladwyd 120 neu 130 mlynedd yn ôl ydynt; dyna'r math o dai y mae eu gwerth wedi cynyddu. Nid ydynt wedi cael eu hailbrisiu'n gynyddrannol ac nid tai newydd ydynt. Cyfyd y mater hwn oherwydd gwall yn y dreth gyngor adeg ei chyflwyno, ond nid wyf am fod yn rhy feirniadol oherwydd o leiaf yr oedd y dreth gyngor yn rhyddhad mawr rhag treth y pen. Fodd bynnag, os oes treth eiddo—ac yr wyf wedi ystyried y ffordd yr ymdrinnir â hyn ledled y byd—rhaid iddi godi yn unol â gwerth eiddo.

O ran eich ail bwynt, sef y dylem roi'r gorau i'r holl ymarfer am fod adolygiad Michael Lyons ar y gorwel, a gredwch o ddifrif calon mai dyna'r ffordd briodol i'r Llywodraeth weithredu? Mae Michael Lyons yn paratoi adroddiad y mae ei gylch gorchwyl yn seiliedig ar y dreth gyngor ac ar sicrhau ei bod yn gweithio'n fwy effeithiol. Ni ddisgwylir iddo gyflwyno ei adroddiad tan ddiwedd y flwyddyn, ni wyddom beth fydd yn ei ddweud, ni wyddom a fydd unrhyw Lywodraeth yn gweithredu arno, ac eto yr ydych chi'n dweud, yng ngoleuni'r posibiliadau hynny, ar ôl gwario'r arian ac ymgymryd â'r ymarfer ailbrisiu, y dylem roi'r gorau i rywbeth sy'n hanfodol. Fel y dywedais ddoe, yr oeddech yn rhan o'r Llywodraeth a gytunodd y dylid cynnal ymarfer ailbrisiu. Dyna pam na allaf gredu eich bod yn y byd real. Mae rhai pobl wedi symud i fand is ac yn talu llai o dreth o ganlyniad. Yr ydych yn dweud wrth y bobl hynny y byddech yn rhoi'r gorau i hyn, ac anghofio am yr holl arian sydd wedi cael ei wario arno. Nid yw'n gwneud synnwyr i'r Llywodraeth wneud hynny.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Mae fy sylwadau yn ymwneud ag effaith ailbrisiu ar unigolion. Gallaf ddeall y rhesymau dros ailbrisiu ond, ym Mhowys, mae 41.1 y cant o eiddo wedi codi o leiaf un band—mae'r rhan fwyaf wedi symud un band yn uwch. Mae hynny, ynghyd â'r cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor sydd, fel y bu ichi gadarnhau imi drwy lythyr, ychydig yn uwch yng Nghymru nag ydyw yn Lloegr, ac yn llawer uwch nag ydyw yn yr Alban, wedi cael effaith enfawr ar lawer o bobl, yn enwedig y

qualify for council tax benefit. What do you say to the many people who are having great difficulty in finding the money to pay these bills?

Sue Essex: I say, quite fairly, Nick, that we have taken that very much into account. That is why I introduced the moderation scheme to ensure that no-one goes up by more than one band a year. That is also why I introduced principles to try to curb the level of council tax increase this year when there is particular pressure on individuals facing this change. I do understand those pressures and worries. I am glad that Gordon Brown has made his announcement in terms of pensioner households, because it will help many facing that change, and the amount given will possibly equate to increases in charges.

It was the Conservatives who introduced a property tax. You know that it has to relate to property values—that is its nature—but you refuse to come up with any alternative. In fairness to your colleague, Glyn Davies, he had the courage to say that revaluation was the right thing to do. I believe that you are being disingenuous in saying that no revaluation should take place; if you did not revalue, there would be huge anomalies, which neither you nor I would think were sustainable.

Nick Bourne: I quite deliberately did not say that; I was talking about the impact on individuals, not the principle. I entirely accept that if you have a property tax you must have revaluation at some point. However, there is an impact on individuals, which I do not believe has been taken into account in many instances. I know, from letters that I receive, that people are not getting assistance. Under this Government, in addition to revaluation, we have seen massive increases in council tax because of the failure to fully fund local government at the level at which it was funded previously. Otherwise we would not have seen increases in local government taxation, more or less throughout Wales, well above inflation, as your letter confirms. You know that that is the case. I am not talking about the principle but about the impact on individuals and what help you can offer to people caught up in this system.

rhai nad ydynt yn gymwys i gael y budd-dal treth gyngor. Beth a ddywedwch chi wrth y lliaws o bobl sy'n cael anhawster mawr i ddod o hyd i'r arian i dalu'r biliau hyn?

Sue Essex: Fe ddywedaf, yn hollol deg, Nick ein bod wedi ystyried hynny o ddifrif. Dyna pam y cyflwynais y cynllun cymedroli i sicrhau na fydd neb yn symud i fyny fwy nag un band y flwyddyn. Dyna pam y cyflwynais yr egwyddorion hefyd i geisio cyfyngu ar y cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor eleni pan fo pwysau arbennig ar unigolion sy'n wynebu'r newid hwn. Deallaf y pwysau a'r pryderon hynny. Yr wyf yn falch bod Gordon Brown wedi gwneud ei gyhoeddiad o ran cartrefi pensïynwyr, oherwydd bydd yn helpu llawer sy'n wynebu'r newid hwnnw, a bydd y swm a roddir o bosibl yn cyfateb â'r cynnydd yn y dreth a godir.

Y Ceidwadwyr a gyflwynodd dreth eiddo. Fe wyddoch fod yn rhaid iddi fod yn gysylltiedig â gwerth eiddo—dyna'i natur—ond yr ydych yn gwrthod cynnig unrhyw ddewis arall. A bod yn deg â'ch cyd-aelod, Glyn Davies, mae wedi bod yn ddigon dewr i ddweud bod yr ymarfer ailbrisiu yn beth iawn i'w wneud. Credaf nad ydych yn onest wrth ddweud na ddylid bod wedi cynnal ymarfer ailbrisiu; os na fyddech wedi ailbrisiu, byddai anghysondebau mawr, na fyddech chithau na minnau yn credu eu bod yn gynaliadwy.

Nick Bourne: Ni ddywedais hynny yn hollol bwrpasol; sôn yr oeddwn am yr effaith ar unigolion, nid yr egwyddor. Derbyniaf yn llwyr fod yn rhaid ichi ailbrisiu ryw bryd neu'i gilydd os oes gennych dreth eiddo. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny yn effeithio ar unigolion, ac ni chredaf iddo gael ei ystyried mewn llawer achos. Gwn, o'r llythyrau a gaf, nad yw pobl yn cael cymorth. O dan y Llywodraeth hon, yn ogystal ag ailbrisiu, bu cynnydd enfawr yn y dreth gyngor oherwydd y methiant i ariannu llywodraeth leol yn llawn ar y lefel y'i hariannwyd yn y gorffennol. Fel arall ni fyddem wedi gweld cynnydd yn nhrethi llywodraeth leol, fwy neu lai ledled Cymru, sy'n llawer uwch na chwyddiant, fel y mae eich llythyr yn cadarnhau. Fe wyddoch fod hynny'n wir. Nid sôn am yr egwyddor yr wyf ond am yr effaith ar unigolion a pha gymorth y gallwch ei gynnig i bobl sy'n dioddef o dan y system

hon.

Sue Essex: I have already stated what help is available and I have said what Gordon Brown is doing. You know that I would like to see the council tax benefit system reviewed and reformed; that was included in our submission on the balance of funding. However, you look back with a rosy glow at the last Conservative Government. It was a long time ago, but I was in local government at the time, and the idea that the Conservatives were then fully funding public service pressures is a joke.

Sue Essex: Yr wyf eisoes wedi nodi pa gymorth sydd ar gael ac yr wyf wedi crybwyll beth mae Gordon Brown yn ei wneud. Fe wyddoch yr hoffwn weld y system budd-dal treth gyngor yn cael ei hadolygu a'i diwygio; yr oedd hynny wedi'i gynnwys yn ein cyflwyniad ar gydbwysedd cyllid. Fodd bynnag, yr ydych yn edrych yn ôl at y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf ac yn gweld popeth yn fêl i gyd. Amser maith yn ôl oedd hynny, ond yr oeddwn mewn llywodraeth leol ar y pryd, ac mae'r syniad bod y Ceidwadwyr bryd hynny yn ariannu pwysau ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus yn llawn yn chwerthinllyd.

Nick Bourne: I am sorry to have to bog you down with the facts, but your own figures confirm that local government taxation in Wales has gone up well above what it was before 1997 and well above inflation. I am concentrating on that. We can bandy figures about, but your own figures confirm this. The rate of increase is higher now, and you are not fully funding local government. This is the point to which I keep returning.

Nick Bourne: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf fy mod yn gorfod eich llethu gyda'r ffeithiau, ond mae eich ffigurau eich hun yn cadarnhau bod trethiant llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru wedi cynyddu'n llawer uwch nag ydoedd cyn 1997 ac yn llawer uwch na chwyddiant. Canolbwytiaf ar hynny. Gallwn gyfnwied ffigurau, ond mae eich ffigurau eich hun yn cadarnhau hyn. Mae cyfradd y cynnydd yn uwch yn awr, ac nid ydych yn ariannu llywodraeth leol yn llawn. Dyma'r pwynt yr wyf yn dychwelyd ato o hyd.

Sue Essex: No, and neither did you, as a Conservative Government.

Sue Essex: Na, ac ni wnaethoch chithau ychwaith, fel Llywodraeth Geidwadol.

Nick Bourne: You are in Government now.

Nick Bourne: Chi yw'r Llywodraeth yn awr.

Sue Essex: You never did this. No Government with a property tax in place will ever fully fund the pressures, so do not be disingenuous. If you had listened to my answer to William, you would have seen that I tried to give an honest answer, as a member of the Government, reflecting on where we have been for the past few years. What we have seen is a major injection of central Government money into public services. *[Interruption.]* It is 59 per cent; I gave the figure to Jeff. You never fully funded local government. What is the point of having council tax if you fully fund?

Sue Essex: Ni wnaethoch hyn erioed. Ni fydd dim Llywodraeth a chanddi dreth eiddo ar waith byth yn ariannu'r pwysau yn llawn, felly peidiwch â bod yn anonest. Pe baech wedi gwranddo ar fy ateb i William, byddech wedi gweld imi geisio rhoi ateb gonest, fel aelod o'r Llywodraeth, gan adlewyrchu'r sefyllfa a fu yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. Yr hyn a welsom yw chwistrelliad mawr o arian gan Lywodraeth ganolog i wasanaethau cyhoeddus. *[Torri ar draws.]* Pum deg naw y cant ydyw; rhoddais y ffigur i Jeff. Ni wnaethoch erioed ariannu llywodraeth leol yn llawn. Beth yw diben cael treth gyngor os ydych yn ariannu'n llawn?

The Presiding Officer: Order. This is totally unacceptable, as I have said many times. Members, including distinguished party

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae hyn yn gwbl annerbyniol, fel yr wyf wedi dweud droeon. Mae Aelodau, gan gynnwys arweinwyr

leaders, have plenty of opportunities to ask supplementary questions in order, without making sedentary comments. There is no need for the Minister to take any notice of any comments made by anyone sitting down when it is not a properly called supplementary question.

nodedig pleidiau, yn cael digon o gyfleoedd i ofyn cwestiynau atodol mewn trefn, heb orfod gwneud sylwadau tra ar eu heistedd. Nid oes angen i'r Gweinidog roi unrhyw sylw i unrhyw sylwadau gan neb sydd ar ei eistedd os nad yw'n gwestiwn atodol a elwid amdano yn briodol.

2.30 p.m.

Gwella Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus yn y Gogledd Improving Public Services in North Wales

Q8 Denise Idris Jones: What action has the Welsh Assembly Government taken to improve public services in north Wales? OAQ0139(LGP)

C8 Denise Idris Jones: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'i wneud i wella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Ngogledd Cymru? OAQ0139(LGP)

Sue Essex: Considerable additional finance, including additional investment by the Welsh Assembly Government, has been given to agencies across north Wales to put in place public services to an improved standard.

Sue Essex: Mae cryn dipyn o arian ychwanegol, gan gynnwys buddsoddiad ychwanegol gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, wedi cael ei roi i asiantaethau ar draws y Gogledd er mwyn rhoi ar waith wasanaethau cyhoeddus i safon well.

Denise Idris Jones: Do you agree that agreements that ensure that the Welsh Assembly Government and local authorities in Wales work together to meet national and local targets will further improve public services throughout north Wales? Will you agree to work with the councils that have yet to conclude an agreement to ensure that our joint priorities are at the top of the local agenda and that the maximum funding opportunities to deliver improved public services are behind them?

Denise Idris Jones: A gytunwch fod cytundebau sy'n sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn cydweithio i gyflawni targedau cenedlaethol a lleol yn gwella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ar draws y Gogledd ymhellach? A gytunwch i weithio gyda'r cynghorau nad ydynt wedi llunio cytundeb eto er mwyn sicrhau bod ein cyd-flaenoriaethau ar frig yr agenda leol a bod y cyfleoedd ariannu mwyaf i ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus gwell yn sail iddynt?

Sue Essex: The policy agreements have been important in terms of getting a shared approach to public-service delivery, and I pay particular tribute to the north Wales authorities that have joined in enthusiastically. A couple of weeks ago, I visited Ynys Môn to sign our policy agreement with the local authority there. We did that in Llangefni leisure centre, and one of the authority's local policy performance targets was about cardiac rehabilitation and the role of leisure and fitness in that. I thank the authorities in north Wales that have taken this up enthusiastically.

Sue Essex: Mae'r cytundebau polisi wedi bod yn bwysig o ran sicrhau ymagwedd gyffredin tuag at ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, a thalaf deyrnged yn arbennig i awdurdodau'r Gogledd sydd wedi ymgymryd â hyn yn frwd. Ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, ymwelais ag Ynys Môn i lofnodi ein cytundeb polisi gyda'r awdurdod lleol yno. Gwnaethom hynny yng nghanolfan hamdden Llangefni, ac un o dargedau perfformiad polisi lleol yr awdurdod oedd adsefydlu cleifion â phroblemau ar y galon a rôl hamdden a chadw'n heini yn hynny o beth. Diolchaf i'r awdurdodau yn y Gogledd sydd wedi ymroi i hyn gyda brwdfrydedd.

Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus o Ansawdd Da

High-quality Public Services

Q9 Michael German: Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Assembly is doing to ensure the delivery of high-quality public services throughout Wales? OAQ0142(LGP)

C9 Michael German: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar yr hyn y mae Cynulliad Cymru'n ei wneud i sicrhau bod gwasanaethau cyhoeddus o safon uchel yn cael eu darparu ledled Cymru? OAQ0142(LGP)

Sue Essex: This follows on from Denise's question, but, in terms of looking to the future and the 'Making the Connections' agenda, the document that went out stated how we make our services more citizen centred, or community centred where appropriate, ensuring that they are joined up and that they use resources in a better way. That is underpinned by cash to try to pump-prime some of these new initiatives.

Sue Essex: Mae hyn yn dilyn cwestiwn Denise, ond, o ran edrych i'r dyfodol ac agenda 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau', nododd y ddogfen a ddsbarthwyd sut yr ydym yn sicrhau bod ein gwasanaethau yn canolbwyntio fwy ar ddinasyddion, neu gymunedau lle y bo'n briodol, gan sicrhau eu bod yn gydgyssylltiedig a'u bod yn defnyddio adnoddau mewn ffordd well. Mae arian hefyd i geisio ysgogi rhai o'r mentrau newydd hyn.

Michael German: How will you use the 1 per cent efficiency savings that public services are expected to make in Wales, given the pressures on them? Will they be allowed to put that money back into their services or will you reduce the funding that the National Assembly gives them by 1 per cent to compensate?

Michael German: Sut y byddwch yn defnyddio'r 1 y cant o arbedion effeithlonrwydd y disgwylir i'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus eu gwneud yng Nghymru o gofio'r pwysau arnynt? A gânt ddefnyddio'r arian hwnnw yn eu gwasanaethau neu a wnewch chi leihau'r arian 1 y cant yn lle hynny.

Sue Essex: Last year, it was 1 per cent in the growth, which was in the regional support grant. In terms of where we might go in future and securing efficiencies, which will be in terms of cash and improved services and delivery and will equate to around £600 million, which is the sum that we have given over the time span, and in terms of how that can be achieved across the piece—because it includes local government and the NHS, where efficiency gains of much more than 1 per cent are being looked at—we are working with the Welsh Local Government Association and others. We have the first meeting of the public services improvement board on Monday, which will look at whether we can achieve cash efficiencies that can go into front-line services and which can improve services. That is a dual agenda in this programme.

Sue Essex: Y llynedd, 1 y cant yn y twf ydoedd, a oedd yn y grant cymorth rhanbarthol. O ran i ba gyfeiriad y gallem fynd yn y dyfodol a sicrhau effeithlonrwydd, a fydd yn nhermau arian parod a gwasanaethau gwell wedi'u darparu'n well ac a fydd yn cyfateb i tua £600 miliwn, sef y swm yr ydym wedi'i roi dros y cyfnod, ac o ran sut y gellir cyflawni hynny yn gyffredinol—oherwydd mae'n cynnwys llywodraeth leol a'r GIG, lle yr ystyrir arbedion effeithlonrwydd llawer mwy nag 1 y cant—yr ydym yn gweithio gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ac eraill. Mae'r cyfarfod cyntaf o'r bwrdd gwella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ddydd Llun, a fydd yn ystyried pa un a allwn gyflawni effeithlonrwydd arian parod a all gael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer gwasanaethau rheng flaen ac a all wella gwasanaethau. Mae honno yn agenda ddeuol yn y rhaglen hon.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes
Questions to the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning

Effeithiolrwydd mewn Cyllidebau Addysg Awdurdodau Lleol
Efficiencies in Local Authority Education Budgets

Q1 Nick Bourne: What discussions has the Minister had with local authorities regarding efficiency savings in their education budgets? OAQ0169(ELL)

C1 Nick Bourne: Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gydag awdurdodau lleol am arbedion trwy wella effeithlonrwydd yn eu cyllidebau addysg? OAQ0169(ELL)

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I have had no such discussions. Discussions with local government on its funding and budgetary means are a matter for the Finance Minister.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau o'r fath. Mater i'r Gweinidog Cyllid yw trafodaethau gyda llywodraeth leol ar ei harian a'i chyllideb.

Nick Bourne: The Minister will know that local authorities across Wales are being asked to make efficiency savings of 1 per cent a year under the 'Making the Connections' aspiration to achieve value for money. Many schools have contacted me about that, and I know that teachers' unions are also concerned that it will lead to pressure on the education budget. As the teachers' unions have already rightly said, the best funded schools in Wales receive less per pupil than the worst funded schools in England do.

Nick Bourne: Gŵyr y Gweinidog y gofynnir i awdurdodau lleol ledled Cymru wneud arbedion o 1 y cant y flwyddyn drwy wella effeithlonrwydd o dan ddyhead 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau' i gael gwerth am arian. Mae llawer o ysgolion wedi cysylltu â mi ynglŷn â hynny, a gwn fod undebau'r athrawon yn pryderu hefyd y bydd yn arwain at bwysau ar y gyllideb addysg. Fel y mae undebau'r athrawon eisoes wedi dweud, mae'r ysgolion sydd wedi'u hariannu orau yng Nghymru yn cael llai fesul disgybl na'r ysgolion sydd wedi'u hariannu waethaf yn Lloegr.

Jane Davidson: As I said in my letter to you in February, which you could have used as a basis for your discussion with schools, it is for local authorities to decide the level of funding to their schools. The emphasis is on identifying additional resources for the front line; it is not about service cuts.

Jane Davidson: Fel y dywedais yn fy llythyr atoch ym mis Chwefror, y gallech fod wedi'i ddefnyddio fel sail i'ch trafodaeth gyda'r ysgolion, awdurdodau lleol sy'n penderfynu ar y lefel o arian i'w hysgolion. Mae'r pwyslais ar nodi'r adnoddau ychwanegol ar gyfer y rheng flaen; nid oes a wnelo â thoriadau mewn gwasanaethau.

Janet Ryder: If you have not had discussions with local authorities about their budgets, have you had discussions with them about their role as local education authorities? Their role in providing services has changed dramatically since 1995 and the move to smaller unitary authorities. Is it not time now to assess the role of LEAs in Wales in order to look at their work and at where that work could be best met?

Janet Ryder: Os nad ydych wedi cael trafodaethau gydag awdurdodau lleol ynglŷn â'u cyllidebau, a ydych wedi cael trafodaethau gyda hwy ynglŷn â'u rôl fel awdurdodau addysg lleol? Mae eu rôl wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau wedi newid yn ddramatig ers 1995 a'r newid i awdurdodau unedol llai. Onid yw'n bryd yn awr asesu rôl AALLau yng Nghymru er mwyn ystyried eu gwaith ac ym mha le y gellid cyflawni'r gwaith hwnnw orau?

Jane Davidson: I have regular meetings with LEAs in Wales to discuss education issues,

Jane Davidson: Cyfarfyddaf yn rheolaidd â'r AALLau yng Nghymru i drafod materion

on which there is a productive dialogue between the Assembly Government and officials, the leaders and the education spokespeople of local authorities, and the officials responsible for education. That close partnership has contributed massively to the chief inspector's outlining in her report that education has improved year on year in Wales, and improved most in the last year.

addysgol a cheir deialog cynhyrchiol rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a swyddogion, arweinwyr a llefarwyr addysg awdurdodau lleol, a'r swyddogion sy'n gyfrifol am addysg. Mae'r bartneriaeth agos honno wedi cyfrannu'n sylweddol i'r ffaith i'r prif arolygydd amlinellu yn ei hadroddiad bod addysg wedi gwella flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn yng Nghymru, ac wedi gwella fwyaf yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

Addysgu drwy Gyfrwng y Gymraeg mewn Prifysgolion Welsh-medium Teaching in Universities

C2 Alun Ffred Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog fanylu ar y cynnydd a fu mewn addysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg ym mhrifysgolion Cymru? OAQ0173(ELL)

Q2 Alun Ffred Jones: Will the Minister detail the increase that there has been in teaching through the medium of Welsh in Welsh universities? OAQ0173(ELL)

C8 Alun Ffred Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar pryd y bydd yr adroddiad ar gyfer creu fframwaith dysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg ym Mhrifysgol Cymru yn cael ei gyhoeddi? OAQ0172(ELL)

Q8 Alun Ffred Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on when the report for creating a Welsh-medium teaching framework in the University of Wales will be published? OAQ0172(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Dyma faes lle gwelwyd cryn dipyn o gynnydd. Eleni, yr ydym yn cefnogi pum cymrodoriaeth addysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, a fydd yn cwmpasu ystod o bynciau. Ar 2 Tachwedd, cyhoeddais becyn estynedig o ysgoloriaethau a chymrodoriaethau gwerth £2.9 miliwn, a fydd yn adeiladu ar yr holl waith da a wnaed hyd yn hyn. Mae'r strategaeth ar gyfer y ddarpariaeth drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg ym myd addysg uwch, a luniwyd gan grŵp llywio cenedlaethol Andrew Green, ac a gytunwyd ar 21 Hydref 2004, i'w gweld ar wefan Cyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru.

Jane Davidson: This is an area where real progress is being made. This year, we are supporting five Welsh-medium teaching fellowships, which will cover a range of subjects. On 2 November, I announced an extended package of scholarships and fellowships worth £2.9 million that will build on all the good work done to date. The strategy for Welsh-medium provision in higher education, produced by Andrew Green's national steering group, and which was agreed on 21 October 2004, can be found on the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales's website.

Alun Ffred Jones: Disgwyliais y byddech, wrth ateb y cwestiwn cyntaf, yn medru dweud wrthyf faint o gynnydd sydd wedi bod yn nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n astudio—dyna yw ystyr addysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg—nid pa fath o gynlluniau sy'n digwydd yn y cefndir. Yr wyf ychydig yn ansicr a yw'r adroddiad, y cyfeiriat ato yng nghwestiwn 8, wedi'i gyhoeddi. Yn sicr, nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol o hynny. Fy nghwestiwn atodol felly yw sut y bydd lleihau'r canran—a defnyddiaf y gair 'canran'—sy'n cael ei wario ar addysg uwch Gymraeg yn sicrhau bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cyrraedd ei tharged o ddyblu

Alun Ffred Jones: I expected that you would, in responding to the first question, be able to tell me how much of an increase there has been in the number of students who are studying—that is the meaning of learning through the medium of Welsh—not what kind of schemes are going on in the background. I am somewhat unsure whether the report, to which I refer in question 8, has been published. I was certainly not aware of that. My supplementary question therefore is how decreasing the percentage of funding—and I use the word 'percentage'—spent on Welsh-medium education will ensure that the Government of Wales attains its target of

nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n astudio rhyw elfen o'u cyrsiau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg i 7 y cant erbyn 2010?

Jane Davidson: Camgymeriad mawr yw dweud nad yw'r adroddiad wedi cael ei gyhoeddi—mae wedi'i gyhoeddi ar y wefan ers y llynedd, a gallwch ei weld yno. Ynglŷn â faint o gyrsiau sydd ar gael drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg ar hyn o bryd, mae'r data diweddaraf sydd ar gael, sef ar gyfer 2002-03, yn dangos bod modd dilyn 350 o gyrsiau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Edrychaf ymlaen at ddata nesaf yr Asiantaeth Ystadegau Addysg Uwch i weld y ddarpariaeth. Fodd bynnag, bydd llawer mwy o opsiynau ar gael drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Darperir £2.9 miliwn ychwanegol ar gyfer y cymrodoriaethau addysgu drwy strategaeth CCAUC, ac mae pobl ar draws y sector addysg brifysgol drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg wedi croesawu buddsoddiad y Cynulliad.

2.40 p.m.

Alun Ffred Jones: Derbyniaf fod croeso i gyllid ychwanegol, ond y ffaith syml yw bod canran yr arian sydd ar gael ar gyfer datblygu addysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn gostwng, nid yn cynyddu. Hefyd, mae'n gamarweiniol—a siaradaf o brofiad fel rhiant—nodi cyrsiau mewn prospectysau fel rhai sydd ar gael drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg pan na fyddant wedyn yn cael eu dysgu yn yr iaith honno. Mae nifer o fyfyrwyr, wrth gyrraedd eu colegau neu brifysgolion, yn sylweddoli nad yw'r mwyafrif o gyrsiau sy'n cael eu cynnig drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg ar gael yr yr iaith honno. Mae angen data cywir iawn. Felly, a oes modd cael data mwy cywir ynghylch nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n dilyn cyrsiau addysg uwch drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg?

Jane Davidson: Mae data Asiantaeth Ystadegau Addysg Uwch yn gywir iawn. Dyna'r data mwyaf cywir sydd ar gael yn y sector, ac felly y gorau sydd ar gael i ni ei ddefnyddio. Nid yw'n gywir i ddweud nad oes mwy o gyrsiau yn cael eu haddysgu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg oherwydd bydd y £2.9 miliwn sydd ar gael drwy'r prosiect hwn yn mynd tuag at ddarparu cyrsiau newydd a recriwtio mwy o bobl i wneud hynny.

doubling the number of students who study certain course modules through the medium of Welsh to 7 per cent by 2010?

Jane Davidson: You are wrong to say that the report has not been published—it was published on the website last year, and that is where it can be found. On how many courses are available through the medium of Welsh at present, the latest available data, for 2002-03, shows that 350 courses were available through the medium of Welsh. I look forward to the next set of Higher Education Statistics Agency statistics on this provision. However, Welsh-medium provision is on the increase. An additional £2.9 million is being provided for the teaching fellowships through the HEFCW strategy, and people across the Welsh-medium university education sector have welcomed the Assembly's investment.

Alun Ffred Jones: I accept that additional funding is to be welcomed, but fact of the matter is that the percentage of money available for teaching through the medium of Welsh is decreasing, not increasing. Also, it is misleading—and I speak from experience as a parent—for prospectuses to list courses as being available through the medium of Welsh when this is not the case. On reaching their colleges or universities, many students find that the majority of the courses listed are not taught through the medium of Welsh. We need accurate data. Therefore, will it be possible to receive more accurate data on the number of students who follow Welsh-medium higher education courses?

Jane Davidson: The Higher Education Statistics Agency data is very accurate. It is the most accurate data available in the sector and therefore the best at our disposal. It is not true to say that fewer courses are taught through the medium of Welsh because the £2.9 million available through this project will go towards providing new courses and recruiting more people to do that.

Mae'r problemau hyn yn codi pan fydd pobl sy'n dysgu cyrsiau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn cael eu cyflogi gan brifysgolion eraill a phan na fydd neb i gymryd eu lle. Mae'n rhaid i ni gyd, felly, annog mwy o siaradwyr Cymraeg i hyfforddi fel darlithwyr.

Mark Isherwood: The Rees commission proposals have now been published, but you have still not announced any contingency plans to safeguard Welsh students who enrol in Welsh universities from having to pay top-fees from 2006. A survey by KPMG and the *Times Higher* cast doubt on the ability of a fee and bursary regime to attract poorer students to university. How will that affect universities like the University of Wales, Bangor, which is where half of all Welsh-medium students study?

Jane Davidson: We maintain our existing commitment in terms of student support. We have an effective student-support system that has been welcomed. I met representatives of the National Union of Students before Plenary, and our student-support system was welcomed. We maintain our commitment to ensuring that the student-support system devised in Wales under the new powers on student support, which will be devolved to us through the Higher Education Act 2004, will be fit for purpose.

Cau Ysgolion Cynradd (Effaith ar Ysgolion Uwchradd) Primary School Closures (Impact on Secondary Schools)

Q3 William Graham: Will the Minister make a statement on the impact on secondary schools arising from the closures of primary schools within Wales? OAQ0192(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Generally, the closure of primary schools has little impact on secondary schools as the children normally transfer to other primary schools serving the same secondary school catchment area. If this were not the case, local authorities would need to consider the likely impact.

William Graham: I am trying to get at the impact on secondary schools in terms of numbers. Do you know in which year this

These problems arise when, for example the people teaching Welsh-medium courses are employed by other universities and alternative resource is not available. Therefore, we must all encourage more Welsh speakers to train as lecturers.

Mark Isherwood: Mae cynigion comisiwn Rees wedi'u cyhoeddi bellach, ond nid ydych wedi cyhoeddi eto unrhyw gynlluniau wrth gefn i ddiogelu myfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n ymgofrestru mewn prifysgolion yng Nghymru rhag gorfod talu ffioedd ychwanegol o 2006. Mewn arolwg gan KPMG a'r *Times Higher* bwriwyd amheuaeth ar allu cyfundrefn ffioedd a bwrsariau i ddenu myfyrwyr tlawd i'r brifysgol. Sut y bydd hynny yn effeithio ar brifysgolion fel Prifysgol Cymru, Bangor, lle y mae hanner yr holl fyfyrwyr cyfrwng Cymraeg yn astudio?

Jane Davidson: Yr ydym yn parhau â'n hymrwymiad presennol o ran cymorth i fyfyrwyr. Mae gennym system effeithiol o gymorth i fyfyrwyr sydd wedi cael ei chrosawu. Cyfarfûm ag Undeb Cenedlaethol y Myfyrwyr cyn y Cyfarfod Llawn, a chrosawyd ein system o gymorth i fyfyrwyr. Yr ydym yn parhau â'n hymrwymiad i sicrhau y bydd y system o gymorth i fyfyrwyr yng Nghymru o dan y pwerau newydd ar gymorth i fyfyrwyr, a gaiff eu datganoli inni drwy Ddeddf Addysg Uwch 2004, yn addas at y diben.

C3 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar effaith cau ysgolion cynradd yng Nghymru ar ysgolion uwchradd? OAQ0192(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Yn gyffredinol, nid yw cau ysgolion cynradd yn cael fawr effaith ar ysgolion uwchradd am fod y plant fel arfer yn trosglwyddo i ysgolion cynradd eraill sy'n gwasanaethu'r un dalgylch o ran yr ysgol uwchradd. Pe na bai hynny yn wir byddai angen i awdurdodau lleol ystyried yr effaith debygol.

William Graham: Yr wyf yn ceisio mynd ar drywydd yr effaith ar ysgolion uwchradd o ran niferoedd. A wyddoch ym mha flwyddyn

will make a significant difference in Wales with falling rolls generally?

Jane Davidson: We have had no approaches so far on any proposed reorganisation of schools in Wales that cannot be accommodated within the existing schools system.

Mick Bates: I am surprised by your first answer because there is evidence, particularly when small primary schools along the border close, of an impact on secondary school numbers and a tendency for those to recruit from the English side of the border. I am sure that you are aware of such schools. Do you not think that a study should be commissioned to consider this impact, because we have already noticed that previously popular courses through the medium of Welsh in one large secondary school are now fading away?

Jane Davidson: Planning school places and the provision of education at the local level are matters for local authorities.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Wrth edrych ar sir fel sir Gaerfyrddin, a dderbyniwch ei fod yn bwysig sicrhau dilyniant a chontinwrm rhwng ysgolion cynradd ac ysgolion uwchradd, yn enwedig o ran yr iaith Gymraeg? A wnewch chi sicrhau mewn unrhyw ad-drefniant o ysgolion cynradd fod y dilyniant hwnnw yn cael ei gryfhau?

Jane Davidson: Ni fydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cytuno i gael llai o ddarpariaeth Gymraeg yn y cynnig amgen.

y caiff hyn wahaniaeth sylweddol yng Nghymru o ran niferoedd y plant ar y gofrestr yn gostwng yn gyffredinol?

Jane Davidson: Nid oes neb wedi sôn wrthym hyd yma am unrhyw gynllun i ad-drefnu ysgolion yng Nghymru na ellir ei weithredu o fewn y system ysgolion bresennol.

Mick Bates: Synnaf at eich ateb cyntaf oherwydd mae tystiolaeth, yn enwedig pan fydd ysgolion cynradd ar hyd y gorau yn cau, fod effaith ar niferoedd mewn ysgolion uwchradd a bod tuedd iddynt recriwtio o Loegr. Yr ydych yn ymwybodol o ysgolion o'r fath mae'n siŵr. Oni chredwch y dylid comisiynu astudiaeth i ystyried yr effaith hon, oherwydd yr ydym eisoes wedi sylwi bod cyrsiau a fu'n boblogaidd gynt drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg mewn un ysgol uwchradd fawr yn diflannu?

Jane Davidson: Mae cynllunio lleoedd ysgol a darparu addysg yn lleol yn faterion i awdurdodau lleol.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: When looking at a county such as Carmarthenshire, do you accept that it is important to ensure progression and a continuum between primary and secondary schools, particularly in terms of the Welsh language? Will you ensure that, in any reorganisation of primary schools, that continuum is strengthened?

Jane Davidson: The Welsh Assembly Government will not agree to less Welsh provision in the alternative proposal.

Ariannu Addysg Uwch Higher Education Funding

Q4 Michael German: Will the Minister make a statement about the funding of higher education? OAQ0189(ELL)

Jane Davidson: 'Reaching Higher' outlines the commitment to above-inflation core funding. Additionally, further funding is available to prioritise reconfiguration and widening access, which were agreed Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

C4 Michael German: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar ariannu addysg uwch? OAQ0189(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Mae 'Ymgeisio yn Uwch' yn nodi'r ymrwymiad i roi arian craidd yn uwch na chwyddiant. Yn ogystal, mae rhagor o arian ar gael i flaenoriaethu'r broses ailgyflunio ac ehangu mynediad, sef blaenoriaethu'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu

priorities. This amounts to £14 million in 2005-06.

Michael German: You have given a commitment that there will be no top-up fees in Wales prior to 2007. Can you guarantee that those students who enter colleges and universities in Wales in September or October 2006-07, having gone past year 1 without having to pay top-up and tuition fees, will not be charged fees in years 2 and 3?

Jane Davidson: Since the Assembly Government has not made a decision on the form of fee funding that it will recommend to the Assembly, and as it is the Assembly that makes the final decision on what form of funding is used in Wales, I shall await the final outcome of the Rees report.

Michael German: Are you saying that students going into universities and colleges next year will not be charged top-up fees in year 1, but that you cannot guarantee that they will not be charged fees in years 2 and 3 of their courses? Is that correct?

Jane Davidson: Any decision on the fee funding of university places post 2007 will be made by the end of the summer term on the basis of the final outcomes of the Rees report. I will not pick any element out of the system and make a separate announcement about it in advance of the report's final outcomes.

Leighton Andrews: Minister, you will be aware that many higher education institutions in Wales derive some of their funding from overseas postgraduate students. Will you make representations to the Home Office regarding some of the difficulties that have arisen this year, with regard to students from African countries and China who have encountered problems with visas? That has had an impact on the income of several higher education institutions.

Jane Davidson: As an Assembly Government, we have strongly encouraged a growth in the number of international students coming to Wales. Currently, there are issues in terms of the United Kingdom that will need to be addressed to ensure that

Gydol Oes y cytunwyd arnynt, sef cyfanswm o £14 miliwn yn 2005-06.

Michael German: Yr ydych wedi addo na fydd ffioedd ychwanegol yng Nghymru cyn 2007. A allwch warantu na fydd y myfyrwyr hynny sy'n dechrau yn y coleg neu'r brifysgol yng Nghymru ym mis Medi neu fis Hydref 2006-07, ar ôl mynd drwy flwyddyn 1 heb orfod talu ffioedd ychwanegol a ffioedd dysgu, yn gorfod talu ffioedd ym mlwyddyn 2 a 3?

Jane Davidson: Gan nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi gwneud penderfyniad ar y dull o ariannu ffioedd y bydd yn ei argymhell i'r Cynulliad, a chan mai'r Cynulliad sy'n gwneud y penderfyniad terfynol ar y dull o ariannu a ddefnyddir yng Nghymru, arhosaf am ganlyniad terfynol adroddiad Rees.

Michael German: A ydych yn dweud na chodir ffioedd ychwanegol ar fyfyrwyr sy'n mynd i'r brifysgol neu'r coleg y flwyddyn nesaf ym mlwyddyn 1, ond ni allwch warantu na chaiff ffioedd eu codi ym mlwyddyn 2 a 3 o'u cyrsiau? A yw hynny yn gywir?

Jane Davidson: Caiff unrhyw benderfyniad ar ariannu ffioedd ar gyfer lleoedd prifysgol ar ôl 2007 ei wneud erbyn diwedd tymor yr haf ar sail canlyniadau terfynol adroddiad Rees. Ni fwriadaf ganolbwyntio ar unrhyw elfen o'r system a gwneud cyhoeddiad ar wahân ynglŷn â hi cyn bod canlyniadau terfynol yr adroddiad yn hysbys.

Leighton Andrews: Weinidog, fe wyddoch fod llawer o sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn cael peth o'u harian oddi wrth fyfyrwyr ôl-raddedig o dramor. A wneuch chi gyflwyno sylwadau i'r Swyddfa Gartref ynghylch rhai o'r anawsterau sydd wedi codi eleni, o ran myfyrwyr o Tsieina a gwledydd yn Affrica sydd wedi cael problemau gyda fisâu? Mae hynny wedi cael effaith ar incwm sawl un o'r sefydliadau addysg uwch.

Jane Davidson: Fel Llywodraeth Cynulliad, yr ydym wedi annog yn gryf dwf yn nifer y myfyrwyr rhyngwladol sy'n dod i Gymru. Ar hyn o bryd, mae problemau o ran y Deyrnas Unedig y bydd angen mynd i'r afael â hwy er mwyn sicrhau bod y twf hwnnw yn gallu

that growth can continue. I am happy to make representations to our colleagues in Parliament.

Nick Bourne: I was stunned by the Minister's earlier answer to Mike German. I know that she is keen for me to hang on her every word and, on the subject of top-up fees at least, I have been a disciple of hers for years. In November 2002, the Minister said:

'Personally I am opposed to top-up fees. I do not see it as an issue benefiting our sector in Wales when one of our biggest agendas in Wales is about widening participation.'

Should you not be giving a lead on this issue, rather than saying that it is up to the Assembly? Will students who are joining the cohort now be charged top-up fees in years 2 or 3? What is your view, as Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning?

Jane Davidson: I have always taken my decisions as Minister on an evidence base. The evidence base is being prepared by the Rees commission. The first Rees commission gave an evidence base that enabled us to introduce student support in Wales in the form of the Assembly learning grant, which outstripped any other student support in other parts of the United Kingdom. I remain confident that the second Rees commission, which has largely similar membership, will also give us the right kind of evidence base. I hope that you will listen to the evidence on the basis of the decisions that the Assembly will need to take, to ensure support for our students and institutions.

Nick Bourne: First you want us to listen to you as Minister, then we are to listen to the Rees commission's evidence. We will look at the commission's evidence, but I asked for your view. The evidence that you gave in November 2002 was that you were against top-up fees. I will give you another piece of evidence: the Labour manifesto in 2001, which you presumably signed up to. It says:

parhau. Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i gyflwyno sylwadau i'n cyd-aelodau yn San Steffan.

Nick Bourne: Fe'm syfrdanwyd gan ateb cynharach y Gweinidog i Mike German. Gwn ei bod yn awyddus imi dderbyn pob gair o'i gwefusau ac, o ran ffioedd ychwanegol o leiaf, yr wyf wedi bod yn barod iawn i'w chredu ers blynyddoedd. Ym mis Tachwedd 2002, dyweoddodd y Gweinidog:

Yn bersonol, yr wyf yn gwrthwynebu ffioedd ychwanegol. Ni chredaf ei fod yn fater a fydd o fudd i'n sector yng Nghymru, o gofio mai un o'n hagendâu mwyaf yng Nghymru yw ehangu cyfranogiad.

Oni ddylech fod yn rhoi arweiniad ar y mater hwn, yn hytrach na dweud mai'r Cynulliad sydd i benderfynu? A gaiff ffioedd ychwanegol eu codi ar fyfyrwyr sy'n ymuno â'r garfan yn awr pan fyddant ym mlwyddyn 2 a 3? Beth yw eich barn chi, fel Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes?

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf bob amser wedi gwneud fy mhenderfyniadau fel Gweinidog ar sail tystiolaeth. Mae'r dystiolaeth yn cael ei pharatoi gan gomisiwn Rees. Rhoddodd comisiwn cyntaf Rees dystiolaeth a'n galluogodd i gyflwyno cymorth i fyfyrwyr yng Nghymru ar ffurf grant dysgu'r Cynulliad, a ragorodd ar unrhyw gymorth arall i fyfyrwyr mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Parhaf yn ffyddiog y bydd ail gomisiwn Rees, sydd ag aelodaeth debyg, hefyd yn rhoi'r math cywir o dystiolaeth. Gobeithiaf y byddwch yn gwrando ar y dystiolaeth ar sail y penderfyniadau y bydd angen i'r Cynulliad eu gwneud, er mwyn sicrhau cymorth i'n myfyrwyr a'n sefydliadau.

Nick Bourne: Yn gyntaf yr ydych am inni wrando arnoch chi fel Gweinidog, yna dylem wrando ar dystiolaeth comisiwn Rees. Byddwn yn edrych ar dystiolaeth y comisiwn, ond gofynnais am eich barn chi. Yn ôl y dystiolaeth a roddasoch ym mis Tachwedd 2002, yr oeddech yn gwrthwynebu ffioedd ychwanegol. Rhoddaf ddarn arall o dystiolaeth ichi: maniffesto Llafur yn 2001, yr oeddech yn ei gefnogi mae'n debyg. Dywed:

‘We will not introduce ‘top-up’ fees and we have legislated to prevent them’.

Ni fyddwn yn cyflwyno ffioedd ychwanegol ac yr ydym wedi deddfu i’w hatal.

Do you regret that statement? Are you dissociating yourself from that, or are you now signing up to the agenda that, in Wales, we will get top-up fees, which you, personally, are against? Which is it?

A ydych yn edifarhau am wneud y datganiad hwnnw? A ydych yn datgysylltu eich hun oddi wrth hynny, neu a ydych yn awr yn cefnogi’r agenda lle y gwelwn yng Nghymru ffioedd ychwanegol, sef rhywbeth yr ydych chi, yn bersonol, yn ei wrthwynebu? Dywedwch wrthym.

2.50 p.m.

Jane Davidson: There is no specific proposal on the table at present in terms of top-up fees in Wales. A range of proposals are being considered by the Rees commission. I would urge any responsible Member of the opposition to respond to the responsible Rees commission, to ensure that your views are put to it. Otherwise, both students and the sector in Wales will know that you always duck your responsibilities whereas I do not duck mine.

Jane Davidson: Nid oes cynnig penodol ar y bwrdd ar hyn o bryd o ran ffioedd ychwanegol yng Nghymru. Mae comisiwn Rees wrthi’n ystyried nifer o gynigion. Apeliaf ar unrhyw Aelod cyfrifol o’r gwrthbleidiau i ymateb i’r cyfrifol gomisiwn Rees, er mwyn sicrhau bod eich safbwyntiau yn cael eu cyflwyno iddo. Fel arall, bydd myfyrwyr a’r sector yng Nghymru yn gwybod eich bod chithau bob amser yn osgoi’ch cyfrifoldebau ond nad wyf innau.

David Lloyd: Are you prepared to contemplate any non-fees solution to university funding?

David Lloyd: A ydych yn barod i ystyried unrhyw ateb i ariannu’r prifysgolion heb ffioedd?

Jane Davidson: If you had been at last week’s meeting of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee—and the verbatim report of the Rees group’s contribution to that committee is now available—you would have seen that, of the three representatives of the Rees group, two had very different views on whether, overall, higher education should be publicly funded or whether there should be a contribution in terms of fees. However, members of the Rees commission agreed unanimously that, in the present environment, Wales must ensure that it funds its higher education sector properly, because, if it does not, it will see its lecturers going in one direction and students coming in, in very large numbers, from other parts of the UK, leading to the possibility of squeezing out Welsh students. This is evidence not from me, but from members of the Rees commission.

Jane Davidson: Pe baech wedi bod yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yr wythnos diwethaf—ac mae adroddiad gair am air o gyfraniad grŵp Rees i’r pwyllgor hwnnw ar gael bellach—byddech wedi gweld bod dau, o blith y tri chynrychiolydd o grŵp Rees, yn arddel safbwyntiau gwahanol iawn ynghylch pa un a ddylai addysg uwch, yn gyffredinol, gael ei hariannu’n gyhoeddus neu a ddylai fod cyfraniad o ran ffioedd. Fodd bynnag, cytunodd aelodau o gomisiwn Rees yn unfrydol fod yn rhaid i Gymru, yn y byd sydd ohoni, sicrhau ei bod yn ariannu ei sector addysg uwch yn briodol, oherwydd os na wnaiff hynny, bydd ei darlithwyr yn mynd i’r naill gyfeiriad a myfyrwyr yn dod i mewn, mewn niferoedd mawr iawn, o rannau eraill o’r DU, gan arwain at y posibilrwydd o wthio myfyrwyr o Gymru o brifysgolion Cymru. Nid tystiolaeth gennyf fi mo hon ond gan aelodau o gomisiwn Rees.

Addysg Uwchradd (Blaenoriaethau) Secondary Education (Priorities)

C5 Ieuan Wyn Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynglŷn â'i blaenoriaethau am addysg uwchradd? OAQ0152(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Ein blaenoriaethau yw cyflawni'r ymrwymadau yn 'Cymru: Gwlad Well'. Mae'r rhain yn rhoi'r lle blaenaf i fuddiannau'r dysgwyr, yn darparu dulliau o oresgyn y rhwystrau i ddysgu, yn hybu cyfle cyfartal, disgwyliadau a safonau uchel, ac yn sicrhau bod addysg a dysgu gydol oes yn darparu ar gyfer twf economaidd a diwylliannol.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn siŵr, Weinidog, eich bod yn ymwybodol bod prifathrawon ysgolion uwchradd ac undebau athrawon yn bryderus iawn ynglŷn â'r fformiwla y mae ELWa yn bwriadu ei chyflwyno ynglŷn â chyllido addysg chweched dosbarth. Gwyddoch fod NUT Cymru yn sôn y gallai hynny arwain at gollu 400 o swyddi athrawon ysgolion uwchradd, ac y gallai rhai ysgolion gollu cymaint â £100,000 y flwyddyn o'u cyllideb. Os bwriad y fformiwla newydd yw gwella darpariaeth yn ein hysgolion, sut ydych yn cysoni hynny gyda'r ffigurau y mae NUT Cymru newydd eu cyhoeddi?

Jane Davidson: Dyma agenda cynlluniau gweithredu addysg a hyfforddiant. Mae Plaid Cymru yn cefnogi'r agenda honno, ac mae'r Cynulliad yn ei chefnogi. Mae'n sicrhau chwarae teg i bob person ifanc yng Nghymru sy'n astudio cwrs yn yr ysgol, mewn coleg neu yn y gweithle.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae eich ateb yn ddiddorol oherwydd nad ydych wedi gwadu ffigurau NUT Cymru. Gofynnaf y cwestiwn ichi eto i'w ateb: a fydd y fformiwla newydd yn golygu colled o 400 o swyddi, ac a fydd rhai ysgolion yn colli £100,000? Bydd neu na fydd? Mae'r ateb yn eithaf syml.

Hoffwn ofyn ail gwestiwn ichi, Weinidog. Mae nifer fawr o brifathrawon chweched dosbarth—gan gynnwys prifathrawon yn fy etholaeth i—yn flin iawn nad yw ELWa yn fodlon ymgynghori'n uniongyrchol â hwy ynglŷn ag effaith y fformiwla hon ar ysgolion Môn. A wnewch chi ei gwneud yn

Q5 Ieuan Wyn Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on her priorities within the secondary education portfolio? OAQ0152(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Our priorities are to meet the commitments set out in 'Wales: A Better Country'. These put the interest of the learner first, provide ways of overcoming barriers to learning, promote equality of opportunity, high expectations and standards, and ensure that education and lifelong learning provides for economic and cultural growth.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am sure, Minister, that you are aware that headteachers of secondary schools and teaching unions are very troubled by the formula that ELWa intends to introduce regarding the funding of sixth-form education. You will know that NUT Wales says that this could lead to the loss of 400 teaching jobs in secondary schools, and that some schools could lose up to £100,000 a year from their budgets. If the intention of the new formula is to improve provision in our schools, how can you make that tally with the recently published NUT figures?

Jane Davidson: This is the education and training action plan agenda. Plaid Cymru supports that agenda, and the Assembly supports it. It ensures fair play for every young person in Wales who is undertaking a course at school, at college or in the workplace.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Your answer is interesting in that you have not denied the NUT Wales figures. I will ask the question again for you to answer: will the introduction of the new formula result in the loss of 400 jobs, and could some schools lose up to £100,000? Yes or no? The answer is simple.

I would like to ask you a second question, Minister. Many headteachers of sixth forms—including headteachers in my own constituency—are angry that ELWa is not willing to consult directly with them on the effect that this formula will have on schools in Anglesey. Will you make it clear to ELWa

glir i ELWa bod yn rhaid iddo ymgynghori yn drwyadl gyda phrifathrawon ysgolion uwchradd er mwyn sicrhau, pan fydd fformiwla newydd, bod hyder ynddi, gan y bydd llais pob ysgol wedi'i ystyried wrth benderfynu arni?

Jane Davidson: Bu dwy flynedd o ymgynghori ar y system hon, bu dau gyflwyniad i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, a bu llawer o ymgynghori ag ysgolion a cholegau ledled Cymru.

Nid wyf yn cytuno â'ch ffigurau, oherwydd, ar gyfartaledd, mae cyllideb ELWa ar gyfer dosbarthiadau chwech dros y flwyddyn nesaf yn fwy na 4 y cant yn uwch na chwyddiant. Bydd y rhan fwyaf o awdurdodau addysg lleol Cymru yn elwa o'r system newydd, neu ni fydd yn cael unrhyw effaith arnynt.

Mae'r Cynulliad wedi ymrwmo i greu system o chwarae teg i bob myfyriwr yng Nghymru, boed yn y gweithle, yn y coleg neu yn yr ysgol. Bydd y newid yn y system yn cymryd pum mlynedd i'w weithredu. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, gwarchodir yr awdurdodau addysg lleol hynny fydd yn cael llai o arian.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae'n rhaid imi ddod yn ôl atoch ynglŷn â busnes yr ymgynghori. Yr wyf innau'n gwybod yn iawn am ymgynghoriad ELWa ar hyn o bryd, am ichi ei amlinellu inni, ond nid yw prifathrawon—fel prifathrawon ysgolion Ynys Môn—yn hapus gyda'r fath lefel o ymgynghoriad. Rhaid iddo fynd ymhellach.

Pan fyddaf yn mynd yn ôl dros yr wythnosau nesaf i drafod gyda'r prifathrawon hynny, os yr ateb a roddwyd gennych heddiw yw ateb terfynol ELWa, gwn y byddant yn fwy blin byth. Credant ei fod yn gwbl annemocrataidd nad ydynt yn cael mwy o ran yn y broses ymgynghori. A wnewch chi fynd yn ôl at ELWa a dweud bod yn rhaid ailfeddwl ar yr ymgynghoriad hwn, neu ni fydd gan brifathrawon hyder yn y system?

Jane Davidson: Nid oes ymgynghoriad ar hyn o bryd; mae'r broses wedi'i chwblhau. Yr ydym yn meddwl am faint yn fwy y dylid ei roi yn y system i fynd i'r afael â thlodi ac ar gyfer addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg, er

that it must consult comprehensively with the headteachers of secondary schools to ensure that, when the new formula comes into being, there is confidence in it, given that the voice of every school will have been considered before making a decision?

Jane Davidson: There have been two years of consultation on this system, the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee has had two presentations on it, and many schools and colleges across Wales were consulted.

I do not agree with your figures, because the funding from ELWa for sixth forms for the following year averages more than 4 per cent above inflation. Most of the local education authorities in Wales will benefit from the new system, or the change will have no impact on them.

The Assembly is committed to an equitable system for every student in Wales—whether in the workplace, in college or at school. This total overhaul in the system will take five years to complete. During that time, those LEAs that will receive less money will be protected.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I must respond on this business of the consultation. I know full well about the consultation that ELWa is undertaking at present, because you have outlined it to us, but headteachers—such as the headteachers of schools in Anglesey—are unhappy about this level of consultation. It has to go further.

When I return to hold discussions with those headteachers over the coming weeks, I know that, if the answer you gave today is ELWa's final response, they will be even angrier. They believe that it is totally undemocratic that they do not have a greater part to play in the consultation process. Will you go back to ELWa and insist on a rethink of this consultation, or headteachers will have no confidence in the system?

Jane Davidson: We are not in the process of consultation; it has taken place. We are considering how much more should be put into the system to tackle poverty and for Welsh-medium education, for example. It is

enghraifft. Mae'n bwysig i Gymru ein bod yn sicrhau y caiff yr uchafsymiau eu rhoi i bethau fel hyn.

important for Wales to ensure that the premium is given for such matters.

Yr ydym yn awr yn y flwyddyn olaf pan gyfrifir y gyllideb o dan y system bresennol. Flwyddyn nesaf, cyfrifir yr arian o dan y system newydd. Mae cyn-brifathro o'r Gogledd yn gweithio gydag ELWa a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i sicrhau bod ffigurau'r awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer mis Medi diwethaf yn gywir. Ni fydd y ffigurau cywir gan rai o'r awdurdodau lleol, a bydd yn rhaid iddynt weithio gydag ELWa i sicrhau bod ffigurau Medi 2004 yn gywir i sicrhau bod y gyllideb yn mynd i'r awdurdod addysg lleol. Yr awdurdod addysg lleol sydd yn dosbarthu arian rhwng ysgolion.

We are now in 'year zero' where the budget has been calculated under the existing system and, next year, the funding will be calculated under the new system. A former headteacher from north Wales is working with ELWa and the Welsh Local Government Association to ensure that local authorities' figures for last September are accurate. Some local authorities will not have accurate figures, but they will have to work with ELWa to ensure that the figures for September 2004 are accurate, to ensure that the budget goes to the local education authority. It is the LEA that distributes money between schools.

Ffioedd Ychwanegol Top-up Fees

C6 Elin Jones: Pa weithred y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i chymryd yn dilyn pleidlais y Cynulliad yn erbyn yr egwyddor o ffioedd 'ychwanegol' ar gyfer myfyrwyr? OAQ0151(ELL)

Q6 Elin Jones: What action has the Minister taken following the Assembly's vote against the principle of 'top-up' fees for students? OAQ0151(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ystyried y safbwyntiau a fynegir yn y Cynulliad pan fydd yn ymateb i argymhellion terfynol gweithgor yr Athro Teresa Rees maes o law.

Jane Davidson: The views expressed within the Assembly will be taken into account by the Assembly Government when we respond to the final recommendations from Professor Teresa Rees's working group in due course.

Elin Jones: Yn y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yr wythnos diwethaf, cyfaddefodd un aelod o gomisiwn Rees na roddwyd unrhyw ystyriaeth yn ei waith i gyfundrefn o ariannu heb ffioedd myfyrwyr, a galwodd cyfundrefn heb ffioedd yn 'annymunol'. Ai polisi eich Llywodraeth felly yw peidio ag ystyried rhoi'r hawl i unigolion gael addysg uwch am ddim? Ai o dan eich cyfarwyddyd chi ni wnaeth comisiwn Rees hyd yn oed edrych am y sail dystiolaeth honno ar gyfer cyfundrefn addysg am ddim, yn groes, felly, i ddymuniad y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a fynegwyd drwy bleidlais?

Elin Jones: At the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee last week, one member of the Rees commission admitted that no consideration had been given in its work to a system of funding students without fees, and called a system of no fees 'undesirable'. Is it your Government policy, therefore, not to consider giving individuals the right to a free education? Was it under your instruction that the Rees commission did not even seek that evidence base for a free education system, contrary, therefore, to the desire of the National Assembly expressed by vote?

3.00 p.m.

Jane Davidson: The same member, in responding to questions from Assembly Members—and you can read the detailed

Jane Davidson: Nododd yr un aelod, wrth ymateb i gwestiynau gan Aelodau Cynulliad—a gallwch ddarllen y trawsgrifiad

transcript of the meeting, prepared by the Record of Proceedings, although I am not sure whether it has been published yet—also pointed out that, in the context that we are in, it would be inappropriate for the Assembly to go down a no-fee route. The context is, and this has been stated on several occasions—Teresa Rees also said it in her public interviews—that, in the context where fees are being charged in all other parts of the United Kingdom, Wales is a small country and we have a small sector. If we want to ensure that our sector is appropriately funded—and you will want to ensure that, Elin, since you have several educational institutions in your constituency—we cannot ignore what happens in other parts of the United Kingdom; we already have cross-border flows, with a substantial number of English-based students coming to study in Wales. We want to encourage that, because we want Wales to be people's first choice, and we want our students in Wales to choose Wales as their first choice, and the majority of them do so. However—

manwl o'r cyfarfod, wedi'i baratoi gan Gofnod y Trafodion, er nad wyf yn siŵr a yw wedi'i gyhoeddi eto—hefyd y byddai'n amhriodol, yn y cyd-destun presennol, i'r Cynulliad ystyried atebion heb ffioedd. Y cyd-destun yw, a nodwyd hyn sawl gwaith—a dywedodd Teresa Rees hyn hefyd yn ei chyfweliadau cyhoeddus—yn y cyd-destun lle y codir ffioedd ym mhob rhan arall o'r Deyrnas Unedig, mai gwlad fach yw Cymru a sector bach sydd gennym. Os ydym am sicrhau bod ein sector wedi'i ariannu'n briodol—a byddwch am sicrhau hynny, Elin, gan fod gennych sawl sefydliad addysgol yn eich etholaeth—ni allwn anwybyddu'r hyn sy'n digwydd mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig; mae llif dros y ffin eisoes, gyda nifer sylweddol o fyfyrwyr o Loegr yn dod i astudio yng Nghymru. Yr ydym am annog hynny, oherwydd yr ydym am i bobl ddewis Cymru am mai dyna yw eu dewis cyntaf, ac yr ydym am i'n myfyrwyr yng Nghymru ddewis Cymru fel eu dewis cyntaf, ac mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn gwneud hynny. Fodd bynnag—

Y Llwydd: Trefn. Symudwn ymlaen i gwestiwn 7.

The Presiding Officer: Order. We will move on to question 7.

Addysg Ôl-16 (Cyfraniadau Pensiwn) Post-16 Education (Pension Contributions)

Q7 Janet Ryder: Will the Minister make a statement on pension contributions in the post-16 education sector? OAQ0165(ELL)

C7 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar gyfraniadau pensiwn yn y sector addysg ôl-16? OAQ0165(ELL)

Jane Davidson: Pension arrangements are a matter for individual providers in the post-16 sector. There are various schemes. Pensions for lecturers and teachers are managed by the Department for Education and Skills, non-teaching staff in schools and colleges are beneficiaries of local government pension arrangements, and private work-based learning providers make their own arrangements.

Jane Davidson: Mater i ddarparwyr unigol yn y sector ôl-16 yw trefniadau pensiwn. Ceir amryw gynlluniau. Mae pensiynau i ddarlithwyr ac athrawon wedi'u rheoli gan yr Adran Addysg a Sgiliau, daw staff nad ydynt yn staff addysgu mewn ysgolion a cholegau o dan drefniadau pensiwn llywodraeth leol, ac mae darparwyr dysgu seiliedig ar waith o'r sector preifat yn gwneud eu trefniadau eu hunain.

Janet Ryder: With regard to further education colleges in particular, several of them face severely increased employer contributions to pension schemes this year. Some of that is because of the local government pension consortia of which they are part. Fforwm is concerned about this issue, and it affects different colleges in

Janet Ryder: O ran colegau addysg bellach yn arbennig, mae sawl un ohonynt yn wynebu cyfraniadau cyflogwr i gynlluniau pensiwn sydd wedi cynyddu'n echrydus eleni. Un rheswm dros hynny yw'r consortia pensiwn llywodraeth leol y maent yn rhan ohono. Mae Fforwm yn pryderu am hyn, ac mae'n effeithio ar golegau gwahanol mewn ffyrdd

different ways. What discussions have you had with the colleges, and would you consider helping any of those colleges that may face considerably increased contributions this year, over and above those anticipated?

Jane Davidson: Employer contributions increased with effect from 1 April 2003. You may remember that £8 million was provided to further education institutions and sixth forms in 2003-04 in recognition of the increase in national insurance and pension contributions, which was then consolidated in future years' allocations.

Y Llywydd: Atgoffaf bob Gweinidog a phob Aelod, pan gaiff cwestiynau eu grwpio mae'n gwbl angenrheidiol ein bod yn cyrraedd yr ail gwestiwn neu mae'n afreolaidd, allan o drefn ac yn annheg ag Aelodau. Apeliaf felly ar i Weinidogion sy'n ateb cwestiynau, ac Aelodau, fod yn gryno, yn enwedig pan fo cwestiynau wedi eu grwpio, er mwyn bod yn deg â phawb yn y Cynulliad. [AELODAU CYNULLIAD: 'Clywch, clywch'.] Nid wyf eisiau cefnogaeth—yr wyf yn gwneud datganiad.

gwahanol. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda'r colegau, ac a fydddech yn ystyried helpu unrhyw rai o'r colegau hynny sy'n wynebu cyfraniadau llawer uwch eleni ar ben y rhai a ragwelwyd?

Jane Davidson: Cynyddodd cyfraniadau cyflogwr o 1 Ebrill 2003. Fe gofiwch i £8 miliwn gael ei ddarparu ar gyfer sefydliadau addysg bellach a chweched dosbarth yn 2003-04 er mwyn cydnabod y cynnydd mewn yswiriant gwladol a chyfraniadau pensiwn, a gafodd ei gyfuno wedyn yn nyraniadau'r dyfodol.

The Presiding Officer: I remind all Ministers and Members that, when questions are grouped, it is essential that we reach the second question or it is irregular, out of order and unfair to Members. Therefore I appeal to Ministers who are answering questions, and to Members, to be brief, especially when questions have been grouped, in order to be fair to everyone in the Assembly. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Hear, hear'.] I do not want support—I am making a statement.

Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question

Colledion Swyddi yn y Drenewydd Job Losses in Newtown

Glyn Davies: Will the Minister for Economic Development and Transport make a statement about the loss of another 70 jobs in Newtown where the Elliott Group is reducing its workforce to 20? EAQ0139(EDT)

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): Like most Members, I was disappointed by the news that a further 70 jobs were to go at the Elliott Group in Newtown, on top of the 70 announced late last year. I understand that the latest round of redundancies is a result of the company embarking on a rationalisation programme. The Welsh Development Agency has been in regular contact with the company and will seek an early meeting to discuss the situation facing the company and

Glyn Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ddatganiad ar gollu 70 o swyddi ychwanegol yn y Drenewydd, lle mae'r Elliott Group yn gostwng ei weithlu i 20? EAQ0139(EDT)

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd (Andrew Davies): Fel y rhan fwyaf o Aelodau, yr oeddwn wedi fy siomi gan y newyddion bod 70 o swyddi eraill yn cael eu colli yng nghwmni Elliott yn y Drenewydd, ar ben y 70 a gyhoeddwyd ddiwedd y flwyddyn diwethaf. Deallaf fod y cylch diwethaf o swyddi i'w colli o ganlyniad i raglen ad-drefnu gan y cwmni. Mae Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru wedi bod mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd â'r cwmni a bydd yn gofyn am gyfarfod cynnar i drafod y sefyllfa a wyneb

its employees.

Glyn Davies: In Newtown, the loss of 70 high-quality jobs is a huge blow, not least because of the continuing failure to attract new, quality jobs to the Severn valley area. As bad as these job losses are, the most worrying issue is the cumulative impact. You referred to the 70 jobs that previously went from Elliott's. A few weeks ago we lost Trelleborg, which we all knew as Dowty Seals when it moved in in the 1960s. Masterplug went last week, there is continuing concern about the senior management of Laura Ashley, and 70 jobs have gone this week from Elliott's, which we remember arriving in the 1960s as Presco Buildings. Every business tells me that, underlying these announcements, are communications issues and a lack of confidence that Assembly Government understands the problems of mid Wales. What plans do you have to ensure that the small remaining presence of Elliott is maintained in Newtown to give hope for the future, and what plans do you have to address the problem of transport infrastructure, which underpins so many of the job losses?

Andrew Davies: On the specific issue of Elliott's, as you know, Glyn, though other Members may not, the initial loss of jobs last year was down to the fact that the company lost a contract with Orange. The subsequent job losses have been announced as a result of a rationalisation programme. I am pleased to say, however, that the company intends to mothball the Newtown facility, probably for six to nine months, to see whether alternative orders can be secured, in which case, its long-term sustainability is more assured. Obviously, the WDA will talk to the company, and it has approached the management at Newtown. The headquarters of the company, which is based in Peterborough, as you know, is bringing in a new managing director to oversee the rationalisation programme, and we will work with the company and offer any assistance that we can to help it through this difficult period.

I take issue with the suggestion that nothing has been done for this area—significant investment decisions have been made, with

gan y cwmni a'i gyflogeion.

Glyn Davies: Yn y Drenewydd, mae colli 70 o swyddi da yn ergyd fawr, yn bennaf oherwydd y methiant o hyd i ddenu swyddi da newydd i ardal dyffryn Hafren. Er mor ddrwg yw'r newyddion am golli'r swyddi hyn, y pryder mwyaf yw'r effaith gynyddol. Bu ichi gyfeirio at y 70 o swyddi a gollwyd eisoes yn Elliott. Ychydig wythnosau yn ôl collwyd Trelleborg, a elwid yn Dowty Seals pan symudodd i'r ardal yn y 1960au. Collwyd Masterplug yr wythnos diwethaf, erys pryder ynglŷn ag uwch reolwyr Laura Ashley, a chollwyd 70 o swyddi yr wythnos hon yng nghwmni Elliott, yr ydym yn ei gofio yn cyrraedd yn y 1960au fel Presco Buildings. Dywed pob busnes wrthyf, y tu ôl i'r cyhoeddiadau hyn, fod problemau o ran cyfathrebu a dim hyder bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn deall problemau'r Canolbarth. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i sicrhau bod yr ychydig swyddi yn Elliott sy'n weddill yn aros yn y Drenewydd er mwyn rhoi gobaith at y dyfodol, a pha gynlluniau sydd gennych i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem o seilwaith trafniadaeth, sy'n rheswm sylfaenol dros golli cymaint o'r swyddi?

Andrew Davies: O ran mater penodol Elliott, fel y gwyddoch, Glyn, er na wŷr Aelodau eraill o bosibl, y rheswm dros golli'r swyddi cyntaf y llynedd oedd y ffaith bod y cwmni wedi colli contract gydag Orange. Cyhoeddwyd bod rhagor o swyddi yn cael eu colli o ganlyniad i raglen ad-drefnu. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod y cwmni yn bwriadu rhoi'r cyfleuster yn y Drenewydd i'w gadw, am chwech i naw mis o bosibl, i weld a all gael archebion eraill yn lle hynny. Os felly, mae dyfodol mwy sicr iddo yn yr hirdymor. Yn amlwg, bydd y WDA yn siarad â'r cwmni, ac mae wedi cysylltu â'r rheolwyr yn y Drenewydd. Mae pencadlys y cwmni, sydd yn Peterborough, fel y gwyddoch, yn dod â rheolwr gyfarwyddwr newydd i mewn i oruchwylio'r rhaglen ad-drefnu, a byddwn yn gweithio gyda'r cwmni ac yn cynnig pob cymorth o fewn ein gallu i'w helpu drwy'r cyfnod anodd hwn.

Anghytunaf â'r awgrym bod dim byd wedi cael ei wneud dros yr ardal hon—gwnaed penderfyniadau buddsoddi sylweddol, gyda

the help of the Assembly Government, in the Severn valley area. There is SPX Contech in Welshpool, the US-owned aluminium die-casting company, which has won contracts with Ford, Jaguar and Mercedes with help from Team Wales. There are various other companies in wide range of manufacturing sectors, including, for example, Performance Clothing in Llandrindod Wells, which is building its business on the back of the rally and motor sport industry. To say that the whole area and all companies are experiencing difficulties is to overstate the position. The WDA is launching a dedicated Severn valley marketing campaign in the UK and European markets to promote the well-known advantages of the area as a place to do business. It is not, therefore, true to say that the Assembly Government or Team Wales is doing nothing. Powys is not an assisted area, and we are therefore unable to offer regional selective assistance grants, but we can offer Assembly investment grants to smaller companies.

I know that it is cold comfort to those who have been made redundant, but the labour market in Powys is buoyant. In fact, the claimant count rate has fallen in Powys, and in this area in general, to 45 per cent lower than it was in November 1999, which is better than the Wales average of 42 per cent. While we are not complacent, we are operating against the position of a buoyant economy and a buoyant labour market locally.

Mick Bates: I am grateful to my colleague for asking this question, and I am sure that we all sympathise with the workers and their families. It is regrettable that they now have to seek jobs. I would like to hear three things from the Minister. The first is that he has already organised support for those workers, so that they can find other work through the WDA and ELWa. Secondly, there is considerable concern that, when we lose our bigger businesses such as Elliott's, which has diminished over the years, the WDA will encourage large companies back in. Will you look to encouraging more small businesses to come to the area and, in particular, give them some encouragement, as happens in England, which has lower business rates for small

chymorth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ardal Dyffryn Hafren. Un enghraifft yw SPX Contech yn y Trallwng, sef cwmni deigastio alwminiwm Americanaidd, sydd wedi ennill contractau gyda Ford, Jaguar a Mercedes gyda chymorth Tîm Cymru. Ceir amrywiol gwmnïau eraill mewn nifer fawr o sectorau gweithgynhyrchu, gan gynnwys, er enghraifft, Performance Clothing yn Llandrindod, sy'n adeiladu busnes ar sail y diwydiant chwaraeon rali a moduro. Gorddwed fyddai dweud bod yr ardal gyfan a phob cwmni yn cael anawsterau. Mae'r WDA yn lansio ymgyrch farchnata yn benodol ar gyfer dyffryn Hafren ym marchnadoedd y DU ac Ewrop er mwyn hyrwyddo manteision hysbys iawn yr ardal fel ardal i gynnal busnes ynddi. Felly nid yw'n wir dweud bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad neu Dîm Cymru yn gwneud dim byd. Nid yw Powys yn ardal a gynorthwyir, ac felly ni allwn gynnig grantiau cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol, ond gallwn gynnig grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad i gwmnïau llai.

Gwn nad yw'n fawr o gysur i'r rhai sydd wedi colli eu swyddi, ond mae'r farchnad lafur ym Mhowys yn fywiog. Yn wir, mae nifer y bobl sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau ym Mhowys, ac yn yr ardal hon yn gyffredinol, 45 y cant yn is nag ydoedd ym mis Tachwedd 1999, sy'n well na'r cyfartaledd ar gyfer Cymru sef 42 y cant. Er nad ydym yn hunanfodlon, yr ydym yn gweithredu yng nghyd-destun economi fywiog a marchnad lafur fywiog yn lleol.

Mick Bates: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'm cyd-aelod am ofyn y cwestiwn hwn, ac yr ydym oll yn cydymdeimlo â'r gweithwyr a'u teuluoedd mae'n siŵr. Mae'n anffodus eu bod hwy yn awr yn gorfod chwilio am waith. Hoffwn glywed tri pheth gan y Gweinidog. Y cyntaf yw ei fod eisoes wedi trefnu cymorth i'r gweithwyr hynny, fel y gallant ddod o hyd i waith arall drwy'r WDA ac ELWa, Yn ail, mae cryn bryder, ar ôl colli ein busnesau mwy megis Elliott, sydd wedi crebachu dros y blynyddoedd, y bydd y WDA yn annog cwmnïau mawr i'r ardal. A wnewch chi anelu at annog mwy o fusnesau bach i'r ardal ac, yn enwedig rhoi anogaeth iddynt, fel sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr, lle y mae ardrethi busnes is ar gyfer busnesau bach? Mae'n ddigon

businesses? That may well help to attract businesses in and give them a more viable future in the area. Finally, there is anxiety in the whole of mid Wales, and the Newtown area in particular, as Glyn Davies pointed out, because of the cumulative job losses. Will you undertake, as I have asked you before, to visit the area as soon as possible to show that you care about this area, and are engaged with agencies in addressing the loss of manufacturing jobs in other ways?

3.10 p.m.

Andrew Davies: In response to your final question, Mick, we do care as a Government, and, as a Minister, I care about what happens to anyone who loses their job.

As you know, when KTH pulled out in Llanidloes—while my hands were tied in terms of financial assistance for the area, as it is not an assisted area—I lobbied BT and argued the case for Llanidloes to have broadband as soon as possible, and I was able to get that commitment. That is what the local partnership and taskforce were asking for, and I was pleased that I was able to deliver on that.

I have already responded to an earlier invitation from you to visit the area, and I will do so at the earliest opportunity.

In respect of helping workers, there will be a Team Wales response to meet the needs of those who have been made redundant through both Jobcentre Plus and ELWa in terms of alternative employment and training. Where jobs have been lost in recent months, we have, in many cases, been able to help those workers affected in mid Wales into alternative employment quickly, given the buoyant nature of the local labour market.

In respect of your point about small companies, we market vigorously and will do so even more in the Severn valley area to promote the well-known advantages of the area as a place in which to do business: both to attract companies in and to encourage the indigenous companies, or those already based there. We will continue to do that. However,

posibl y gallai hynny helpu i ddenu busnesau i'r ardal a rhoi dyfodol mwy hyfyw iddynt yno. Yn olaf, mae pryder drwy'r Canolbarth, ac yn ardal y Drenewydd yn arbennig, fel y nododd Glyn Davies, oherwydd effaith gynyddol colli swyddi. Fel yr wyf wedi gofyn ichi o'r blaen, a wnewch chi addo ymweld â'r ardal mor fuan â phosibl i ddangos eich bod yn poeni am yr ardal hon, a'ch bod yn ymwneud ag asiantaethau i fynd i'r afael â swyddi gweithgynhyrchu a gollir mewn ffyrdd eraill?

Andrew Davies: Mewn ymateb i'ch cwestiwn olaf, Mick, mae hyn o bwys inni fel Llywodraeth, ac, fel Gweinidog, yr wyf yn poeni am yr hyn sy'n digwydd i unrhyw un sy'n colli ei swydd.

Fel y gwyddoch, pan adawodd KTH Lanidloes—nid oeddwn yn gallu gwneud dim o ran cymorth ariannol i'r ardal, gan nad yw'n ardal a gynorthwyir—gwneuthum lobio BT a dadlau o blaid rhoi band eang i Lanidloes mor fuan â phosibl, ac yr oeddwn yn gallu sicrhau'r ymrwymiad hwnnw. Dyna beth yr oedd y bartneriaeth leol a'r tasglu yn gofyn amdano ac yr oeddwn yn falch o allu sicrhau hynny.

Yr wyf eisoes wedi ymateb i wahoddiad cynharach gennych i ymweld â'r ardal, a gwnaf hynny ar y cyfle cyntaf posibl.

O ran helpu gweithwyr, bydd Tîm Cymru yn ymateb i ddiwallu anghenion y rhai sydd wedi cael eu swyddi drwy'r Ganolfan Byd Gwaith ac ELWa o ran gwaith a hyfforddiant arall. Lle y collwyd swyddi yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf, mewn sawl achos, yr ydym wedi llwyddo i helpu'r gweithwyr hynny yr effeithiwyd arnynt yn y Canolbarth i gael gwaith arall yn gyflym, o gofio natur fywiog y farchnad lafur leol.

O ran eich pwynt ynglŷn â chwmnïau bach, yr ydym yn marchnata'n egniol a byddwn yn gwneud hynny hyd yn oed yn fwy yn ardal dyffryn Hafren i hyrwyddo manteision hysbys yr ardal fel ardal i gynnal busnes ynddi: er mwyn denu cwmnïau i mewn i'r ardal ac er mwyn annog cwmnïau cynhenid, neu'r rhai sydd eisoes wedi'u sefydlu yno.

in view of what has happened at Elliott's and elsewhere, we will redouble our efforts.

Elin Jones: Yr wyf innau, fel eraill, wedi fy siomi gan y newyddion trist pellach hwn gan gwmni Elliott yn y Drenewydd.

Fe wyddoch, Weinidog, fod y cwmp o ran cyflogaeth ym Maldwyn a Phowys rhwng 1999 a 2004 yn fwy nac mewn unrhyw ardal arall yng Nghymru. Mae cyflogaeth wedi cwmpo ym Mhowys, tra'i bod wedi cynyddu ym mwyafrif yr awdurdodau lleol eraill yng Nghymru. Yr ydych wedi nodi nad yw rhai o'r arfau pwysig sydd gan eich Llywodraeth i ddenu busnesau, megis cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a chymorth Amcan 1, ar gael ar gyfer yr ardal hon. A gredwch, felly, ei bod yn bryd i chi fel Llywodraeth edrych yn benodol ar Bowys fel eithriad, ac fel lle sy'n wynebu sefyllfa economaidd sy'n gwanhau'n sylweddol, yn ôl yr ystadegau? A gredwch ei bod yn bryd i chi edrych ar gynllun penodol ar gyfer yr ardal hon i adfywio'r economi wledig yno, sydd wedi gweld cymaint o newyddion difrifol o ran cyflogaeth yn y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd diwethaf?

Andrew Davies: First, we will do all that we can to help those affected, and that part of Wales. To say that the labour market position in Powys is worse than in other areas is quite erroneous. As I said in answer to Glyn Davies, the fall in the claimant count rate in this area is significantly faster than in Wales on average.

We will lobby hard to get the best deal that we can for all parts of Wales. The decision on Powys not having assisted area status is not a matter for us, but for the European Commission, as you will be aware from the discussions that we had last week in the Economic Development and Transport Committee about the revision of the regional aid guidelines. It is a matter for the European Commission, not even for the member states. However, we will continue to press the case for the maximum coverage and flexibility that we have at our disposal as a

Byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, o gofio'r hyn a ddigwyddodd gyda chwmni Elliott ac mewn cwmnïau eraill, byddwn yn ymdrechu o'r newydd.

Elin Jones: Like other Members, I am disappointed at this further sad news from the Elliott company in Newtown.

You will be aware, Minister, that the fall in employment in Montgomeryshire and Powys between 1999 and 2004 was greater than in any other area in Wales. Employment has fallen in Powys, while it has increased in the majority of other local authorities in Wales. You have noted that some of the important tools that your Government has to attract businesses, such as regional selective assistance and Objective 1 assistance, are not available for this area. Do you believe, therefore, that it is time that you as a Government looked specifically at Powys as an exception, and as an area that faces an economic situation that is weakening significantly, according to the statistics? Do you believe that it is time that you looked at a specific plan for this area to regenerate the rural economy there, which has had so much bad news in terms of employment in the last few years and months?

Andrew Davies: Yn gyntaf, byddwn yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i helpu'r rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt, a'r rhan honno o Gymru. Mae'n hollol anghywir dweud bod sefyllfa'r farchnad lafur ym Mhowys yn waeth nag ydyw mewn ardaloedd eraill. Fel y dywedais wrth ateb Glyn Davies, mae nifer y bobl sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau yn yr ardal hon wedi gostwng yn gynt o lawer nag yng Nghymru ar gyfartaledd.

Fe wnawn lobio'n galed i gael y fargen orau bosibl i bob rhan o Gymru. Nid mater i ni yw'r penderfyniad i beidio â rhoi statws ardal a gynorthwyr i Bowys, ond y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd, fel y gwyddoch o'r trafodaethau a gawsom yr wythnos diwethaf yn y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ynglŷn â diwygio'r canllawiau ar gymorth rhanbarthol. Mater i'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd ydyw, nid hyd yn oed yr aelod wladwriaethau. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn parhau i bwysu am y dosbarthiad a'r hyblygrwydd mwyaf posibl inni fel

Government.

Llywodraeth.

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Diwygio Rheoleiddio (Cyfrifon ac Archwilio
Ymddiriedolaethau Elusennol ac Anelusennol y GIG) 2005
Approval of the Regulatory Reform (NHS Charitable and non-Charitable Trust
Accounts and Audit) Order 2005**

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, acting under Standing Order No. 26, agrees that the Secretary of State makes the Regulatory Reform (National Health Service Charitable and Non-Charitable Trust Accounts and Audit) Order 2005, which was laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005. (NDM2370)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 26, yn cytuno bod yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn gwneud Gorchymyn Diwygio Rheoleiddio (Cyfrifon ac Archwilio Ymddiriedolaethau Elusennol ac Anelusennol y Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol) 2005, y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad drwy'r e-bost ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2370)

This joint motion between the Department of Health and the Assembly proposes the removal of an excessive and unnecessary tier of bureaucracy imposed on NHS charities in England and Wales. NHS trustees are currently required to prepare two sets of accounts, one for the Charity Commission and one for the Assembly, and to return them on different submission dates. This dual reporting does not occur in the commercial sector or in other UK Government departments and can be costly and wasteful of resources.

Y cynnig hwn ar y cyd rhwng yr Adran Iechyd a'r Cynulliad yw dileu haen ormodol a diangen o fiwrocraatiaeth sydd wedi cael ei gosod ar elusennau'r GIG yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Ar hyn o bryd mae'n ofynnol i ymddiriedolwyr y GIG baratoi dwy set o gyfrifon, y naill i'r Comisiwn Elusennau a'r llall i'r Cynulliad, a'u dychwelyd ar wahanol ddyddiadau cyflwyno. Nid yw'r gofyniad hwn i gyflwyno dau adroddiad yn codi yn y sector masnachol nac mewn unrhyw un o adrannau eraill Llywodraeth y DU a gall fod yn gostus ac yn wastraffus o ran adnoddau.

In addition, the Assembly summarises these accounts, which are audited by the Auditor General for Wales, before they are laid before the Assembly. This is an unnecessary anomaly as the funds are derived from voluntary contributions and not Exchequer funds, and it provides little additional practical information.

Yn ogystal, mae'r Cynulliad yn crynhoi'r cyfrifon hyn, sy'n cael eu harchwilio gan Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru, cyn eu gosod gerbron y Cynulliad. Mae hwn yn anghysonder diangen gan fod yr arian yn deillio o gyfraniadau gwirfoddol ac nid arian y Trysorlys, ac ychydig iawn o wybodaeth ymarferol ychwanegol a roddir.

In June 2002, the Department of Health and the Assembly published a consultation document targeted at NHS trusts and organisations known to have direct or indirect interest in NHS charity issues. Of the 79 respondents, 74 supported the original proposals, four were against and one was undecided. This level of support indicates that NHS trustees supported the motion and

Ym mis Mehefin 2002, cyhoeddodd yr Adran Iechyd a'r Cynulliad ddogfen ymgynghori wedi'i thargeddu at ymddiriedolaethau a sefydliadau'r GIG y gwyddid bod ganddynt fuddiant uniongyrchol neu anuniongyrchol ym materion elusennol y GIG. O'r 79 o ymatebwyr, yr oedd 74 o blaid y cynigion gwreiddiol, yr oedd pedwar yn gwrthwynebu ac yr oedd un heb benderfynu. Mae

its objective to reduce the bureaucratic burden placed on their charities.

cefnogaeth o'r fath yn awgrymu bod ymddiriedolwyr y GIG wedi cefnogi'r cynnig a'i amcan o leihau'r baich biwrocraidaidd ar eu helusennau.

Following consultation, the original proposal has been amended to include an additional safeguard, which will give the Auditor General for Wales powers to examine charity accounts where serious matters of concern are raised by individual auditors or as part of a National Audit Office value-for-money programme. This has strengthened the proposal and will provide an invaluable safety valve. The Order will allow smaller charities to take advantage of this less stringent reporting requirement and bring all NHS charities in line with others, while allowing savings to accrue for the charities themselves. The Order was approved following scrutiny by the House of Commons Regulatory Reform Committee on 9 March. I commend the motion to the Assembly.

Ar ôl yr ymgynghoriad, diwygiwyd y cynnig gwreiddiol i gynnwys cam diogelu ychwanegol, a fydd yn rhoi pwerau i Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru archwilio cyfrifon elusennau lle y codir materion o bryder mawr gan archwilwyr unigol, neu fel rhan o raglen gwerth am arian y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol. Mae hyn wedi cryfhau'r cynnig a bydd yn gam diogelu gwerthfawr. Bydd y Gorchymyn yn caniatáu i elusennau llai fanteisio ar y gofyniad adrodd llai llym hwn a sicrhau bod pob un o elusennau'r GIG yn gweithredu'n unol ag eraill, tra'n ei gwneud yn bosibl i elusennau arbed arian. Cymeradwywyd y Gorchymyn ar ôl i Bwyllgor Diwygio Rheoleiddio Tŷ'r Cyffredin graffu arno ar 9 Mawrth. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Cynulliad.

The Presiding Officer: I have not received notice of any other speakers. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

Y Llywydd: Nid wyf wedi cael fy hysbysu am unrhyw siaradwyr. Felly, pleidleisiwn.

Cynnig (NDM2370): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion (NDM2370): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann

Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Ceisiadau ar gyfer Deddfwriaeth Sylfaenol Primary Legislation Bids

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1 a 3 yn enw David Melding, gwelliant 2 yn enw Kirsty Williams, a gwelliannau 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 ac 13 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Oherwydd nifer yr Aelodau sy'n dymuno cyfranu at y ddadl hon, bwriadaf osod cyfyngiad amser. Caiff y sawl sy'n siarad ar ran y Llywodraeth 15 munud i agor a chloi, caiff y sawl sy'n cynnig gwelliannau bum munud, a bydd cyfyngiad o dri munud ar siaradwyr eraill. Cyn hynny, deallaf yr hoffai Carwyn Jones godi pwynt o drefn.

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): Point of order. I seek your guidance regarding amendment 7 to the motion tabled in the name of Jocelyn Davies. If this amendment is carried, I would be the Minister responsible for seeking to promote the Bill in question through Parliament. The amendment refers to the need to obtain primary legislation for the Assembly to be able, effectively, to impose a 500m separation distance between opencast workings and residential homes. The Assembly already has that power, and the planning decision committee can seek to impose it in certain circumstances. Local authorities also have that power, which they can seek to impose when drafting their development plans and examining individual

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1 and 3 in the name of David Melding, amendment 2 in the name of Kirsty Williams and amendments 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Due to the number of Members who wish to contribute to this debate, I intend to set a time limit. Those speaking on behalf of the Government will have 15 minutes to open and close the debate, those proposing amendments will have five minutes, and there will be a three-minute restriction on all other speakers. Before that, I understand that Carwyn Jones wishes to raise a point of order.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Pwynt o drefn. Ceisïaf eich cyfarwyddyd o ran gwelliant 7 i'r cynnig a gyflwynwyd yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Os derbynir y gwelliant hwn, fi yw'r Gweinidog a fyddai'n gyfrifol am geisio hyrwyddo'r Mesur dan sylw yn y Senedd. Mae'r gwelliant yn cyfeirio at yr angen i gael deddfwriaeth sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad allu mynnu, fwy neu lai, bod pellter o 500m rhwng safleoedd glo brig a chartrefi. Mae gan y Cynulliad y pŵer hwnnw eisoes, a gall y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio geisio gorfodi hyn o dan rai amgylchiadau. Mae gan awdurdodau lleol y pŵer hwnnw hefyd, y gallant geisio ei orfodi wrth ddrafftio eu cynlluniau datblygu ac archwilio ceisiadau cynllunio unigol. Yr anhawster sydd gennyf

planning applications. The difficulty that I have is that, if the amendment is carried, it would require, or commit, the Government to seek legislation to obtain a power that the Assembly already has. This creates a difficulty, because the amendment is asking the Assembly Government to ask Westminster to grant a power that it is impossible for it to grant. If there were an amendment to the motion that called on the Assembly Government to press Westminster to devolve powers over French planning applications to Wales, that would quite rightly be out of order, because Westminster has no such power. This falls into the same category, because Westminster does not have the power to grant the power referred to in the amendment because it has already done so. Therefore, it is impossible for Westminster to grant this power. The dilemma is whether it is in order for an amendment to seek to grant a power to the Assembly that the Assembly already has, given the fact that seeking to obtain the granting of such a power would be impossible. If the amendment is not in order, does it not just make us look particularly daft?

3.20 p.m.

Jocelyn Davies: Further to that point of order—

The Presiding Officer: Order. I will first give a considered response to the careful arguments put forward by the Minister. I will then call those who have indicated that they wish to speak.

I appreciate the point that has been made, and the way in which it was made, but it is not normally the function of the Table Office to look into the accuracy of the facts that Members table in amendments and motions. If there are faults in the accuracy or quality of the argument, it is for those seeking the Assembly's rejection of the said amendment or motion to persuade the Assembly to reject them. These are matters for debate. However, the Minister was absolutely right when he quoted a mainland European example: if an amendment or motion being carried clearly would result in the Assembly taking an unlawful step, and there were issues of vires,

os derbynnir y gwelliant, y byddai'n ofynnol i'r Llywodraeth ofyn am ddeddfwriaeth i gael pŵer sydd gan y Cynulliad eisoes, neu y byddai'n ymrwymo'r Cynulliad i wneud hynny. Mae hyn yn peri anhawster, am fod y gwelliant yn gofyn i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ofyn i San Steffan roi pŵer y mae'n amhosibl iddi ei roi. Pe bai gwelliant i'r cynnig a alwodd ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i bwyso ar San Steffan i ddatganoli pwerau dros geisiadau cynllunio Ffrainc i Gymru, byddai hynny allan o drefn, a hynny'n briodol, am nad oes gan San Steffan bŵer o'r fath. Mae hyn yn debyg iawn i'r sefyllfa honno, am nad oes gan San Steffan y pŵer i roi'r pŵer y cyfeirir ato yn y gwelliant am ei fod wedi gwneud hynny eisoes. Felly, mae'n amhosibl i San Steffan roi'r pŵer hwn. Y penbleth yw a yw defnyddio gwelliant i geisio rhoi pŵer i'r Cynulliad sydd gan y Cynulliad eisoes mewn trefn, o gofio'r ffaith y byddai'n amhosibl ceisio gofyn i bŵer o'r fath gael ei roi. Os nad yw'r gwelliant mewn trefn, onid yw'n gwneud inni edrych yn arbennig o wirion?

Jocelyn Davies: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwnnw—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yn gyntaf byddaf yn rhoi ymateb ystyriol i'r dadleuon gofalus a gyflwynwyd gan y Gweinidog. Yna byddaf yn galw'r rhai sydd wedi nodi eu bod am siarad.

Deallaf y pwynt a wnaed, a'r ffordd y'i gwnaed, ond nid swyddogaeth y Swyddfa Gyflwyno fel arfer yw ymchwilio i gywirdeb y ffeithiau y mae Aelodau yn eu cyflwyno mewn gwelliannau a chynigion. Os yw cywirdeb neu ansawdd y ddadl yn wallus, cyfrifoldeb y sawl sy'n gofyn i'r Cynulliad wrthod y gwelliant neu'r cynnig dan sylw yw darbwylo'r Cynulliad i'w gwrthod. Materion i gynnal dadl arnynt yw'r rhain. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd y Gweinidog yn llygad ei le pan ddyfynnodd enghraifft o dir mawr Ewrop: pe bai'n amlwg y byddai derbyn gwelliant neu gynnig yn golygu bod y Cynulliad yn gwneud rhywbeth

I would seek to intervene. Indeed, I have done so in the past, when I have indicated that an amendment was not appropriate because it would have taken us into territory where we would have been subjecting ourselves to judicial review, or worse.

I am not sure whether I accept the adjective 'daft', which the Minister proposed, because the distinguished Assembly can never be daft. However, I would say that it may be a bit *afraid*—to use my favourite word of yesterday—or a bit redundant for us to pass amendment 7, and we might look foolish in doing so.

Jocelyn Davies: Further to that point of order, you have confirmed that amendment 7 is in order and, if you look at the Government of Wales Act 1998, the Westminster Parliament has reserved the right to legislate on matters that are devolved and non-devolved—I think that I am correct in saying that. Therefore, I think that the Minister protests too much; he has not exercised the powers that he already holds.

The Presiding Officer: Order. There is no question that the amendment is in order. What I have said is that the points made by the Minister are suitable for the debate, and I do not doubt that they will be made in the debate.

Peter Law: Further to that point of order, is it not equally daft that we have Ministers, who most people perceive as being paid to think, who—we are told this afternoon—have powers to operate, but who have not used those powers to safeguard and help the communities involved? Therefore, with that in mind, some of us may feel that it may be necessary to use a radical alternative to safeguard those communities for the future.

Carwyn Jones *rose*—

The Presiding Officer: Order. I will call those who have indicated that they wish to

anghyfreithlon, a bod materion yn ymwneud â phwerau, byddwn yn ceisio ymyrryd. Yn wir, yr wyf wedi gwneud hynny yn y gorffennol, pan nodais nad oedd gwelliant yn briodol oherwydd byddai wedi golygu ein bod yn gwneud rhywbeth a fyddai wedi arwain at gynnal adolygiad barnwrol yn ein herbyn, neu waeth.

Nid wyf yn siŵr a dderbyniaf yr ansoddair 'gwirion', a gynigiodd y Gweinidog, oherwydd ni all y Cynulliad doeth byth fod yn wirion. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ddweud ei bod yn bosibl y bydd ychydig yn afraid—i ddefnyddio'r gair a ddefnyddiais yn aml ddoe—neu bydd ychydig yn ddiangen inni dderbyn gwelliant 7, a gallem edrych yn ffôl o wneud hynny.

Jocelyn Davies: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwnnw, yr ydych wedi cadarnhau bod gwelliant 7 mewn trefn ac, os ystyriwch Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, mae Senedd San Steffan wedi cadw'r hawl i ddeddfu ar faterion sydd wedi'u datganoli a materion nad ydynt wedi'u datganoli—credaf fy mod yn gywir wrth ddweud hynny. Felly, credaf fod y Gweinidog yn rhy amddiffynnol; nid yw wedi arfer y pwerau sydd ganddo eisoes.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid oes amheuaeth bod y gwelliant mewn trefn. Yr hyn a ddywedais oedd ei bod yn addas gwneud y pwyntiau a wnaed gan y Gweinidog yn y ddadl, ac yn ddi-au cânt eu gwneud yn y ddadl.

Peter Law: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwnnw, onid yw'r un mor wirion bod gennym Weinidogion, y mae'r rhan fwyaf o bobl yn credu y cânt eu talu i feddwl, sydd â phwerau i weithredu—dywedir wrthym y prynhawn yma—ond nad ydynt wedi defnyddio'r pwerau hynny i ddiogelu a helpu'r cymunedau dan sylw? Felly, o gofio hynny, efallai fod rhai ohonom yn teimlo y bydd angen defnyddio ffordd radical amgen o bosibl i ddiogelu'r cymunedau hynny yn y dyfodol.

Carwyn Jones *a gododd*—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Byddaf yn galw ar y sawl sydd wedi nodi eu bod am siarad ar y pwynt

speaking on this point of order, but these are debating matters. I certainly have Peter Law's name down to speak in the debate; he is currently quite high on my list.

Carwyn Jones: Further to that point of order, I take note of your use of the word 'foolish' in terms of the description of the amendment. On what Peter said, I am fully aware of my responsibilities as a Minister. My position as Minister will be scrutinised, quite rightly, as will the position of those who held the post before me.

The Presiding Officer: I believe that honour is now satisfied.

Y Prif Weinidog: Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reolau Sefydlog Rhifau 33.9 a 33.11:

1. yn cymeradwyo cynigion y Cabinet ar gyfer Mesurau yn y sesiwn seneddol nesaf fel y'u nodir yn y ddogfen a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a gafodd ei chylchredeg i Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 9 Mawrth 2005;

2. yn gofyn i'r Cabinet godi'r cynigion hyn gyda Llywodraeth y DU a phwyso am ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol sy'n adlewyrchu anghenion arbennig Cymru ac sy'n parhau swyddogaeth y Cynulliad. (NDM2366)

Mae'r ddadl flynyddol hon yn rhan hanfodol o'n setliad ni gan ein bod i gyd wedi cael ein hethol ar setliad sydd â'r egwyddor sylfaenol mai yn San Steffan y mae Deddfau yn cael eu gwneud yn yr ystyr lawn, a'n bod yn gallu gwneud ceisiadau bob blwyddyn i San Steffan basio Mesurau ar ein rhan. Mae un o'r Mesurau ger ein bron yn berthnasol i'r setliad ei hun, ac mae'n mynd yn syth i gnewyllyn y setliad. Pe bai'n cael ei basio, byddai'n esmwytho'r sefyllfa, ac yn rhoi rwy o ryddid i'r Cynulliad ac i San Steffan o ran penderfynu pwy fydd yn deddfu mewn meysydd penodol, a lle fyddai'r lle mwyaf addas i wneud hynny.

Yn ogystal â Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru—a byddwch wedi darllen sylwadau y bore yma

o drefn hwn, ond materion i gynnal dadl arnynt yw'r rhain. Yn sicr, mae gennyf enw Peter Law ar y rhestr o bobl sy'n dymuno siarad yn y ddadl; mae'n weddol agos at frig y rhestr ar hyn o bryd.

Carwyn Jones: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwnnw, nodaf eich defnydd o'r gair 'ffôl' i ddisgrifio'r gwelliant. O ran yr hyn a ddywedodd Peter, yr wyf yn gwbl ymwybodol o'm cyfrifoldebau fel Gweinidog. Creffir arnaf fel Gweinidog, a hynny'n briodol, yn ogystal â'm rhagflaenydd yn y swydd.

Y Llywydd: Credaf fod pawb wedi cael cyfle i egluro eu hunain erbyn hyn.

The First Minister: I propose that

the National Assembly, acting under Standing Orders Nos. 33.9 and 33.11:

1. endorses the Cabinet's proposals for Bills in the next parliamentary session as set out in the document laid in the Table Office and circulated to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005;

2. requests the Cabinet to pursue these proposals with the UK Government and press for primary legislation which reflects the particular needs of Wales and respects the role of the Assembly. (NDM2366)

This annual debate is an essential part of our settlement as we have all been elected on a settlement which has the fundamental principle that it is in Westminster that Acts are made in the full sense, and that we are able to make applications each year to Westminster to pass Bills on our behalf. One of the Bills before us is relevant to the settlement itself, and goes right to the heart of the settlement. If passed, it would ease matters, and give greater freedom to both the Assembly and Westminster as regards deciding on who will make laws on specific issues, and on where it would be most appropriate to do that.

In addition to the Government of Wales Bill—and you will have read comments this

ynglŷn â phryd y byddai'r Papur Gwyn arno yn ymddangos pe bai pethau'n mynd i gyfeiriad Llafur mewn etholiad cyffredinol, y disgwyliwn ei weld cyn bo hir—y mae pum Mesur arall, yn yr ystyr confensiynol, wedi'u cyflwyno. Un ohonynt yw Mesur Comisiynydd yr Henoed (Cymru), ac mae Peter Hain, yn gweithredu fel arweinydd Tŷ'r Cyffredin yn y cyswllt hwn, wedi dweud y byddai'n disgwyl gweld Mesur drafft yn 2005. Un arall yw'r Mesur Tai (Dileu yr Hawl i Brynu) (Cymru) sy'n ymwneud â thai cyngor a thai cymdeithasau tai. Hefyd, ceir Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned) (Cymru), Mesur Llety Twristiaeth (Cofrestru) (Cymru) a Mesur Dyfarnydd Cynlluniau Iaith Gymraeg (Cymru).

Y mae tri Mesur arall yn y fantol, sef y rhai hynny sydd wedi dechrau ar eu taith drwy'r Senedd. Un ohonynt yw Mesur Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus (Cymru), sydd mewn cyfnod diddorol ar hyn o bryd. Y mae siawns y caiff ei gollu neu ei basio yn yr wythnosau sydd i ddod, os ceir etholiad cyn bo hir. Hefyd, ceir Mesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru), nad wyf yn rhagweld y bydd yn cael ei basio ar hyn o bryd, ond byddwn yn gofyn iddo fynd yn syth yn ôl i San Steffan os ceir etholiad cyn bo hir.

Y mae un Mesur arall—y mae'n rhaid imi gofrestru buddiant teuluol ynddo—sef Mesur Aelod preifat Julie Morgan, Aelod Seneddol Gogledd Caerdydd, ar wahardd ysmegu mewn lleoedd cyhoeddus dan do. Mae hwnnw'n dilyn Mesur sydd wedi cael yr hawl i fynd drwy Dŷ'r Arglwyddi, ond mae wedi'i seilio yn sylfaenol ar y cais a wnaeth y Cynulliad ddwy flynedd a hanner yn ôl. Felly, yr ydym yn trafod chwe Mesur y prynhawn yma, ac mae tri arall yn y fantol.

This is a coherent set of proposals, making full use of the settlement, which gives us the right to get Bills passed through Westminster. We realise that we are always in competition with Westminster, where you have 20 or more ministries trying to get 70 or more Bills through in one parliamentary session, which can last up to 18 or 19 months, usually from straight after a May election through to November the following

morning on when the White Paper would appear if things go Labour's way in the general election that we expect before too long—another five Bills, in the conventional sense, have been put forward. One of those is the Commissioner for Older People (Wales) Bill, and Peter Hain, acting as leader of the House of Commons in this context, has indicated that he would expect to see a draft Bill in 2005. Another is the Housing (Suspension of Right to Buy) (Wales) Bill, relating to council and housing association homes. There is also the Local Government (Town and Community Councils) (Wales) Bill, the Tourism Accommodation (Registration) (Wales) Bill and the Welsh Language Schemes Regulator (Wales) Bill.

Three other Bills are hanging in the balance, namely those that have already begun their passage through Parliament. One of those is the Public Service Ombudsman (Wales) Bill, which has reached an interesting stage. It could be lost or passed within the next few weeks if an election is called shortly. There is also the Transport (Wales) Bill, which I do not anticipate will be passed at present, but we will request that it be returned immediately to Westminster should there be an election soon.

There is one other Bill—in which I must register a family interest—namely the private Member's Bill introduced by Julie Morgan, Member of Parliament for Cardiff North, on prohibiting smoking in indoor public places. That follows a Bill given the right to pass through the House of Lords, but it is fundamentally based on the application made by the Assembly two and a half years ago. Therefore, we are discussing six Bills this afternoon, and another three hang in the balance.

Mae hon yn set gydlynol o gynigion, sy'n gwneud defnydd llawn o'r setliad, sy'n rhoi'r hawl inni ofyn i San Steffan basio Mesurau. Sylweddolwn ein bod bob amser yn cystadlu â San Steffan, lle y mae 20 neu fwy o weinyddiaethau yn ceisio pasio 70 neu fwy o Fesurau mewn un sesiwn seneddol, a all bara hyd at 18 neu 19 mis, fel arfer yn syth ar ôl etholiad ym mis Mai hyd at fis Tachwedd y flwyddyn ganlynol. Weithiau, gall sesiynau

year. Sessions can sometimes be foreshortened; if an election were to occur in early May, this session would be shortened, and would only be five or six months long. On average, in a 12-month session, you would expect to get around 28 Bills through, although you would get about 70 bids. We have asked for a Government of Wales Bill partly so that we would have more elbow room in this respect. If there was a change in the settlement along the lines suggested in this Bill, it would allow time for one more Westminster Secretary of State to get one or two more Bills through. Therefore, this is the most fundamental Bill that we are considering in this list today. We all accept that there is never enough time in the parliamentary timetable to pass all the measures that all secretaries of state, and we, want.

3.30 p.m.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I notice that the First Minister has mentioned the Government of Wales Bill that he is promoting. The First Minister has told me that I should not believe everything that I read in the *Western Mail* or other newspapers, but I read today that, should Labour win the next election, it is likely that the White Paper on the two options—lawmaking powers or Henry VIII powers—would be published in June. Can you confirm on record whether that is the case?

The First Minister: I said five minutes ago that that is not a million miles away from our expectation, but I do not know where it came from; it certainly did not come from us.

The important point is that we are seeking the opportunities to get a coherent programme through Westminster. We accept that it is part of the settlement and that it is a fierce competition every year, and that is why the Government of Wales Bill is trying to give us and Westminster more elbow room in that regard.

The opposition parties' amendments do not address the substance of the Assembly Government's proposals; they are simply a wish list. Perhaps they agree with everything that we are proposing and perhaps they could

gael eu byrhau; pe cynhelid etholiad ar ddechrau mis Mai, câi'r sesiwn hon ei byrhau, a byddai'n para pum neu chwe mis yn unig. Ar gyfartaledd, mewn sesiwn 12 mis, byddech yn disgwyl i ryw 28 o Fesurau gael eu pasio, er y byddech yn derbyn tua 70 o gynigion. Yr ydym wedi gofyn am Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhannol fel y byddai gennym fwy o le i symud yn hyn o beth. Pe bai newid yn y setliad yn debyg i'r hyn a awgrymir yn y Mesur hwn, byddai'n rhoi amser i basio un neu ddau Fesur arall ar gyfer Ysgrifennydd Gwladol arall yn San Steffan. Felly, dyma'r Mesur pwysicaf yr ydym yn ei ystyried yn y rhestr hon heddiw. Mae pob un ohonom yn derbyn nad oes byth digon o amser yn yr amserlen seneddol i basio'r holl fesurau y mae pob ysgrifennydd gwladol, a ninnau, am eu cael.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Sylwaf fod y Prif Weinidog wedi cyfeirio at Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru y mae'n ei hyrwyddo. Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi dweud wrthyf na ddylwn gredu popeth a ddarllenaf yn y *Western Mail* neu bapurau newydd eraill, ond darllenais heddiw, pe bai Llafur yn ennill yr etholiad nesaf, ei bod yn debygol y câi'r Papur Gwyn ar y ddau opsiwn—pŵerau deddfu neu bwerau Harri'r VIII—ei gyhoeddi ym mis Mehefin. A allwch gadarnhau ar gof a chadw a yw hynny'n wir?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dywedais bum munud yn ôl nad yw'n bell iawn o'r hyn a ddisgwylwn, ond ni wn o ble y daeth; yn sicr nid ni a ddywedodd hynny.

Y pwynt pwysig yw ein bod yn chwilio am y cyfleoedd i sicrhau y caiff rhaglen gydlynol ei phasio yn San Steffan. Derbyniwn ei bod yn rhan o'r setliad a bod cystadleuaeth frwd bob blwyddyn, a dyna pam y mae Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio rhoi mwy o le i ni ac i San Steffan yn hynny o beth.

Nid yw gwelliannau'r gwrthbleidiau yn ymdrin â sylwedd cynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad; dim ond rhestr o ddymuniadau ydynt. Efallai eu bod yn cytuno â phopeth a gynigiwn ac efallai y gallent ddweud hynny

say so when proposing their amendments. They are simply saying, 'Here's a wish list; what about having these as well?', and it does not matter to them whether the proposals are utterly incoherent and do not mean anything to the people of Wales. They have not considered whether the measures make the best use of our time and whether there is any possibility of Westminster passing them; they just feel that they have to say something. The opposition parties do not seek to amend our list at all, and the amendments do nothing other than to miss the purpose of this annual debate.

Eleanor Burnham: Will you give way?

The Presiding Officer: Order. The First Minister has sat down.

Nick Bourne: I propose the following amendments in the name of David Melding. Amendment 1: in point 1, replace 'endorses' with 'notes'.

I propose amendment 3: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

regrets that the following Bills have not been included in the WAG's proposals for Westminster primary legislation:

a) *culture (Wales) Bill—to establish a national gallery and national archive for Wales;*

b) *NHS (Wales) Bill—to introduce a 'patients' passport' scheme to reduce waiting lists;*

c) *education (Wales) Bill—to encourage the development of specialist schools in Wales, starting with Welsh and modern foreign language schools;*

d) *housing (Wales) Bill—to allow groups to set up loan funds and establish neighbourhood associations with a view to providing more affordable housing;*

e) *bank holiday (Wales) Bill—to establish St David's Day as an official public holiday in Wales;*

wrth gynnig eu gwelliannau. Yr hyn a ddywedant yw, 'Dyma restr o ddymuniadau; beth am gael y rhain hefyd?', ac nid yw'n bwysig iddynt pa un a yw'r cynigion yn hollol aneglur ac na olygant ddim i bobl Cymru. Nid ydynt wedi ystyried pa un a yw'r mesurau yn gwneud y defnydd gorau o'n hamser a pha un a oes unrhyw bosibilrwydd y bydd San Steffan yn eu pasio; maent yn teimlo bod yn rhaid iddynt ddweud rhywbeth. Nid yw'r gwrthbleidiau yn ceisio diwygio ein rhestr o gwbl, ac ni wna'r gwelliannau ddim ond camddeall diben y ddadl flynyddol hon.

Eleanor Burnham: A wnewch ildio?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi eistedd.

Nick Bourne: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw David Melding. Gwelliant 1: ym mhwynt 1, rhoi 'nodi' yn lle 'cymeradwyo'.

Cynigiaf welliant 3: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn gresynu nad yw'r Mesurau canlynol wedi'u cynnwys yng nghynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer deddfwriaeth sylfaenol yn San Steffan:

a) *Mesur diwylliant (Cymru)—i sefydlu oriel genedlaethol ac archif genedlaethol yng Nghymru;*

b) *Mesur GIG (Cymru)—i gyflwyno cynllun 'pasbort y claf' er mwyn lleihau rhestrau aros;*

c) *Mesur addysg (Cymru)—i annog datblygu ysgolion arbenigol yng Nghymru, gan ddechrau ag ysgolion Cymraeg ag ysgolion ieithoedd tramor modern;*

ch) *Mesur tai (Cymru)—i ganiatáu i grwpiau sefydlu cronfeydd benthyca a sefydlu cymdeithasau cymdogaeth, gyda'r bwriad o ddarparu tai mwy fforddiadwy;*

d) *Mesur gwyl y banc (Cymru)—i sefydlu Dydd Gwyl Dewi fel diwrnod swyddogol o wyliau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru;*

f) mental health (Wales) Bill—to reform existing legislation and shift the emphasis to therapy rather than criminal law in relation to serious mental health issues;

g) general provisions (Wales) Bill—to allow miscellaneous matters recommended by the Assembly for primary legislation to be consolidated into a single Bill.

Peter Hain has been leaning on the Assembly Government to make changes to its policy ahead of the general election. It is a shame that it takes parliamentary seats being vulnerable for the Secretary of State for Wales to shout a bit louder for Wales. I wonder whether he will be listening when Rhodri Morgan asks him to return the favour in terms of this wish list—that is assuming that we see a Tarsus-like conversion at Swansea this weekend with perhaps a little common sense on the health service for once. If the First Minister's past record is anything to go by, there will not be much success: there have been only three Wales-only Acts since 1999.

In 2001, Rhodri Morgan said that the St David's Day Bill was a priority and that it was very likely that it would be submitted for inclusion in the Queen's Speech. In 2002, the First Minister said that he had not given up, but now, despite cross-party support, the St David's Day Bill has been dropped and the Assembly Government seems to have given up on this front. It is a great shame that, in what I hope will be a grand-slam week, the Government has not picked up on some of the nation's positive thinking. It is a great shame that St David's Day Bill has been dropped and that there has been a similar lack of imagination on Bills to propose a national gallery and a national archive. Wales deserves something better than this list that we have been presented with.

Having said that, I welcome some aspects of some of the measures. We support in principle the measure for the older persons' commissioner. We would want to examine it, as the devil is often in the detail, but the

dd) Mesur iechyd meddwl (Cymru)—i ddiwygio'r ddeddfwriaeth bresennol a symud y pwyslais oddi wrth gyfraith trosedd a thuag at therapi, mewn perthynas â materion difrifol yn ymwneud ag iechyd meddwl;

e) Mesur darpariaethau cyhoeddus (Cymru)—i ganiatáu i'r amryfal faterion y bydd y Cynulliad yn eu hargymell ar gyfer deddfwriaeth sylfaenol gael eu cydgrynhoi mewn un Mesur.

Bu Peter Hain yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i newid ei pholisi cyn yr etholiad cyffredinol. Mae'n drueni bod yn rhaid i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru wynebu'r posibilrwydd o golli seddau seneddol cyn iddo roi mwy o gefnogaeth i Gymru. Tybed a fydd yn gwrando pan fydd Rhodri Morgan yn gofyn iddo dalu cymwynas yn ei hôl o ran y rhestr hon o ddymuniadau—gan gymryd yn ganiataol y gwelwn dröedigaeth Darsusaidd yn Abertawe y penwythnos hwn gydag ychydig o synnwyr cyffredin o ran y gwasanaeth iechyd am unwaith efallai? Os ystyriwn record y Prif Weinidog yn y gorffennol, ni fydd llawer o lwyddiant: dim ond tair Deddf i Gymru'n unig a gafwyd ers 1999.

Yn 2001, dywedodd Rhodri Morgan fod Mesur Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn flaenoriaeth a'i bod yn debygol iawn y câi ei gyflwyno i'w gynnwys yn Araith y Frenhines. Yn 2002, dywedodd y Prif Weinidog nad oedd wedi cefnu ar y Mesur, ond erbyn hyn, er gwaethaf cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol, rhoddwyd y gorau i Fesur Dydd Gŵyl Dewi ac ymddengys bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cefnu arno. Mae'n drueni mawr, mewn wythnos pan fyddwn, gobeithio, yn ennill y gamp lawn, nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi cymryd sylw o rywfaint o feddylfryd cadarnhaol y wlad. Mae'n drueni mawr bod y Llywodraeth wedi rhoi'r gorau i Fesur Dydd Gŵyl Dewi a bod diffyg dychymyg tebyg o ran Mesurau i gynnig oriel genedlaethol ac archif genedlaethol. Mae Cymru yn haeddu gwell na'r rhestr hon a gyflwynwyd inni.

Wedi dweud hynny, croesawaf rai agweddau ar rai o'r mesurau. Cefnogwn mewn egwyddor y mesur i gael comisiynydd pobl hŷn. Byddem am ei archwilio, am mai manylion sy'n peri'r anhawster yn aml, ond

principle is sound. We support aspects of the Government of Wales Bill such as the separation of the Assembly from the Assembly Government, as we want to make it clear to the people of Wales that the Government's failings are not the failings of the institution. However, we regard other aspects of that proposal as mean-minded, malicious and spiteful and as bits of red meat to be thrown to unreconstructed Labour politicians who would dearly like this place to be made up of 60 Labour Members doing their party's bidding. No chance.

We approve of the principle of the Local Government Bill. Devolution to community councils is a sound policy. Other measures, I am afraid, reflect this Government's growing tendency to interfere and meddle, without having ideas and visions. There is little point in restricting tenants' right to buy their homes: it does not increase the amount of housing that is available. I would have liked, as would the party, to have seen a forward-looking housing Bill that provided positive solutions and encouraged the building of more houses. That is the real way to tackle the problem of affordable housing.

We cannot support the measure on the compulsory registration of bed-and-breakfast accommodation. We believe that there should be measures to bring forward a mental health Bill to shift the emphasis from criminal law to therapy, and an education Bill to provide the framework for the development of specialist schools in Wales. Those measures would have been welcomed.

It is sad that we do not have a firm commitment on the way forward for the Assembly's powers. That still seems to be shrouded in terms of where the Government of Wales intends to take us on this particular issue.

All in all, this is an unimaginative list; we welcome many aspects, but deplore many others. It should have contained much more in terms of positive moves forward for the people of Wales. As a party, we will support amendment 7 on the separation distance between opencast mines and residential settlements, which should be put in place in Merthyr. That makes great sense, although it

mae'r egwyddor yn gadarn. Cefnogwn agweddau ar Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru megis gwahanu'r Cynulliad oddi wrth Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, oherwydd yr ydym am ei gwneud yn glir i bobl Cymru nad methiannau'r sefydliad yw methiannau'r Llywodraeth. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym o'r farn bod agweddau eraill ar y cynnig hwnnw yn grintachlyd, yn faleisus ac yn fileinig ac fel darnau o gig coch i'w taflu i wleidyddion Llafur hen ffasiwn y byddent am i'r lle hwn gael 60 o Aelodau Llafur yn cyflawni ewyllys eu plaid. Dim gobaith.

Cymeradwywn egwyddor y Mesur Llywodraeth Leol. Mae datganoli i gynghorau cymuned yn bolisi cadarn. Mae mesurau eraill, fe ofnaf, yn adlewyrchu tuedd gynyddol y Llywodraeth hon i ymyrryd a busnesa, heb feddu ar syniadau a gweledigaethau. Nid oes diben cyfyngu ar hawl tenantiaid i brynu eu cartrefi: nid yw'n cynyddu nifer y tai sydd ar gael. Fel aelodau eraill fy mhlaid, hoffwn fod wedi gweld Mesur tai blaengar a fyddai'n rhoi atebion cadarnhaol ac yn annog y gwaith o adeiladu mwy o dai. Dyna'r ffordd wirioneddol o fynd i'r afael â'r broblem o gael tai fforddiadwy.

Ni allwn gefnogi'r mesur sy'n gwneud cofrestru llety gwely a brecwast yn orfodol. Credwn y dylid cael mesurau i gyflwyno Mesur iechyd meddwl i newid y pwyslais o gyfraith droseddol i therapi, a Mesur addysg i roi'r fframwaith ar gyfer datblygu ysgolion arbenigol yng Nghymru. Byddem wedi croesawu'r mesurau hynny.

Gresynaf at y ffaith nad oes gennym ymrwymiad cadarn ar y ffordd ymlaen o ran pwerau'r Cynulliad. Ymddengys o hyd fod hynny'n aneglur o ran i ba gyfeiriad y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu mynd â ni ar y mater penodol hwn.

At ei gilydd, mae hon yn rhestr ddiddychmyg; croesawn sawl agwedd arni, ond gresynwn at sawl agwedd arall. Dylai fod wedi cynnwys llawer mwy o ran camau cadarnhaol ymlaen i bobl Cymru. Fel plaid, byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliant 7 ar y pellter rhwng mwyngloddiau glo brig ac anheddau, a ddylai fod ar waith ym Merthyr. Mae hynny'n gwneud llawer o synnwyr, er ei bod

has clearly split the Labour Party—Minister from former Minister. Let us have some common sense and do something sensible for the people of Wales and support that amendment.

Michael German: I propose amendment 2 in the name of Kirsty Williams: delete point 2 and replace with:

requests that the Assembly Cabinet pursue with the UK Government a Government of Wales Act to reconstitute the National Assembly as a Welsh Senedd with primary lawmaking powers that enables it to introduce measures such as free personal care, the banning of smoking in public places and making St David's Day a public holiday.

We are, once again, looking at what might have been in a real parliament. In any other parliament on the day upon which the Government announces its programme for government, this would have been the time for its members to respond in detail. However, as we know, this is not so much a 'Queen's Speech', but a bidding round in which Wales sometimes does not do well. We go through this process every year. The Assembly Cabinet puts forward its proposals and, every year, there are a large numbers of retreats. In a real parliament, you would have thought that, if you put forward a proposal, it would be something that you wanted, something that you would agree to carry out, and something that you would carry out. However, our proposals are always too great for the system in London, and therefore, we must put forward many measures that have been proposed before. This year, four out of the six proposed pieces of legislation have been proposed before, and there are proposals for two new Bills—a Government of Wales Bill and a Welsh Language Schemes Regulator (Wales) Bill. I will come on to those in a moment.

Every year, the Assembly plays the role of Oliver with regard to the Westminster Government, desperately pleading, 'Please, sir, can I have some more?'. Every year, the Assembly must get out its begging bowl to beg the UK Government for pieces of

yn amlwg bod hynny wedi creu rhwyg yn y Blaid Lafur—rhwng Gweinidog a chyn-Weinidog. Gadewch inni ddefnyddio ein synnwyr cyffredin a gwneud rhywbeth synhwyrol i bobl Cymru a chefnogi'r gwelliant hwnnw.

Michael German: Cynigiau welliant 2 yn enw Kirsty Williams: dileu pwynt 2 a rhoi yn ei le:

yn gofyn i Gabinet y Cynulliad drafod gyda Llywodraeth y DU a ellir cael Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru er mwyn ailgyfansoddi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol fel Senedd Cymru a chanddi bwerau deddfu sylfaenol a fydd yn ei galluogi i gyflwyno mesurau megis gofal personol am ddim, gwahardd ysmegu mewn mannau cyhoeddus a gwneud Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn ddiwrnod o wyliau cyhoeddus.

Unwaith eto, ystyriwn yr hyn a allai fod wedi digwydd mewn senedd go iawn. Mewn unrhyw senedd arall, ar y diwrnod y bydd y Llywodraeth yn cyhoeddi ei rhaglen lywodraethu, byddai hyn wedi'i wneud mewn pryd i'w haelodau ymateb yn fanwl. Fodd bynnag, fel y gwyddom, nid 'Araith y Frenhines' mo hyn ond cylch ceisiadau lle nad yw Cymru yn gwneud yn dda iawn ar brydiau. Cynhelir y broses hon bob blwyddyn. Mae Cabinet y Llywodraeth yn cyflwyno ei gynigion a, phob blwyddyn, caiff llawer iawn eu hailgyflwyno. Mewn senedd go iawn, byddech wedi credu, pe baech yn cyflwyno cynnig, ei fod yn rhywbeth yr oeddech am ei gael, yn rhywbeth y byddech yn cytuno i'w wneud, ac yn rhywbeth y byddech yn ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, mae ein cynigion bob amser yn rhy fawr i'r system yn Llundain, ac felly, rhaid inni gyflwyno llawer o fesurau sydd wedi'u cynnig o'r blaen. Eleni, mae pedwar o'r chwe darn o ddeddfwriaeth a gynigiwyd wedi'u cynnig o'r blaen, ac mae cynigion i gael dau Fesur newydd—Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru a Mesur Dyfarnydd Cynlluniau Iaith Gymraeg (Cymru). Trafodaf y rheini mewn munud.

Bob blwyddyn, mae'r Cynulliad yn chwarae rhan Oliver gyda Llywodraeth San Steffan, gan erfyn yn daer, 'Plis, syr, a allaf gael rhagor?'. Bob blwyddyn, rhaid i'r Cynulliad fynd â'i ffiol gardod at Lywodraeth y DU yn gofyn am ddarnau o ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol.

primary legislation. I wonder whether the Assembly Cabinet should equip itself with musical instruments and go to busk on College Green. I am able to lend them the music to *Oliver* if they want it. When the First Minister winds up the debate, I am sure that he will say, as he does every year, that I expect too much from Westminster. We heard it again in his opening speech when he said that space is too restricted for too many Bills to go through. I see no reason why the Assembly should not stand up for the best interests of the people of Wales, and, if this legislation is in the best interests of the people of Wales, then that is what we should have.

The First Minister: You seem to be assuming that none of these Bills is relevant to the issue to which you refer. I refer to this competition for time and to the fact that one of these Bills is meant to address the exact problem to which you refer. Do not set up these Aunt Sallies in order to knock them down yourself, when one of the measures addresses the issue properly and is one of the Bills that we are bidding for.

Michael German: I would be grateful if you could say, in addition to the note that you have provided us with, whether the Government of Wales Bill will grant primary legislative powers to the National Assembly, and whether you support that. At present, all we know is that you support your 13.2 plus proposals. In fact, we received a better response from the Secretary of State for Wales when he stood here and said that he believed that Wales deserved primary legislative powers, albeit subject to a referendum.

I return to the point that the majority of Members have voted in favour of a number of pieces of primary legislation. Making St David's Day a public holiday has all-party support, and Members from all parties support the banning of smoking in public places. I note the First Minister's comment about Julie Morgan's Bill, and I commend that as a process, but would it not have been much easier if we could have done that ourselves here? All parties supported it. Three of the four parties here support free

Tybed a ddylai Cabinet y Cynulliad gael gafael ar offerynnau cerddorol a mynd i gardota ar Lawnt y Coleg. Gallaf roi benthg cerddoriaeth *Oliver* iddynt os dymunant. Pan fydd y Prif Weinidog yn dirwyn y ddadl hon i ben, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn dweud, fel y gwna bob blwyddyn, fy mod yn disgwyl gormod gan San Steffan. Fe'i clywsom unwaith eto yn ei araith agoriadol pan ddywedodd nad oes digon o le i ormod o Fesurau gael eu pasio. Ni welaf unrhyw reswm pam na ddylai'r Cynulliad gefnogi budd gorau pobl Cymru, ac, os yw'r ddeddfwriaeth hon er budd gorau pobl Cymru, yna dylai gael ei chyflwyno.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymddengys eich bod yn cymryd yn ganiataol nad oes unrhyw un o'r Mesurau hyn yn berthnasol i'r mater y cyfeiriwch ato. Cyfeiriaf at y gystadleuaeth hon am amser ac at y ffaith y bwriedir i un o'r Mesurau hyn ymdrin â'r union broblem y cyfeiriwch ato. Peidiwch â gosod y cocyn hitio hwn er mwyn ei daro eich hun, pan fydd un o'r mesurau yn ymdrin â'r mater yn briodol ac yn un o'r Mesurau y gwnawn gais ar ei gyfer.

Michael German: Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech ddweud, yn ogystal â'r nodyn yr ydych wedi'i roi inni, pa un a fydd Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi pwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, a pha un a ydych yn cefnogi hynny. Ar hyn o bryd, y cyfan a wyddom yw eich bod yn cefnogi eich 13.2 a mwy o gynigion. Yn wir, cawsom ymateb gwell gan Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru pan safodd yma gan ddweud ei fod o'r farn bod Cymru yn haeddu pwerau deddfu sylfaenol, er bod hynny'n amodol ar refferendwm.

Dychwelaf at y pwynt bod y mwyafrif o Aelodau wedi pleidleisio o blaid nifer o ddarnau o ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol. Mae pob plaid yn cefnogi gwneud Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn ŵyl gyhoeddus, ac mae Aelodau o bob plaid yn cefnogi gwahardd ysmygu mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Nodaf sylw'r Prif Weinidog ynghylch Mesur Julie Morgan, a chymeradwyaf hynny fel proses, ond oni fyddai wedi bod yn llawer haws pe gallem fod wedi gwneud hynny ein hunain yma? Fe'i cefnogwyd gan bob plaid. Mae tair o'r

personal care, but, as we know, Westminster has blocked our democratic wishes.

Turning to the proposed Government of Wales Bill, if the last six years has taught us anything, it is that we need the tools to do the job. It is difficult to get things done when you have to rely on another parliamentary body to allow you to do what you want to do in the policy areas over which you are supposed to have powers. Wales needs a national parliament or a senedd, with primary lawmaking powers, so that we can do the things that we want to do and that the people of Wales want us to do. We need those powers to do the job that we have all been elected to do, and our amendment 2 makes that point. I urge Members to support it in order to strengthen the requirements in Government of Wales Bill put forward in the Government's proposals today.

3.40 p.m.

Back in the days when the sun never set on the British empire, it was argued that colonised people were like children—not yet ready to rule themselves. The Westminster Government appears to regard Wales in the same light today, or certain Labour MPs for Wales seem to regard Wales as such at least. We are regarded as children, not yet ready to have primary legislative powers. That view is patronising and nonsensical.

Important choices are being frustrated by lack of powers, and the National Assembly does not have the requisite powers to tackle poverty, create opportunities and build communities. While we would support the Housing (Suspension of Right to Buy) (Wales) Bill, the Local Government (Town and Community Councils) (Wales) Bill and the Tourism Accommodation (Registration) (Wales) Bill, this will not get us off the hook. The hook is that there are measures that this Government wants to achieve. If the First Minister is telling us that, if he were to have that right himself, he would bring that number of Bills before the Assembly, then we are being misled. We need those powers,

pedair plaid yma yn cefnogi gofal personol am ddim, ond, fel y gwyddom, mae San Steffan wedi rhwystro ein dymuniadau democrataidd.

Gan droi at y Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru arfaethedig, os yw'r chwe blynedd diwethaf wedi dysgu rhywbeth inni, y wers yw bod angen yr offer arnom i wneud y gwaith. Mae'n anodd gwneud pethau pan fydd yn rhaid ichi ddibynnu ar gorff seneddol arall i ganiatáu ichi wneud yr hyn yr ydych am ei wneud yn y meysydd polisi y dylai fod gennych bwerau drostynt. Mae angen senedd ar Gymru, gyda phwerau deddfu sylfaenol, fel y gallwn wneud y pethau yr ydym am eu gwneud ac y mae pobl Cymru am inni eu gwneud. Mae angen y pwerau hynny arnom i wneud y gwaith y cafodd pob un ohonom ein hethol i'w wneud, ac mae ein gwelliant 2 yn gwneud y pwynt hwnnw. Anogaf Aelodau i'w gefnogi er mwyn atgyfnerthu gofynion Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru a gyflwynwyd yng nghynigion y Llywodraeth heddiw.

Yn y dyddiau pan nad oedd yr haul byth yn machlud ar ymerodraeth Prydain, dadleuwyd bod brodorion y gwladfeydd fel plant—nid oeddent yn barod i lywodraethu eu hunain eto. Ymddengys bod Llywodraeth San Steffan yn gweld Cymru yn yr un ffordd heddiw, neu ymddengys bod o leiaf rai ASau Llafur dros Gymru yn gweld Cymru felly. Cawn ein hystyried yn blant, nad ydym yn barod i gael pwerau deddfu sylfaenol eto. Mae'r farn honno yn nawddoglyd ac yn hurt.

Rhwystir dewisiadau pwysig gan ddiffyg pwerau, ac nid oes gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol y pwerau sydd eu hangen i fynd i'r afael â thlodi, creu cyfleoedd a datblygu cymunedau. Er y byddem yn cefnogi Mesur Tai (Dileu yr Hawl i Brynu) (Cymru), Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned) (Cymru) a Mesur Llety Twristiaeth (Cofrestru) (Cymru), ni fydd hyn yn achub ein croen. Y drafferth yw bod mesurau y mae'r Llywodraeth hon am eu cyflawni. Os dywed y Prif Weinidog wrthym, pe bai'r hawl honno ganddo ef ei hun, y byddai'n cyflwyno'r nifer honno o Fesurau gerbron y Cynulliad, yna cawn ein camarwain. Mae angen y pwerau hynny

and I ask the First Minister to tell us, in his response, whether or not those powers will be sought in his Government of Wales Bill.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 4: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn gresynu at y methiant ym Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru arfaethedig Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i weithredu argymhellion comisiwn Richard yn llawn.

Cynigiaf welliant 5: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn cydnabod bod y setliad datganoli presennol yn rhwystr i ddatblygu polisiau yn integredig.

Cynigiaf welliant 6: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn disgwyl na fydd y rhan fwyaf o gynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn llwyddo.

Cynigiaf welliant 7: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw am Fesur cloddio glo brig a mwynau, wedi'i seilio ar egwyddorion datblygu cynaliadwy a chyfiawnder amgylcheddol, a fydd yn galluogi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i bennu bod yn rhaid gadael 500m rhwng safleoedd arfaethedig ac anheddau.

Cynigiaf welliant 8: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw am Fesur datganoli (cyllid) er mwyn rhoi sylfaen statudol a theg i'r dull o ddyrannu arian y Llywodraeth i wahanol rannau o Loegr a Chymru, gan ddisodli fformiwla Barnett.

Cynigiaf welliant 9: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw am Fesur yr iaith Gymraeg er mwyn rhoi statws cyfartal i'r Gymraeg yn y sector preifat yn ogystal ag yn y sector cyhoeddus.

arnom, a gofynnaf i'r Prif Weinidog ddweud wrthym, yn ei ymateb, pa un a fydd yn gofyn am y pwerau hynny ai peidio yn ei Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 4: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

regrets the failure within the Assembly Government's proposed Government of Wales Bill to implement the recommendations of the Richard commission in full.

I propose amendment 5: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

acknowledges that the current devolution settlement represents a barrier to integrated policy development.

I propose amendment 6: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

does not expect the majority of the Assembly Government's proposals to succeed.

I propose amendment 7: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

calls for an opencast and mineral extraction Bill based on the principles of sustainable development and environmental justice enabling the National Assembly to set a 500m separation distance between proposed sites and residential settlements.

I propose amendment 8: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

calls for a devolution (finance) Bill to put the allocation of Government money between different parts of England and Wales on a statutory and fair basis, replacing the Barnett formula.

I propose amendment 9: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

calls for a Welsh language Bill to provide for equal status for the Welsh language in the private as well as the public sector.

Cynigiad welliant 10: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig: I propose amendment 10: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

yn galw am Fesur Dydd Gŵyl Dewi i sefydlu Dydd Gŵyl Dewi fel gŵyl gyhoeddus yng Nghymru. *calls for a St David's Day Bill to establish St David's Day as a public holiday in Wales.*

Cynigiad welliant 11: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig: I propose amendment 11. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

yn galw am Fesur tai a chyllid llywodraeth leol i alluogi'r Cynulliad i ddi-ddymu'r dreth gyngor a'i disodli â threth incwm leol; rhoi pwerau i'r awdurdodau lleol i atal yr hawl i brynu tai cyngor mewn ardaloedd penodol; a sefydlu uned ymddiriedolaeth tir gyda phŵer ac adnoddau i helpu i sefydlu ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol. *calls for a housing and local government finance Bill, to enable the Assembly to abolish council tax and replace it with local income tax; give powers to local authorities to suspend the right to buy council houses in specific areas; and establish a land trust unit with power and resources to assist in the setting up of community land trusts.*

Cynigiad welliant 12: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig: I propose amendment 12: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

yn galw am Fesur newid yn yr hinsawdd a chynaliadwyedd (Cymru) i ddatganoli i'r Cynulliad yr holl benderfyniadau cynllunio sy'n ymwneud â phrosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy, gan gynnwys y rhai dros 50 MW; a datganoli'r awdurdod dros Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yng Nghymru. *calls for a climate change and sustainability (Wales) Bill to devolve to the Assembly all planning decisions about renewable energy projects, including those over 50 MW; and devolve authority over the Environment Agency in Wales.*

Cynigiad welliant 13: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig: I propose amendment 13: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

yn galw am Fesur treth dirllenwi (Cymru) i drosglwyddo'r holl gronfeydd a godir o'r dreth dirllenwi yng Nghymru i gyllideb y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. *calls for a landfill tax (Wales) Bill to transfer all funds raised from the landfill tax in Wales to the National Assembly budget.*

Byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliant 2 yn enw Kirsty Williams a gwelliant 1 yn enw David Melding. Er bod gwelliant 3 yn cynnwys nifer o gynigion yr ydym yn eu cefnogi, ni allwn ei gefnogi am ei fod yn cynnwys dau fesur na allwn eu cefnogi ar sail egwyddor, sef y rhai sy'n cyfeirio at basbort y claf ac ysgolion arbenigol. We will support amendment 2 in the name of Kirsty Williams and amendment 1 in the name of David Melding. Even though amendment 3 contains several proposals that we support, we cannot support the amendment because we do not agree, on principle, with the proposals for a patients' passport scheme and specialist schools.

Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog wrth agor y drafodaeth fod ein cynigion i newid deddfwriaeth yn 'incoherent'. Sut y mae Mesur sy'n gofyn am i Ddydd Gŵyl Dewi gael ei wneud yn ŵyl y banc yn 'incoherent'? Sut y mae gwahardd ysmegu mewn mannau cyhoeddus yn 'incoherent', yn yr un modd â In his opening speech, the First Minister said that our proposals for amending legislation were 'incoherent'. How is a Bill asking for St David's Day to be made a public holiday incoherent? How is banning smoking in public places, and the other proposals in our amendments, incoherent? As I understand it,

nifer o gynigion eraill yn ein gwelliannau? Yn ôl a ddeallaf, mae'r Prif Weinidog yn cefnogi'r cynigion hyn ar gyfer Mesurau, felly gobeithiaf y bydd yn ailfeddwl ei wrthwynebiad wrth ymateb i'r ddadl.

Yn anffodus, mae rhestr y Llywodraeth ar gyfer deddfwriaeth yn dangos ei diffyg uchelgais ar ran y Cynulliad ac ar ran Cymru. Dyna oedd thema'r dadleuon hyn ar hyd y blynyddoedd. Ni waeth faint fyddwn yn cefnogi Mesurau penodol—ac yr ydym wedi cefnogi Mesurau fel yr un i sefydlu comisiynydd plant—y realiti yw bod y mwyafrif llethol o'r ceisiadau hyn yn gwbl ddi-fflach. Yn aml, maent yn ymwneud â materion strwythurol i newid gweithdrefn yn hytrach na pholisi.

O ran diffyg uchelgais, mae methiant y Llywodraeth i gael mesurau drwy San Steffan yn amlwg. Ni roddir digon o sylw bellach i faterion sy'n ymwneud a Chymru yn San Steffan. Felly, ni waeth faint o bwysau a roddir gan y Llywodraeth ar San Steffan, gaiff fawr ddim effaith. Daw hynny'n gwbl glir i unrhyw un sy'n ystyried nifer y Mesurau sy'n cael eu cyflwyno bob blwyddyn a'r nifer sy'n cael eu gwrthod. Fel y dywedodd Mike German yn berffaith gywir, yr ydym yn ailgyflwyno'r un mesurau flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn gan ein bod yn methu. Felly, nid ydym yn cael cyfle i gyflwyno Mesurau newydd. Ateb i'r dilema hwn fyddai rhoi pwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad a'i wneud yn Senedd go iawn. Erbyn hyn, mae arweinyddion prif wrthbleidiau'r Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r farn honno. Clywsom fod Peter Hain yn ei chefnogi hefyd; daeth i'r Cynulliad i ddweud hynny wrthym. Yr unig arweinydd gwleidyddol yng Nghymru bellach nad yw'n cefnogi pwerau deddfu llawn i'r Cynulliad yw Prif Weinidog y Cynulliad ei hun. Pam mae'r Prif Weinidog yn teimlo bellach ei fod wedi ei ynysu gymaint ar y pwnc?

Yr wyf yn siŵr ei fod ef, fel minnau, wedi sylwi ar y cynnydd sylweddol a fu yng nghefnogaeth y cyhoedd o ran pwerau deddfu. Dangosodd y pól piniwn diweddaraf bod cefnogaeth o ddau i un o leiaf iddo ymysg pobl Cymru.

I will recap briefly on the issue of more

the First Minister supports these Bill proposals, therefore I hope that he will reconsider his opposition in his summing up.

Unfortunately, the Government's schedule for legislation shows its lack of ambition on behalf of the Assembly and on behalf of Wales. That has been the theme of these debates over the years. No matter how strongly we support specific Bills—and we have supported Bills such as the one to establish a children's commissioner—the fact of the matter is that the majority of proposals are banal. They often relate to structural issues to change procedure rather than policy.

In terms of lack of ambition, the Government's failure to get Bills through Westminster is evident. Sufficient attention is not paid to Wales-related issues at Westminster. Therefore, any amount of pressure brought to bear by the Government on Westminster will have little impact. This is borne out by the number of Bills proposed each year and the number rejected. As Mike German rightly said, we resubmit the same schedule year in, year out because our proposals are not accepted. Therefore, we do not get the opportunity to introduce any new legislation. The solution to this dilemma would be to give the Assembly primary legislative powers and make it a real Parliament. The leaders of the Assembly's main opposition have expressed their support for that, as did Peter Hain, here in the Assembly. The only party leader in Wales who does not support full primary lawmaking powers for the Assembly is the First Minister of the Assembly itself. Why does the First Minister now feel that he is so isolated on the subject?

I am sure that he has noticed, as I have, the swell in public opinion in favour of full legislative powers. A recent opinion poll said that support is at least two to one for this among the people of Wales.

Rhoddaf grynodedb o'r mater o ran mwy o

powers for the Assembly, because that is at the heart of this debate. The reason for the constant, uninspiring lists by the Government is that it is failing to get proper legislative proposals through Westminster, because the Assembly lacks primary lawmaking powers. The Richard commission produced a coherent, well-argued and highly persuasive case in favour of lawmaking powers, changing the electoral system to single transferable vote, and saying that tax-varying powers were desirable but not essential. When the report was published, there was widespread support for it. The First Minister supported lawmaking powers, but he has changed his mind, because Welsh Labour MPs know that, once primary lawmaking powers are introduced at some point in the not-too-distant future, the number of Welsh Labour MPs will have to be cut.

They are telling us that we would not win a referendum on whether we should be given lawmaking powers, that we are not ready for it. Everything now indicates that the people of Wales are ready for the Assembly to take on extra powers. They are willing to move forward to that debate, therefore why does the First Minister not argue now for a proper lawmaking parliament for Wales? I am confident that the people of Wales would back that proposal in a referendum.

Peter Law: It is important for this institution to recognise that people have high hopes for us. My mind goes back to when people voted 'yes' in the referendum, and to the Assembly's inception. They looked for support, hope and care. Sometimes, when we are in this warm atmosphere, our comfort zone, we tend to slip away from reality and not think about the difficulties that some people face in the communities that we are responsible for, who depend on the decisions made in the Assembly.

Opencast extraction, which amendment 7 discusses, is one of the most frightening environmental matters affecting people throughout Wales. If you are confronted by a massive opencast scheme, you expect to be listened to and not ignored, forgotten or forsaken. Not listening to people means that we have failed them as a National Assembly. If that is the case, we may as well shut up and

bwerau i'r Cynulliad, am fod hynny wrth wraidd y ddadl hon. Y rheswm dros y rhestrau di-fflach cyson gan y Llywodraeth yw nad yw cynigion deddfwriaethol priodol yn cael eu pasio yn San Steffan, am nad oes gan y Cynulliad bwerau deddfu sylfaenol. Cynhyrchodd comisiwn Richard ddadl gydlynol, medrus a darbwyllol iawn dros bwerau deddfu, newid y system etholiadol i gael pleidlais sengl drosglwyddadwy, a dweud bod pwerau amrywio trethi yn ddymunol ond nad oeddent yn hanfodol. Pan gyhoeddwyd yr adroddiad, fe'i cefnogwyd yn eang. Cefnogodd y Prif Weinidog bwerau deddfu, ond mae wedi newid ei feddwl, oherwydd gŵyr ASau Llafur Cymru, ar ôl cyflwyno pwerau deddfu sylfaenol yn y dyfodol agos, y bydd yn rhaid lleihau nifer yr ASau Llafur dros Gymru.

Dywedant wrthym na fyddem yn ennill refferendwm ar ba un a ddylem gael pwerau deddfu, ac nad ydym yn barod amdano. Dengys popeth yn awr fod pobl Cymru yn barod i'r Cynulliad gael pwerau ychwanegol. Maent yn fodlon symud ymlaen i'r ddadl honno, felly pam nad yw'r Prif Weinidog yn dadlau yn awr dros senedd ddeddfu briodol i Gymru? Yr wyf yn ffyddiog y byddai pobl Cymru yn cefnogi'r cynnig hwn mewn refferendwm.

Peter Law: Mae'n bwysig i'r sefydliad hwn gydnabod bod pobl yn disgwyl pethau mawr gennym. Cofiaf yr adeg pan bleidleisiodd pobl 'ie' yn y refferendwm, a phan sefydlwyd y Cynulliad. Bu iddynt obeithio cael cymorth, gobaith a gofal. Weithiau, pan fyddwn yn yr awyrgylch cynnes a chysurus hwn, tueddwn i anghofio am realiti a pheidio â meddwl am yr anawsterau y mae rhai pobl yn eu hwynebu yn y cymunedau yr ydym yn gyfrifol amdanynt, sy'n dibynnu ar y penderfyniadau a wneir yn y Cynulliad.

Mae cloddio glo brig, a drafodir gan welliant 7, yn un o'r materion amgylcheddol mwyaf brawychus sy'n effeithio ar bobl ledled Cymru. Os wynebwch gynllun glo brig enfawr, yr ydych yn disgwyl bod pobl yn gwrandio arnoch ac nid ydych yn disgwyl cael eich anwybyddu na'ch anghofio nac yn disgwyl y cefnir arnoch. Mae peidio â gwrandio ar bobl yn golygu ein bod wedi eu

go home, because that is counter to what this place and this new democracy is all about. It is all about allowing people to be heard, and giving them an opportunity to express their point of view. People are always concerned that their quality of life, health, life investments and community environment are at great risk, and we must respect that. Some people faced with proposals for a major opencast scheme will have to deal with decades of nuisance; some people will inevitably pass on before it comes to an end, as it is a 20-year scheme—and that is quite frightening in itself. We need to be aware of that, and of the concerns of the good people confronted with these environmental nightmares.

I have heard that a technical advice note on coal is being introduced tomorrow. If we were to measure that TAN on coal on a Richter scale of the confidence that we usually have in the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside's technical advice notes, the result would probably be in minus figures, because we are still waiting to debate TAN 8. That gives a perverse incentive for people to establish wind turbines on mountains in Valleys communities, affecting poor people. I do not have much confidence in TANs. What is the point of a TAN that gives you an opportunity to talk about a buffer zone, if it cannot be retrospective for those people who have been through the system and have been forgotten? That is the point.

3.50 p.m.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Please wind up, Peter. You have had three minutes.

Peter Law: I will conclude by saying that, if no power has been used to bring in a buffer zone to protect these people, we must look to the future to ensure that we do not offload an environmental impact zone on them in the name of the National Assembly. They should be protected in the way in which they would expect, and protected far better than their predecessors were.

John Marek: First, I would like to help the

siomi fel Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Os yw hynny'n wir, cystal inni roi taw arni a mynd adref, am fod hynny'n groes i nod y lle hwn a'r ddemocratiaeth newydd hon. Mae a wnelo â chaniatáu i bobl gael eu clywed, a rhoi cyfle iddynt leisio eu barn. Mae pobl bob amser yn pryderu bod ansawdd eu bywydau, eu hiechyd, eu buddsoddiadau oes a'u hamgylchedd cymunedol mewn perygl mawr, a rhaid inni barchu hynny. Bydd yn rhaid i rai pobl sy'n wynebu cynigion i gael cynllun glo brig mawr wynebu degawdau o niwsans; mae'n anochel y bydd rhai pobl yn marw cyn i'r cynllun ddod i ben, am ei fod yn gynllun 20 mlynedd—ac mae hynny'n eithaf brawychus ynddo'i hun. Mae angen inni fod yn ymwybodol o hynny, ac o bryderon y bobl sy'n wynebu'r hunllefau amgylcheddol hyn.

Clywais y caiff nodyn cyngor technegol ar lo ei gyflwyno yfory. Pe baem yn mesur y TAN hwnnw ar lo yn ôl graddfa Richter o ran yr hyder sydd gennym yn nodiadau cyngor technegol y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad, mae'n debyg mai ffigurau negyddol fyddai'r canlyniad, am ein bod yn dal i aros am ddadl ar TAN 8. Rhydd hynny gymhelliant gwrthnysig i bobl sefydlu tyrbinau gwynt ar fynyddoedd yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd, gan effeithio ar bobl dlawd. Nid oes llawer o hyder gennyf mewn nodiadau cyngor technegol. Beth yw diben TAN sy'n rhoi cyfle ichi siarad am glustogfa, os na all fod yn ôl-weithredol i'r bobl hynny sydd wedi mynd drwy'r system ac sydd wedi mynd yn angof? Dyna'r diben.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. A wnewch ddirwyn i ben, Peter? Yr ydych wedi cael tair munud.

Peter Law: Deuaf i ben drwy ddweud, os nad oes unrhyw bŵer wedi'i ddefnyddio i gyflwyno clustogfa i ddiogelu'r bobl hyn, bod yn rhaid inni edrych i'r dyfodol er mwyn sicrhau nad ydym yn gosod parth effaith amgylcheddol arnynt yn enw'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Dylid eu diogelu yn y ffordd y byddent yn disgwyl, a'u diogelu'n llawer gwell nag y diogelwyd pobl yn y gorffennol.

John Marek: Yn gyntaf, hoffwn helpu'r

Minister for Environment, Planning, and Countryside. If he is in difficulty, and he really does have the powers over the 500m zone, then he could say that he will use them in every case from now on. If so, I promise him that I will try to persuade my friend, Jocelyn Davies, to withdraw her amendment. If the Minister will not do that, then perhaps he does not want to use those powers, in which case, I urge the Assembly to vote in favour of that amendment, as it would surely constrain the Minister to ensure that those powers are used.

I want to say a few words on the proposal for a Government of Wales Bill, and I now speak in my capacity as Chair of the House Committee and as one of the Assembly's Presiding Officers. The proposal for legislation follows the Assembly's resolution of 6 October last year. Important parts of the proposed legislation are the abolition of the corporate-body status of the Assembly, and the development of a constitutional structure for Wales, which reflects the norm of the division between parliament and executive found not only in the UK but in almost every Commonwealth parliament.

In developing the proposal to divide the present Assembly into legislature and executive, it is vital for the views expressed by the Assembly Government to the UK Government to reflect the views of Members in all parts of the Assembly. First of all, it is good politics to do that, because a Bill that reflects the aspirations of Members of all parties is likely to have an easier passage at Westminster. I am sure, Presiding Officer, that the House of Lords would be interested in your views regarding such a Bill. Secondly, it would be wrong for the Executive to express an opinion unilaterally on issues that affect us all as Assembly Members. We need to be consulted on the proposed division of powers, functions and responsibilities between Government and Assembly. We need to be consulted on the budgetary arrangements, internal architecture and on the many other matters that affect each one of us as members of this body. The best way to do that is via the House Committee, which could be said to be most competent to speak on behalf of Members of

Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad. Os yw'n cael anhawster, a bod y pwerau ganddo mewn gwirionedd o ran y parth 500m, yna gallai ddweud y bydd yn eu defnyddio ym mhob achos o hyn ymlaen. Os felly, addawaf iddo y byddaf yn ceisio darbwyllo fy nghyfaill, Jocelyn Davies, i dynnu ei gwelliant yn ôl. Os na fydd y Gweinidog yn gwneud hynny, yna efallai nad yw am ddefnyddio'r pwerau hynny, ac os felly, anogaf y Cynulliad i bleidleisio o blaid y gwelliant hwnnw, oherwydd mae'n sicr y byddai'n gorfodi'r Gweinidog i sicrhau y defnyddir y pwerau hynny.

Yr wyf am ddweud ychydig eiriau am y cynnig i gael Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru, a siaradaf yn awr yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Cadeirydd Pwyllgor y Tŷ ac fel un o Lywyddion y Cynulliad. Mae'r cynnig am ddeddfwriaeth yn dilyn cynnig a basiwyd gan y Cynulliad ar 6 Hydref y llynedd. Rhannau pwysig y ddeddfwriaeth arfaethedig yw diddymu statws corff corfforaethol y Cynulliad, a datblygu strwythur cyfansoddiadol i Gymru, sy'n adlewyrchu'r rhaniad arferol rhwng y senedd a'r weithrediaeth a geir nid yn unig yn y DU ond hefyd ym mron pob senedd yn y Gymanwlad.

Wrth ddatblygu'r cynnig i rannu'r Cynulliad presennol yn ddeddfwrfa a gweithrediaeth, mae'n hanfodol bod y farn a fynegir gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i Lywodraeth y DU yn adlewyrchu barn Aelodau ym mhob rhan o'r Cynulliad. Yn gyntaf oll, mae hynny'n wleidyddiaeth dda, am fod Mesur sy'n adlewyrchu dyheadau Aelodau o bob plaid yn debygol o gael taith haws drwy San Steffan. Yr wyf yn siŵr, Lywydd, y byddai gan Dŷ'r Arglwyddi ddiddordeb yn eich barn ar Fesur o'r fath. Yn ail, byddai'n anghywir i'r Weithrediaeth fynegi barn unochrog ar faterion sy'n effeithio ar bob un ohonom fel Aelodau Cynulliad. Mae angen ymgynghori â ni o ran y rhaniad arfaethedig rhwng pwerau, swyddogaethau a chyfrifoldebau'r Llywodraeth a'r Cynulliad. Mae angen ymgynghori â ni o ran y trefniadau cyllidebol, trefn fewnol ac ar y materion niferus eraill sy'n effeithio ar bob un ohonom fel aelodau'r corff hwn. Y ffordd orau o wneud hynny yw drwy Bwyllgor y Tŷ, y gellid dweud ei fod yn y lle gorau i siarad ar ran Aelodau'r corff cyfan. Credaf hefyd y

the whole body. I also believe that the expertise of the staff of the Assembly Parliamentary Service should be fully integrated into the process of working up this new Government of Wales Bill.

None of this is said in any spirit of challenge or antagonism. I believe that lessons should be learned from the way in which the second Government of Wales Bill—now the Government of Wales Act 1998—was drafted with insufficient consultation, and a reluctance to listen to ideas. The First Minister will remember that, as we were both MPs on the backbenches when that Bill went through its Committee Stages in the House of Commons. I hope that, in replying to the debate, the Minister can indicate that there will be a fully inclusive approach to the drafting of this legislation, which would mean a better Bill and better government in Wales.

Huw Lewis: I welcome Plaid Cymru's support for a 500m opencast buffer zone, albeit that it is rather late in the day—six years late, to be precise, as that is how long I have been consistently calling for a 500m zone around opencast sites in this institution. I say to Peter Law that I still have the correspondence between us that dates back to 1999-2000, when I called upon him as the then-Minister to institute a 500m buffer zone around opencast sites, which he did not do. The people of Merthyr do not need you to ride to the rescue today, Peter; they needed you six years ago.

Peter Law *rose*—

Huw Lewis: Plaid Cymru's amendment does not advance the case for a buffer zone—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Are you giving way to Peter Law?

Huw Lewis: This amendment is a gesture, cynically designed to win a few votes. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh.']

The Presiding Officer: Order. Will you give way?

dylid integreiddio arbenigedd staff Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn llawn yn y broses o gyflawni'r Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru newydd hwn.

Ni ddywedir dim byd er mwyn herio neu fod yn wrthwynebol. Credaf y dylid dysgu gwersi o'r ffordd y cafodd ail Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru—Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 yn awr—ei ddrafftio heb ddigon o ymgynghori, ac amharoddrwydd i wrando ar syniadau. Bydd y Prif Weinidog yn cofio hynny, am fod y ddau ohonom yn ASau ar y meinciau cefn pan aeth y Mesur hwnnw drwy ei Gamau Pwyllgor yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin. Gobeithiaf y gall y Gweinidog, wrth ymateb i'r ddadl, nodi y bydd ymagwedd gwbl gynhwysol tuag at ddrafftio'r ddeddfwriaeth hon, a fyddai'n golygu Mesur gwell a llywodraethu gwell yng Nghymru.

Huw Lewis: Croesawaf gefnogaeth Plaid Cymru i glustogfa glo brig o 500m, er ei bod braidd yn hwyr yn y dydd—chwe blynedd yn hwyr, i fod yn fanwl gywir, oherwydd yr ydym wedi bod yn galw'n gyson am glustogfa o 500m o amgylch safleoedd glo brig yn y sefydliad hwn am y cyfnod hwnnw. Dywedaf wrth Peter Law fod gennyf ohebiaeth rhyngom o hyd sy'n dyddio o 1999-2000, pan alwais arno fel y Gweinidog ar y pryd i sefydlu clustogfa o 500m o amgylch safleoedd glo brig. Ni wnaeth hynny. Nid yw pobl Merthyr angen ichi eu hachub heddiw, Peter; yr oedd eich angen arnynt chwe blynedd yn ôl.

Peter Law *a gododd*—

Huw Lewis: Nid yw gwelliant Plaid Cymru yn symud y ddadl dros gael clustogfa yn ei blaen—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. A ildiwch i Peter Law?

Huw Lewis: Gimig yw'r gwelliant hwn, sydd wedi'i gynllunio'n sinigaidd i ennill ychydig bleidleisiau. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O.']

Y Llywydd: Trefn. A wnewch ildio?

Huw Lewis: I will do so in a moment.

The amendment cannot deliver a 500m buffer zone. The legislation could not retrospectively apply to Ffos-y-frân, and does not affect Ffos-y-frân at all; it is therefore meaningless to the people of Merthyr. Secondly, and crucially, the power to institute a 500m buffer zone already lies in the Assembly. This is all appearance and not substance.

Peter Law: Exactly on that point Huw, why did we not see a 500m buffer zone from which your constituents should have benefited? That is the question. I represent people who face opencast in their future, and have perhaps had experience of it in their past, but who have not had a fair deal. We have a Minister who has powers and a planning committee with powers, but neither demanded a buffer zone. One should have been provided, so why was it not? It is a reasonable question.

Huw Lewis: I am glad that you feel that way now, Peter, but, unfortunately, the representations that I made to you in 1999 and 2000 did not elicit the same response.

Provision already exists, as Peter has said, for a 500m buffer zone and we need an assurance from Ministers that further guidance will be issued quickly in issuing the coal TAN. I hope that the Government will give a commitment to my constituents that it will publish that coal TAN as soon as possible—

David Lloyd: Will you give way?

Huw Lewis: I do not have enough time.

I will shortly be attending a meeting with the Minister to press him again on this issue. The people of my constituency are used to snake-oil salesmen, we have seen them by the hundred. If Plaid Cymru members think that my constituents are dull enough to fall for this cynical ploy of an amendment, then they need to think again. This cheap-jack politics—

Huw Lewis: Gwnaf, mewn munud.

Ni all y gwelliant sicrhau clustogfa o 500m. Ni ellid cymhwyso'r ddeddfwriaeth yn ôl-weithredol i Ffos-y-frân, ac nid yw'n effeithio ar Ffos-y-frân o gwbl; felly mae'n ddiystyr i bobl Merthyr. Yn ail, ac yn hollbwysig, mae gan y Cynulliad y pŵer i sefydlu clustogfa o 500m eisoes. Mae a wnelo hyn ag ymddangosiad yn hytrach na sylwedd.

Peter Law: Ar y pwynt hwnnw yn union Huw, pam na welsom glustogfa o 500m y dylai eich etholwyr fod wedi elwa arni? Dyna'r cwestiwn. Cynrychiolaf bobl a fydd yn wynebu cloddio glo brig yn y dyfodol, ac sydd efallai wedi cael profiad ohono yn y gorffennol, ond nad ydynt wedi cael chwarae teg. Mae gennym Weinidog sydd â phwerau a phwyllgor cynllunio sydd â phwerau, ond ni ofynnodd y naill na'r llall am glustogfa. Dylid bod wedi'i darparu, felly pam na ddigwyddodd hynny? Mae'n gwestiwn rhesymol.

Huw Lewis: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn teimlo felly yn awr, Peter, ond, yn anffodus, ni chafodd y sylwadau a gyflwynais ichi yn 1999 a 2000 yr un ymateb.

Mae darpariaeth yn bodoli eisoes, fel y dywedodd Peter, i gael clustogfa o 500m ac mae angen sicrwydd arnom gan Weinidogion y caiff canllawiau pellach eu cyhoeddi yn gyflym wrth gyhoeddi'r TAN ar lo. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Llywodraeth yn rhoi ymrwymiad i'm hetholwyr y bydd yn cyhoeddi'r TAN hwnnw ar lo cyn gynted â phosibl—

David Lloyd: A wnewch ildio?

Huw Lewis: Nid oes digon o amser gennyf.

Byddaf yn mynychu cyfarfod gyda'r Gweinidog maes o law i bwysu arno eto o ran y mater hwn. Mae fy etholwyr yn gyfarwydd â'r rhai sy'n ceisio gwerthu rhywbeth di-werth, yr ydym wedi gweld cannoedd ohonynt. Os cred aelodau Plaid Cymru fod fy etholwyr yn ddigon twp i gredu'r gwelliant dichellgar sinigaidd hwn, yna rhaid iddynt feddwl eto. Nid yw'r wleidyddiaeth ddi-werth hon—

David Lloyd *rose*—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Huw Lewis is not giving way.

Huw Lewis: Far be it from me, Presiding Officer, to use a debate to cynically criticise opposition parties.

As I was saying, this cheap-jack politics—which is what we are facing from Plaid Cymru today—is not designed to help the people of Merthyr or anyone anywhere, other than the people sitting on the opposition side of the Chamber. I will vote against this amendment because it would not deliver a 500m buffer zone, and because it seeks to mislead my constituents. The Minister said that this amendment was daft; it is not just daft, it is dishonest.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Point of order. Is it in order for a Member to accuse an opposition party of being dishonest when it puts forward an amendment?

The Presiding Officer: I did not hear any personal attacks on individual Members. I heard some general political debate. If an Assembly Member or, indeed, a member of the public were described as dishonest in his or her person, I would rule that to be disorderly. However, to generally accuse a political party of dishonesty is the level of political debate to which we have now sunk.

Janet Davies: First of all, I will look at our amendment on integrated policy development, which, in my view, is hindered by the lack of primary legislative rights. The current devolution settlement has many resource-wasting grey areas, which leave Wales in limbo and will continue to do so until the UK Government decides to run with a request for a particular piece of legislation. For example, last year, while Members were scrutinising the Transport (Wales) Bill, it was already clear that some of its provisions would be subsumed into a Railways Bill for the UK. In the event, that weakened the Bill for Wales. We now know that, while the Railways Bill is likely to receive final

David Lloyd *a gododd*—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid yw Huw Lewis yn ildio.

Huw Lewis: Nid fy lle i, Lywydd, yw defnyddio dadl i feirniadu'r gwrthbleidiau yn sinigaidd.

Fel y dywedwn, nid yw'r wleidyddiaeth ddiwerth hon—sef yr hyn a wynebwn gan Blaid Cymru heddiw—wedi'i chynllunio i helpu pobl Merthyr nac unrhyw un yn unrhyw le, ar wahân i'r bobl sy'n eistedd ar ochr arall y Siambr. Byddaf yn pleidleisio yn erbyn y gwelliant oherwydd ni fyddai'n sicrhau clustogfa o 500m, ac am ei fod yn ceisio camarwain fy etholwyr. Dywedodd y Gweinidog fod y gwelliant hwn yn wirion; mae nid yn unig yn ffôl, ond mae'n anonest hefyd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Pwynt o drefn. A yw mewn trefn i Aelod gyhuddo gwrthblaid o fod yn anonest pan fydd yn cyflwyno gwelliant?

Y Llywydd: Ni chlywais unrhyw ymosodiadau personol ar Aelodau unigol. Clywais rywfaint o drafodaeth wleidyddol gyffredinol. Pe disgrifid Aelod Cynulliad neu, yn wir, aelod o'r cyhoedd yn berson anonest, byddwn yn dyfarnu bod hynny allan o drefn. Fodd bynnag, mae cyhuddo gwrthblaid yn gyffredinol o fod yn anonest yn dangos lefel isel y drafodaeth wleidyddol a gawn bellach.

Janet Davies: Yn gyntaf oll, soniaf am ein gwelliant ar ddatblygu polisi integredig, sydd, yn fy marn i, wedi'i rwystro am nad oes hawliau deddfwriaethol sylfaenol gennym. Mae sawl maes aneglur yn y setliad datganoli presennol lle y gwastraffir adnoddau, sy'n gadael Cymru mewn sefyllfa ansicr a bydd yn parhau i wneud hynny hyd nes bod Llywodraeth y DU yn penderfynu derbyn cais am ddarn penodol o ddeddfwriaeth. Er enghraifft, y llynedd, pan oedd Aelodau yn craffu ar Fesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru), yr oedd eisoes yn amlwg y byddai rhai o'i ddarpariaethau yn cael eu cynnwys mewn Mesur Rheilffyrdd i'r DU. Yn y pen draw, gwanhawyd y Mesur i Gymru yn sgîl

approval, there is much more doubt about our Transport (Wales) Bill, yet both need to hang together for full effect.

There is a principle at stake in this. I quote from Richard Price, the eighteenth century writer, political activist and Jacobin from Llangeinor, who said:

‘That state...is free which is guided by its own will, or by the will of an assembly of representatives appointed by itself and accountable to itself. And every state not so governed, or in which a body of men representing the people make not an essential part of the legislature, is in slavery’.

I think that that follows some of Mike German’s comments.

I now turn to the amendments concerning environmental issues. One of the Assembly Government’s problems in putting policies in place to control climate change is the lack of primary legislation in some important areas. The issue of who makes decisions on renewable energy projects highlights this difficulty.

The Environment Agency, again, is organised to operate within Wales, despite the river basin question. With the National Assembly now established, and changes to its sponsored bodies under way, the time is ripe for this.

4.00 p.m.

On opencast coal extraction, planning applications have raised outrage in communities as far apart as Merthyr Tydfil, Cwmllynfell and Kenfig. Concern among those living close to such sites is valid. Extraction not only destroys the local environment, but causes traffic hazards, intolerable noise, and dust levels. The evidence on damage to health is considerable, and the Labour Party is downright dishonest not to acknowledge that. When such activities were given planning

hynny. Gwyddom yn awr, er bod y Mesur Rheilffyrdd yn debygol o gael ei gymeradwyo’n derfynol, bod llawer mwy o amheuaeth ynghylch ein Mesur Trafnidiaeth (Cymru), ond rhaid i’r ddau gael eu cymeradwyo gyda’i gilydd i gael yr effaith lawn.

Mae egwyddor yn y fantol yma. Dyfynnaf gan Richard Price, awdur, gweithredydd gwleidyddol a Jacobin o Langeinor o’r ddeunawfed ganrif, a ddywedodd:

Y wlad...sy’n rhydd yw’r un a gaiff ei harwain gan ei hewyllys ei hun, neu gan ewyllys cynulliad o gynrychiolwyr a benodir ganddi hi ei hun ac sy’n atebol iddi hi ei hun. Ac mae pob gwlad na chaiff ei llywodraethu yn y fath fodd, neu lle nad yw corff o ddynion sy’n cynrychioli’r bobl yn rhan hanfodol o’r ddeddfwrfa, dan yr iau.

Credaf fod hynny’n dilyn rhai o sylwadau Mike German.

Trof yn awr at y gwelliannau yn ymwneud â materion amgylcheddol. Un o broblemau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wrth roi polisiâu ar waith i reoli newid yn yr hinsawdd yw diffyg deddfwriaeth sylfaenol mewn rhai meysydd pwysig. Mae’r broblem ynghylch pwy sy’n gwneud penderfyniadau ar brosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy yn amlygu’r anhawster hwn.

Trefnir Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd, unwaith eto, i weithredu yng Nghymru, er gwaethaf y mater yn ymwneud â basn yr afon. Am fod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wedi’i sefydlu erbyn hyn, a bod newidiadau i’r cyrff a noddir ganddo ar y gweill, mae’n bryd gwneud hyn.

O ran cloddio glo brig, mae ceisiadau cynllunio wedi creu dicter mewn cymunedau sydd mor bell oddi wrth ei gilydd â Merthyr Tudful, Cwmllynfell a Chynffig. Mae pryder ymhlith y rhai sy’n byw yn agos at safleoedd o’r fath yn ddilys. Mae cloddio nid yn unig yn dinistrio’r amgylchedd lleol, ond mae hefyd yn creu peryglon traffig, sŵn annioddefol, a lefelau llwch. Mae’r dystiolaeth o ran y niwed i iechyd yn sylweddol, ac mae’r Blaid Lafur yn gwbl anonest i beidio â chydabod hynny. Pan

permission 30 to 40 years ago, residential properties within 250m were bought out, yet now, in 2005, one house in Ffos-y-frân in Merthyr will be only 35m away from the boundary and, at Parc Slip in Kenfig, there are houses within 200m. I invite the Minister to intervene on my speech, and give an assurance that, if that legislation exists, he will implement—

Huw Lewis *rose*—

Janet Davies: No, Huw, I am not giving way to you—I am asking the Minister to intervene on my speech. If that legislation exists, will the Minister implement a 500m buffer zone at Ffos-y-frân and Parc Slip?

Huw Lewis *rose*—

Janet Davies: I am not asking you, Huw.

The Presiding Officer: Order. The Minister does not seem to be rising—oh, I see that he is.

Carwyn Jones: I will answer your question, Janet. The planning decision committee takes the decision, not the Minister. Is your party saying that the planning decision committee is no longer valid, and, if so, are you willing to see the end of it?

Janet Davies: I am saying that you are able to look at the conditions and give it advice; you usually sit on the planning decision committee.

Carwyn Jones: That is entirely wrong, as you should well know.

Janet Davies: We are asking for this to be on a statutory basis, if you will not give that assurance. Technical advice notes can be altered, and there is no democratic accountability to them.

Plaid Cymru is aware of the shortage of time in the UK Parliament. Richard Price understood that government is about freedom. It is also about watching out for ourselves. A prime duty for the First Minister of Wales is to watch out for Wales—

roddwyd caniatâd cynllunio i weithgareddau o'r fath 30 neu 40 mlynedd yn ôl, cafodd cartrefi a oedd o fewn 250m iddynt eu prynu, ond yn awr, yn 2005, bydd un tŷ yn Ffos-y-frân ym Merthyr 35m i ffwrdd yn unig o'r ffin ac, ym Mharc Slip yng Nghynffig, mae tai o fewn 200m. Gwahoddaf y Gweinidog i ymyrryd yn fy araith, a rhoi sicrwydd, os yw'r ddeddfwriaeth honno yn bodoli, y bydd yn gweithredu—

Huw Lewis *a gododd*—

Janet Davies: Nid ildiaf ichi, Huw—gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ymyrryd yn fy araith. Os yw'r ddeddfwriaeth honno yn bodoli, a wnaiff y Gweinidog weithredu clustogfa o 500m yn Ffos-y-frân a Pharc Slip?

Huw Lewis *a gododd*—

Janet Davies: Nid wyf yn gofyn i chi, Huw.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid ymddengys bod y Gweinidog yn codi—o, gwelaf ei fod yn codi yn awr.

Carwyn Jones: Byddaf yn ateb eich cwestiwn, Janet. Y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio sy'n gwneud y penderfyniad, nid y Gweinidog. A yw eich plaid yn dweud nad yw'r pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio yn ddilys mwyach, ac, os felly, a ydych yn fodlon iddo gael ei ddiddymu?

Janet Davies: Dywedaf y gallwch edrych ar yr amodau a rhoi cyngor iddo; yr ydych yn eistedd ar y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio fel arfer.

Carwyn Jones: Yr ydych yn hollol anghywir, fel y dylech wybod.

Janet Davies: Gofynnwn i hyn gael ei wneud yn statudol, os na fyddwch yn rhoi'r sicrwydd hwnnw. Gellir newid nodiadau cyngor technegol, ac nid oes atebolrwydd democrataidd yn gysylltiedig â hwy.

Mae Plaid Cymru yn ymwybodol nad oes digon o amser yn Senedd y DU. Deallai Richard Price fod a wnelo llywodraethu â rhyddid. Mae a wnelo hefyd â gofalu amdanon ni ein hunain. Un o brif ddyletswyddau Prif Weinidog Cymru yw

gofalu am Gymru—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Your time is up, Janet—I have allowed extra time.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae eich amser wedi dod i ben, Janet—yr wyf wedi caniatáu amser ychwanegol.

Leighton Andrews: I welcome the Bills that the Government is requesting. In particular, I welcome the proposal for a Government of Wales Bill, and look forward to the enhancement of the Assembly's powers.

Leighton Andrews: Croesawaf y Mesurau y mae'r Llywodraeth yn gwneud cais amdanynt. Yn benodol, croesawaf y cynnig i gael Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ychwanegu at bwerau'r Cynulliad.

However, it is sometimes worth having a look at the Bills that we are not looking to bring in—the Conservatives, in their amendment 3, have started the ball rolling by giving us a long list of Bills. I congratulate the Welsh Assembly Government on not bringing in an NHS (Wales) Bill that would introduce patient passports and take £1 billion out of the NHS, which is one of the Bills that the Conservatives want to see introduced. That would be damaging to the national health service, it would apply only to those who could afford to pay part of their private healthcare, and it would not apply to the bulk of my constituents.

Fodd bynnag, weithiau mae'n werth edrych ar y Mesurau nad ydym yn ceisio eu cyflwyno—mae'r Ceidwadwyr, yng ngwelliant 3 a gynigiwyd ganddynt, wedi dechrau ar hyn drwy roi rhestr faith o Fesurau inni. Llongyfarchaf Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar beidio â chyflwyno Mesur GIG (Cymru) a fyddai'n cyflwyno pasportau cleifion ac yn tynnu £1 biliwn o'r GIG, sef un o'r Mesurau y mae'r Ceidwadwyr am eu cyflwyno. Byddai hynny'n niweidiol i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, dim ond i'r rhai a allai fforddio talu rhan o'u gofal iechyd preifat y byddai'n berthnasol, ac ni fyddai'n berthnasol i'r rhan fwyaf o'm hetholwyr.

Nick Bourne: I am not sure whether Leighton was here yesterday when I raised the issue with the First Minister of a constituent of mine who had had to pay £9,000—the constituent's life savings—to go private because of the dreadful state of the health service in Wales. He will also be aware, since he follows these matters, that the Conservative Party, far from ploughing less money into health, will keep up the level of spending—that is absolutely protected. The difference is that we would deliver with that money, and you have not.

Nick Bourne: Nid wyf yn siŵr a oedd Leighton yma ddoe pan godais y mater gyda'r Prif Weinidog o ran un o'm hetholwyr y bu'n rhaid iddo dalu £9,000—cynilion oes yr etholwr—i gael gofal iechyd preifat oherwydd cyflwr ofnadwy y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Fe ŵyr hefyd, am ei fod yn dilyn y materion hyn, y bydd y Blaid Geidwadol, yn hytrach na rhoi llai o arian i iechyd, yn sicrhau'r un lefel o wariant—mae hynny wedi'i ddiogelu. Y gwahaniaeth yw y byddem ni yn cyflawni gyda'r arian hwnnw, ac nid ydych chi wedi gwneud hynny.

Leighton Andrews: The shadow Chancellor, Oliver Letwin, said in January on BBC 2:

Leighton Andrews: Dywedodd Canghellor yr wrthblaid, Oliver Letwin, ym mis Ionawr ar BBC 2:

'Our plans provide for us to continue growing public spending a per cent slower each year than Labour, and by the end of the parliament, 2011-12, the end of the economic cycle, we'll be spending about £35 billion less than Labour'.

Mae ein cynlluniau yn ei gwneud yn bosibl inni barhau i gynyddu gwariant cyhoeddus ganran yn arafach bob blwyddyn na Llafur, ac erbyn diwedd y senedd, 2011-12, diwedd y cylch economaidd, byddwn yn gwario tua £35 biliwn yn llai na Llafur.

Those are Oliver Letwin's words, not mine.

Dyna eiriau Oliver Letwin, nid fy ngeiriau i.

Therefore, how much of the Welsh budget will be cut if those cuts go ahead? How much of the NHS budget in Wales will be cut—how much will be cut from schools and social services? We know what the Tories will do—their shadow Chancellor has said as much.

Mark Isherwood: I commend to you the actual Conservative policy, which is to increase spending on all those front-line services, and cut the waste in bureaucracy and poor value for money that your profligate and inefficient Government of the last eight years—and six years in this place—has so poorly delivered.

Leighton Andrews: I notice that some of the savings that you propose are planned from the abolition of some quangos. Our Chancellor has already announced the date for the abolition of some quangos, so he has shot your fox. Your party is still committed to £35 billion of cuts. There will be other Bills, of course, that we will not ask to come forward. I am delighted that we are not asking for a 'Representation of Prisoners (Wales) Bill'. I notice that the Liberal Democrats are not asking for that today, but their party wants to give the vote to prisoners.

David Davies: Will you give way?

Leighton Andrews: No, I have already given way to two Conservatives.

Michael German: In which case, I wonder whether—

Leighton Andrews: Sorry?

Michael German: You said that you would not give way.

Leighton Andrews: No, I did not; I said that I was not giving way to a Conservative. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. I do not believe that you are a Conservative, Mike.

Leighton Andrews: I may give way to you in a minute. [*Interruption.*]

Felly, faint o gyllideb Cymru a gaiff ei thorri os gwneir y toriadau hynny? Faint o gyllideb y GIG yng Nghymru a gaiff ei thorri—faint a gaiff ei dorri oddi ar gyllideb ysgolion a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol? Gwyddom beth y bydd y Torïaid yn ei wneud—mae Canghellor yr wrthblaid wedi dweud wrthym.

Mark Isherwood: Cymeradwyaf bolisi gwirioneddol y Ceidwadwyr ichi, sef cynyddu gwariant ar yr holl wasanaethau rheng flaen hynny, a dileu'r gwastraff mewn biwrocratiaeth a gwerth gwael am arian y mae eich Llywodraeth afradlon ac aneffeithlon dros yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf—a chwe blynedd yn y lle hwn—wedi'i gyflawni mor wael.

Leighton Andrews: Sylwaf fod rhai o'r arbedion a gynigiwch wedi'u cynllunio drwy ddileu rhai cwangos. Mae ein Canghellor eisoes wedi cyhoeddi'r dyddiad ar gyfer dileu rhai cwangos, felly mae wedi achub y blaen arnoch. Mae eich plaid yn dal i fod yn ymrwymedig i wneud toriadau o £35 biliwn. Bydd Mesurau eraill, wrth gwrs, na fyddwn yn gofyn iddynt gael eu cyflwyno. Yr wyf wrth fy modd nad ydym yn gofyn am 'Fesur Cynrychioli Carcharorion (Cymru)'. Sylwaf nad yw'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn gofyn am hynny heddiw, ond mae eu plaid am roi'r hawl i garcharorion bleidleisio.

David Davies: A wnewch ildio?

Leighton Andrews: Na wnaf, yr wyf wedi ildio i ddau Geidwadwr eisoes.

Michael German: Felly, tybed—

Leighton Andrews: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf?

Michael German: Dywedasoeh na fyddech yn ildio.

Leighton Andrews: Naddo; dywedais na fyddwn yn ildio i Geidwadwr. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni chredaf eich bod yn Geidwadwr, Mike.

Leighton Andrews: Efallai y byddaf yn ildio ichi mewn munud. [*Torri ar draws.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. I do not believe that Leighton Andrews is giving way, but if he is, it will be fairly soon.

Leighton Andrews: The other Bill that we are glad that we are not seeing from the Labour Government is an 'Abolition of Child Trust Funds (Wales) Bill', which, presumably, would come about if the Liberal Democrats were in power, because they are opposed to the child trust fund. Now I will give way, Mike.

Michael German: I am grateful. Will the Leighton Andrews who wrote an article in the magazine that I have here tell us about the Government of Wales Act 1998? In the article, you say that Parliament is, at best, the eunuch of capitalism. Is that what you believe? Please tell us, because we would like to know.

Leighton Andrews: I take responsibility for what I have said, even if it was 29 years ago.

Let us not forget Plaid Cymru, we are not asking for—

Several Assembly Members *rose*—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Leighton Andrews is about to conclude his speech.

Leighton Andrews: I am delighted that we are going forward into this next election promising to enhance the powers of the National Assembly. I will campaign for primary legislative powers for the Assembly, and I believe that that is what the people of Wales will want.

Lisa Francis: I will confine my comments today to the bids for legislation, which I think are thin on detail.

I read the background briefing provided for this debate with great interest, because the words used to describe this Welsh Labour Government's bid for legislation in respect of a statutory registration scheme for

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni chredaf fod Leighton Andrews yn ildio, ond os ydyw, bydd hynny'n digwydd yn weddol fuan.

Leighton Andrews: Mae'r Mesur arall yr ydym yn falch nad ydym yn ei weld o du'r Llywodraeth Lafur yw 'Mesur Dileu Cronfeydd Ymddiriedolaeth Plant (Cymru)', a fyddai'n cael ei gyflwyno, yn ôl pob tebyg, pe bai'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol mewn grym, am eu bod yn gwrthwynebu'r gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant. Byddaf yn ildio yn awr, Mike.

Michael German: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar. A wnaiff y Leighton Andrews a ysgrifennodd erthygl yn y cylchgrawn sydd gennym yma ddweud wrthym ei farn am Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998? Yn yr erthygl, dywedwch fod Senedd, ar ei gorau, yn eunuch cyfalafiaeth. Ai dyna a gredwch? Dywedwch wrthym, oherwydd hoffem wybod.

Leighton Andrews: Derbyniaf gyfrifoldeb dros yr hyn a ddywedais, er mai 29 mlynedd yn ôl ydoedd.

Gadewch inni beidio ag anghofio Plaid Cymru, nid ofynnwn am—

Cododd sawl Aelod o'r Cynulliad—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae Leighton Andrews ar fin gorffen ei araith.

Leighton Andrews: Yr wyf yn falch ein bod yn agosáu at yr etholiad nesaf gan addo ychwanegu at bwerau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Byddaf yn ymgyrchu dros bwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad, a chredaf mai dyna'r hyn y bydd pobl Cymru am ei gael.

Lisa Francis: Byddaf yn cyfyngu fy sylwadau heddiw i'r ceisiadau ar gyfer deddfwriaeth, nad oes llawer o fanylion arnynt, fe gredaf.

Mae'r papur briffio cefndirol a ddarparwyd ar gyfer y ddadl hon yn ddiddorol iawn, am fod y geiriau a ddefnyddir i ddisgrifio cais y Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru hon ar gyfer deddfwriaeth mewn perthynas â chynllun

accommodation providers in Wales confirms and highlights the prevalent ignorance and confusion that exists in Wales about the difference between a statutory registration scheme and a common grading scheme. The words used on page 6 of this brief are:

‘To give the Assembly powers to establish a tourist accommodation scheme in Wales.’

Several are already in existence. The Welsh Assembly Government thinks that it will bring in a scheme, but it has not been costed and is not fully detailed. Mandatory registration in Wales will not meet the tourism industry’s desire to drive standards up—it will only succeed in isolating Wales from other parts of the UK. Who will police the scheme, and how will it be paid for? Do local authorities want to do it? If one-star grading is the entry point, does that not confuse registration with grading? No-one has answered any of those questions, or addressed how a registration scheme will impact on the individuality and variety of accommodation on offer in Wales. What will be registered—accommodation providers or the properties? What happens when there is a change of ownership?

As usual, the situation is what we have come to expect of this administration. The devilsome detail will be worked out as an afterthought. If only the ‘sons and daughters of toil’ sitting opposite had expended as much energy working out the finer nuances of a dedicated tourism marketing department post merger in April 2006, then they might have actually succeeded in their quest to make a real connection, because that is what the tourism industry will really require.

Also on the subject of detail and research, the matter of the Welsh language scheme dyfarnydd, or regulator, must be mentioned.

Nid yw rôl y dyfarnydd wedi ei diffinio yn fanwl hyd yn hyn. Yn y cyfamser, cyn iddo newid i fod yn swydd statudol, gosodir amodau yn eu lle a fydd yn sicrhau gonestrwydd a thrylowder gwaith a chyngor y dyfarnydd. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes gwybodaeth bellach ar gael ynglŷn â natur a manylion yr amodau hyn.

cofrestru statudol i ddarparwyr llety yng Nghymru yn cadarnhau ac yn amlygu’r achosion niferus o anwybodaeth a dryswch yng Nghymru ynghylch y gwahaniaeth rhwng cynllun cofrestru statudol a chynllun graddio cyffredin. Y geiriau a ddefnyddir ar dudalen 6 y nodyn briffio hwn yw:

Rhoi pwerau i’r Cynulliad sefydlu cynllun llety i dwristiaid yng Nghymru.

Mae sawl un eisoes yn bodoli. Cred Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru y bydd yn cyflwyno cynllun, ond nid yw wedi’i gostio ac nid oes manylion llawn amdano. Ni fydd cofrestru gorfodol yng Nghymru yn bodloni awydd y diwydiant twristiaeth i wella safonau—y cyfan a wnaiff fydd ynysu Cymru o rannau eraill o’r DU. Pwy fydd yn goruchwylio’r cynllun, a sut y telir amdano? A yw awdurdodau lleol am wneud hynny? Os mai gradd un seren yw’r pwynt mynediad, onid yw hynny’n drysu cofrestru a graddio? Nid oes neb wedi ateb unrhyw un o’r cwestiynau hynny, nac ymdrin â sut y bydd cynllun cofrestru yn effeithio ar natur unigol ac amrywiol y llety a gynigir yng Nghymru. Beth a gaiff ei gofrestru—darparwyr llety neu’r eiddo? Beth fydd yn digwydd pan fydd perchennog newydd?

Fel arfer, dyma’r hyn a ddisgwyliwn bellach gan y weinyddiaeth hon. Ôl-ystyriaeth fydd y manylion. Trueni na roddodd hen werin y graith sy’n eistedd ger fy mron gymaint o egni i nodi agweddau manylach adran marchnata twristiaeth benodedig ar ôl uno ym mis Ebrill 2006. Pe baent wedi gwneud hynny yna efallai y byddent wedi llwyddo yn eu hymgais i wneud cysylltiad gwirioneddol, oherwydd dyna’r hyn y bydd ei angen ar y diwydiant twristiaeth mewn gwirionedd.

Hefyd, o ran manylion ac ymchwil, rhaid cyfeirio at ddyfarnydd cynlluniau iaith Gymraeg hefyd.

The role of the dyfarnydd has not been defined in any detail as yet. Meanwhile, before that post becomes statutory, terms and conditions will be put in place to ensure the integrity and transparency of the dyfarnydd’s work and advice. Currently, no further information is available with regard to the nature and detail of those terms and

conditions.

That pearl of wisdom came straight from the horse's mouth—so, no research and no detail. Once again, the Welsh Labour Government donkey has placed itself strategically behind the cart.

Daeth y geiriau doeth hynny yn syth o lygad y ffynnon—felly, dim ymchwil a dim manylion. Unwaith eto, mae asyn Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru wedi gosod ei hun yn strategol y tu ôl i'r cart.

4.10 p.m.

Jeff Cuthbert: It gives me great pleasure to speak today about the Bill that will deliver a commissioner for older people in Wales. As the new chair of the all-party group on older people and ageing, I am more than aware how important an achievement this is. I take over the new role as chair of the group from David Melding, and I pay tribute to him for his hard work as the former chair.

Jeff Cuthbert: Mae'n bleser mawr gennyf siarad heddiw am y Mesur a fydd yn sicrhau comisiynydd ar gyfer pobl hŷn yng Nghymru. Fel cadeirydd newydd y grŵp hollbleidiol ar bobl hŷn a heneiddio, yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o ba mor bwysig yw hyn. Ymgymeraf â'r rôl newydd fel cadeirydd y grŵp yn lle David Melding, a thalaf deyrnged iddo am ei waith caled fel y cyn-gadeirydd.

The new commissioner will be a champion for the rights of Wales's older people. The commissioner's role will be to promote awareness and to be a constant check on the law and practices of Wales and how they affect the interests of older people.

Bydd y comisiynydd newydd yn hyrwyddo hawliau pobl hŷn Cymru. Rôl y comisiynydd fydd hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth a gwirio deddfau ac arferion Cymru yn rheolaidd a gweld sut y maent yn effeithio ar fuddiannau pobl hŷn.

Demographic shifts clearly point towards a growing number of people living longer throughout the UK. It is more important now than ever that the post of commissioner is brought into being. It is high time that older people in Wales are treated as individuals and recognised as having as much to offer society as any other person. Every person in the world will experience old age, if they are lucky, yet this is the one area where stereotypes and discrimination loom large. The commission will help to change these misconceptions that impinge on older people's everyday lives. Age discrimination in the workforce, for example, is still far too common.

Mae newidiadau demograffig yn nodi'n glir bod nifer gynyddol o bobl yn byw'n hwy ledled y DU. Mae cyflwyno swydd comisiynydd bellach yn bwysicach nag erioed. Mae'n hen bryd trin pobl hŷn yng Nghymru fel unigolion a chydabod bod ganddynt gymaint i'w gynnig i gymdeithas ag unrhyw un arall. Bydd pawb yn y byd yn heneiddio, os ydynt yn ffodus, ac eto dyma'r maes lle y mae stereoteipiau a gwahaniaethu yn amlwg. Bydd y comisiynydd yn helpu i newid y camsyniadau hyn sy'n amharu ar fywydau bob dydd pobl hŷn. Mae gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran yn y gweithlu, er enghraifft, yn llawer rhy gyffredin o hyd.

As Members will remember, the advisory group that was asked to look into setting up the post of commissioner gave its resolute backing to the idea. At the time, the group hoped that the commissioner would be an independent voice for older people, and I believe that that has been delivered.

Fel y bydd Aelodau yn cofio, rhoddodd y grŵp cynghori y gofynnwyd iddo ymchwilio i'r posibilrwydd o sefydlu swydd comisiynydd ei gefnogaeth lwyr i'r syniad. Ar y pryd, gobeithiai'r grŵp y byddai'r comisiynydd yn llais annibynnol i bobl hŷn, a chredaf fod hynny wedi'i gyflawni.

The consultation exercise on the proposed commissioner for older people yielded a

Ymatebodd dros 150 o sefydliadau a grwpiau pobl hŷn i'r ymarfer ymgynghori ar y

response from over 150 organisations and groups of older people. The result revealed the sheer strength of feeling for the post in Wales. The response was overwhelmingly in favour, with 93 per cent wanting the commissioner and 85 per cent in favour of the functions proposed for the office. I hope that this enthusiasm and sheer level of engagement by older people's groups in Wales can be maintained as the commissioner's post comes into being, as planned, in 2007.

As chair of the all-party group for older people and ageing, and also as the chair of the all-party group for healthy living, I am well aware of the issues to which the commissioner will turn his or her attention. Healthy living, diabetes, care issues, safety and the fear of crime, and many more, will all be top priorities for the new commissioner.

It is worth remembering that this new post is just one example of the Labour Assembly Government delivering for older people in Wales. The Assembly Government has also delivered free bus passes, the free swimming initiative, free television licences, the winter fuel allowance, the pensioners' credit and six weeks' free home care on discharge from hospital. This is a good package of services for older people. Having the role of commissioner for older people in Wales will only add to the existing packages of services on offer to older people in Wales.

Jenny Randerson: First, I will make clear the Welsh Liberal Democrats' position on the amendments. We will support most of the amendments, but there are two for which we cannot offer support due to the details of the wording, rather than the principle involved, and another about which we have more serious concerns.

With reference to amendment 8, the Welsh Liberal Democrats support the reform of the Barnett formula. We have called for this many times. The Liberal Democrats, at a UK level, have acknowledged, in our policy documents, that the Barnett formula needs to be replaced by a formula based on need.

comisiynydd arfaethedig ar gyfer pobl hŷn. Datgelodd y canlyniadau y gefnogaeth gref i'r swydd yng Nghymru. Yr oedd mwyafrif helaeth yr ymatebion o blaid y comisiynydd, gyda 93 y cant am i swydd comisiynydd gael ei sefydlu ac 85 y cant o blaid y swyddogaethau a gynigiwyd ar gyfer y swydd. Gobeithiaf y gellir cynnal y brwdfrydedd hwn a'r ymgysylltiad hwn gan grwpiau pobl hŷn yng Nghymru wrth i swydd y comisiynydd gael ei chyflwyno, yn unol â'r bwriad, yn 2007.

Fel cadeirydd y grŵp hollbleidiol ar gyfer pobl hŷn a heneiddio, a hefyd fel cadeirydd y grŵp hollbleidiol ar gyfer byw'n iach, yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o'r materion y bydd y comisiynydd yn troi ei sylw atynt. Bydd byw'n iach, diabetes, materion yn ymwneud â gofal, diogelwch ac ofn troseddau, a llawer mwy, oll yn flaenoriaethau i'r comisiynydd newydd.

Mae'n werth cofio mai dim ond un enghraifft o Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad yn gwneud gwahaniaeth i bobl hŷn yng Nghymru yw'r swydd newydd hon. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad hefyd wedi cyflwyno tocynnau bws am ddim, y fenter nofio am ddim, trwyddedau teledu am ddim, lwfans tanwydd gaeaf, credyd i bensynwyr a chwe wythnos o ofal cartref am ddim pan gaiff rywun ei ryddhau o'r ysbyty. Mae hwn yn becyn da o wasanaethau i bobl hŷn. Bydd rôl comisiynydd ar gyfer pobl hŷn yng Nghymru yn ychwanegu at y pecynnau o wasanaethau sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd i bobl hŷn yng Nghymru.

Jenny Randerson: Yn gyntaf, byddaf yn egluro safbwynt Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru ar y gwelliannau. Byddwn yn cefnogi'r rhan fwyaf o'r gwelliannau, ond mae dau na allwn eu cefnogi oherwydd y ffordd y cânt eu geirio, yn hytrach na'r egwyddor dan sylw, ac un arall y mae gennym bryderon mwy difrifol yn ei gylch.

O ran gwelliant 8, mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn cefnogi diwygio fformiwla Barnett. Yr ydym wedi galw am hyn sawl gwaith. Mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ar lefel y DU, wedi cydnabod, yn ein dogfennau polisi, bod angen disodli fformiwla Barnett gan fformiwla yn seiliedig

However, I do not know whether this is due to sloppy drafting, or whether it is because Plaid Cymru does not want to upset its Scottish Nationalist Party comrades, but the amendment refers only to England and Wales. The Barnett formula also applies to Scotland, and has to be reformed on that basis, otherwise the reform will be meaningless.

Similarly, in respect of amendment 9 on a new Welsh language Act, we believe that the time is now right for reform and a new Welsh language Act. It is, and I say this every year in this debate, one of the ironies of the restrictions on our powers that we have to go cap in hand to Westminster and ask a Parliament overwhelmingly consisting of English MPs to provide us with a new Welsh language Act. The current Act is out of date and it needs far more revision than the tidying up proposed by the Labour Party. As a party, we oppose the abolition of the Welsh Language Board. The new Act needs to deal with the utilities that have migrated from the public sector to the private sector since the current Act was passed. This amendment, however, refers to the whole of the private sector, and one must ask, 'What about the voluntary sector?'. It is too vague in terms of what it means by equal status, and, therefore, we will be abstaining from voting on both those amendments. In terms of amendment 3, the Tory list, like the curate's egg, is good in parts, but bad in others, and, therefore, we cannot support it.

The Welsh Liberal Democrat amendment, however, gets to the nub of the problem, and asks why we have to go through this charade every year and provide the UK Government with a long menu of tasty dishes from which it may, if we are lucky, choose one, like a faddy eater. Unlike the Labour-proposed Government of Wales Bill, our amendment does not skirt around the issue. A Welsh senedd would allow the introduction of free personal care for the elderly, and it would end the scandalous situation whereby people have to sell their homes to pay for their care. I contrast that with the proposed commissioner for older people—

The Presiding Officer: Order. I ask you to

ar angen. Fodd bynnag, ni wn a yw hyn oherwydd gwaith drafftio esgeulus, neu oherwydd nad yw Plaid Cymru am siomi ei chyfeillion ym Mhlaid Genedlaethol yr Alban, ond dim ond at Gymru a Lloegr y mae'r gwelliant yn cyfeirio. Mae fformiwla Barnett yn berthnasol i'r Alban hefyd, ac mae'n rhaid ei diwygio ar y sail honno, neu bydd y gwaith diwygio yn ddiystyr.

Yn yr un modd, o ran gwelliant 9 ar Ddeddf iaith Gymraeg newydd, credwn ei bod yn hen bryd ei diwygio a chyflwyno Deddf iaith Gymraeg newydd. Dywedaf hyn bob blwyddyn yn y ddadl, ond un o eironiau'r cyfyngiadau ar ein pwerau yw bod yn rhaid inni ymbil â San Steffan a gofyn i Senedd sy'n cynnwys ASau o Loegr yn bennaf roi Deddf iaith Gymraeg newydd inni. Nid yw'r Ddeddf bresennol yn gyfredol erbyn hyn ac mae angen llawer mwy o adolygu arni na'r tacluso a gynigir gan y Blaid Lafur. Fel plaid, gwrthwynebwn ddiddymu Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg. Mae angen i'r Ddeddf newydd ymdrin â'r cyfleustodau sydd wedi trosglwyddo o'r sector cyhoeddus i'r sector preifat ers pasio'r Ddeddf bresennol. Fodd bynnag, mae'r gwelliant hwn yn cyfeirio at y sector preifat cyfan, a rhaid gofyn, 'Beth am y sector gwirfoddol?'. Mae'n rhy amwys o ran ystyr statws cyfartal, ac, felly, byddwn yn ymatal rhag pleidleisio ar y ddau welliant hynny. O ran gwelliant 3, mae rhestr y Toriaid, fel wŷ'r curad, yn dda mewn manau, ond yn wael mewn manau eraill, ac, felly, ni allwn ei gefnogi.

Fodd bynnag, mae gwelliant Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn mynd i wraidd y broblem, ac yn gofyn pam y mae'n rhaid inni fynd drwy'r ffars flynyddol hon a rhoi rhestr faith o ddewisiadau i Lywodraeth y DU, y bydd yn dewis un Mesur o'u plith, yn ôl ei mympwy, os ydym yn ffodus. Yn wahanol i Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru a gynigir gan Lafur, mae ein gwelliant yn mynd i wraidd y mater. Byddai senedd i Gymru yn caniatáu i ofal personol am ddim gael ei gyflwyno i'r henoed, a byddai'n rhoi terfyn ar y sefyllfa warthus lle y mae'n rhaid i bobl werthu eu cartrefi i dalu am eu gofal. Gwrthgyferbynnaf hynny â'r comisyndd arfaethedig ar gyfer pobl hŷn—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Gofynnaf ichi ddirwyn i

wind up now, Jenny.

Jenny Randerson: I have one final point.

Free personal care would make a real difference to many vulnerable people's lives. However, the Assembly Government proposes to establish an older people's commissioner, which, I assume, is so that the elderly can have someone to complain to about having to sell their homes in order to pay for their care.

David Davies: As one of the staunchest opponents of devolution in the Chamber, I am delighted to be able to say that, on this occasion, I am happy to support Members such as Peter Law and John Marek, who campaigned in favour of devolution. I have always taken the commonsense view, which is that if we have a National Assembly for Wales, we must make it work. If amendments are tabled, such as that on opencast mining, which makes sense for the people of Wales, all Members who care about those people should support it. I care about the countryside in Wales, and I am surprised that Members on the other side of the Chamber do not share that strength of feeling. My own constituency of Monmouth is gravely threatened by large numbers of opencast mines and gravel-extraction projects, which will have a similar effect to that suggested in other constituencies. Amendment 7 is about giving a fair deal to people who live next door to these sites, which could have such a huge impact on their lives. I cannot understand why the Minister, whose own constituency is threatened by such projects, is so unwilling to give this amendment a chance.

Huw Lewis: I welcome your concern. However, in January 2000, I tabled a statement of opinion calling for a 500m buffer zone around opencast mining sites throughout Wales, and neither you nor any other Conservative or Plaid Cymru Assembly Member supported it.

David Davies: At that particular time, I was working on a cross-party campaign with councillors, the current Member of

ben yn awr, Jenny.

Jenny Randerson: Mae un pwynt terfynol gennyf.

Byddai gofal personol am ddim yn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i fywydau llawer o bobl ddiameddiffyn. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn bwriadu sefydlu comisiynydd pobl hŷn, fel bod gan yr henoed, fe dybiaf, rywun y gallant gwyno iddo ynghylch gorfod gwerthu eu cartrefi er mwyn talu am eu gofal.

David Davies: Fel un o wrthwynebwyr mwyaf taer datganoli yn y Siambr, yr wyf yn falch i ddweud fy mod yn fodlon cefnogi Aelodau megis Peter Law a John Marek ar yr achlysur hwn, a ymgyrchodd o blaid datganoli. Yr wyf bob amser wedi defnyddio synnwyr cyffredin, sef, os oes Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru gennym, rhaid inni sicrhau ei fod yn gweithio. Os cyflwynir gwelliannau, megis yr un ar gloddio glo brig, sy'n gwneud synnwyr i bobl Cymru, dylai pob Aelod sy'n pryderu am y bobl hynny ei gefnogi. Pryderaf am gefn gwlad Cymru, a synnaf nad yw Aelodau ar ochr arall y Siambr yn pryderu amdano yn yr un ffordd. Mae niferoedd mawr o fwyngloddiau glo brig a phrosiectau cloddio gro, a fydd yn cael effaith debyg i'r hyn a awgrymir mewn etholaethau eraill, yn fygythiad mawr yn fy etholaeth i, sef Trefynwy. Mae a wnelo gwelliant 7 â rhoi chwarae teg i'r bobl sy'n byw ar bwys y safleoedd hyn, a allai gael effaith fawr ar eu bywydau. Ni allaf ddeall pam mae'r Gweinidog mor anfodlon rhoi cyfle i'r gwelliant hwn, pan fo prosiectau o'r fath yn peri bygythiad yn ei etholaeth ei hun.

Huw Lewis: Croesawaf eich pryder. Fodd bynnag, ym mis Ionawr 2000, cyflwynais ddatganiad barn yn galw am glustogfa o 500m o amgylch safleoedd cloddio glo brig ledled Cymru, ac ni chefnogwyd hynny gennyh chi nac unrhyw Aelod Ceidwadol y Cynulliad arall nac unrhyw Aelod Plaid Cymru y Cynulliad.

David Davies: Ar y pryd, yr oeddwn yn gweithio ar ymgyrch drawsbleidiol gyda chynghorwyr, yr Aelod Seneddol presennol

Parliament for Monmouth and many others—of all political parties—to stop that sort of opencast mining, regardless of how far it was from people's houses. You have accused people of being dishonest; I will not sink to that low level of debate. Members on the other side of the Chamber have deviated from the pathway of veracity, and the people of Wales are well aware of that.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae cynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer deddfwriaeth newydd yn San Steffan mor ddiddychymyg ag y gallant fod. Maent yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i Fesur sy'n rhwystro ymgeiswyr rhag sefyll i'w hethol mewn etholaethau ac ar restrau. Nid oes gan y cyhoedd ddiddordeb yn y pwnc hwn ac nid dydynt yn ei ddeall. Mae'r Mesur yn ymwneud yn gyfan gwbl â rhagfarn Llafur. Mae hyn yn dangos pa mor gyfyng yw ei weledigaeth ar gyfer Cymru. Yn wir, yr wyf yn amau bod gan Lafur weledigaeth ar gyfer adeiladu cenedl. Mae'n tagu unrhyw wreiddioldeb a dychymyg ac yn clymu Cymru mewn gwe o fiwrocratiaeth. Gŵyr pawb fod Cymru yn cael ei thangyllido. Ar ôl blynyddoedd o weld cyfoeth yn diflannu o'r wlad, gan adael tloedi yn ei sgîl mewn cynifer o leoedd, mae'n hollbwysig bod Cymru yn cael ei hariannu yn ôl ei hangen. Yr unig ffordd i wneud hynny yw drwy ailystyried fformiwla Barnett. Busnes y Prif Weinidog yw sefyll i fyny dros Gymru yn yr achos hwn, nid hel esgusodion.

4.20 p.m.

On the buffer zone, with reference to Ffos-y-frân, which has raised the temperature this afternoon, let us make one thing clear: there is currently no guidance on this matter. However, the local authority, as the planning authority—Labour-led Merthyr Tydfil—could have indicated that it wanted a buffer zone, but it was impossible, as far as I know, according to official guidance, for the planning decision committee to impose such a condition as it was not mentioned in the inspector's report. That is the situation as I understand it.

Peter Black: Huw Lewis referred to a statement of opinion tabled in January 2000. Would you expect the four Members who

dros Drefynwy a llawer o bobl eraill—o bob plaid wleidyddol—i roi terfyn ar y math hwnnw o gloddio glo brig, waeth pa mor bell ydoedd o gartrefi pobl. Yr ydych wedi cyhuddo pobl o fod yn anonest; ni fyddwn yn iselhau fy hun i ddadl o'r fath. Mae Aelodau ar ochr arall y Siambr wedi gwiro o fod yn hollol eirwir, ac mae pobl Cymru yn ymwybodol iawn o hynny.

Alun Ffred Jones: The Assembly Government's proposals for new legislation in Westminster are as unimaginative as they possibly could be. They give priority to a Bill that stops candidates from standing for election in constituencies and on lists. This subject is of no interest to the public and is one that they do not understand. The Bill is all about Labour's prejudice. That shows just how limited its vision for Wales is. In fact, I am doubtful whether Labour has a vision for building a nation. It chokes any originality and imagination and ties up Wales in a web of bureaucracy. Everyone knows that Wales is underfunded. After years of seeing the country's wealth dissipating, leaving poverty in its wake in so many places, it is vital that Wales is funded on the basis of need. Reviewing the Barnett formula is the only way in which that can be done. The First Minister should be standing up for Wales on this issue, not making excuses.

O ran y glustogfa, gan gyfeirio at Ffos-y-frân, sydd wedi arwain at drafodaeth danbaid y prynhawn yma, gadewch inni wneud un peth yn glir: ar hyn o bryd nid oes canllawiau ar y mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, gallai'r awdurdod lleol, fel yr awdurdod cynllunio—Merthyr Tudful o dan arweiniad Llafur—fod wedi nodi ei fod am gael clustogfa, ond yr oedd yn amhosibl, hyd y gwn i, yn ôl canllawiau swyddogol, i bwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio osod amod o'r fath oherwydd ni chyfeiriwyd ato yn adroddiad yr arolygydd. Dyna'r sefyllfa fel y'i deallaf.

Peter Black: Cyfeiriodd Huw Lewis at ddatganiad barn a gyflwynwyd ym mis Ionawr 2000. A fydddech yn disgwyl i'r

signed that statement of opinion to support amendment 7, including Huw Lewis, Karen Sinclair and me? I will, of course, support it.

Alun Ffred Jones: Thank you for that interesting intervention. I should have mentioned that that was the Assembly's planning decision committee at the time.

Peter Law: I understand that you may have been a member of that planning committee, therefore did your committee ask the Minister to impose a condition—

The Presiding Officer: Order. The planning decision committee, which is an interesting constitutional innovation in planning law that was established by the Assembly, meets in private. Therefore, while the decision of the planning committee is obviously a public matter, which may be referred to, the proceedings of that committee may not be referred to in Plenary.

Alun Ffred Jones: The Presiding Officer is absolutely right, of course, on this matter.

The Presiding Officer: I am not saying that I am absolutely right, but I try to be right most of the time.

Alun Ffred Jones: Housing is a disaster area in the public and private sector. A speaker at a housing seminar in Cardiff last week spoke of the Government of Wales as a hindrance in this respect. This should be a priority, but obviously it is not. Every year we lose far more of our public-sector housing than we build. It is a crisis and we need the powers outlined by the Ministers, and more. However, we seem to be far more interested in the process of electing people to this place than in these important matters. Labour—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Galwaf ar y Prif Weinidog.

Y Prif Weinidog: Dechreuaf gyda sylwadau Alun Ffred. Yr oedd yn od ei fod yn cwyno am yr arian yr ydym yn ei dderbyn gan San Steffan, drwy fformiwla Barnett a ffridd

pedwar Aelod a lofnododd y datganiad barn hwnnw gefnogi gwelliant 7, gan gynnwys Huw Lewis, Karen Sinclair a minnau? Wrth gwrs y byddaf yn ei gefnogi.

Alun Ffred Jones: Diolch am yr ymyriad diddorol hwnnw. Dylwn fod wedi crybwyll mai pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio'r Cynulliad oedd hwnnw ar y pryd.

Peter Law: Deallaf ei bod yn bosibl eich bod yn aelod o'r pwyllgor cynllunio hwnnw, felly a ofynnodd eich pwyllgor i'r Gweinidog osod amod—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae cyfarfodydd y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio, sy'n arloesedd cyfansoddiadol diddorol o ran cyfraith gynllunio a sefydlwyd gan y Cynulliad, yn rhai preifat. Felly, er ei bod yn amlwg bod penderfyniad y pwyllgor cynllunio yn fater cyhoeddus, y gellir cyfeirio ato, ni ellir cyfeirio at drafodion y pwyllgor hwnnw mewn Cyfarfod Llawn.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae'r Llywydd yn gwbl gywir yn hyn o beth, wrth gwrs.

Y Llywydd: Ni ddywedaf fy mod yn gwbl gywir, ond ceisiaf fod yn gywir gan amlaf.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae'r sefyllfa yn ofnadwy ym maes tai yn y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat. Dywedodd un o'r siaradwyr mewn seminar tai yng Nghaerdydd yr wythnos diwethaf fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhwystr yn hyn o beth. Dylai hyn fod yn flaenoriaeth, ond mae'n amlwg nad yw hynny'n wir. Bob blwyddyn, collwn lawer mwy o'n tai yn y sector cyhoeddus nag a adeiladwn. Mae'n argyfwng ac mae angen y pwerau a amlinellwyd gan y Gweinidogion arnom, a mwy. Fodd bynnag, ymddengys bod llawer mwy o ddiddordeb gennym yn y broses o ethol pobl i'r lle hwn nag yn y materion pwysig hyn. Mae Llafur—

The Presiding Officer: Order. I call the First Minister.

The First Minister: I will start with Alun Ffred's comments. It was odd that he complained about the funding that we receive from Westminster, through the Barnett

eraill, ar y diwrnod y rhoddodd Gordon Brown £155 miliwn ychwanegol i ni dros y pum mlynedd nesaf: £100 miliwn dros y tair blynedd nesaf a £50 miliwn yn ychwanegol dros y ddwy flynedd ar ôl hynny. Yn ogystal, rhoddwyd bron i £0.5 biliwn yn ychwanegol at fformiwla Barnett i ni eisoes, drwy ein trafodaethau â San Steffan.

Ni allaf drafod manylion Ffos-y-frân ond rhaid i ni setlo un peth pwysig y prynhawn yma.

There is a fundamental issue in that Huw Lewis's blisteringly honest speech this afternoon raised the question about what constitutes a dishonest amendment. I refer to all Plaid Members who, in pushing amendment 7, referred to Ffos-y-frân, including Alun Ffred and Janet. If anyone tries to say to the people who live near Ffos-y-frân that passing amendment 7 will have a retrospective effect in taking away the planning permission passed by the planning decision committee, that would be misleading the people of that area. That is a perfectly fair description of a dishonest amendment.

Janet Davies: I think that because it is not in your area, quite understandably, you do not understand that section 106 has not yet been signed, therefore the possibility remains.

The First Minister: It is not a matter of not understanding; it is that there is legal planning permission that has been confirmed by the planning decision committee. Anyone who trails the idea that amendment 7 has the effect of reversing the decision of the planning committee is misleading the people of that area. It is a fair description to say that that is a dishonest amendment. You can say, 'Please, hurry up about your coal TAN'. That would be fair enough, and we would hurry up. You can also say that we should consider getting rid of the planning decision committee. I would not agree with that, but I can understand why people may say it because they may think that the Minister should make the decision and stand by it. However, I would regret that and think that it was wrong. You cannot say that if this amendment is passed, it is going to bring

formula and other means, on the day that Gordon Brown has given us an additional £155 million over the next five years: £100 million over the next three years and an additional £50 million over the following two years. We have also already been given almost £0.5 billion over and above the Barnett formula through negotiations with Westminster.

I cannot discuss the details of Ffos-y-frân, but we must settle one important matter this afternoon.

Cododd araith ddeifiol o onest Huw Lewis y prynhawn yma y cwestiwn hollbwysig o ran beth yw gwelliant anonest. Cyfeiriaf at bob Aelod Plaid Cymru a gyfeiriodd at Ffos-y-frân wrth hyrwyddo gwelliant 7, gan gynnwys Alun Ffred a Janet. Os ceisia unrhyw un ddweud wrth y bobl sy'n byw ger Ffos-y-frân y caiff pasio gwelliant 7 effaith ôl-weithredol wrth ddileu'r caniatâd cynllunio a roddwyd gan y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio, byddai hynny'n camarwain pobl yr ardal honno. Mae hynny'n ddisgrifiad teg iawn o welliant anonest.

Janet Davies: Am nad yw yn eich ardal chi, credaf, a hynny'n eithaf dealladwy, na ddeallwch nad yw adran 106 wedi'i llofnodi eto, ac felly mae'n bosibl o hyd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid mater o fethu â deall ydyw; y ffaith yw bod caniatâd cynllunio cyfreithiol a gadarnhawyd gan y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio. Mae unrhyw un sy'n awgrymu'r syniad bod gwelliant 7 yn gwrthdroi penderfyniad y pwyllgor cynllunio yn camarwain pobl yr ardal honno. Mae'n ddisgrifiad teg dweud bod hynny'n welliant anonest. Gallwch ddweud, 'A fyddech cystal â brysio wrth gyflwyno eich TAN ar lo'. Byddai hynny'n ddigon teg, a byddem yn brysio. Gallwch ddweud hefyd y dylem ystyried cael gwared ar y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio. Ni fyddwn yn cytuno â hynny, ond gallaf ddeall pam y gallai pobl hynny ddweud hynny oherwydd efallai eu bod yn credu y dylai'r Gweinidog wneud y penderfyniad a glynu wrtho. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn gresynu hynny gan gredu ei fod yn anghywir. Ni allwch ddweud y

comfort to people who live in certain areas and are angry about planning permission that has been granted. That is fool's gold, and it is misleading to trail that before people.

Peter Law: Do you the share the concern and disappointment of many Members that the Assembly, corporately, gave planning permission to the largest opencast scheme in Europe and failed to use its powers to include the provision of a buffer zone?

The First Minister: I am in acute difficulty here, in light of the Presiding Officer's instructions. I do not even know whether or not I can write to you on that point. I do not believe that the issue of the buffer zone and the role of the planning decision committee was as it is now being painted, namely that it was not considered. I put it in that way, to comply with your instruction, Presiding Officer. As regards some of the other—*[Interruption.]*

Ieuan Wyn Jones: You still need to answer that point.

The First Minister: Do not draw me into things that I cannot speak about, much as I would like to.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Does your Government agree in principle that there should be a 500m buffer zone?

The First Minister: It could be less or more, depending on the individual circumstances.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Do you agree?

The First Minister: I have always agreed with buffer zones, but their width should be considered. They could be 250m, 500m or 1,000m, depending on the circumstances of the case. That is why we are in acute difficulties in trying to decide. We cannot reveal what goes on in a planning decision committee. There is no dislike of buffer zones; they should be considered by inspectors when they are relevant to a particular planning permission. What you cannot do is tell people living near a particular site that we can reverse planning

byddai pasio'r gwelliant hwn yn sicrhau bod pobl sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd penodol ac sy'n ddig ynghylch y caniatâd cynllunio sydd wedi'i roi yn well eu byd. Aur ffyliaid yw hynny, ac mae'n gamarweiniol ei awgrymu i bobl.

Peter Law: A rannwch bryder a siom sawl Aelod i'r Cynulliad, yn gorfforaethol, roi caniatâd cynllunio i'r cynllun glo brig mwyaf yn Ewrop ac na ddefnyddiodd ei bwerau i ddarparu clustogfa?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae gennyf anhawster difrifol yma, yn sgîl cyfarwyddiadau'r Llywydd. Ni wn hyd yn oed pa un a allaf ysgrifennu atoch ar y pwynt hwnnw ai peidio. Ni chredaf fod y mater yn ymwneud â'r glustogfa a rôl y pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio fel y cânt eu disgrifio yn awr, sef na chafodd ei ystyried. Fe'i mynegaf yn y ffordd honno, er mwyn cydymffurfio â'ch cyfarwyddyd, Lywydd. O ran rhai o'r materion eraill—*[Torri ar draws.]*

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae angen ichi ateb y pwynt hwnnw o hyd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Peidiwch â gofyn imi siarad am bethau na allaf siarad amdanynt, er gymaint yr hoffwn wneud hynny.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: A gytuna eich Llywodraeth mewn egwyddor y dylid pennu clustogfa o 500m?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gallai fod yn llai neu'n fwy, yn dibynnu ar yr amgylchiadau unigol.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: A gytunwch â hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf bob amser wedi cytuno â chlustogfeydd, ond dylid ystyried eu lled. Gallent fod yn 250m, 500m neu 1,000m, yn dibynnu ar yr amgylchiadau. Dyna pam yr ydym yn cael anhawster mawr i benderfynu. Ni allwn ddatgelu'r hyn sy'n digwydd mewn pwyllgor penderfyniadau cynllunio. Nid ydym yn casáu clustogfeydd; dylai arolygwyr eu hystyried pan fyddant yn berthnasol i ganiatâd cynllunio penodol. Yr hyn na allwch ei wneud yw dweud wrth bobl sy'n byw'n agos at safle penodol y gallwn wrthdroi caniatâd cynllunio.

permission.

I praise Lisa Francis for her honest speech, telling us why she disagrees with a particular measure. I do not agree with her; I think that it is a good measure in that it seeks to set minimum standards. Guaranteeing those standards would bring more tourism into Wales.

Ieuan Wyn Jones asked what was incoherent about some of the measures put forward in the amendments. We strongly disagree with some of these measures, which are not really amendments or additions.

The ban on smoking in enclosed public spaces will be debated in the House of Commons in two days' time, but is unlikely to make progress. This was based on an Assembly proposal. We agreed with it and promoted it. It came from a Labour backbencher who is now a Cabinet Minister. There is no disagreement there. We hope that the Government does what it said it will do and introduces a public health Bill, which will confer that power on us. That was included in the White Paper, and its inclusion, we believe, means that we will have the power to determine the issue of smoking in public places.

Ieuan Wyn Jones challenged me on why I do not accept that there is cross-party unity between him, Nick Bourne, leader of the Conservatives, and Michael German, on the fact that the Assembly ought to have primary legislative powers as soon as possible. He said that he thought that Peter Hain also agreed with that, subject to a referendum. He did not say whether he agreed with it subject to a referendum, or whether Nick Bourne agreed with it subject to a referendum. Seeing David Davies and Owen John Thomas campaigning together for primary legislative powers for the Assembly would put the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact into the shade as a way of getting total opposites into the same voting lobby. That is most unlikely to happen. The people of Wales will not be fooled by that.

Canmolaf Lisa Francis am ei haraith onest, yn dweud wrthym pam mae'n anghytuno â mesur penodol. Ni chytunaf â hi; credaf ei fod yn fesur da am ei fod yn ceisio pennu safonau gofynnol. Byddai sicrhau'r safonau hynny yn golygu y byddai mwy o dwristiaid yn dod i Gymru.

Gofynnodd Ieuan Wyn Jones ym mha ffordd y mae rhai o'r mesurau a gyflwynir yn y gwelliannau yn anghydlynol. Anghytunwn yn gryf â rhai o'r mesurau hyn, nad ydynt yn welliannau nac yn ychwanegiadau mewn gwirionedd.

Cynhelir dadl ar wahardd ysmygu mewn manau cyhoeddus caeedig yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin ymhen deuddydd, ond mae'n annhebygol o wneud cynnydd. Yr oedd hyn yn seiliedig ar un o gynigion y Cynulliad. Bu inni gytuno arno a'i hyrwyddo. Fe'i cynigiwyd gan un o Aelodau Llafur y meinciau cefn sydd bellach yn Weinidog yn y Cabinet. Nid oes anghytundeb yno. Gobeithiwn y bydd y Llywodraeth yn gwneud yr hyn y dywedodd y bydd yn ei wneud ac yn cyflwyno Mesur iechyd y cyhoedd, a fydd yn rhoi'r pŵer hwnnw inni. Cafodd hynny ei gynnwys yn y Papur Gwyn sy'n golygu, fe gredwn, y bydd gennym y pŵer i wneud penderfyniad o ran ysmygu mewn manau cyhoeddus.

Fe'm heriwyd gan Ieuan Wyn Jones o ran pam na dderbyniaf nad oes undod trawsbleidiol rhyngddo ef, Nick Bourne, arweinydd y Ceidwadwyr, a Michael German, o ran y ffaith y dylid rhoi pwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad cyn gynted â phosibl. Dywedodd ei fod o'r farn bod Peter Hain wedi cytuno â hynny hefyd, yn amodol ar gynnal refferendwm. Ni ddywedodd pa un a oedd yn cytuno ag ef yn amodol ar gynnal refferendwm, neu pa un a oedd Nick Bourne yn cytuno ag ef yn amodol ar gynnal refferendwm. Byddai gweld David Davies ac Owen John Thomas yn ymgyrchu gyda'i gilydd dros bwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad yn taflu'r cytundeb rhwng Molotov a Ribbentrop i'r cysgod fel ffordd o gael pobl â barn hollol wrthgyferbyniol i fod yn yr un lobi bleidleisio. Nid yw hynny'n debygol iawn o ddigwydd. Ni chaiff pobl

Cymru eu twyllo gan hynny.

I am confident, even though we are not writing it, that the White Paper—on the assumption that Labour wins the election and will be in a position to deliver it—will contain more than one possible option. One option would be for primary legislative powers, but with a referendum—which I would imagine that he would campaign for—and there would also be an alternative that would be available in 2007. I have not heard anyone argue against the proposition that if we want enhanced legislative powers in 2007 for the third Assembly, then the easiest and best way to do it is the way that I have been proposing and promoting. It will not be a closed White Paper; it will have at least two alternatives. One will be concerned with what can be done before 2007 and another with what can be done by 2011. That has always been the case; it has been passed by the Assembly on that basis and is fully supported by my party, although other parties are probably much more divided on that issue, but that is their responsibility and not mine.

4.30 p.m.

This has been a good debate and some points have drawn out the issue of what we are trying to get over to the people of Wales. We must get over honest descriptions of what we can do by way of passing what we pass. We must not sell anything that can be described as snake-oil or fool's gold or try to imply to people that something will have a certain effect when it will not. I hope that everybody will bear that in their conscience when they vote on the amendments. I believe that they should all be rejected. The Government's case for a coherent programme of legislation to be put to Westminster is unavoidable.

Yr wyf yn ffyddiog, er nad ydym yn ysgrifennu'r Papur Gwyn—gan gymryd yn ganiataol y bydd Llafur yn ennill yr etholiad ac y byddwn mewn sefyllfa i'w roi ar waith—y bydd yn cynnwys mwy nag un dewis posibl. Un opsiwn fyddai cael pwerau deddfu sylfaenol, ond gan gynnal refferendwm—byddwn yn dychmygu y byddai'n ymgyrchu dros hynny—a byddai dewis arall hefyd a fyddai ar gael yn 2007. Ni chlywais neb yn dadlau yn erbyn y cynnig mai'r ffordd hawsaf a'r ffordd orau o gael pwerau deddfu ychwanegol yn 2007 i'r trydydd Cynulliad yw'r ffordd y bûm yn ei chynnig a'i hyrwyddo. Ni fydd yn Bapur Gwyn caeedig; bydd o leiaf ddau ddewis amgen ynddo. Bydd un yn ymwneud â'r hyn y gellir ei wneud cyn 2007 a bydd un arall yn ymwneud â'r hyn y gellir ei wneud erbyn 2011. Dyna fu'r sefyllfa o'r cychwyn; fe'i pasiwyd gan y Cynulliad ar y sail honno ac fe'i cefnogir gan fy mhlaid, er ei bod yn debyg bod amrywiaeth barn ymhlith pleidiau eraill ar y mater hwnnw, ond eu cyfrifoldeb hwy yw hynny nid fy nghyfrifoldeb i.

Bu'r ddadl hon yn un dda ac mae rhai pwyntiau wedi nodi'r hyn yr ydym yn ceisio ei gyfleu i bobl Cymru. Rhaid inni roi disgrifiad gonest o'r hyn y gallwn ei wneud drwy basio'r hyn yr ydym yn ei basio. Rhaid inni beidio â gwerthu dim y gellir ei ddisgrifio'n ddi-werth nac yn aur ffyliaid na cheisio awgrymu wrth bobl y bydd rhywbeth yn cael effaith benodol pan nad yw hynny'n wir. Gobeithiaf y bydd pawb yn cofio hynny pan bleidleisiant ar y gwelliannau. Credaf y dylid gwrthod pob un ohonynt. Ni ellir osgoi dadl y Llywodraeth dros raglen gydlynol o ddeddfwriaeth i'w chyflwyno gerbron San Steffan.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.

Amendment 1: For 28, Abstain 0, Against 29.

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

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

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine

Cairns, Alun
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

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 2: O blaid 22, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 33.
 Amendment 2: For 22, Abstain 0, Against 33.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen

Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 44.
Amendment 3: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 44.*

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

Bates, Mick
Bourne, Nick
Cairns, Alun
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Laura Anne
Marek, John
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Williams, Brynle

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 17, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 40.
Amendment 4: For 17, Abstain 0, Against 40.*

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

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 German, Michael
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wood, Leanne

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 21, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.
 Amendment 5: For 21, Abstain 0, Against 35.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 German, Michael
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice

Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 6: For 28, 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, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

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 7: O blaid 29, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 28.
 Amendment 7: For 29, Abstain 0, Against 28.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Marek, John
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Wood, Leanne

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

*Derbyniwyd y y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 8: O blaid 12, Ymatal 5, Yn erbyn 39.
Amendment 8: For 12, Abstain 5, Against 39.*

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

Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Marek, John
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene

Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Brynle

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 German, Michael
 Randerson, Jenny

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 9: O blaid 13, Ymatal 5, Yn erbyn 38.
 Amendment 9: For 13, Abstain 5, Against 38.*

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

Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David

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

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 German, Michael
 Randerson, Jenny

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 10: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 10: For 28, 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, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

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 11: O blaid 17, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 40.
 Amendment 11: For 17, Abstain 0, Against 40.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 German, Michael
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wood, Leanne

The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 12: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 12: For 28, 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, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred

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

Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

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 13: O blaid 17, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 40.
 Amendment 13: For 17, Abstain 0, Against 40.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 German, Michael
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wood, Leanne

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

Motion NDM2366 as amended

Cynnig NDM2366 wedi'i ddiwygio

the National Assembly, acting under Standing Orders Nos. 33.9 and 33.11:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, gan weithredu o dan Reolau Sefydlog Rhifau 33.9 a 33.11:

1. endorses the Cabinet's proposals for Bills in the next parliamentary session as set out in the document laid in the Table Office and circulated to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005;

1. yn cymeradwyo cynigion y Cabinet ar gyfer Mesurau yn y sesiwn Seneddol nesaf fel y nodir yn y ddogfen a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a gafodd ei chylchredeg i Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 9 Mawrth 2005;

2. requests the Cabinet to pursue these proposals with the UK Government and press for primary legislation which reflects the particular needs of Wales and respects the role of the Assembly;

2. yn gofyn i'r Cabinet godi'r cynigion hyn gyda Llywodraeth y DU a phwyso am ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol sy'n adlewyrchu anghenion arbennig Cymru ac yn parhau swyddogaeth y Cynulliad;

3. calls for an opencast and mineral extraction Bill based on the principles of sustainable development and environmental justice enabling the National Assembly to set a 500m separation distance between proposed sites and residential settlements.

3. yn galw am Fesur cloddio glo brig a mwynau, wedi'i seilio ar egwyddorion datblygu cynaliadwy a chyfiawnder amgylcheddol, a fydd yn galluogi'r Cynulliad cenedlaethol i bennu bod yn rhaid gadael 500 metr o le rhwng safleoedd arfaethedig ac anheddau.

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 41, Ymatal 5, Yn erbyn 11.
Amended motion: For 41, Abstain 5, Against 11.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter

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

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

Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Marek, John
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wood, Leanne

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 German, Michael
 Randerson, Jenny

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.
 Amendment motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.40 p.m.
 The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.40 p.m.*

Cymeradwyo Fframwaith Cenedlaethol Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub Cymru Approval of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Time is short, in view of the fact that it is 4.40 p.m., and we must preserve the short debate, but I will accept a dilatory motion just before 5.00 p.m. from any Member.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Mae amser yn brin, o ystyried ei bod yn 4.40 p.m., a rhaid inni ganiatáu amser i'r ddadl fer, ond derbynïaf gynnig hwyr ychydig cyn 5.00 p.m. gan unrhyw Aelod.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Cynigiad fod

the National Assembly for Wales acting under Standing Order No. 29.3 (iii) considers the principle of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005. (NDM2372)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 29.3 (iii) yn ystyried egwyddor Fframwaith Cenedlaethol Tân ac Achub Cymru y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad drwy'r e-bost ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2372)

I propose that

Cynigiad fod

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 29.3(iii), approves that the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales is made in accordance with the draft framework laid in the Table

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 29.3 (iii) yn cymeradwyo bod Fframwaith Cenedlaethol Tân ac Achub Cymru yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r Fframwaith drafft a

Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005. (NDM2373)

I apologise to the Chamber, and thank the Chair of the Legislation Committee and the committee itself for tabling the memorandum of corrections that has enabled this debate to take place today. I also thank the staff of the Presiding Office for the manner in which they dealt and assisted with this matter. As the Minister, I am happy to accept responsibility for the mistake made by the Directorate of Legal Services. The error should not have occurred and, if we are serious about the legislative process, greater care must be taken in bringing forward legislation. As Minister, I will try to ensure that such incidents do not occur again within my portfolio because it is discourteous to Members, particularly as this has been such an historic debate in terms of having the framework document and responsibility for the fire service being devolved to Wales.

Many issues arise from the framework document, which has been well debated in committee. I was delighted by the enormous cross-party support that I received to get the framework document ready for Plenary, and I am grateful for the positive discussions that we have had in committee on how this document is, in many ways, a living document, which will require further revision in due course as other matters come online.

On the integrated risk management guidance, it is clear that we will have to develop our own in readiness for 2006-07 because, until that time, fire and rescue authorities are operating under the guidance of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. There is also an issue of delivery standards, which is a considerable piece of work. I will establish a working group of key stakeholders to develop our proposals in this area. I hope that initial recommendations will be available towards the end of this year.

Response times will be included in the new

osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad drwy'r e-bost ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2373)

Ymddiheuraf i'r Siambr, a diolchaf i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deddfau ac i'r pwyllgor ei hun am gyflwyno'r memorandwm cywiriadau a alluogodd i'r ddadl hon gael ei chynnal heddiw. Diolchaf hefyd i staff Swyddfa'r Llywydd am y modd y maent wedi ymdrin â'r mater hwn a'n cynorthwyo. Fel y Gweinidog, yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i dderbyn cyfrifoldeb dros y camgymeriad a wnaed gan y Gyfarwyddiaeth Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol. Ni ddylai'r gwall fod wedi digwydd ac, os ydym yn cymryd y broses ddeddfwriaethol o ddifrif, rhaid inni fod yn fwy gofalus wrth gyflwyno deddfwriaeth. Fel y Gweinidog, ceisiaf sicrhau na fydd achosion o'r fath yn codi eto o fewn fy mhortffolio gan ei fod yn anghwrtais i Aelodau, yn arbennig o goffio natur hanesyddol y ddadl o ran sefydlu'r ddogfen fframwaith a'r ffaith bod cyfrifoldeb dros y gwasanaeth tân wedi'i ddatganoli i Gymru.

Mae llawer o faterion yn deillio o'r ddogfen fframwaith, a drafodwyd yn fanwl gan y pwyllgor. Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn o'r cymorth trawsbleidiol aruthrol a gefais i sicrhau bod y ddogfen fframwaith yn barod i'r Cyfarfod Llawn, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y trafodaethau cadarnhaol a gawsom yn y pwyllgor ar sut y mae'r ddogfen hon, ar sawl ystyr, yn ddogfen fyw, y bydd angen ei diwygio ymhellach maes o law wrth i faterion eraill ddod i'r amlwg.

O ran y canllawiau rheoli risg integredig, mae'n amlwg y bydd yn rhaid inni ddatblygu ein canllawiau ein hunain er mwyn bod yn barod ar gyfer 2006-07 oherwydd, hyd nes y cyfnod hwnnw, mae'r awdurdodau tân ac achub yn gweithredu o dan ganllawiau Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog. Mae angen ystyried y safonau cyflawni hefyd, sy'n ddarn cynhwysfawr o waith. Byddaf yn sefydlu gweithgor o randdeiliaid allweddol i ddatblygu ein cynigion yn y maes hwn. Gobeithiaf y bydd yr argymhellion cychwynnol ar gael erbyn tua diwedd y flwyddyn.

Caiff amseroedd ymateb eu cynnwys yn y

standards. It is important that we discuss whether a benchmark response time might be useful in the context of standards, as this issue has sparked considerable discussion across Wales. We must recognise that the framework will have to be revised to incorporate any guidance in relation to integrated risk management plans and service delivery standards. It would be nice to go into some of the framework's details, but I appreciate that time is short today. However, the framework document has been well debated in committee, and how it will be developed has also been the subject of many Members' questions.

It was helpful to discuss these matters with people on the front line—the fire and rescue authorities and the Fire Brigades Union, which was particularly constructive in terms of the issues that it raised. This matter will be subject to ongoing discussion in committee in terms of how we bring forward the working groups, the nature of their deliberations and how we can improve the structure. The fire service must be fit for purpose in Wales, and I am delighted to bring the framework document before Plenary today.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Thank you for your comments, and I value what you said in terms of procedure in the Chamber.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi sylwadau'r Gweinidog wrth agor y ddaidl hon a'r gydnabyddiaeth nad oedd y drefn yn dderbyniol. Yr wyf yn falch o gael cyfle i drafod y fframwaith ac, er mwyn parhau'r cyfyngiad amser, codaf dri phwynt yn gyflym.

Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, cawsom gyfle i drafod hyn yn fanwl yn y pwyllgor, ac yr oedd croeso cyffredinol i ddatganoli cyfrifoldeb am ein gwasanaeth tân. Bydd hyn yn ein galluogi i godi safon y gwasanaeth a sicrhau darpariaeth gyson drwy Gymru.

Ar gynlluniau rheoli risg integredig, fel y gwyddoch, mae tipyn o ofid ynghylch effeithiau'r cynllun hwn o ran cau nifer o'r gorsafodded tân yng nghanolbarth a gorllewin Cymru, neu gyfyngu'r amser y mae'r

safonau newydd. Mae'n bwysig inni drafod pa un a fyddai amser ymateb meincnod yn ddefnyddiol yng nghyd-destun y safonau, gan fod y mater hwn wedi ysgogi cryn drafodaeth ledled Cymru. Rhaid inni gydnabod y bydd yn rhaid diwygio'r fframwaith er mwyn cynnwys unrhyw ganllawiau a fydd yn ymwneud â chynlluniau rheoli risg integredig a safonau cyflwyno gwasanaethau. Byddai'n braf gallu trafod rhai o fanylion y fframwaith, ond gwerthfawrogaf fod amser yn brin heddiw. Fodd bynnag, trafododd y pwyllgor y ddogfen fframwaith yn helaeth, a bu'r broses o'i datblygu yn destun cwestiynau gan sawl Aelod.

Yr oedd yn ddefnyddiol trafod y materion hyn gyda phobl yn y rheng flaen—yr awdurdodau tân ac achub ac Undeb y Brigadau Tân, a fu'n arbennig o adeiladol o ran y materion a godwyd ganddo. Bydd y pwyllgor yn cynnal trafodaethau parhaus ar y mater hwn o ran sut y byddwn yn cyflwyno'r gweithgorau, natur eu trafodaethau a sut y gallwn wella'r strwythur. Rhaid i'r gwasanaeth tân fod yn addas at y diben yng Nghymru, ac mae'n bleser gennyf gyflwyno'r ddogfen fframwaith gerbron y Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolch ichi am eich sylwadau, a gwerthfawrogaf yr hyn a ddywedasoch o ran gweithdrefn yn y Siambr.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I appreciate the Minister's comments in opening this debate and her acknowledgement that procedure was unacceptable. I am pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the framework and, given the time constraint, I will raise three brief points.

As the Minister said, we had the opportunity to discuss this in detail in committee, and devolution of responsibility for our fire service was broadly welcomed. This will give us the opportunity to raise the standard of the service and ensure consistency of provision throughout Wales.

On integrated risk management plans, as you will know, there are grave concerns about the effects of these plans in terms of closing fire stations in mid and west Wales or limiting their opening hours. There has been

gorsafodd hynny ar agor. Mae dadl fawr ynghylch beth sy'n digwydd ym Mhontardawe. A gytunwch ei bod yn bwysig bod yr awdurdodau tân ledled Cymru yn cydweithio'n llwyr â Llywodraeth Cymru ar y materion hyn er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn cael gwasanaeth effeithiol ac nad oes yr un ohonynt yn ceisio gweithredu yn annibynnol? Rhaid iddynt fod yn ymwybodol ein bod yn ceisio creu gwasanaeth a strategaeth ar gyfer Cymru gyfan.

O ran amseroedd galw allan, er ein bod yn cytuno bod y gwasanaeth arbed tân ac ymdrin ag achosion tân yn bwysig, prif ddyletswydd y gwasanaeth tân yw sicrhau ei fod yn gallu ymateb mor gyflym â phosibl, ymdrin â thanau ac arbed bywydau. A wnewch sicrhau, Weinidog, yn eich trafodaethau gyda'r awdurdodau, y rhoddir pwyslais ar hynny, a'n bod yn gallu disgwyl hynny?

O ran y trafodaethau pellach am ddatblygiad y fframwaith, mynegodd y gweithwyr tân wrth gefn bryder wrthyf i ac wrth Aelodau eraill nad ydynt yn cael llais uniongyrchol yn y trafodaethau. Mewn ardaloedd gwledig, mae'r gweithwyr hyn yn asgwrn cefn i'r gwasanaeth, ac efallai eu bod yn gallu codi pwyntiau am y gwasanaeth yng nghefn gwlad na fyddai'r undeb swyddogol mor ymwybodol ohonynt, neu'n gallu rhoi cymaint o bwyslais arnynt. A wnewch sicrhau y rhoddir gwrandawriad i'w llais hwy hefyd, wrth ichi ddatblygu'r fframwaith a'r gwasanaeth yng Nghymru?

Janice Gregory: As Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, I am delighted to participate in today's debate.

The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 was brought into effect in Wales in November 2004, and section 21 of the Act requires the Assembly to prepare a national framework containing priorities, objectives and guidance for the three fire and rescue authorities in Wales. Over the last four months, the Minister has carried out protracted consultations with all parties in trying to reach consensus on the draft framework.

considerable debate about what is happening in Pontardawe. Do you agree that it is important that the fire authorities across Wales work with the Government of Wales to ensure that we have an effective service and that no authorities try to work independently? They need to be aware that we are trying to create a service and strategy for the whole of Wales.

In terms of call-out times, although we agree that the service is important, in terms of fire prevention and the causes of fire, the main duty of the fire service is to ensure that it can respond as quickly as possible, to fight fires and save lives. In your discussions with the authorities, Minister, will you ensure that emphasis is placed on that, so that we can expect that to happen?

In terms of further discussions about the development of the framework, the retained firefighters have expressed their concern to me and to other Members that they do not have a direct say in the discussions. In rural areas, these firefighters are the backbone of the service, and perhaps they can raise points about the service in rural areas of which the official union may not be as aware, or cannot place such an emphasis upon. Will you ensure that their voice is also heard, as you develop the framework and service in Wales?

Janice Gregory: Fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, mae'n bleser gennyf gymryd rhan yn y ddadl heddiw.

Daeth Deddf Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub 2004 i rym yng Nghymru ym mis Tachwedd 2004, ac mae adran 21 y Ddeddf yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Cynulliad baratoi fframwaith cenedlaethol sy'n cynnwys blaenoriaethau, amcanion a chanllawiau ar gyfer y tri awdurdod tân ac achub yng Nghymru. Yn ystod y pedwar mis diwethaf, mae'r Gweinidog wedi cynnal ymgynghoriadau hirfaith gyda phob plaid er mwyn ceisio dod i gytundeb ar y fframwaith

drafft.

Throughout the course of her discussions on the various generations of the draft, the Minister has been vigilant in keeping the committee abreast of developments. Apart from regularly reporting her discussions with the fire and rescue authorities and the fire brigades' unions, the Minister has also provided members of the committee with briefing sessions in respect of the framework's content. Members of the committee who were able to attend these briefings found them most instructive. On behalf of the committee, I thank the Minister for her co-operation on this matter.

At its meeting on 16 February, the committee received a paper from the Minister in which she provided a further update of progress on the framework. The paper explained that the latest version included revisions that had occurred as a result of detailed discussions with the fire authorities and the Fire Brigades Union. The Minister outlined her intention that the framework should be a living document, as she stated this afternoon. The framework will be revised as necessary as issues develop with the passage of time. All members of the committee welcome this approach.

I am conscious of the time, Deputy Presiding Officer, therefore, I conclude by saying that members of the committee particularly welcomed the Minister's commitment to bring the terms of reference for the Wales Fire and Rescue Service Advisory Committee to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee for consideration. We welcome that opportunity, and look forward to continuing to co-operate with the Minister over these very important developments.

Members will have received a letter by e-mail yesterday from Mike Smith, the Wales executive committee member of the fire brigades trade union, which commended the framework document to us. Having attended a Fire Brigades Union seminar in the House of Commons on 28 February, and heard comments from firefighters in England, we can be justifiably proud of what we have

Drwy gydol ei thrafodaethau ar amrywiol fersiynau'r fframwaith drafft, bu'r Gweinidog yn ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd hysbysu'r pwyllgor yn rheolaidd o unrhyw ddatblygiadau. Yn ogystal â'i hadroddiadau rheolaidd ar ei thrafodaethau gyda'r awdurdodau tân ac achub ac undebau'r brigadau tân, cynhaliodd y Gweinidog hefyd sesiynau briffio i aelodau'r pwyllgor ar gynnwys y fframwaith. Yr oedd aelodau'r pwyllgor a lwyddodd i fynychu'r sesiynau briffio hyn o'r farn eu bod yn ddefnyddiol iawn. Ar ran y pwyllgor, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am ei chydweithrediad ar y mater hwn.

Yn ei gyfarfod ar 16 Chwefror, cafodd y pwyllgor bapur gan y Gweinidog yn nodi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am hynt y fframwaith. Eglurodd y papur fod y fersiwn diweddaraf yn cynnwys diwygiadau a wnaed o ganlyniad i drafodaethau manwl gyda'r awdurdodau tân ac Undeb y Brigadau Tân. Amlinellodd y Gweinidog ei bwriad y dylai'r fframwaith fod yn ddogfen fyw, fel y nododd y prynhawn yma. Caiff y fframwaith ei ddiwygio fel y bo'r angen wrth i faterion ddatblygu gyda threigl amser. Mae holl aelodau'r pwyllgor yn croesawu'r ymagwedd hon.

Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r amser, Ddirprwy Lywydd, felly, dof i ben drwy ddatgan fod aelodau'r pwyllgor yn croesawu'n arbennig ymrwymiad y Gweinidog i gyflwyno'r cylch gorchwyl ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Cynghori ar Wasanaeth Tân ac Achub Cymru gerbron y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i'w ystyried. Croesawn y cyfle hwnnw, ac edrychwn ymlaen at barhau i gydweithredu â'r Gweinidog mewn perthynas â'r datblygiadau pwysig iawn hyn.

Bydd Aelodau wedi cael llythyr dros yr e-bost ddoe gan Mike Smith, aelod Cymru o bwyllgor gweithredol undeb llafur y brigadau tân, a gymeradwyodd y ddogfen fframwaith inni. Ar ôl mynychu un o seminarau Undeb y Brigadau Tân yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin ar 28 Chwefror, a chlywed sylwadau gan ddiffoddwyr tân yn Lloegr, gallwn ymfalchïo'n haeddiannol yn yr hyn a

achieved in Wales.

Mark Isherwood: I thank the Member for her comments. I will address a few points of detail and concern that have been raised with me.

Recommendation 15 of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's document, 'Fire and Rescue Service Retained Duty System' states that:

'At local, regional and national levels there should be appropriate recognition of the contribution and role of the RDS'.

That is, the retained duty system. Therefore, why is the Minister replicating the one employee representative model that has been proved, beyond doubt, to be the cause of the poor representation of retained firefighters in the UK fire service over the last 25 years?

No matter how effective the Fire Brigades Union is in representing its members, it will always effectively overrule Welsh firefighters, because any metropolitan fire service in England alone has at least as many members as the whole of Wales combined. Single union representation can therefore disadvantage Wales as a whole, and Welsh rural areas in particular. How many meetings has the Minister had with the Fire Officers' Association, the Retained Firefighters Union and the Fire Brigades Union? How will the Minister decide which employee representative body takes the seat at the Minister's advisory level, and will it be rotated over time? Why does the Minister believe that it will serve Welsh council tax payers best if only the FBU is involved, and the Retained Firefighters Union is frozen out? In my north Wales constituency, during the last fire strike, retained firefighters in Flint stayed on call as they were not part of the FBU, as did those in Buckley and many other areas, and my constituents were very grateful for this.

gyflawnwyd gennym yng Nghymru.

Mark Isherwood: Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Aelod am ei sylwadau. Ymdriniaf â rhai manylion a materion o bryder a godwyd gyda mi.

Mae argymhelliad 15 dogfen Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, 'Fire and Rescue Service Retained Duty System' yn nodi:

Ar lefelau lleol, rhanbarthol a chenedlaethol dylid rhoi cydnabyddiaeth briodol i gyfraniad a rôl yr RDS.

Hynny yw, y system ddyletswydd wrth gefn. Felly, pam mae'r Gweinidog yn ailgyflwyno'r un model o gynrychiolwyr cyflogaion lle y profwyd, y tu hwnt i amheuaeth, mai dyma oedd yn gyfrifol am gynrychiolaeth wael o'r diffoddwyr tân wrth gefn yng ngwasanaeth tân y DU yn ystod y 25 mlynedd diwethaf?

Ni waeth pa mor effeithiol yw Undeb y Brigadau Tân wrth gynrychioli ei aelodau, y gwir amdani yw y bydd bob amser yn diystyru diffoddwyr tân yng Nghymru, gan fod gan unrhyw wasanaeth tân metropolitaidd unigol yn Lloegr o leiaf gymaint o aelodau â holl wasanaethau tân Cymru gyda'i gilydd. Felly gall cynrychiolaeth gan un undeb achosi anfantais i Gymru gyfan, ac i ardaloedd gwledig yng Nghymru yn arbennig. Faint o gyfarfodydd a gafodd y Gweinidog gyda Chymdeithas y Swyddogion Tân, Undeb y Diffoddwyr Tân Wrth Gefn ac Undeb y Brigadau Tân? Sut y bydd y Gweinidog yn penderfynu pa gorff sy'n cynrychioli cyflogaion a fydd yn cynghori'r Gweinidog, ac a fydd y corff hwn yn cael ei newid dros amser? Pam mae'r Gweinidog o'r farn mai cynnwys Undeb y Brigadau Tân yn unig fyddai'r ateb gorau i dalwyr y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru, gan ddiystyru Undeb y Diffoddwyr Tân Wrth Gefn? Yn fy etholaeth i yn y Gogledd, yn ystod streic ddiwethaf y diffoddwyr tân, arhosodd diffoddwyr tân wrth gefn yn y Fflint ar ddyletswydd gan nad oeddent yn rhan o Undeb y Brigadau Tân, felly hefyd diffoddwyr tân wrth gefn ym Mwcle a sawl ardal arall, ac yr oedd fy etholwyr yn ddiolchgar iawn am hyn.

4.50 p.m.

How can the Minister see completely different pay scales organised by a national scheme, but condemn the retained firefighters in mid and west Wales and the north Wales fire and rescue services to a system of pay that penalises fire-prevention work by retained staff? There is no incentive to work hours of commitment, or any recognition for those who do. A south Wales retained duty system crew member would receive a guaranteed salary of over £8,000 for 84 hours' commitment and attending calls while on duty, whereas the north, and mid and west Wales retained fire-service personnel are paid around £2,000 for 119 hours of cover, then must try to respond to as many calls as possible. What possible benefit can be gained for this vital Welsh fire and rescue service resource by national negotiation with the FBU alone? The advisory body that the Minister is creating will exclude at least one of the three brigades. Which of the brigades are not represented, why is there no representation for them, and how will the Minister ensure that local need is addressed in every part of Wales?

Is the Minister aware that the FBU is working to rule in Lincolnshire over non co-operation on responder duties? Does she know that the FBU still does not support responder duties? This is saving many lives in mid and west Wales, where it is carried out by members of the Retained Firefighters Union, as it does in Lincolnshire and other areas. It is also a desire of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, and an aim of the Chief Fire Officers Association. How would single union representation alone address this?

I hope and trust, therefore, that the Minister agrees that the fire and rescue service is so important to us all that it must not be allowed to become a political football. I also hope and trust that she will ensure that the recommendations of the retained duty system

Sut y gall y Gweinidog gymeradwyo graddfeydd cyflog cwbl wahanol a drefnwyd gan gynllun cenedlaethol, ond condemnio'r diffoddwyr tân wrth gefn yng ngwasanaethau tân ac achub yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin ac yn y Gogledd i system cyflogau sy'n cosbi gwaith atal tanau gan staff wrth gefn? Nid oes unrhyw gymhelliant iddynt weithio oriau o ymroddiad, nac unrhyw gydnabyddiaeth i'r rhai sy'n gwneud hynny. Byddai aelod o griw system ddyletswydd wrth gefn yn y De yn cael cyflog gwarantedig o dros £8,000 am ymrwymiad o 84 awr ac am ymateb i alwadau tra ar ddyletswydd, ond yn y Gogledd, ac yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, telir tua £2,000 i staff wrth gefn o fewn y gwasanaeth tân am 119 awr o wasanaeth yn unol â system sy'n golygu bod yn rhaid iddynt geisio ymateb i gymaint o alwadau â phosibl. Pa fudd posibl sydd i'r gwasanaeth tân ac achub hanfodol hwn yng Nghymru yn deillio o gynnal trafodaethau cenedlaethol gydag Undeb y Brigadau Tân yn unig? Bydd y corff cynghori y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei greu yn methu â chynnwys o leiaf un o'r tair brigâd. Pa frigadau na chânt eu cynrychioli, pam na chânt eu cynrychioli, a sut y bydd y Gweinidog yn sicrhau yr ymdrinnir ag angen lleol ym mhob rhan o Gymru?

A yw'r Gweinidog yn ymwybodol bod Undeb y Brigadau Tân yn gweithio i reol yn swydd Lincoln o ran diffyg cydweithredu ar ddyletswyddau ymatebwyr? A wŷr nad yw Undeb y Brigadau Tân yn cefnogi dyletswyddau ymatebwyr o hyd? Mae'r system hon yn achub llawer o fywydau yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, lle y caiff ei gweithredu gan Undeb y Diffoddwyr Tân Wrth Gefn, felly hefyd yn swydd Lincoln ac ardaloedd eraill. Mae'n un o ddyheadau Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, ac yn un o nodau Cymdeithas y Prif Swyddogion Tân hefyd. Sut y byddai cynrychiolaeth un undeb ar ei ben ei hun yn ymdrin â hyn?

Felly, gobeithiaf a hyderaf fod y Gweinidog yn cytuno bod y gwasanaeth tân ac achub mor bwysig i bob un ohonom fel na ellir caniatáu iddo gael ei ddefnyddio mewn gêm wleidyddol. Gobeithiaf a hyderaf hefyd y gwnaiff sicrhau y caiff argymhellion yr

report are implemented in Wales.

Ann Jones: I proudly say, as an out-of-trade member of the FBU with some 30 years' service in the fire brigade, that the Fire Brigades Union has advisedly looked at the retained service. The retained section within the FBU has its own representation, which can attend the FBU executive council meeting in London. There can be no greater representation for retained firefighters. Your words were an insult to, and a slur upon, the trade union movement. That is typical of the Tories, who just want to bust trade unions.

Mark Isherwood *rose*—

Ann Jones: I thank the Minister for the framework that she has produced, and I thank her for the way in which she has extended the consultation process to everyone involved.

Mark Isherwood: Will you give way?

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

Ann Jones: The real desire for us in Wales was to see a framework that not only mirrored that of England—as some of the fire service management may well have wanted, as it was the easiest option for them—but one that is fit for a Welsh fire service, wherever we are in Wales. That is to be commended.

Time is short, and enough has been said about the fire service. However, we all know the good job that the fire service does, and I place on record my thanks to my former colleagues and those in the fire service for the way in which they protect our communities, not only by turning out to attend to fires, but also taking part in community fire safety activities and other aspects of community regeneration.

The FBU is the union for fire brigades, and will always be so, as it represents 95 per cent of fire service members from all ranks. The

adroddiad ar y system ddyletswydd wrth gefn eu rhoi ar waith yng Nghymru.

Ann Jones: Mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud, fel aelod anweithredol o Undeb y Brigadau Tân gyda phrofiad o tua 30 mlynedd o wasanaeth yn y frigâd dân, bod Undeb y Brigadau Tân yn ei ddoethineb wedi edrych ar y gwasanaeth wrth gefn. Mae gan yr adran wrth gefn o fewn yr Undeb ei chynrychiolaeth ei hun, a all fynychu cyfarfod cyngor gweithredol yr Undeb yn Llundain. Ni ellid darparu gwell cynrychiolaeth i ddiffoddwyr tân wrth gefn. Yr oedd eich geiriau yn sarhad i undebau llafur ac yn sen arnynt. Mae hynny'n nodweddiadol o'r Torïaid, sydd am ddiraddio undebau llafur.

Mark Isherwood *a gododd*—

Ann Jones: Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am y fframwaith a gynhyrchwyd ganddi, a diolchaf iddi am estyn y broses ymgynghori i bawb sy'n gysylltiedig â'r mater.

Mark Isherwood: A ildiwch?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Nid yw'r Aelod yn ildio.

Ann Jones: Ein dyhead yma yng Nghymru oedd gweld fframwaith a oedd nid yn unig yn adlewyrchu fframwaith Lloegr—fel yr oedd rhai o reolwyr y gwasanaeth tân o bosibl yn awyddus i'w weld, gan mai dyna oedd yr opsiwn hawsaf iddynt hwy—ond sydd hefyd yn addas ar gyfer y gwasanaeth tân yng Nghymru, waeth pa ran o Gymru ydyw. Mae hynny i'w ganmol.

Mae amser yn brin, a soniwyd digon am y gwasanaeth tân. Fodd bynnag, fel y gwyr pob un ohonom, mae'r gwasanaeth tân yn gwneud gwaith ardderchog, a hoffwn gofnodi fy niolch i'm cyn-gydweithwyr a'r rheini yn y gwasanaeth tân am amddiffyn ein cymunedau, nid yn unig drwy ddiffodd tanau, ond hefyd drwy gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau diogelwch tân cymunedol ac agweddau eraill ar adfywio cymunedau.

Undeb y Brigadau Tân yw'r undeb sy'n cynrychioli'r brigadau tân, a pharhau a wnaiff y sefyllfa honno, gan ei fod yn

remaining 5 per cent may be members of another union, or may not be union members at all. As the FBU has stated, which I am proud to quote today, this is imaginative, it is bold and, most importantly, it is an accurate reflection of life in the front line of the fire and rescue services across Wales.

Peter Black: I do not think that it is appropriate to get into discussions about who represents who, because what we are discussing is a framework document from which we, as an Assembly, and the Assembly Government rule on how our fire and rescue service should be run. We have discussed this matter a number of times but, already, there are some distinctive differences between what we are doing in Wales and what is being done in England.

I particularly welcome the inclusive nature of this framework document and the Minister's inclusive approach in how she proposes to deal with this issue. The advisory committee that the Minister is setting up will involve all the stakeholders, all the unions and the various fire authorities, and that is to be welcomed. I would hope that we would all welcome that, as it is the only way to take forward the agenda on fire and rescue in Wales.

The issue of pay that Mark Isherwood raised is a matter for the UK and it has to remain as such. It is not particularly relevant that we should have a pay and reward system that is separate to that of the rest of the UK. It has to remain a national pay framework. I would hope that we would not go down that route in terms of taking this forward.

In terms of our approach to this issue of pay, we must remember that fire authorities are part of local government. The framework has just about got the balance right in how it approaches the various issues that will arise over the next few months and years regarding how the fire and rescue service is to be run. We have to have a light touch, because the fire and rescue service is run by an arm of local government, and local authorities are democratically elected bodies accountable to

cynrychioli 95 y cant o aelodau'r gwasanaeth tân o bob rheng. Efallai fod y 5 y cant sy'n weddill yn aelodau o undeb arall, neu efallai nad ydynt yn aelodau o unrhyw undeb. Fel y mae'r Undeb wedi datgan, ac yr wyf yn falch o'i ddyfynnu heddiw, mae'n greadigol, mae'n fentrus ac, yn anad dim, mae'n adlewyrchiad cywir o fywyd yn rheng flaen y gwasanaethau tân ac achub ledled Cymru.

Peter Black: Ni chredaf ei bod yn briodol trafod pwy sy'n cynrychioli pwy, gan mai'r testun dan sylw yw dogfen fframwaith y byddwn ni, fel Cynulliad, a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn ei defnyddio i benderfynu sut y dylid rhedeg ein gwasanaeth tân ac achub. Yr ydym wedi trafod y mater hwn sawl gwaith ond, eisoes, ceir rhai gwahaniaethau penodol rhwng yr hyn a wnawn yng Nghymru a'r hyn a wneir yn Lloegr.

Croesawaf yn arbennig natur gynhwysol y ddogfen fframwaith hon ac ymagwedd gynhwysol y Gweinidog o ran sut y mae'n bwriadu ymdrin â'r mater hwn. Bydd y pwyllgor cynghori y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei sefydlu yn cynnwys yr holl randdeiliaid, yr holl undebau a'r awdurdodau tân amrywiol, a dylid croesawu hynny. Gobeithiwn y byddem oll yn croesawu hynny, gan mai dyma'r unig ffordd i weithredu'r agenda tân ac achub yng Nghymru.

Mae'r mater yn ymwneud â chyflog a gododd Mark Isherwood yn fater i'r DU a rhaid iddo barhau felly. Nid yw'n arbennig o berthnasol inni sefydlu system cyflog a gwobrwyo sy'n wahanol i system gweddill y DU. Rhaid iddo barhau yn fframwaith cyflog cenedlaethol. Byddwn yn gobeithio na fyddem yn symud i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw o ran gweithredu ar y mater hwn.

O ran ein hymagwedd tuag at y mater cyflog hwn, rhaid inni gofio bod awdurdodau tân yn rhan o lywodraeth leol. Mae'r fframwaith wedi llwyddo i raddau helaeth i daro'r cydbwysedd cywir o ran ei ymagwedd tuag at yr amrywiol faterion a fydd yn codi yn ystod yr ychydig fisoedd a blynyddoedd nesaf o ran sut y caiff y gwasanaeth tân ac achub ei redeg. Rhaid inni fod yn ofalus, gan mai cangen o lywodraeth leol sy'n rhedeg y gwasanaeth tân ac achub, a chan fod

other people, as are we. We have to work in partnership with local authorities rather than dictate to them how they should be running the fire authority. Clearly, there is a role for the Minister in terms of setting frameworks and regulations, as the background in which these bodies operate, but we must also remember that they must make their own decisions.

Another issue that I wanted to raise as part of this discussion was that of the fire and rescue service's work on preventing fires. It is important that we are funding that. Over the last few years, we have already done a great deal with the service in terms of carrying out and funding that work through the budget for social justice.

An issue has been raised with me in relation to those stations that are largely manned by retained firefighting personnel. Where there are stations operating full time, the fire brigade can spare officers to go out and do preventative work. However, where there is reliance on retained firefighters working part time, then they must be paid to come in and do this work. Stations operating on that basis need funding. I hope that the Minister will address this in her response to this debate and in how she deals with this issue.

awdurdodau lleol yn gyrff a gaiff eu hethol yn ddemocrataidd sy'n atebol i bobl eraill, fel yr ydym ninnau. Rhaid inni weithio mewn partneriaeth ag awdurdodau lleol yn hytrach na gorchymyn iddynt sut y dylent redeg yr awdurdod tân. Yn amlwg, mae rôl i'r Gweinidog o ran pennu fframweithiau a rheoliadau, fel cefndir i ddulliau gweithredu'r cyrff hyn, ond rhaid inni hefyd gofio bod yn rhaid iddynt wneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain.

Mater arall yr oeddwn yn awyddus i'w godi fel rhan o'r drafodaeth hon oedd gwaith y gwasanaeth tân ac achub i atal tanau. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn ariannu'r gwaith hwnnw. Yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, yr ydym eisoes wedi gwneud gwaith sylweddol gyda'r gwasanaeth o ran cynnal ac ariannu'r gwaith hwnnw drwy'r gyllideb cyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

Tynnwyd fy sylw hefyd at y gorsafoedd hynny lle y ceir diffoddwyr tân wrth gefn yn bennaf. Lle y mae gorsafoedd yn gweithredu'n llawn amser, gall y frigâd dân ryddhau swyddogion i fynd allan a gwneud gwaith ataliol. Fodd bynnag, lle y dibynnir ar ddiffoddwyr tân wrth gefn sy'n gweithio'n rhan amser, yna rhaid eu talu i ymgymryd â'r gwaith hwn. Mae angen ariannu gorsafoedd sy'n gweithredu ar y sail honno. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymdrin â hyn yn ei hymateb i'r ddadl hon ac yn y ffordd y bydd yn ymdrin â'r mater hwn.

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Before I call the next speaker, I invite the Business Minister to propose a motion to extend the meeting.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

the National Assembly extends the Plenary meeting by 20 minutes.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Are there 10 Members in support of the motion, under Standing Order No. 6.21? I see that there are. It is not an abuse of procedure. I therefore call for a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Cyn imi alw'r siaradwr nesaf, gwahoddaf y Trefnydd i gynnig cynnig i estyn y Cyfarfod Llawn.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiaf fod

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ychwanegu 20 munud at hyd y Cyfarfod Llawn.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: A oes 10 Aelod o blaid y cynnig, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21? Oes. Nid yw hyn yn achos o gamddefnyddio'r weithdrefn. Felly, galwaf am bleidlais.

*Cynnig: O blaid 32, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 32, Abstain 0, Against 0*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Cymeradwyo Fframwaith Cenedlaethol Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub Cymru: Parhad Approval of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales: Continued

Gwenda Thomas: I am glad to have been given an opportunity to contribute. Had we not extended the debate, it would have sent out quite the wrong message to our firefighters and their families. They deserve this extended debate.

The devolution of responsibility for the fire and rescue service was a welcome and important step for the devolution process in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government was given the ability and the opportunity to shape the future of the fire and rescue service in Wales to respond to the specific needs and requirements of our communities. That is

Gwenda Thomas: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle hwn i gyfrannu. Pe na fyddem wedi estyn y ddadl, byddai wedi cyfleu neges gwbl amhriodol i'n diffoddwyr tân a'u teuluoedd. Maent yn haeddu'r ddadl estynedig hon.

Yr oedd datganoli'r cyfrifoldeb dros y gwasanaeth tân ac achub yn gam pwysig i'r broses ddatganoli yng Nghymru ac fe'i croesawyd. Rhoddwyd y gallu a'r cyfle i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru lunio dyfodol y gwasanaeth tân ac achub yng Nghymru er mwyn ymateb i anghenion a gofynion penodol ein cymunedau. Dyna yn union y

exactly what needs to be achieved.

mae angen ei gyflawni.

5.00 p.m.

I will cut my speech short to allow other Members to contribute, but I believe that it is important that the fire service provides an effective response to emergency situations. It is my understanding, therefore—and I hope that the Minister will clarify this point—that the framework will rule out the downgrading of the Pontardawe fire station in my constituency. A retained crew system at Pontardawe could not respond to an emergency during out-of-hours periods in outlying rural areas. The Pontardawe fire station is strategically positioned to provide second-engine cover to retained fire stations in rural areas, such as those in Seven Sisters, Abercrave and Glynneath, and provides important back-up cover to crews based at the Neath fire station.

Cwtogaf fy araith er mwyn rhoi cyfle i Aelodau eraill gyfrannu, ond credaf ei bod yn bwysig i'r gwasanaeth tân ymateb yn effeithiol i argyfyngau. Yr wyf ar ddeall, felly—a gobeithiaf y gwnaiff y Gweinidog egluro'r pwynt hwn—y bydd y fframwaith yn diystyru'r cynnig i israddio gorsaf dân Pontardawe yn fy etholaeth. Ni allai system criw wrth gefn ym Mhontardawe ymateb i argyfwng yn ystod cyfnodau y tu allan i oriau mewn ardaloedd gwledig o'i hamgylch. Mae gorsaf dân Pontardawe wedi'i lleoli'n strategol i ddarparu ail injan i orsafoedd tân wrth gefn mewn ardaloedd gwledig, fel y gorsafoedd hynny ym Mlaendulais, Aber-craf a Glyn-nedd, ac mae'n darparu cymorth pwysig wrth gefn i griwiau yng ngorsaf dân Castell-nedd.

The framework underlines the Labour Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to the fire service in Wales, something that Councillor Huw Evans—a Plaid Cymru councillor in Pontardawe—called into question when the downgrading of the Pontardawe station was at the forefront of local public debate. He claimed that the downgrade was a result of penny-pinching by the Labour Government. I would welcome an apology from him regarding his absurd and misdirected statements. He was clearly a Johnny-come-lately to the campaign to support the status quo at Pontardawe.

Mae'r fframwaith yn tanlinellu ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Lafur Cynulliad Cymru i'r gwasanaeth tân yng Nghymru, rhywbeth y bwrodd y Cynghorydd Huw Evans—sef un o gynghorwyr Plaid Cymru ym Mhontardawe—amheuo yn ei gylch ar adeg pan oedd israddio gorsaf Pontardawe yn bwnc llosg o ran trafodaethau cyhoeddus lleol. Honnodd mai un o gynlluniau arbed arian y Llywodraeth Lafur oedd y cynnig i israddio. Byddwn yn croesawu ymddiheuriad ganddo am ei ddatganiadau gwirion, di-sail. Yr oedd yn amlwg iddo ymuno'n hwyr â'r ymgyrch i gefnogi'r status quo ym Mhontardawe.

Mick Bates: I will raise two issues briefly. First, on the legislation process, I am sure that we all accept the words with which the Minister opened this debate. However, can she assure us that there is now a transparent and robust tracking system for the progress of legislation through the Assembly? It seems that there have been several occasions when bits have gone missing. Last week, a regulatory appraisal was missing. The Cabinet should address this issue with some urgency.

Mick Bates: Codaf ddau fater yn gyflym. Yn gyntaf, o ran y broses deddfwriaethol, yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod oll yn derbyn geiriau'r Gweinidog wrth agor y ddadl hon. Fodd bynnag, a all ein sicrhau bod system olrhain eglur a chadarn bellach ar waith o ran dilyn hynt deddfwriaeth drwy'r Cynulliad? Ymddengys y bu sawl achlysur lle yr aeth darnau ar goll. Yr wythnos diwethaf, yr oedd arfarniad rheoliadol ar goll. Dylai'r Cabinet ymdrin â'r mater hwn ar fyrder.

On the fire service, we all appreciate its work and the fact that, for many of us, it is an essential part of our communities. Will the

O ran y gwasanaeth tân, yr ydym oll yn gwerthfawrogi ei waith a'r ffaith ei fod, i sawl un ohonom, yn rhan hanfodol o'n

Minister consider a flexible approach to the integrated risk management plans in respect of retained fire services, to which many Members have referred? In parts of rural Wales, such firefighters are essential, and there is a tremendously good working relationship with their employers with regard to their work as a retained fireperson. If their posts are to be threatened, as it appears some are under this plan, it will lower morale, and cause the service to be less effective. I beg you to look at this, and ensure flexibility, so that there is an appreciation of the cost-effective service delivery that the retained fire service provides, particularly in rural Wales.

Catherine Thomas: I congratulate the Minister and her officials on the work carried out to ensure that this changeover is a smooth one. I share, with many others, optimism about the future of the fire and rescue service following this transfer. I also commend firefighters, not only in my area of mid and west Wales, but throughout Wales, on their dedication and commitment to making our communities safer.

I will focus on chapters 2 and 4 of the framework, which deal with the integrated risk management plans and response times. I focus on these issues as they have become of increasing relevance to me in the past 18 months, due to the proposals laid down in phases 1 and 2 of the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority's integrated risk management plan. The objective of an integrated risk management plan is to make communities safer, and, although there is much to be commended in the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority's plan, especially in relation to education and prevention, to say that I feel dissatisfied and let down by other matters would be a huge understatement.

Chapter 2 of the framework document deals with risk management and prevention. It states that the objective in the first five years of the framework is to significantly reduce the number of preventable deaths and serious injuries by fire, and aim towards significantly reducing deaths and serious injuries in road

cymunedau. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ystyried ymagwedd hyblyg tuag at y cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig o ran gwasanaethau tân wrth gefn, y mae sawl Aelod wedi cyfeirio atynt? Mewn rhannau o Gymru wledig, mae diffoddwyr tân o'r fath yn hanfodol, ac mae ganddynt gydberthynas waith arbennig o dda gyda'u cyflogwyr o ran eu gwaith fel diffoddwyr tân wrth gefn. Os caiff eu swyddi eu peryglu, fel yr ymddengys y bydd yn digwydd i rai ohonynt o dan y cynllun hwn, bydd yn cael effaith andwyol ar forâl, ac yn arwain at wasanaeth llai effeithiol. Erfyniaf arnoch i edrych ar hyn, ac i sicrhau hyblygrwydd, fel arwydd o werthfawrogiad o'r gwasanaeth cost-effeithiol a ddarperir gan y gwasanaeth tân wrth gefn, yn arbennig yng Nghymru wledig.

Catherine Thomas: Hoffwn longyfarch y Gweinidog a'i swyddogion ar y gwaith a wnaed i sicrhau bod y newid hwn yn un didrafferth. Yr wyf fi, fel sawl un arall, yn obeithiol ynghylch dyfodol y gwasanaeth tân ac achub yn dilyn y trosglwyddiad hwn. Hoffwn hefyd ganmol diffoddwyr tân, nid yn unig yn fy ardal i, sef y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, ond ledled Cymru, am eu hymroddiad a'u hymrwymiad i sicrhau bod ein cymunedau yn fwy diogel.

Canolbwyntiaf ar bennod 2 a phennod 4 y fframwaith, sy'n ymdrin â'r cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig ac amseroedd ymateb. Canolbwyntiaf ar y materion hyn gan iddynt ddod yn fwyfwy perthnasol imi yn ystod y 18 mis diwethaf, o ganlyniad i'r cynigion a gyflwynwyd yng nghanam 1 a 2 cynllun rheoli risg integredig Awdurdod Tân Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru. Nod cynllun rheoli risg integredig yw sicrhau bod cymunedau yn fwy diogel, ac, er bod llawer i'w gymeradwyo yng nghynllun Awdurdod Tân Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru, yn arbennig o ran addysg ac atal, yr wyf yn teimlo'n anfodlon ac wedi fy siomi gan faterion eraill a dweud y lleiaf.

Mae pennod 2 y ddogfen fframwaith yn ymdrin â rheoli risg a gwaith atal. Mae'n datgan mai amcan pum mlynedd cyntaf y fframwaith yw lleihau yn sylweddol nifer y marwolaethau a'r anafiadau difrifol o ganlyniad i dân y gellid bod wedi'u hosgoi, ac anelu at leihau nifer y marwolaethau a'r

traffic accidents. I am sure that we all support these aims. However, the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority's integrated risk management plan in stages 1 and 2 has either already taken action or is proposing to take action that will have a direct and negative impact on response times, and consequently on securing safer communities. I have raised my dissatisfaction at the removal of the emergency fire tender from Llanelli station on several occasions, as this has not made the communities that I represent safer. The proposals in stage 2 of the integrated risk management plan, which, as Gwenda Thomas has stated, recommend the downgrading of stations in Pontardawe and Pembroke, are not acceptable either. How will such proposals make our communities safer?

The transfer of responsibility for the fire and rescue service offers an opportunity to evaluate integrated risk management plans within the requirements of this framework. Minister, I would welcome your making clear your commitment to ensuring that integrated risk management plans reflect the framework's requirement as to acceptable response times.

In conclusion, Minister, will you involve Assembly Members in the process of measuring the effectiveness of existing integrated risk management plans, and reviewing decisions such as that to remove the fire tender from Llanelli station?

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I thank Members, in the main, for their contributions. Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Gwenda Thomas and Catherine Thomas specifically alluded to the issue of the integrated risk management plan in mid and west Wales. As you are aware, and as I indicated in my opening speech, integrated risk management is currently defined by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, and we will have to introduce a framework ourselves for integrated risk management plans for future years, which the fire authorities will then have to look to.

anafiadau difrifol mewn damweiniau ffordd yn sylweddol. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod pob un ohonom yn cefnogi'r nodau hyn. Fodd bynnag, mae cynllun rheoli risg integredig Awdurdod Tân Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru yn ystod camau 1 a 2 naill ai eisoes wedi cymryd camau neu'n bwriadu cymryd camau a gaiff effaith uniongyrchol a negyddol ar amseroedd ymateb, ac o ganlyniad ar y broses o sicrhau cymunedau mwy diogel. Yr wyf wedi nodi fy mod yn anfodlon ar y penderfyniad i gael gwared ar yr injan dân brys o orsaf Llanelli sawl gwaith, gan na wnaed y cymunedau a gynrychiolir gennyf yn fwy diogel. Nid yw'r cynigion yng nghanam 2 y cynllun rheoli risg integredig, sydd, fel y nododd Gwenda Thomas, yn argymhell y dylid israddio gorsafodded ym Mhontardawe a Phenfro, yn dderbyniol ychwaith. Sut y bydd y cyfryw gynigion yn gwneud ein cymunedau yn fwy diogel?

Mae'r broses o drosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb dros y gwasanaeth tân ac achub yn cynnig cyfle i werthuso cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig o fewn gofynion y fframwaith hwn. Weinidog, hoffwn pe baech yn cadarnhau eich ymrwymiad i sicrhau bod cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig yn adlewyrchu gofyniad y fframwaith o ran amseroedd ymateb derbyniol.

I gloi, Weinidog, a fyddwch yn cynnwys Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn y broses o fesur effeithiolrwydd cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig presennol, ac wrth adolygu penderfyniadau fel y penderfyniad i gael gwared â'r injan dân o orsaf Llanelli?

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Hoffwn ddiolch i Aelodau, yn gyffredinol, am eu cyfraniadau. Cyfeiriodd Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Gwenda Thomas a Catherine Thomas yn benodol at y cynllun rheoli risg integredig yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin. Fel y gwyddoch, ac fel y nodais yn fy araith agoriadol, Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog sy'n diffinio cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig ar hyn o bryd, a bydd yn rhaid inni gyflwyno fframwaith ein hunain ar gyfer cynlluniau rheoli risg integredig yn y dyfodol, y bydd yn rhaid i'r awdurdodau tân ei ddilyn wedyn.

However, I advise Members that, if the framework is accepted in Plenary today, I will write to the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority in light of the spirit of my framework and the complaints that I have had from Members with regard to the integrated risk management plan and issues arising across mid and west Wales.

The issues that have arisen in mid and west Wales about the future of the service and its ability to respond are contentious. It is essential that people understand that Assembly Members and, indeed, Members of Parliament have views that they can forcibly express. It is not just an issue for the fire authority, but for elected representatives across Wales.

I welcome Rhodri's comments about call-out times, which is an issue that we will have to consider further when we do more work in this area. Catherine also raised that particular issue, and also referred to retained firefighters. My understanding is that, of the retained firefighters in Wales, 90 per cent are members of the FBU. As Ann indicated, there is a structure to deal with those issues there.

I thank Janice, as Chair of the committee, for her comments, as the committee has worked hard on the framework and the devolution of responsibility for the fire services. It will have much more work to do in future. It is nice that we can take this work forward together across party lines in many areas. However, Peter also made a valuable point about balance, because local authorities are involved in fire authorities, and we must have the necessary co-operation with them so that we have a service that is fit for purpose. I was taken by your point about the great work undertaken in relation to fire safety and other issues, and how we can continue with that. I will certainly look at the point that you specifically raised.

I will not go into the details of industrial relations, pay and terms and conditions, as it is not appropriate in terms of the framework

Fodd bynnag, hysbysaf Aelodau, os caiff y fframwaith ei dderbyn yn y Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw, y byddaf yn ysgrifennu at Awdurdod Tân Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru yng ngoleuni cynnwys fy fframwaith a'r cwynion a gefais gan Aelodau o ran y cynllun rheoli risg integredig a materion sy'n dod i'r amlwg ledled y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin.

Mae'r materion sydd wedi dod i'r amlwg yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin o ran dyfodol y gwasanaeth a'i allu i ymateb yn rhai cynhennus. Mae'n hanfodol bod pobl yn deall bod gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac, yn wir, Aelodau Seneddol safbwyntiau y gallant eu mynegi'n gryf. Nid mater i'r awdurdod tân yn unig mohono, ond i gynrychiolwyr etholedig ledled Cymru.

Croesawaf sylwadau Rhodri ynghylch amseroedd galw allan, sy'n fater y bydd yn rhaid inni ei ystyried ymhellach pan wnawn fwy o waith yn y maes hwn. Cododd Catherine hefyd y mater penodol hwnnw, a chyfeiriodd hefyd at ddiffoddwyr tân wrth gefn. Yr wyf ar ddeall, o'r holl ddiffoddwyr tân wrth gefn yng Nghymru, bod 90 y cant ohonynt yn aelodau o Undeb y Brigadau Tân. Fel y nododd Ann, mae strwythur ar waith ar gyfer ymdrin â'r materion hynny.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Janice, fel Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, am ei sylwadau, gan fod y pwyllgor wedi gweithio'n galed ar y fframwaith ac ar y broses o ddatganoli cyfrifoldeb dros y gwasanaethau tân. Bydd ganddo lawer mwy o waith i'w wneud yn y dyfodol. Mae'r ffaith y gallwn ddatblygu'r gwaith hwn gyda'n gilydd yn drawsbleidiol mewn sawl maes yn dda o beth. Fodd bynnag, gwnaeth Peter hefyd bwynt gwerthfawr ynglŷn â chydbwysedd, gan fod awdurdodau lleol yn ymwneud ag awdurdodau tân, ac mae'n rhaid inni sicrhau'r cydweithrediad angenrheidiol gyda hwy er mwyn sicrhau gwasanaeth sy'n addas at y diben. Fe'm trawyd gan eich pwynt ar y gwaith ardderchog sy'n mynd rhagddo o ran diogelwch tân a materion eraill, a sut y gallwn barhau â hynny. Yn sicr, ystyriaf y pwynt a godwyd yn benodol gennyh.

Ni thrafodaf fanylion cysylltiadau diwydiannol, cyflogau a thelerau ac amodau, gan nad yw'n briodol o ran y ddogfen

document. If we can keep national collective bargaining, it will be ideal, and I know that that is what the unions want. We do not want to see this coming down to a regional level. As Minister, I intend to ensure, if possible, that we can have that particular national framework.

Turning to the points raised by Gwenda and Mick Bates about effective responses, we must deal with that in both urban and rural areas, and recognise that the service is essential in some areas to protect life, limb and property. We must praise firefighters for continuing to do such an excellent job.

The fire service continues to develop, and nobody understands that better than Ann Jones. I am sure that, when she first started in the fire service, it was a very different organisation to what it is today. When it is said that people are not prepared to do things in the fire service, it is just not true—the fire service has wholeheartedly embraced all the issues of fire safety, education opportunities in schools and a plethora of measures that we are currently introducing. I thank Members for their comments in that regard.

Mark Isherwood, it is a pity that you do not understand industrial relations in the fire service, and it is a pity that you do not understand the fire framework. We discussed this in depth in committee, and we have had the opportunity to discuss every point that you raised. I am sorry that you seem to have been so poorly briefed for your contribution.

5.10 p.m.

*Cynnig (NDM2372): O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2372): For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane

fframwaith. Os gallwn gadw at brosesau cydfargeinio cenedlaethol, bydd yn ddelfrydol, a gwn mai dyna a ddymuna'r undebau. Nid ydym am drafod y mater ar lefel ranbarthol. Fel y Gweinidog, fy mwriad yw sicrhau, os yn bosibl, y gallwn sefydlu'r fframwaith cenedlaethol penodol hwnnw.

Gan droi at y pwyntiau a godwyd gan Gwenda a Mick Bates o ran ymatebion effeithiol, rhaid inni ymdrin â hynny mewn ardaloedd trefol a gwledig, a chydabod bod y gwasanaeth yn hanfodol mewn rhai ardaloedd er mwyn diogelu bywydau, pobl ac eiddo. Rhaid inni ganmol diffoddwyr tân am barhau i wneud gwaith mor ardderchog.

Mae'r gwasanaeth tân yn parhau i ddatblygu, ac nid oes neb yn deall hynny'n well nag Ann Jones. Yr wyf yn siŵr, pan ddechreuodd gyntaf yn y gwasanaeth tân, ei fod yn sefydliad gwahanol iawn i'r sefydliad sydd ohono heddiw. Pan ddywedir nad yw pobl yn barod i wneud pethau yn y gwasanaeth tân, nid yw hynny'n wir o gwbl—mae'r gwasanaeth tân wedi croesawu'r holl faterion diogelwch tân, y cyfleoedd addysg mewn ysgolion ac amrywiaeth o fesurau yr ydym wrthi'n eu cyflwyno ar hyn o bryd. Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Aelodau am eu sylwadau yn hynny o beth.

Mark Isherwood, mae'n drueni nad ydych yn deall cysylltiadau diwydiannol yn y gwasanaeth tân, ac mae'n drueni nad ydych yn deall y fframwaith tân. Bu inni drafod hyn yn fanwl yn y pwyllgor, a chawsom gyfle i drafod pob pwynt a godwyd gennych. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf y cawsoch, yn ôl pob tebyg, eich briffio mor wael cyn ichi gyfrannu.

Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM2373): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2373): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina

Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn y Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub (Fframwaith Cenedlaethol)
 (Cymru) 2005**
Approval of the Fire and Rescue Services (National Framework) (Wales) Order 2005

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

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

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Cynigiaf fod

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

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

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee, laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005 on the draft Order, the Fire and Rescue Services (National Framework) (Wales) Order 2005; and

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 9 Mawrth 2005, ar y gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn y Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub (Fframwaith Cenedlaethol) (Cymru) 2005; a

2. approves that the Fire and Rescue Services (National Framework) (Wales) Order 2005 is made in accordance with:

2. yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn y Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub (Fframwaith Cenedlaethol) (Cymru) 2005 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â:

a) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 2 March 2005;

a) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 2 Mawrth 2005;

- b) *the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 8 March 2005; and* b) *yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Mawrth 2005; a*
- c) *the memorandum of correction laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 9 March 2005. (NDM2374)* c) *y memorandwm cywiriadau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad drwy'r e-bost ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2374)*

*Cynnig (NDM2374): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2374): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Cartrefu Tai yng Nghymru Give Housing a Home in Wales

Mark Isherwood: I have agreed that Peter Black and Janet Ryder can make contributions.

My perception and regret is that housing has not, so far, been given sufficient priority as the glue that holds social and economic regeneration together in our devolved Wales. As Ieuan Wyn Jones said last week, the goldfish bowl that is Cardiff bay inhibits the development of innovative thought. We must therefore encourage other institutions to play their part, and nowhere is this more evident than in housing.

At its conference last November, the Council of Mortgage Lenders Cymru stated that the Welsh Assembly Government tends to fall short in its delivery of housing solutions, and needs to engage in active partnership with the private as well as the public sector, in order to make the best use of the tools and skills that each have.

The Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru has told me of its concerns about the housing quality agenda, under-investment in social housing, the need to link housing investment to benefits in other areas, and the under-supply of housing as prices and homelessness increase.

The Welsh Federation of Housing Associations has told me that its members have the practical skills and want to work with the Welsh Assembly Government to deliver what it wants to deliver. However, they keep finding themselves

‘on the wrong side of the great divide, which doesn’t deliver’.

As last November’s ‘Consumer Issues in Housing’ report by the Welsh Consumer Council states:

‘The shortage of affordable housing is restricting people’s choice and placing extra

Mark Isherwood: Yr wyf wedi cytuno y gall Peter Black a Janet Ryder wneud cyfraniadau.

Hyd yma, credaf a gresynaf at y ffaith na roddwyd digon o flaenoriaeth i fater tai, fel y glud sy’n dal adfywiad cymdeithasol ac economaidd at ei gilydd yn ein Cymru ddatganoledig. Fel y dywedodd Ieuan Wyn Jones yr wythnos diwethaf, mae bowlen pysgod aur bae Caerdydd yn atal syniadau newydd rhag datblygu. Rhaid inni felly annog sefydliadau eraill i chwarae eu rhan, ac mae hyn i’w weld amlycaf ym maes tai.

Yn ei gynhadledd fis Tachwedd diwethaf, dywedodd Cyngor Benthycwyr Morgeisi Cymru fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn methu â dod o hyd i atebion i’r problemau o ran tai, a bod angen iddi weithio mewn partneriaeth â’r sector preifat yn ogystal â’r sector cyhoeddus, er mwyn gwneud y defnydd gorau o’r offer a’r sgiliau sydd gan y ddau.

Mae Sefydliad Siartredig Tai Cymru wedi dweud wrthyf am ei bryderon ynghylch yr agenda ansawdd tai, tanfuddsoddiad mewn tai cymdeithasol, yr angen i gysylltu buddsoddiad mewn tai â buddiannau mewn meysydd eraill, a’r tangyflenwad o dai wrth i brisiau godi ac wrth i ddigartrefedd gynyddu.

Mae Ffederasiwn Cymdeithasau Tai Cymru wedi dweud wrthyf fod gan ei aelodau y sgiliau ymarferol a’u bod am weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyflawni’r hyn y mae am ei gyflawni. Fodd bynnag, gwelant eu bod, dro ar ôl tro

ar ochr anghywir y llen, nad yw’n cyflawni.

Fel y noda’r adroddiad gan Gyngor Defnyddwyr Cymru fis Tachwedd diwethaf, sef ‘Materion Defnyddwyr ar gyfer Tai’:

Mae’r prinder tai fforddiadwy yn cyfyngu ar ddewis pobl ac yn rhoi pwysau ychwanegol

pressure on the availability of social housing. Unless house-building and renovation of existing homes is stepped up, Wales could face a housing crisis in coming years'.

Wales has the oldest housing stock of any western European nation, with 8.5 per cent classified as unfit. Poor-quality housing impacts on people's health and wellbeing. Children living in damp houses are more vulnerable to asthma and other respiratory diseases. In the social sector, the backlog of repair work is calculated as costing £3 billion, and many privately owned houses are also in a bad state.

Concerning the last point, the Assembly Audit Committee's report, 'Renewal of Private Sector Housing in Wales', published in May 2004, identified the backlog of urgent repair work in the private housing sector as £1.1 billion. The Council of Mortgage Lenders reports that one in two of the poorest households lives in their own home, and that some 72 per cent of Welsh properties officially designated as unfit are owner-occupied, and a study for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation showed that three in five pensioners on low incomes in Wales were homeowners.

To help tackle this, the Council of Mortgage Lenders Cymru proposed a Welsh home-improvement lending agency, which would provide low-interest home repair loans to asset-rich, cash-poor homeowners who were otherwise financially excluded. However, while accepting the need to consider the issue of loans, the Minister, Edwina Hart, stated that this would not be feasible on a national organisational basis.

We are told by the Welsh Assembly Government that the explanation for the shortage of affordable housing for rent or assisted purchase, the reason for rising housing waiting lists and homelessness, and the justification for a 40-per-cent fall in the number of first-time buyers in Wales since

ar argaeledd tai cymdeithasol. Oni chynyddir nifer y tai a gaiff eu hadeiladu neu'r tai presennol a gaiff eu hadnewyddu, gallai Cymru fod yn wynebu argyfwng tai yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

Mae gan Gymru y stoc tai hynaf o blith unrhyw wlad yng ngorllewin Ewrop, gydag 8.5 y cant o'r tai wedi eu nodi yn rhai anaddas. Mae tai o ansawdd gwael yn effeithio ar iechyd a lles pobl. Mae plant sy'n byw mewn tai llaith yn fwy tebygol o gael asthma ac afiechydon anadlu eraill. Yn y sector cymdeithasol, cyfrifir y byddai'r ôl-groniad o waith atgyweirio yn costio £3 biliwn, ac mae llawer o dai sy'n eiddo preifat hefyd mewn cyflwr gwael.

O ran y pwynt olaf, nododd Adroddiad Pwyllgor Archwilio'r Cynulliad, 'Adnewyddu Tai y Sector Preifat yng Nghymru', a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Mai 2004, y byddai'r ôl-groniad o waith atgyweirio brys yn y sector tai preifat yn costio £1.1 biliwn. Noda'r Cyngor Benthycwyr Morgeisi fod un o bob dau o'r teuluoedd tlotaf yn byw yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, ac mai perchennfeddianwyr sy'n byw mewn tua 72 y cant o gartrefi Cymru sydd wedi eu dynodi'n swyddogol yn rhai anaddas, a dangosodd astudiaeth ar gyfer Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree fod tri o bob pum pensiyntwr sydd ar incwm isel yng Nghymru yn berchen ar eu cartrefi eu hunain.

Er mwyn helpu i fynd i'r afael â hyn, cynigodd y Cyngor Benthycwyr Morgeisi y dylid creu asiantaeth fenthyca yng Nghymru ar gyfer gwella tai, a fyddai'n rhoi benthyciadau llog isel ar gyfer atgyweirio cartrefi i berchnogion tai cyfoethog o ran asedau, ond tlawd o ran arian parod, yr oeddent fel arall wedi eu hallgáu'n ariannol. Fodd bynnag, er iddi dderbyn bod angen ystyried benthyciadau, dywedodd y Gweinidog, Edwina Hart, na fyddai hyn yn ymarferol ar sail drefniadol genedlaethol.

Dywedir wrthym gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru mai'r esboniad am y prinder tai fforddiadwy i'w rhentu neu eu prynu gyda chymorth, y rheswm dros restrau aros cynyddol am dai a'r cynnydd mewn digartrefedd, a'r cyfiawnhad dros 40 y cant o ostyngiad yn nifer y bobl a oedd yn prynu tŷ

1997, is increasing house prices in a commercial marketplace. By contrast, a letter that I received from the Principality Building Society accurately states that high house prices are being driven by a lack of supply of both private and social housing.

Funding for the Welsh social housing grant programme was £173.7 million in 1996-97, with £98.6 million from the Government and £75.1 million in private finance from registered social landlords. This year, it totals just £96.4 million—that is a 45 per cent fall, with devolved Government funding cut by £42.2 million. Consequently, new social housing dwellings completed in Wales by local authorities and registered social landlords fell from 14,500 between 1992 and 1996 to 4,500 between 1997 and 1999, and then to just 3,200 between 1999 and 2003. To put that last figure into perspective, only 376 social housing dwellings were completed in north Wales, when the local authority waiting list in Gwynedd alone had, by last summer, risen to 2,000, with re-lets falling, and when, only last Friday, the front page of the *Flintshire Evening Leader* reported that 4,000 people in Flintshire are now stuck on housing waiting lists due to the chronic shortage of properties in the county.

In its latest budget for Wales, the Welsh Assembly Government announced an additional £16 million in the social housing grant for 2005-06, which will then flatline for three years. That is still £26 million below its 1996-97 level and is subject to top-slicing for extracare housing schemes. It also projected an additional £20 million in Wanless funding by 2007-08, to rightly acknowledge the impact of housing on health and wellbeing. Even with that included, social housing grant in 2008 would still be below its level in 1996-97.

We need a vibrant social rental sector, but we also need deliverable low-cost home ownership schemes. However, the number of

am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru ers 1997, yw prisiau tai cynyddol mewn marchnad fasnachol. I'r gwrthwyneb, mae llythyr a gefais gan Gymdeithas Adeiladu'r Principality yn nodi'n gywir mai prinder tai preifat a thai cymdeithasol sy'n creu prisiau tai uchel.

Yr oedd yr arian ar gyfer rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol Cymru yn £173.7 miliwn yn 1996-97, gyda £98.6 miliwn yn dod oddi wrth y Llywodraeth a £75.1 miliwn mewn cyllid preifat gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig. Eleni, dim ond £96.4 miliwn ydyw—mae hynny'n ostyngiad o 45 y cant, gydag arian y Llywodraeth ddatganoledig wedi ei dorri £42.2 miliwn. O ganlyniad, lleihaodd nifer yr anheddau tai cymdeithasol newydd a gwblhawyd yng Nghymru gan awdurdodau lleol a landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig o 14,500 rhwng 1992 a 1996 i 4,500 rhwng 1997 a 1999, ac yna i ddim ond 3,200 rhwng 1999 a 2003. Er mwyn rhoi'r ffigur diwethaf hwnnw yn ei gyd-destun, dim ond 376 o anheddau tai cymdeithasol a gwblhawyd yn y Gogledd, pan oedd rhestr aros yr awdurdod lleol yng Ngwynedd yn unig wedi codi i 2,000 erbyn yr haf diwethaf, gyda nifer y lleoedd a oedd yn cael eu hailosod yn gostwng, a phan, dim ond dydd Gwener diwethaf, nodwyd ar dudalen flaen y *Flintshire Evening Leader* fod 4,000 o bobl yn sir y Fflint yn dal ar restrau aros tai oherwydd y prinder dybryd o gartrefi yn y sir.

Yn ei chyllideb ddiwethaf ar gyfer Cymru, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru £16 miliwn ychwanegol yn y grant tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer 2005-06, a fydd yn parhau'n ddigyfnawid wedyn am dair blynedd. Mae hynny yn dal i fod yn £26 miliwn o dan ei lefel yn 1996-97 ac mae'n agored i frigidorri ar gyfer cynlluniau tai gofal ychwanegol. Mae hefyd wedi rhagweld £20 miliwn ychwanegol mewn arian Wanless erbyn 2007-08, i gydnabod effaith tai ar iechyd a lles, a hynny'n briodol. Hyd yn oed wrth gynnwys hynny, byddai'r grant tai cymdeithasol yn 2008 o dan ei lefel yn 1996-97.

Mae angen sector rhentu cymdeithasol bywiog, ond mae angen cynlluniau perchentyaeth cost isel y gellir eu cyflawni

do-it-yourself homebuy and shared-ownership house purchases halved between 1997 and 2003, due in part to funding cuts and in part to the failure to keep scheme terms and conditions up to date and in line with market conditions. This is frustrating the ability of affordable housing providers to invest either homebuy or recycled shared-ownership funding. As Gwynedd County Council, the largest Welsh homebuy provider, told me:

‘Homebuy is becoming increasingly difficult to spend—even with 50 per cent funding, increases in house prices mean that applicants are having difficulty raising the other 50 per cent’.

Against that backdrop, therefore it is perhaps not surprising that homelessness is on the increase again, or that cuts in affordable social housing combined with a rising backlog in urgent housing maintenance and repairs is hitting lower-income households the hardest. UK Government figures show priority homelessness in Wales at 7,747 in 1993, falling to 4,297 in 1997. However, recent figures from Shelter record that the number of homeless people in Wales rose to 9,100 last year, and that 98,000 Welsh homes are unfit for human habitation.

In its response to the Assembly Government’s proposals for social housing grant, the Welsh Federation of Housing Associations notes that the Assembly Government’s consultation paper does not include evidence to support either the assumptions underpinning the proposals or the proposals themselves. It notes that the national housing strategy has little to say on the supply of new affordable housing. ‘Wales: A Better Country’ refers only to the suspension of right to buy, and ‘A Winning Wales’ only recognises housing as an opportunity to develop construction skills. It notes that social housing grant in Wales only provides up to 58 per cent of scheme costs, compared with 68 per cent in England and 70 per cent in Scotland, and it adds that the overall level of funding is significantly lower in Wales than it is in Scotland and England.

hefyd. Fodd bynnag, hanerodd nifer y tai cymorth prynu a rhan-berchenogaeth dewis eich hun a brynwyd rhwng 1997 a 2003, yn rhannol oherwydd toriadau ac yn rhannol am na lwyddwyd i ddiweddarau telerau ac amodau’r cynlluniau a’u gwneud yn unol ag amodau’r farchnad. Mae hyn yn rhwystro gallu darparwyr tai fforddiadwy i fuddsoddi arian mewn cynlluniau cymorth prynu neu ran-berchenogaeth eildro. Fel y dywedodd Cyngor Sir Gwynedd, y darparwr cymorth prynu mwyaf yng Nghymru wrthyf:

Mae arian cymorth prynu yn mynd yn gynyddol anodd i’w wario—hyd yn oed gyda 50 y cant o gyllid, gall cynnydd mewn prisiau tai olygu bod ymgeiswyr yn cael anhawster i godi’r 50 y cant arall.

Yn erbyn y cefndir hwnnw, nid yw’n syndod felly efallai fod digartrefedd ar gynydd eto, neu fod toriadau mewn tai cymdeithasol fforddiadwy ynghyd ag ôl-groniad cynyddol mewn gwaith cynnal a chadw ac atgyweirio tai brys yn effeithio fwyaf ar gartrefi incwm isel. Dengys ffigurau Llywodraeth y DU mai’r ffigur ar gyfer digartrefedd blaenoriaethol yng Nghymru oedd 7,747 yn 1993, a’i fod wedi gostwng i 4,297 yn 1997. Fodd bynnag, dengys ffigurau diweddar gan Shelter fod nifer y bobl ddigartref yng Nghymru wedi codi i 9,100 y llynedd, a bod 98,000 o dai Cymru yn anaddas i bobl fyw ynddynt.

Mewn ymateb i gynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer grant tai cymdeithasol, noda Ffederasiwn Cymdeithasau Tai Cymru nad yw papur ymgynghori Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cynnwys tystiolaeth i ategu naill ai’r tybiaethau sy’n sail i’r cynigion na’r cyngion eu hunain. Noda nad oes gan y strategaeth dai genedlaethol lawer i’w ddweud am gyflenwad tai fforddiadwy newydd. Dim ond at atal yr hawl i brynu y cyfeiria ‘Cymru: Gwlad Gwell’, a dim ond fel cyfle i ddatblygu sgiliau adeiladu y cydnabyddir tai gan ‘Cymru’n Ennill’. Noda mai dim ond hyd at 58 y cant o gostau’r cynllun y mae’r grant tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru yn ei ddarparu, o’i gymharu â 68 y cant yn Lloegr a 70 y cant yn yr Alban, ac ychwanega fod lefel gyffredinol yr arian yn sylweddol is yng Nghymru nag ydyw yn yr Alban a Lloegr.

Welsh Conservatives recognise that housing affordability is about people, not buildings, but we must question whether the Welsh Assembly Government understands that. Nowhere has this been more evident than in its reluctance to challenge the dogma that has been standing in the way of delivering the Welsh housing quality standard.

The September 2004 Institute of Welsh Affairs report, 'The Future of Social Housing in Wales', explains why housing stock transfer has been an integral part of the Welsh Assembly Government's programme to bring council housing stock up to the Welsh housing quality standard by 2012. It states that its advocates believe that its roll-out could see the transformation of the condition of local authority housing with an attendant impact on the economic and social wellbeing of Welsh communities. To put matters into perspective, the £3 billion backlog in council house repairs is £1.7 billion more than the total European Objective 1 funding for Wales between 2000 and 2006. The only source of money on this scale is the value of the existing stock. Wales's 183,000 council houses have an asset value estimated at some £7 billion. At the same time, Treasury rules prevent local authorities from borrowing against this equity, since it would increase the public-sector borrowing requirement. Registered social landlords are not subject to these restrictions, therefore local authorities have the option of transferring ownership and management to them, so that they can borrow against the equity to improve the stock.

5.20 p.m.

However, only two tenant referenda on stock transfer have so far been undertaken. Tenants in Bridgend voted to approve a transfer to a new housing association, Valleys to Coast. This association is planning to invest £70 million over five years, and £159 million by 2013, in the 6,500 homes that were transferred to it, with £6 million to be spent on environmental and estate improvements and training for local people in the skills needed to do the renovation and repair work. By contrast, Wrexham tenants voted against the stock transfer and the council now has to

Mae Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn cydnabod bod a wnelo fforddiadwyedd tai â phobl, nid ag adeiladau, ond rhaid inni holi a yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn deall hynny. Gwelwyd hyn yn fwyaf amlwg yn ei hamharodrwydd i herio'r dogma sydd wedi bod yn rhwystro safon ansawdd tai Cymru rhag cael ei chyflawni.

Eglura adroddiad Medi 2004 y Sefydliad Materion Cymreig, 'The Future of Social Housing in Wales', pam y bu trosglwyddiad stoc tai yn rhan annatod o raglen Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wella'r stoc tai cyngor i safon ansawdd tai Cymru erbyn 2012. Noda fod ei hyrwyddwyr yn credu, drwy gyflwyno hyn, y gellir trawsnewid cyflwr tai awdurdodau lleol gan greu effaith ddilynol ar les economaidd a chymdeithasol cymunedau yng Nghymru. A rhoi materion o'r fath yn eu cyd-destun, mae'r ôl-groniad o £3 biliwn mewn gwaith atgyweirio tai cyngor £1.7 biliwn yn fwy na chyfanswm yr arian Amcan 1 Ewropeaidd ar gyfer Cymru rhwng 2000 a 2006. Yr unig ffynhonnell o arian ar y raddfa hon yw gwerth y stoc presennol. Amcangyfrifwyd bod gan 183,000 o dai cyngor Cymru werth asedau o tua £7 biliwn. Ar yr un pryd, mae rheolau'r Trysorlys yn atal awdurdodau lleol rhag benthyca yn erbyn yr ecwiti hwn, gan y byddai'n cynyddu gofyniad benthyca'r sector cyhoeddus. Nid oes cyfyngiadau o'r fath ar landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, felly mae gan awdurdodau lleol yr opsiwn o drosglwyddo perchenogaeth a rheolaeth iddynt, fel y gallant fenthyca yn erbyn yr ecwiti i wella'r stoc.

Fodd bynnag, dim ond dau refferendwm tenantiaid ar drosglwyddo stoc a gynhaliwyd hyd yma. Pleidleisiodd tenantiaid ym Mheny-bont ar Ogwr i gymeradwyo trosglwyddiad i gymdeithas tai newydd, Valleys to Coast. Mae'r gymdeithas hon yn bwriadu buddsoddi £70 miliwn dros bum mlynedd, a £159 miliwn erbyn 2013, yn y 6,500 o gartrefi a drosglwyddwyd iddi, gyda £6 miliwn i'w wario ar welliannau amgylcheddol ac ystad a hyfforddiant i bobl leol yn y sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt i wneud y gwaith adnewyddu ac atgyweirio. Ar y llaw arall, pleidleisiodd

find other means to access the £274 million needed to improve its stock by 2012.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, Edwina Hart, reported to committee that local authorities wishing to pursue the wholly owned local authority company option, as an alternative to stock transfer, would be required to demonstrate that they would enter into joint arrangements to procure contracts, using the Egan report principles of rethinking construction. This would deliver significant economies of scale and create opportunities for economic regeneration. When I pointed out that registered social landlords with established expertise and infrastructure could also do this, I was concerned when she responded by stating that it was the first that she had heard about registered social landlords meeting those criteria. This contrasts with the prior response of the Welsh Federation of Housing Associations to the Welsh Assembly Government, which said that several federation members have prepared, or are preparing, proposals to optimise procurement savings, and that it recommends that the Welsh Assembly Government works with the federation, and other key partners, to identify opportunities for evaluating such proposals. We should also note that the Treasury Minister Paul Boateng MP rejected Edwina Hart's proposals for wholly owned local authority companies on public expenditure grounds.

At the previous committee meeting, on 29 September last year, Edwina Hart had outlined her plan to use rethinking construction principles in concentrating the social housing grant into a smaller number of larger rolling procurement programmes, working closely with local authorities to jointly commission longer-term development programmes with selected registered social landlords. She added that she recognised that

'the implementation of the proposals would mean the end of direct development for many RSLs'.

From my experience of this process, as a housing association board member on

tenantiaid Wrecsam yn erbyn y trosglwyddiad stoc a bellach rhaid i'r cyngor ganfod ffordd arall o gael gafael ar y £274 miliwn sydd ei angen i wella ei stoc erbyn 2012.

Dywedodd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, Edwina Hart, wrth y pwyllgor y byddai'n ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol sydd am ddewis yr opsiwn cwmnïau o dan berchenogaeth lawn awdurdod lleol, fel dewis amgen i drosglwyddo stoc, lunio trefniadau ar y cyd i gaffael contractau, gan ddefnyddio egwyddorion adroddiad Egan o ailystyried gwaith adeiladu. Byddai hyn yn creu arbedion maint sylweddol a chyfleoedd ar gyfer adfywio economaidd. Pan nodais y gallai landlordiaid cymdeithasol gydag arbenigedd a seilwaith sefydledig wneud hyn hefyd, yr oeddwn yn pryderu pan ymatebodd drwy ddweud mai dyna'r tro cyntaf iddi glywed am landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig yn bodloni'r meini prawf hynny. Mae hyn yn cyferbynnu ag ymateb blaenorol Ffederasiwn Cymdeithasau Tai Cymru i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, a ddywedodd fod sawl aelod o'r ffederasiwn wedi paratoi, neu wrthi'n paratoi, cynigion i sicrhau'r arbedion caffael mwyaf, a'i fod yn argymhell bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gweithio gyda'r ffederasiwn, a phartneriaid allweddol eraill, i nodi cyfleoedd i werthuso cynigion o'r fath. Dylem hefyd nodi i Weinidog y Trysorlys Paul Boateng AS wrthod cynigion Edwina Hart ar gyfer cwmnïau o dan berchenogaeth lawn awdurdod lleol am resymau gwariant cyhoeddus.

Yn y cyfarfod blaenorol o'r pwyllgor, ar 29 Medi y llynedd, yr oedd Edwina Hart wedi amlinellu ei chynllun i ddefnyddio egwyddorion ailystyried gwaith adeiladu i grynhoi'r grant tai cymdeithasol yn nifer llai o raglenni caffael parhaus mwy o faint, gan weithio'n agos gydag awdurdodau lleol i gyd-gomisiynu rhaglenni datblygu tymor hwy gyda landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig dethol. Ychwanegodd ei bod yn cydnabod

y byddai gweithredu'r cynigion yn golygu diwedd datblygiad uniongyrchol i lawer o landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig.

O'm profiad i o'r broses hon, fel aelod o fwrdd cymdeithas tai yng Nglannau Merswy,

Merseyside, I suggested to her that big is not always beautiful and that this process should be driven by organisational efficiency, and bottom-up tenant participation, rather than sheer size.

In its response to the Assembly Government proposals for the social housing grant, the Welsh Federation of Housing Associations stated that the proposal that all development should be conducted through seven or fewer agreed programme developers was devoid of argument, and that it shared the view of the Council of Mortgage Lenders that the case for large-scale agreed programme developers was unproven. The federation also noted that the Assembly Government's proposals are silent on tenant participation and that a feasibility study, commissioned by the five developing associations working in north Wales, concluded that a combined programme would be too small, too uncertain and too dispersed for joint procurement arrangements. The federation proposed alternative models built on current experience, which will tackle identified inefficiencies, and deliver training and other community regeneration alongside the provision of affordable housing.

I will conclude by referring to the growing clamour for action over affordable rural housing, noting the concern expressed by the Rural Housing Authorities Network and the Rural Housing Association Group that Assembly Government proposals for large development consortia would be insensitive to rural housing need.

A Welsh Local Government Association report has called for the restoration of the social housing grant to levels that would allow more affordable social housing, stating that large areas of rural Wales are at risk of becoming stagnant commuter dormitories and retirement areas. The Countryside Landowners Association's rural housing working group reports that the national debate on housing and current planning policies is neglecting the growing crisis in housing in rural areas. The Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru adds that an adequate supply of affordable housing for rent is key to creating sustainable rural communities.

awgrymais iddi nad yw rhywbeth mawr wastad yn ddelfrydol ac y dylai'r broses hon gael ei llywio gan effeithlonrwydd trefniadol, a chyfranogiad tenantiaid o'r gwaelod i fyny, yn hytrach na chan faint.

Mewn ymateb i gynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer y grant tai cymdeithasol, nododd Ffederasiwn Cymdeithasau Tai Cymru nad oedd dadl o blaid y cynnig y dylai pob datblygiad gael ei gynnal drwy saith neu lai o ddatblygwyr rhaglenni cytûn, a chytunodd â'r Cyngor Benthycwyr Morgeisi fod y ddadl dros gael datblygwyr rhaglenni cytûn ar raddfa fawr heb ei phrofi. Nododd y ffederasiwn hefyd nad oes sôn yng nghynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad am gyfranogiad tenantiaid a daeth astudiaeth ddichonoldeb, wedi ei chomisiynu gan y pum cymdeithas datblygu sy'n gweithio yn y Gogledd, i'r casgliad y byddai rhaglen gyfunol yn rhy fach, ansicr a gwasgaredig ar gyfer trefniadau caffael ar y cyd. Cynigodd y ffederasiwn fodelau amgen wedi eu llunio ar sail profiad presennol, a fydd yn mynd i'r afael ag aneffeithlonrwydd a nodwyd, ac yn darparu hyfforddiant a gwaith adfywio cymunedol arall ochr yn ochr â'r ddarpariaeth o dai fforddiadwy.

Deuaf i ben drwy gyfeirio at y galw cynyddol am weithredu ynghylch tai gwledig fforddiadwy, gan nodi'r pryder a fynegwyd gan y Rhwydwaith Awdurdodau Tai Gwledig a'r Grŵp Cymdeithas Tai Gwledig y byddai cynigion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer consortia datblygu mawr yn ansensitif i anghenion tai gwledig.

Mae adroddiad Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru wedi galw am adfer y grant tai cymdeithasol i lefelau a fyddai'n arwain at fwy o dai cymdeithasol fforddiadwy, gan nodi bod ardaloedd mawr o Gymru wledig mewn perygl o droi'n ardaloedd nad ydynt ond yn gartref i bobl sy'n cymudo ac ardaloedd ymddeol. Noda gweithgor tai gwledig Cymdeithas y Tirfeddianwyr fod y ddadl genedlaethol ar dai a pholisïau cynllunio presennol yn anwybyddu'r argyfwng cynyddol o ran tai mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Ychwanega Sefydliad Tai Siartredig Cymru fod cyflenwad digonol o dai fforddiadwy i'w rhentu yn allweddol i greu cymunedau gwledig cynaliadwy.

Business in the Community states that, to strengthen the case for affordable housing, there is a need to draw out the linkages between housing and the local economy. The lack of affordable housing impacts on the ability to sustain existing businesses and to attract new business. The shortage of affordable housing is putting new businesses off from settling, and young people are leaving to live in larger towns. Given that quality housing for all is central to everything else that we all want to achieve, cross-party, we must now restore housing as a core public service. We must now give housing a home again in Wales. After six years of devolved dither and delay, there is an obligation on the Welsh Assembly Government to urgently embrace the expertise and innovation that voluntary, mutual and private-sector housing professionals across Wales are straining at the leash to deliver.

Peter Black: The housing debate has moved on in the five years since the Assembly was established and is now concentrated on supply and improvement, which Mark highlighted. This comes down to the amount of money that we can invest in housing. If we had another £100 million in the major repairs allowance, we would not have to transfer stock. That kind of money needs to be put into housing, and it is a shame that the Finance Minister is not here to hear that plea.

Janet Ryder: Dealing with the issue of homelessness, and the need to look at regional solutions to the problem, can be achieved under Assembly funding. When authorities take over their own supporting people grant, that may not be so easy. There is a need for local authorities to look beyond their boundaries, to provide funding on a regional basis, and to look for examples of best practice in that respect. The Save the Family programme is one such example, and I hope that Members take advantage of the opportunity to see its exhibition outside the Chamber at the end of this debate.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I provided a comprehensive paper to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 23 February,

Mae Busnes yn y Gymuned yn nodi, er mwyn cryfhau'r ddadl dros dai fforddiadwy, fod angen pwysleisio'r cysylltiadau rhwng tai a'r economi leol. Mae prinder tai fforddiadwy yn effeithio ar y gallu i gynnal busnesau presennol a denu busnesau newydd. Mae prinder tai fforddiadwy yn atal busnesau newydd rhag ymsefydlu, ac mae pobl ifanc yn gadael i fyw mewn trefi mwy o faint. O gofio bod tai o ansawdd i bawb yn ganolog i bopeth arall yr ydym oll am ei gyflawni, yn drawsbleidiol, rhaid inni adfer tai yn awr fel gwasanaeth cyhoeddus craidd. Rhaid inni gartrefu tai unwaith eto yng Nghymru. Ar ôl chwe blynedd o betruso ac oedi datganoledig, mae dylestwydd ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ymgorffori ar frys yr arbenigedd a'r arloesedd y mae gweithwyr proffesiynol gwirfoddol, cydfuddiannol a sector preifat ym maes tai ledled Cymru yn frwd i'w cyflawni.

Peter Black: Mae'r ddadl ar dai wedi datblygu yn y pum mlynedd ers i'r Cynulliad gael ei sefydlu a bellach mae'n canolbwyntio ar gyflenwi a gwella, y soniodd Mark amdanynt. Yn y bôn, mae hyn yn golygu'r swm o arian y gallwn ei fuddsoddi mewn tai. Pe bai gennym £100 miliwn arall yn y lwfans atgyweiriadau mawr, ni fyddai'n rhaid inni drosglwyddo stoc. Mae angen buddsoddi'r math hwnnw o arian mewn tai, ac mae'n drueni nad yw'r Gweinidog Cyllid yma i glywed yr erfyniad hwnnw.

Janet Ryder: Gellir delio â phroblem digartrefedd, a'r angen i edrych am atebion rhanbarthol i'r broblem, drwy gyllid y Cynulliad. Pan fydd awdurdodau yn mynd yn gyfrifol am eu grant cefnogi pobl eu hunain, efallai na fydd hynny mor hawdd. Mae angen i awdurdodau lleol edrych y tu hwnt i'w ffiniau, i ddarparu cyllid ar sail ranbarthol, ac i edrych am enghreifftiau o arferion gorau yn hynny o beth. Un enghraifft o hyn yw'r rhaglen Achub y Teulu, a gobeithiaf y bydd Aelodau yn manteisio ar y cyfle i weld ei harddangosfa y tu allan i'r Siambr ar ddiwedd y ddadl hon.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Darperais bapur cynhwysfawr i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawner Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 23

demonstrating how far we have come since we published 'Better Homes for People in Wales'. Peter Black is right that housing now has a much higher political priority. Discussion of these issues is higher on the agenda than it was when I was elected in 1999, with Peter and others. That it is a key priority across the board is to be applauded.

I am the first to acknowledge that, even having produced that document, I cannot stand still. That is why the paper flagged up a range of emerging issues, which I am also considering. Some of these derive from the analysis we commissioned of local housing strategies, and others relate to actions being proposed in response to housing market pressures and the Barker review of housing supply. Our review of the way we administered the social housing grant programme is also part of the equation.

Later this year, I will publish our affordable housing toolkit, which will bring together in one document the tools and powers available to authorities in procuring affordable housing. However, the committee paper demonstrates the full range of mechanisms available to authorities, and the support that we are providing in delivering all aspects of their housing strategies. It seems clear to me, from the review that we commissioned on local housing strategies, that some authorities are not delivering the goods when it comes to housing. When we publish the toolkit, I intend to send out a clear message with regard to our expectations in that respect.

Turning to the issue of the Welsh home-improvement lending agency, we are currently working with local authorities and existing intermediary lending agencies to develop pilot loans for arrangements in Wales. A number of local authorities in south Wales are currently forming a consortium, with a view to developing a pilot loan scheme. A separate consortium in north Wales is at an advanced stage of discussion with the Home Improvement Trust, with a view to piloting the houseproud loan scheme in the area shortly. This offers advantages to authorities, without the need for a separate agency.

Chwefror, gan ddangos pa mor bell yr ydym wedi dod ers inni gyhoeddi 'Cartrefi Gwell i Bobl Cymru'. Mae Peter Black yn iawn i ddweud bod blaenoriaeth wleidyddol uwch o lawer yn cael ei rhoi i dai yn awr. Mae trafodaeth o'r materion hyn yn uwch ar yr agenda nag yr oedd pan gefais fy ethol yn 1999, gyda Peter ac eraill. Mae'r ffaith ei bod yn flaenoriaeth allweddol gan bawb i'w chymeradwyo.

Fi yw'r person cyntaf i gydnabod na allaf laesu dwylo, er imi gynhyrchu'r ddogfen honno. Dyna pam y cyfeiriodd y papur at nifer o faterion newydd, yr wyf hefyd yn eu hystyried. Mae rhai ohonynt yn deillio o'r dadansoddiad a gomisiynwyd gennym o strategaethau tai lleol, ac mae eraill yn ymwneud â champau a gynigir mewn ymateb i bwysau'r farchnad dai ac adolygiad Barker o gyflenwad tai. Mae ein hadolygiad o sut y gweinyddasom y rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol yn rhan o'r gwaith.

Yn ddiweddarach eleni, byddaf yn cyhoeddi ein pecyn cymorth tai fforddiadwy, a fydd yn dwyn ynghyd mewn un ddogfen yr offer a'r pwerau sydd ar gael i awdurdodau wrth gaffael tai fforddiadwy. Fodd bynnag, mae papur y pwyllgor yn dangos yr ystod lawn o ddulliau sydd ar gael i awdurdodau, a'r cymorth yr ydym yn ei ddarparu i gyflawni pob agwedd ar eu strategaethau tai. Mae'n amlwg imi, o'r adolygiad a gomisiynwyd gennym ar strategaethau tai lleol, nad yw rhai awdurdodau yn cyflawni o ran tai. Pan gyhoeddwn y pecyn cymorth, bwriadaf gyfleu neges glir o ran ein disgwyliadau yn hynny o beth.

Gan droi at fater asiantaeth fenthyca gwelliannau tai Cymru, yr ydym wrthi'n gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol ac asiantaethau benthyca cyfryngol presennol i ddatblygu benthyciadau peilot ar gyfer trefniadau yng Nghymru. Mae nifer o awdurdodau lleol yn y De yn ffurfio consortiwm ar hyn o bryd, gyda'r bwriad o ddatblygu cynllun benthyca peilot. Mae consortiwm gwahanol yn y Gogledd yn destun trafodaethau dwys gyda'r Ymddiriedolaeth Gwella Cartrefi, gyda'r bwriad o dreialu'r cynllun benthyca houseproud yn yr ardal yn fuan. Mae hyn yn cynnig manteision i awdurdodau, heb yr

angen am asiantaeth ar wahân.

In terms of social housing grant resources, we have increased the funding available from 2005 to 2007-08. Peter made the point that you can always have more money available for housing because you can always undertake further work.

O ran adnoddau grant tai cymdeithasol, yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r cyllid sydd ar gael o 2005 i 2007-08. Gwnaeth Peter y pwynt y gallwch bob amser gael rhagor o arian ar gyfer tai oherwydd gallwch bob amser ymgymryd â rhagor o waith.

With respect to homebuy and rural issues, we have increased maximum-price purchase limits for the homebuy scheme, and we are considering the possibility of offering local authority tenants the ability to buy their homes using a homebuy loan once more details emerge about the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's proposals. We have also given registered social landlords the facility to offer this to their tenants; we are one step ahead of England in that respect. The review of low-cost ownership schemes will be completed shortly, which will help us to consider the relative advantages and disadvantages of having a separate budget for homebuy, which Mick Bates is always nagging me about, and which is always raised by members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. We have no plans to introduce hypothecated funding for housing for key workers, since the ability to provide assistance is already there through the homebuy scheme, funded through the social housing grant programme.

O ran materion cymorth prynu a materion gwledig, yr ydym wedi estyn y terfynau prynu pris uchaf ar gyfer y cynllun cymorth prynu, ac yr ydym yn ystyried y posibilrwydd o roi'r cyfle i denantiaid awdurdodau lleol brynu eu cartrefi gan ddefnyddio benthyciad cymorth prynu pan gawn fwy o fanylion am gynigion Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog. Yr ydym hefyd wedi rhoi'r cyfleuster i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig gynnig hyn i'w tenantiaid; yr ydym un cam ar y blaen i Loegr yn hynny o beth. Caiff yr adolygiad o gynlluniau perchenogaeth cost isel ei gwblhau'n fuan, a fydd yn ein helpu i ystyried manteision ac anfanteision cymharol cael cyllideb ar wahân ar gyfer cymorth prynu, y mae Mick Bates bob amser yn fy mhlagio yn ei gylch, ac a godir drwy'r amser gan aelodau'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Nid oes gennym unrhyw gynlluniau i gyflwyno arian wedi ei glustnodi ar gyfer tai i weithwyr allweddol, gan fod gallu i ddarparu cymorth eisoes drwy'r cynllun cymorth prynu, wedi ei ariannu drwy'r rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol.

On the quality and affordability of existing housing, we should remember that the majority of transactions, whether for owner-occupation or for rent, take place within the existing housing stock. Affordability is just as important for existing houses, which is why we have stringent controls on rents, and spend significant sums on improving thermal insulation to reduce fuel costs. We are also committed to bringing the housing stock up to standard by 2012.

O ran ansawdd a fforddiadwyedd tai presennol, dylem gofio y gwneir y mwyafrif o drafodion, pa un a ydynt ar gyfer tai perchen-feddianwyr neu ar gyfer tai i'w rhentu, o fewn y stoc tai presennol. Mae fforddiadwyedd yr un mor bwysig ar gyfer tai presennol, a dyna pam mae gennym reolaethau caeth o ran rhenti, a pham yr ydym yn gwario symiau mawr o arian ar wella inswleiddio thermol i leihau costau tanwydd. Yr ydym hefyd yn ymrwymedig i wella'r stoc tai i'r safon sy'n ofynnol erbyn 2012.

On local authority housing supply, we do not prescribe the number that authorities must build. They are required to have regard to household projections which the Assembly publishes in preparing the development

O ran cyflenwad tai awdurdodau lleol, nid ydym yn rhagnodi'r nifer y mae'n rhaid i awdurdodau eu hadeiladu. Mae'n ofynnol iddynt ystyried yr amcanestyniadau o ran cartrefi y mae'r Cynulliad yn eu cyhoeddi

plans. I am aware that less than half of the Welsh planning authorities have a five-year supply of housing land. That is a matter for the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside, and I understand that he has been considering it as part of a review of a technical advice note. Therefore, there are ongoing issues.

5.30 p.m.

Janet Ryder raised the issue of homelessness. The numbers of homeless people have been rising, and we have been trying to establish why that is. The numbers who presented themselves to authorities as being homeless declined in the last quarter, but the trend is upwards, and we think that that is to do with various areas. We are particularly concerned about temporary bed-and-breakfast accommodation, and that is why we discussed secondary legislation in that area in committee today. There is additional money for homelessness, and substantial funds have been invested in this, but we will have to look at where we are going in terms of our strategy, and we are currently reviewing the homelessness strategy. There are issues linked to housing in respect of the supporting people grant, which Janet also alluded to. I know that there are concerns in the voluntary sector, which have been shared with me.

On stock transfer, I have made efforts on behalf of local government, which is particularly keen on the option of being able to set up a company. I have made representations openly and honestly to the Treasury, and I have discussed those at all times with committee. It is clear that, when they produce their strategies, local authorities will have to look at how they are going to deal with these issues. Some local authorities are looking to the community stock-transfer model, and we are helping the system in every possible way. If we can generate money from that stock transfer, we can put jobs in, make the economy more stable and do more training. There are issues around that.

People say that I am not interested in tenants; I am interested in them. The tenant's voice

wrth baratoi'r cynlluniau datblygu. Gwn fod gan lai na hanner yr awdurdodau cynllunio yng Nghymru gyflenwad pum mlynedd o dir ar gyfer tai. Mater i'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad yw hynny, a deallaf ei fod wedi bod yn ei ystyried fel rhan o adolygiad o nodyn cyngor technegol. Felly, mae materion sy'n mynd rhagddynt.

Cododd Janet Ryder fater digartrefedd. Mae cynnydd wedi bod yn nifer y bobl ddigartref, ac yr ydym wedi bod yn ceisio canfod pam. Lleihaodd y niferoedd a hysbysodd yr awdurdodau eu bod yn ddigartref yn y chwarter olaf, ond mae'r duedd tuag at i fyny, a chredwn fod a wnelo hynny ag amryw feysydd. Yr ydym yn gofidio'n benodol am lety gwely a brecwast dros dro, a dyna pam y bu inni drafod is-ddeddfwriaeth yn y maes hwnw yn y pwyllgor heddiw. Mae arian ychwanegol ar gyfer pobl ddigartref a buddsoddwyd llawer o arian yn y maes hwn, ond bydd yn rhaid inni ystyried sut i ddatblygu o ran ein strategaeth, ac yr ydym ar hyn o bryd yn adolygu'r strategaeth ddigartrefedd. Cyfyd materion sy'n gysylltiedig â thai o ran y grant cefnogi pobl y cyfeiriodd Janet ato hefyd. Gwn fod pryderon yn y sector gwirfoddol, a rannwyd gyda mi.

O ran trosglwyddo stoc, yr wyf wedi ymdrechu ar ran llywodraeth leol, sy'n arbennig o awyddus i ddewis yr opsiwn o allu sefydlu cwmni. Yr wyf wedi gwneud sylwadau yn agored ac yn onest i'r Trysorlys, ac wedi eu trafod yn gyson gyda'r pwyllgor. Mae'n amlwg, pan gynhyrchant eu strategaethau, y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn gorfod edrych ar sut y maent yn bwriadu ymdrin â'r materion hyn. Mae rhai awdurdodau lleol yn ystyried y model trosglwyddo stoc cymunedol, ac yr ydym yn helpu'r system ym mhob ffordd bosibl. Os gallwn gynhyrchu arian o'r trosglwyddiad stoc hwnnw, gallwn greu swyddi, gwneud yr economi yn fwy sefydlog a sicrhau mwy o hyfforddiant. Mae materion ynghlwm wrth hynny.

Dywed pobl nad oes diddordeb gennyf mewn tenantiaid; mae diddordeb gennyf ynddynt.

was responsible for the decision in Wrexham, and we must understand that you have to make a case well if you want to make local authority stock transfers, because, otherwise, the tenants will take the decision for you.

Llais tenantiaid oedd yn gyfrifol am y penderfyniad yn Wrecsam, a rhaid inni ddeall bod yn rhaid ichi gyflwyno dadl gref os ydych am wneud trosglwyddiadau stoc awdurdodau lleol, oherwydd, fel arall, bydd y tenantiaid yn gwneud y penderfyniad ar eich rhan.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.32 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.32 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)