



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
(Cofnod y Trafodion)**

**The National Assembly for Wales
(The Record of Proceedings)**

**Dydd Mercher, 22 Mehefin 2005
Wednesday, 22 June 2005**

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

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

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

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

Cyllideb Llywodraeth y DU The UK Government's Budget

Q1 Lynne Neagle: Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of the UK Government's budget for the coming year on the Assembly's finances? OAQ0162(FIN)

C1 Lynne Neagle: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar effaith cyllideb Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer y flwyddyn i ddod ar sefyllfa ariannol y Cynulliad? OAQ0162(FIN)

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): The Chancellor's budget increased Wales's departmental expenditure limit in 2006-07 by £40.7 million.

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Cynyddodd cyllideb y Canghellor derfyn gwariant adrannol Cymru yn 2006-07 £40.7 miliwn.

Lynne Neagle: You may be aware that, in its last meeting, the Health and Social Services Committee agreed that the Minister should take forward implementation of the Townsend formula as one of the budget priorities to be raised with you. As you know, Professor Townsend set out a three to five-year timescale for implementation of the formula, and that the redistribution is far from earth shattering—it is a pretty modest attempt to match spending to need and to make our commitment to tackling health inequalities a reality. Could you give an update on your discussions with the Minister for Health and Social Services on this issue, and what assurances can you give my constituents, who are among the biggest gainers under the Townsend formula in Wales, that the Assembly Government will now move to prompt and full implementation of this important formula?

Lynne Neagle: Efallai y gwyddoch i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol gytuno, yn ei gyfarfod diwethaf, y dylai'r Gweinidog barhau â'r dasg o weithredu fformiwla Townsend fel un o'r blaenoriaethau yn y gyllideb i'w codi gyda chi. Fel y gwyddoch, nododd yr Athro Townsend amserlen rhwng tair a phum mlynedd ar gyfer gweithredu'r fformiwla, ac nad yw'r broses aildosbarthu yn ysgytwol o bell ffordd—mae'n ymgais gymharol fach i sicrhau bod gwariant yn cyfateb i angen ac i wireddu ein hymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau iechyd. A allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am eich trafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar y mater hwn, a pha sicrwydd y gallwch ei roi i'm hetholwyr, sydd ymhlith y rhai a fydd yn elwa fwyaf o dan fformiwla Townsend yng Nghymru, y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad bellach yn mynd ati i weithredu'r fformiwla bwysig hon yn llawn ac yn gyflym?

Sue Essex: I entirely support the aspirations of the Townsend formula and its implementation. This is a matter for the Minister for Health and Social Services, and I will respect his decision in terms of progression of the formula through the system.

Sue Essex: Cefnogaf yn llawn ddyheadau fformiwla Townsend a'r dasg o'i gweithredu. Mater i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yw hwn, a byddaf yn parchu ei benderfyniad o ran hynt y fformiwla drwy'r system.

Glyn Davies: We have been warned by the First Minister, and perhaps by you, that the

Glyn Davies: Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi ein rhybuddio, ac efallai eich bod chi wedi ein

likely increases in the Assembly budget during the second Assembly will be far less than they were in the first, largely because of the position in the United Kingdom. This has been exacerbated by the record borrowing that occurred in May—the highest since 1983—therefore, the likely support will be decreased, and, together with extra spending in Wales, it is not going to happen in England. There are also the issues of top-up fees, free prescriptions and so on. Where in the Assembly's budget do you see less emphasis being placed in future in order to compensate for all of these trends?

Sue Essex: You are right to say that Rhodri and I continue to dampen expectations. When you have gone through a huge, good period of growth—the figures are there, and I think that that was recognised in your question—if the rate of growth decreases, it is difficult for public organisations in particular to adjust their spending patterns. One of the reasons why we did the spending review last year was to make sure that our expenditure was targeted at the areas on which we really need to spend the money. During the course of this year and the budget planning round, I will roll forward the budget, bearing in mind all the pressures that exist.

I will respect the decisions that come through the Assembly on student support and fees. It is my job as Finance Minister to look at all the pressures, judge them against competing priorities, and come forward with a draft budget in October that reflects the fact that I have done my best to respond to those pressures.

Portffolio yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad The Environment, Planning and Countryside Portfolio

C2 Alun Ffred Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y dyraniad cyllid cyffredinol ar gyfer portffolio yr amgylchedd, cynllunio a chefn gwlad? OAQ0190(FIN)

Sue Essex: The departmental expenditure limit for the environment, planning and

rhybuddio, y bydd y codiadau tebygol yng nghyllideb y Cynulliad yn ystod yr ail Gynulliad yn llawer llai nag yr oeddent yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf, oherwydd y sefyllfa yn y Deyrnas Unedig yn bennaf. Gwaethygyd hyn gan y benthyciadau mwyaf erioed a welwyd ym mis Mai—y mwyaf ers 1983—felly, caiff y cymorth tebygol ei ostwng, ac, ynghyd â gwariant ychwanegol yng Nghymru, nid yw'n mynd i ddigwydd yn Lloegr. Mae materion eraill hefyd o ran ffioedd ychwanegol, presgripsiynau am ddim ac ati. Ar ba feysydd yng nghyllideb y Cynulliad y gwelwch y bydd llai o bwyslais yn cael ei roi yn y dyfodol er mwyn gwneud iawn am yr holl dueddiadau hyn?

Sue Essex: Yr ydych yn gywir i ddweud bod Rhodri a minnau yn parhau i ddifetha disgwyliadau. Pan fyddwch wedi gweld cyfnod hir o dwf—mae'r ffigurau yno, a chredaf ichi gydnabod hynny yn eich cwestiwn—os bydd y gyfradd dwf yn gostwng, mae'n anodd i sefydliadau cyhoeddus yn arbennig addasu eu patrymau gwario. Un o'r rhesymau pam y bu inni gynnal yr adolygiad o wariant y llynedd oedd sicrhau bod ein gwariant wedi'i dargedu at y meysydd lle y mae angen inni wario'r arian mewn gwirionedd. Yn ystod y flwyddyn hon a chylch cynllunio'r gyllideb, byddaf yn cario'r gyllideb ymlaen, o gofio'r holl bwysau sy'n bodoli.

Byddaf yn parchu'r penderfyniadau a wneir yn y Cynulliad o ran cymorth i fyfyrwyr a ffioedd. Fy ngwaith i fel y Gweinidog Cyllid yw ystyried yr holl bwysau, eu barnu yn erbyn blaenoriaethau sy'n cystadlu â'i gilydd, a chyflwyno cyllideb ddrafft ym mis Hydref sy'n adlewyrchu'r ffaith fy mod wedi gwneud fy ngorau glas i ymateb i'r pwysau hynny.

Q2 Alun Ffred Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the overall budget allocation to the environment, planning and countryside portfolio? OAQ0190(FIN)

Sue Essex: Y terfyn gwariant adrannol ar gyfer portffolio yr amgylchedd, cynllunio a

countryside portfolio is £51 million, or 20 per cent higher than it was in 2004-05. By 2007-08, overall provision will grow by 32 per cent.

Alun Ffred Jones: Yn wyneb yr her i lywodraeth leol i gyrraedd y targedau ailgylchu a'r angen i ddatblygu safleoedd tirlenwi newydd, fel a nodir yn adroddiad y Pwyllgor Archwilio, a ydych yn credu bod yr arian a glustnodwyd i'r pwrpas hwnnw yn ddigonol i ateb y galw?

Sue Essex: The money that we put in a couple of years ago, which has been coming through the budget as revenue funding for local authorities to make the huge change in terms of waste management practice and culture, was very welcome. I think that it has done the job in terms of what local authorities have given back to me. The recycling figures that I have seen show that we are doing the job at a much faster rate than any other part of the UK. However, the current issue is where we go in the future. My discussions with the WLGA have particularly been on the need for capital investment, and how that should come forward, and have been constructive. This subject surfaced again during discussion in the partnership council on waste management. Local authorities are still not sure about how much or what type of capital investment they will need. The regional waste groups will play an important part. It is a question of us working with local government to see the next big leap in terms of our waste management programme.

Brynle Williams: In April last year, I discussed in the Chamber concerns about the lack of staff to deal with the crisis related to Tir Gofal applications in the Bangor office of the Countryside Council for Wales. Can you advise me what progress has been made on improving the situation, and whether any additional funding has been allocated in recent months to speed up the process of dealing with applications for the scheme?

Sue Essex: That is a matter for the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside. I am sure that he would give you a detailed answer on that; he probably has done.

chefn gwlad yw £51 miliwn, neu 20 y cant yn uwch nag ydoedd yn 2004-05. Erbyn 2007-08, bydd y ddarpariaeth gyffredinol yn cynyddu 32 y cant.

Alun Ffred Jones: Given the challenge that local government faces in terms of meeting the recycling targets and the need to develop new landfill sites, as set out in the Audit Committee report, do you believe that the funding allocated for this purpose will be sufficient to meet the demand?

Sue Essex: Croesawyd yn fawr yr arian a ddyrannwyd gennym ychydig o flynyddoedd yn ôl, a fu'n dod drwy'r gyllideb fel cyllid refeniw i awdurdodau lleol wneud y newid enfawr o ran arferion a diwylliant rheoli gwastraff. Credaf iddo fod yn llwyddiannus o ran yr hyn y mae awdurdodau lleol wedi'i ddychwelyd imi. Mae'r ffigurau ailgylchu a welais yn dangos ein bod yn gwneud y gwaith yn llawer cyflymach nag mewn unrhyw ran arall o'r DU. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn sy'n bwysig ar hyn o bryd yw beth a fydd yn digwydd yn y dyfodol. Mae fy nhrafodaethau â CLILC wedi canolbwyntio ar yr angen am fuddsoddiad cyfalaf, a sut y dylid cyflwyno hynny, a buont yn adeiladol. Daeth y pwnc hwn i'r amlwg eto yn ystod trafodaethau yn y cyngor partneriaeth am reoli gwastraff. Nid yw awdurdodau lleol yn siŵr o hyd faint o fuddsoddiad neu ba fath o fuddsoddiad y bydd ei angen arnynt. Bydd y grwpiau gwastraff rhanbarthol yn chwarae rhan bwysig. Rhaid inni gydweithio â llywodraeth leol i weld y cam mawr nesaf o ran ein rhaglen rheoli gwastraff.

Brynle Williams: Ym mis Ebrill y llynedd, trafodais yn y Siambr bryderon ynghylch prinder staff i ymdrin â'r argyfwng o ran ceisiadau Tir Gofal yn swyddfa Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru ym Mangor. A allwch roi gwybod imi ba gynnydd sydd wedi'i wneud o ran gwella'r sefyllfa, a pha un a oes unrhyw gyllid ychwanegol wedi'i ddyrannu yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf i gyflymu'r broses o ymdrin â cheisiadau ar gyfer y cynllun?

Sue Essex: Mater i'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad yw hwnnw. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai'n rhoi ateb manwl ichi ar hynny; mae wedi gwneud hynny, fwy na thebyg.

**Diswyddiadau (CCNC)
Redundancies (ASPBs)**

Q3 Alun Cairns: Will the Minister make a statement on what budget exists to cover the cost of redundancies within Assembly sponsored public bodies? OAQ0164(FIN)

C3 Alun Cairns: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar ba gyllideb sydd ar gael i gwmpasu cost diswyddiadau o fewn cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad? OAQ0164(FIN)

Sue Essex: No provision has been made for this financial year. The mergers are not a cuts-driven exercise; they are to improve public services in Wales, although a small proportion of posts may be lost as a result of rationalisation. We hope to achieve these reductions through normal staff turnover and other measures.

Sue Essex: Ni wnaed unrhyw ddarpariaeth yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Nid ymarfer yn seiliedig ar gostau mo'r broses uno; ei nod yw gwella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, er y gellir colli cyfran fach o swyddi o ganlyniad i ad-drefnu. Gobeithiwn gyflawni'r gostyngiadau hyn drwy droiant staff arferol a mesurau eraill.

Alun Cairns: The Welsh Assembly Government has persistently and consistently refused to give a figure for how many people are likely to be made redundant. That is for understandable reasons, because there is natural staff turnover, and many people will find jobs elsewhere in the public sector. However, if there were a proper strategy behind the merger of the ASPBs, surely you would know how many roles will go. Will you now give notice to the Assembly of how many roles will go as a result of the merger of Education and Learning Wales, the Welsh Development Agency and the Wales Tourist Board in the first instance? If not, why not?

Alun Cairns: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi gwrthod rhoi ffigur ar gyfer nifer y bobl sy'n debygol o gollu eu swyddi a hynny'n barhaus ac yn gyson. Mae rhesymau dros hynny y gellir eu deall, am fod trosiant staff naturiol, a bydd llawer o bobl yn dod o hyd i waith rywle arall yn y sector cyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, pe bai strategaeth briodol y tu ôl i'r broses o uno CCNCau, oni fydddech yn gwybod faint o swyddi a gaiff eu colli? A hysbyswch y Cynulliad yn awr faint o swyddi a gaiff eu colli o ganlyniad i uno Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru, Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a Bwrdd Croeso Cymru yn y lle cyntaf? Os na wnewch hynny, pam?

Sue Essex: I do not quite understand your question in terms of the number of roles. What we have said is that we remain committed to avoiding compulsory redundancies. That is a clear commitment. You do not know, until the details of this merger move through, how many people might be absorbed into other jobs. We are committed to avoiding compulsory redundancies if at all possible. It does not suit you to hear that now but, quite honestly, it is the best approach in terms of the staff, because they want to see us working with the trade unions and others to get the best possible outcome from this for them. Until that detailed work has been done, trying to box people into a corner and to get them to talk about actual numbers is not in the staff's interests.

Sue Essex: Ni ddeallaf eich cwestiwn yn iawn o ran nifer y swyddi. Yr hyn yr ydym wedi'i ddweud yw ein bod yn parhau i fod yn ymrwymedig i osgoi diswyddiadau gorfodol. Mae hynny'n ymrwymiad clir. Ni wyddoch, hyd nes y ceir manylion y broses uno hon, faint o bobl a allai gael swyddi eraill. Yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i osgoi diswyddiadau gorfodol os yw'n bosibl. Nid ydych yn fodlon clywed hynny yn awr ond, a bod yn onest, dyma'r ymagwedd orau o ran y staff, am eu bod am weld ein bod yn gweithio gyda'r undebau llafur ac eraill i gael y canlyniad gorau posibl iddynt. Hyd nes bod y gwaith manwl hwnnw wedi'i wneud, nid yw ceisio gorfodi pobl i siarad am ffigurau gwirioneddol er budd y staff.

Kirsty Williams: Given that this new department of economic development and transport will employ approximately 40 per cent of the civil servants in the National Assembly for Wales, but will only be responsible for spending 7 per cent of our budget, do you not think it inevitable that we will see a massive slimming down of staff in this area? For the sake of those staff, do you not think that that detail should be in place now? There is less than a year to go before the organisations come in house, and we should be able to give those staff clarity.

Sue Essex: Not necessarily. Given my background, I work through the trade unions, and most staff would see that. Discussions are going on, particularly around early retirement, and it would not be wise for anyone to try to pre-empt those discussions by trying to fix numbers of jobs. We know, from our wider programme in the future, about where there might be changes with regard to business support and so on, that there may well be job losses. However, the merger is about merging different agencies—not just the WDA; there are other bodies to come in—and doing so in a fair and open way, working with the trade unions and representatives to try to make sure that we have a workforce that is fit for purpose when the merger is in place.

Kirsty Williams: O gofio y bydd yr adran datblygu economaidd a thrafnidiaeth newydd hon yn cyflogi tua 40 y cant o'r gweision sifil yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, ond na fydd ond yn gyfrifol am wario 7 y cant o'n cyllideb, oni chredwch ei bod yn anochel y bydd llawer llai o staff yn y maes hwn? Er lles yr aelodau hynny o staff, oni chredwch y dylai'r manylion fod gennym yn awr? Mae llai na blwyddyn i fynd tan y bydd y sefydliadau yn dod o dan adain y Cynulliad, a dylem fod yn gallu rhoi manylion clir i'r aelodau hynny o staff.

Sue Essex: Nid o anghenraid. O gofio fy nghefndir, gweithiaf drwy'r undebau llafur, a byddai'r rhan fwyaf o staff yn gweld hynny. Mae trafodaethau yn mynd rhagddynt, yn enwedig o ran ymddeol yn gynnar, ac ni fyddai'n ddoeth i neb geisio achub y blaen ar y trafodaethau hynny drwy geisio pennu niferoedd swyddi. Gwyddom, o'n rhaglen ehangach yn y dyfodol, ynghylch lle y gallai fod newidiadau o ran cymorth i fusnesau ac ati, y gallai swyddi gael eu colli. Fodd bynnag, mae a wnelo'r broses uno ag uno asiantaethau gwahanol—nid dim ond y WDA; bwriedir dod â chyrrff eraill o dan adain y Cynulliad—a gwneud hynny mewn ffordd deg ac agored, gan weithio gyda'r undebau llafur a chynrychiolwyr er mwyn ceisio sicrhau bod gennym weithlu sy'n addas at y diben pan fydd y broses uno wedi'i rhoi ar waith.

Trafnidiaeth Transport

Q4 Janet Davies: What representations has the Minister received from the Minister for Economic Development and Transport to ensure sufficient funding for transport in the 2005-06 budget? OAQ0165(FIN)

Sue Essex: I have regular discussions with the Minister for Economic Development and Transport. The subject committee was also invited to submit its views on priorities, which were taken into consideration.

2.10 p.m.

Janet Davies: A pilot scheme to fund concessionary fares for 16 to 19-year-olds in Wrexham and Bridgend is one of the

C4 Janet Davies: Pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u derbyn gan y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth i sicrhau cyllid digonol ar gyfer trafndiaeth yng nghyllideb 2005-06? OAQ0165(FIN)

Sue Essex: Caf drafodaethau rheolaidd gyda'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth. Gwahoddwyd y pwyllgor pwnc hefyd i gyflwyno ei farn ar flaenoriaethau, a ystyriwyd hynny.

Janet Davies: Mae cynllun peilot i ariannu tocynnau mantais i bobl ifanc rhwng 16 a 19 mlwydd oed yn Wrecsam a Phen-y-bont ar

Economic Development and Transport Division's schemes due to start this year. Could you assure me that there is enough money in the budget to begin this scheme, as well as to quickly roll out the eventual scheme, which may be slightly altered from the original?

Sue Essex: Obviously, as it is a pilot scheme, it is not rolled out until its results are known. Therefore, I cannot commit anyone to rolling out the scheme. When I allocated sums last year, you were aware that I did so according to portfolio areas. As I understand it, the money is there; I have had no representations to the contrary. However, if that is not the case in practice, I will come back to you on that.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): Could the Minister confirm whether the budgets are still being prepared on the basis of improving north-south highway links, particularly regarding the Babcie report on the A470?

Sue Essex: Again, this matter concerns Andrew's area. However, when he made his announcement about the transport strategy some three months ago, he set out clearly his commitment to a range of schemes, including the following through of the Babcie report and taking through the profile of expenditure over 15 years in a logical way. I cannot remember the exact details as I do not do the transport portfolio in the same way, but if you consider that report again and find that that is not the case, please get back to me.

Nick Bourne: Perhaps I could encourage the Minister to speak to Andrew Davies, because urgent action is needed at several serious pinpoints on the A470. The Minister will probably be aware of them, but they include Rhayader, Builth and Llanrwst. I raise this matter with a view to ensuring that the resources that we do have are focused on those pinpoints, because that would aid not only the people in those communities, but the whole economy of Wales, as well as easing transport.

Sue Essex: If my memory serves me

Ogwr yn un o gynlluniau'r Adran Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth y bwriedir eu dechrau eleni. A allech fy sicrhau bod digon o arian yn y gyllideb i ddechrau'r cynllun hwn, yn ogystal â chyflwyno'r cynllun terfynol, a all fod ychydig yn wahanol i'r cynllun gwreiddiol, yn gyflym?

Sue Essex: Mae'n amlwg, am ei fod yn gynllun peilot, na chaiff ei gyflwyno'n gyffredinol hyd nes bod y canlyniadau'n hysbys. Felly, ni allaf ymrwymo neb i gyflwyno'r cynllun yn gyffredinol. Pan ddyrannais symiau y llynedd, yr oeddech yn ymwybodol imi wneud hynny yn ôl meysydd portffolio. Fel y'i deallaf, mae'r arian yno; ni chefais unrhyw sylwadau yn groes i hynny. Fodd bynnag, os nad yw hynny'n wir yn ymarferol, byddaf yn rhoi gwybod ichi.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): A allai'r Gweinidog gadarnhau pa un a yw'r cyllidebau yn dal i gael eu paratoi ar sail gwella cysylltiadau priffyrdd rhwng y Gogledd a'r De, yn arbennig o ran adroddiad Babcie ar yr A470?

Sue Essex: Unwaith eto, mae a wnelo'r mater hwn â maes Andrew. Fodd bynnag, pan wnaeth ei gyhoeddiad am y strategaeth drafnidiaeth tua thri mis yn ôl, nododd yn glir ei ymrwymiad i amrywiaeth o gynlluniau, gan gynnwys mynd ar drywydd adroddiad Babcie a gweithredu proffil gwariant dros 15 mlynedd mewn ffordd resymegol. Ni allaf gofio'r manylion yn union oherwydd ni weithredaf y portffolio trafnidiaeth yn yr un ffordd, ond os ystyriwch yr adroddiad hwnnw eto ac os gwelwch nad yw hynny'n wir, cofiwch roi gwybod imi.

Nick Bourne: Efallai y gallwn annog y Gweinidog i siarad ag Andrew Davies, am fod angen cymryd camau brys mewn sawl man cyfyng ar yr A470. Mae'n debyg y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol ohonynt, ond yn eu plith mae Rhaeadr Gwy, Llanfair-ym-Muallt a Llanrwst. Codaf y mater hwn er mwyn sicrhau y caiff yr adnoddau sydd gennym eu canolbwyntio ar y manau cyfyng hynny, oherwydd, yn ogystal â helpu'r bobl yn y cymunedau hynny, byddai'n helpu economi Cymru gyfan, a thrafnidiaeth hefyd.

Sue Essex: Os wyf yn iawn, cofiaf y rhestr

correctly, I remember that list of all the pinchpoints all the way along that road. In fact, we are not merely remembering them; we experienced them going from north to south, and I will be going from south to north tomorrow. The point of rolling through that programme was to allow sufficient time for planning and public inquiries where necessary—that is a fairly lengthy programme in the highway and transport arena, as you will know. It is then a matter of putting sufficient budgeting into the programme to allow those elements to take place.

I agree with you completely that this is not just a road improvement scheme; it is about supporting all of those communities in those areas. We must recognise that that road system is not just a north-south conduit; it works very much for the local communities too.

honno o'r holl fannau cyfyng hynny ar hyd y ffordd honno. Yn wir, nid ydym ond yn eu cofio; yr ydym wedi teithio arnynt wrth fynd o'r Gogledd i'r De, a byddaf yn mynd o'r De i'r Gogledd yfory. Diben cyflwyno'r rhaglen honno oedd rhoi digon o amser i'r gwaith cynllunio ac ymholiadau gan y cyhoedd lle y bo angen—mae hynny'n rhaglen gymharol hir yn y maes priffyrdd a thrafnidiaeth, fel y gwyddoch. Yna mae a wnelo â chynnwys digon o gyllideb yn y rhaglen i sicrhau y gall yr elfennau hynny ddigwydd.

Cytunaf â chi yn llwyr nad dim ond cynllun gwella ffyrdd mo hwn; mae a wnelo â chefnogi'r holl gymunedau hynny yn yr ardaloedd hynny. Rhaid inni gydnabod, yn ogystal â bod yn gyswllt rhwng y Gogledd a'r De fod y system ffyrdd yn gweithio i raddau helaeth er budd y cymunedau lleol hefyd.

Menter Cyllid Preifat Private Finance Initiative

Q5 The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Will the Minister make a statement on private finance initiative projects in Wales? OAQ0185(FIN)

Q7 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement on the future use of private finance initiative in Wales? OAQ0187(FIN)

Sue Essex: We are using the private finance initiative to take forward 11 local government PFI projects, three hospitals and a number of minor schemes undertaken by NHS trusts, the Bute Avenue and Callaghan Square project, and the A55 dual carriageway across Anglesey.

Michael German: As you know, the problem with PFI is one of transparency, in the sense that the public finds it difficult to understand whether it would be cheaper and better to borrow the money and mortgage the property than go with a private finance initiative. Could you tell me whether you have any measures at all in place to reassure the public that PFI, particularly in respect of the A55 expressway through Anglesey,

C5 Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar brosiectau menter cyllid preifat yng Nghymru? OAQ0185(FIN)

C7 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y defnydd a wneir o'r fenter cyllid preifat yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol? OAQ0187(FIN)

Sue Essex: Yr ydym yn defnyddio'r fenter cyllid preifat (PFI) i ddatblygu 11 o brosiectau PFI llywodraeth leol, tri ysbyty a nifer o gynlluniau bach a gyflawnir gan ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG, prosiect Rhodfa Bute a Sgwâr Callaghan, a ffordd ddeuol yr A55 ar draws Ynys Môn.

Michael German: Fel y gwyddoch, y broblem o ran PFI yw tryloywder, yn yr ystyr bod y cyhoedd yn ei chael yn anodd deall pa un a fyddai'n rhatach ac yn well i fenthyca'r arian a morgeisio'r eiddo yn hytrach na defnyddio menter cyllid preifat. A allech ddweud wrthyf pa un a oes gennyh unrhyw fesurau ar waith o gwbl i sicrhau'r cyhoedd bod PFI, yn arbennig o ran gwibffordd yr A55 drwy Ynys Môn, yn sicrhau gwerth am

produces value for money for the public purse?

Sue Essex: The transparency of those schemes is an important point. I was not there to take the decision on the A55; that predated me. However, this has worked on the basis of a full business case, which looks at those comparable costs. If I recall correctly, a study was carried out once the A55 was operational—through our transport people, I think. They reassessed that comparability and that value for money subsequent to the road's construction, and came up with a report. I will check to see whether it is available, and, if so, I will send it through to you; if not, I will get transport officials to contact you.

Michael German: There is then the matter of the broad principles of PFI. You mentioned 11 local government projects—presumably they were school projects, and I know that one of them was for a road—and three hospital projects. There is concern as to whether the effect of the private finance initiative is to slow down the process by which the buildings, roads and so on can eventually be put in place. If you combine the two factors, looking at whether this is real value for the public purse, and whether it is seen to be real value, which is better, while at the same time slowing down projects, are you right to be cautious about the use of PFI as a way forward? Do you have any general principles of public transparency that you could now put in place to help the public to understand these decisions?

Sue Essex: Those are useful points, again. One of the downsides of PFI is that getting a full and final business case can, in many instances, take years. In fact, we are still looking at some PFI schemes, as people in this Chamber will be aware; there are a couple of school schemes. So, the process takes a long time. The comparison is done at the time of the full business case. I will go back to your point about transparency, because I am keen to get the best transparency that I am allowed to get on PFI schemes. We have freed local government through the prudential borrowing system, so

arian i bwrs y wlad?

Sue Essex: Mae tryloywder y cynlluniau hynny yn bwynt pwysig. Nid oeddwn yno i gymryd y penderfyniad ar yr A55; gwnaed y penderfyniad hwnnw gan un o'm rhagflaenwyr. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn wedi gweithio ar sail achos busnes llawn, sy'n ystyried y costau cymaradwy hynny. Os cofiaf yn iawn, cynhaliwyd astudiaeth pan oedd yr A55 yn weithredol—drwy ein swyddogion trafndiaeth, fe gredaf. Bu iddynt ailasesu'r cymharedd hwnnw a'r gwerth hwnnw am arian ar ôl adeiladu'r ffordd, a lluniwyd adroddiad. Byddaf yn cadarnhau pa un a yw ar gael, ac, os felly, byddaf yn anfon copi atoch; os na, byddaf yn gofyn i'r swyddogion trafndiaeth gysylltu â chi.

Michael German: Yna ceir y mater o ran egwyddorion bras PFI. Bu ichi gyfeirio at 11 o brosiectau llywodraeth leol—prosiectau ysgolion oeddent yn ôl pob tebyg, a gwn fod un o'r prosiectau yn ymwneud â ffordd—a thri phrosiect am ysbytai. Ceir pryder ynghylch pa un ai effaith y fenter cyllid preifat yw arafu'r broses o gyflwyno'r adeiladau, ffyrdd ac ati yn y pen draw. Os cyfunwch y ddau ffactor, sef pa un a yw hyn yn werth gwirioneddol am arian cyhoeddus, a pha un a gaiff ei ystyried yn y fath fodd, sy'n well, tra'n arafu prosiectau yr un pryd, a yw'n gywir fod yn bwylllog ynghylch y defnydd o fenter cyllid preifat fel ffordd ymlaen? A oes gennych unrhyw egwyddorion cyffredinol o dryloywder cyhoeddus y gallech eu rhoi ar waith yn awr er mwyn helpu'r cyhoedd i ddeall y penderfyniadau hyn?

Sue Essex: Mae'r rheini'n bwyntiau defnyddiol, unwaith eto. Un o anafateision PFI yw y gall cymryd blynyddoedd i gyflwyno achos busnes llawn a therfynol, mewn sawl achos. Yn wir, yr ydym yn edrych ar rai cynlluniau PFI o hyd, fel y gŵyr pobl yn y Siambr hon; ceir rhai cynlluniau ysgol. Felly, mae'r broses yn un hir. Gwneir y gymhariaeth ar adeg yr achos busnes llawn. Af yn ôl at eich pwynt ynghylch tryloywder, oherwydd yr wyf yn awyddus i sicrhau'r tryloywder gorau posibl ar gyfer cynlluniau PFI. Yr ydym wedi rhyddhau llywodraeth leol drwy'r system benthyca darbodus, fel y

that they can either choose PFI or to go down the traditional route. That may also explain why we are seeing fewer PFIs coming through the system.

Eleanor Burnham: To question you a bit further, Minister, you say that you want to ensure the highest level of transparency possible. Are there not problems with commercial confidentiality, which is the real dilemma? Do you have any plans to introduce any further bidding rounds for local government PFI credits?

Sue Essex: On your first point, as I said, I will work to the limits of what I am legally able to do in terms of accountability and openness; I can give you that assurance, but if I am limited, then so be it.

On the second point, the first or second thing that I did when I came into this job was to say that there would be no further rounds of bidding on PFI for local government. This was partly—as I explained to Mike—because the prudential borrowing system gives freedom for local authorities, and is a good scheme. Local authorities are using it well to decide for themselves how to borrow and finance major capital projects.

Peter Law: Minister, is it not time for the Assembly Government to jettison this Conservative New Labour dogma that is around our necks and burning us with PFI? In fairness to you, you and I have discussed this issue many times and you have taken a progressive approach. Is it not time that we saw some of the red water between us and the New Labour Government in London on the way that these things are dealt with? PFIs have been such a disaster in so many places. They are the thief of public-sector workers' jobs, they are extremely expensive and the public has no faith in them at all.

Sue Essex: To the best of my knowledge, from my portfolio, I am dealing with three that date back prior to your time as Minister, Peter, when that commitment was made. We can take some credit in that, in the budget last

gallant naill ai ddewis PFI neu ddilyn y llwybr traddodiadol. Gallai hynny hefyd esbonio pam yr ydym yn gweld llai o fentrau cyllid preifat yn mynd drwy'r system.

Eleanor Burnham: I'ch holi ychydig yn fwy, Weinidog, dywedwch eich bod am sicrhau'r lefel uchaf posibl o dryloywder. Onid oes problemau o ran cyfrinachedd masnachol, sef y cyfyng gyngor go iawn? A ydych yn bwriadu cyflwyno unrhyw gylchoedd ceisiadau pellach ar gyfer credydau PFI llywodraeth leol?

Sue Essex: O ran eich pwynt cyntaf, fel y dywedais, gwnaf weithio hyd eithaf yr hyn y gallaf ei wneud yn gyfreithiol o ran atebolrwydd a bod yn agored; gallaf roi'r sicrwydd hwnnw ichi, ond os cyfyngir arnaf, ni allaf wneud dim am y peth.

O ran eich ail bwynt, y peth cyntaf neu'r ail beth y bu imi ei wneud ar ôl dechrau'r swydd hon oedd dweud na fyddai rhagor o gylchoedd ceisiadau PFI ar gyfer llywodraeth leol. Rhan o'r rheswm am hyn—fel yr esboniais i Mike—oedd bod y system benthyca darbodus yn rhoi rhyddid i awdurdodau lleol, ac mae'n gynllun da. Mae awdurdodau lleol yn ei ddefnyddio'n dda i benderfynu sut i fenthyca ac ariannu prosiectau cyfalaf mawr.

Peter Law: Weinidog, onid yw'n amser i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad roi'r gorau i'r ddogma hon gan y Ceidwadwyr a Llafur Newydd sy'n faich arnom ac yn ein cosbi â PFI? Er tegwch ichi, yr ydym wedi trafod y mater hwn sawl gwaith ac yr ydych wedi mabwysiadu ymagwedd flaengar. Onid yw'n amser inni weld rhywfaint o'r gwahaniaeth rhyngom ni a Llywodraeth Llafur Newydd yn Llundain o ran y modd yr ymdrinnir â'r pethau hyn? Mae mentrau cyllid preifat wedi bod yn gymaint o fethiant mewn cymaint o leoedd. Hwyl sy'n gyfrifol am ddwyn swyddi gweithwyr sector cyhoeddus, maent yn ddrud iawn ac nid yw'r cyhoedd yn ymddiried ynddynt o gwbl.

Sue Essex: Hyd y gwn, o'm portffolio, yr wyf yn ymdrin â thair a gyflwynwyd cyn eich amser fel Gweinidog, Peter, pan wnaed yr ymrwymiad hwnnw. Gallwn gymryd rhywfaint o'r clod am hynny oherwydd, yn y

year, I announced a major injection of capital monies into the public sector, particularly for health and local government. As I said to Mike, the prudential borrowing plus that injection of capital from us really gives local authorities and the public sector the right to decide for themselves and choose the scheme and the borrowing method that suits them best.

gyllideb y llynedd, cyhoeddais fod swm mawr o arian cyfalaf yn cael ei fuddsoddi yn y sector cyhoeddus, yn enwedig ym maes iechyd a llywodraeth leol. Fel y dywedais wrth Mike, mae'r benthyca darbodus yn ogystal â'r buddsoddiad cyfalaf hwnnw gennym yn rhoi'r hawl i awdurdodau lleol a'r sector cyhoeddus benderfynu drostynt hwy eu hunain a dewis y cynllun a'r dull o fenthyca sydd fwyaf addas ar eu cyfer.

Fformiwla Barnett The Barnett Formula

Q6 Mick Bates: How many meetings has the Minister had with UK Government Ministers to discuss the review or reform of the Barnett formula? OAQ0179(FIN)

C6 Mick Bates: Sawl cyfarfod y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i gael gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y DU i drafod adolygu neu ddiwygio fformiwla Barnett? OAQ0179(FIN)

Sue Essex: I have not had any specific meetings to discuss the Barnett formula, Mick.

Sue Essex: Nid wyf wedi cynnal unrhyw drafodaethau penodol i drafod fformiwla Barnett, Mick.

Mick Bates: I am disappointed to hear that, Minister, as it is the most fundamental driver of the way that we have freedom to operate in Wales. If more evidence is needed of how the Barnett formula restricts what we can do, the lack of money to scrap tuition fees and top-up fees is a perfect example. Minister, will you undertake to lobby for more money so that, when we eventually decide to reduce the financial burden on Welsh students, we can have money to complete the job and get rid of any payments that they have to make?

Mick Bates: Yr wyf yn siomedig i glywed hynny, Weinidog, oherwydd dyna sbardun mwyaf sylfaenol y modd y cawn ryddid i weithredu yng Nghymru. Os oes angen mwy o dystiolaeth o'r modd y mae fformiwla Barnett yn cyfyngu ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud, mae'r prinder arian i ddileu ffioedd dysgu a ffioedd atodol yn enghraifft berffaith. Weinidog, a wnewch chi geisio sicrhau mwy o arian fel y gallwn, pan benderfynwn leihau'r baich ariannol ar fyfyrwyr yng Nghymru yn y pen draw, gael arian i gwblhau'r gwaith a dileu unrhyw daliadau y mae'n rhaid iddynt eu gwneud?

2.20 p.m.

Sue Essex: I do not think that what we will decide this afternoon bears out what you say, Mick. If it were true, we would not be able to pass that resolution today. Like any Government, we have to make decisions on the money that we allocate. We do not have tax-raising powers; people have different views about that here. We have a block grant delivered on the Barnett formula and we then make our priorities accordingly.

Sue Essex: Ni chredaf y bydd yr hyn a benderfynwn heddiw yn ategu'r hyn a ddywedwch, Mick. Pe byddai'n wir, ni fyddai'n bosibl pasio'r cynnig hwnnw heddiw. Fel unrhyw Lywodraeth, rhaid inni wneud penderfyniadau ynghylch yr arian a ddyrannwn. Nid oes gennym bwerau i godi trethi; mae gan bobl safbwyntiau gwahanol ynghylch hynny yma. Cyflwynir grant bloc o dan fformiwla Barnett a lluniwn ein blaenoriaethau yn unol â hynny.

The reality is that we have not had this question for quite a long while. On the recent settlements from the Chancellor of the Exchequer we have done quite well on the

Y gwir yw nad yw'r cwestiwn hwn wedi codi ers peth amser. O ran y setliadau diweddar gan Ganghellor y Trysorlys yr ydym wedi gwneud yn eithaf da ar fformiwla Barnett. Yr

Barnett formula. I have raised the issue, which I should do as Finance Minister. However, I think that the kind of view that you were giving was that I was having special meetings to discuss the Barnett formula, and so my honest answer was 'No, I have not'.

David Melding: Do you agree, Minister, that all of those who value the constitutional integrity of the United Kingdom would be cautious about reviewing the Barnett formula because of the effect that it will have on funding for Scotland, and that, meanwhile, the best thing for us to do is to focus on value for money in the spending that we do undertake? That is the way to implement effective policies.

Sue Essex: I think that you are right to point out that we do not live in some bubble where only we discuss the Barnett formula and that it is also an important component for Northern Ireland and Scotland. I see no indication from my colleagues in Scotland and Northern Ireland that they want a review or reform of the Barnett formula. Therein lies the rub for Liberal Democrats and Plaid Cymru members.

I think that you are right; you can spend a long time contemplating your navel, and, in this case, it is the Barnett formula. As a Government, we must make sure that our resources are targeted for the right use and are giving the value for money that we expect.

David Lloyd: Looking at the broader picture, and following the failure of your colleagues to influence Tony Blair, it looks as though west Wales and the Valleys have lost out on vital Objective 1 funding. Do you not agree—possibly you do not—and will you at least consider the issue that is now more important than ever that you negotiate a better, fairer, means-tested funding formula for Wales, because we have just lost the Objective 1 funding?

Sue Essex: You are talking about a conversation that you need to have with Jacques Chirac. I do not think that you can accuse Rhodri Morgan or anyone else of being the cause of the Luxembourg situation.

wyf wedi codi'r mater, fel y dylwn ei wneud fel Gweinidog Cyllid. Fodd bynnag, credaf mai'r hyn yr oeddech yn ei ddweud oedd fy mod yn cynnal cyfarfodydd arbennig i drafod fformiwla Barnett, ac felly fy ateb gonest oedd 'Na, nid wyf wedi gwneud hynny'.

David Melding: A gytunwch, Weinidog, y byddai pawb sy'n gwerthfawrogi gonestrwydd cyfansoddiadol y Deyrnas Unedig yn ofalus o ran adolygu fformiwla Barnett oherwydd yr effaith a gaiff ar ariannu yn yr Alban, ac mai'r peth gorau inni ei wneud, yn y cyfamser, yw canolbwyntio ar werth am arian y gwariant presennol? Dyna'r ffordd i weithredu polisiau effeithiol.

Sue Essex: Credaf eich bod yn iawn i amlygu'r ffaith nad ni yn unig sy'n trafod fformiwla Barnett a'i bod hefyd yn elfen bwysig i Ogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban. Nid wyf wedi gweld unrhyw arwydd gan fy nghyd-aelodau yn yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon eu bod am adolygu neu ddiwygio fformiwla Barnett. Dyna'r anhawster mwyaf i aelodau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a Phlaid Cymru.

Credaf eich bod yn iawn; gallwch dreulio amser hir yn bogailsyllu, ac, yn yr achos hwn, fformiwla Barnett ydyw. Fel Llywodraeth, rhaid inni sicrhau bod ein hadnoddau yn cael eu defnyddio'n gywir ac yn sicrhau'r gwerth am arian a ddisgwyliwn.

David Lloyd: Gan edrych ar y darlun ehangach, ac yn dilyn methiant eich cyd-aelodau i ddylanwadu ar Tony Blair, ymddengys bod y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd wedi methu â chael arian hollbwysig Amcan 1. Oni chytunwch—efallai nad ydych—ac a wnewch o leiaf ystyried y mater ei bod yn bwysicach nag erioed o'r blaen eich bod yn negodi fformiwla prawf modd gwell a thecach ar gyfer Cymru, gan ein bod newydd golli arian Amcan 1?

Sue Essex: Yr ydych yn sôn am sgwrs y mae angen ichi ei chael gyda Jacques Chirac. Ni chredaf y gallwch gyhuddo Rhodri Morgan nac unrhyw un arall o fod yn gyfrifol am y sefyllfa yn Lwcsembwrg.

We have benefited from Objective 1, because we had a Labour Government here and in Westminster that was willing to argue for the Objective 1 designation. There is no doubt that the forcefulness of the argument got it in the first place. Secondly, we always knew—for many years—that there was a question mark over whether we would have a further stage of Objective 1. That revolves around the progress that we have made as a Government in terms of improving the economic situation in Wales. If we do not have Objective 1 but have transitional funds, it would reflect the progress that we have made in Wales in terms of improving the economy.

Yr ydym wedi elwa ar Amcan 1, am fod gennym Lywodraeth Lafur yma ac yn San Steffan a oedd yn barod i ddadlau dros ddynodi arian Amcan 1. Grym y ddadl, yn ddi-au, a'i sicrhaodd yn y lle cyntaf. Yn ail, yr oeddem bob amser yn gwybod—ers blynyddoedd lawer—bod ansicrwydd ynghylch pa un a fyddem yn cael rhagor o arian Amcan 1. Mae hynny'n ymwneud â'r cynnydd a wnaethom fel Llywodraeth o ran gwella'r sefyllfa economaidd yng Nghymru. Os nad oes gennym arian Amcan 1 ond bod gennym arian pontio, byddai'n adlewyrchu'r cynnydd a wnaethom yng Nghymru o ran gwella'r economi.

Adroddiad Rees The Rees Report

Q8 Peter Black: What discussions has the Minister had with regard to the implications for the Assembly budget on the financial costings contained in the Rees report? OAQ0172(FIN)

C8 Peter Black: Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael ar oblygiadau'r costau ariannol sydd wedi'u cynnwys yn adroddiad Rees i gyllideb y Cynulliad? OAQ0172(FIN)

Sue Essex: As you can imagine, Peter, I have had regular contact with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning on the financial costings associated with the Rees report.

Sue Essex: Fel y gallwch ddychmygu, Peter, yr wyf wedi bod mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd â'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ynghylch y costau ariannol sy'n gysylltiedig ag adroddiad Rees.

Peter Black: One recommendation of the Rees report relates to part-time students. I know that the motion and the agreement that was made between the party leaders supported further study into part-time students. The Rees report specifically recommends that a sum of money remaining in the Assembly learning grant be ring-fenced and used for part-time students to pay for whatever recommendations that further study presents. Would you support that recommendation, and are you prepared to ring-fence that funding in that way?

Peter Black: Mae un o argymhellion adroddiad Rees yn gysylltiedig â myfyrwyr rhan amser. Gwn fod y cynnig a'r cytundeb y daethpwyd iddo rhwng arweinyddion y pleidiau yn cefnogi astudiaeth bellach ar fyfyrwyr rhan amser. Mae adroddiad Rees yn argymhell yn benodol y dylid neilltuo swm o arian sy'n parhau i fod yng ngrant dysgu'r Cynulliad a'i ddefnyddio ar gyfer myfyrwyr rhan amser i dalu am ba argymhellion bynnag a wneir gan astudiaeth bellach. A fyddech yn cefnogi'r argymhelliad hwnnw, ac a ydych yn barod i neilltuo'r arian hwnnw yn y ffordd honno?

Sue Essex: I do not think that it would be right to prejudge what happens in the budget this year, Peter, and I think that your colleagues across the board would also think that. I agree that we need to look at the requirements of part-time students in Wales. We must remember that around 50 per cent

Sue Essex: Ni chredaf y byddai'n briodol rhagfarnu'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y gyllideb eleni, Peter, a chredaf y byddai eich cyd-Aelodau o'r farn honno hefyd. Cytunaf fod angen edrych ar ofynion myfyrwyr rhan amser yng Nghymru. Rhaid inni gofio bod tua 50 y cant o fyfyrwyr addysg uwch yng

of higher education students in Wales are part-timers. We must also remember that, in terms of getting a more sustainable economy, boosting up skills and getting greater involvement in the workforce, part-time education is key for us. While looking at budget decisions, we all have to look at this in its broader context and make sure that we get the balance right. That is the trick, so that we are not making one decision in isolation from others, and then, inevitably, not having enough money to do that other important job.

Nghymru yn fyfyrwyr rhan amser. Hefyd rhaid inni gofio, o ran sicrhau economi fwy cynaliadwy, meithrin sgiliau a sicrhau mwy o gyfranogiad yn y gweithlu, bod addysg rhan amser yn allweddol inni. Wrth edrych ar benderfyniadau cyllidebol, rhaid i bob un ohonom edrych ar hyn yn ei gyd-destun ehangach a sicrhau'r cydbwysedd cywir. Dyna'r gamp, fel na wnawn un penderfyniad ar wahân i benderfyniadau eraill, a chanfod wedyn, yn anochel, nad oes gennym ddigon o arian i wneud y gwaith pwysig arall hwnnw.

Ariannu Diffygion Byrddau Iechyd Lleol Funding Local Health Boards' Deficits

Q9 Jonathan Morgan: What representations has the Minister received from the Minister for Health and Social Services in regard to the funding of local health board deficits? OAQ0177(FIN)

C9 Jonathan Morgan: Pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u derbyn gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar ariannu diffygion byrddau iechyd lleol? OAQ0177(FIN)

Sue Essex: I have had regular discussions with the Minister for Health and Social Services on the funding of his portfolio across the board, including LHB deficits. The Subject Committee was invited to submit its views on funding priorities, which will be taken into account in the budget round.

Sue Essex: Yr wyf wedi cynnal trafodaethau rheolaidd â'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghylch ariannu ei bortffolio yn gyffredinol, gan gynnwys diffygion BILlau. Gofynnwyd i'r Pwyllgor Pwnc gyflwyno ei safbwyntiau ar flaenoriaethau ariannu, a fydd yn cael eu hystyried yng nghylch y gyllideb.

Jonathan Morgan: Minister, you may be aware that the total cumulative deficit for national health service trusts in Wales during 2003-04 was a little short of £43 million. In addition, five local health boards in Wales were in receipt of strategic change and efficiency plan assistance, which they have to repay. That totalled just under £9 million. Do you share my concern that this will have a severe impact on future revenue consequences for those LHBs and trusts, particularly in the light of the Minister's statement that the revenue consequences of future planned capital investment need to be taken account? As a result of that, it will be very difficult for these bodies to access that capital investment money to make those capacity changes in the NHS, because of the revenue consequences that they face.

Jonathan Morgan: Weinidog, efallai eich bod yn ymwybodol o'r ffaith mai ychydig o dan £43 miliwn oedd cyfanswm y diffyg cronnol ar gyfer ymddiriedolaethau'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru yn ystod 2003-04. Yn ogystal, yr oedd pum bwrdd iechyd lleol yng Nghymru yn cael cymorth newid strategol a chynllun effeithlonrwydd, y mae'n rhaid iddynt ei adalu, sef cyfanswm o ychydig o dan £9 miliwn. A rannwch fy mhryder y bydd hyn yn cael effaith ddifrifol ar ganlyniadau referniw'r BILlau a'r ymddiriedolaethau hynny yn y dyfodol, yn enwedig yng ngoleuni datganiad y Gweinidog bod angen ystyried canlyniadau referniw buddsoddiadau cyfalaf arfaethedig yn y dyfodol? O ganlyniad i hynny, bydd yn anodd iawn i'r cyrff hyn gael gafael ar yr arian buddsoddi cyfalaf hwnnw er mwyn gwneud y newidiadau hynny o ran gallu ac adnoddau yn y GIG, oherwydd y canlyniadau referniw a wynebant.

Sue Essex: To take the last point first, I think that Brian was doing what any sensible Minister giving out very large sums of capital money would do. You do not just hand out capital; you have to think about revenue implications, and from many years of experience in the public sector, I can say that that is one of our golden rules. Although you are making capital injections, you must look at the revenue consequences. As I have stated here previously, some of the revenue consequences of good capital spend may be that you reduce the requirements of revenue, certainly in terms of construction.

To go back to your first point, which was about the deficits, I understand that it is difficult for LHBs. Much support is being given by our NHS finance division to support them. We inherited—as did they—very large deficits from the old health authorities that had to be dealt with.

To go back to Derek Wanless's report—and we quote him across the board and in various guises, in fact, I saw him again at lunchtime—one of his key points was about eliminating that deficit culture. There was an assumption that you could run up deficits year in, year out. Derek Wanless was very clear that that should not be the case, but we have responded to that in a responsible way, working with LHBs to put recovery programmes in place. We do not just chop them off and say, 'That is it'; recovery programmes are put in place, and I know from talking to many LHBs that they are working through those difficult issues to make sure that they do not get into the same situation as previous local health authorities.

Jenny Randerson: It is estimated that Cardiff LHB is over £8 million underfunded as a result of the initial Townsend formula. I know that some review is taking place, but will you give us a commitment today that that review will take place and complete its work very promptly, and that you will seriously undertake to deal with that deficit, together with underfunding, which is clearly contributing to the financial problems in this area?

Sue Essex: As I said to Lynne Neagle, the

Sue Essex: Gan gyfeirio at y pwynt olaf yn gyntaf, credaf fod Brian wedi gwneud yr hyn y byddai unrhyw Weinidog synhwyrol wedi'i wneud wrth ddyrannu symiau mawr o arian cyfalaf. Nid ydych yn dyrannu cyfalaf heb roi ystyriaeth i oblygiadau refeniw, ac yn sgîl sawl blwyddyn o brofiad yn y sector cyhoeddus, gallaf ddweud mai dyma un o'n rheolau euraid. Er eich bod yn gwneud buddsoddiadau cyfalaf, rhaid ichi ystyried y canlyniadau refeniw. Fel yr wyf wedi'i nodi yma o'r blaen, efallai mai rhai o ganlyniadau refeniw gwariant cyfalaf da yw eich bod yn lleihau'r gofynion o ran refeniw, yn enwedig o ran adeiladu.

Gan ddychwelyd at eich pwynt cyntaf, sef y diffygion, deallaf ei bod yn anodd i BILlau. Mae isadran gyllid y GIG yn rhoi llawer o gymorth iddynt. Bu inni etifeddu—fel hwythau—ddiffygion mawr iawn o'r hen awdurdodau iechyd yr oedd yn rhaid mynd i'r afael â hwy.

Gan gyfeirio'n ôl at adroddiad Derek Wanless—a dyfynnwn ef yn gyffredinol ac ar ffurfiau amrywiol, yn wir, gwelais ef eto amser cinio—un o'i bwyntiau allweddol oedd dileu'r diwylliant hwnnw o ddiffygion. Tybiwyd y gellid cronni diffygion blwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn. Nododd Derek Wanless yn bendant na ddylid gwneud hynny, ond yr ydym wedi ymateb i hynny mewn modd cyfrifol, gan weithio gyda BILlau i roi rhaglenni adfer ar waith. Nid ydym yn anghofio amdanynt ac yn dweud, 'Dyna ni'; rhoddir rhaglenni adfer ar waith, a gwn ar ôl siarad â sawl BILl eu bod yn mynd i'r afael â'r materion anodd hyn i sicrhau nad ydynt yn cael eu hunain yn yr un sefyllfa â'r hen awdurdodau iechyd lleol.

Jenny Randerson: Amcangyfrifir bod BILl Caerdydd yn cael dros £8miliwn yn llai nag sydd ei angen o ganlyniad i fformiwla gychwynnol Townsend. Gwn fod rhyw fath o adolygiad yn cael ei gynnal, ond a wnewch ymrwymo heddiw i gynnal yr adolygiad hwnnw a chwblhau ei waith yn brydlon, ynghyd ag ymdrin yn ddifrifol â'r diffyg hwnnw, yn ogystal ag achosion o danariannu, sy'n amlwg yn cyfrannu at y problemau ariannol yn yr ardal hon?

Sue Essex: Fel y dywedais wrth Lynne

implementation of the Townsend formula is very much an issue for Brian Gibbons. I will have to check—and I have to acknowledge that I have been looking at this in my capacity as Cardiff North AM—but I believe that the initial aspects of the Townsend formula were amended slightly. I will find out, give you the details and speak to Brian about that.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Given the problem that Jonathan Morgan highlighted in his supplementary question of trusts accessing funding for capital investment, do you now accept that it is perfectly feasible for trusts to draw down money directly from the European Investment Bank? Given the lack of capacity in the NHS in Wales, would you welcome trusts doing that?

2.30 p.m.

Sue Essex: I am not an expert on the European Investment Bank, but I believe that trusts are able to borrow. You must remember that all of us in this room can go out and borrow—it is a question of the means to repay that borrowing, and trusts or local authorities, or whoever, have to look at what they may borrow and where their revenue streams are to repay that debt. That is crucial, as I say, whether it is a trust, a local authority, or us.

Neagle, Brian Gibbons sy'n gyfrifol am y modd y gweithredir fformiwla Townsend. Bydd yn rhaid imi ymchwilio i hyn—a rhaid imi gydnabod fy mod wedi bod yn edrych ar hyn yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel AC Gogledd Caerdydd—ond credaf i agweddau cychwynnol fformiwla Townsend gael eu diwygio ychydig. Gwnaf holi ynghylch hynny, rhoi'r manylion ichi a siarad â Brian amdano.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: O ystyried y broblem a amlygwyd gan Jonathan Morgan yn ei gwestiwn atodol ar sut y caiff ymddiriedolaethau afael ar arian buddsoddi cyfalaf, a dderbyniwch yn awr ei bod yn gwbl ddichonadwy i ymddiriedolaethau ddefnyddio arian yn uniongyrchol oddi wrth Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop? O gofio'r diffyg adnoddau yn y GIG yng Nghymru, a fydddech yn croesawu ymddiriedolaethau i wneud hynny?

Sue Essex: Nid wyf yn arbenigwr ar Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop, ond credaf fod modd i ymddiriedolaethau fenthyca. Rhaid i chi gofio bod pob un ohonom yn yr ystafell hon yn gallu benthyca—mae'r modd i ad-dalu'r benthyciad hwnnw yn fater arall, a rhaid i ymddiriedolaethau neu awdurdodau lleol, neu pwy bynnag, edrych ar faint y gallant ei fenthyca a sut y mae eu ffrydiau refeniw yn mynd i ad-dalu'r ddyled honno. Mae hynny'n hollbwysig, fel y dywedaf, boed yn ymddiriedolaeth, yn awdurdod lleol, neu ni ein hunain.

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

Ceir Gadawedig Abandoned Cars

Q1 Peter Black: Will the Minister make a statement on abandoned cars in Wales? OAQ0280(EPC)

C1 Peter Black: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar geir gadawedig yng Nghymru? OAQ0280(EPC)

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): I propose to issue a consultation paper on 27 June about the reduction of notice periods for the removal of abandoned vehicles, with the intention of bringing the legislation into force on 25 November.

Peter Black: Abandoned cars have many components that count as hazardous waste, and there are not many places in Wales where you can dispose of hazardous waste. Given that local authorities have a duty regarding the disposal of some of these vehicles, what arrangements are being put in place to help them dispose of the hazardous elements of the vehicles?

Carwyn Jones: Local authorities have not indicated any difficulty, or any potential difficulties, in terms of the disposal of vehicles. However, they receive financial assistance to deal with the end-of-life vehicles regulations, to the tune of £1.268 million in 2003-04, £1.47 million in 2004-05, and £1.47 million in this financial year.

Owen John Thomas: Over 7,000 vehicles were recorded as abandoned in south Wales between April 2004 and March 2005. Over 3,700 of these were in my South Wales Central constituency. In the more rural areas, these rusting wrecks blight the landscapes, sometimes for years on end. What are you doing about this?

Carwyn Jones: We are reducing the notice periods for the vehicles to be collected; this is precisely the point of the legislation.

Mark Isherwood: Further to representations made to me by businesses engaged in the depollution of end-of-life vehicles, what action are you taking to ensure that they are not financially disadvantaged or put out of business as a consequence of the end-of-life vehicles regulations?

Carwyn Jones: I believe that that question was about local authorities; I did not catch the first part of it, I am sorry.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Cynigiau gyhoeddi papur ymgynghori ar 27 Mehefin ynglŷn â lleihau'r cyfnodau rhybuddio ar gyfer symud cerbydau gadawedig, gyda'r bwriad o ddod â'r ddeddfwriaeth i rym ar 25 Tachwedd.

Peter Black: Mae gan geir gadawedig sawl cydran sy'n cyfrif fel gwastraff peryglus, ac nid oes llawer o fannau yng Nghymru lle y gellir cael gwared â gwastraff peryglus. O gofio ei bod yn ddyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i gael gwared â rhai o'r cerbydau hyn, pa drefniadau a gaiff eu rhoi ar waith i helpu i gael gwared ag elfennau peryglus y cerbydau?

Carwyn Jones: Nid yw awdurdodau lleol wedi nodi unrhyw anhawster, nac unrhyw anawsterau posibl, o ran cael gwared â cherbydau. Fodd bynnag, maent yn derbyn cymorth ariannol i ddelio â rheoliadau diwedd bywyd cerbydau, sef £1.268 miliwn yn 2003-04, £1.47 miliwn yn 2004-05, ac £1.47 miliwn yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon.

Owen John Thomas: Cofnodwyd bod mwy na 7,000 o gerbydau wedi'u gadael yn y de rhwng mis Ebrill 2004 a mis Mawrth 2005. Yr oedd mwy na 3,700 o'r rhain yn fy etholaeth i sef Canol De Cymru. Yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf gwledig, mae'r cerbydau rhydlyd hyn yn difetha'r dirwedd, weithiau am flynyddoedd lawer. Beth ydych yn ei wneud ynglŷn â hyn?

Carwyn Jones: Yr ydym yn lleihau'r cyfnodau rhybuddio ar gyfer casglu'r cerbydau; dyma'n union bwynt y ddeddfwriaeth.

Mark Isherwood: Yn dilyn sylwadau a roddwyd imi gan fusnesau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r gwaith o ddadlygru cerbydau diwedd bywyd, pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i sicrhau nad ydynt o dan anfantais yn ariannol ac na fydd busnes yn mynd i'r wal o ganlyniad i'r rheoliadau diwedd bywyd cerbydau?

Carwyn Jones: Credaf fod a wnelo'r cwestiwn hwnnw ag awdurdodau lleol; ni ddeallais y rhan gyntaf ohono, mae'n ddrwg gennyf.

The Presiding Officer: I think that it was a general question directed towards your overall ministerial responsibilities.

Y Llywydd: Credaf ei fod yn gwestiwn cyffredinol wedi'i gyfeirio at eich cyfrifoldebau gweinidogol cyffredinol.

Carwyn Jones: I repeat the answer that I gave some moments ago, that local authorities have been given resources to deal with costs until 2007.

Carwyn Jones: Ailadroddaf yr ateb a roddais rai munudau yn ôl, hynny yw y rhoddwyd adnoddau i awdurdodau lleol ddelio â chostau hyd at 2007.

Newid yn yr Hinsawdd Climate Change

Q2 Mick Bates: Will the Minister make a statement on what action he is taking to combat climate change in Wales? OAQ0289(EPC)

C2 Mick Bates: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y camau y mae'n eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r newid yn yr hinsawdd yng Nghymru? OAQ0289(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Details of the key Assembly Government measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions were included in chapter 13 of the joint UK Government and devolved administrations' consultation paper, 'Review of the UK Climate Change Programme', which was issued last December.

Carwyn Jones: Cynhwyswyd manylion mesurau allweddol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i leihau gollyngiadau nwyon tŷ gwydr ym mhennod 13 'Adolygiad o Raglen Newid Hinsawdd y DU' sef papur ymgynghori Llywodraeth y DU a gweinyddiaethau datganoledig ar y cyd a gyhoeddwyd fis Rhagfyr diwethaf.

Mick Bates: At lunchtime, you launched 'The State of the Environment 2005' report, which I have here. The section on climate change has a heading, 'better or worse?', and has alongside it an arrow pointing down saying 'worse'. It says that we must make much bigger efforts to reduce energy use in all sectors, particularly transport, and develop renewable energy technologies. How confident are you that your Government is doing that in order to achieve its target of 10 per cent of all electricity production by 2010 being from renewable energy sources?

Mick Bates: Amser cinio, bu ichi lansio'r adroddiad 'Cyflwr yr Amgylchedd 2005', sydd gennyf yma. Mae gan yr adran ar y newid yn yr hinsawdd bennawd, 'gwell neu waeth?', ac wrth ei ochr mae saeth sy'n pwyntio i lawr i'r gair 'gwaeth'. Mae'n dweud bod yn rhaid inni wneud mwy o ymdrech o lawer i leihau'r defnydd o ynni ym mhob sector, yn arbennig trafniadaeth, a datblygu technolegau ynni adnewyddadwy. Pa mor hyderus yr ydych fod eich Llywodraeth yn gwneud hynny er mwyn cyflawni ei tharged, sef y bydd 10 y cant o'r holl drydan a gynhyrchir erbyn 2010 yn deillio o ffynonellau ynni adnewyddadwy?

Carwyn Jones: First, the report was launched by Alun Ffred Jones, as Chair of the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee, not me. Secondly, I am confident that TAN 8, when it is published in its final form in the middle of July, will provide a platform by which we can reach that 10 per cent target by 2010, as we plan to do.

Carwyn Jones: Yn gyntaf, lanswyd yr adroddiad gan Alun Ffred Jones, fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad, ac nid gennyf i. Yn ail, hyderaf y bydd TAN 8, pan gaiff y fersiwn terfynol ohono ei gyhoeddi ganol Gorffennaf, yn darparu sylfaen ar gyfer cyrraedd y targed hwnnw o 10 y cant erbyn 2010, fel y bwriadwn ei wneud.

Christine Chapman: You may be aware that the groundbreaking study being carried out in

Christine Chapman: Efallai eich bod yn ymwybodol bod yr astudiaeth arloesol a gaiff

Wales by scientists at Cardiff University has found that, while summer temperatures could go up by as much as 5 per cent in northern Europe, we could also experience dramatically colder winters as a result of global warming. This is due to the effect on the network of ocean currents that distribute heat and moisture around the world, and play an important part in determining regional climates. This important research sheds new light, widening the debate on climate change. To truly engage the people of Wales on this subject, what is Welsh Assembly Government doing to increase its understanding of the causes and effects of rapid climate change, and to therefore work with the people of Wales to tackle this most serious issue?

Carwyn Jones: We need to make people aware of what is happening, and the sustainable development action plan is one way of doing that. You are right to say that one of the models regarding global warming suggests that it is possible that so much water would be released through the melting of the polar icecap that the Gulf Stream itself would be diverted, which would cause the temperature in the UK to drop substantially, to a level that is more commensurate with its latitude. We have the sustainable development action plan and the climate change programme, and there are many other organisations involved in terms of educating the public about climate change.

Janet Davies: Will you clarify how emission trading schemes will operate in Wales?

Carwyn Jones: The scheme aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and it works on a cap-and-trade basis. European Union member states are required to set an emissions cap for all installations covered by the scheme, and the UK published its approved national action plan on 24 May 2005. On the same day, the UK registry saw the biggest trade so far since the start of the scheme on 1 January this year.

ei chynnal yng Nghymru gan wyddonwyr ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd wedi canfod, er y gallai tymereddau'r haf godi cymaint â 5 y cant yng ngogledd Ewrop, gallem hefyd brofi gaeafau oerach o lawer o ganlyniad i gynhesu byd-eang. Mae hyn o ganlyniad i'r effaith ar y rhwydwaith o geryntau cefnforol sy'n dosbarthu gwres a lleithder o amgylch y byd, ac yn chwarae rhan bwysig yn y gwaith o benderfynu ar hinsoddau rhanbarthol. Mae'r gwaith ymchwil pwysig hwn yn taflu goleuni newydd ar hyn, gan ehangu'r ddadl ar y newid yn yr hinsawdd. Er mwyn ymgysylltu â phobl Cymru yn wirioneddol ar y pwnc hwn, beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i gynyddu ei dealltwriaeth o achosion ac effeithiau newid cyflym yn yr hinsawdd, ac i weithio gyda phobl Cymru i fynd i'r afael â'r mater mwyaf difrifol hwn?

Carwyn Jones: Mae angen inni sicrhau bod pobl yn ymwybodol o'r hyn sy'n digwydd, ac mae'r cynllun gweithredu datblygu cynaliadwy yn ffordd o wneud hynny. Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle pan ddywedwch fod un o'r modelau sy'n ymwneud â chynhesu byd-eang yn awgrymu ei bod yn bosibl y byddai cymaint o ddŵr yn cael ei ryddhau yn sgîl y capan iâ yn toddi, y câi Llif y Gwlff ei hun ei ddargyfeirio, a fyddai'n achosi i'r tymheredd yn y DU ostwng yn sylweddol, i lefel sy'n fwy cymesur â'i lledred. Mae gennym y cynllun gweithredu datblygu cynaliadwy a'r rhaglen newid yn yr hinsawdd, ac mae sawl sefydliad arall yn rhan o'r gwaith o addysgu'r cyhoedd am newid yn yr hinsawdd.

Janet Davies: A wnewch chi egluro sut y bydd cynlluniau masnachu gollyngiadau yn gweithredu yng Nghymru?

Carwyn Jones: Nod y cynllun yw lleihau gollyngiadau carbon deuocsid, ac mae'n gweithio ar sail capio a masnachu. Mae'n ofynnol i aelod wladwriaethau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd gapio gollyngiadau ar gyfer pob sefydliad a gwmpesir gan y cynllun, a chyhoeddodd y DU ei gynllun gweithredu cenedlaethol a gymeradwywyd ar 24 Mai 2005. Ar yr un diwrnod, bu'r masnachu mwyaf yng nghofrestrfa'r DU ers dechrau'r cynllun ar 1 Ionawr eleni.

Laura Anne Jones: We must prepare for the unavoidable impacts of climate change by planning for its effects, including effective flood risk management. It has been announced that £12.5 million will be given to flood defence schemes to help improve the situation. Can you assure me that non-Objective 1 areas will not be left out and will be given some of this money? Will you also tell me how you are improving river defences in south-east Wales, around the areas of the River Usk and the River Wye? It is a matter that concerns me greatly as one of the local Assembly Members.

Carwyn Jones: The Environment Agency is the operating agency for flood defence work. The £12.5 million was announced for Objective 1 areas, but that is on top of the money that is already allocated for general flood defence across Wales, so I would expect that no area would lose out because of the funding that we already provide, as well as the additional money that has been provided by the Objective 1 bid.

Laura Anne Jones: Rhaid inni baratoi ar gyfer effeithiau anochel newid yn yr hinsawdd drwy gynllunio ar gyfer ei effeithiau, gan gynnwys rheoli risg llifogydd yn effeithiol. Cyhoeddwyd y bydd £12.5 miliwn yn cael ei roi i gynlluniau atal llifogydd i helpu i wella'r sefyllfa. A allwch chi fy sicrhau na chaiff ardaloedd nad ydynt yn ardaloedd Amcan 1 eu hepgor ac y rhoddir rhywfaint o'r arian hwn iddynt? A ddywedwch wrthyf hefyd sut yr ydych yn gwella amddiffynfeydd afonydd yn y deddwyrain, o amgylch ardaloedd Afon Wysg ac Afon Gwy? Mae'n fater sy'n peri cryn bryder imi fel un o'r Aelodau Cynulliad lleol.

Carwyn Jones: Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yw'r asiantaeth weithredu ar gyfer gwaith atal llifogydd. Cyhoeddwyd y £12.5 miliwn ar gyfer ardaloedd Amcan 1, ond mae hyn yn ychwanegol i'r arian sydd eisoes wedi'i ddyrannu ar gyfer atal llifogydd yn gyffredinol ledled Cymru, felly nid wyf yn disgwyl y byddai unrhyw ardal ar ei cholled oherwydd yr arian yr ydym eisoes yn ei ddarparu, yn ogystal â'r arian ychwanegol a ddarparwyd gan gynnig Amcan 1.

Lleihau Llygredd Aer Reducing Air Pollution

Q3 Peter Black: Will the Minister make a statement on reducing air pollution? OAQ0281(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: The air quality strategy 2000 established a framework for achieving improvements in ambient air quality and new objectives were set in 2003. The objectives are currently being reviewed to incorporate up-to-date research and expert opinion and we will consult on the review's findings by the end of the year.

Peter Black: On days like this, we notice more than anything the poor air quality in towns and cities, mainly due to particles and nitrogen dioxide emissions from road vehicles such as cars and so on. How is the Assembly Government working to reduce traffic growth so as to cut this air pollution?

Carwyn Jones: You only have to look at our transport strategy. It was only just over a

C3 Peter Black: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar leihau llygredd aer? OAQ0281(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Sefydlodd strategaeth ansawdd aer 2000 fframwaith ar gyfer cyflawni gwelliannau mewn ansawdd aer amgylchynol a phennwyd amcanion newydd yn 2003. Mae'r amcanion yn cael eu hadolygu ar hyn o bryd i ymgorffori gwaith ymchwil diweddar a barn arbenigol a byddwn yn ymgynghori ar ganfyddiadau'r adolygiad erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn.

Peter Black: Ar ddyddiau fel y rhain, sylwn yn anad dim ar yr ansawdd aer gwael mewn trefi a dinasoedd, yn bennaf o ganlyniad i ronynnau a gollyngiadau nitrogen deuocsid o gerbydau ffordd megis ceir ac ati. Sut mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio i leihau traffig er mwyn lleihau'r llygredd aer hwn?

Carwyn Jones: Dim ond edrych ar ein strategaeth trafniadaeth y mae'n rhaid ichi ei

week ago that I had the pleasure of seeing the launch of the Vale of Glamorgan railway, which starts in my constituency of Bridgend and goes through to Barry. I have travelled on it and it was very well-used. When the Ebbw Valley railway opens, that will also help enormously in terms of enabling people to come to Cardiff initially, and subsequently to Newport in future years, and providing them with an alternative to using their cars. Investment in public transport is bound to make a difference to car use and the Assembly Government's record speaks for itself in this regard.

John Griffiths: I agree with Peter Black's points, which are important. There are areas in Newport East where there are deprived communities surrounded by the motorway or a busy road. They are hemmed in, and there is a high incidence of asthma and other respiratory problems in such communities. Although no causative link has been established, there is a need for greater research and attention to be paid these potential problems.

Carwyn Jones: There is always a need for research. There is no question that air quality is much better now than it was before the clean air Acts were introduced in the 1950s. I am not a doctor and, therefore, I do not know why the asthma rate has increased in the meantime, but I know that much research is being carried out on this.

Helen Mary Jones: The state of the environment report, to which Mick Bates referred earlier, identifies air quality issues as an ongoing environmental challenge that is not being successfully dealt with. I look forward to the consultation that you have mentioned, but will you acknowledge, in the light of some of the points that have been raised in other questions, that this is becoming more and more urgent, and that the speed of transport change needs to be accelerated in order to address this issue?

Carwyn Jones: That is an unfortunate analogy, but I take your point. The environment strategy, when it is produced, will need to take account of air quality issues,

wneud. Dim ond ychydig dros wythnos yn ôl y cefais y pleser o weld rheilffordd Bro Morgannwg yn cael ei lansio, sy'n dechrau yn fy etholaeth i ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr ac yn teithio i'r Barri. Yr wyf wedi teithio arni ac yr oedd yn boblogaidd iawn. Pan fydd rheilffordd Glynebwy yn agor, bydd hynny hefyd o gymorth mawr i alluogi pobl i ddod i Gaerdydd i ddechrau, ac wedyn i Gasnewydd yn y dyfodol, a darparu dewis amgen iddynt yn lle defnyddio eu ceir. Mae buddsoddi mewn trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yn siŵr o wneud gwahaniaeth i'r defnydd a wneir o geir ac mae record Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn hunanesboniadol yn hyn o beth.

John Griffiths: Cytunaf â phwyntiau Peter Black, sy'n bwysig. Ceir ardaloedd yn Nwyrain Casnewydd lle y mae cymunedau difreintiedig wedi'u hamgylchynu gan y draffordd neu ffordd brysur. Maent wedi'u cau i mewn ac mae achosion niferus o asthma a phroblemau resbiradol eraill mewn cymunedau o'r fath. Er na sefydlwyd unrhyw gyswllt achosol, mae angen gwneud mwy o waith ymchwil a rhoi mwy o sylw i'r problemau posibl hyn.

Carwyn Jones: Mae angen gwaith ymchwil bob amser. Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth bod ansawdd aer yn llawer gwell yn awr nag yr oedd cyn cyflwyno'r Deddfau aer glân yn yr 1950au. Nid meddyg mohonof ac, felly, ni wn pam mae'r gyfradd asthma wedi cynyddu yn y cyfamser, ond gwn fod llawer o waith ymchwil yn mynd rhagddo yn hyn o beth.

Helen Mary Jones: Mae'r adroddiad ar gyflwr yr amgylchedd, y cyfeiriodd Mick Bates ato yn gynharach, yn nodi materion sy'n ymwneud ag ansawdd aer fel her amgylcheddol barhaus nad eir i'r afael â hi yn llwyddiannus. Edrychaf ymlaen at yr ymgynghoriad a grybwyllwyd gennych, ond a gydnabyddwch, yng ngoleuni rhai o'r pwyntiau a godwyd mewn cwestiynau eraill, bod y mater hwn yn dod yn fwyfwy dybryd, a bod angen cyflymu'r broses o wella trafndiaeth er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn?

Carwyn Jones: Mae honno'n gyfatebiaeth anffodus, ond deallaf eich pwynt. Bydd angen i'r strategaeth amgylcheddol, pan gaiff ei chyhoeddi, ystyried materion sy'n

and when that strategy is finally produced towards the end of this year, it will explain the Assembly Government's overall vision in terms of air quality as well as all the other factors that affect the quality of our environment.

ymwneud ag ansawdd aer, a phan gyhoeddir y strategaeth yn derfynol tuag at ddiwedd y flwyddyn hon, bydd yn esbonio gweledigaeth gyffredinol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o ran ansawdd aer yn ogystal â'r holl ffactorau eraill sy'n effeithio ar ansawdd ein hamgylchedd.

2.40 p.m.

**‘Cynllunio a Thai Fforddiadwy’
‘Planning and Affordable Housing’**

C4 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar unrhyw gynnydd parthed ‘Nodyn Cyngor Technegol (Cymru) 2: Cynllunio a Thai Fforddiadwy’? OAQ0265(EPC)

Q4 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on any updates regarding ‘Technical Advice Note (Wales) 2: Planning and Affordable Housing’? OAQ0265(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Mae'r grŵp cynghori technegol wedi gorffen ei drafodaethau. Manylais ar y broses ymgynghori yn y pwyllgor y bore yma. Bydd ymarfer ymgynghori o fis Gorffennaf tan fis Hydref. Yr wyf hefyd wedi rhoi'r manylion i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, wrth ystyried y materion trawsbynciol sydd yn gysylltiedig â thai a chynllunio.

Carwyn Jones: The technical advisory group has finished its deliberations. I gave details of the consultation process in committee this morning. The consultation exercise will run from July to October. I have also provided details to the Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee given the cross-cutting issues related to housing and planning.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn croesawu'n fawr y cydweithredu â'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar y mater hwn. Gobeithiaf y byddech hefyd yn derbyn ei fod yn fater o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol i bobl gael mynediad i dai fforddiadwy yn eu cymunedau eu hunain, i'w rhentu neu i'w prynu. Fodd bynnag, a wnewch dderbyn bod llawer o awdurdodau lleol ar hyn o bryd yn dod i derfyn y broses o benderfynu ar eu cynlluniau datblygu unedol ac yn chwilio am gyfleoedd i ddarparu tai fforddiadwy? Eich dadl yw bod y nodiadau technegol yn galluogi hynny i ddigwydd. A wnewch annog awdurdodau lleol i ddefnyddio hynny, oherwydd mae'n amlwg bod awdurdodau lleol yn chwilio am yr anogaeth hynny oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I very much welcome the joint working with the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration on this issue. I hope that you would also accept that it is a matter of social justice for people to have access to affordable housing in their own communities, whether to rent or to buy. However, will you accept that many local authorities are currently completing the process of deciding on their unitary development plans and are looking for opportunities to provide affordable housing? Your argument is that the technical notes enable that to happen. Will you encourage local authorities to use that, because it is clear that local authorities are looking for such encouragement from the Government of Wales?

Carwyn Jones: Mae gan lywodraeth leol systemau a phwerau i wneud hyn ar hyn o bryd. Yn y gorffennol, nid yw llywodraeth leol wedi defnyddio'r pwerau hyn yn ddigon aml. Felly, un o amcanion newid y TAN yw

Carwyn Jones: Local authorities have systems and powers to do this at the moment. In the past local government has not used these powers often enough. Therefore, one of the aims of changing the TAN is to make

ei gwneud yn gliriach i awdurdodau lleol y gallant ddefnyddio'r pwerau sydd ganddynt ar hyn o bryd.

clearer to local authorities that they can use the powers that they already have.

Wrth gwrs, mae hefyd yn rhaid iddynt gael asesiad o angehenion tai yn eu hardaloedd. Fy ngobaith yw, wedi i'r TAN gael ei gyhoeddi yn derfynol, y bydd yn gliriach i awdurdodau lleol beth allant ei wneud. Mae ganddynt bwerau ar hyn o bryd, ac yr oedd hyn yn rhan o'r dystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Amgylchedd, cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad yn ystod ei adolygiad o'r pwnc hwn yn ddiweddar.

Of course, they must also undertake an assessment of local housing need. I hope that, once the TAN is issued in its final form, it will be clearer to local authorities what they can do. They have powers now, and that was part of the evidence to the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee during its recent review of this issue.

William Graham: As part of the review, do you intend to encourage private-housing providers to supply housing in rural areas, both for rent and for purchase?

William Graham: Fel rhan o'r adolygiad, a fwriedwch annog darparwyr tai preifat i gyflenwi tai mewn ardaloedd gwledig i'w rhentu ac i'w prynu?

Carwyn Jones: A number of options will have to be considered. The public sector cannot do it all. What is important is that we provide the best way forward, and I look forward to consulting with my colleague Edwina Hart, the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, on that.

Carwyn Jones: Bydd angen ystyried nifer o opsiynau. Ni all y sector cyhoeddus wneud y cyfan. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw ein bod ni'n darparu'r ffordd orau ymlaen, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ymgynghori â'm cyd-Aelod Edwina Hart, y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, ar hynny.

Taliadau Amaeth-Amgylcheddol Agri-Environmental Payments

C5 Elin Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar unrhyw gynnydd parthed newidiadau i daliadau amaeth-amgylcheddol? OAQ0259(EPC)

Q5 Elin Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on any progress with regard to the changes to agri-environmental payments? OAQ0259(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Cyfarfu fy swyddogion yr undebau ffermio a'r Gymdeithas Tir a Busnesau Cefn Gwlad ar 29 Ebrill. Gofynasant i'r undebau ar y pryd i rannu unrhyw sylwadau a phryderon a oedd ganddynt gyda ni erbyn 30 Mehefin. Felly, mae proses o ymgynghori yn cael ei gynnal ac yr wyf yn edrych ymlaen at y canlyniadau.

Carwyn Jones: My officials met the farming unions and the Country Land and Business Association on 29 April. They asked the unions at that time to raise any comments and concerns that they had with us by 30 June. Therefore, a consultation process is taking place, and I look forward to the results of it.

Elin Jones: Beth yw eich barn ar osod tyrbinau gwynt 2 MW yr un ar dir o dan gytundeb Tir Gofal neu Dir Cynnal?

Elin Jones: What is your view on placing wind turbines of 2 MW each on land under Tir Gofal or Tir Cynnal?

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf yn gwybod am unrhyw engrhaifft o hynny, ond byddwn yn hapus i edrych ar y mater ac ysgrifennu atoch.

Carwyn Jones: I am not aware of any examples of that, but I would be happy to look into the matter and to write to you.

Glyn Davies: Changes to agri-environment

Glyn Davies: Mae newidiadau mewn

payments are likely to lead to a significant change to the Countryside Council for Wales. I was shocked this morning to hear you, or at least your head of department, say that he wanted to see the CCW return to the sort of advisory role that it had before managing Tir Gofal completely transformed it into a body that has connected with the public, and for which the public has a great regard. Will you review the decision that the First Minister has announced, because there is a real danger of threatening the public regard for the CCW for the sake of a very small change? Will you review that decision and change it?

Carwyn Jones: I am sure we will debate this matter next Tuesday in the minority party debate. There are two reasons for bringing in Tir Gofal. First, if it were not brought in house that would mean that we would administer every other scheme except Tir Gofal. That is not in the interest of users. Secondly, it has since come to light that there are plans at a European level—that is our interpretation—to have a single payment agency. If that were the case, Tir Gofal would either have to come in house or we would have to give CAPM and every other payment scheme to the CCW. I do not believe that the Assembly would support that. If there is to be a single payment agency, Tir Gofal would not be able to stay with CCW in any event. I am sure that this will be expanded on next week.

taliadau amaeth-amgylcheddol yn debygol o arwain at newid sylweddol i Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru. Cefais fy synnu y bore yma i'ch clywed, neu o leiaf glywed pennaeth eich adran, yn dweud ei fod am weld CCGC yn dychwelyd i'r math o rôl gynghori a oedd ganddo cyn i'r gwaith o reoli Tir Gofal ei drawsnewid yn gyfan gwbl i gorff sydd wedi cysylltu â'r cyhoedd, ac y mae gan y cyhoedd feddwl mawr ohono. A wnewch chi adolygu'r penderfyniad y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi'i gyhoeddi, gan fod perygl gwirioneddol o leihau parch y cyhoedd tuag at CCGC er lles newid bach iawn? A wnewch chi adolygu'r penderfyniad hwnnw a'i newid?

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnawn drafod y mater hwn ddydd Mawrth nesaf yn nadl y blaid leiafrifol. Mae dau reswm dros uno â Tir Gofal. Yn gyntaf, pe na fyddai'n uno â ni, byddai hynny'n golygu y byddem yn gweinyddu pob cynllun arall ac eithrio Tir Gofal. Nid yw hynny er budd defnyddwyr. Yn ail, ers hynny daeth yn amlwg bod cynlluniau ar lefel Ewropeaidd —dyna yw ein dehongliad ni—i gael un asiantaeth taliadau. Os felly, byddai'n rhaid i Tir Gofal ddod o dan adain y Cynulliad neu byddai'n rhaid inni roi CAPM a phob cynllun talu arall i Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru. Ni chredaf y byddai'r Cynulliad yn cefnogi hynny. Pe bai un asiantaeth taliadau ni fyddai Tir Gofal yn gallu aros yng ngofal y Cyngor Cefn Gwlad beth bynnag. Yr wyf yn siŵr yr ymhelaethir ar hyn yr wythnos nesaf.

Cyfraniad Saethu Anifeiliaid Hela i Ardaloedd Gwledig The Contribution of Game Shooting to Rural Areas

Q6 Alun Cairns: Will the Minister make a statement on the contribution of game shooting to rural areas? OAQ0258(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Game shooting makes a contribution to the economy of many rural areas. The Welsh Development Agency is looking into the potential for developing the sector and is commissioning a feasibility study, which should report later this year.

Alun Cairns: What commitment can you give regarding the development of a strategy to develop income from game shooting?

C6 Alun Cairns: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar gyfraniad saethu anifeiliaid hela i ardaloedd gwledig? OAQ0258(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Mae saethu anifeiliaid hela yn gwneud cyfraniad i economi sawl ardal wledig. Mae Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru yn ymchwilio i'r posibilrwydd o ddatblygu'r sector ac mae'n comisiynu astudiaethau ymarferoldeb, a ddylai gyflwyno adroddiad yn ddiweddarach eleni.

Alun Cairns: Pa ymrwymiad y gallwch ei wneud o ran datblygu strategaeth i greu incwm o saethu anifeiliaid hela? Pa sicrwydd

What assurance can you give that some of the protesters who have now moved on from hunting will not influence you in any way? Game shooting is extremely important to the rural economy, it is an extremely enjoyable activity for many people, and it holds the fabric of rural life together, which has been lost in many ways following the hunting ban.

Carwyn Jones: You are, of course, somebody who partakes in game shooting, I seem to remember. Referring back to the answer that I gave, the WDA is looking into the potential for the sector. I am not aware of any active protests that are currently taking place.

y gallwch ei roi na fydd rhai o'r protestwyr sydd bellach wedi symud eu sylw oddi wrth hela yn dylanwadu arnoch mewn unrhyw ffordd? Mae saethu anifeiliaid hela yn bwysig iawn i'r economi wledig, ac mae'n weithgaredd pleserus iawn i lawer o bobl, ac mae'n cadw bywyd gwledig ynghyd, sydd wedi ei golli mewn sawl ffordd yn dilyn y gwaharddiad ar hela.

Carwyn Jones: Yr ydych chi, wrth gwrs, yn rhywun sy'n ymddiddori mewn saethu anifeiliaid hela, fe gofiau. Gan gyfeirio'n ôl at yr ateb a roddais, mae'r WDA yn ymchwilio i botensial y sector. Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o unrhyw brotestiadau sy'n cael eu cynnal ar hyn o bryd.

Gwasanaethau Cynllunio Planning Services

Q7 Carl Sargeant: What is the Minister doing to improve planning services across Wales? OAQ0278(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Working with our partners, we have produced the 'Planning: Delivering for Wales' programme, which provides for new local development plans with enhanced community involvement, increased resources for planning, improved decision making, and a culture and ethos among all stakeholders that encourages a focus on quality outcomes and on continuous improvement.

Carl Sargeant: I believe that there is a change to planning fees. Could you assure me that the future increases in planning fees will be accompanied by an improvement in the services for the members of my constituency of Alyn and Deeside, for which I am the only directly elected Member?

Carwyn Jones: On the consultation on the planning fees system, which was issued on 13 June, there are no plans as yet regarding what future fees will look like or whether there will be different fees for different applicants. However, this matter needs to be looked at, and the Assembly will need to be involved, as a whole, in the decision-making process because any change would have to be made via legislation. At the moment, it is simply a

C7 Carl Sargeant: Beth mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i wella gwasanaethau cynllunio ledled Cymru? OAQ0278(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Drwy gydweithio â'n partneriaid, yr ydym wedi cynhyrchu'r rhaglen 'Cynllunio: Cyflawni dros Gymru', sy'n darparu ar gyfer cynlluniau datblygu lleol newydd gyda mwy o gyfranogiad gan y gymuned, mwy o adnoddau ar gyfer cynllunio, gwell proses ar gyfer gwneud penderfyniadau, a diwylliant ac ethos ymysg pob rhanddeiliad sy'n rhoi pwyslais ar ganlyniadau o safon ac ar welliant parhaus.

Carl Sargeant: Credaf fod ffioedd cynllunio yn newid. A allech fy sicrhau y bydd y cynnydd mewn ffioedd cynllunio yn y dyfodol yn digwydd ochr yn ochr â gwelliant mewn gwasanaethau ar gyfer fy etholwyr yn Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy, etholaeth lle mai fi yw'r unig Aelod a etholwyd yn uniongyrchol ar ei chyfer?

Carwyn Jones: O ran yr ymgynghoriad ar y system ffioedd cynllunio, a gyhoeddwyd ar 13 Mehefin, nid oes cynlluniau hyd yma ynghylch ffioedd y dyfodol nac ynghylch a fydd ffioedd gwahanol ar gyfer ymgeiswyr gwahanol. Fodd bynnag, mae angen edrych ar hyn, a bydd angen i'r Cynulliad cyfan fod yn rhan o'r broses gwneud penderfyniadau oherwydd byddai'n rhaid i unrhyw newid gael ei wneud drwy ddeddfwriaeth. Ar hyn o

consultation document.

Alun Ffred Jones: Un o'r newidiadau sy'n digwydd o ran cynllunio ar hyn o bryd yw'r symud o'r cynlluniau datblygu unedol i gynlluniau datblygu lleol. A wnewch chi esbonio beth yn union yw manteision y newid hwn a sut fydd dealltwriaeth y cyhoedd a gweithrediad y cynghorau yn gwella oherwydd y newid hwn?

Carwyn Jones: Bydd newid sylfaenol ynghylch sut y caiff y cynlluniau eu mabwysiadu. Er enghraifft, bydd yr arolygydd sy'n edrych ar unrhyw fath o ymgynghoriad ymlaen llaw yn gallu gwneud argymhellion a bydd yn rhaid i'r awdurdod lleol sicrhau eu bod yn cael eu gweithredu. O'r blaen, nid oedd hynny'n wir. O ran y cyhoedd, y gwahaniaeth mwyaf yw'r ffaith y bydd yn rhaid cael cynllun cymunedol sy'n estyn allan at bobl leol er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn chwarae mwy o ran yn y broses o ddatblygu cynlluniau lleol yn y dyfodol. Dyna un peth yr wyf yn credu y bydd y cyhoedd yn ei werthfawrogi.

Lisa Francis: Minister, I am sure that you, like me and other Members in the Chamber—both constituency and regional, which are all equal—will have been contacted by concerned residents from Haverfordwest in relation to the Tetra mast that has been placed on top of the police station. If planning services are to improve in Wales, do you not think that it is high time that the erection of police communications masts was the subject of local authority planning consent? Is local consultation not the cornerstone of all good planning?

Carwyn Jones: Quite so; that is why it was proposed that the Crown immunity that the Home Office presently enjoys would be removed in the future. Therefore, the Home Office, like other Crown bodies, will have to go through the normal planning process rather than the different process that exists and under which it is not obliged to seek planning permission. That will change in the future.

2.50 p.m.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr ydym i gyd yn

bryd, dogfen ymgynghori ydyw.

Alun Ffred Jones: One change that is currently taking place in the planning system is the move from unitary development plans to local development plans. Will you explain exactly what the advantages of this change are and how will public understanding and council operations improve as a result of this change?

Carwyn Jones: There will be a fundamental change in the way that plans are adopted. For example, the inspector who looks at any kind of consultation beforehand will be able to make recommendations and the local authority will have to ensure that they are implemented. Previously, that was not the case. In terms of the public, the greatest difference is the fact that a community plan that reaches out to local people will be required, to ensure that they play a bigger part in the process of developing local plans for the future. That is one thing that I think that the public will appreciate.

Lisa Francis: Weinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd preswylwyr pryderus o Hwlfordd wedi cysylltu â chi, yn ogystal â minnau ac Aelodau eraill yn y Siambr—yn aelodau etholaethau ac aelodau rhanbarthol, sydd oll yn gyfartal—ynghlŷn â'r mast Tetra a osodwyd ar do gorsaf yr heddlu. Os bwriedir gwella gwasanaethau cynllunio yng Nghymru, oni chredwch ei bod yn hen bryd sicrhau bod angen caniatâd cynllunio gan awdurdodau lleol cyn codi mastiau cyfathrebu'r heddlu? Onid ymgynghori'n lleol yw conglfaen cynllunio da?

Carwyn Jones: Cytunaf yn llwyr; dyna pam y cynigiwyd y dylid diddymu breintryddid y Goron sydd gan y Swyddfa Gartref ar hyn o bryd yn y dyfodol. Felly, bydd yn rhaid i'r Swyddfa Gartref, fel cyrff eraill y Goron, fynd drwy'r broses gynllunio arferol yn hytrach na'r broses wahanol sy'n bodoli lle nad oes gorfodaeth arni i geisio caniatâd cynllunio. Bydd hynny'n newid yn y dyfodol.

Eleanor Burnham: We all welcome the

croesawu'r pwyslais ar y cyswllt cymunedol yn y broses gynllunio. A gytunwch y byddai'n well gwasanaeth pe baech yn cysylltu â chymunedau lleol ynglŷn â datblygiadau megis ffyrdd a ffermydd gwynt, a pha ddylanwad fyddai hyn yn ei gael ar eich penderfyniadau?

Carwyn Jones: Mae hynny'n bwynt gwahanol. Yr ydym yn siarad am ddogfennau TAN, ac nid cynlluniau lleol. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn ymgynghori mor eang â phosibl, ond nid yw bob amser yn bosibl gwneud hynny mewn ffordd a fydd yn cadw pawb yn hapus. Er hynny, yr ydym yn ceisio ymgynghori mor eang â phosibl.

emphasis on connecting with the community in the planning process. Do you agree that it would provide an enhanced service were you to contact local communities with regard to such developments as roads and windfarms, and what influence would that have on your decision making?

Carwyn Jones: That is a separate matter. We are discussing the TANs, and not local planning. It is important that we consult as widely as possible, but it is not always possible to do that in a way that would keep everyone happy. However, we are trying to consult as widely as possible.

Datblygu Gwledig Rural Development

Q8 Janet Ryder: Will the Minister make a statement on any recent discussions he has held with UK Government Ministers regarding rural development? OAQ0256(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: I have many discussions, and I was part of the UK ministerial team that attended the EU agriculture and fisheries council in Luxembourg two days ago, during which there were important discussions and an important decision on the rural development regulation for 2007-13.

Janet Ryder: With regard to the historic low levels of European funding received in this country as a consequence of the self-interest of Westminster, could you clarify how you will correct that matter? Also, could you clarify whether you support the Prime Minister and the First Minister's insistence on keeping the UK rebate, with the implications that that has for the availability of future funding for rural development in Wales?

Carwyn Jones: I certainly do not support Jacques Chirac's view; that is for sure. I think that is nothing but a smokescreen for the problems that exist in France. In terms of rural development, however, I can say that a deal was done on Monday night that we believe will increase the amount of money that will come to the UK. You are absolutely

C8 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar drafodaethau diweddar y mae wedi'u cynnal gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y DU parthed datblygu gwledig? OAQ0256(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Caf lawer o drafodaethau, ac yr oeddwn yn rhan o dîm gweinidogol y DU a fynychodd gyngor amaethyddiaeth a physgodfeydd y DU yn Lwcsembwrg ddeuddydd yn ôl, ac yn ystod y cyfarfod hwnnw cafwyd trafodaethau pwysig a gwnaed penderfyniadau pwysig ar y rheoliad datblygu gwledig ar gyfer 2007-13.

Janet Ryder: O ran y lefelau hanesyddol isel o arian Ewropeaidd a gafodd y wlad hon o ganlyniad i hunan-fudd San Steffan, a allech egluro sut y byddwch yn unioni hynny? Hefyd, a allech egluro pa un a ydych yn cefnogi ymdrech daer Prif Weinidog y DU a Phrif Weinidog Cymru ar gadw ad-daliad y DU, o gofio goblygiadau hynny i argaeledd cyllid ar gyfer datblygu gwledig yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol?

Carwyn Jones: Yn sicr nid wyf yn cefnogi safbwynt Jacques Chirac; mae hynny'n bendant. Dim ond ymgais i guddio'r problemau sy'n bodoli yn Ffrainc yw hynny yn fy marn i. O ran datblygu gwledig, fodd bynnag, gallaf ddweud i fargen gael ei tharo nos Lun y credwn y bydd yn cynyddu'r arian a gaiff y DU. Yr ydych yn gwbl gywir i

right to say that we had a shamefully low share of European rural development because of the meekness of the Conservative Government of the early 1990s.

Brynle Williams: Only yesterday, I spoke in this very Chamber about the problems facing rural Wales. Many rural communities have no local doctors or dentists, and the situation is getting worse. When will this Government put rural Wales a bit higher up the agenda for its residents to have access to doctors and dentists?

Carwyn Jones: I think that rural Wales gets an exceptionally fair deal. We have the rural development plan, and farming, which is an important part of rural Wales, but not the only part, is exceptionally well supported by any stretch of the imagination by the Assembly Government and, of course, the single farm payment regime that will come into place towards the end of this year, is a sign of that.

ddweud ein bod wedi cael cyfran warthus o isel o arian datblygu gwledig Ewrop oherwydd llarieidd-dra'r Llywodraeth Geidwadol ar ddechrau'r 1990au.

Brynle Williams: Dim ond ddoe y bu imi siarad yn y Siambr hon am y problemau sy'n wynebu Cymru wledig. Mae llawer o gymunedau gwledig sydd heb feddygon na deintyddion lleol, ac mae'r sefyllfa'n gwaethygu. Pa bryd y bydd y Llywodraeth hon yn rhoi mwy o flaenoriaeth ar yr agenda i Gymru wledig er mwyn i'w thrigolion gael meddygon a deintyddion?

Carwyn Jones: Credaf fod Cymru wledig yn cael bargaen deg iawn. Mae gennym gynllun datblygu gwledig, a chaiff ffermio, sy'n rhan bwysig o Gymru wledig, ond nid yr unig ran, gefnogaeth dda a dweud y lleiaf gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ac, wrth gwrs, mae'r system taliad sengl a ddaw'n weithredol tua diwedd y flwyddyn hon, yn arwydd o hynny.

Echdynnu Agregau Aggregate Extraction

Q9 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister update us on his policy of instructing local authorities to safeguard sites for potential aggregate extraction? OAQ0272(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Unitary development plans that have recently been adopted, or are close to adoption, include proposals to safeguard strategic sand and gravel reserves fully in accordance with national planning policy.

Nick Bourne: The Minister will be aware, because I have written to him on this issue, that many local authorities, particularly Powys, and the Brecon Beacons National Park, are telling people that they need not fear anything because this gravel will never be needed. If that is true, why do need the policy? Will the Minister revisit these policies, which are causing particular concern in Radnorshire and other areas of great natural beauty? This issue is upsetting a great many people, and I wonder if the Minister could give a view on the matter.

C9 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni ar ei bolisi o gyfarwyddo awdurdodau lleol i ddiogelu safleoedd ar gyfer y posibilrwydd o echdynnu agregau? OAQ0272(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Mae'r cynlluniau datblygu unedol a fabwysiadwyd yn ddiweddar, neu sydd ar fin cael eu mabwysiadu, yn cynnwys cynigion i ddiogelu cronfeydd tywod a graean yn llawn yn unol â'r polisi cynllunio cenedlaethol.

Nick Bourne: Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol, oherwydd yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu ato ynglŷn â'r mater hwn, bod sawl awdurdod lleol, yn arbennig Powys, a Pharc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog, yn dweud wrth bobl nad oes angen iddynt ofni dim oherwydd ni fydd angen y graean hwn byth. Os yw'n hynny'n wir, pam bod angen y polisi arnom? A wnaiff y Gweinidog ailedrych ar y polisiau hyn, sy'n peri cryn bryder yn sir Faesyfed a meysydd eraill o brydferthwch naturiol eithriadol? Mae'r mater hwn yn codi gwrychyn llawer iawn o

bobl, a hoffwn wybod a all y Gweinidog roi barn ar y mater.

Carwyn Jones: The reasoning behind the policy is not to make it easier to extract sand and gravel, but to safeguard the reserves for future generations. In reality, it means that houses and other buildings cannot be built on these sites, because, once buildings are built on them, the reserves are sterilised. As far as local people are concerned, I would have thought that they would be rather happy to know that some of these sites will not be built on in future. Were anyone to make an application to work sand and gravel in these areas, they would have to go through the normal planning process. There is no presumption in favour of the extraction of sand and gravel, and, inevitably, if an application were made within a national park, that application would face great difficulties.

Carwyn Jones: Nid ei gwneud yn haws i echdynnu tywod a graen yw'r rhesymeg sy'n sail i'r polisi, ond yn hytrach diogelu'r cronfeydd ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol. Mewn gwirionedd, yr hyn y mae'n ei olygu yw na ellir adeiladu tai ac adeiladau eraill ar y safleoedd hyn, oherwydd, unwaith y bydd adeiladau arnynt, ni ellir defnyddio'r cronfeydd. O ran pobl leol, byddwn wedi tybio y byddent yn eithaf balch o wybod na fydd adeiladau'n cael eu codi ar rai o'r safleoedd hyn yn y dyfodol. Pe bai unrhyw un yn gwneud cais am waith tywod a graean yn yr ardaloedd hyn, byddai'n rhaid iddynt fynd drwy'r broses gynllunio arferol. Nid oes unrhyw ragdybiaeth o blaid echdynnu tywod a graean, ac, yn anochel, pe câi cais ei wneud mewn parc cenedlaethol, yna byddai'r cais hwnnw yn wynebu anawsterau mawr.

Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Local Development Plan

C10 Owen John Thomas: Pa feini prawf y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu defnyddio i benderfynu a yw cynllun datblygu lleol yn ddigon pwysig i'w ystyried gan y Cynulliad? OAQ0293(EPC)

Q10 Owen John Thomas: What criteria is the Minister using to decide whether or not a local development plan is important enough to be brought in for consideration by the Assembly? OAQ0293(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Defnyddir dau faen prawf. Y cyntaf yw a yw'r cynllun yn codi materion o bwysigrwydd cenedlaethol neu ranbarthol, a'r ail yw a yw'n bwnc dadleuol iawn, er enghraifft, drwy ymestyn y tu hwnt i'r ardal dan sylw neu ffiniau'r awdurdod.

Carwyn Jones: Two criteria are used. The first is whether the plan raises any issues of national or regional importance, and the second is whether it gives rise to controversy, for example, by extending beyond the area in question or beyond the authority's boundaries.

Owen John Thomas: Land Securities plc and Capital Shopping Centres plc are to begin construction on the St David's 2 development in Cardiff, the largest town-centre development in Wales. If an objection were to be made to the plan, would a development on this scale in the heart of the capital merit consideration for being called in by the National Assembly?

Owen John Thomas: Mae Land Securities ccc a Capital Shopping Centres ccc ar fin dechrau gwaith adeiladu ar ddatblygiad Dewi Sant 2 yng Nghaerdydd, sef y datblygiad canol tref mwyaf yng Nghymru. Pe gwnaed gwrthwynebiad i'r cynllun, a fyddai datblygiad mor fawr â hwn yng nghanol y brif ddinas yn haeddu cael ei ystyried ar gyfer ei alw i mewn gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol?

Carwyn Jones: You know full well that I cannot comment on individual applications. It will be considered in due time.

Carwyn Jones: Gwyddoch yn iawn na allaf wneud sylwadau ar geisiadau unigol. Caiff ei ystyried maes o law.

David Melding: I understand the Minister's

David Melding: Deallaf amharodrwydd y

reluctance to answer that question directly, but does he agree that major development in the capital city is a matter of regional concern, and that the best possible standards of architecture and design are to be encouraged on local planners and councillors who have responsibility for determining these developments?

Carwyn Jones: I agree that it is important to have design standards that are as high as possible, and standards of building that are as sustainable as possible.

Gweinidog i ateb y cwestiwn hwnnw'n uniongyrchol, ond a gytuna fod datblygiad mawr yn y brif ddinas yn fater sy'n achosi pryder yn rhanbarthol, ac y dylid annog cynllunwyr a chynghorwyr lleol sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros benderfynu ar y datblygiadau hyn i sicrhau'r safonau gorau posibl o bensaernïaeth a dylunio?

Carwyn Jones: Cytunaf ei bod yn bwysig cael safonau dylunio sydd mor uchel â phosibl, a safonau adeiladau sydd mor gynaliadwy â phosibl.

Y Strategaeth Amgylcheddol The Environment Strategy

Q11 Rosemary Butler: Will the Minister make a statement on the progress of the environment strategy? OAQ0253(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: I will publish the consultation on the environment strategy at the beginning of July. The consultation period will end on 3 October, and the final strategy will be developed in the autumn.

Rosemary Butler: Very good things are happening in terms of the environment in Wales. The biodiversity goals have already been reached, and you are proving that the environment and the economy are intrinsically linked. The River Usk in Newport is vital to the future development of the city, therefore, will you speak to your colleague to ensure that a marine strategy forms part of the Wales spatial plan?

Carwyn Jones: We are looking at how the marine environment can be developed, and we are looking at what policy development would be needed in the future. There is a well-known proposal for a Marine Bill in Westminster and, as a result of that, we would expect to see changes affecting the area.

C11 Rosemary Butler: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar gynnydd y strategaeth amgylcheddol? OAQ0253(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Byddaf yn cyhoeddi'r ymgynghoriad ar strategaeth yr amgylchedd ddechrau mis Gorffennaf. Daw'r cyfnod ymgynghori i ben ar 3 Hydref, a chaiff y strategaeth derfynol ei datblygu yn yr hydref.

Rosemary Butler: Mae pethau da iawn yn digwydd o ran yr amgylchedd yng Nghymru. Mae nodau bioamrywiaeth eisoes wedi eu cyrraedd, ac yr ydych yn profi bod cyswllt cynhenid rhwng yr amgylchedd a'r economi. Mae Afon Wysg yng Nghasnewydd yn hollbwysig i ddatblygiad y ddinas yn y dyfodol, felly, a siaradwch gyda'ch cyd-Weinidog i sicrhau bod strategaeth forol yn rhan o gynllun gofodol Cymru?

Carwyn Jones: Yr ydym yn edrych ar sut y gellir datblygu'r amgylchedd morol, ac yr ydym yn edrych ar ba fath o ddatblygiad polisi y byddai ei angen yn y dyfodol. Mae cynnig adnabyddus am Fesur Morol yn San Steffan ac, o ganlyniad i hwnnw, byddem yn disgwyl gweld newidiadau fyddai'n effeithio ar yr ardal.

Diogelu a Datblygu Coetiroedd Protecting and Developing Woodland

Q12 John Griffiths: Will the Minister make a statement on the importance of protecting and developing woodland in Wales? OAQ0290(EPC)

C12 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar bwysigrwydd diogelu a datblygu coetiroedd yng Nghymru? OAQ0290(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Woodlands are an important part of Wales's landscape, and they provide rural employment, outdoor recreation and they also offer an opportunity for healthy lifestyles in terms of walking and mountain biking, as well as being havens for wildlife. The Government's strategy is set out in the document 'Woodlands for Wales'.

Carwyn Jones: Mae coetiroedd yn rhan bwysig o dirwedd Cymru, ac maent yn darparu cyflogaeth wledig, gweithgareddau hamdden yn yr awyr agored a gallant hefyd gynnig cyfle i ddilyn ffyrdd iach o fyw o ran cerdded a beicio mynydd yn ogystal â bod yn gynefin ar gyfer bywyd gwylt. Nodir strategaeth y Llywodraeth yn y ddogfen 'Coetiroedd i Gymru.'

John Griffiths: As you are aware, there is a great deal of concern regarding the sale of a large part of the Wentwood woodland just outside Newport. There is concern about protecting ancient woodland, keeping a mix of trees, and public access to the woodland. You will also know that there is a public appeal to raise money to purchase the forestry for the community rather than by private individuals. Will you look into these matters in terms of the support the Assembly Government might be able to give?

John Griffiths: Fel y gwyddoch, mae llawer o bryder ynghylch gwerthu rhan fawr o goetir Coed Gwent ar gyrion Casnewydd. Mae pryder ynghylch diogelu coetir hynafol, cadw cymysgedd o goed, a mynediad i'r cyhoedd i goetir. Byddwch hefyd yn gwybod bod apêl gyhoeddus i godi arian i'r gymuned brynu'r goedwig yn hytrach nag unigolion preifat. A ymchwiliwch i'r materion hyn o ran y cymorth y gallai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei gynnig?

Carwyn Jones: You have made representations on numerous occasions to me about this matter. The Assembly does not need to own an area of woodland to protect it and encourage its restoration. Control can be put in place through felling licences and the local authority, via its planning responsibilities, is also able to exert a measure of control over the way in which land is used in the future.

Carwyn Jones: Yr ydych wedi gwneud sylwadau droeon ynglŷn â'r mater hwn. Nid oes angen i'r Cynulliad fod yn berchen ar goetir er mwyn ei ddiogelu ac annog pobl i'w adfer. Gellir rhoi rheolaethau ar waith drwy drwyddedau torri coed a gall yr awdurdod lleol, drwy ei gyfrifoldebau cynllunio, gael rhyw fath o reolaeth dros y ffordd y caiff tir ei ddefnyddio yn y dyfodol.

Atal Llediant TB Ymysg Da Byw Preventing the Spread of TB Among Livestock

C13 David Lloyd: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar unrhyw gynnydd parthed atal llediant twberculosis ymysg da byw? OAQ0263(EPC)

Q13 David Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on any developments in preventing the spread of tuberculosis among livestock? OAQ0263(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Lanswyd strategaeth Brydeinig yn ddiweddar i gyflwyno fframwaith 10 mlynedd ynghylch ymdrin â TB ymysg da byw. Yng Nghymru, mae grŵp gweithredu TB ar fin cyhoeddi ei adroddiad ar y mater.

Carwyn Jones: A British strategy was launched recently to introduce a 10-year framework for dealing with bovine TB. In Wales, the TB action group is about to publish its report on the issue.

David Lloyd: Ers 1999, yr ydych wedi gorrwario'n drwm ar gostau iawndal a gwaredu TB ymysg da byw. Yn ystod tri mis cyntaf y flwyddyn ariannol hon, yr ydych eisoes wedi gwario mwy nag a wnaethoch yn y ddwy flynedd flaenorol gyda'i gilydd. A

David Lloyd: Since 1999, you have overspent a great deal on compensation costs and on the elimination of bovine TB. During the first three months of this financial year, you have already spent more than you did in the two previous years put together. Are you

ydych yn hyderus y gallwch gadw at eich cyllideb eleni?

Carwyn Jones: Nid yw hi'n wir ein bod wedi gwario mwy yn ystod y tri mis diwethaf nag a wnaethom yn y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf.

O ran yr arian, rhaid inni dalu'r iawndal beth bynnag fydd yn digwydd, felly, mae bron yn amhosibl gweithio allan faint yn union o arian fydd ei angen er mwyn talu iawndal heb wybod faint o achosion fydd yn codi mewn blwyddyn, ond rhaid talu'r arian hwnnw. Mae'n bwysig bod ffermwyr yn cael yr iawndal a bod gennym gynlluniau cadarn er mwyn ceisio ymdrin â'r twf a fu yn y clwyf dros y pum neu chwe mlynedd diwethaf.

3.00 p.m.

Cronfa Ddŵr Llanisien Llanishen Reservoir

Q14 Jonathan Morgan: Will the Minister list the meetings that he and his officials have had with Western Power Distribution regarding its planning application relating to Llanishen reservoir? OAQ0275(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: There have been none.

Jonathan Morgan: I am delighted to hear that that is the case. Will you join me in congratulating the reservoir action group, which has demonstrated enormous energy, professionalism and dedication in trying to preserve one of the few large, open spaces in the north of the city? Do you share my view that such a development would constitute an act of unprecedented vandalism?

Carwyn Jones: I cannot comment on an individual application, because one of the planning applications in relation to the site is in the hands of the Assembly. However, I note the passions that have been provoked over the issue and I have also noted the strong role played in the matter by my colleague, Sue Essex.

confident that you can remain within budget this year?

Carwyn Jones: It is not true that we have spent more during the past three months than we did in the past two years.

In terms of the funding, we must pay the compensation come what may, so it is almost impossible to work out exactly how much money will be required to pay compensation when you do not know how many cases will arise in a given year, but those compensations payments must be made. It is important that farmers are given the compensation and that we have robust schemes in place to deal with the increase in bovine TB over the last five or six years.

C14 Jonathan Morgan: A wnaiff y Gweinidog restru'r cyfarfodydd y mae ef a'i swyddogion wedi'u cynnal gyda Western Power Distribution parthed ei gais cynllunio sy'n ymwneud â chronfa ddŵr Llanisien? OAQ0275(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Ni fu dim.

Jonathan Morgan: Yr wyf yn falch o glywed hynny. A ymunwch â mi i longyfarch grŵp gweithredu'r gronfa ddŵr, sydd wedi dangos cryn egni, proffesiynoldeb ac ymroddiad wrth geisio cadw un o'r ychydig fannau agored mawr yng ngogledd y ddinas? A gytunwch â mi y byddai datblygiad o'r fath yn fandaliaeth heb ei thebyg o'r blaen?

Carwyn Jones: Ni allaf wneud sylwadau ar gais unigol, am fod un o'r ceisiadau cynllunio mewn perthynas â'r safle yn nwylo'r Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, nodaf y teimladau cryf ynglŷn â'r mater a nodais hefyd y rôl gref y mae fy nghyd-Weinidog, Sue Essex, wedi'i chwarae yn y mater.

Taliadau Amaeth-Amgylcheddol Agri-Environmental Payments

Q15 Helen Mary Jones: What recent discussions has the Minister had with representatives of the agricultural industry regarding changes to agri-environmental payments? OAQ0257(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: I refer you to the answer that I gave to Elin Jones's question on this matter, namely that a meeting took place on 29 April and the review end date is 30 June.

Helen Mary Jones: During those discussions, have you talked about how the payments and schemes are going to be administered in the future, and have the representatives expressed any views to you as to whether they would prefer Tir Gofal to continue to be managed by the Countryside Council for Wales or whether a one-stop shop for all agri-environment schemes would suit them better?

Carwyn Jones: I do not recall their having expressed a view on either. Their concern has been to ensure that the money is paid as promptly as possible, and they are happy with the scheme and with the extra money that has gone into it over the past few years, especially in the past financial year.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr, Weinidog. Mae'n ymddangos bod y cwestiynau i gyd wedi'u hateb.

C15 Helen Mary Jones: Pa drafodaethau diweddar y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cynnal gyda chynrychiolwyr o'r diwydiant amaethyddol parthed newidiadau i daliadau amaeth-amgylcheddol? OAQ0257(EPC)

Carwyn Jones: Fe'ch cyfeirïaf at yr ateb a roddais i gwestiwn Elin Jones ar y mater hwn, sef bod cyfarfod wedi'i gynnal ar 29 Ebrill a bod yr adolygiad yn dod i ben ar 30 Mehefin.

Helen Mary Jones: Yn ystod y trafodaethau hynny, a ydych wedi siarad am sut y caiff taliadau a chynlluniau eu gweinyddu yn y dyfodol, ac a yw'r cynrychiolwyr wedi mynegi unrhyw farn ichi ynghylch pa un a fyddai'n well ganddynt fod Tir Gofal yn parhau i gael ei reoli gan Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru neu a fyddai'n well ganddynt siop un stop ar gyfer pob cynllun amaeth-amgylchedd?

Carwyn Jones: Ni chofïaf iddynt fynegi barn ar y naill na'r llall. Yr hyn a fu'n bwysig iddynt hwy oedd sicrhau y telir yr arian mor brydlon â phosibl, ac maent yn fodlon ar y cynllun ac ar yr arian ychwanegol a roddwyd iddo yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, yn enwedig yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol ddiwethaf.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you, Minister. It seems that all the questions have been answered.

Datganiad ar Gyfarfod Diweddar y Cyngor Ewropeaidd Statement on the Recent European Council Meeting

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): I would like to make a statement on the European Council summit that took place at the end of last week, which set new records for total inconclusiveness.

There were two main items of business: the fate of the European constitutional treaty and the European budget for the period 2007-13. Following the rejection of the constitutional treaty in the French and Dutch referenda of

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Hoffwn wneud datganiad ar uwchgynhadledd y Cyngor Ewropeaidd a gynhaliwyd ar ddiwedd yr wythnos diwethaf, sydd wedi gosod record newydd am amhendranrwydd llwyr.

Yr oedd dwy brif eitem o fusnes: tynged y cytuniad cyfansoddiadol Ewropeaidd a'r gyllideb Ewropeaidd ar gyfer y cyfnod 2007-13. Ar ôl i'r cytuniad cyfansoddiadol gael ei wrthod yn y refferenda yn Ffranc a'r

29 May and 2 June, Jack Straw, the Foreign Secretary, announced that plans for a UK referendum would be halted pending a decision by the European Council on the treaty's future. Denmark, Portugal, Ireland and the Czech Republic have also said that they are postponing their referenda.

Following the French and Dutch results, it became clear that the constitutional treaty could not be implemented according to the original timetable. The European Council decided to pause for a 'period of reflection', to use the words of Jean-Claude Juncker, the current European Union president. No time limit has been established for this stock-taking exercise but there is consensus that the union, as a whole, needs to investigate and consider why citizens have rejected the constitutional treaty and how best to move forward.

Buom ni, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn gweithio'n galed i ddylanwadu ar gynnwys y cytuniad. Yn fy nhyb i, mae'r geiriad terfynol yn cynnwys iaith ac ymrwymadau sy'n torri tir newydd ynglŷn â statws a swyddogaeth rhanbarthoedd Ewrop, gan gynnwys Cymru a'r Cynulliad.

Mae'r cytuniad yn galluogi peirianwaith newydd i fonitro'r cwestiwn hwn o sybsidiaredd, sef i setlo a thrafod materion ar y raddfa orau yn hytrach nag ar y raddfa uchaf. Mae Seneddau pob aelod-wladwriaeth, ynghyd â chyrff rhanbarthol, megis y Cynulliad a Senedd yr Alban, ac, ambell waith, lywodraeth leol, yn rhan o'r broses o graffu ar ddeddfwriaeth tra ei bod ar ffurf ddrafft a chyn bod y broses ffurfiol o greu'r ddeddfwriaeth wedi'i dechrau. Beth bynnag y mae'r pleidiau gwahanol ym mhob cornel o'r Cynulliad yn meddwl am y cwestiwn mawr o ran y cytuniad ei hun, credaf y byddai pawb yn cytuno y byddai'r elfen hon, sef i drosglwyddo mwy o rym yn ôl i Seneddau yr aelod-wladwriaethau a chyrff democrataidd sy'n cynrychioli'r rhanbarthoedd neu wledydd ar raddfa rhanbarthol Ewrop, megis Cymru a'r Alban, o werth mawr.

Dylem roi nerth newydd i mewn i'r broses o

Iseldiroedd ar 29 Mai a 2 Mehefin, cyhoeddodd Jack Straw, yr Ysgrifennydd Tramor, y byddai cynlluniau ar gyfer refferendwm yn y DU yn cael eu hatal dros dro tra'n aros am benderfyniad y Cyngor Ewropeaidd ar ddyfodol y cytuniad. Mae Denmarc, Portiwgal, Iwerddon a'r Weriniaeth Tsiec hefyd wedi dweud eu bod yn gohirio eu refferenda.

Yn dilyn y canlyniadau yn Ffrainc a'r Iseldiroedd, daeth yn amlwg na ellid rhoi'r cytuniad cyfansoddiadol ar waith yn ôl yr amserlen wreiddiol. Penderfynodd y Cyngor Ewropeaidd gael saib i feddwl, fel y dywedodd Jean-Claude Juncker, y llywydd presennol ar yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Ni roddwyd terfyn amser ar gyfer yr ymarfer cloriannu hwn, ond mae consensws bod angen i'r undeb cyfan ymchwilio ac ystyried pam y mae dinasyddion wedi gwrthod y cytuniad cyfansoddiadol a'r ffordd orau o symud ymlaen.

As an Assembly Government, we have worked hard to influence the contents of the treaty. I believe that the final wording includes ground-breaking language and commitments in relation to the status and function of the regions of Europe, including Wales and the Assembly.

The treaty initiates a new mechanism to monitor this question of subsidiarity, namely that of settling and discussing matters at the most appropriate level rather than at the highest level. The Parliaments of every member state, as well as regional bodies, such as the Assembly and the Scottish Parliament, and, sometimes, local government, are part of the process of scrutinising legislation while it is in draft form and before the formal process of legislating has begun. Whatever the various parties in all corners of the Assembly think about this great question on the treaty itself, I believe that everyone would agree that this element, namely transferring power back to member-state Parliaments and democratic bodies representing the regions or the countries of Europe at a regional level, such as Wales and Scotland, would be of great benefit.

We should inject new energy into the process

ddatblygu'r elfennau hyn o'r cytuniad er mwyn sicrhau y caiff ei fabwysiadu ar ffurf arall. Mae ein holl brofiadau fel gwleidyddion Ewrop mewn blynyddoedd diweddar wedi ein harwain at y casgliad bod angen mwy o ymgynghori gyda'r rhai a fydd yn gweithredu mesurau neu'r rhai a gaiff eu heffeithio yn uniongyrchol gan ddeddfwriaeth newydd. Dyna'r wers fawr y dylai pawb ei dysgu.

On the European budget settlement, or the so-called financial perspective for 2007-13. Members will be aware that the council failed by a mile to reach an agreement on the budget issue. The parameters for debate are set between the European Commission's proposal for 1.14 per cent of European gross national income, which is similar to GDP—I apologise because I believe that I said 'of VAT' when I last referred to this in the Assembly two weeks ago—and the view of the six largest budget contributors, including the UK and French Governments as this is one of the issues on which they do agree, is that the budget should be capped at 1 per cent of this GNI figure. In recent weeks, the presidency has floated a series of compromised positions but, ultimately, agreement was nowhere near being reached. The UK was not alone in rejecting the presidency's final proposal; a number of other countries, possibly running into double figures, supports or is in tune with the UK's view.

The UK rebate has attracted a great deal of comment in recent weeks. The Prime Minister has made it clear that he will discuss the British abatement, which is the technical term for the rebate, only in the context of wider reform of European spending. In particular, at present, the common agricultural policy accounts for around 40 per cent of EU spending, which is 10 times as much as the percentage devoted to spending on science, research and innovation. The Prime Minister's position is guided by the Lisbon strategy for creating more jobs in Europe and competitiveness by boosting the knowledge economy and seeking a budget that is fit for the beginning of the twenty-first century, not the mid-twentieth century. Getting these issues on the table is in itself an achievement, and the summit debate has

of developing these elements of the treaty in order to ensure that it is adopted in another form. All our experiences as European politicians over recent years have led us to the conclusion that we need more consultation with those who will implement policies or will be directly affected by new legislation. That is the important lesson that everybody should learn.

O ran setliad y gyllideb Ewropeaidd, neu'r persbectif ariannol fel y'i gelwir ar gyfer 2007-13, gŵyr Aelodau i'r cyngor fetu'n lân â dod i gytundeb ar y gyllideb. Gosodir terfynau'r ddadl rhwng cynnig y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd ar gyfer 1.14 y cant o incwm gwladol crynswth Ewrop, sy'n debyg i CMC—ymddiheuraf oherwydd credaf imi ddweud 'TAW' pan gyfeiriais at hyn yn y Cynulliad bythefnos yn ôl—a barn y chwe chyfrannwr mwyaf tuag at y gyllideb, gan gynnwys Llywodraeth y DU a Llywodraeth Ffrainc, gan fod hwn yn un o'r materion y maent yn cytuno yn ei gylch, y dylid capio'r gyllideb ar 1 y cant o'r incwm gwladol crynswth. Yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf, mae'r llywyddiaeth wedi awgrymu nifer o gyfaddawdau ond, yn y pen draw, yr oedd ymhell o gyrraedd cytundeb. Nid y DU yn unig a wrthododd gynnig olaf y llywyddiaeth; mae nifer o wledydd eraill, mewn ffigurau dwbl o bosibl, yn cefnogi neu'n cydymdeimlo â safbwynt y DU.

Mae ad-daliad y DU wedi denu cryn sylw yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf. Mae Prif Weinidog y DU wedi'i gwneud yn glir mai dim ond yng nghyd-destun diwygio gwariant Ewropeaidd yn fwy cyffredin y bydd yn trafod gostyngiad Prydain, sef y term technegol ar gyfer yr ad-daliad. Yn benodol, ar hyn o bryd, mae'r polisi amaethyddol cyffredin yn cyfrif am tua 40 y cant o wariant yr UE, sef 10 gwaith yn fwy na'r ganran a neilltuwyd ar gyfer gwariant ar wyddoniaeth, ymchwil ac arloesi. Mae safbwynt y Prif Weinidog wedi'i lywio gan strategaeth Lisbon ar gyfer creu mwy o swyddi yn Ewrop a chystadleurwydd drwy hybu'r economi wybodaeth a cheisio cyllideb sy'n addas ar gyfer dechrau'r unfed ganrif ar hugain, nid canol yr ugeinfed ganrif. Mae cael y materion hyn ar yr agenda yn gamp

ruthlessly exposed the stark level of inequalities in terms of net contributions made by different member states.

In terms of Wales's position, and in particular the two thirds of the country that are in Objective 1—and this is also the case for most of the 10 accession countries—it is clearly disappointing in some important respects that no agreement has yet been reached, although this does not necessarily mean that there will be a delay in the next round of programmes or a gap in funding for those EU regions that will continue to receive structural funds following 1 January 2007.

Funding for current programme projects will continue until 2008, and it is still possible that a reform package will be agreed in time for new programmes to commence on time in January 2007. I underline that the reform of structural funds, which covers the kinds of programmes and priorities to be included in the new programmes, is an ongoing, separate negotiation, which is well advanced, but could not have been concluded this weekend, regardless of the outcome on the budget.

The failure to come to an agreement on the budget means that there may be new and inconveniently positive GDP data available for use in allocating the structural funds from 2007 onwards. While the inclusion of 2003 data in the final statistics is unlikely to affect the status of the other UK regions with Objective 1 status, the borderline position of west Wales and the Valleys may revert down to statistical effect status, rather than to full convergence status, as we all expected before January and before the unexpected effects of the Eurostat rebasing exercise were felt.

This is now too close to call, but we have a curious situation. On the one hand, we should be pleased that the economic performance of west Wales and the Valleys improved in 2002, as was shown by the GDP per capita

ynnddi'i hun, ac mae'r ddadl yn yr uwchgynhadledd wedi datgelu'n ddidrugaredd yr anghyfartaledd mawr o ran cyfraniadau net y gwahanol aelod wladwriaethau.

O ran sefyllfa Cymru, ac yn arbennig y ddwy ran o dair o'r wlad sydd yn ardal Amcan 1—ac mae hyn yn wir hefyd am y rhan fwyaf o'r 10 gwlad sydd wedi ymuno—yn amlwg mae'n siomedig ar sawl cyfrif na ddaethpwyd i gytundeb eto, er nad yw hyn o reidrwydd yn golygu y bydd oedi yng nghylch nesaf y rhaglenni na bwllch mewn cyllid ar gyfer y rhanbarthau hynny o'r UE a fydd yn parhau i gael cronfeydd strwythurol ar ôl 1 Ionawr 2007.

Bydd cyllid ar gyfer prosiectau'r rhaglenni cyfredol yn parhau ar ôl 2008 ac mae'n bosibl o hyd y bydd cytundeb ar becyn o ddiwygiadau mewn pryd er mwyn i'r rhaglenni newydd ddechrau ar amser ym mis Ionawr 2007. Pwysleisiaf fod y broses o ddiwygio'r cronfeydd strwythurol, sy'n cwmpasu'r mathau o raglenni a blaenoriaethau sydd i'w cynnwys yn y rhaglenni newydd, yn drafodaeth ar wahân sy'n parhau, ond sy'n mynd rhagddi'n dda, ond na ellid bod wedi'i chwblhau y penwythnos hwn, waeth beth a ddigwyddodd o ran y gyllideb.

Mae'r methiant i ddod i gytundeb ar y gyllideb yn golygu efallai y bydd data newydd ar CMC, a fydd yn anghyfleus o gadarnhaol, i'w ddefnyddio wrth ddsbarthu'r cronfeydd strwythurol o 2007 ymlaen. Er bod cynnwys data 2003 yn yr ystadegau terfynol yn annhebygol o effeithio ar statws rhanbarthau eraill y DU a chanddynt statws Amcan 1, oherwydd sefyllfa ffiniol y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd mae'n bosibl y bydd yn dychwelyd i statws effaith ystadegol, yn hytrach na statws cydgyfeirio llawn, fel yr oeddem oll yn ei ddisgwyl cyn mis Ionawr a chyn i effeithiau annisgwyl ymarfer Eurostat i bennu sylfaen newydd ddod i'r golwg.

Mae'n amhosibl dweud bellach beth fydd yn digwydd ond wynebwn sefyllfa ryfedd. Ar y naill law, dylem fod yn falch bod perfformiad economaidd y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd wedi gwella yn 2002, fel y dangoswyd gan y

figures that we already have, and may have improved further in 2003. However, on the other hand, we would regret the loss of full prospective Objective 1 status for the next seven-year period, which would be available if the budget settlement were agreed this year.

Getting the right agreement has to be more important than getting agreement at any cost. If the British rebate were surrendered, then everyone, including Wales, would be worse off, regardless of structural fund receipts. The rebate is currently worth in the region of £3 billion per annum to the UK. If it were lost, public spending would have to decline by that amount or income tax would have to be raised by the equivalent of 1p in the pound in order to fill the gap. At that price, any short-term progress on a structural fund settlement would represent a pyrrhic victory.

In 10 days' time, the UK assumes the presidency of the EU for the next six months, and the responsibility for trying to make progress on these vexing issues, and many others, will fall to it. I was heartened to hear Jack Straw say that efforts will be made to secure a resolution of the budget issue during the UK presidency. The Prime Minister, the Chancellor and Peter Hain are well aware of the significance of an early budget settlement for west Wales and the Valleys and, this week, I met the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Des Browne, to reinforce our position.

3.10 p.m.

It is, of course, not clear at this stage when the EU budget will be agreed. However, I continue to receive assurances from Des Browne and others that the UK Government will maintain its guarantee, as set out in the Government's consultation document, that Wales will receive a level of resources that ensures that we do not lose out from the UK's proposal on reform and repatriation, should it, in the end, prevail. My colleagues and I will continue to ensure that the needs of Wales are fully understood at the UK and EU levels, and we will continue to press for the best deal for Wales.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn

fffigurau ar gyfer CMC y pen sydd gennym eisoes, ac a allai fod wedi gwella eto yn 2003. Fodd bynnag, ar y llaw arall, byddem yn gresynu at golli persbectif statws Amcan 1 llawn ar gyfer y cyfnod nesaf o saith mlynedd, a fyddai ar gael pe cytunid ar setliad y gyllideb eleni.

Rhaid bod cael y cytundeb cywir yn bwysicach na chael cytundeb costied a gostio. Pe câi ad-daliad Prydain ei ildio, yna byddai pawb, gan gynnwys Cymru, yn waeth eu byd, beth bynnag fo derbyniadau'r cronfeydd strwythurol. Mae'r ad-daliad yn werth tua £3 biliwn y flwyddyn i'r DU ar hyn o bryd. Pe baem yn ei golli, byddai gwariant cyhoeddus yn gostwng o'r un swm neu byddai'n rhaid i dreth incwm godi 1c yn y bunt er mwyn llenwi'r bwlch. Am y pris hwnnw, ofer fyddai unrhyw gynnydd byrdymor ar setliad y cronfeydd strwythurol.

Ymhen 10 diwrnod, mae'r DU yn ymgymryd â llywyddiaeth yr UE dros y chwe mis nesaf, ac ar ysgwyddau'r DU y bydd y cyfrifoldeb i geisio gwneud cynnydd ar y materion blinderus hyn, a llawer o faterion eraill. Fe'm calonogwyd pan glywais Jack Straw yn dweud y bwriedir gwneud pob ymdrech i gael setliad cyllideb yn ystod llywyddiaeth y DU. Mae Prif Weinidog y DU, y Canghellor a Peter Hain yn ymwybodol iawn o arwyddocâd setliad cyllideb cynnar ar gyfer y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd ac, yr wythnos hon, cyfarfûm â Phrif Ysgrifennydd y Trysorlys, Des Browne, i bwysleisio ein sefyllfa.

Wrth gwrs, nid yw'n glir ar hyn o bryd pryd y bydd cytundeb ar gyllideb yr UE. Fodd bynnag, parhaf i gael sicrwydd gan Des Browne ac eraill y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn cadw at ei gwarant, fel y'i hamlinellwyd yn nogfen ymgynghori'r Llywodraeth, y caiff Cymru yr adnoddau a fydd yn sicrhau na fyddwn ar ein colled oherwydd cynnig y DU ar gyfer diwygio ac ailwladoli os bydd y DU, yn y pen draw, yn cario'r dydd. Bydd fy nghyd-Aelodau a minnau yn parhau i sicrhau bod anghenion Cymru yn cael eu deall yn llawn ar lefel y DU a'r UE, a byddwn yn parhau i bwysio am y fargen orau i Gymru.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn

Jones): Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am gytuno i wneud y datganiad hwn oherwydd mae'n bwysig bod y Cynulliad o bryd i'w gilydd yn cael y cyfle i drafod digwyddiadau ar lwyfan Ewropeaidd. Mae Ewrop yn cael dylanwad mawr ar sut yr ydym yn gweithredu yma, nid lleiaf, os caf ddefnyddio'r cyd-destun arall, o ran trafodaeth ddoe ar ffioedd dysgu i fyfyrwyr, y mae cyfraith Ewropeaidd yn ei dylanwadu.

Cyfeiriaf yn awr at y ddau faes y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi cyfeirio atynt heddiw. Yn gyntaf, ar y cyfansoddiad, yr wyf yn cydnabod bod elfennau ynddo sy'n cydnabod rôl benodol llywodraethau rhanbarthol a bod hynny'n cael ei gryfhau ar un lefel. Fodd bynnag, gwrthwynebiad mawr i'r cytuniad oedd ei fod yn dechrau trosglwyddo'r pwysau tuag at y cenedl wladwriaethau ar draul y rhanbarthau. Bydd y Prif Weinidog yn gwybod bod hynny'n digwydd yn rhanbarthau'r Almaen, lle maent yn teimlo bod yr echel hon, o dan y cytuniad, yn dechrau symud tuag at y cenedl wladwriaethau mawr.

Ar un ystyr, mae dyn yn gallu gweld bod hynny wedi digwydd oherwydd bod nifer o'r gwledydd newydd sydd wedi ymuno â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd yn llai na Phrydain, Ffrainc ac yn y blaen. Nid oedd y gwledydd mwyaf eisiau gweld eu grymoedd yn cael eu lleihau yn sylweddol o ganlyniad i'r gwledydd sydd wedi'u derbyn.

Ni chredaf fod y Prif Weinidog a minnau ymhell oddi wrth ein gilydd ar y mater hwn ac nid wyf eisiau gorddweud unrhyw wahaniaeth ar hyn. Gofynnaf ond am ei sicrwydd, pan fydd ail-drafod telerau'r cytuniad, y bydd yn gallu rhoi pwysau ar Lywodraeth Tony Blair i sicrhau ein bod yn gallu cryfhau, hyd yn oed o ran ein safle gyfredol yn y cyfansoddiad, rolau'r rhanbarthau, y Cynulliad a Senedd yr Alban ac yn y blaen o fewn gwledydd Prydain, fel ein bod yn gallu gweld bod y newid cyfeiriad mawr a ddigwyddodd yn Maastricht yn parhau o dan y cytuniad newydd pan gaiff ei wireddu. Felly, yr wyf eisiau sicrwydd ein bod yn rhannu'r un weledigaeth ar y cytuniad.

Ar y gyllideb, mae'r Prif Weinidog yn

Jones): I thank the First Minister for agreeing to make this statement, because it is important that the Assembly has the opportunity to discuss events on a European level from time to time. Europe has a huge influence on how we operate here, not least, if I may use another context, in terms of yesterday's debate on tuition fees for students, which European law influences.

I will now refer to the two matters that the First Minister referred to today. First, on the constitution, I acknowledge that there are elements in the constitution that acknowledge the specific role played by regional governments and that that is strengthened on one level. However, a major objection to the treaty was that it started transferring weight towards nation states to the detriment of the regions. The First Minister will be aware that that happens in the German Länder, where they feel that, under the treaty, this axis is shifting towards the larger nation states.

In one sense, one can see how that has happened because the countries that recently joined the European Union are smaller than Britain and France and so on. The larger countries did not want to see their powers diminish significantly because of the accession countries.

I do not think that the First Minister and I differ greatly on this issue and I do not want to exaggerate any difference on this. I ask only for his assurance that, when the terms of the treaty are renegotiated, he will bring pressure to bear on Tony Blair's Government to ensure that we can strengthen, even in terms of our current position in the constitution, the roles of the regions, the Assembly and the Scottish Parliament and so on in the UK's countries so that we can see that the huge shift that occurred in Maastricht continues under this new treaty when it comes to completion. Therefore, I want assurance that we share the same vision on the treaty.

On the budget, the First Minister

cydnabod y siom nad yw'r cytundeb ar y gyllideb yn ein caniatáu i fanteisio ar Amcan 1 yn y ffordd y mae'r ffigurau cyfredol yn awgrymu y gallwn ei wneud. Mae'n fwy na siom; mae'n fater o bryder mawr i ni yng Nghymru ein bod wedi colli'r cyfle hwn. Pe bai cytundeb ar yr arian wedi ei wneud y penwythnos diwethaf, gallai Cymru fod wedi edrych ar gyfnod arall o arian Amcan 1 yn llawn ar gyfer 2007-13.

Yn gryno iawn, felly, ar y gyllideb, yr hyn y mae'r Prif Weinidog yn ymwybodol fod angen nid yn unig gytundeb ar y gyllideb, ond hefyd cytundeb sy'n caniatáu i'r arian ddod i ranbarthau fel Cymru. Mae'n rhaid iddo felly fod yn uwch na'r 1 y cant y mae Llywodraeth Prydain yn mynnu ar hyn o bryd. Os ydym yn cadw at 1 y cant, bydd yn anodd iawn rhyddhau digon o arian o dan y cronfeydd strwythurol er mwyn inni gymryd mantais llawn. Yr wyf am glywed gan y Prif Weinidog ei fod, yn ei drafodaethau gyda Des Browne, neu gyda phwy bynnag arall y mae'n trafod, yn ei gwneud yn glir, er mwyn i Gymru elwa yn iawn o'r trefniant newydd, fod yn rhaid i'r cytuniad ar y gyllideb fod yn uwch nag 1 y cant.

Hoffwn fynd at ei ail bwynt, sef yr ad-daliad. Deallaf safbwynt presennol Llywodraeth Prydain, er deallaf—yn dilyn trafodaethau diweddar—gan y Prif Weinidog bod shift yn mynd i ddigwydd oherwydd, os ydym i gael cytundeb yn Ewrop, mae'n rhaid datrys sefyllfa'r ad-daliad. Mae'n rhaid i Tony Blair sylweddoli, er mwyn cael datrysiaid, bod rhaid cael rhyw symud ar hynny hefyd. A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cynnal trafodaethau gyda phobl yn Llundain i sicrhau eu bod yn gwybod ein bod am gael setliad ar fater yr ad-daliad, er y gall olygu nad yw gwledydd Prydain yn cadw'r ad-daliad llawn fel y mae ar hyn o bryd. Mae angen shift os ydym yn mynd i gael setliad. Ni chredwn y dylid cadw at y gosodiad mai cadw'r £3 biliwn yw'r unig ffordd ymlaen; mae'n rhaid negodi ar hynny.

Finally, on the structural funds, there are two issues of importance to us here. The First Minister and I had an exchange yesterday regarding what the change in GDP figures between now and the end of the year might

acknowledges our disappointment by the fact that the agreement on the budget does not allow us to benefit from Objective 1 in the way that the current figures suggest that we can. It is more than a disappointment; it is a matter of grave concern to us in Wales that we have missed out on this opportunity. Had an agreement been made on the budget last weekend, Wales could be looking at another period of full Objective 1 money for 2007-13

Briefly, therefore, on the budget, what the First Minister is aware of that we must not only have agreement on the budget, but also an agreement that allows the funds to come to regions such as Wales. It must, therefore, be higher than the 1 per cent that the UK Government is currently insisting upon. If we keep to 1 per cent, it will be difficult to release sufficient funds under the structural funds for us to take full advantage of them. I want to hear from the First Minister that, in his discussions with Des Browne, or whomever else he discusses these issues with, he makes it clear that, in order for Wales to benefit fully from these new arrangements, the agreement on the budget must be higher than 1 per cent.

I would like to turn to this second point, namely the rebate. I understand the current standpoint of the UK Government, but I understand from the First Minister—following recent discussions—that there will be a shift on this, because if we are to achieve an agreement in Europe, then we must resolve the position on the rebate. Tony Blair must recognise that, in order to reach a solution, there must be movement on this. Is the First Minister having discussions with people in London to ensure that they know that we want to see this issue of the rebate resolved, although it could mean that the nations of Britain do not retain the full rebate as it stands? There must be a shift if we are to achieve a settlement. We do not believe that we should keep to the line that keeping the £3 billion is the only way forward; there must be negotiation on that.

Yn olaf, o ran y cronfeydd strwythurol, mae dau fater pwysig inni yma. Bu'r Prif Weinidog a minnau yn dadlau ddoe ynglŷn â'r hyn y gallai'r newid mewn ffigurau CMC rhwng nawr a diwedd y flwyddyn ei olygu,

mean, particularly for west Wales and the Valleys. However one looks at it, the shift between now and the end of the year will be marginal, and not significant. I ask the First Minister to recognise that the earlier that we can get an agreement on the budget, and the earlier that we can get an agreement on structural funds, the better it will be for Wales. I also ask the First Minister to assure us that he is fighting hard not only for Wales, but for an early settlement for Wales. The earlier the settlement, the greater the chances of west Wales and the Valleys benefiting once again from Objective 1. That is the first issue on which I would like assurance from him. My final point is on the guarantee that will come from the UK Government should it, against all the odds, win the argument on the repatriation of structural funding. I am still not clear what that guarantee amounts to; are you saying that that guarantee is equal to the whole period of the guarantee that we would get from the European Commission? That European Commission guarantee is a seven-year guarantee. Can you assure me that you have also had a seven-year guarantee from the UK Government? If it falls short of that, then it is not worth having.

Y Prif Weinidog: Af drwy'r pwyntiau mewn trefn; yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ein bod yn cytuno ynglŷn â'r cyfansoddiad a'r elfen bwysig o drosglwyddo'r grym i sriwtineiddio deddfwriaeth tra ei fod ar y gweill yn ôl i gyrff fel seneddau yr aelod wladwriaethau ac i seneddau ar raddfa ranbarthol fel y Cynulliad hwn. Mae hynny'n hollbwysig. Ni chredaf y dylai unrhyw un cefnogi colli'r elfen hon, beth bynnag yw eu barn ar y cytuniad.

3.20 p.m.

O ran yr hanes, a'r hyn digwyddodd yn Maastricht, yr oeddwn yn meddwl mai'r cytuniad cynt—sy'n berthnasol i'r broses hon—oedd cytuniad Nice yn hytrach na Maastricht. Credaf bod camsyniad sylfaenol ar ôl hynny. Yr oedd Tony Blair a Gerhard Schroeder wedi cytuno yng nghytuniad Nice, ac wrth ei hyrwyddo, y byddai proses arall o gytuniad arall. Yr oedd Tony Blair yn ei alw, yn llawer mwy synhwyrol, yn siarter swyddogaethau; yr oedd Schroeder am ei alw'n gyfansoddiad i Ewrop. Credaf bod

yn arbennig i'r Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Pa ffordd bynnag yr ystyriwch hyn, bydd y newid rhwng nawr a diwedd y flwyddyn yn fach, ac nid yn un arwyddocaol. Gofynnaf i'r Prif Weinidog gydnabod po gynharaf y gallwn ddod i gytundeb ar y gyllideb, a'r cynharaf y gallwn gytuno ar gronfeydd strwythurol, gorau oll y bydd i Gymru. Gofynnaf hefyd i'r Prif Weinidog ein sicrhau ei fod yn brwydro'n galed nid yn unig dros Gymru, ond am setliad cynnar i Gymru. Po gynharaf y setliad, y mwyaf o gyfle fydd i'r Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd elwa unwaith eto ar Amcan 1. Dyna'r mater cyntaf yr hoffwn iddo fy sicrhau yn ei gylch. Mae a wnelo fy mhwynt olaf â'r warant a ddaw oddi wrth Lywodraeth y DU os bydd, yn groes i bob disgwyl, yn ennill y ddadl ar ail-wladoli cronfeydd strwythurol. Nid wyf yn glir o hyd beth yw ystyr y warant honno; ai dweud yr ydych fod y warant yn gyfystyr â chyfnod cyfan y warant y byddem yn ei chael oddi wrth y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd? Mae gwarant y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn warant saith mlynedd. A allwch fy sicrhau fod gennych chi warant saith mlynedd hefyd oddi wrth Lywodraeth y DU? Os nad yw'n gyfystyr â hynny, yna nid yw'n werth ei chael.

The First Minister: I will go through the points in order; I am grateful that we agree on the constitution and the important element of transferring the power to scrutinise legislation while it is being developed back to member-state parliaments and to regional parliaments such as this Assembly. That is vital. I do not think that anyone should support losing that element, whatever they may think of the treaty itself.

In terms of history, and what happened in Maastricht, I thought that the agreement reached earlier—which is relevant to this process—was the Nice treaty rather than the Maastricht treaty. I believe that there was a basic misunderstanding afterwards. Tony Blair and Gerhard Schroeder had agreed in the Nice treaty, and in promoting the treaty, that there would be another process for another treaty. Tony Blair, far more sensibly, called it a charter of competencies; Schroeder wanted to call it a constitution for Europe. I

hynny wedi gwenwyo'r mater drwy roi gormod o bwysigrwydd ar y broses hon ac felly'n golygu ei bod yn siŵr o fod yn fath o drosglwyddiad o'r aelod-wladwriaethau draw i Frwsel neu Ewrop ar y cyd. Mae hynny wedyn yn peri pob math o ofnau ymhlith y rhai sydd efallai yn ddrwgdybus am bwrpas a phen draw yr UE.

Pe bai pawb wedi glynu at ddiffiniad Tony Blair o hyn yng nghytuniad Nice fel siarter swyddogaethau, ac wedi rhoi'r gwaith ar y raddfa deilwng o bwy sy'n gyfrifol am beth bynnag, byddai pawb yn hapusach a byddai'r broses o gymeradwyo'r cytuniad neu'r siarter wedi digwydd cyn hyn.

O ran y gyllideb, mae pawb yn derbyn—achos ei bod yn ffaith—yn ddiau, ar ôl i ymarfer ailasesu ystadegau Eurostat ym mis Ionawr, mae senario euraidd wedi codi ar gyfer y dwy ran o dair o Gymru sydd y tu fewn ardal Amcan 1. Felly, byddai'r penderfyniad ar a ddylai gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd gael statws Amcan 1 neu statws cydgyfeirio ar ddechrau 2007—hynny yw, y rhaglen newydd a fydd yn dilyn Amcan 1—wedi'i seilio ar, ac yn defnyddio fel gwialen mesur, y cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen yn 2000 i 2002, nid yn 2001 i 2003. Yr oedd hynny'n senario euraidd. Os gallwn gael setliad o'r gyllideb yn ystod gweddill y flwyddyn hon, mae'n debygol y bydd Amcan 1 yn dal i fod ar gael i orllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd ar ôl Ionawr 2007.

O safbwynt y cwestiwn a ddylai Prydain Fawr daro bargaen ar y cwestiwn o'r uchafswm 1 y cant o incwm gwladol crynswth Ewrop fel cyfanswm cyllideb Ewrop, dyna'r un mater y mae Jacques Chirac a Tony Blair yn cytuno yn ei gylch. Y ddadl yw a ddylid lleihau'r arian ar gyfer y polisi amaethyddol cyffredin yn ystod y saith mlynedd hyd at 2013 neu ei gadw ar y lefel bresennol. A all y polisi amaethyddol cyffredin gael ei roi i ffwrdd a chael ei leihau? Bydd hynny felly'n rhoi mwy o le i ariannu'r rhaglenni strwythurol. Os ydych am gadw'r polisi amaethyddol cyffredin fel ag y mae, fel y mae Ffrainc yn dymuno, ac am gadw at 1 y cant fel uchafswm o'r gyllideb, nid oes llawer o le i'r cronfeydd strwythurol. Felly nid problem Prydain Fawr yw ond problem Ffrainc a llawer iawn o wledydd

think that that poisoned the issue by placing too much emphasis on this process and therefore meaning that it was bound to be some sort of transfer from the member states to Brussels or to Europe as a whole. That raises all kinds of fears among those who are perhaps a little suspicious of the purpose and ultimate aim of the EU.

Had everyone stuck to Tony Blair's definition of this in the Nice treaty as a charter of competencies, and placed the work at the appropriate level of who is responsible for what, everyone would be far happier now and the process of approving the charter or treaty would have happened before now.

In terms of the budget, everyone accepts—because it is a fact—that, without doubt, after Eurostat's statistical reconfiguration exercise in January, a golden scenario has arisen for the two-thirds of Wales that are within the Objective 1 area. The decision as to whether west Wales and the Valleys would be awarded Objective 1 or convergence status from 2007—convergence being the programme that will be the successor to Objective 1—would be based on the gross domestic product per capita in 2000 to 2002, and not 2001 to 2003. That was a golden scenario. If we can achieve a budget settlement during the rest of this year, it is likely that Objective 1 will still be available to west Wales and the Valleys after January 2007.

In terms of whether the UK should strike a bargain on the issue of the 1 per cent maximum of the European gross national income as a total of the European budget, that is the one issue on which Jacques Chirac and Tony Blair agree. The whole debate revolves around whether the money for the common agricultural policy should be reduced over the seven years to 2013 or kept at its current level. Can the CAP be given away and be reduced? That would give more leeway to fund the structural funds programme. If you want to keep the CAP as it is, as France wants to do, and want to keep at 1 per cent as a maximum of the budget, there is not much room to develop the structural funds. So it is not a UK problem but a problem for France and many other countries that want to stick to a maximum of 1 per cent.

eraill sydd am lynu at yr uchafswm o 1 y cant.

Yr oedd Tony Blair yn eithaf cywir i ddweud bod yr ad-daliad ar y bwrdd ar yr amod bod y polisi amaethyddol cyffredin ar y bwrdd. Os nad yw'r polisi hwnnw ar y bwrdd, ni fydd yr ad-daliad ar y bwrdd ychwaith.

Ieuan is quite right to say that we have pressed for an early agreement, and that we believe that an early agreement would be of great benefit to Wales, and can be done this year during the British presidency. I doubt it, but it is possible. I am pleased that the UK Government is taking that view, although it is in the chair. Normally, when you are in the chair you do not seek to solve problems in which you are involved almost as a kind of combatant in a major dispute. However the British Government has said that it will ignore all of those precedents and seek to get an agreement during the six months of the British presidency. The question of the earlier agreement was precisely the main thrust of my letter to Peter Hain to carry the views of the Assembly Government to the UK Cabinet before Tony Blair went to Brussels. Likewise it was the main theme of my meeting with Des Browne earlier this week, and of my meeting with the Secretary of State later that day.

On the meaning of the guarantee, you cannot compare an allocation or an undertaking by the UK Government with a European Commission proposition for which there is no financial backing. When the budget negotiations are being conducted, the European Commission can put forward as many propositions as it wants, but, until the budget settlement is reached, there is no money in the bank. So, it can decide to give you Sydney Harbour Bridge, Brooklyn Bridge, and everything else—you can throw in the kitchen sink—but it means nothing until there is a budget settlement, and you have the basic propositions as to how much goes on CAP, how much on research and development and how much on structural funds. That is the difficulty. However, the guarantee means what it says: Wales will be no worse off if there is repatriation, and the repatriation will last as long as the need for

Tony Blair was quite right to say that the rebate is on the table as long as the CAP is on the table. If the CAP is not on the table, neither is the rebate.

Yr oedd Ieuan yn iawn i ddweud ein bod wedi pwyso am gytundeb cynnar, ac y credwn y byddai cytundeb cynnar o fudd mawr i Gymru, ac y gellir gwneud hyn eleni yn ystod llywyddiaeth Prydain. Mae'n amheus gennyf, ond mae'n bosibl. Yr wyf yn falch bod Llywodraeth y DU yn arddel y farn honno, er ei bod yn y gadair. Fel arfer, pan fyddwch yn y gadair nid ydych yn ceisio datrys problemau yr ydych yn gysylltiedig â hwy bron fel rhyw fath o ymladdwr mewn anghydfod mawr. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Prydain wedi dweud y bydd yn anwybyddu'r holl gynseiliau hynny ac yn ceisio cael cytundeb yn ystod chwe mis llywyddiaeth Prydain. Cwestiwn y cytundeb cynharach oedd union fyrddwn fy llythyr at Peter Hain yn nodi safbwyntiau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Gabinet y DU cyn i Tony Blair fynd i Frwsel. Yn yr un modd dyna oedd prif thema fy nghyfarfod â Des Browne yn gynharach yr wythnos hon, a'm cyfarfod â'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn ddiweddarach y diwrnod hwnnw.

O ran ystyr y warrant, ni allwch gymharu dyraniad neu ymrwymiad gan Lywodraeth y DU â chynnig y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd nad oes cefnogaeth ariannol ar ei gyfer. Pan gynhelir negodiadau ynglŷn â'r gyllideb, gall y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd gyflwyno cymaint o gynigion ag y dymuna, ond, hyd nes y cytunir ar setliad y gyllideb, nid oes unrhyw arian yn y banc. Felly, gall benderfynu rhoi Pont Harbwr Sydney, Pont Brooklyn, a phopeth arall i chi—gallwch gynnig popeth—ond nid yw'n golygu dim hyd nes y cytunir ar setliad y gyllideb ac mae gennych y cynigion sylfaenol o ran faint sy'n cael ei wario ar PAC, faint ar ymchwil a datblygu a faint ar gronfeydd strwythurol. Dyna'r anhawster. Fodd bynnag, mae'r warrant yn golygu'r hyn a ddywed: ni fydd Cymru ar ei cholled os bydd ail-wladoli a bydd yr ail-wladoli yn parhau cyhyd ag y bydd yr angen am ddatblygu rhanbarthol yn parhau. Y

regional development continues. The clear implication is that it would continue for the regional development period. The British budget is decided every three years, with spending reviews every two years. That is the nature of it. The European Commission is not in a position to say, 'Here is the seven years' worth of money that we promised you', because it does not have any money to promise. In the run-up to a budget procedure the bank is empty. Therefore you cannot make that comparison and say that 'the European Commission was going to give us this sum of money'. That is not the case.

Nick Bourne: I thank the First Minister for the statement, and for agreeing to make it when asked last week. This is clearly an important juncture at which to look at the progress—or lack of it, in some ways—in the European Union, and to see where we stand now. Most of the statement is factually absolutely correct, and all these events are intertwined. The moment that the constitution was voted down in France, it was dead. The moment that happened, the British rebate was going to be a key issue. Jacques Chirac, for domestic reasons—namely his desire to run for the presidency next time and knock Nicolas Sarkozy out of sight—was going to make that a key issue, so there was never going to be an agreement on the budget. It is probably idle to speculate where we will go on the constitution; in its current form it is certainly off the agenda.

To come back to the budget, the First Minister correctly said that one of the ironies is that Jacques Chirac and the UK Government are united on setting the gross national income level at 1 per cent. Does the First Minister have any idea as to whether there is any movement in the UK Government on that? In terms of having a full programme in relation to convergence status, there will need to be more than a 1 per cent level in the budget if Wales is to benefit. I wonder what representations he has made to Des Browne on that, and what indications he has had of any movement. I appreciate that he may not be able to be specific, but some general indication might be of assistance.

goblygiad clir yw y byddai'n parhau ar gyfer cyfnod y datblygu rhanbarthol. Penderfynir ar gyllideb Prydain bob tair blynedd, gydag adolygiadau o wariant bob dwy flynedd. Dyna ei natur. Nid yw'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd mewn sefyllfa i ddweud 'Dyma'r gwerth saith mlynedd o arian a addawsom ichi', oherwydd nid oes ganddo unrhyw arian i addo. Yn y cyfnod cyn gweithdrefn gyllidebol mae'r banc yn wag. Felly, ni allwch wneud y gymhariaeth honno a dweud 'yr oedd y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn mynd i roi'r swm hwn o arian inni'. Nid felly y mae.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am y datganiad, ac am gytuno i'w wneud pan ofynnwyd yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae hyn yn amlwg yn adeg bwysig i edrych ar y cynnydd—neu'r diffyg cynnydd, mewn rhai ffyrdd—yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, ac i weld beth yw ein sefyllfa yn awr. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r datganiad yn hollol gywir yn ffeithiol, ac mae'r holl ddigwyddiadau hyn wedi plethu. Yr eiliad y pleidleisiwyd yn erbyn y cyfansoddiad yn Ffrainc, yr oedd ar ben. Yr eiliad y digwyddodd hynny, yr oedd ad-daliad Prydain yn mynd i fod yn fater o bwys. Yr oedd Jacques Chirac, am resymau domestig—sef ei ddymuniad i sefyll am y llywyddiaeth y tro nesaf a gwthio Nicolas Sarkozy o'r golwg—yn mynd i wneud hwnnw'n fater allweddol, felly nid oedd cytundeb byth yn mynd i fod ar y gyllideb. Ofer mae'n siŵr fyddai dyfalu beth a fydd yn digwydd o ran y cyfansoddiad; ar ei ffurf bresennol nid yw ar yr agenda yn bendant.

I ddychwelyd at y gyllideb, dywedodd y Prif Weinidog yn gywir mai un o'r eironïau yw bod Jacques Chirac a Llywodraeth y DU yn gytûn o ran gosod y lefel incwm cenedlaethol crynswth ar 1 y cant. A oes gan y Prif Weinidog unrhyw syniad a yw Llywodraeth y DU wedi cymryd unrhyw gamau mewn perthynas â hynny? O ran cael rhaglen lawn mewn perthynas â statws cydgyfeirio, bydd angen cael lefel o fwy nag 1 y cant yn y gyllideb er mwyn i Gymru elwa ar hyn. Tybed pa sylwadau a wnaeth i Des Browne ar hynny, a pha arwyddion a gafodd o unrhyw gamau a gymerwyd. Gwerthfawrogaf na all fod yn benodol efallai, ond byddai rhyw arwydd cyffredinol o gymorth.

The First Minister has mentioned, against what he said earlier, which I can well understand, that there was not going to be a budget settlement, given that the UK is a key protagonist in this dispute, during the UK presidency. I am surprised to hear that that is now a possibility, even if a remote one. Could he give some indication as to its likelihood? He has perhaps indicated that it is not very likely, and I tend to agree with that. However, while there is that possibility, he is duty-bound, as we all are, to go the extra mile to see if we can get that budget settlement while there is a UK presidency. Once the new Eurostat figures come out, we know that we will be going backwards as a nation in terms of what we might achieve in assistance for west Wales and the Valleys. We will not get full convergence status; we will only get assistance as a statistically-affected region, which will be at a much lower level. The First Minister talked about the advance in the figures as if it were a massive one; it is only a marginal advance, and there is no question that we would be better off having the agreement now, rather than saying, 'Look how well west Wales and the Valleys has in the interim', and not having the £1.2 billion, or whatever the figure is. Measured in the balance, there is no question that we would be better off trying to get the agreement now, rather than basking in some imaginary massive progress. That is not the case, when you look at the figures.

My last point is in relation to something that the First Minister has not dwelt on to any great extent. I welcome the stance taken on the rebate, by and large. The Prime Minister was absolutely right; the rebate must be protected. It was won by Margaret Thatcher for very good reasons, although I seem to remember that at the time she was criticised for it from some quarters. Our membership of the EU would be much more spectacularly unpopular if we did not have that rebate, so there is at least one very good reason for it. To look at the wider picture, given the insistence on the rebate unless there is going to be this examination of the CAP, we have to put in some cautionary words about our own position as a nation, and in relation to Welsh farmers. I hope that we ensure that, if

Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi sôn, yn groes i'r hyn a ddywedodd yn gynharach, a gallaf ddeall hyn yn iawn, nad oes cytundeb yn mynd i fod ar setliad y gyllideb, o gofio bod y DU yn ddadleuwr allweddol yn yr anghydfod hwn, yn ystod llywyddiaeth y DU. Synnaf i glywed bod hynny'n bosibilrwydd yn awr, hyd yn oed os yw'n bosibilrwydd bach iawn. A allai roi rhyw arwydd a yw hyn yn debygol? Efallai ei fod wedi awgrymu nad yw'n debygol iawn, a thueddaf i gytuno â hynny. Fodd bynnag, tra bo'r posibilrwydd hwnnw'n bod, mae dyletswydd arno, ar bob un ohonom, i wneud popeth posibl i weld a allwn gael y setliad cyllideb hwnnw yn ystod llywyddiaeth y DU. Unwaith y bydd y ffigurau Eurostat newydd ar gael, byddwn yn gwybod ein bod yn cymryd cam yn ôl fel cenedl o ran yr hyn y gallwn ei gyflawni mewn cymorth i'r Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Ni chawn statws cydgyfeirio llawn; dim ond cymorth fel rhanbarth yr effeithir arno'n ystadegol a gawn, a fydd ar lefel is o lawer. Soniodd y Prif Weinidog am y gwelliant yn y ffigurau fel pe bai'n enfawr; dim ond gwelliant bach ydyw, ac yn ddi-au, byddem yn well ein byd pe bai'r cytundeb gennym yn awr, yn hytrach na dweud, 'Edrychwch pa mor dda y mae'r Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd wedi gwneud', a bod heb y £1.2 biliwn, neu beth bynnag yw'r ffigur. At ei gilydd, byddem yn well ein byd, yn ddi-au pe baem yn ceisio cael y cytundeb yn awr, yn hytrach nag ymhyfrydu mewn rhyw gynnydd enfawr dychmygol. Nid felly y mae, pan edrychwch ar y ffigurau.

Mae a wnelo fy mhwynt olaf â rhywbeth nad yw'r Prif Weinidog wedi ymhelaethu llawer arno. Croesawaf y safiad a wnaed ar yr ad-daliad, at ei gilydd. Yr oedd y Prif Weinidog yn hollol gywir; rhaid diogelu'r ad-daliad. Fe'i henillwyd gan Margaret Thatcher am resymau da iawn, er y cofiaf iddi gael ei beirniadu amdano gan rai ar y pryd. Byddai ein haelodaeth o'r UE yn fwy trawiadol o amhoblogaidd pe na bai'r ad-daliad hwnnw gennym, felly mae o leiaf un rheswm da drosto. Ac edrych ar y darlun mwy, o gofio ein bod yn mynnu'r ad-daliad hwn, os na fydd yr archwiliad hwn o'r PAC yn digwydd, rhaid inni roi gair o rybudd ynglŷn â'n sefyllfa ni fel cenedl, ac o ran ffermwyr Cymru. Gobeithiaf y gallwn sicrhau y caiff ein ffermwyr ni ein hunain—y mae'r rhain

there is this fundamental reform of the CAP, our own farmers—most of whom are on low incomes—will be protected. Everything about the CAP is by no means awful. Some aspects of it could be reformed, but we need to be careful that the baby is not thrown out with the bathwater. I do not know what input the First Minister has made on that issue, but I would welcome some reassurances on that.

3.30 p.m.

The First Minister: You made some points at the beginning that I had not made about the French domestic politics angle of why Chirac went as hard as he did for the British rebate. I think that you are right about that. That implies clearly that the constitutional treaty will have extraordinary difficulties in being resuscitated now. The key thing for us is whether the bits that directly affect Wales can be resuscitated. They affect our competence, or our involvement, in trying to improve legislation in which we would have the prime responsibility for effecting it, to avoid bad legislation being passed, and to get involved in the process nice and early so that we can correct duff legislation before it gets set in stone.

On the point about the 1 per cent maximum, I can do no more than say that I have said from this lectern before that it cannot all be settled within 1 per cent. However, it has come closer to 1 per cent—the commission started at 1.24 per cent, then it came down to 1.14 per cent, and then various other last-minute deals were put on the table by Jean-Claude Juncker at 1.09 per cent, 1.08 per cent, and so on. If you come down to about 1.05 per cent, there is the potential for settlement there, so long as the British and French sides can be brought together on rebate and CAP reform. That did not happen this time.

On whether it can be done during the British presidency, it has never been done before. However, the UK Government is banking an awful lot on what will happen in Germany after its elections. The Germans are extremely good at following their opinion polls when it comes to election results, which does not always happen in this country. The polls there indicate an enormous lead for

fwyaf ohonynt ar incwm isel—eu diogelu, os caiff y PAC ei ddiwygio mor sylweddol â'r disgwyl. Nid yw popeth ynglŷn â'r PAC yn ofnadwy. Gellid diwygio rhai agweddau arno, ond rhaid inni fod yn ofalus i beidio â thafllu'r llo a chadw'r brych. Ni wn pa gyfraniad a wnaeth y Prif Weinidog i'r mater hwnnw, ond byddwn yn croesawu sicrwydd ar y mater.

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaethoch rai pwyntiau ar y dechrau na wnes innau ynghylch agwedd gwleidyddiaeth ddomestig Ffrainc o ran pam y bu Chirac mor daer ynghylch yr ad-daliad i Brydain. Credaf eich bod yn iawn ynglŷn â hynny. Awgryma hynny'n glir y bydd yn eithriadol o anodd i'r cytundeb cyfansoddiadol gael ei adfer yn awr. Yr hyn sy'n allweddol i ni yw pa un a ellir adfer y rhannau hynny sy'n effeithio ar Gymru yn uniongyrchol. Maent yn effeithio ar ein gallu, neu ein cyfranogiad, wrth geisio gwella deddfwriaeth y byddem yn bennaf cyfrifol am ei gweithredu, osgoi pasio deddfwriaeth wael a chymryd rhan yn y broses yn ddigon cynnar er mwyn inni allu cywiro deddfwriaeth wallus cyn ei gosod ar ei ffurf derfynol.

O ran yr uchafswm o 1 y cant, ni allaf ond dweud yr hyn a ddywedais o'r darllenfwrdd hwn o'r blaen sef na ellir ei setlo o fewn 1 y cant. Fodd bynnag, mae wedi dod yn agosach at 1 y cant—dechreuodd y comisiwn ar 1.24 y cant, yna daeth i lawr i 1.14 y cant, ac yna cyflwynwyd yr amrywiol drafodion munud olaf eraill gan Jean-Claude Juncker ar 1.09 y cant, 1.08 y cant ac yn y blaen. Pe baech yn dod i lawr i ryw 1.05 y cant, mae posibilrwydd o setliad, cyhyd ag y gellir dwyn Prydain a Ffrainc ynghyd ar ad-daliadau a diwygio'r PAC. Ni ddigwyddodd hynny y tro hwn.

O ran pa un a ellir gwneud hyn yn ystod llywyddiaeth Prydain, ni wnaethpwyd hyn erioed o'r blaen. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth y DU yn dibynnu'n fawr iawn ar yr hyn a fydd yn digwydd yn yr Almaen ar ôl yr etholiadau yno. Mae'r Almaenwyr yn dda iawn am ddilyn eu harolygon barn o ran canlyniadau etholiadau. Nid yw hyn bob amser yn digwydd yn y wlad hon.

Angela Merkel, the CDU leader, in the race to become Chancellor. She has indicated that she strongly supports Tony Blair's view. However, others have said, 'Wait until after the election, and then you may find out something different'. I do not know who is right about that, but that is what the British Government is banking on. I still believe that it is unlikely that this will be done. However, going the extra mile is right.

You were rather sniffy, Nick, about the question of the improvement in the GDP per head in west Wales and the Valleys. There would not be a problem if the economy was not improving, in terms of having to have an early settlement in order to get Objective 1 funding. If you look at the 2000, 2001 and 2002 figures, which would give you two bad years and then one good year, the jump upwards in 2002 is considerable. If 2003 is taken into account, then 2000 drops off the end for the new three-year average, which will come in by the end of this year. If there is no further reworking of the statistics by Eurostat, then you have two good years—2002 and 2003—and one bad year in 2001, which makes all the difference. That is why the timing is so critical. However, if there was not this jump in GDP per head in west Wales and the Valleys two and three years ago, presumably there would not be a problem about timing.

You mentioned Margaret Thatcher and the rebate. This is important—£3 billion amounts to 1p on income tax, or taking the equivalent expenditure off public services. That alone is £180 million a year in Wales, and 6 per cent of spending in the UK; £3 billion amounts to £180 million a year off public spending in Wales. That is a massive amount of money that you cannot start talking about airily as though it could be put on the table with very little in return; it is a very considerable amount.

The important issue is what would happen and how the CAP would be transformed if it were to come down in volume. It is partially to do with the fact that, if you reduce CAP expenditure, it is the countries with most

Awgryma'r arolygon yno fod Angela Merkel, arweinydd y CDU, ymhell ar y blaen yn y ras i ddod yn Ganghellor. Mae wedi nodi ei chefnogaeth gref i farn Tony Blair. Fodd bynnag, mae eraill wedi dweud, 'Arhoswch tan ar ôl yr etholiad, yna efallai y cewch wybod rhywbeth gwahanol'. Ni wn pwy sy'n gywir ar y mater, ond mae Llywodraeth Prydain yn dibynnu ar hynny. Yr wyf yn parhau i gredu y bydd hyn yn annhebygol o ddigwydd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n briodol gwneud yr ymdrech ychwanegol honno.

Yr oeddech yn ddirmygus, Nick, ynglŷn â'r gwelliant yn y CMC y pen yng y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Ni fyddai problem pe na bai'r economi yn gwella, o ran gorfod cael setliad cynnar er mwyn sicrhau arian Amcan 1. Os edrychwch ar ffigurau 2000, 2001 a 2002, a fyddai'n rhoi dwy flynedd wael i chi ac yna blwyddyn dda, mae'r cynnydd yn 2002 yn sylweddol. Os ystyrir 2003, yna mae 2000 yn cael ei thynnu oddi ar y cyfartaledd tair blynedd newydd, a ddaw i fodolaeth erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn hon. Os na fydd Eurostat yn ailwampio'r ystadegau ymhellach, yna mae gennych ddwy flynedd dda—2002 a 2003—ac un flwyddyn wael yn 2001, sy'n gwneud cryn wahaniaeth. Dyna pam mae'r amseru mor hanfodol. Fodd bynnag pe na bai'r cynnydd mawr hwn mewn CMC y pen wedi digwydd yn y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd ddwy a thair blynedd yn ôl, gellid tybio na fyddai problem ynglŷn ag amseru.

Bu ichi sôn am Margaret Thatcher a'r ad-daliad. Mae hyn yn bwysig—mae £3 biliwn yn golygu 1c ar dreth incwm, neu dynnu'r gwariant cyfatebol oddi ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus. Mae hynny ynddo'i hyn yn £180 miliwn y flwyddyn yng Nghymru, a 6 y cant o wariant y DU; mae £3 biliwn yn golygu £180 miliwn y flwyddyn oddi ar wariant cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n swm anferth o arian na allwch ddechrau siarad amdano'n ysgafn fel pe gellid ei gyflwyno heb fawr yn gyfnewid amdano; mae'n swm anferth.

Yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw'r hyn a fyddai'n digwydd a'r modd y byddai'r PAC yn cael ei drawsnewid pe byddai'n cael ei leihau. Mae'n ymwneud, yn rhannol, â'r ffaith mai'r gwledydd hynny sydd â'r nifer fwyaf o

farms, such as France—which is two and a half times the land area of the United Kingdom, and has about three times as many farms, and three times as much agricultural product because it is a much warmer, more productive terrain by and large—that would lose the most as a result.

The proportionate losses in the UK would be less because we have a smaller amount of agriculture, but the issue about how you diversify and encourage diversification away from standard production is very important. That is not to say that there will be no CAP reforms, nor is it to say that the CAP domination of the EU budget has not already been helpfully reduced from 70 per cent to 40 per cent. If it comes down further, the key question is what will happen to Wales's farmers, given that they are certainly at the least prosperous end; we do not have any barley barons. Other countries, however, will obviously fight hard to keep their subsidies for the barley barons.

This issue arose at the time of trying to cap the amount that any one farmer could get under the CAP, because, in some negotiation about a year ago, I believe, it was decided that no farmer would get more than such and such a large amount. There were only four farmers in that category in Wales because, by and large, you do not have big barley barons in Wales. Therefore, if it affected the barley barons, and only the barley barons, then it would only affect four—maybe five by now, but it was four about a year ago—farmers in Wales. This is extremely important. You must look at the structure of farming in Wales and then look at whether it is the income of the smaller farmers that gets protected, or the income from the EU subsidy to the larger farmers that gets hammered, in which case, we would be exempt because we do not have that kind of farmer.

Michael German: I start by expressing regret that the treaty has disappeared over the horizon, as has the issue with which I was engaged at the beginning of the Assembly of trying to secure the devolution of legislation

ffermydd, megis Ffrainc—sydd ddwy a hanner gwaith arwynebedd tir y Deyrnas Gyfunol, a chanddi dair gwaith yn fwy o ffermydd, a thair gwaith yn fwy o gynnyrch amaethyddol oherwydd ei fod yn dir cynhesach a mwy cynhyrchiol ar y cyfan—a fyddai fwyaf ar eu colled pe baech yn lleihau gwariant PAC.

Byddai'r colledion cymesur yn y DU yn llai oherwydd bod gennym lai o amaethyddiaeth, ond mae'r modd yr ydych yn arallgyfeirio ac yn annog arallgyfeirio o gynhyrchu safonol yn fater pwysig iawn. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na fydd diwygiadau PAC ac nid yw ychwaith yn golygu nad yw goruchafiaeth PAC dros gyllideb yr UE eisoes wedi bod o gymorth wrth ei leihau o 70 y cant i 40 y cant. Os bydd yn lleihau ymhellach, y cwestiwn allweddol yw beth fydd yn digwydd i ffermwyr Cymru, o ystyried eu bod yn sicr ar y pegwn llai ffyniannus; nid oes gennym farwniaid barlys. Fodd bynnag, bydd gwledydd eraill yn amlwg yn ymladd yn galed i gadw eu cymorthdaliadau ar gyfer y barwniaid barlys.

Cododd y mater hwn ar adeg pan geisiwyd capio'r swm y gallai unrhyw un ffermwr ei gael o dan PAC, oherwydd, mewn rhyw drafodaeth tua blwyddyn yn ôl, fe gredaf, penderfynwyd na fyddai unrhyw ffermwr yn cael mwy na hyn a hyn o swm mawr. Dim ond pedwar ffermwr oedd yn y categori hwnnw yng Nghymru oherwydd, gan fwyaf, ni cheir barwniaid barlys yng Nghymru. Felly, os oedd yn effeithio ar y barwniaid barlys, a dim ond y barwniaid barlys, yna byddai ond yn effeithio ar bedwar ffermwr—efallai bump erbyn hyn, ond roedd yn bedwar tua blwyddyn yn ôl—yng Nghymru. Mae hyn yn eithriadol o bwysig. Rhaid ichi edrych ar strwythur ffermio yng Nghymru ac yna edrych i weld ai incwm y ffermwyr bychain sy'n cael ei ddiogelu ynteu ai'r incwm gan gymhorthdal yr UE i'r ffermwyr mwy sy'n cael ei dolcio, ac os felly, byddem wedi'n heithrio oherwydd nad oes gennym y math hwnnw o ffermwr.

Michael German: Dechreuaf drwy fynegi fy siom i'r cytundeb ddiflannu i'r gwyll, ynghyd â'r mater y bûm yn gysylltiedig ag ef ar ddechrau'r Cynulliad sef ceisio sicrhau y caiff deddfwriaeth ei datganoli i

to regional governments. I well remember the excitement that we caused by getting the UK Government to adopt a position that was in favour of both Scotland and Wales, even though it would be an unlikely position for it to take. Perhaps it demonstrates, First Minister, that if you ask the people of Europe, or any other country, to vote upon a huge book of rules, which it is unlikely that anyone will have read, let alone digested or shown any excitement about, then the opportunity to vote upon something entirely different, with an entirely different perspective on the reasons for voting, will be taken by the electorate. That is a salutary lesson about referenda, and you probably share that view. Perhaps the way forward now is to look at promoting those notions of devolution through other forms of reform, which I believe could be put in place quite quickly if there is the will to do so across the European Union. I wonder if you could venture an opinion as to how best Wales can influence that decision making, whether it be through the bodies that have legislative power, member state governments, or the commission itself, by lobbying in any concerted way. However, I express my regret on that matter.

I turn to the issue of the budget. You said in your statement that the agreement was 'missed by a mile'. You subsequently added those words to the written draft that we had before us. Will you tell us which aspects of the budget were missed by a mile? As I understand it, on the rebate, and in all the reports that I have read, the UK Government was prepared to consider the freezing of the rebate with an eventual decision that, post-2013, it would be phased out. Could you confirm whether that was the position? If so, we are talking about that combination of factors between the 1 per cent figure and the change that there may have to be in the CAP, and the movement towards each other. Would you describe the distance between them as a mile, a kilometre or a centimetre? You were right to say that a rapid decision on the budget will decide whether we get Objective 1 status. If the decision were to be taken fairly soon, in advance of the next Eurostat figures, am I right in saying that the only opportunity to do that will be at the next

lywodraethau rhanbarthol. Cofiaf yn dda y cynnwrf a achoswyd wrth inni lwyddo i gael Llywodraeth y DU i fabwysiadu safbwynt a oedd o blaid Cymru a'r Alban, er y byddai'n safbwynt annhebygol iddi ei fabwysiadu. Hwyrach ei fod yn dangos, Brif Weinidog, os gofynnwch i bobl Ewrop, neu unrhyw wlad arall, bleidleisio ar lyfr anferth o reolau, y mae'n annhebygol y byddai unrhyw un wedi'i ddarllen heb sôn am ei ddeall neu ddangos unrhyw frwdfrydedd yn ei gylch, yna mae'r cyfle i bleidleisio ar rywbeth cwbl wahanol, gyda phersbectif cwbl wahanol ar y rhesymau dros bleidleisio, yn gyfle y bydd etholwyr yn ei gymryd. Mae hynny'n wers fuddiol ynglŷn â refferenda, ac rydych yn rhannu'r farn honno, mae'n siŵr. Efallai mai'r ffordd ymlaen yn awr yw edrych ar hyrwyddo'r syniadau hynny o ddatganoli drwy fathau eraill o ddiwygiadau, y credaf y gellid eu sefydlu'n dra chyflym pe byddai'r ewyllys i wneud hynny yn bodoli ledled yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Tybed a allech gynnig barn ar y modd y gallai Cymru ddylanwadu orau ar y broses o wneud penderfyniadau, boed hynny drwy gyrff â phwerau deddfu, llywodraethau'r aelod-wladwriaethau, neu'r comisiwn ei hun drwy lobio mewn modd cydunol. Fodd bynnag, mynegaf fy siom ar y mater hwnnw.

Trof at y gyllideb. Dywedasoeh yn eich datganiad i'r cytundeb 'fethu'n lân'. Ychwanegasoch y geiriau hynny wedyn i'r drafft ysgrifenedig a oedd ger ein bron. A ddywedwch wrthym pa agweddau ar y gyllideb a fethwyd yn lân? Yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf, o ran yr ad-daliad, ac ym mhob un o'r adroddiadau a ddarllenais, yr oedd Llywodraeth y DU yn barod i ystyried rhewi'r ad-daliad gyda phenderfyniad terfynol y byddai'n cael ei ddileu'n raddol ar ôl 2013. A allech gadarnhau ai dyna oedd y sefyllfa? Os felly, yr ydym yn sôn am y cyfuniad hwnnw o ffactorau rhwng y ffigur 1 y cant a'r newid a allai fod yn angenrheidiol yn y PAC a'r symudiad tuag at y ddau beth. A fydddech yn disgrifio'r pellter rhyngddynt fel milltir, cilomedr neu gentimetr? Yr oeddech yn gywir i ddweud y bydd penderfyniad cyflym ar y gyllideb yn penderfynu pa un a gawn statws Amcan 1. Pe byddai'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn gymharol fuan, cyn y ffigurau Eurostat nesaf, a fyddwn yn gywir i ddweud mai'r unig gyfle

council to be held before the December Eurostat figures are published, and, therefore, we will miss the boat altogether towards the end of December? I share your view that this is highly unlikely, but it is worth pressing that case again and again.

3.40 p.m.

You said this afternoon that the structural funds reform itself is still ongoing. My understanding of that is that it is much more advanced and that a paper was drawn up by the commission, which has fairly universal support across the union, on the new structural funds post-2007. If an agreement were reached on the budget, it would not be far behind getting those documents agree and, therefore, we would be able to benefit from Objective 1. You say that it is disappointing that we will not get it; it is more than disappointing. The difference between Objective 1 funding for west Wales and the Valleys at the current level and a statistical effect reduction figure is bound to lead to a difference of many millions of pounds for Wales. I do not regard that as disappointing, but as a great shame and a lost chance for Wales that takes away the opportunity for us to spend money to reform ourselves in the way that we would want to do.

Finally, I turn again to the issue of the UK Government guarantee. In the past, you have said that what matters more than anything else is that, whatever else is offered, it is above the Barnett formula, as if that were somehow under threat because we have it now but we might not get it post-2007, no matter where that funding might come from. To paraphrase your view, which I understand, it could either be a bowl of gold or a bowl of chalk, depending on the commission offer that was turned down. Could you tell us which of those you think it is likely to be—the gold or the chalk? Do you think that the above-Barnett factor that you have referred to before is still the most important issue in this matter, and that whatever we get, whether it is through Europe or the UK Government, should be above Barnett? If that is what you are saying, that means that you still see the UK Government prevailing in its view that

i wneud hynny fyddai yn ystod y cyngor nesaf sydd i'w gynnal cyn y cyhoeddir ffigurau Eurostat ym mis Rhagfyr ac felly, byddwn yn methu'r cyfle yn llwyr tua diwedd Rhagfyr? Rhannaf eich barn y byddai hyn yn annhebygol iawn, ond mae'n werth dadlau'r achos dro ar ôl tro.

Dywedasoch y prynhawn yma fod y diwygiadau i'r cronfeydd strwythurol yn parhau. Yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf, mae'r cynnydd yn dipyn mwy datblygedig na hynny a lluniwyd papur gan y comisiwn, ag iddo gefnogaeth eithaf cyffredinol ar draws yr undeb ar y cronfeydd strwythurol newydd ar ôl 2007. Pe byddai cytundeb ar y gyllideb, ni fyddai ymhell y tu ôl i gytundeb ar y dogfennau hynny, ac felly byddem yn gallu elwa o Amcan 1. Dywedwch ei bod yn siomedig na fyddwn yn cael yr arian; mae'n fwy na siomedig. Mae'r gwahaniaeth rhwng arian Amcan 1 ar gyfer y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd ar y lefel gyfredol a ffigur lleihau effaith ystadegol yn sicr o arwain at wahaniaeth o filiynau lawer o bunnoedd i Gymru. Nid ystyriaf hynny'n siomedig ond yn hytrach yn siom aruthrol a chyfle coll i Gymru sy'n ein hamddifadu o'r cyfle i wario arian i ddiwygio ein hunain yn y modd y byddem am wneud hynny.

Yn olaf, trof unwaith eto at warant Llywodraeth y DU. Yn y gorffennol, yr ydych wedi dweud mai'r hyn sy'n bwysig uwchlaw popeth arall yw, beth bynnag arall a gynigir, y dylai fod yn fwy na fformiwla Barnett, fel pe bai hynny o dan fgythyad rywsut oherwydd ei fod gennym yn awr ond efallai na fyddwn yn ei gael ar ôl 2007, ni waeth o ble y gallai'r arian hwnnw ddod. I aralleirio eich barn, yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf, gallai fod yn bowlen o aur neu'n bowlen o sialc, yn dibynnu ar gynnig y comisiwn a wrthodwyd. A allech ddweud wrthym pa un o'r rhain y mae'n debygol o fod yn eich barn chi—yr aur ynteu'r sialc? A ydych o'r farn mai'r ffactor uwchlaw-Barnett y cyfeiriasoch ato o'r blaen yw'r mater pwysicaf o hyd yn hyn o beth, ac y dylai beth bynnag a gawn, pa un a yw hynny drwy Ewrop neu Lywodraeth y DU, fod yn uwch na Barnett? Os mai dyna'r hyn yr ydych yn ei ddweud, golyga

getting above Barnett was only a temporary persuasion post-Alun Michael to the end of 2007. It would be advisable for you, if you could, to tell us whether you still think that the UK Government regards that settlement as being temporary rather than permanent.

The First Minister: I am glad that you mentioned those points about the period when you were a Minister, because I think that you were with me in the Foreign Office room at the time that this calculation about there being only four barley barons in Wales was brought forward, much to our surprise. I am glad that you mentioned the importance of trying to find another way of getting the principles that were in the paper presented on behalf of the Scottish Parliament, us and the Foreign Office to the Giscard D'Estaing commission. That paper was unique and broke new ground, and we had a very large role in its creation through our officials. The paper gave many other members of the commission a pleasant surprise, because here was the Foreign Office of the British Government, with all its history of running an empire, working with, and not being the senior partner, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Scottish Executive, and presenting a paper on subsidiarity as applied to regional-tier governments, in the context of the treaty that is now in the morgue or the fridge, or wherever it is.

I agree with you about the fundamental mistake that was made in presenting a big book of rules to people. In some ways, you have to admire the confidence of the French Government in sending something as thick as a telephone directory to every single voter in France, and expecting them to come out and say, 'This is pretty big, so we will vote for it'. A big book of rules will not go down well in the context of a referendum; if you are going to bring in rules, you should, like the ten commandments that were handed down on two tablets of stone on Mount Sinai, keep it simple. The ten commandments cover criminal law, agriculture policy and family

hynny eich bod yn parhau i ystyried bod Llywodraeth y DU o'r farn gyffredinol mai perswâd dros dro yn dilyn cyfnod Alun Michael oedd sicrhau ffigur yn rhoi swm yn ychwanegol at Barnett hyd ddiwedd 2007. Byddai'n ddoeth ichi ddweud wrthym, pe gallech, pa un a ydych yn parhau i fod o'r farn mai setliad dros dro yw hwn ym marn Llywodraeth y DU yn hytrach na setliad parhaol.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn falch ichi grybwyll y pwyntiau hynny ynglŷn â'r cyfnod pan oeddech yn Weinidog, oherwydd credaf ichi fod yn bresennol gyda mi yn yr ystafell yn y Swyddfa Dramor ar yr adeg y cyflwynwyd y cyfrifiad hwn ynglŷn â'r ffaith mai dim ond pedwar barwn barlys oedd yng Nghymru, er mawr syndod inni. Yr wyf yn falch ichi grybwyll pwysigrwydd ceisio dod o hyd i ffordd arall o sicrhau bod yr egwyddorion a oedd yn y papur yn cael eu cyflwyno ar ran Senedd yr Alban, ni a'r Swyddfa Dramor i gomisiwn Giscard D'Estaing. Yr oedd y papur hwnnw yn unigryw gan dorri tir newydd ac yr oedd gennym ran fawr iawn i'w chwarae wrth ei lunio drwy gyfrwng ein swyddogion. Bu'r papur hwn yn siom o'r ochr orau i nifer o aelodau eraill y comisiwn, oherwydd dyma oedd Swyddfa Dramor Llywodraeth Prydain, a'i holl hanes o reoli ymerodraeth yn gweithio gyda Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a Gweithrediaeth yr Alban, heb gymryd rôl uwch bartner, gan gyflwyno papur ar ddatganoli wedi'i gymhwyso i lywodraethau haen rhanbarthol, yng nghyd-destun y cytundeb sydd bellach yn y marwdy neu'r oergell, neu ble bynnag y bo.

Cytunaf â chi ynghylch y camgymeriad sylfaenol a wnaed o ran cyflwyno llyfr mawr o reolau i bobl. Mewn rhai ffyrdd, rhaid ichi edmygu hyder Llywodraeth Ffrainc wrth anfon rhywbeth mor drwchus â llyfr ffôn at bob un o bleidleiswyr Ffrainc, gan ddisgwyl iddynt ddod allan a dweud, 'Mae hwn yn eithaf mawr, felly byddwn yn pleidleisio drosto'. Ni fydd llyfr mawr o reolau yn boblogaidd yng nghyd-destun refferendwm; os ydych yn bwriadu cyflwyno rheolau, dylech, fel y deg gorchymyn a gyflwynwyd ar ddwy lechen ar Fynydd Sinai, ei gadw'n syml. Mae'r deg gorchymyn yn cwmpasu cyfraith trosedd, polisi amaethyddol a bywyd

life in probably no more than 100 words in total. Something like that would have a much better chance of being voted through.

On the question of the CAP reform and of freezing the British rebate, I understand that the British Government put forward the possibility of freezing the rebate but on the strict condition that the CAP could be put on the table in the same way. However, the central organs, namely Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the council, the French Government, which, as the biggest recipient, is obviously hugely *parti pris* in this issue, and Barroso, as president of the commission, simply would not have it.

Anyone who saw Gavin Esler interviewing Jose Manuel Barroso on *Newsnight* on Monday will have been amazed at the strength with which he refused to recognise any kind of comparability refused to recognise any kind of comparability between the deal done by Margaret Thatcher in 1984 to get the rebate, to set it and to ensure that it could not be altered without overcoming a British veto—he said that that should be put on the table—and the CAP deal done in 2002, about which he said that a deal was a deal. Usually, when I hear *Newsnight* interviewers interviewing politicians—and it is normally Jeremy Paxman—I say to them ‘Come on, get off your high horse, Jeremy. Give him a chance; he’s a politician’. However, on this occasion, I was trying to egg Gavin Esler on, saying, ‘You should be taking a much harder line with this man, Barroso’—esteemed politician though he is—because he would not recognise the comparability between the two things.

If you can put one on the table, you can put the other on the table. If you cannot put one on the table, why should you put the other on the table? That it as it is seen from the British point of view. You can see the problem that Tony Blair would have had. The final offer from the Luxembourg presidency was worse than the interim offer, and that was when it really started to deteriorate, and we understand that quite bitter words were spoken towards the end, just before it all broke up.

On the reform of structural funds, the

teuluol mewn rhyw 100 gair os hynny. Byddai gan rywbeth o’r natur honno well cyfle o lwyddo mewn refferendwm.

O ran diwygio’r PAC a rhewi ad-daliad Prydain, deallaf i Lywodraeth Prydain gyflwyno’r posibilrwydd o rewi’r ad-daliad ond ar yr amod caeth y gellid cyflwyno’r PAC yn yr un modd. Fodd bynnag, nid oedd hyn yn dderbyniol i’r aelodau allweddol, sef Jean-Claude Juncker, llywydd y cyngor, Llywodraeth Ffrainc sydd, fel y wlad sy’n derbyn y swm uchaf, yn amlwg yn gweithredu fel *parti pris* yn y mater hwn, a Barroso, fel llywydd y comisiwn.

Byddai unrhyw un a welodd Gavin Esler yn cyfweled â Jose Manuel Barroso ar *Newsnight* ddydd Llun wedi synnu at ba mor daer y bu iddo wrthod cydnabod unrhyw fath o gymhareb y gwrthododd gydnabod unrhyw fath o debygrwydd rhwng y cytundeb a wnaed gan Margaret Thatcher yn 1984 i gael yr ad-daliad, i’w bennu ac i sicrhau na allai gael ei newid heb oresgyn fetu Brydeinig—dywedodd y dylid rhoi hynny ar yr agenda—a chytundeb y PAC a wnaed yn 2002, lle y dywedodd fod cytundeb yn gytundeb. Fel arfer, pan glywaf gyfwelewyr *Newsnight* yn cyfweled â gwleidyddion—a Jeremy Paxman ydyw fel arfer—dywedaf wrthynt ‘Dewch ymlaen, peidiwch â mynd ar gefn eich ceffyl, Jeremy. Rhowch gyfle iddo; gwleidydd ydyw.’ Fodd bynnag, y tro hwn, yr oeddwn yn ceisio annog Gavin Esler, gan ddweud, ‘Dylech fod yn llawer mwy llym gyda’r dyn hwn, Barroso’—er mai gwleidydd o fri ydyw—oherwydd ni fyddai’n cydnabod y tebygrwydd rhwng y ddau beth.

Os gallwch roi un ar yr agenda, gallwch roi’r llall ar yr agenda. Os na allwch roi un ar yr agenda, pam y dylech roi’r llall ar yr agenda? Dyna’r ffordd yr ystyrir y mater o safbwynt Prydain. Gallwch weld y broblem y byddai Tony Blair wedi’i hwynebu. Yr oedd y cynnig terfynol gan lywyddiaeth Luxembourg yn waeth na’r cynnig interim, a dyna pryd y dechreuodd ddirywio mewn gwirionedd, a deallwn i eiriau eithaf chwerw gael eu dweud tua’r diwedd, ychydig cyn i bobeth fynd ar chwâl.

O ran diwygio’r cronfeydd strwythurol,

preparations that are being made are going well. It will be a much simpler programme, much less complex than what was required in 1999. It will be ready to roll on 1 January 2007, and I do not think that there are any doubts or disagreement about that.

On the question of whether it is disappointing to be back where we were six months ago, obviously I would use the word 'disappointing' because we thought that we were facing statistical effect status until the rebasing exercise took place. On the general principle, Objective 1 is meant to be self extinguishing, and it becomes so if it is successful. The rise in GDP has to reach a certain level for Objective 1 to be successful. The question is whether west Wales and the Valleys has made good use of the money. It looks, from 2002, as though it has, but we await the figures for 2003, 2004 and 2005 to see how much further progress has been made. It would be stupid to imagine that you can get Objective 1 funding forever. I do not think that I have any reason to suppose that the over-Barnett formula basis for any funding that we would get after 1 January 2007 is under threat, but you have to keep the pressure up, and we mention it at every meeting that we have with UK Government Ministers.

Lynne Neagle: First Minister, you were right to say that it is much more important to get the right agreement than any agreement. I also fully support what you said about the impact of the loss of the rebate on public services in the UK and, in Wales, this has to be an important consideration for all.

Other Members have referred to the common agricultural policy and the Prime Minister has taken a strong stance on the need for full reform. As far as I am concerned, it is pretty indefensible that more than 44 per cent of the European Union's budget is swallowed up for the benefit of less than 5 per cent of the population. As we know, the common agricultural policy has an absolutely devastating effect on the developing world, particularly Africa, where the farmers are a good deal poorer than any whom I have ever come across in Wales. First Minister, do you

mae'r paratodau a wneir yn mynd rhagddynt yn dda. Bydd yn rhaglen lawer symlach ac yn llawer llai cymhleth na'r hyn a oedd ei angen yn 1999. Bydd yn barod i'w chyflwyno ar 1 Ionawr 2007, a ni chredaf fod unrhyw amheuaeth nac anghytundeb ynghylch hynny.

O ran pa un a yw'n siomedig bod yn yr un sefyllfa ag yr oeddem ynddi chwe mis yn ôl, yn amlwg byddwn yn defnyddio'r gair 'siomedig' am inni gredu ein bod yn wynebu statws effaith ystadegol hyd nes i'r ymarfer ailseilio gael ei gynnal. O ran yr egwyddor gyffredinol, bwriedir i Amcan 1 ddirwyn ei hun i ben, a digwydd hynny os yw'n llwyddiannus. Rhaid i'r cynnydd mewn CMC gyrraedd lefel benodol er mwyn i Amcan 1 fod yn llwyddiannus. Y cwestiwn yw pa un a yw'r Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd wedi gwneud defnydd da o'r arian ai peidio. Ymddengys bod defnydd da wedi'i wneud ohono, o 2002, ond disgwyliwn y ffigurau ar gyfer 2003, 2004 a 2005 i weld faint o gynnydd pellach sydd wedi'i wneud. Byddai'n hurt dychmygu y gallwch gael arian Amcan 1 am byth. Ni chredaf fod gennyf unrhyw reswm dros dybio bod sail fformiwla Barnett a mwy o ran unrhyw arian y byddem yn ei gael ar ôl 1 Ionawr 2007 o dan fygythiad, ond rhaid ichi bwysu o hyd, a byddwn yn ei grybwyll ym mhob cyfarfod a gawn gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y DU.

Lynne Neagle: Brif Weinidog, yr oeddech yn iawn i ddweud ei bod yn llawer pwysicach cael y cytundeb cywir nag unrhyw gytundeb. Cefnogaf yn llwyr yr hyn a ddywedaso ch ynghylch effaith colli'r ad-daliad ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus yn y DU ac, yng Nghymru, rhaid i hyn fod yn ystyriaeth bwysig i bawb.

Mae Aelodau eraill wedi cyfeirio at y polisi amaethyddol cyffredin ac mae Prif Weinidog y DU wedi mabwysiadu safbwynt cryf o ran yr angen i gael proses ddiwygio lawn. Yn fy marn i, mae'n eithaf anfaddeuol y caiff mwy na 44 y cant o gyllideb yr Undeb Ewropeaidd ei ddefnyddio er budd llai na 5 y cant o'r boblogaeth. Fel y gwyddom, caiff y polisi amaethyddol cyffredin effaith gwbl ddinistriol ar y byd datblygol, yn arbennig Affrica, lle y mae'r ffermwyr yn llawer tlotach nag unrhyw ffermwr yr wyf wedi ei gyfarfod yng Nghymru. Brif Weinidog, a

agree that full reform of the common agricultural policy is essential if we are to make poverty history? Will you add your voice of support to the Prime Minister's calls for an end to this iniquitous, out-dated and profoundly unjust policy?

The First Minister: I am grateful for that question, because I missed out that point. Accepting that there are certainly no barley barons in Blaenafon, the issue that I omitted to mention is that the Prime Minister emphasised this aspect, namely that the reform of the CAP is not only good for Europe, in order to equip Europe as a continent that wants to create jobs and to follow the Lisbon agenda about competitiveness with the tools, it is also important in terms of market access for poor African farmers, whether it concerns sugar, chocolate or whatever else it may be. In terms of trade justice and market access, it is of huge importance.

He emphasised that, quite rightly, because, strangely enough, by an amazing coincidence, we are taking over presidency of the G8 and the European Union on the same day, for the same six-month period. Getting that on the agenda of the USA and other countries is as important as getting it on the agenda in Europe. I was pleased to see that some movement on perhaps the single most pernicious aspect of the CAP, in terms of denied market access and trade opportunities for poor farmers in Africa, was addressed in an overnight proposal to get rid of protection for sugar producers in Europe, which will bring down the cost of sugar for European consumers by two thirds, and will massively increase market access for African farmers to the European market.

3.50 p.m.

The Presiding Officer: We are, of course, well over time on this statement, but I will call Janet Davies, Chair of the Audit Committee.

Janet Davies: We need a fair bit more than 1 per cent gross national income contribution to get the second-class statistical funding. As you know, for areas of richer member states,

gytunwch ei bod yn hanfodol diwygio'r polisi amaethyddol cyffredin yn gyfan gwbl er mwyn inni ddileu tlodi? A gefnogwch alwadau Prif Weinidog y DU am derfyn ar y polisi anghyfiawn iawn hwn sy'n hen ffasiwn erbyn hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cwestiwn hwnnw, gan imi anghofio sôn am y pwynt hwnnw. Gan dderbyn ei bod yn sicr nad oes unrhyw farwniaid barlys ym Mlaenafon, y mater na soniais amdano yw i Brif Weinidog y DU bwysleisio'r agwedd hon, sef bod y broses o ddiwygio'r PAC, yn ogystal â bod o fudd i Ewrop, er mwyn rhoi'r cymorth iddi fel cyfandir sydd am greu swyddi a dilyn agenda Lisbon ynghylch cystadleurwydd, hefyd yn bwysig o ran rhoi mynediad i'r farchnad i ffermwyr Affricanaidd tlawd, pa un a yw'n ymwneud â siwgr, siocled neu unrhyw beth arall. O ran cyfiawnder masnach a mynediad i'r farchnad, mae'n bwysig iawn.

Pwysleisiodd hynny, a hynny'n briodol, oherwydd, yn rhyfedd ddigon, drwy gyd-digwyddiad anhygoel, yr ydym yn ymgymryd â llywyddiaeth y G8 a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd ar yr un diwrnod, am yr un cyfnod o chwe mis. Mae rhoi hynny ar agenda yr UDA a gwledydd eraill yr un mor bwysig â'i roi ar yr agenda yn Ewrop. Yr oeddwn yn falch o weld bod rhywfaint o waith wedi'i wneud i ymdrin â'r agwedd fwyaf niweidiol efallai ar y PAC, o ran gwrthod mynediad i'r farchnad a chyfleoedd masnachu i ffermwyr tlawd yn Affrica, mewn cynnig dros nos i ddileu diogelwch i gynhyrchwyr siwgr yn Ewrop, a fydd yn gostwng cost siwgr i ddefnyddwyr Ewropeaidd ddwy ran o dair, ac a fydd yn gwella mynediad i'r farchnad Ewropeaidd i ffermwyr Affricanaidd yn sylweddol.

Y Llywydd: Mae ein hamser wedi dod i ben ers tro ar y datganiad hwn, wrth gwrs, ond galwaf ar Janet Davies, Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Archwilio.

Janet Davies: Mae angen tipyn mwy na chyfraniad incwm cenedlaethol gros o 1 y cant i gael arian ystadegol eilradd. Fel y gwyddoch, i ardaloedd mewn aelod

this would mean steep reductions over two to three years to 0 per cent, whereas just a little over 1 per cent, according to Douglas Alexander yesterday, would invalidate the UK Government's guarantee to give replacement funding directly to west Wales and the Valleys, while being too little for the second-class statistical effect funding. How then do you propose to continue funding and fighting for the social regeneration projects that are so badly needed to underpin economic regeneration in many of our communities?

The First Minister: I am not familiar with what you have heard about what Douglas Alexander may have said yesterday. I prefer to rely on my own conversations with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury on Monday.

It is true that any sharp increase in the budget going to Europe puts pressure on the public finances of the UK as a net contributor, but I have no reason to suppose that what Des Browne told me is invalidated if a reasonable deal is achieved. The reasonable deal may involve freezing the rebate and reform of the CAP, or retention of the rebate and retention of the CAP. However, if it involves the retention of the CAP and retention of the rebate, then you must ask where the money comes from for structural funds. That is the problem.

**Datganiad ar Ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i Adroddiad y Pwyllgor
Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar Gludiant Ysgol
Statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's Response to the Education and
Lifelong Learning's Report on School Transport**

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I welcome the report of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee on its review of school transport. The report reflects evidence presented by a range of organisations and individuals with an interest in school transport. I extend my appreciation of the work to committee members and all those who participated in this important policy review.

The need to ensure safe school transport remains high on the agenda. It does, however,

wladwriaethau mwy cyfoethog, byddai hyn yn golygu gostyngiadau sylweddol dros ddwy i dair blynedd i 0 y cant, lle y byddai dim ond ychydig dros 1 y cant, yn ôl Douglas Alexander ddoe, yn dirymu gwarant Llywodraeth y DU i roi arian yn ei le yn uniongyrchol i'r Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, ac na fyddai'n ddigon ar gyfer yr arian effaith ystadegol eilradd. Felly sut y bwriadwch barhau i ariannu'r prosiectau adfywio cymdeithasol y mae eu hangen mor ddybryd, ac ymladd drostynt, er mwyn ategu adfywio economaidd mewn llawer o'n cymunedau?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn gyfarwydd â'r hyn a glywsoch am yr hyn a ddywedodd Douglas Alexander o bosibl ddoe. Mae'n well gennyf ddibynnu ar fy sgysiau fy hun â Phrif Ysgrifennydd y Trysorlys ddydd Llun.

Mae'n wir bod unrhyw gynnydd sylweddol yn y gyllideb sy'n mynd i Ewrop yn rhoi pwysau ar gyllid cyhoeddus y DU fel cyfrannwr net, ond nid oes gennyf unrhyw reswm dros dybio y caiff yr hyn a ddywedodd Des Browne wrthyf ei ddirymu os ceir cytundeb rhesymol. Gall y cytundeb rhesymol gynnwys rhewi'r ad-daliad a diwygio'r PAC, neu gadw'r ad-daliad a chadw'r PAC. Fodd bynnag, os yw'n cynnwys cadw'r PAC a chadw'r ad-daliad, yna rhaid ichi ofyn o ble y daw'r arian ar gyfer y cronfeydd strwythurol. Dyna'r broblem.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Croesawaf adroddiad y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar ei adolygiad o gludiant i'r ysgol. Mae'r adroddiad yn adlewyrchu tystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd gan amrywiaeth o sefydliadau ac unigolion sydd â diddordeb ym maes cludiant i'r ysgol. Diolchaf i aelodau'r pwyllgor a phawb a gymerodd ran yn yr adolygiad pwysig hwn o bolisi am eu gwaith.

Mae'r angen i sicrhau cludiant diogel i'r ysgol yn parhau i fod yn flaenoriaeth. Fodd

raise complex issues that local education authorities, bus operators, schools, parents, pupils and the Assembly Government have to tackle collectively. The report recognises this complexity and recommends a number of ways in which the current position could be improved. I hope that these recommendations, and the work in hand by a number of the parties, can help to prevent a recurrence of recent tragic events in Wales.

The report makes 30 recommendations, the majority of which are directed at local education authorities, which have statutory responsibility for home-to-school transport. Five recommendations are addressed to the Assembly Government. The remainder are for the UK Government, LEAs and schools. We have accepted four of the five recommendations aimed at the Assembly Government. Two of the recommendations—the need for guidance to clarify current legal responsibilities and liabilities, and for guidance on preparing codes of conduct for school transport—will be dealt with in new school transport guidance to be issued for consultation shortly. A third recommendation asks that the Assembly Government review current practice on risk assessment and issue guidance to schools. I have given a commitment that the review will commence in the autumn.

Another recommendation was that the guidance accompanying the School Transport Bill should take account of the committee's suggestions on the draft Bill. I have accepted this in principle. The Bill did not receive Royal Assent before the dissolution of the UK Parliament before the general election and no decisions have yet been taken by the UK Government on its future. However, should the Bill be reintroduced to Parliament, we will take into account the committee's comments.

The final recommendation for the Assembly Government suggests that bus passes, possibly linked to the proposed half-fare bus pass scheme for 16 to 18-year-olds, be based on smartcard technology. I have not been able to accept this recommendation at this time. Pilot schemes for half-fare travel by 16 to 18-year-olds on buses will be launched by

bynag, mae'n codi materion cymhleth y mae'n rhaid i awdurdodau addysg lleol, cwmnïau bysiau, ysgolion, rhieni, disgyblion a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fynd i'r afael â hwy ar y cyd. Mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod y cymhlethdod hwn ac yn argymhell nifer o ffyrdd o wella'r sefyllfa bresennol. Gobeithiaf y gall yr argymhellion hyn, a'r gwaith a wneir gan nifer o'r carfanau, helpu i atal y digwyddiadau trist iawn a welwyd yng Nghymru yn ddiweddar rhag digwydd eto.

Mae'r adroddiad yn gwneud 30 o argymhellion, ac anelir y mwyafrif ohonynt at awdurdodau addysgu lleol, sydd â chyfrifoldeb statudol dros gludiant o'r cartref i'r ysgol. Anelir pum argymhelliad at Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Anelir y gweddill at Lywodraeth y DU, AALlau ac ysgolion. Yr ydym wedi derbyn pedwar o'r pum argymhelliad sydd wedi'u hanelu at Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Ymdrinnir â dau o'r argymhellion—yr angen i gael canllawiau i egluro'r cyfrifoldebau a'r rhwymedigaethau cyfreithiol presennol, a'r canllawiau ar baratoi codau ymddygiad ar gyfer cludiant i'r ysgol—mewn canllawiau newydd ar gludiant i'r ysgol y cynhelir ymgynghoriad arnynt maes o law. Mae trydydd argymhelliad yn gofyn am i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad adolygu arferion presennol ar asesu risg a chyhoeddi canllawiau i ysgolion. Rhoddais ymrwymiad y bydd yr adolygiad yn dechrau yn yr hydref.

Argymhelliad arall oedd y dylai'r canllawiau sy'n ategu'r Mesur Cludiant i'r Ysgol ystyried awgrymiadau'r pwyllgor ar y Mesur drafft. Yr wyf wedi derbyn hyn mewn egwyddor. Ni chafodd y Mesur Gydsyniad Brenhinol cyn diddymu Senedd y DU cyn yr etholiad cyffredinol ac nid yw Llywodraeth y DU wedi gwneud unrhyw benderfyniad eto o ran ei ddyfodol. Fodd bynnag, os ailgyflwynir y Mesur gerbron y Senedd, byddwn yn ystyried sylwadau'r pwyllgor.

Awgryma'r argymhelliad terfynol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad y dylai tocynnau mantais bysiau, yn gysylltiedig â'r cynllun tocynnau bysiau hanner pris arfaethedig i bobl ifanc 16 i 18 mlwydd oed, fod yn seiliedig ar dechnoleg cerdyn call. Ni allaf dderbyn yr argymhelliad hwn ar hyn o bryd. Caiff cynlluniau peilot lle y gall pobl ifanc

two local authorities—Wrexham and Bridgend—this summer. However, there is no requirement for pilot schemes to use smartcards. We are reviewing the potential for an Integrated Transport Smartcard Organisation-compliant smartcard system for public transport throughout Wales and also studying the scope for an all-Wales integrated entitlement card. However, it is too early to give any firm commitment about the future use of smartcards on school transport.

With regard to the recommendations aimed at other bodies, as indicated in the written response, the Assembly Government can neither commit LEAs or schools to accept these recommendations nor compel implementation. However, we have drawn the recommendations to the attention of local education authorities and we will strongly encourage local authorities to work together to look at implementing the recommendations across Wales.

I have been given assurances of the Welsh Local Government Association's commitment to this today. My officials will also seek views through the informal co-ordination group, set up in March 2004, which involves education and transport interests within the Assembly Government, the Welsh Local Government Association, the Association of Directors of Education in Wales, the Association of Local Authority Travel Co-ordinators, and the Confederation of Passenger Transport. The purpose of the group is to share information on initiatives being taken by the parties and to promote the sharing of good practice.

Although I cannot commit LEAs, schools or other bodies in respect of the recommendations directed at them, the written response published last week provides my initial views. In providing these comments, I took account of the comments that I received on the report from the Association of Transport Co-ordinators Wales, the South East Wales Transport Alliance and the National Association of Head Teachers Cymru. All three welcomed

rhwng 16 a 18 mlwydd oed deithio ar fysiau am hanner pris eu lansio gan ddau awdurdod lleol—Wrecsam a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr—yr haf hwn. Fodd bynnag, nid oes unrhyw ofyniad i gynlluniau peilot ddefnyddio cardiau call. Yr ydym yn adolygu'r posibilrwydd o gael system cardiau call sy'n cydymffurfio â Sefydliad Cardiau Call Trafnidiaeth Integredig ar gyfer trafndiaeth gyhoeddus ledled Cymru ac yr ydym hefyd yn astudio'r posibilrwydd o gael cerdyn hawl integredig i Gymru gyfan. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhy gynnar i roi unrhyw ymrwymiad cadarn ar y defnydd o gardiau call ar gludiant i'r ysgol yn y dyfodol.

O ran yr argymhellion sydd wedi'u hanelu at gyrff eraill, fel y nodwyd yn yr ymateb ysgrifenedig, ni all Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ymrwymo AALlau nac ysgolion i dderbyn yr argymhellion hyn na'u gorfodi i'w gweithredu. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi tynnu sylw awdurdodau addysg lleol at yr argymhellion a byddwn yn annog awdurdodau lleol yn gryf i gydweithio i ystyried gweithredu'r argymhellion ledled Cymru.

Mae ymrwymiad Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i hyn wedi fy sicrhau heddiw. Bydd fy swyddogion hefyd yn ceisio barn drwy'r grŵp cydgysylltu anffurfiol, a sefydlwyd ym mis Mawrth 2004, sy'n cynnwys y rhai â diddordeb ym maes addysg a thrafnidiaeth o fewn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, Cymdeithas Cyfarwyddwyr Addysg Cymru, Cymdeithas Cydgysylltwyr Teithio Awdurdodau Lleol, a Chyddfederasiwn Cludiant Teithwyr. Diben y grŵp yw rhannu gwybodaeth ar fentrau a gyflawnir gan y carfanau a hyrwyddo'r broses o rannu arferion da.

Er na allaf ymrwymo AALlau, ysgolion na chyrff eraill mewn perthynas â'r argymhellion sydd wedi'u hanelu atynt, mae'r ymateb ysgrifenedig a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf yn rhoi fy sylwadau cychwynnol. Wrth roi'r sylwadau hyn, ystyriais y sylwadau a gefais ar yr adroddiad gan Gymdeithas Cydgysylltwyr Trafnidiaeth Cymru, Cynghrair Trafnidiaeth De-ddwyrain Cymru a Chymdeithas Genedlaethol y Prifathrawon Cymru. Croesawyd yr

the report but made comments on the practicalities of implementing some of the recommendations—not least in the short term.

The Education and Lifelong Learning Committee's report is one of a number of recent initiatives. I acknowledge the helpful contributions made by other organisations. The WLGA and the National Foundation for Educational Research recently produced a joint report into school transport. The Association of Local Authority Transport Operators and the Confederation of Passenger Transport have also worked together to consider operational and contractual issues. The Children's Commissioner for Wales has also played an important role in engaging with children and young people in preparing his report 'As Long as I Get There Safe'.

Members may also be aware of the videos and teaching packs that have recently been produced. One was developed by Bridgend County Borough Council, working with a consortium of authorities and part-funded by the Assembly Government; the other was produced by Belt Up School Kids. They both address the key issue of pupil behaviour on school buses.

Many local authorities have already taken action to improve the safety of school transport, which I very much welcome. I am particularly pleased that the Vale of Glamorgan council has introduced a package of measures following the Ystradowen bus crash in December 2002. The use of a code of behaviour, to which pupils and their parents sign up, is a significant step.

They and other authorities have introduced additional safety measures, such as the use of escorts and closed circuit television to respond to the problems of misbehaviour. The close working evident in these projects between LEAs, transport departments, transport operators, schools, pupils and parents sets a standard of good practice that I hope will become embedded across Wales. Ultimately, all of the other action will fail if

adroddiad gan y tri ohonynt ond gwnaethant sylwadau ar faterion ymarferol o ran gweithredu rhai o'r argymhellion—yn y bydymor yn bennaf.

Mae adroddiad y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn un o nifer o fentrau diweddar. Cydnabyddaf y cyfraniadau defnyddiol a wnaed gan sefydliadau eraill. Cynhyrchodd CLILC a'r Sefydliad Cenedlaethol er Ymchwil i Addysg adroddiad ar y cyd ar gludiant i'r ysgol yn ddiweddar. Mae Cymdeithas Gweithredwyr Cludiant Awdurdodau Lleol a Chyddfederasiwn Cludiant Teithwyr wedi cydweithio hefyd i ystyried materion gweithredol a chytundebol. Mae Comisiynydd Plant Cymru hefyd wedi chwarae rhan bwysig o ran ymgysylltu â phlant a phobl eraill wrth baratoi ei adroddiad 'Ond Mod i'n Cyrraedd yn Sâff'.

Efallai y bydd yr Aelodau hefyd yn gyfarwydd â'r fideos a'r pecynnau addysgu a gynhyrchwyd yn ddiweddar. Datblygwyd un gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, gan weithio gyda chonsortium o awdurdodau ac a ariannwyd yn rhannol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad; cynhyrchwyd y llall gan Belt Up School Kids. Mae'r ddau ohonynt yn ymdrin â'r mater allweddol o ran ymddygiad disgyblion ar fysiau ysgol.

Mae sawl awdurdod lleol wedi cymryd camau eisoes i wella diogelwch cludiant i'r ysgol, a chroesawaf hynny'n fawr. Yr wyf yn arbennig o falch bod cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi cyflwyno pecyn o fesurau yn dilyn y ddamwain bws yn Ystradowen ym mis Rhagfyr 2002. Mae'r defnydd o god ymddygiad, y mae disgyblion a'u rhieni yn ymrwymo iddo, yn gam pwysig.

Mae'r cyngor hwnnw ac awdurdodau eraill wedi cyflwyno mesurau diogelwch ychwanegol, megis defnyddio hebryngwyr a theledu cylch cyfyng i ymateb i broblemau camymddwyn. Mae'r cydweithio agos sy'n amlwg yn y prosiectau hyn rhwng AALLau, adrannau trafniadaeth, cwmnïau cludiant, ysgolion, disgyblion a rhieni yn pennu safon arfer da y gobeithiaf y caiff ei hymgorffori ledled Cymru. Yn y pen draw, bydd yr holl

LEAs, schools and bus operators are unable to impress on pupils and their parents the crucial importance of sensible and safe behaviour. It is a message that needs constant reinforcement.

Taken together, I believe that the actions being taken by local authorities, transport operators, schools, the Assembly Government and others will lead to better pupil behaviour and safer pupil transport. I welcome the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee's report as a key contribution towards achieving these outcomes.

Janet Ryder: Thank you for response to the committee's review. I particularly endorse the sentence in the statement that emphasises that, unless we stress to pupils that it is their responsibility to behave properly on transport, all the recommendations in the world cannot ensure safety on buses. However, I welcome the WLGA's response in terms of the fact that it will support some of the initiatives.

One of the main recommendations, as far as I am concerned, is the move to long-term contracts, because it gives bus companies the financial stability to purchase and use special buses designed for school transport. Will you give us an assurance that you will put as much pressure as possible on the WLGA to encourage every LEA in Wales to move to long-term contracts?

4.00 p.m.

The system has worked so well in Wrexham, where there are properly equipped buses, one pupil to a seat and seat belts fitted. However, the bus contractors know that they cannot use those buses for other routes, and they therefore need long-term contracts to allow them to invest in the buses that we want to see being used to transport children safely to school. If we could turn that key with the contracts and get the quality of the buses right, many of the other things would fall into place. Therefore, we are looking for an assurance from you, Minister, that you will put as much pressure as you can on local government to act on that particular aspect.

gampau eraill yn methu os na all AALLau, ysgolion a chwmnïau bysiau argyhoeddi disgyblion a'u rhieni o bwysigrwydd allweddol ymddygiad synhwyrol a diogel. Mae'n neges y mae angen ei hatgyfnerthu'n barhaus.

Gyda'i gilydd, credaf y bydd y camau a gymerir gan awdurdodau lleol, cwmnïau cludiant, ysgolion, Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac eraill yn arwain at ymddygiad gwell gan ddisgyblion a chludiant mwy diogel i ddisgyblion. Croesawaf adroddiad y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes fel cyfraniad allweddol tuag at gyflawni'r canlyniadau hyn.

Janet Ryder: Diolch ichi am eich ymateb i adolygiad y pwyllgor. Cymeradwyaf yn benodol y frawddeg yn y datganiad sy'n pwysleisio na all unrhyw argymhelliaid yn y byd sicrhau diogelwch ar fysiau, oni phwysleisiwn wrth ddisgyblion eu bod yn gyfrifol am ymddwyn yn briodol pan fyddant yn defnyddio cludiant. Fodd bynnag, croesawaf ymateb CLILC y bydd y cefnogi rhai o'r mentrau.

Un o'r prif argymhellion, yn fy marn i, yw'r cam tuag at gontractau hirdymor, am ei fod yn rhoi sefydlogrwydd ariannol i gwmnïau bysiau brynu a defnyddio bysiau arbennig sydd wedi'u cynllunio ar gyfer cludiant i'r ysgol. A roddwch sicrwydd inni y byddwch yn rhoi cymaint o bwysau â phosibl ar CLILC i annog pob AALL yng Nghymru i gyflwyno contractau hirdymor?

Mae'r system wedi gweithio mor dda yn Wrecsam, lle y ceir bysiau gyda'r offer priodol, sedd i bob disgybl a gwregysau diogelwch. Fodd bynnag, gŵyr y contractwyr bysiau na allant ddefnyddio'r bysiau hynny ar gyfer teithiau eraill, ac felly mae angen contractau hirdymor arnynt i'w galluogi i fuddsoddi yn y bysiau yr ydym am eu gweld yn cael eu defnyddio i gludo plant yn ddiogel i'r ysgol. Pe byddem yn gallu sicrhau hynny gyda'r contractau ynghyd â sicrhau y ceir bysiau o'r ansawdd cywir, byddai llawer o'r pethau eraill yn digwydd hefyd. Felly, yr ydym yn gofyn ichi roi sicrwydd inni, Weinidog, y byddwch yn rhoi cymaint o

bwysau ag y gallwch ar lywodraeth leol i weithredu ar yr agwedd benodol honno.

Jane Davidson: In the second recommendation that we have accepted from the Assembly, the committee has outlined what a code of conduct might include and we will also want to put strong pressure on the Welsh Local Government Association to introduce codes of conduct that are similar across Wales. I welcome your support for that.

We are pushing at a completely open door with the Welsh Local Government Association on the issue of long-term contracts. The report recommends that there should be five to seven-year contracts. Local authorities will still be transporting pupils to school in five to seven years' time, and therefore that seems to be an extremely sensible outcome. It fits with our sustainable procurement agenda and it means that local authorities can look at all the lessons being learned at the moment, from all the partners in their contribution towards this debate, on setting the standards of contracts. The bus operators are already suggesting the standard of contract that might be addressed by all the local authorities in Wales. Therefore, I am happy to say that I will be working closely with local government in terms of introducing long-term contracts across Wales.

William Graham: I broadly welcome your acceptance of the recommendations contained in the report. However, I have one or two questions on which I would like clarification, particularly with regard to points 2.27 and 2.46 of the policy review document, which refer to extending school staff's responsibility for matters that arise outside school premises and hours. That causes great concern to teachers and to all those involved in education and schools. Could you give us some clarification on that and on whether you would consider reporting on this to the committee at a later date?

You know that this a matter of great concern to all who entrust their children to others to transport them to school, and the full recommendations of the report contain all those problems and also outline some

Jane Davidson: Yn yr ail argymhelliad yr ydym wedi'i dderbyn gan y Cynulliad, mae'r pwyllgor wedi amlinellu'r hyn y gallai cod ymddygiad ei gynnwys a byddwn hefyd am roi llawer o bwysau ar Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i gyflwyno codau ymddygiad sy'n debyg ledled Cymru. Croesawaf eich cefnogaeth yn hynny o beth.

Mae Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn ein cefnogi'n llwyr o ran contractau hirdymor. Yn yr adroddiad argymhellir y dylid cyflwyno contractau o bump i saith mlynedd. Bydd awdurdodau lleol yn dal i gludo disgyblion i'r ysgol mewn pump i saith mlynedd, ac felly ymddengys bod hynny'n ganlyniad synhwyrol iawn. Mae'n cyfateb i'n hagenda caffael cynaliadwy a golyga y gall awdurdodau lleol edrych ar yr holl wersi a ddysgir ar hyn o bryd, gan yr holl bartneriaid wrth iddynt gyfrannu i'r ddatl hon, ar bennu safonau ar gyfer contractau. Mae'r cwmnïau bysiau eisoes yn awgrymu'r safon o ran contractau y gallai pob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru fynd i'r afael â hi. Felly, yr wyf yn falch o ddweud y byddaf yn gweithio'n agos gyda llywodraeth leol o ran cyflwyno contractau hirdymor ledled Cymru.

William Graham: Croesawaf y ffaith eich bod yn derbyn yr argymhellion a geir yn yr adroddiad. Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf un neu ddau gwestiwn yr hoffem ichi daflu goleuni arnynt, yn enwedig o ran pwyntiau 2.27 a 2.46 y ddogfen adolygu polisi, sy'n cyfeirio at ehangu cyfrifoldebau staff ysgolion dros faterion sy'n digwydd y tu allan i adeiladau'r ysgol a'r tu allan i oriau ysgol. Mae hynny'n peri pryder mawr i athrawon ac i bawb sy'n ymwneud â byd addysg ac ysgolion. A allech egluro hynny ynghyd â pha un a fydddech yn ystyried cyflwyno adroddiad ar hyn i'r pwyllgor yn y dyfodol?

Gwyddoch fod hwn yn fater sy'n peri pryder mawr i bawb sy'n rhoi eu plant yng ngofal eraill i'w cludo i'r ysgol, ac mae argymhellion llawn yr adroddiad yn cynnwys yr holl broblemau hynny ac yn amlinellu rhai

solutions. I ask you to take further responsibility in this matter. You know that you have the support of the whole of the Assembly, particularly in terms of ruling out practices such as having three children sitting on two seats and ensuring that the buses that are used have adequate seating and seatbelts. We therefore ask you to reconsider issuing specific directing guidelines to local authorities. It is a matter of sadness that, since the publication of this review, there has been a further fatality involving a vehicle transporting children to school. That is why you should reconsider issuing guidelines on corporate safety measures, in excess of those required by law, to send a clear message to all those involved in transporting our children to school that we place child safety at the top of our agenda.

Jane Davidson: We will be hoping to pick up, in our guidance, that we accept under the first recommendation that comes to the Assembly, all those issues in terms of clarifying where the legal responsibilities lie. This is a complex area, as you fully appreciate, and I am sure that you have seen a copy of the letter from the National Association of Head Teachers, expressing concern that burdens of responsibility in addition to their responsibilities in the school setting should not be placed upon teachers. We will clarify in that guidance, as far as we can, where the responsibilities lie. I am afraid that sometimes the clarification only comes through in case law, and we have to appreciate that. Therefore, we will undertake to clarify, in the Assembly Government guidance, what we are clear on and the areas where there is still, perhaps, a lack of clarity. As an Assembly Government Minister, I cannot direct. Throughout this process, and in the committee's endeavours, it was fully agreed that, in issuing these guidelines, we will be taking on a responsibility that does not lie with the Assembly. That is because when the legislation on school transport was passed in Parliament, there was not an Assembly to pass any responsibilities to. Therefore there are a range of obligations that sit with the Department for Transport and a range that sit with local authorities. So, we will already be going beyond our responsibilities, in a sense, and I am happy to demonstrate that leadership in Wales. I know

atebion hefyd. Gofynnaf ichi gymryd cyfrifoldeb pellach dros y mater hwn. Fe wyddoch fod y Cynulliad cyfan yn eich cefnogi, yn enwedig o ran cael gwared ar arferion megis bod tri phlentyn yn eistedd ar ddwy sedd a sicrhau bod gan y bysiau a ddefnyddir ddigon o seddi a gwregysau diogelwch. Felly gofynnwn ichi ailystyried cyflwyno canllawiau cyfarwyddo penodol i awdurdodau lleol. Trist iawn yw nodi, ers cyhoeddi'r adolygiad hwn, fod plentyn arall wedi marw wrth gael ei gludo i'r ysgol. Dyna pam y dylech ailystyried cyhoeddi canllawiau ar fesurau diogelwch corfforaethol, y tu hwnt i'r rhai sy'n ofynnol o dan y gyfraith, er mwyn cyfleu neges glir i bawb sy'n gyfrifol am gludo ein plant i'r ysgol mai diogelwch plant yw ein prif flaenoriaeth.

Jane Davidson: Gobeithiwn nodi, yn ein canllawiau, ein bod yn derbyn o dan yr argymhelliad cyntaf i'r Cynulliad, yr holl faterion hynny o ran egluro'r cyfrifoldebau cyfreithiol. Mae hwn yn faes cymhleth, fel y gallwch ei werthfawrogi, ac yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod wedi gweld copi o'r llythyr oddi wrth Gymdeithas Genedlaethol y Prifathrawon, yn mynegi pryder na ddylid rhoi mwy o gyfrifoldebau i athrawon yn ychwanegol at eu cyfrifoldebau yn yr ysgol. Byddwn yn egluro'r cyfrifoldebau yn y canllawiau hynny, hyd eithaf ein gallu. Yn anffodus weithiau dim ond drwy gyfraith achos y ceir eglurhad, a rhaid inni werthfawrogi hynny. Felly, awn ati i egluro, yng nghanllawiau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yr hyn yr ydym yn ei ddeall yn glir a'r meysydd lle ceir diffyg eglurder o hyd, efallai. Fel un o Weinidogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ni allaf roi cyfarwyddyd. Drwy gydol y broses hon, a thrwy ymdrechion y pwyllgor, cytunwyd yn llwyr, wrth gyhoeddi'r canllawiau hyn, y byddwn yn derbyn cyfrifoldeb nad yw'n un o gyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad. Y rheswm am hynny yw nad oedd Cynulliad yn bodoli i drosglwyddo cyfrifoldebau iddo pan basiwyd y ddeddfwriaeth ar gludiant i'r ysgol yn y Senedd. Felly ceir amryw rwymedigaethau sy'n perthyn i'r Adran Drafnidiaeth ac amryw sy'n perthyn i awdurdodau lleol. Felly, byddwn yn mynd y tu hwnt i'n cyfrifoldebau eisoes, mewn ffordd, ac yr wyf yn fodlon dangos yr arweinyddiaeth honno

that this whole body is happy for us to do that in terms of issues around clarification and best practice.

The three-for-two rule, as it is known, is a concession in terms of pupils under the age of 14. Only a small number of local authorities in Wales are currently using that concession. It became clear in evidence to committee that most local authorities were no longer using it, and my information is that those that are will probably phase it out. That was the specific recommendation in terms of my going back to the UK Government. I am happy to do that, but it may well be that we do not need action at a UK Government level on the basis of the kind of leadership that the Assembly can provide to ensure that action is taken in Wales.

On seating and seat belts, there is another anomaly whereby a range of buses, mini-buses and coaches that have been registered since 1988 have to have seat belts, but children are not required to use them. However, from next year, a European directive, which has to be introduced by 9 May at the latest, will mean that, if there are seat belts in place, they have to be used. That requirement is helpful to us.

Peter Black: I also broadly welcome the Government's response to the committee's report. The acceptance of three of the four recommendations directed at the Assembly Government is pleasing. I would have liked to have seen the fourth recommendation accepted, but I understand that further work is being done on that.

We are clearly pushing at the limits of our powers in many ways in terms of this particular report. We were promised a School Transport Bill, and we have a White Paper that says that future legislation will give the Assembly wider powers to do what it wishes to do. Therefore, the obvious question is, when that School Transport Bill emerges, what additional powers will be available to the Assembly as part of that Bill, and what powers will the Minister be seeking in order to implement some of the things in this report

yng Nghymru. Gwn fod y corff cyfan hwn yn fodlon inni wneud hynny o ran materion yn ymwneud ag eglurder ac arferion gorau.

Mae'r rheol tri am ddau, fel y'i gelwir, yn gonsesiwn o ran disgyblion o dan 14 mlwydd oed. Dim ond nifer fach o awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru sy'n defnyddio'r consesiwn hwnnw ar hyn o bryd. Daeth yn amlwg mewn tystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd i'r pwyllgor nad oedd y rhan fwyaf o awdurdodau lleol yn ei ddefnyddio mwyach, a, hyd y gwn i, bydd y rhai sydd yn ei ddefnyddio yn rhoi'r gorau iddo'n raddol fwy na thebyg. Dyna oedd yr argymhelliad penodol yr oeddwn i fod i'w gyflwyno i Lywodraeth y DU. Yr wyf yn fodlon gwneud hynny, ond efallai na fydd angen i Lywodraeth y DU gymryd camau ar y mater ar sail y math o arweinyddiaeth y gall y Cynulliad ei darparu er mwyn sicrhau y cymerir camau yng Nghymru.

O ran seddi a gwregysau diogelwch, ceir anghysondeb lle y mae'n rhaid i amrywiaeth o fysiau, bysiau mini a choetsys a gofrestrwyd ers 1988 gael gwregysau diogelwch, ond nid yw'n ofynnol i blant eu defnyddio. Fodd bynnag, o'r flwyddyn nesaf, bydd cyfarwydddeb Ewropeaidd, y mae'n rhaid ei chyflwyno erbyn 9 Mai fan bellaf, yn golygu, os oes gwregysau diogelwch, y bydd yn rhaid eu defnyddio. Mae'r gofyniad hwnnw yn ddefnyddiol inni.

Peter Black: Croesawaf hefyd ymateb y Llywodraeth i adroddiad y pwyllgor. Mae'r ffaith bod tri o'r pedwar argymhelliad a anelwyd at Lywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi'u derbyn yn galonogol. Byddwn wedi hoffi gweld y pedwerydd argymhelliad yn cael ei dderbyn, ond deallaf fod rhagor o waith yn cael ei wneud ar hynny.

Mae'n amlwg ein bod yn defnyddio ein holl bwerau i'r eithaf o ran yr adroddiad penodol hwn. Addawyd Mesur Cludiant i'r Ysgol inni, ac mae gennym Bapur Gwyn sy'n nodi y bydd deddfwriaeth yn y dyfodol yn rhoi mwy o bwerau i'r Cynulliad wneud yr hyn y dymuna ei wneud. Felly, y cwestiwn amlwg yw, pan fydd y Mesur Cludiant i'r Ysgol yn cael ei gyflwyno, pa bwerau ychwanegol a fydd ar gael i'r Cynulliad fel rhan o'r Mesur hwnnw, a pha bwerau y bydd y Gweinidog yn ceisio eu sicrhau er mwyn gweithredu rhai

that you currently do not have the powers to implement? That will be quite crucial in terms of trying to push forward some of this agenda. There is certainly an opportunity, if a Bill is coming to the House of Commons and the House of Lords, for the Assembly to acquire the powers that it needs to ensure that children around Wales can travel to school safely, both on contract and service buses. Therefore, I would be interested to hear the Minister's response on that.

The code of conduct, and the guidance that the Assembly Government is issuing on codes of conducts on other issues, is again welcome. I would be interested in having some sort of timetable as to when the Minister is likely to issue that guidance.

Following the Minister's meeting with the Cunningham-Joneses, on Monday, I believe, there were a number of press interviews. I think that David Cunningham-Jones came out of the meeting saying that he had been promised that a whole-scale review of school transport was taking place. Is that an accurate summation of that meeting, and, if such a review is taking place, how does that fit into the review that the committee has already carried out? If further work is needed, I want to know whether we can go ahead and deal with what we have in front of us.

The Welsh Local Government Association's commitment on this is welcome. I am pleased to see that the Minister has given an undertaking that she will strongly encourage local authorities to deliver the recommendations in this review. It would be helpful if the Minister could indicate what she is doing to put perhaps a lot more pressure on local authorities, rather than just strongly encouraging them on that. I am quite concerned that we have a situation whereby some local councils are already letting contracts for school buses—I am aware of at least one—without taking account of the recommendations in this review. This issue, particularly in terms of long-term contracts, which can make some of the recommendations in the report affordable, is crucial to the success of the review. If local education authorities or the highways

o'r pethau yn yr adroddiad hwn nad oes gennych y pwerau i'w gweithredu ar hyn o bryd? Bydd hynny'n eithaf allweddol o ran ceisio datblygu rhywfaint o'r agenda hon. Yn sicr ceir cyfle, os cyflwynir Mesur yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin a Thŷ'r Arglwyddi, i'r Cynulliad gael y pwerau sydd eu hangen arno i sicrhau bod plant ledled Cymru yn gallu teithio i'r ysgol yn ddiogel, ar fysiau contract a bysiau gwasanaeth. Felly, byddai'n ddiddorol clywed ymateb y Gweinidog i hynny.

Croesewir y cod ymddygiad, a'r canllawiau y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cyhoeddi ar godau ymddygiad ar gyfer materion eraill, unwaith eto. Byddai'n ddiddorol gweld rhyw fath o amserlen sy'n nodi pryd y mae'r Gweinidog yn debygol o gyhoeddi'r canllawiau hynny.

Yn dilyn cyfarfod y Gweinidog gyda'r teulu Cunningham-Jones, ddydd Llun, fe gredaf, cynhaliwyd nifer o gyfweiliadau â'r wasg. Credaf i David Cunningham-Jones adael y cyfarfod gan ddweud ei fod wedi cael addewid bod adolygiad cynhwysfawr o gludiant i'r ysgol yn cael ei gynnal. A yw hynny'n grynodedd cywir o'r cyfarfod hwnnw, ac, os oes adolygiad o'r fath yn cael ei gynnal, sut y mae hynny'n cyd-fynd â'r adolygiad y mae'r pwyllgor eisoes wedi ei gynnal? Os oes angen gwneud rhagor o waith, yr wyf am wybod pa un a allwn fynd ati ac ymdrin â'r hyn ger ein bron.

Croesewir ymrwymiad Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn hyn o beth. Yr wyf yn falch o weld bod y Gweinidog wedi ymrwmo i annog awdurdodau lleol yn gryf i roi argymhellion yr adroddiad hwn ar waith. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe gallai'r Gweinidog nodi'r hyn y mae'n ei wneud i roi llawer mwy o bwysau ar awdurdodau lleol efallai, yn hytrach na dim ond eu hannog yn gryf i wneud hynny. Mae'n peri cryn bryder imi ein bod mewn sefyllfa lle y mae rhai cynghorau lleol eisoes yn gosod contractau ar gyfer bysiau ysgol—gwn am un o leiaf—heb ystyried yr argymhellion yn yr adolygiad hwn. Mae'r mater hwn, yn enwedig o ran contractau hirdymor, a all wneud rhai o'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad yn fforddiadwy, yn hanfodol i lwyddiant yr adolygiad. Os yw awdurdodau addysg lleol neu'r awdurdodau priffyrdd eisoes yn gosod

authorities are already letting contracts without taking account of what this review has suggested, it is quite concerning. I hope that as well as discussing this with the WLGA, you and your officials can hold bilateral talks with the 22 authorities to see what they are doing and to push them as strongly as possible to deliver on the agenda that we have set out here. I know that it is a difficult agenda and that it can be costly. There may well be costs, but local education authorities should be working as hard as possible to deliver as much of this as they can, as soon as possible.

4.10 p.m.

Jane Davidson: If the School Transport Bill were to come back to us in the same form as that which we considered in committee, then clearly that would bring the Assembly Government into the process, because it would enable the Assembly to set the levels of requirements in place in terms of any pilot proposals. Therefore, we could put our own safety standards and requirements in place. It is an important opportunity and I hope that that Bill will come through the parliamentary process.

On powers to implement this, the only recommendation in the report affected, as I just said, was the three-to-two concession. It appears that we will be able to deal with that without additional powers, which relates to a point raised by David Melding earlier in another debate, namely, that where we can use the powers that we have to achieve the outcomes that we want, that must be our first point of resort.

Your point about service buses is important, because you will remember—it is in point 2.54 of the committee's report—that the recommendations largely relate to dedicated, contracted school transport. There is an issue about how we can ensure that we have similar safety standards and codes of conduct and so on operating on the commercial services that are also used for school transport since half our children, particularly in south Wales, use those other types of provision.

contractau heb ystyried yr hyn y mae'r adolygiad hwn wedi'i awgrymu, mae hynny'n peri pryder mawr. Gobeithiaf, yn ogystal â thrafod hyn gyda CLILC, y gallwch chi a'ch swyddogion gynnal trafodaethau dwyochrog gyda'r 22 o awdurdodau i weld beth y maent yn ei wneud a'u hannog gymaint â phosibl i gyflawni'r agenda yr ydym wedi'i gosod yma. Gwn ei bod yn agenda anodd ac y gall fod yn gostus. Efallai y bydd costau'n gysylltiedig â hi, ond dylai awdurdodau addysg lleol fod yn gweithio mor galed â phosibl i gyflawni cymaint o hyn â phosibl, cyn gynted â phosibl.

Jane Davidson: Pe byddai'r Mesur Cludiant i'r Ysgol yn dychwelyd atom ar yr un ffurf â'r hyn a ystyriwyd gennym yn y pwyllgor, yna mae'n amlwg y byddai hynny'n cynnwys Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn y broses, oherwydd byddai'n galluogi'r Cynulliad i bennu'r gofynion o ran unrhyw gynigion peilot. Felly, gallem bennu ein safonau a'n gofynion diogelwch ein hunain. Mae'n gyfle pwysig a gobeithiaf y bydd y Mesur hwnnw yn cael ei gymeradwyo gan y Senedd.

O ran y pwerau i weithredu hyn, yr unig argymhelliad yn yr adroddiad yr effeithiwyd arno, fel yr wyf newydd ei grybwyll, oedd y consesiwn tri am ddau. Ymddengys y byddwn yn gallu ymdrin â hynny heb bwerau ychwanegol, sy'n gysylltiedig â phwynt a godwyd gan David Melding yn gynharach mewn dadl arall, sef, lle y gallwn ddefnyddio'r pwerau sydd gennym i gyflawni'r canlyniadau y dymunwn eu gweld, bod rhaid sicrhau mai dyna'r hyn a wnawn gyntaf.

Mae eich pwynt ynghylch bysiau gwasanaeth yn bwysig, oherwydd fe gofiwch—fe'i nodir ym mhwynt 2.54 adroddiad y pwyllgor—fod yr argymhellion yn ymwneud yn bennaf â chludiant penodedig ar gcontract i'r ysgol. Mae mater yn codi ynghylch sut y gallwn sicrhau bod gennym safonau diogelwch a chodau ymddygiad tebyg ac ati ar gyfer y gwasanaethau masnachol a ddefnyddir hefyd i gludo plant i'r ysgol gan fod hanner ein plant, yn enwedig yn y De, yn defnyddio'r mathau eraill hynny o ddarpariaeth.

The guidance will be issued in the written response this term, because we had already started working on it when the committee started working on the report. In my very useful meeting with Mr and Mrs Cunningham-Jones on Monday, we were able to clarify that some of their concerns were not related to a lack of commitment from anyone in the Assembly. I was part of the committee and was happy to sign up to the recommendations, but we had to be clear, in a written statement from the Assembly, that we were operating within our powers and legal responsibilities. Therefore, we maintain our commitment to leadership on this agenda. The review that Mr Cunningham-Jones was most keen to see was on risk assessment. I fully undertake to deliver that review, which will happen in the autumn. I hope that all Members are satisfied with that, because the other risk assessment recommendations in the report will need that overarching review to have been in place before they can be carried out at the local level.

On your final point, the Welsh Local Government Association will soon be publishing its own report on school transport to take forward many of the recommendations in our Education and Lifelong Learning Committee report. I plan to take the same approach as that which we take to bullying, which, in many ways, is seen by some schools as too interventionist. That is, we will call the policies in and consider them. We will look for best practice and expect that best practice to be the standard and the norm in Wales. We will expect consistency across Wales; that is the kind of leadership that we can and will take. We will work with the WLGA to achieve that.

Catherine Thomas: Thank you for your response to this important report. In particular, I welcome the recommendation that local authorities should conduct risk assessments of walking routes to schools, but there are doubts about safety. In fact, Carmarthenshire County Council has recently commissioned several risk assessments on routes in the Gwendraeth Valley. That is the result of lobbying from parents in Tumble

Caiff y canllawiau eu cyhoeddi yn yr ymateb ysgrifenedig y tymor hwn, oherwydd yr oeddem eisoes wedi dechrau gweithio arnynt pan ddechreuodd y pwyllgor weithio ar yr adroddiad. Yn fy nghyfarfod defnyddiol iawn gyda Mr a Mrs Cunningham-Jones ddydd Llun, gallem egluro nad oedd rhai o'u pryderon yn gysylltiedig â diffyg ymrwymiad gan unrhyw un yn y Cynulliad. Yr oeddwn yn rhan o'r pwyllgor ac yr oeddwn yn fodlon cymeradwyo'r argymhellion, ond yr oedd yn rhaid inni fod yn glir, mewn datganiad ysgrifenedig gan y Cynulliad, ein bod yn gweithredu o fewn ein pwerau a'n cyfrifoldebau cyfreithiol. Felly, yr ydym yn parhau i fod yn ymrwymedig i arwain yr agenda hon. Yr adolygiad yr oedd Mr Cunningham-Jones fwyaf awyddus i'w weld oedd yr un ar asesu risg. Ymrwymaf i gyflwyno'r adolygiad hwnnw, a fydd yn cael ei gynnal yn yr hydref. Gobeithiaf fod pob Aelod yn fodlon ar hynny, oherwydd bydd angen cynnal yr adolygiad cyffredinol hwnnw cyn y gellir cyflwyno'r argymhellion asesu risg eraill yn yr adroddiad yn lleol.

O ran eich pwynt olaf, bydd Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn cyhoeddi ei adroddiad ei hun yn fuan ar gludiant i'r ysgol i weithredu llawer o'r argymhellion yn adroddiad y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes. Bwriadaf fabwysiadu'r un ymagwedd â'r ymagwedd a fabwysiadwn tuag at fwlio, sydd, mewn sawl ffordd, yn ymyrryd gormod ym marn rhai ysgolion. Hynny yw, byddwn yn galw'r polisïau i mewn ac yn eu hystyried. Byddwn yn chwilio am enghreifftiau o arferion gorau ac yn disgwyl mai'r arferion gorau hynny fydd y safon arferol yng Nghymru. Disgwyliwn weld cysondeb ledled Cymru; dyna'r math o arweinyddiaeth y gallwn ei roi ac y byddwn yn ei rhoi. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda CLILC i gyflawni hynny.

Catherine Thomas: Diolch am eich ymateb i'r adroddiad pwysig hwn. Yn arbennig, croesawaf yr argymhelliad y dylai awdurdodau lleol gynnal asesiadau risg o lwybrau cerdded i ysgolion, ond ceir amheuan ynghylch diogelwch. Yn wir, mae Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin wedi comisiynu sawl asesiad risg yn ddiweddar o lwybrau yng nghwm Gwendraeth. Dyna ganlyniad lobio gan rieni yn y Tymbl a Cross Hands. Mae'r

and Cross Hands. The local authority is currently considering the findings of the risk assessment. However, what course of action will be taken if, after considering a risk assessment, a local authority perceives that there is no risk, even though parents and children still believe that, because of their experience, there is a definite risk? Will the revised guidance deal with such disagreements?

Jane Davidson: I hope that we can set in place a set of considerations that all local authorities will use when they undertake such risk assessments. However, this is an area where a risk assessment carried out on a private basis, commissioned by parents, might have a different outcome to a risk assessment commissioned by the local authority. That is why, as I pointed out in my initial contribution, these matters will, sometimes, only be settled by case law. The committee took a lot of evidence on this area, and we are hoping to reduce the need for that to happen by putting in place a set of requirements for risk assessment, which people across Wales would sign up to, and which can be delivered at the national level, used at LEA level, and used at school level.

Y Llywydd: Chwe munud sydd ar ôl, felly hoffwn gwestiynau ac atebion byr, os gwelwch yn dda. Deallaf fod hwn yn fater pwysig.

Owen John Thomas: Yr wyf yn pryderu am y 22 awdurdod lleol yn gwneud hyn yn eu ffyrdd eu hunain. Hoffwn godi tri phwynt penodol. Nid oes arweiniad oddi wrthych ynglŷn â phlant tair neu bedair oed; maent yn derbyn addysg, ond nid oes cludiant wedi ei ddarparu ar eu cyfer. Mae'r un peth yn wir am blant rhwng 16 a 18 oed. Yr ydych yn disgwyl iddynt aros yn yr ysgol er mwyn cwblhau lefel A, ond nid oes darpariaeth ar eu cyfer. Yn olaf, yr wyf yn siomedig nad ydym yn rhoi arweiniad ar wregysau diogelwch. Mae hwn yn fater hynod o bwysig, ac mae nifer o bobl yn disgwyl arweiniad gennym.

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf yn ymateb yn ôl cynnwys adroddiad y pwyllgor, ac yr wyf yn hapus i gefnogi'r argymhellion. Mae'r

awdurdod lleol yn ystyried canfyddiadau'r asesiad risg ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, pa gamau a gymerir os bydd awdurdod lleol o'r farn ar ôl ystyried asesiad risg nad oes risg yn bodoli, er bod rhieni a phlant yn credu o hyd, oherwydd eu profiad, bod risg bendant? A fydd y canllawiau diwygiedig yn ymdrin ag anghytundebau o'r fath?

Jane Davidson: Gobeithiaf y gallwn bennu cyfres o ystyriaethau y bydd pob awdurdod lleol yn ei defnyddio yn y gwaith o gynnal asesiadau risg o'r fath. Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn faes lle y gallai asesiad risg a gynhelir yn breifat, ac a gomisiynir gan rieni, gael canlyniad gwahanol i asesiad risg a gomisiynir gan yr awdurdod lleol. Dyna'r rheswm, fel y nodais yn fy nghyfraniad cychwynnol, mai dim ond drwy gyfraith achos yr ymdrinnir â'r materion hyn weithiau. Cafodd y pwyllgor lawer o dystiolaeth ar y maes hwn, ac yr ydym yn gobeithio lleihau'r angen am hynny drwy roi cyfres o ofynion ar waith ar gyfer asesu risg, y byddai pobl ledled Cymru yn eu cefnogi, ac y gellir eu darparu ar lefel genedlaethol, eu defnyddio ar lefel AAL, a'u defnyddio ar lefel ysgolion.

The Presiding Officer: There are six minutes left, therefore could I please have brief questions and answers. I understand that this is an important matter.

Owen John Thomas: I am concerned about the 22 local authorities doing this in their own way. I would like to raise three specific points. No guidance has come from you regarding three and four-year-olds; they receive education, but no transport is provided for them. The same is true of children between the ages of 16 and 18. You expect them to stay in school to complete their A-levels, but there is no provision for them. Finally, I am disappointed that we have not taken a lead on seat belts. It is extremely important, and many people expect us to lead the way.

Jane Davidson: I am responding according to the contents of the committee's report, and I am happy to support its recommendations.

materion eraill y tu allan i ystyriaeth y pwyllgor. Ar wregysau diogelwch, nid oes gofyniad cyfreithiol i blant eu gwisgo. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais yn fy ateb i gwestiwn cynharach, cyflwynir cyfarwydddeb Ewropeaidd flwyddyn nesaf i sicrhau bod plant yn eu defnyddio os ydynt ar gael. Felly, fe fydd hynny'n ddefnyddiol iawn i ni o ran datblygu'r argymhellion yn y dyfodol.

David Melding: I commend your sensitive approach, and I do not doubt your good faith to improve the safety of school transport. What you have said is helpful in terms of compelling people to wear seat belts, and that is an important step forward. I also urge you to look at the use of closed circuit television, particularly on double-decker buses. I agree that it is beyond our present capacity to phase out double-decker buses quickly—that would be very difficult—but perhaps CCTV or supervision, particularly on the upper deck, would be a good step forward. The risk assessments have to identify the routes on which there is occasional disturbance, and we have to anticipate that children sometime engage in high spirits and horseplay. That has gone on for centuries, though not necessarily on buses; only more recently has transport been an added risk. The consequences of horseplay in the past have not been as serious as they are now if children engage in this kind of high jinks on motor vehicles.

Jane Davidson: We were all persuaded in committee by the evidence on the use of CCTV. That is increasingly becoming the norm in local authority practice. Local authorities are using buses with CCTV and, quite imaginatively, moving them onto problem routes if they suddenly find that they have a difficult cohort of young people. The report also talks about putting escorts in place for children under eight. In fact, our experience is that the majority of journeys undertaken by primary school children already have an escort. There is similar provision for children with special needs. We want to ensure that this kind of provision is enshrined in future contracts, because many of the contracts will predate the easy introduction of CCTV, so we need those sorts

The other matters are outside the committee's consideration. On seat belts, there is no legal requirement that children wear them. However, as I said in my response to an earlier question, a European directive will be put in place next year to ensure that children use them if they are available. Therefore, that will be very useful for us in terms of developing the recommendations in the future.

David Melding: Cymeradwyaf eich ymagwedd sensitif, ac nid wyf yn amau eich ewyllys da i wella diogelwch cludiant i'r ysgol. Mae'r hyn a ddywedwyd gennych yn ddefnyddiol o ran gorfodi pobl i wisgo gwregysau diogelwch, ac mae hwnnw'n gam pwysig ymlaen. Fe'ch anogaf hefyd i edrych ar y defnydd o deledu cylch cyfyng, yn enwedig ar fysiau deulawr. Gwn ei bod y tu hwnt i'n gallu presennol i roi'r gorau i ddefnyddio bysiau deulawr—byddai hynny'n anodd iawn—ond efallai y byddai teledu cylch cyfyng neu oruchwyliaeth, yn enwedig ar y llawr uchaf, yn gam cadarnhaol ymlaen. Rhaid i'r asesiadau risg nodi'r teithiau lle y ceir aflonyddwch ar adegau, a rhaid inni ragweld y bydd plant weithiau mewn hwyliau da ac yn chwarae'n wirion. Mae hynny wedi digwydd ers canrifoedd, er nad ar fysiau o reidrwydd; dim ond yn ddiweddar y bu cludiant yn risg ychwanegol. Ni fu canlyniadau chwarae gwirion yn y gorfennol mor ddifrifol ag y maent yn awr os bydd plant yn cymryd rhan yn y math hwn o rialtwch ar gerbydau modur.

Jane Davidson: Perswadiwyd pob un ohonom yn y pwyllgor gan y dystiolaeth ar y defnydd o deledu cylch cyfyng. Daw hynny'n arfer cynyddol gyffredin ymhlith awdurdodau lleol. Mae awdurdodau lleol yn defnyddio bysiau gyda theledu cylch cyfyng ac, mewn ffordd lawn dychymyg, yn eu symud i deithiau sy'n achosi problemau os byddant yn canfod yn sydyn bod ganddynt garfan anodd o bobl ifanc. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn crybwyll defnyddio hebryngwyr ar gyfer plant o dan wyth oed. Mewn gwirionedd, yn ôl ein profiad ni, ceir hebryngwyr ar gyfer y rhan fwyaf o deithiau a wna plant ysgol gynradd eisoes. Ceir darpariaeth debyg ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig. Yr ydym am sicrhau bod y math hwn o ddarpariaeth yn rhan sylfaenol o gontractau yn y dyfodol,

of mechanisms. In terms risk-assessment issues, we are trying to pick that up in the whole package.

4.20 p.m.

Alun Cairns: Will you clarify in a little more detail, and in writing if appropriate, which I suspect it is, the powers that you have to direct local authorities? Will you elaborate on when does guidance in practice become direction? I appreciate that guidance from the Assembly in many other areas across the Assembly's responsibility and local authorities' responsibility in practice becomes direction. For example, in the case of planning, the Assembly has the power to intervene if it is not happy.

Also, what power do you have to intervene if a risk assessment by a group of parents is different to the risk assessment conducted by the local authority, rather than resorting to case law? It would be far simpler if you had the power to intervene in that respect.

Finally, do you recognise that there is a funding implication to delivering on these recommendations, and what statement can you make in that respect in order to help local authorities to improve safety for all children concerned?

Jane Davidson: It became quite clear during the committee's work that the issues around who has responsibilities are complex. I will therefore be able to respond to your request via the guidelines that we will issue and that will clarify who has responsibility. As I pointed out in answer to a previous question, the Assembly Government does not have responsibilities in terms of direction, which is why we are taking the leadership, with support of all Assembly Members, in terms of ensuring that we are able to work with those who have the statutory responsibility. That mostly lies with the local authorities, and, in some levels, lies with the UK Government in terms of the delivery of this agenda.

oherwydd bydd llawer o'r contractau yn cynyddio'r broses hawdd o gyflwyno teledu cylch cyfyng, felly mae angen y mathau hynny o ddulliau arnom. O ran materion asesu risg, yr ydym yn ceisio ystyried hynny yn y pecyn cyflawn.

Alun Cairns: A wnewch chi egluro ychydig yn fanylach, ac yn ysgrifenedig os yw'n briodol, ac amheuaf fod hynny'n wir, y pwerau sydd gennych i gyfarwyddo awdurdodau lleol? A wnewch chi ymhelaethu o ran pryd y daw canllawiau yn gyfarwyddyd yn ymarferol? Deallaf y daw canllawiau gan y Cynulliad mewn llawer o feysydd eraill ar draws cyfrifoldeb y Cynulliad a chyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol yn gyfarwyddyd yn ymarferol. Er enghraifft, yn achos cynllunio, mae gan y Cynulliad y pŵer i ymyrryd os nad yw'n fodlon.

Yn ogystal, pa bŵer sydd gennych i ymyrryd os bydd asesiad risg gan grŵp o rieni yn wahanol i asesiad risg a gynhelir gan yr awdurdod lleol, yn hytrach na throi at gyfraith achos? Byddai'n llawer symlach pe bai gennych y pŵer i ymyrryd yn y cyd-destun hwnnw.

Yn olaf, a gydnabyddwch fod goblygiad ariannu i'r broses o weithredu'r argymhellion hyn, a pha ddatganiad y gallwch ei wneud yn y cyd-destun hwnnw er mwyn helpu awdurdodau lleol i wella diogelwch i'r holl blant dan sylw?

Jane Davidson: Daeth yn eithaf clir yn ystod gwaith y pwyllgor bod y materion sy'n ymwneud â phwy sydd â chyfrifoldebau yn gymhleth. Gallaf ymateb i'ch cais felly drwy'r canllawiau y byddwn yn eu cyhoeddi a bydd hynny'n egluro pwy sydd â'r cyfrifoldeb. Fel y nodais mewn ymateb i gwestiwn blaenorol, nid oes gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gyfrifoldebau o ran cyfarwyddyd, sef y rheswm yr ydym yn gafael yn yr awenau, gyda chefnogaeth holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad, o ran sicrhau y gallwn weithio gyda'r rhai sydd â'r cyfrifoldeb statudol. Yr awdurdodau lleol sydd â'r cyfrifoldeb hwnnw'n bennaf, ac, ar rai lefelau, Llywodraeth y DU sydd â'r cyfrifoldeb o ran cyflawni'r agenda hon.

In funding terms, we currently have a set of different provisions across Wales. We know that about half of the local authorities conducted their contracts on the basis of cost alone, and about half put all sorts of extra provisions in their contracts. We give local authorities substantial amounts of money, and it is up to them to decide at local level how they use that expenditure. We will look at local authorities using that expenditure and at their capacity to do so in terms of improving safety arrangements according to what is best in Wales at present. However, in order to comply with the European directive next year, there will be areas where we may want to look at additional incentivisation, for example, in terms of seat belts for the future. We have already indicated that we will put additional incentivisation in place in terms of the cost of introducing the pilots and the School Transport Bill.

There will be a number of areas that will remain part of the regular dialogue between local authorities and the Assembly Government as part of the budget-making process.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Alun Cairns: Point of order. I seek clarification about the appropriate dress code for Assembly Members, particularly male Assembly Members.

The Presiding Officer: I have ruled on this matter on a number of occasions. I believe that the last time that I did that was in December 2002, when the weather was colder than at present. I do not wish to be too prescriptive or to intervene in people's personal rights as regards their dress code. I have recently noticed a distinctive lowering in the standard of the dress code on politics programmes on television. It is a practice that I do not personally follow, but I do not want to rule that it would be inappropriate for people to dress in a more relaxed manner in warm weather. However, my personal preference is as you see me now. [*Laughter.*]

O ran ariannu, mae gennym gyfres o ddarpariaethau gwahanol ledled Cymru ar hyn o bryd. Gwyddom fod tua hanner o'r awdurdodau lleol wedi cynnal eu contractau ar sail cost yn unig, a bod tua hanner wedi rhoi pob math o ddarpariaethau ychwanegol yn eu contractau. Rhown symiau sylweddol o arian i awdurdodau lleol, a'u cyfrifoldeb hwy yw penderfynu sut i ddefnyddio'r gwariant hwnnw yn lleol. Edrychwn ar y ffordd y mae awdurdodau lleol yn defnyddio'r gwariant hwnnw ac ar eu gallu i wneud hynny o ran gwella trefniadau diogelwch yn ôl yr hyn sy'n orau yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, er mwyn cydymffurfio â'r gyfarwydddeb Ewropeaidd y flwyddyn nesaf, bydd meysydd lle y mae'n bosibl y byddwn am ystyried cymhellion ychwanegol, er enghraifft, o ran gwregysau diogelwch ar gyfer y dyfodol. Yr ydym wedi nodi eisoes y byddwn yn rhoi cymhellion ychwanegol ar waith o ran y gost o gyflwyno'r cynlluniau peilot a Mesur Cludiant i'r Ysgol.

Bydd nifer o feysydd a fydd yn parhau'n rhan o'r ddeialog rheolaidd rhwng awdurdodau lleol a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fel rhan o'r broses o lunio'r gyllideb.

Alun Cairns: Pwynt o drefn. Hoffwn eglurhad ar y wisg briodol ar gyfer Aelodau'r Cynulliad, yn enwedig Aelodau'r Cynulliad sy'n ddynion.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dyfarnu ar y mater hwn sawl gwaith. Credaf mai'r tro diwethaf imi wneud hynny oedd ym mis Rhagfyr 2002, pan oedd y tywydd yn oerach nag ydyw ar hyn o bryd. Nid wyf am fod yn rhy ragnodol nac ymyrryd â hawliau personol pobl o ran eu gwisg. Yn ddiweddar, sylwais ar ostyngiad amlwg yn safon y wisg ar raglenni gwleidyddiaeth ar y teledu. Mae'n arfer nad wyf yn ei ddilyn yn bersonol, ond nid wyf am ddyfarnu y byddai'n amhriodol i bobl wisgo mewn ffordd fwy ymlaciol mewn tywydd cynnes. Fodd bynnag, dyma'r wisg sydd orau gennyf. [*Chwerthin.*]

Cyllido Addysg Uwch Higher Education Funding

Y Llywydd: Caiff amser siaradwyr ei gyfyngu yn y ddadl hon—15 munud yr un i'r rhai fydd yn agor ac yn cau'r ddadl, pum munud yr un i lefaryddion y pleidiau, a thri munud i bawb arall.

Y Prif Weinidog: Cynigïaf y cynnig yn fy enw i ac yn enwau Ieuan Wyn Jones, Nick Bourne a Michael German, fod:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â'r pwerau a gyflwynwyd iddo gan Ddeddf Addysg Uwch 2004, ac yng ngoleuni penderfyniad y Cynulliad dyddiedig 24 Mai a gymeradwyodd yr egwyddor y dylai sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru dderbyn arian yn llifo o'r Ddeddf honno ar lefel sy'n gymesur â'r lefel a ddarperir i brifysgolion yn Lloegr, ceisia Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gymeradwyaeth y Cynulliad i lunio cynllun cymorth i fyfyrwyr a chyllido cysylltiedig rhwng prifysgolion ar gyfer y flwyddyn academaidd 2007/8 ymlaen yn seiliedig ar yr elfennau canlynol:

1. uchafswm ffioedd hyblyg gohiriedig mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru o hyd at £1,800, yn ogystal â'r ffi sefydlog bresennol o £1,200;

2. grantiau i dalu am ffioedd o £1,800 i fyfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n mynychu SAUau yng Nghymru;

3. ymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael ag unrhyw fwlch ariannu rhwng SAUau yng Nghymru a sefydliadau cyfatebol yn y DU, gan adrodd yn ôl i'r Cynulliad gyda chynigion;

4. cynllun i gynorthwyo myfyrwyr sy'n dilyn cyrsiau cymeradwy nad ydynt ar gael mewn SAUau yng Nghymru;

5. cynllun bwrsariaeth cenedlaethol i gynyddu mynediad i fyfyrwyr sy'n astudio yng Nghymru, wedi'i ariannu gan incwm o ffioedd ychwanegol;

The Presiding Officer: Time limits will be applied in this debate—15 minutes each for those opening and closing the debate, five minutes each for party spokespersons, and three minutes each for everyone else.

The First Minister: I propose the motion in my name and the names of Ieuan Wyn Jones, Nick Bourne and Michael German, that:

the National Assembly for Wales in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by the Higher Education Act 2004, and in the light of the Assembly's resolution of 24 May which endorsed the principle that higher education institutions in Wales should receive funding flowing from that Act at a level commensurate with that provided to universities in England, the Welsh Assembly Government seeks the Assembly's approval to draw up a scheme of student support and linked university funding for the academic year 2007/8 onwards based on the following elements:

1. maximum deferred flexible fees in Welsh higher education institutions of up to £1,800, in addition to the existing fixed fee of £1,200;

2. fee remission grants of £1,800 for Welsh domiciled students attending Welsh HEIs;

3. an undertaking to address any funding gap between Welsh HEIs and other comparable institutions in the UK, reporting back to the Assembly with proposals;

4. a scheme to assist students pursuing approved courses not available at Welsh HEIs;

5. a national bursary scheme to enhance access for students studying in Wales, financed from additional fee income;

6. *gwaith pellach ar unwaith ar ariannu a chymorth i fyfyrwyr rhan amser yng Nghymru.* (NNDM2491)

Mae'n bleser gennyf roi'r cynnig hwn ger eich bron heddiw ar ran arweinyddion pedair plaid yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Mae'r cynnig yn tarddu o brif bwyntiau'r cynnig a dderbyniwyd gan y Cynulliad ar 24 Mai. Mae'r cynnig yn adlewyrchu casgliadau trafodaethau manwl rhwng arweinyddion y pleidiau, a thrafodaethau mewn man arall, ers cyhoeddi adroddiad comisiwn yr Athro Teresa Rees. Y mae hefyd yn adlewyrchu'r galw o bob rhan o'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i greu sector addysg uwch yng Nghymru sy'n ffynnu. Yr enillydd mawr heddiw yw colegau a phrifysgolion Cymru, eu staff, a'u myfyrwyr presennol a'r rhai a ddaw.

6. *further immediate work on funding and support for part-time students in Wales.* (NNDM2491)

It gives me great pleasure to propose this motion on behalf of four party leaders in the National Assembly. The motion emanates from the terms of the Assembly motion carried on 24 May. The motion reflects the conclusions of detailed discussions between the four party leaders, and discussions in another place, since the publication of the report of the commission chaired by Professor Teresa Rees. It also reflects the call from all parts of the National Assembly to create a thriving higher education sector in Wales. The big winner today is the colleges and universities of Wales, their staff and their students today and in future.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.24 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.24 p.m.*

The vision underpinning today's motion is of a Welsh higher education sector that plays a prominent role not just in Wales, but on the European and world academic stage. We are fortunate in having world-class researchers across the sector in Wales, and we want to continue to attract that sort of academic excellence, and for that academic excellence, in turn, to attract students from all over the world. Above all, we should not lose our academic excellence by being open to poaching through having an academic sector in Wales that is less well funded than elsewhere. We want a higher education sector that stimulates and inspires students from Wales, and the best way to provide that inspiration is to make it clear that our ambition is to inspire students from elsewhere in the UK and from further afield to come here. Higher education is increasingly a global business, and our ambition is to be active players in that global higher education marketplace..

Y weledigaeth sy'n sail i'r cynnig heddiw yw sector addysg uwch yng Nghymru sy'n chwarae rhan flaenllaw nid yn unig yng Nghymru, ond yn y byd academiaidd yn Ewrop ac yn fyd-eang. Yr ydym yn ffodus bod gennym ymchwilwyr o'r radd flaenaf ar draws y sector yng Nghymru, ac yr ydym am barhau i ddenu'r math hwnnw o ragoriaeth academiaidd, ac i'r rhagoriaeth academiaidd honno, yn ei thro, ddenu myfyrwyr o bob cwr o'r byd. Yn anad dim, ni ddylem golli ein rhagoriaeth academiaidd wrth i academyddion ein gadael am fod gennym sector academiaidd yng Nghymru nad yw wedi'i ariannu cystal â manau eraill. Yr ydym am gael sector addysg uwch sy'n ysgogi ac yn ysbrydoli myfyrwyr o Gymru, a'r ffordd orau o ddarparu'r ysbrydoliaeth honno yw drwy egluro mai ein huchelgais yw ysbrydoli myfyrwyr o fannau eraill yn y DU ac o wledydd eraill i ddod yma. Mae addysg uwch, yn gynyddol, yn fusnes byd-eang, a'n huchelgais yw sicrhau ein bod yn chwarae rhan bwysig yn y farchnad addysg uwch fyd-eang honno.

We want to ensure the widest possible access to higher education for all young people in Wales. The Rees report argues that we should invest in improving the educational experiences of all children from their early years, right through their time in our schools.

Yr ydym am sicrhau'r mynediad ehangaf posibl i addysg uwch i bob person ifanc yng Nghymru. Mae adroddiad Rees yn dadlau y dylem fuddsoddi yn y gwaith o wella profiadau addysgol pob plentyn o'u blynyddoedd cynnar, drwy gydol eu hamser

Professor Rees is right in that regard. The report requires that we develop a diversity of learning opportunities in schools, colleges and throughout our lives. It also requires that the fees we charge for higher education in all its forms are not a disincentive to participation in the learning process. As a Government, we promote prosperity and social justice, and our investment in lifelong learning is one of the key means by which we achieve both of those aims.

I will reiterate the key elements of the motion. From 2007-08, Welsh higher education institutions will be given the flexibility to charge fees of up to £3,000—£1,800 more than the existing £1,200 fixed fee. This will ensure that institutions operate on a level playing field financially, following the introduction of variable fees in England. We are no less keen to attract students to Wales from the rest of the UK. We want those students to come to Wales because they are attracted by the excellence of our institutions and by what higher education in Wales has to offer in terms of experience.

We have made clear our concern in the Assembly that any increase in fee levels necessary to maintain the higher education sector's competitiveness should not act as a disincentive to Welsh domiciled students. The motion makes clear, therefore, that under our proposed package, Welsh domiciled HE students studying in Wales will be eligible for an £1,800 fee remission grant, offsetting entirely the additional fees that those students would otherwise be charged. This is a sound incentive for Welsh domiciled students to study here, and then to stay and contribute to Wales's prosperity. We shall evaluate that impact carefully.

I am pleased to confirm that, from 2006-07, once we have devolved the necessary student finance powers, the £1,200 fee contribution that students currently are required to make upfront will be deferred until after students graduate, and the loans will be repaid by graduates when they earn £15,000 or more. The rate at which that will need to be repaid

yn ein hysgolion. Mae'r Athro Rees yn iawn yn hynny o beth. Mae'r adroddiad yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol inni ddatblygu amrywiaeth o gyfleoedd dysgu mewn ysgolion, colegau, a thrwy gydol ein bywydau. Mae hefyd yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol nad yw'r ffioedd a godwn ar gyfer addysg uwch ar ei holl ffurfiau yn cymhell pobl i beidio â chymryd rhan yn y broses ddysgu. Fel Llywodraeth, hyrwyddwn ffyniant a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol, a'n buddsoddiad mewn dysgu gydol oes yw un o'r ffyrdd allweddol yr ydym yn cyflawni'r ddau nod hynny.

Ailadroddaf elfennau allweddol y cynnig. O 2007-08, rhoddir yr hyblygrwydd i sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru godi ffioedd o hyd at £3,000—£1,800 yn fwy na'r ffi sefydlog bresennol o £1,200. Bydd hyn yn sicrhau bod sefydliadau yn gweithredu'n gyfartal yn ariannol, yn dilyn cyflwyno ffioedd amrywiadwy yn Lloegr. Yr ydym yr un mor awyddus i ddenu myfyrwyr i Gymru o weddill y DU. Yr ydym am i'r myfyrwyr hynny ddod i Gymru am eu bod yn cael eu denu gan ragoriaeth ein sefydliadau a chan yr hyn sydd gan addysg uwch yng Nghymru i'w gynnig o ran profiad.

Yr ydym wedi egluro ein pryder yn y Cynulliad na ddylai unrhyw gynnydd mewn ffioedd sydd ei angen i gynnal cystadleurwydd y sector addysg uwch weithredu fel anghymhelliant i fyfyrwyr o Gymru. Mae'r cynnig yn egluro, felly, o dan ein pecyn arfaethedig, y bydd myfyrwyr addysg uwch o Gymru sy'n astudio yng Nghymru yn gymwys i gael grant i dalu am ffioedd o £1,800 gan wrthbwysu'r ffioedd ychwanegol a fyddai'n cael eu codi ar y myfyrwyr hynny fel arall yn gyfan gwbl. Mae hwn yn gymhelliant cadarn i fyfyrwyr o Gymru astudio yma, ac yna aros a chyfrannu at ffyniant Cymru. Byddwn yn gwerthuso'r effaith honno'n ofalus.

Mae'n bleser gennyf gadarnhau, o 2006-07, unwaith y byddwn wedi datganoli'r pwerau angenrheidiol o ran cyllid myfyrwyr, y caiff y cyfraniad o £1,200 tuag at ffioedd y mae'n ofynnol i fyfyrwyr ei dalu cyn cychwyn ar hyn o bryd ei ohirio hyd nes bod y myfyrwyr wedi graddio, a chaiff y benthyciadau eu hadalu gan raddedigion pan fyddant yn ennill

will depend on graduates' earnings.

We, as party leaders, were unanimous in our search for a *modus operandi* that would not disrupt the present cross-border flows of students, which are such a feature of Welsh higher education. When these new arrangements are introduced in 2007-08, they will need to apply to second-year students, who will enter university in 2006, as well as those starting their courses a year later. The position of Welsh domiciled students will be protected by the scheme that has been put before you this afternoon, but it will impact on those applying from elsewhere in the UK. No fee refugees, please—that is the call. We will need to communicate this change very clearly to our institutions so that students applying for places this autumn are clear on the nature of the changes being introduced in Wales from 2007, which will impact on them during the second year of their course.

4.30 p.m.

The effect of European law is to preclude us from providing similar levels of financial support to students pursuing courses such as veterinary science, which are currently not available in Wales. This situation has to be addressed urgently. We need to be clear about the number of students who might find themselves in that difficult situation, and find ways by which their position might be protected. This is a difficult area, technically, but there is consensus between the parties that we would not wish to proceed with any scheme likely to be challenged in the courts.

I am pleased to be able to confirm that we intend to introduce a national bursary scheme, as was proposed by Terri Rees, which will aim to bring a sense of coherence to the approach taken by Welsh higher education institutions on bursaries, so as to avoid the bewildering array of schemes on offer to students from institutions in England. Bursaries are primarily about widening access, but the national bursary scheme is

£15,000 neu fwy. Bydd y raddfa ar gyfer ad-dalu'r arian hwnnw yn dibynnu ar enillion y graddedigion.

Yr oeddem ni, fel arweinwyr y pleidiau, yn unfrydol yn ein hawydd i chwilio am ddull o weithredu na fyddai'n amharu ar lif myfyrwyr rhwng Cymru a Lloegr ar hyn o bryd, sy'n nodwedd mor bwysig o addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Pan gyflwynir y trefniadau newydd hyn yn 2007-08, bydd angen iddynt fod yn berthnasol i fyfyrwyr yn eu hail flwyddyn, a fydd yn dechrau yn y brifysgol yn 2006, yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n dechrau eu cyrsiau flwyddyn yn ddiweddarach. Caiff sefyllfa myfyrwyr o Gymru ei diogelu gan y cynllun a gyflwynwyd ger eich bron y prynhawn yma, ond bydd yn effeithio ar y rhai sy'n gwneud cais o fannau eraill yn y DU. Dim ffoaduriaid ffioedd, os gwelwch yn dda—dyna'r alwad. Bydd angen inni egluro'r newid hwn yn fanwl iawn wrth ein sefydliadau fel bod myfyrwyr sy'n gwneud cais am leoedd yr hydref hwn yn deall natur y newidiadau sy'n cael eu cyflwyno yng Nghymru o 2007, a fydd yn effeithio arnynt yn ystod ail flwyddyn eu cwrs.

Effaith cyfraith Ewrop yw ein hatal rhag darparu lefelau tebyg o gymorth ariannol i fyfyrwyr sy'n dilyn cyrsiau megis milfeddygaeth, nad ydynt ar gael yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa hon ar unwaith. Rhaid inni fod yn glir ynghylch nifer y myfyrwyr a allai fod yn y sefyllfa anodd honno, a dod o hyd i ffordd posibl o'u diogelu. Mae hwn yn faes anodd, yn dechnegol, ond ceir consensws rhwng y pleidiau na fyddem yn awyddus i fwrw ymlaen ag unrhyw gynllun a fyddai'n debygol o gael ei herio yn y llysoedd.

Yr wyf yn falch o allu cadarnhau ein bod yn bwriadu cyflwyno cynllun bwrsari cenedlaethol, fel y cynigiwyd gan Terri Rees, a fydd yn anelu at ddod ag ymdeimlad o gydlyniant i'r ffordd y mae sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn ymdrin â bwrsariau, er mwyn osgoi'r doreth ddryslyd o gynlluniau sydd ar gael i fyfyrwyr gan sefydliadau yn Lloegr. Mae bwrsariau yn ymwneud yn bennaf ag ehangu mynediad,

also a means of targeting other policy and institutional priorities. We need to find ways of attracting students into shortage subjects, such as mathematics, physics, engineering and foreign languages, and to find ways of assisting institutions to extend the range of opportunities to study courses through the medium of Welsh.

Professor Rees's report also highlights the position of part-time students in Wales. It is only part-time students that have paid full fees upfront, and, sadly, will continue to pay full upfront fees in England, unless something is done about that. Fully 40 per cent of undergraduate enrolments at Welsh higher education institutions are now to study part time. The proportion is much higher in our urban universities and colleges. This is a higher proportion than in the rest of the UK, and represents a crucial aspect of our success in widening access to higher education to disadvantaged groups.

Professor Rees correctly identified that the knock-on effects of variable fees being introduced in England could have highly damaging implications for part-time study. To ensure that the position of part-time students is safeguarded, I am pleased to announce that we intend to mount an independent review of the issues facing part-time students. The review will be conducted on a task-and-finish basis and will draw on a range of expertise from within the sector and beyond. Our aim will be to ensure that the opportunity of part-time study should continue to play a prominent and innovative role in support of lifelong learning across higher education institutions.

Finally, Welsh universities will only be able to make the contribution that we all expect of them if they are adequately funded. The tuition fee proposals that we are debating today will make a significant contribution to that funding issue. They will ensure that Welsh higher education institutions are provided with a new funding stream that is at least as generous as the fee income being generated in England. However, we have

ond mae'r cynllun bwrsari cenedlaethol hefyd yn fodd i dargedu blaenoriaethau polisi a blaenoriaethau sefydliadol eraill. Mae angen inni ddod o hyd i ffyrdd o ddenu myfyrwyr i bynciau lle mae prinder, megis mathemateg, ffiseg, peirianeg ac ieithoedd modern a dod o hyd i ffyrdd o helpu sefydliadau i ymestyn yr amrywiaeth o gyfleoedd i astudio drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg.

Mae adroddiad yr Athro Rees hefyd yn amlygu sefyllfa'r myfyrwyr rhan amser yng Nghymru. Dim ond myfyrwyr rhan amser fydd wedi talu ffioedd llawn cyn cychwyn, ac, yn anffodus, byddant yn parhau i dalu ffioedd llawn cyn cychwyn yn Lloegr, oni wneir rhywbeth ynglŷn â'r peth. Bellach, mae 40 y cant o'r israddedigion sy'n cofrestru mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn astudio'n rhan amser. Mae'r gyfran yn llawer uwch yn ein prifysgolion a'n colegau trefol. Mae hon yn gyfran uwch na gweddill y DU, ac mae'n agwedd hollbwysig ar ein llwyddiant wrth ehangu mynediad grwpiau difreintiedig i addysg uwch.

Nododd yr Athro Rees yn gywir y gallai effeithiau'r broses o gyflwyno ffioedd amrywiadwy yn Lloegr arwain at oblygiadau niweidiol iawn o ran astudio rhan amser. Er mwyn sicrhau bod sefyllfa myfyrwyr rhan amser wedi'i diogelu, yr wyf yn falch o gyhoeddi ein bod yn bwriadu cynnal adolygiad annibynnol o'r materion y mae myfyrwyr rhan amser yn eu hwynebu. Cynhelir yr adolygiad ar sail gorchwyl a gorffen a bydd yn manteisio ar amrywiaeth o arbenigedd o fewn y sector a'r tu hwnt. Ein nod fydd sicrhau y dylai'r cyfle i astudio'n rhan amser barhau i chwarae rhan amlwg ac arloesol yn y gwaith o gefnogi dysgu gydol oes ar draws sefydliadau addysg uwch.

Yn olaf, dim ond os bydd prifysgolion Cymru yn cael eu hariannu'n ddigonol y gallant wneud y cyfraniad yr ydym oll yn ei ddisgwyl ganddynt. Bydd y cynigion ar y ffioedd dysgu yr ydym yn eu trafod heddiw yn gwneud cyfraniad sylweddol at y mater ariannu hwnnw. Byddant yn sicrhau bod gan sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru ffrwd ariannu newydd sydd o leiaf mor hael â'r incwm ffioedd a gynhyrchir yn Lloegr.

agreed to consider whether there are any further steps that should be taken to put our HE institutions on an equivalent financial footing to their counterparts elsewhere. We will report back to the Assembly on our conclusion before the end of the forthcoming budget round, around the end of the year.

I commend the terms of the motion to the Assembly.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have many speakers for this debate. I propose to call Ieuan Wyn Jones, Nick Bourne and Peter Black, and allow them a time limit of five minutes each. I will impose a time limit of three minutes on all subsequent speakers.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Hoffwn hefyd ei gwneud yn glir fy mod yn croesawu'r cynnig hwn. Mae'n gynnig hanesyddol, oherwydd, am y tro cyntaf, mae gennym gynnig ar fater o bolisi yn enw'r pedwar arweinydd plaid. Mae hynny'n argoeli'n dda ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Mae heddiw'n ddiwrnod pwysig i fyfyrwyr a cholegau addysg uwch yng Nghymru, ac i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Unwaith yr ydych yn cael pwerau datganoledig, y perygl yw eu bod yn cael eu defnyddio mewn ffordd a allai fynd â chi ar hyd llwybr gwahanol i'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr. Gwelsom hyn yn digwydd yn yr Alban, a heddiw fe'i gwelwn yn digwydd yng Nghymru.

Mae'r Cynulliad wedi gwneud ei safbwynt ar ffioedd ychwanegol yn glir fwy nag unwaith. Nid oes mwyafrif o'u plaid yn y Cynulliad, felly y cyfan yr oedd y cynnig ar 24 Mai yn ei wneud oedd cyfarwyddo'r Llywodraeth i beidio â'u cyflwyno, ac ailadrodd yr hyn a basiwyd ym mis Tachwedd y llynedd. Unwaith yr oeddem wedi cyrraedd y fan honno, yr oedd yn rhaid cael setliad a adlewyrchai'r hyn a basiwyd yn y cynnig. Yr oeddem yn dod at y pwnc hwn â safbwynt Plaid Cymru a'r ddwy wrthblaid arall—a Peter Law—yn eithaf clir, sef bod cyflwyno ffioedd ychwanegol yn rhwystr i bobl ifanc rhag dilyn cyrsiau yn y colegau addysg uwch a'n prifysgolion. Bydd symud y rhwystr ariannol hwnnw yn hwb i'n pobl ifanc i gael yr hyder i fynd i ddilyn y cyrsiau hynny.

Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi cytuno i ystyried pa un a oes unrhyw gamau pellach y dylid eu cymryd i sicrhau bod ein sefydliadau AU mewn sefyllfa ariannol debyg i'w cymheiriaid mewn manau arall. Byddwn yn cyflwyno ein casgliad i'r Cynulliad cyn diwedd y cylch cyllideb nesaf, tua diwedd y flwyddyn.

Cymeradwyaf delerau'r cynnig i'r Cynulliad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Mae gennyf sawl siaradwr ar gyfer y ddadl hon. Cynigiaf alw ar Ieuan Wyn Jones, Nick Bourne a Peter Black, a rhoi terfyn amser iddynt o bum munud yr un. Byddaf yn gosod terfyn amser o dair munud ar bob siaradwr dilynol.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I also make it clear that I welcome this motion. It is an historic motion, because, for the first time, we have a motion on a matter of policy in the names of the four party leaders. That augurs well for the future.

Today is an important day for students and higher education colleges in Wales, and for the National Assembly. Once you have devolved powers, the danger is that those powers may be used in such a way as to take you along a different path to that which happens in England. We have seen this happening in Scotland, and we see it happening today in Wales.

The Assembly has made its stance on top-up fees clear more than once. There is not a majority in favour of them in the Assembly, so all that the motion on 24 May did was to instruct the Government not to introduce them, and repeat what was agreed in November last year. Once we had arrived at that point, we had to have a settlement that reflected what had been passed in the motion. We approached this subject with the standpoint of Plaid Cymru and the other two opposition parties—and Peter Law—quite clear, namely that introducing top-up fees was an obstacle preventing young people from following courses in higher education colleges and our universities. Eliminating that financial obstacle will be a boost the confidence of our young people to follow those courses.

Mae'n fater o bryder bod cyfartaledd mor isel o fyfyrwyr o Gymru yng ngholegau Cymru—tua 62 y cant o'i gymharu â 95 y cant yn Lloegr a 94 y cant yn yr Alban. Yr ydym hefyd yn waeth o lawer na gweddill Prydain am gadw'n graddedigion yng Nghymru unwaith iddynt gymhwyso. Mae'n bwysig ein bod ni'n annog myfyrwyr yng Nghymru, lle bo modd, i ddewis cyrsiau yng Nghymru, er, yn naturiol, bydd nifer o bobl ifanc hefyd yn dymuno dilyn cyrsiau yn Lloegr, rhannau eraill o Brydain a thramor hyd yn oed.

Yr ail bwynt—a chredaf ein bod i gyd yn gytûn ar hyn—yw bod rhaid cau'r bwlch cyllido rhwng colegau addysg uwch yng Nghymru a rheini yn Lloegr. Mae rhai yn dweud bod y bwlch hwnnw'n £50 miliwn, a dywed eraill ei fod hyd at £100 miliwn. Nid wyf yn siŵr bod un ohonom yn gwybod beth yw'r union ffigur, ond rhaid sicrhau, dros gyfnod o flynyddoedd, bod y bwlch hwnnw'n cael ei gau. Ar y naill llaw, bydd hynny'n symbylu ein pobl ifanc a'n myfyrwyr ynghylch y ffioedd, ac ar y llall yn sicrhau bod ein colegau, fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog, yn gallu cystadlu, nid yn unig o fewn Cymru, ond ar y llwyfan Prydeinig a rhyngwladol. Mae'n hynod o bwysig bod pob plaid yn y Cynulliad yn cefnogi hynny.

Yn gryno, felly, amlinellaf rai o'r pethau pwysig a gytunwyd arnynt. Ni chyflwynir ffioedd ychwanegol yng Nghymru o gwbl, a bydd grant llawn o £1,800 ar gael i bob myfyriwr o Gymru sydd yn astudio mewn coleg yng Nghymru ar ôl 2007. Fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog, nid oes modd rhoi'r un telerau i fyfyrwyr o Gymru sydd yn astudio mewn colegau yn Lloegr, er ein bod yn chwilio am ffordd o roi cymorth i fyfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n dilyn cyrsiau yn Lloegr nad ydynt ar gael yng Nghymru. Yr ydym hefyd yn cefnogi'r syniad o gynllun bwrsari cenedlaethol am y rhesymau y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi'u hamlinellu. Yn ogystal â hynny, credaf ein bod cytuno bod angen hyrwyddo'r defnydd o gyrsiau cyfrwng Cymraeg yn y colegau, a rhaid inni sicrhau bod cyllid ar gael ar gyfer hynny.

I sum up by saying that considering the entirety of the agreement that has been reached—it is difficult to cover all the ground

It is a matter of concern that the average of students from Wales in colleges in Wales is so low—around 62 per cent compared with 95 per cent in England and 94 per cent in Scotland. We are also far worse than the rest of the UK at retaining our graduates in Wales once they have qualified. It is important that we encourage students in Wales, where possible, to select courses in Wales, although, naturally, a number of young people will also wish to follow courses in England, in other parts of the UK or even abroad.

The second point—and I believe that we all concur on this—is that we must close the funding gap between higher education colleges in Wales and those in England. Some say that that gap is £50 million while others say that it is up to £100 million. I am not sure whether any of us knows the exact figure, but we must ensure, over a period of many years, that that gap is closed. On the one hand, therefore, that will motivate our young people and students with regard to fees, and on the other, ensure that our colleges, as the First Minister said, can compete with others not only within Wales, but on the British and the international stage. It is vital that all parties in the Assembly support that.

Therefore, I will briefly outline some of the important things that have been agreed. No top-up fees at all will be introduced in Wales, and a full grant of £1,800 will be available for all Welsh-domiciled students studying at a Welsh college after 2007. As the First Minister said, it is not possible to offer the same conditions to students from Wales who are studying in colleges in England, although we are looking for a way in which we can support students from Wales who are following courses in England that are not available in Wales. We also support the idea of a national bursary scheme for the reasons that the First Minister outlined. In addition to that, I believe that we agreed that we need to promote the use of Welsh-medium courses in colleges, and we must ensure that funding is available for that.

Crynhof drwy ddweud o ystyried y cytundeb y daethpwyd iddo yn ei gyfanrwydd—mae'n anodd trafod popeth mewn pum munud—

in five minutes—this is an historical day for Welsh students. There will be no top-up fees after 2007 in Welsh higher education institutions. There will now be an incentive for young people to enter higher education in Wales. We are removing a financial barrier that prevents young people from entering future education. It is also an excellent day for our universities, because we are backing them in their fight to become internationally competitive.

Nick Bourne: It gives me great pleasure to support this motion tabled in the names of the four party leaders. First, I pay tribute to the joint working that has taken place, and to the support of the other opposition parties when this motion was tabled in the name of the Welsh Conservatives on 24 May. I am also grateful for your own help, Deputy Presiding Officer, as an Assembly Member and that of Peter Law, which was also extremely helpful. I also thank the First Minister who approached the talks in a constructive way that recognised the minority status of the Government, at least on this issue, which was very helpful.

As has rightly been said, this issue first arose at Westminster, and it had its own approach on top-up fees, which the Welsh Conservatives are against, and which the Conservatives more widely are against. Jane Davidson deserves thanks for ensuring that this was devolved, as we were reminded yesterday by Peter Hain. If this matter had not been devolved, we would not have had the opportunity to do something different in Wales, and the Minister is to be congratulated on that, because it has given us the ability to put forward this package, which is certainly welcome.

As has been said by the leader of Plaid Cymru, there were legal difficulties with ensuring that Welsh-domiciled students in England would have their fees reimbursed. We looked at this, but there were formidable legal problems in terms of paying for EU students in England outside the jurisdiction, quite apart from the financial cost. Ideally, we would love to have done that, but it just was not possible for financial and legal reasons.

mae hwn yn ddiwrnod hanesyddol i fyfyrwyr Cymru. Ni fydd dim ffioedd atodol ar ôl 2007 mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Bydd cymhelliant yn awr i bobl ifanc ddilyn cyrsiau mewn addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Yr ydym yn cael gwared â rhwystr ariannol sy'n atal pobl ifanc rhag cael addysg yn y dyfodol. Mae hefyd yn ddiwrnod gwych i'n prifysgolion, oherwydd ein bod yn eu cefnogi yn eu brwydr i ddod yn gystadleuol yn rhyngwladol.

Nick Bourne: Pleser mawr imi yw cefnogi'r cynnig hwn a gyflwynwyd yn enwau'r pedwar arweinydd plaid. Yn gyntaf, talaf deyrnged i'r cydweithrediad a gafwyd, ac i'r cymorth a roddwyd gan wrthbleidiau pan gyflwynwyd y cynnig hwn yn enw Ceidwadwyr Cymru ar 24 Mai. Yr wyf hefyd yn ddiolchgar am eich cymorth chi, Ddirprwy Lywydd, fel Aelod Cynulliad ac am gymorth Peter Law, a oedd hefyd yn hynod ddefnyddiol. Diolchaf hefyd i'r Prif Weinidog a aeth ati i gynnal y trafodaethau mewn modd adeiladol a gydnabu statws lleiafrifol y Llywodraeth, o ran y mater hwn o leiaf, a oedd yn ddefnyddiol iawn.

Fel y dywedwyd, cododd y mater hwn gyntaf yn San Steffan, ac yr oedd ganddi ei hymagwedd ei hun tuag at ffioedd atodol, y mae Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn eu gwrthwynebu, ac y mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn fwy cyffredinol yn eu gwrthwynebu. Mae Jane Davidson yn haeddu diolch am sicrhau y datganolwyd hyn, fel y bu i Peter Hain ein hatgoffa ddoe. Pe na ddatganolid y mater hwn, ni fyddem wedi cael cyfle i wneud rhywbeth gwahanol yng Nghymru, a dylid llongyfarch y Gweinidog am hynny, oherwydd mae hyn wedi ein galluogi i gyflwyno'r pecyn hwn, sydd yn sicr i'w groesawu.

Fel y dywedwyd gan arweinydd Plaid Cymru, yr oedd anawsterau cyfreithiol ynghlwm wrth sicrhau y byddai ffioedd myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru ac yn astudio yn Lloegr yn cael eu had-dalu. Bu inni edrych ar hyn, ond yr oedd problemau cyfreithiol o ran talu myfyrwyr o'r UE yn Lloegr y tu hwnt i'r awdurdodaeth, ar wahân i'r gost ariannol. Yn ddelfrydol, byddem wedi dymuno gwneud hynny, ond nid oedd yn bosibl am resymau ariannol a chyfreithiol.

4.40 p.m.

As the First Minister has indicated, we are looking at courses like veterinary science to see if we can do anything in relation to courses that are not available in Wales, and Welsh-domiciled students have to study in England or elsewhere. We are looking to see whether there is any way around that; perhaps we can assist them with tuition or financial assistance when they return to complete their training in Wales. If we can do so, clearly, that will be forthcoming.

I also welcome the recognition of the funding gap with English higher education institutions. As has been indicated, there is a dispute as to what that funding gap is. However, I am glad, and so are people in the sector to whom I have spoken, of the recognition of that gap, and that, as the First Minister says, proposals will be brought forward before the start of the budget round. That is welcome news and, of course, part of the resolution.

Those are two key features of this package, and I know from the response of the sector, potential students and their parents already how welcome this development is. It has been a very good day for the Assembly; I believe that this move will be popular throughout Wales, we are doing something different to what is being done in England and that will be widely welcomed. The national bursary scheme enhancing access is also part of this—and I welcome that—as is the assistance for Welsh-medium courses, both of which are extremely important.

I turn briefly to part-time students—a vital issue for Wales, because a larger part of the sector is studying part time in Wales than elsewhere in the United Kingdom, and the sector remains concerned about that. It is looking for an early decision on this, and talks are continuing between the First Minister and opposition party leaders to ensure that we have a group here, under an independent chairman, that can examine this

Fel y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi'i nodi, yr ydym yn edrych ar gyrsiau megis gwyddoniaeth filfeddygol i weld pa un a allwn wneud rhywbeth o ran cyrsiau nad ydynt ar gael yng Nghymru, a rhaid i fyfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru astudio yn Lloegr neu mewn man arall. Yr ydym yn edrych i weld pa un a oes unrhyw ffordd o ddatrys hynny; efallai y gallwn roi cymorth iddynt gyda'u ffioedd dysgu neu gymorth ariannol pan fyddant yn dychwelyd i gwblhau eu hyfforddiant yng Nghymru. Os gallwn wneud hynny, yn amlwg, bydd hynny ar y ffordd.

Croesawaf hefyd y gydnabyddiaeth bod bwllch ariannu o gymharu â sefydliadau addysg uwch yn Lloegr. Fel y nodwyd, ceir dadl o ran beth yw'r bwllch ariannu hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn falch, a hefyd bobl yn y sector yr wyf wedi siarad â hwy, o'r ffaith y cydnabyddir y bwllch hwnnw, ac y caiff cynigion eu cyflwyno, fel y dywed y Prif Weinidog, cyn dechrau'r cylch cyllideb. Mae hynny'n newyddion da ac, wrth gwrs, yn rhan o'r ateb.

Mae'r rheini yn ddwy nodwedd allweddol o'r pecyn hwn, a gwn eisoes o ymateb y sector, darpar fyfyrwyr a'u rhieni faint o groeso a roddir i'r datblygiad hwn. Mae wedi bod yn ddiwrnod da iawn i'r Cynulliad; credaf y bydd y penderfyniad hwn yn boblogaidd ledled Cymru, yr ydym yn gwneud rhywbeth yn wahanol i'r hyn a wneir yn Lloegr a chaiff hynny ei groesawu'n eang. Mae'r cynllun bwrsari cenedlaethol sy'n gwella mynediad hefyd yn rhan o hyn—a chroesawaf hynny—felly hefyd y cymorth ar gyfer cyrsiau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, ac mae'r ddau beth hyn yn hynod bwysig.

Trof yn fras at fyfyrwyr rhan amser—sy'n fater hollbwysig i Gymru, oherwydd bod mwy o'r sector yn astudio'n rhan amser yng Nghymru nag mewn unrhyw ran arall o'r Deyrnas Unedig, ac mae'r sector yn parhau i bryderu am hyn. Mae'n disgwyl penderfyniad cynnar ar hyn, ac mae trafodaethau'n parhau rhwng y Prif Weinidog ac arweinwyr y gwrthbleidiau i sicrhau bod gennym grŵp yma, o dan gadeirydd annibynnol, a all

issue within a tight timescale and bring proposals forward so that we can do something for part-time students too in the light of what has been done for full-time students. That is also absolutely key to all of this.

So, that is the package, of which we can all be extremely proud. It is a very good day for Welsh higher education, it is a great day for Welsh students, and I believe that it is an excellent day for Wales. I urge Members to support this motion.

Michael German: This is a red-letter day for Welsh students and higher education institutions in Wales, and perhaps I should say that it is a rainbow-coloured-letter day for consensus politics. The motion before us today secures and safeguards the future of higher education in Wales and, most importantly, it clearly sets out that Wales has now joined Scotland in rejecting top-up fees for the benefit of students. I am pleased that the Liberal Democrats have made a difference in both countries.

Our students are already burdened with considerable debts, so much so that there is a real and present danger that young people, particularly from poorer backgrounds, have been put off going to university, and that is wrong. Going to university opens up all sorts of opportunity avenues: it broadens and deepens the mind, and exposes students to new experiences and different ways of thinking. It develops self-confidence and equips graduates with an array of transferable skills. Being at university can enthuse and inspire people to follow paths or interests that they would never have considered before. As Yeats said,

‘Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire’.

To erect a financial barrier, particularly for those from less well-off backgrounds goes against all that the Welsh Liberal Democrats believe in. Everyone should have the opportunity to realise their potential, no matter from where they start in life. We believe in enabling students from all backgrounds to attend university, allowing talent and ability the chance to flower.

archwilio'r mater hwn o fewn amserlen dynn a chyflwyno cynigion er mwyn inni allu gwneud rhywbeth ar gyfer myfyrwyr rhan amser hefyd yng ngoleuni'r hyn a wnaed ar gyfer myfyrwyr llawn amser. Mae hynny hefyd yn hollol allweddol i hyn i gyd.

Felly, dyna'r pecyn, y gallwn oll ddweud ein bod yn falch iawn ohono. Mae'n ddiwrnod da iawn i addysg uwch yng Nghymru, mae'n ddiwrnod gwych i fyfyrwyr Cymru, a chredaf ei bod yn ddiwrnod ardderchog i Gymru. Anogaf Aelodau i gefnogi'r cynnig hwn.

Michael German: Mae hwn yn ddiwrnod pwysig i fyfyrwyr Cymru a sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru, ac efallai y dylwn ddweud ei bod hyd yn oed yn dra phwysig i wleidyddiaeth gonsensws. Mae'r cynnig ger ein bron heddiw yn sicrhau ac yn diogelu dyfodol addysg uwch yng Nghymru ac, yn anad dim, yn nodi'n glir bod Cymru wedi uno â'r Alban erbyn hyn i wrthod ffioedd atodol er lles myfyrwyr. Yr wyf yn falch bod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth yn y ddwy wlad.

Mae ar ein myfyrwyr faich dyledion sylweddol yn barod, nes bod perygl gwirioneddol bod pobl ifanc, yn arbennig o gefndiroedd tlawd, wedi cael eu troi oddi ar fynd i'r brifysgol, ac mae hynny'n anghywir. Mae mynd i'r brifysgol yn agor pob math o ddrysau a chyfleoedd: mae'n ehangu ac yn dyfnhau'r meddwl, ac yn amlygu myfyrwyr i brofiadau newydd a ffyrdd gwahanol o feddwl. Mae'n datblygu hunanhyder ac yn dysgu toreth o sgiliau trosglwyddadwy i raddedigion. Gall bod yn y brifysgol ennyn diddordeb ac ysbrydoli pobl i ddilyn llwybrau neu ddiddordebau na fyddent byth wedi'u hystyried o'r blaen. Fel y dywedodd Yeats,

Nid yw addysg fel llenwi bwced, mae fel cynnau tân.

Mae codi rhwystr ariannol, yn arbennig i bobl o gefndiroedd llai cefnog yn groes i holl gredoau Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru. Dylai pawb gael y cyfle i wireddu eu potensial, beth bynnag fo'u cefndir. Credwn mewn galluogi myfyrwyr o bob cefndir i fynd i'r brifysgol, gan roi cyfle i ddawn a gallu flodeuo. Mae ffioedd uwch yn bygwth culhau'r sylfaen o bobl sy'n mynd i'r

Increased fees threaten to narrow the base of those attending university, when, instead, we should be seeking to widen that base further.

This motion secures a commitment for a national bursary scheme to continue to widen access to higher education in Wales. The rejection of top-up fees, combined with the national bursary scheme, strikes a blow particularly for those from less privileged backgrounds; it strikes a blow for a fairer society. The rejection of top-up fees helps all Welsh students; it means that they will not leave university and embark upon their working lives with that mountain of debt towering over their shoulders and darkening their horizons. Higher education is an entitlement, and that is why it is vital.

Universities are one of the pillars of civic society, helping to instil a sense of social responsibility and fraternity towards the greater community. In that sense, higher education is a good thing in itself, but it also plays a key role in equipping people with the skills to achieve in this fast-paced modern world. Universities are the foundation stone of the knowledge economy. In Wales, skilled workers are at a premium. Wales needs better trained people with high-level skills to help foster a dynamic and competitive future, and it needs more of them. This motion will help to achieve both of those aims.

The motion and the deal that it represents also ensures that our universities will be able to compete on a level playing field with institutions across the UK. It guarantees that our universities will not be disadvantaged and addresses the funding gap, to ensure that Welsh universities get the same core deal as English universities. This is crucial in enabling them to retain and attract high-quality staff and to further teaching and research. We know that a high-quality research base is essential in terms of building an improved knowledge economy.

As was said earlier, part-time students are an essential part of higher education in Wales. I remind all Members that there is still a job of

brifysgol, tra y dylem, yn hytrach, fod yn ceisio ehangu'r sylfaen honno ymhellach.

Mae'r cynnig hwn yn sicrhau ymrwymiad i gynllun bwrsari cenedlaethol i barhau i ehangu mynediad i addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Mae'r ffaith bod ffioedd atodol wedi cael eu gwrthod, ynghyd â'r cynllun bwrsari cenedlaethol, yn hwb yn arbennig i bobl o gefndiroedd llai breintiedig; mae'n hybu cymdeithas decach. Mae'r ffaith bod ffioedd atodol wedi cael eu gwrthod yn helpu pob myfyriwr yng Nghymru; mae'n golygu na fyddant yn gadael y brifysgol ac yn dechrau eu bywyd gwaith gyda chymaint o ddyledion yn faich ar eu hysgwyddau ac yn gysgod dros eu gorwelion. Mae addysg uwch yn hawl, a dyna pam ei fod yn hollbwysig.

Mae prifysgolion yn un o bileri cymdeithas sifil, sy'n helpu i greu ymdeimlad o gyfrifoldeb cymdeithasol a brawdgarwch tuag at y gymuned ehangach. Yn hynny o beth, mae addysg uwch yn beth da ynddo'i hun, ond mae hefyd yn chwarae rhan allweddol o ran meithrin sgiliau pobl er mwyn cyflawni yn y byd modern hwn sy'n symud mor gyflym. Prifysgolion yw conglaen yr economi wybodaeth. Yng Nghymru, mae gweithwyr medrus yn brin. Mae angen pobl wedi'u hyfforddi'n well ar Gymru, pobl sy'n meddu ar sgiliau o safon uchel i helpu i feithrin dyfodol dynamig a chystadleuol, ac mae angen mwy ohonynt arni. Bydd y cynnig hwn yn helpu i gyflawni'r ddau nod hynny.

Mae'r cynnig a'r fargen y mae'n ei chynrychioli hefyd yn sicrhau y gall ein prifysgolion gystadlu'n deg â sefydliadau ledled y DU. Mae'n sicrhau na chaiff ein prifysgolion eu rhoi dan anfantais ac yn mynd i'r afael â'r bwlch ariannu, i sicrhau bod prifysgolion Cymru yn cael yr un fargen graidd â phrifysgolion Lloegr. Mae hyn yn hollbwysig i'w galluogi i gadw a denu staff o safon ac i ddatblygu addysgu ac ymchwil. Gwyddom fod sylfaen ymchwil o safon yn hollbwysig o ran datblygu economi wybodaeth well.

Fel y dywedwyd yn gynharach, mae myfyrwyr rhan amser yn rhan hanfodol o addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Hoffwn atgoffa

work to be done on this—England did not address this issue and I am pleased that Wales will. That job needs to be done quickly. We need a short-timescale review and we must get a move on and set it up as quickly as possible. That is crucial. Many people in Wales seek to improve themselves through part-time higher education and it is vital that their needs are not forgotten. At the University of Wales, Newport, 68 per cent of the students study part time, and this urgent work on funding and support for them is a key part of this resolution, and must be achieved.

This is a good day for Wales and the future of Wales. With this motion and the deal that it puts forward, the Assembly has defended the right to learn and the right of all Welsh people to realise their potential, no matter what their background.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I remind Members that the three-minute time limit will apply to the second.

Lynne Neagle: I welcome this opportunity to focus on access to higher education. Access is not just determined by pushing public money at university students. Higher education is still largely the domain of the privileged, and a child's future is determined long before he or she fills out a Universities and Colleges Admissions Service form. This is why the Rees report, in recommendation 7, calls for earlier intervention in the education system and resources for earlier on in education, especially in areas of low participation. This is a matter of social justice.

If we are to achieve real access to higher education, we need to invest more in combating child poverty. Our policies should focus on maximising the educational achievement of young people from deprived communities, giving them the tools to learn and to get on in life, giving them the ambition to succeed and the confidence to achieve. Children in my constituency face a barrier to higher education, and that barrier is not the fees system, but the fact that by the age of

pob Aelod bod gwaith i'w wneud ar hyn o hyd—nid aeth Lloegr i'r afael â'r mater hwn ac mae'n falch gennyf ddweud y bydd Cymru'n gwneud hynny. Mae angen adolygiad arnom o fewn cyfnod byr o amser a rhaid inni frysio a'i sefydlu cyn gynted â phosibl. Mae hynny'n hollbwysig. Mae llawer o bobl yng Nghymru yn ceisio gwella eu hunain drwy addysg uwch rhan amser ac mae'n hollbwysig sicrhau nad aiff eu hanghenion yn angof. Ym Mhrifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd, mae 68 y cant o fyfyrwyr yn astudio'n rhan amser, ac iddynt hwy mae'r gwaith brys hwn ar ariannu a chymorth yn rhan allweddol o'r penderfyniad hwn, a rhaid ei gyflawni.

Mae hwn yn ddiwrnod da i Gymru ac i ddyfodol Cymru. Yn y cynnig hwn a'r fargen a gynigia, mae'r Cynulliad wedi amddiffyn yr hawl i ddysgu a hawl pawb yng Nghymru i gyflawni eu potensial, beth bynnag fo'u cefndir.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Hoffwn atgoffa Aelodau y bydd y terfyn amser tri munud yn cael ei weithredu i'r eiliad.

Lynnau Neagle: Croesawaf y cyfle hwn i ganolbwyntio ar fynediad i addysg uwch. Nid taflu arian cyhoeddus at fyfyrwyr prifysgol yw'r unig ffordd o benderfynu ar fynediad. Mae addysg uwch yn parhau i fod yn faes i'r breintiedig yn bennaf, a chaiff dyfodol plentyn ei benderfynu ymhell cyn iddo ef neu cyn iddi hi lenwi ffurflen Gwasanaeth Derbyn y Prifysgolion a'r colegau. Dyna pam mae adroddiad Rees, yn argymhelliad 7, yn galw am ymyrraeth gynharach yn y system addysg ac am adnoddau yn gynharach yn y byd addysg, yn arbennig mewn meysydd lle y ceir llai o gyfranogiad. Mater o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yw hyn.

Os ydym am sicrhau mynediad gwirioneddol i addysg uwch, mae angen inni fuddsoddi mwy er mwyn mynd i'r afael â thlodi ymhlith plant. Dylai ein polisïau ganolbwyntio ar sicrhau bod pobl ifanc o gymunedau difreintiedig yn cyflawni hyd eithaf eu gallu ym maes addysg, gan roi'r dulliau iddynt ddysgu a llwyddo mewn bywyd, gan roi'r uchelgais iddynt lwyddo a'r hyder iddynt gyflawni. Mae plant yn fy etholaeth i yn wynebu rhwystr i addysg uwch, ac nid y

five, a child's future is largely pre-determined. It is class, not ability, that too often still decides what qualifications a child will gain. A bright working-class kid will, on average, often under-perform a less bright, but more affluent kid. In our fight against privilege, we must ask tough questions about our education budget. Providing opportunities for the few at the expense of the many will not deliver social justice. We spend almost £5,000 per student on higher education, but we spend only half that amount per pupil on primary education, and we spend on early years learning only a tiny fraction of what is spent on higher education. Therefore, money is still being targeted at the people who need that investment the least. There are children in my constituency who will never have a fighting chance of going to university, if we do not take radical action to address these inequalities. I call on the Assembly Government to move urgently to address those aspects of the Rees report that are not covered in today's motion.

4.50 p.m.

I urge the Minister to act boldly to redistribute funding to early years learning, to at long last commit to a comprehensive network of children's centres, beginning in deprived communities, to match the commitment of the UK Government to our neediest children and to direct more money into early intervention in the system to lift the barriers that block the poorest from accessing higher education before they even begin primary school. That is where we can bring about the most radical effect. We have spent weeks in this Assembly fiddling with fees, and the opposition Members have struck their best poses on behalf of the most educationally privileged. Perhaps we can now spend time and money on the poorest, youngest, and neediest in our education system.

The question of social justice here is not about fees at all, but about children in poverty. The opposition parties are clear and

system ffioedd yw'r rhwystr hwnnw, ond y ffaith bod dyfodol plentyn wedi cael ei benderfynu ymlaen llaw fwy neu lai, erbyn iddynt gyrraedd pump oed. Yn rhy aml, dosbarth, yn hytrach na gallu, sy'n parhau i bennu pa gymwysterau y bydd plentyn yn eu hennill. Bydd plentyn galluog dosbarth gweithiol, ar gyfartaledd, yn perfformio'n waeth na phlentyn llai galluog, ond o gefndir mwy cefnog. Yn ein brwydr yn erbyn braint, rhaid inni ofyn cwestiynau anodd ynglŷn â'n cyllideb addysg. Ni fydd rhoi cyfleoedd i'r dethol rai ar draul y mwyafrif yn sicrhau cyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Yr ydym yn gwario bron £5,000 fesul myfyriwr ar addysg uwch, ond dim ond hanner y swm hwnnw a wariwn fesul disgybl ar addysg gynradd, a dim ond cyfran fach iawn o'r hyn a werir ar addysg uwch yr ydym yn ei wario ar addysg blynyddoedd cynnar. Felly, mae arian yn dal i gael ei dargedu at y bobl sydd angen y buddsoddiad hwnnw leiaf. Mae plant yn fy etholaeth i na chânt gyfle o gwbl i fynd i brifysgol, os na chymerwn gamau radical i fynd i'r afael â'r anghyfartaledd hwn. Galwaf ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i weithredu ar fyrder i fynd i'r afael â'r agweddau hynny ar adroddiad Rees na chânt eu cynnwys yn y cynnig hwn heddiw.

Pwysaf ar y Gweinidog i gymryd camau dewr i ailddosbarthu'r cyllid i addysg blynyddoedd cynnar, er mwyn ymrwymo, o'r diwedd, i rwydwaith o ganolfannau plant, gan ddechrau mewn cymunedau difreintiedig, i gyfateb ag ymrwymiad Llywodraeth y DU i'n plant mwyaf anghenus a rhoi rhagor o arian i sicrhau ymyrraeth gynnar yn y system er mwyn chwalu'r rhwystrau sy'n atal y plant tlotaf rhag cael mynediad i addysg uwch cyn iddynt ddechrau yn yr ysgol gynradd hyd yn oed. Dyna lle y gallwn gael yr effaith mwyaf radical. Yr ydym wedi treulio wythnosau yn y Cynulliad hwn yn potsian gyda ffioedd, ac mae Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau wedi cyflwyno eu dadleuon gorau ar ran y rhai mwyaf addysgol freintiedig. Efallai y gallwn yn awr dreulio amser ac arian ar y tlotaf, yr ieuengaf, a'r mwyaf anghenus yn ein system addysg.

Nid oes a wnelo'r cwestiwn ynghylch cyfiawnder cymdeithasol yma â ffioedd o gwbl. Mae'n ymwneud â phlant mewn tloidi.

consistent: their concern is for the greater benefit of the better off and subsidising the strongest.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Your time has run out, sadly.

Janet Ryder: Unlike Lynne Neagle, I believe that this represents a much better deal for all students from all backgrounds, particularly those students who would have been put off from going to university by the fear of debt. It also represents a much better settlement for our higher education system, which has been starved of money for many years, and which needs a big injection of cash. As Lynne Neagle quite rightly pointed out, the Assembly has underfunded the education budget, and I am pleased that this money will be new money, and on top of the education budget for the higher education sector. I certainly support Lynne Neagle if she wants to see a further increase in the education budget, as we all want to see that.

This lunchtime, it was good to hear Professor Richard Davies, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Wales Swansea, so roundly welcoming this whole package. He reckons that it is good for students, and he is pleased that we will encourage more Welsh students to study in Wales. In the universities in England where he worked previously, over 90 per cent of the student population came from England. We need to achieve that in Wales, as we lose far too many students to universities in England. We know that, if students go to study in England, the tendency is for them to stay and work in England. We need that talent in Wales. Hopefully, these measures will help us to retain that talent in Wales and to develop it.

Professor Davies was also pleased to see that the universities will have their cash crisis addressed, in that they will get extra money put into their budgets. It is also good that we are taking the bursary package, because that support for students is desperately needed. It is good to see that the students, generally, have welcomed these new measures that have been laid before the Assembly today.

Mae'r gwrthbleidiau yn glir ac yn gyson: pryderant am gynyddu'r budd i'r rhai sy'n well eu byd a rhoi cymorthdaliadau i'r cryfaf.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yn anffodus, mae eich amser wedi dod i ben.

Janet Ryder: Yn wahanol i Lynne Neagle, credaf fod hyn yn gynnig llawer gwell i bob myfyriwr o bob cefndir, yn arbennig y myfyrwyr hynny fyddai wedi dewis peidio â mynd i brifysgol oherwydd yr ofn o fynd i ddyled. Mae hefyd yn setliad llawer gwell i'n system addysg uwch, sydd wedi cael ei hamddifadu o arian ers blynyddoedd lawer, ac sydd angen hwb ariannol mawr. Fel y dywedodd Lynne Neagle, a hynny'n gwbl briodol, mae'r Cynulliad wedi tanariannu'r gyllideb addysg, ac yr wyf yn falch y bydd yr arian hwn yn arian newydd, ac yn ychwanegol at y gyllideb addysg ar gyfer y sector addysg uwch. Yr wyf yn sicr yn cefnogi Lynne Neagle os yw am weld rhagor o gynnydd yn y gyllideb addysg, oherwydd mae pawb ohonom am weld hynny.

Yr oedd yn braf clywed yr Athro Richard Davies, Dirprwy Ganghellor Prifysgol Cymru, Abertawe, yn croesawu'r pecyn cyfan hwn mor wresog amser cinio heddiw. Mae'n honni ei fod yn beth da i fyfyrwyr, ac mae'n falch y byddwn yn annog mwy o fyfyrwyr o Gymru i astudio yng Nghymru. Mewn prifysgolion yn Lloegr lle y bu'n gweithio yn y gorffennol, yr oedd mwy na 90 y cant o'r myfyrwyr yn dod o Loegr. Mae angen inni gyflawni hynny yng Nghymru, gan ein bod yn colli llawer gormod o fyfyrwyr i brifysgolion yn Lloegr. Gwyddom os aiff myfyrwyr i astudio yn Lloegr, eu bod yn tueddu i aros a gweithio yn Lloegr. Mae angen y dalent honno arnom yng Nghymru. Gobeithio y bydd y mesurau hyn yn ein helpu i gadw'r dalent honno yng Nghymru a'i datblygu.

Yr oedd yr Athro Davies hefyd yn falch o weld y bwriedir ymdrin ag argyfwng ariannol y prifysgolion, gan y byddant yn cael rhagor o arian yn eu cyllidebau. Mae hefyd yn dda o beth ein bod yn derbyn y pecyn bwrsariaeth, oherwydd mae angen y cymorth hwnnw i fyfyrwyr yn ddybryd. Mae'n dda o beth bod y myfyrwyr, yn gyffredinol, wedi croesawu'r mesurau newydd hyn sydd wedi cael eu

Through them, we will support the students and will not saddle Welsh-domiciled students who study in Wales with extra debt. It is disappointing, however, that, because of various legal constraints, we cannot support those students from Wales who study in England. That does not quite achieve what Plaid Cymru wants, as we would like to see fees abolished completely. We believe that education should be a right, and certainly not be a privilege. This does, however, send a clear message to Westminster that we in Wales do not want to, and will not, saddle our young people with debt if we can possibly help it. It is rather ironic that votes from Welsh and Scottish MPs enabled Tony Blair to introduce top-up fees in England, when the elected bodies in their own countries, in the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly, voted against top-up fees. The pressure is now on England to follow our lead and not to saddle its young people with debt in exchange for education.

Jeff Cuthbert: I will vote for this motion, because it means that progress can be made. A financial package can now be put together that will bring tangible benefits to students in Wales and to Wales's higher education institutions. This motion builds on the good work already done by the Rees commission and the earlier introduction by the Labour Assembly Government of the Assembly learning grant and the doubling of the budget for the financial contingency fund for students.

The abolition of up-front fees and their replacement with an end-loaded income-contingent graduate contribution seems a sensible balance, in line with the Rees report, and it will deliver a good deal for students. This motion should also enable higher education institutions to get a better funding settlement, thereby enabling them to keep pace with institutions in England—institutions that are still recovering from the Tory neglect of the sector between 1979 and 1997. Funding per student fell by over 50 per cent during that 16-year period, and that must not be forgotten during this debate.

gosod gerbron y Cynulliad heddiw. Drwyddynt, byddwn yn cefnogi'r myfyrwyr ac ni fyddwn yn rhoi dyled ychwanegol ar ysgwyddau myfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n astudio yng Nghymru. Mae'n siomedig, fodd bynnag, oherwydd amrywiol gyfyngiadau cyfreithiol, na allwn gefnogi'r myfyrwyr hynny o Gymru sy'n astudio yn Lloegr. Nid yw hynny'n cyflawni'r hyn y mae Plaid Cymru am ei weld, oherwydd hoffem weld y ffioedd yn cael eu diddymu'n gyfan gwbl. Credwn y dylai addysg fod yn hawl, ac yn sicr yn nid yn fraint. Mae hyn, fodd bynnag, yn anfon neges glir i San Steffan nad ydym ni yng Nghymru am roi dyled ar ysgwyddau ein pobl ifanc, ac na fyddwn yn gwneud hynny os gallwn ei osgoi. Mae'n eithaf eironig bod pleidleisiau gan ASau o Gymru a'r Alban wedi galluogi i Tony Blair gyflwyno ffioedd ychwanegol yn Lloegr, pan fo'r cyrff etholedig yn eu gwledydd eu hunain, yn Senedd yr Alban ac yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn ffioedd ychwanegol. Mae'r pwysau yn awr ar Lloegr i'n hefelychu a pheidio â rhoi dyled ar ysgwyddau ei phobl ifanc yn gyfnewid am addysg.

Jeff Cuthbert: Pleidleisiaf o blaid y cynnig hwn, oherwydd mae'n golygu y gellir gwneud cynnydd. Yn awr gellir llunio pecyn ariannol a ddaw â buddiannau pendant yn ei sgil i fyfyrwyr yng Nghymru ac i sefydliad addysg uwch Cymru. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn adeiladu ar y gwaith da a wnaed eisoes gan gomisiwn Rees a grant dysgu'r Cynulliad a gyflwynwyd yn gynharach gan Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad ynghyd â dyblu'r gyllideb ar gyfer y gronfa ariannol wrth gefn ar gyfer myfyrwyr.

Ymddengys fod diddymu ffioedd cyn cychwyn a'u disodli gyda chyfraniad gan raddedigion yn amodol ar incwm ar ddiwedd y cwrs yn gydbwysedd synhwyrol, yn unol ag adroddiad Rees, a bydd yn sicrhau bargaen dda i fyfyrwyr. Dylai'r cynnig hwn hefyd alluogi sefydliadau addysg uwch i gael gwell setliad ariannu, a thrwy hynny eu galluogi i ddatblygu ochr yn ochr â sefydliadau yn Lloegr—sefydliadau sy'n parhau i adfer yn sgil y ffaith i'r Toriaid esgeuluso'r sector rhwng 1979 a 1997. Gostyngodd y cyllid y pen fesul myfyriwr dros 50 y cant yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw o 16 mlynedd, ac ni ddylid

anhofio hynny yn ystod y ddadl hon.

The HE and FE sectors in Wales deliver a host of benefits to the social economy, thus allowing Wales to compete in a global, knowledge-based economy. Widening participation in higher education is vital if we are to fulfil Wales's economic and social justice objectives. According to the 2001 census, 39 per cent of the population of Caerphilly still had no qualifications, with only 12 per cent obtaining an initial degree or higher qualification. Participation rates in the Valleys are still appallingly low. As a result, it is vital that the support packages are targeted at those in most need. The national bursary scheme should take account of financial and access needs.

Mae'r sectorau AU ac AB yng Nghymru yn rhoi lluo o fuddiannau i'r economi gymdeithasol, sy'n caniatáu i Gymru gystadlu mewn economi wybodaeth fyd-eang. Mae ehangu cyfranogiad mewn addysg uwch yn hollbwysig os ydym am gyflawni amcanion economaidd a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol Cymru. Yn ôl cyfrifiad 2001, nid oes gan 39 y cant o boblogaeth Caerffili unrhyw gymwysterau o hyd, a dim ond 12 y cant sydd â gradd gychwynnol neu gymhwyster uwch. Mae cyfraddau cyfranogi yn y Cymoedd yn parhau i fod yn aruthrol o isel. O ganlyniad, mae'n hanfodol bod y pecynnau cymorth yn cael eu targedu tuag at y rhai mwyaf anghenus. Dylai'r cynllun bwrsariaeth cenedlaethol ystyried anghenion ariannol ac anghenion o ran mynediad.

We must ensure that policies are truly focused, penetrating sections of the public that have historically been prevented from attending higher education institutions. I am disappointed that the fee remission grant will not be based on an income assessment. If we are truly committed to social justice, we should be means testing the fee remission grant and redirecting the money that is saved into providing additional support to those from deprived backgrounds.

Rhaid inni sicrhau bod canolbwynt i'r polisïau, a'u bod yn cyrraedd carfanau o'r cyhoedd sydd yn hanesyddol wedi cael eu hatal rhag mynychu sefydliadau addysg uwch. Yr wyf yn siomedig na fydd y grant i dalu am ffioedd yn seiliedig ar asesiad incwm. Os ydym yn gwbl ymroddedig i gyflawnnder cymdeithasol, dylem fod yn pennu prawf modd ar gyfer y grant i dalu am ffioedd ac ailgyfeirio'r arian a gaiff ei arbed i ddarparu cymorth ychwanegol i'r rhai o gefndiroedd difreintiedig.

The implementation of the fee remission grant has potentially serious financial implications for the wider education budget. How sustainable is it to continue to fund a fee remission grant for 64 per cent of Welsh-domiciled students in Wales without resultant cutbacks in other areas of the budget? We must ensure that other areas such as early years, and funding for the FE sector, do not suffer as a result of this agreement.

Mae posibilrwydd y bydd goblygiadau ariannol difrifol i'r gyllideb addysg ehangach yn sgîl cyflwyno'r grant i dalu am ffioedd. Pamor gynaliadwy yw parhau i ariannu grant I dalu am ffioedd ar gyfer 64 y cant o fyfyrwyr o Gymru heb y sgîl-ffaith o gwtogi ar feysydd eraill o'r gyllideb? Rhaid inni sicrhau nad yw meysydd eraill fel blynyddoedd cynnar, a chyllid ar gyfer y sector AB, yn dioddef o ganlyniad i'r cytundeb hwn.

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I invite the Business Minister to propose a motion under Standing Order No. 6.21 to extend the debate for up to half an hour. After that, the Member who is to hold the short debate may, if he so

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gwahoddaf y Trefnydd i gynnig cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21 i ymestyn y ddadl hyd at hanner awr. Wedi hynny, gall yr Aelod sy'n cyflwyno'r ddadl fer gynnig cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog

wishes, propose a motion under Standing Order No. 6.11 to postpone that debate to a subsequent day. Rhif 6.11, os dymuna, i ohirio'r ddadl honno tan ddiwrnod arall.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that **Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt):** Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly, under Standing Order No. 6.21, extends the time for the debate by half an hour. *y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21, yn ymestyn yr amser ar gyfer y ddadl am hanner awr.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Are there 10 Members in support of the motion? I see that there are. I therefore call for a vote. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** A oes 10 Aelod o blaid y cynnig? Gwelaf fod. Galwaf felly am bleidlais.

*Cynnig: O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 1.
Motion: For 46, Abstain 0, Against 1.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine

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

Lewis, Huw

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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Cyllido Addysg Uwch: Parhad Higher Education Funding: Continued

William Graham: This not just an original Conservative motion with opposition party backing, it arose from listening to the needs of the higher education sector, and current and future university students.

An unsatisfactory factor remains regarding Welsh students in England, but we welcome the commitment of the party leaders to overcoming this, and we expect the First Minister to clarify this matter in future.

The motion agreed by the Assembly on 24 May was not dismissive of the Rees review. In her presentation of the review, Professor Rees clearly established many ideals that were common to our aims and recommendations. Only recommendations 2 and 3 were unacceptable. At the heart of our considerations remains a common goal: to eliminate the funding gap between Welsh and English higher education institutions and to promote a knowledge-led economy in Wales.

We profoundly disagree with the review with regard to tuition fees being a deterrent to students. All representations made to us indicated that if they do not deter students from applying to university, they are a determining factor in course selection. I note a recent report from the Royal Bank of Scotland that shows that nearly 60 per cent of graduates are still supported by their parents three years after leaving university. They admitted a lack of independence in a survey of 1,200 graduates. The National Union of Students continues to condemn the prospect of a generation of graduates being unable to support itself.

The Educational Policy Institute said that Britain was now the most expensive place in Europe to study and the third most expensive

William Graham: Nid dim ond cynnig gwreiddiol gan y Ceidwadwyr yw hwn gyda chefnogaeth y gwrthbleidiau. Deilliodd o wrando ar anghenion y sector addysg uwch, a myfyrwyr prifysgol y presennol a'r dyfodol.

Mae ffactor anfodddhaol yn parhau o ran myfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n astudio yn Lleogr, ond croesawn ymrwymiad arweiniwyr y pleidiau i oresgyn hyn, a digwyliwn i'r Prif Weinidog egluro'r mater hwn yn y dyfodol.

Nid oedd y cynnig y cytunodd y Cynulliad arno ar 24 Mai yn ddi-hid o adolygiad Rees. Wrth gyflwyno ei hadolygiad, nododd yr Athro Rees sawl delfryd a oedd yn gydnaws â'n hamcanion a'n hargymhellion. Dim ond argymhellion 2 a 3 oedd yn annerbyniol. Wrth wraidd ein hystyriaethau erys nod gyffredin: diddymu'r bwlch ariannu rhwng sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru a Lloegr a hyrwyddo economi wybodaeth yng Nghymru.

Anghytunwn yn llwyr â'r adolygiad o ran yr honiad bod ffioedd dysgu yn atal myfyrwyr rhag dewis addysg uwch. Mae pob sylw a gawsom yn awgrymu os nad ydynt yn atal myfyrwyr rhag gwneud cais i fynd i'r brifysgol, eu bod yn ffactor sy'n pennu eu dewis o gwrs. Nodaf adroddiad diweddar gan y Royal Bank of Scotland sy'n dangos bod 60 y cant o raddedigion yn parhau i gael eu cynnal gan eu rhieni dair blynedd ar ôl iddynt adael y brifysgol. Bu iddynt gyfaddef nad oedd arolwg o 1,200 o raddedigion yn annibynnol. Mae Undeb Cenedlaethol y Myfyrwyr yn parhau i gondemnio'r syniad o genhedlaeth o raddedigion na fyddai'n gallu cynnal ei hunan.

Dywedodd y Sefydliad Polisi Addysgol mai Prydain yw'r lle drutaf yn Ewrop i astudio ynddo bellach a'r drutaf ond dau yng

in western Europe. School pupils know the statistic that graduates earn more over their lifetime, but they also hear about debts of more than £12,000 on leaving university.

5.00 p.m.

The Rees review identified the reality of this matter: the final consideration on spending public money remains a political decision. In understanding this, together with the burden that would be placed on the Assembly budget and the situation with regard to English HEIs directed recommendations towards increased fees for higher education. It was a political decision to prioritise funding for higher education. Some political parties have their priorities correct, while some require a little guidance along the right path. We are trying to establish a clear pathway towards lifelong learning opportunities. It is sometimes later in life that people understand their abilities and desires to obtain higher education qualifications or to enhance their career development.

This motion allows everyone the opportunity to access lifelong learning and to participate in the creation of a knowledge-based economy, and it allows everyone who is able to obtain entry qualifications access to the higher education of their choice, regardless of their financial situation.

Leighton Andrews: I repeat two interests that I have declared in the register, which I do not consider require me not to vote: I am an honorary professor of Cardiff University and my wife is a member of the council of the University of Wales, Bangor.

I will support this motion insofar as it delivers for young people in my constituency. Thanks to the Labour Government, the number of full-time students from the Rhondda starting at higher education institutions increased by nearly 60 per cent between 1998-99 and 2003-04 from 235 to 405. However, more than that—some 435—study part time in higher education. I therefore regard this motion as half a cake. Eighty-five per cent of full-time Rhondda students, based on first-year intake numbers,

ngorllewin Ewrop. Mae disgyblion ysgol yn ymwybodol o'r ystadegyn bod graddedigion yn ennill mwy yn ystod eu hoes, ond clywant hefyd am y dyledion o fwy na £12,000 pan fydd myfyrwyr yn gadael y brifysgol.

Nododd adolygiad Rees realiti'r mater hwn: erys y penderfyniad terfynol ar wario arian cyhoeddus yn benderfyniad gwleidyddol. Er mwyn deall hyn, ynghyd â'r baich y byddai'n ei roi ar gyllideb y Cynulliad a gwnaeth y sefyllfa o ran sefydliadau addysg uwch yn Lloegr lywio argymhellion tuag at gynyddu ffioedd ar gyfer addysg uwch. Yr oedd yn benderfyniad gwleidyddol blaenoriaethu cyllid ar gyfer addysg uwch. Mae rhai pleidiau gwleidyddol wedi pennu eu blaenoriaethau'n gywir, tra bod angen ychydig o arweiniad ar eraill i'w tywys ar hyd y trywydd iawn. Yr ydym yn ceisio pennu llwybr clir tuag at gyfleoedd dysgu gydol oes. Weithiau dim ond pan fyddant yn hŷn y mae pobl yn deall eu galluoedd a'u hawydd i gael cymwysterau addysg uwch neu i ddatblygu eu gyrfaedd.

Mae'r cynnig hwn yn rhoi cyfle i bawb fanteisio ar ddysgu gydol oes ac i gymryd rhan mewn creu economi wybodaeth, ac mae'n rhoi cyfle i bawb sy'n meddu ar y gallu i gael cymwysterau mynediad i ddilyn cwrs addysg uwch o'u dewis, waeth beth fo'u sefyllfa ariannol.

Leighton Andrews: Datganaf eto ddau fuddiant yr wyf wedi'u datgan yn y gofrestr, na chredaf eu bod yn fy atal rhag pleidleisio: yr wyf yn athro mygedol ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd ac mae fy ngwraig yn aelod o gyngor Prifysgol Cymru, Bangor.

Cefnogaf y cynnig hwn i'r graddau y mae'n cyflawni dros bobl ifanc yn fy etholaeth. Diolch i'r Llywodraeth Lafur, cynyddodd nifer y myfyrwyr llawn amser o'r Rhondda a oedd yn dechrau mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch bron 60 y cant rhwng 1998-99 a 2003-04 o 235 i 405. Fodd bynnag, mae mwy na hynny—rhyw 435—yn astudio cwrs addysg uwch yn rhan amser. Felly credaf mai hanner y deisen yw'r cynnig hwn. Mae 85 y cant o fyfyrwyr llawn amser o'r Rhondda, yn seiliedig ar nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n dechrau yn

study at Welsh institutions, so they will benefit from what is being proposed today. Fifty-three per cent currently get full public contribution to tuition fees, and 19 per cent get partial contributions. The issue for me is that, despite the success of the Labour Government in growing participation, there is still more to do. We need more of our young people going to university. We need, in the Rees jargon, more 'university-ready' young people from the Rhondda.

I congratulate Teresa Rees on the work that her commission did. I note that of the six proposals before us today, five were based on recommendations from the Rees commission, namely recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6. I would have liked to have seen the fee remission grants being on an income-contingent basis, because that would have been fairest and it would have concentrated resources on the poorest in our community.

Rees has provided the basis of our policy. The opposition grandstanding four weeks ago has been proven to have been the simple opportunism that I called it at the time. The only reason the opposition parties went for a vote last month was because they knew what Rees would recommend and they wanted to try to get the credit. What have you, the opposition parties, gained over the last four weeks from your grandstanding and opportunism? You all said that you did not want tuition fees in Welsh universities, well, there are going to be tuition fees and you will be voting for them today. You all said that you did not want top-up fees in Welsh universities; there are going to be top-up fees and you will be voting for them today, as that is point 1 in the motion that you will be voting for. They do not have those things—*[Interruption.]* Read point 1.

All the opposition has is a bung for the better-off, a bribe for the better-off and a backhander for the better-off, because students from rich families in Monmouth and Powys will now get the benefit of the fee remission grants. The opposition parties have played games on this issue throughout. They

y flwyddyn gyntaf, yn astudio mewn sefydliadau yng Nghymru, felly byddant yn elwa ar yr hyn a gynigir heddiw. Ar hyn o bryd mae 53 y cant yn cael cyfraniad cyhoeddus llawn at eu ffioedd dysgu, ac mae 19 y cant yn cael cyfraniadau rhannol. Y broblem yw, er gwaethaf llwyddiant y Llywodraeth Lafur i gael mwy mewn addysg uwch, bod rhagor i'w wneud o hyd. Mae angen inni gael mwy o'n pobl ifanc yn mynd i'r brifysgol. Mae angen, gan ddefnyddio ymadrodd Rees, mwy o bobl ifanc yn y Rhondda sy'n barod ar gyfer y brifysgol.

Llongyfarchaf Teresa Rees ar y gwaith a wnaeth ei chomisiwn. Nodaf o'r chwe chynnig sydd ger ein bron heddiw fod pump yn seiliedig ar argymhellion o gomisiwn Rees, sef argymhellion 1, 2, 3, 4 a 6. Hoffwn fod wedi gweld y grantiau i dalu am ffioedd yn cael eu rhoi ar sail incwm, oherwydd dyna'r ffordd decaf a byddai wedi canolbwyntio adnoddau ar y tlotaf yn ein cymuned.

Mae Rees wedi rhoi sylfaen ein polisi. Ni fu ymgais y gwrthbleidiau bedair wythnos yn ôl i chwarae i'r oriel ond yn oporionistiaeth bur fel y dywedais ar y pryd. Yr unig reswm y mynnodd y gwrthbleidiau gael pleidlais fis diwethaf oedd eu bod yn gwybod beth fyddai Rees yn ei argymhell a'u bod am geisio hawlio'r clod. Ym mha fodd yr ydych chi, y gwrthbleidiau, wedi elwa dros y pedair wythnos diwethaf o chwarae i'r oriel a bachu ar gyfle? Dywedodd pob un ohonoch nad oeddech am gael ffioedd dysgu mewn prifysgolion yng Nghymru, wel, fe fydd ffioedd dysgu a byddwch yn pleidleisio o'u plaid heddiw. Dywedodd pob un ohonoch nad oeddech am gael ffioedd atodol mewn prifysgolion yng Nghymru; fe fydd ffioedd atodol a byddwch yn pleidleisio o'u plaid heddiw, gan mai dyna bwynt 1 yn y cynnig y byddwch yn pleidleisio o'i blaid. Nid ydynt yn cael y pethau hynny—*[Torri ar draws.]* Darllenwch bwynt 1.

Mae pob un o'r gwrthbleidiau yn cynnig rhywbeth bach i'r rhai gwell eu byd, rhywbeth bach i'w boddio, oherwydd myfyrwyr o deuloedd cyfoethog yn sir Fynwy a Phowys fydd yn cael budd o'r grantiau i dalu am ffioedd yn awr. Mae'r gwrthbleidiau wedi chwarae gêm â'r mater

have nothing that Rees did not recommend, apart from a bribe for the middle class. They care nothing for improving participation in the communities that I and my colleagues represent. They come here today to defend class politics—middle-class politics.

Peter Black: I am just trying to digest the comments of the middle-class Member for Rhondda—[ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: ‘Oh.’]

Leighton Andrews: Will you give way?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order.

Peter Black: He had his fees paid for him and had free education, like I did and like the members of the Labour Government Cabinet did. [Interruption.]

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I have pressed the red button, and nothing can be heard. Are you giving way, Peter?

Peter Black: No.

Lynne Neagle described university education as still being the domain of the privileged. That may be the case in many respects, and she was right about the need to invest in early-years education. However, I believe that Lynne Neagle and Leighton Andrews are wrong about student support. We must remember that even those who pay the full £3,000 fee will still have a substantial—

Leighton Andrews: Will you give way?

Peter Black: I do not have time to give way. I have already used a minute of my time, and I want to continue.

You must remember that even those who will pay the full £3,000 fee will still have a substantial part of their higher education subsidised by the taxpayer. That is right. This is not about the principle of subsidising, but about to what extent we subsidise. We have to accept that that is the principle that we are discussing here. It is not about whether we should subsidise, but about how much we

hwn o'r cychwyn. Nid oes ganddynt ddim byd i'w gynnig nas argymhellodd Rees, ar wahân i rywbeth bach i foddio'r dosbarth canol. Nid ydynt yn poeni dim am sicrhau bod mwy o bobl yn y cymunedau yr wyf fi a'm cyd-Aelodau yn eu cynrychioli yn mynd i'r brifysgol. Deuant yma heddiw i amddiffyn gwleidyddiaeth ddosbarth—gwleidyddiaeth y dosbarth canol.

Peter Black: Yr wyf yn ceisio amgyffred sylwadau'r Aelod dosbarth canol dros y Rhondda—[AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O']

Leighton Andrews: A ildiwch?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn.

Peter Black: Talwyd ei ffioedd drosto a chafodd addysg am ddim, fel minnau ac fel aelodau Cabinet y Llywodraeth Lafur. [Torri ar draws.]

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf wedi gwasgu'r botwm coch, a gall neb glywed dim. A ildiwch, Peter?

Peter Black: Nid ilidaf.

Dywedodd Lynne Neagle mai'r rhai breintiedig sy'n cael mynd i'r brifysgol o hyd. Efallai fod hynny'n wir ar sawl ystyr, ac yr oedd yn iawn ynglŷn â'r angen i fuddsoddi yn addysg y blynyddoedd cynnar. Fodd bynnag, yn fy marn i, nid yw Lynne Neagle a Leighton Andrews yn gywir ynglŷn â chymorth i fyfyrwyr. Rhaid inni gofio bod hyd yn oed y rhai sy'n talu'r ffi lawn o £3,000 yn dal i gael swm sylweddol—

Leighton Andrews: A ildiwch?

Peter Black: Nid oes gennyf amser i ildio. Yr wyf eisoes wedi defnyddio munud o'm hamser ac yr wyf am barhau.

Rhaid ichi gofio y bydd hyd yn oed y rhai a fydd yn talu'r ffi lawn o £3,000 yn dal i gael rhan sylweddol o'u haddysg uwch wedi'i thalu gan y trethdalwr. Mae hynny yn deg. Nid egwyddor cymorthdalau sydd o dan sylw, ond i ba raddau yr ydym yn cymorthdalau. Rhaid inni dderbyn mai dyna'r egwyddor yr ydym yn ei thrafod yma. Nid ydym yn trafod pa un a ddylem gymorthdalau, ond faint o

subsidise.

What is the impact of top-up fees and the debt that they create for poorer families and students? A Royal Bank of Scotland report, which William Graham has already referred to, based on a poll of 1,200 students who graduated in 2002, showed that 58 per cent are still relying on their parents to tide them over three years after their graduation. The average student leaves university with debts of £13,500, which is an increase of 12 per cent since 2004. That is before variable top-up fees are introduced.

If education is for the middle classes, that is because of the threat of debt. Last month, *The Times* reported on a study that found that as many as one in four teenagers from single-parent families are deterred from thinking about going to university by the prospect of getting into debt. That study was based on interviews with 2,700 schoolchildren aged between 11 and 16 across England and Wales. It is quite palpable that debt is putting off children from deprived and poorer families from going to university. That is the issue that we are trying to address in this solution, which has been negotiated among all the parties.

The issue of the graduate premium forms the basis of this entire agenda, which has been introduced by the Labour Government. However, the graduate premium is reducing, and the additional money that graduates will receive will not be as much as has been expected. This solution is for Welsh students—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Your time has run out. I call on Owen John Thomas.

Owen John Thomas: Un peth sy'n rhoi pleser mawr imi ynghylch y mater hwn yw'r ffaith ein bod wedi symud o'r diwedd tuag at wydroi y *brain drain* a fu'n effeithio ar economi Cymru ers degawdau. Amcangyfrifwyd bod 100,000 o raddedigion o Gymru yn parhau i fyw yn y wlad, a bod 100,000 yn byw y tu allan iddi. Felly, mae 50 y cant o'n graddedigion yn gadael y wlad i

gymhorthdal y dylem ei roi.

Beth fydd effaith y ffioedd atodol a'r ddyled y byddant yn ei chreu i deuluoedd a myfyrwyr tlawd? Yn ôl adroddiad gan y Royal Bank of Scotland, y mae William Graham eisoes wedi cyfeirio ato, ar sail arolwg barn o 1,200 o fyfyrwyr a raddiodd yn 2002, mae 58 y cant yn dal i ddibynnu ar eu rhieni am gymorth ariannol dros dair blynedd ar ôl iddynt raddio. Mae'r myfyriwr cyffredin yn gadael y brifysgol gyda dyledion o £13,500, sef cynnydd o 12 y cant ers 2004. Mae hynny cyn cyflwyno ffioedd atodol amrywiadwy.

Os yw addysg yn rhywbeth i'r dosbarth canol, y perygl o ddyled yw'r rheswm dros hynny. Fis diwethaf, adroddodd *The Times* ar astudiaeth a ganfu fod cymaint ag un o bob pedwar o blant yn eu harddegau o deuluoedd rhiant sengl yn teimlo na ddylent fynd i'r brifysgol am eu bod yn ofni mynd i ddyled. Yr oedd yr astudiaeth honno yn seiliedig ar gyfweiliadau gyda 2,700 o blant ysgol, rhwng 11 ac 16 oed ar draws Cymru a Lloegr. Mae'n hollol amlwg bod dyled yn gwneud i blant o deuluoedd difreintiedig a thlawd deimlo na ddylent fynd i'r brifysgol. Dyna'r broblem yr ydym yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â hi yn yr ateb hwn, sydd wedi cael ei negodi gan bob plaid.

Y premiwm i raddedigion sydd wrth wraidd yr agenda hon, a gyflwynwyd gan y Lywodraeth Lafur. Fodd bynnag, lleihau y mae'r premiwm i raddedigion, ac ni fydd yr arian ychwanegol y bydd graddedigion yn ei ennill gymaint ag a ddisgwyliwyd. Mae'r ateb hwn i fyfyrwyr o Gymru—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae eich amser ar ben. Galwaf ar Owen John Thomas.

Owen John Thomas: One thing that gives me great pleasure regarding this issue is the fact that we have moved, at last, towards reversing the brain drain that has been affecting the Welsh economy for decades. It has been estimated that 100,000 graduates from Wales continue to live here and that 100,000 live outside Wales. Therefore, 50 per cent of our graduates leave the country to

gael hyd i waith gan nad oes digon o swyddi o ansawdd yma. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn golygu y bydd disgyblion yng Nghymru, o hyn allan, yn dewis mynd i goleg yng Nghymru gan ein bod yn creu amodau gwell iddynt. Mae hyn yn hynod o bwysig o ran datblygiad a dyfodol economi Cymru.

Yr wyf hefyd yn falch bod cyfle inni gadw pobl sydd am astudio mathemateg a pheirianneg yng Nghymru. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn sicrhau bod myfyrwyr sy'n astudio'r pynciau hyn yng Nghymru yn aros yma i weithio a darparu swyddi i eraill, ac yn ein helpu i ddenu pobl yma i ddechrau busnesau gan fod gennym bobl â sgiliau. Ar hyn o bryd, mae hanner y bobl hyn yn gadael Cymru.

Yr wyf yn falch bod cyfle i bobl astudio mwy o bynciau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Mae'r bwrsariau ar gyfer hynny yn hynod o bwysig. Addawodd y Gweinidog y byddai'n sicrhau eu bod yn cynyddu, felly dyma gyfle iddi wneud hynny.

Mae'n bwysig hefyd fod y cynnig hwn wedi deillio o gydweithredu rhwng y tair gwrthblaid. Cafwyd cydweithredu rhwng arweinwyr y pedair plaid hefyd. Yn hytrach na bod yn grac iawn a chodi llais, fel y gwnaeth rhai o ochr arall y Siambr heddiw, dylem fod yn falch iawn fod y pedair plaid wedi cydweithio er lles Cymru. Mae'n rhaid ichi roi pobl Cymru yn gyntaf, yn hytrach na chi eich hunain, eich seddau a phethau hunanol felly.

Mark Isherwood: The principles agreed by the four party leaders are the best solution available in an imperfect world, which is constrained by the introduction of top-up fees in England and the legal duty to fund students from within the European Union on an equal basis. Let no-one dispute that it was the Welsh Conservatives' opposition debate on 24 May, when the minority Labour Welsh Assembly Government was defeated, that led to this consensual outcome. I will not take any lessons from the millionaires' row on the other side of the Chamber on social justice, particularly as I was one of those students, many years ago—and I have said this many

find employment as there are not enough high-quality jobs here. This motion means that, in future, school pupils in Wales will choose to go to a college in Wales as we are creating better conditions for them. This is extremely important in terms of the future development of the Welsh economy.

I am also pleased that this gives us an opportunity to retain those who wish to study mathematics and engineering in Wales. It is important that we ensure that students studying these subjects in Wales stay here to work and provide jobs for others, and help us to attract people to Wales to start businesses as we have skilled people. Currently, half of these people leave Wales.

I am pleased that there is an opportunity for people to study more subjects through the medium of Welsh. The bursaries for that are extremely important. The Minister has promised that she will ensure that they will increase, and this gives her an opportunity to do that.

It is also important that this motion has arisen from collaboration between the three opposition parties. There has also been collaboration between the leaders of the four parties. Rather than being very angry and shouting the odds, as some on the other side of the Chamber have been doing today, we should be very proud of the fact that the four parties have collaborated for the benefit of Wales. You must put the people of Wales first, rather than yourselves, your seats and other such selfish things.

Mark Isherwood: Yr egwyddorion y cytunodd arweinwyr y pedair plaid arnynt yw'r ateb gorau sydd ar gael mewn byd amherffraith, y cyfyngir arno gan y penderfyniad i gyflwyno ffioedd atodol yn Lloegr a'r ddyletswydd gyfreithiol i ariannu myfyrwyr o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd ar sail gyfartal. Peidied neb ag amau nad dadl gwrthblaid Ceidwadwyr Cymru ar 24 Mai, pan gollodd Llywodraeth Lafur leiafrifol Cynulliad Cymru y bleidlais, a arweiniodd at y consensws hwn. Ni dderbyniaf unrhyw wersi ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol gan y rhai goludog ar yr ochr arall i'r Siambr, yn enwedig gan fy mod yn un o'r myfyrwyr

times before—who obtained a full grant because my father was unemployed.

5.10 p.m.

Leighton Andrews—*rose*

Mark Isherwood: I do not have time to give way.

As NUS Cymru has stated, it is perverse for students to have to pay for their course before they study. This is, therefore, good news and in the absence of their abolition, £1,200 tuition fees will now be deferred until after graduation. However, the income threshold at which graduates will commence payments, and on what basis, must now be clarified. Any progressive element must be based on their post-graduation earnings.

Any consequences for the Assembly learning grant must also be clarified. If funds for the maintenance grants for full-time students are now to be included in the annual settlement from the UK Government then, as the Rees report states, that should allow us to develop a sustainable system of tuition fees and student support for part-time students. NIACE Dysgu Cymru has asked me to emphasise its support for this and for the nature of the new arrangements to be shaped by an independent review of part-time fees. The agreement, therefore, that there will be further work on funding for part-time students is welcomed.

We must also have clarification of the entitlement to maintenance grants of Welsh domiciled students studying in England. That question was raised with me by students earlier today. A commitment to helping Welsh students applying to universities outside Wales for courses not available within Welsh higher education institutions is critical, where, in all other respects, this agreement will, regrettably, but of necessity, penalise Welsh domiciled students who wish to study in England, while leaving a level playing field for English domiciled students when considering whether to study in

hynny flynyddoedd maith yn ôl—ac yr wyf wedi dweud hyn sawl gwaith o'r blaen—a gafodd grant llawn am fod fy nhad yn ddi-waith.

Leighton Andrews—*a gododd*

Mark Isherwood: Nid oes gennyf amser i ildio.

Fel y nododd NUS Cymru, mae'n groes i bob rheswm bod myfyrwyr yn gorfod talu am eu cwrs cyn dechrau eu hastudiaethau. Felly, mae hyn yn newyddion da ac er nad ydynt wedi'u diddymu, ni chaiff ffioedd dysgu o £1,200 eu talu tan ar ôl graddio. Fodd bynnag, rhaid yn awr gael eglurhad ynglŷn â'r trothwy incwm pryd y bydd graddedigion yn dechrau gwneud taliadau, ac ar ba sail. Rhaid i unrhyw elfen gynyddol fod yn seiliedig ar eu henillion wedi graddio.

Rhaid cael eglurhad ynglŷn ag unrhyw oblygiadau i grant dysgu'r Cynulliad. Os caiff cyllid ar gyfer grantiau cynhaliath i fyfyrwyr llawn amser eu cynnwys yn y setliad blynyddol o Lywodraeth y DU bellach yna, fel y noda adroddiad Rees, dylai hynny roi cyfle inni ddatblygu system gynaliadwy o ffioedd dysgu a chymorth i fyfyrwyr ar gyfer myfyrwyr rhan amser. Mae NIACE Dysgu Cymru wedi gofyn imi bwysleisio ei gefnogaeth i hyn ac i'r cynnig bod natur y trefnidau newydd yn cael ei llunio drwy adolygiad annibynnol o ffioedd rhan amser. Felly mae'r cytundeb y bydd rhagor o waith yn cael ei wneud ar ariannu ar gyfer myfyrwyr rhan amser i'w groesawu.

Rhaid inni hefyd gael eglurhad o hawl myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru ac sy'n astudio yn Lloegr i gael grantiau cynhaliath. Codwyd y cwestiwn hwnnw gyda mi gan fyfyrwyr yn gynharach heddiw. Mae ymrwymiad i helpu myfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n gwneud cais i brifysgolion y tu allan i Gymru am gysiau nad ydynt ar gael mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn hollbwysig, lle, ar bob ystyr arall, y bydd y cytundeb hwn, yn anffodus, ond o anghenraid, yn cosbi myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru sydd am astudio yn Lloegr, tra bod myfyrwyr sy'n byw yn Lloegr yn wynebu'r

England or Wales.

In this context, the Welsh Assembly Government must therefore indicate how it proposes to deal with capacity issues in Welsh universities on an evidence-led basis, where clearly the opportunity to save £1,800 a year or £5,400 over a typical three-year university course will be a major influencing factor in the future when Welsh domiciled students are deciding where to study. Welsh universities are still a popular destination for English students.

In considering capacity issues, the Welsh Assembly Government must also undertake an independent inquiry into the number of graduates that society requires. Research by Phil Brown from Cardiff University and Dr Nigel O'Leary of the University of Wales Swansea demonstrates the level of increased earnings that graduates can expect over a lifetime, as recompense for doing a degree has fallen sharply.

Jenny Randerson: I commend the First Minister on the positive approach that he has taken to the problems of minority Government. However, it is clear today that he still has a major education job to do on some of his backbenchers, who have thrived as a result of a free university education.

Huw Lewis *rose*—

Jenny Randerson: I will not give way. I remind them of the conclusion of the first Rees report that tuition fees disproportionately deter those from poorer homes, despite the existence of a reduction in fees to be paid by those from low-income families. What a difference a month makes. On 26 May, we were told that there was no alternative to top-up fees, but, lo, only four weeks later, we have a solution, and not just to the top-up fees issue, but also the firm prospect of a solution to several other problems that have beset the higher education sector in Wales, namely the long-term injustice that has meant that part-time students paying fees, and they did so even when full-time students did not. As an ex-

un sefyllfa wrth ystyried pa un a ydynt am astudio yng Nghymru neu yn Lloegr.

Yn y cyd-destun hwn, rhaid felly i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru nodi sut y mae'n bwriadu ymdrin â materion o ran lleoedd mewn prifysgolion yng Nghymru ar sail tystiolaeth, lle mae'n amlwg y bydd y cyfle i arbed £1,800 y flwyddyn neu £5,400 dros gwrs prifysgol arferol o dair blynedd yn ffactor pwysig yn y dyfodol a fydd yn dylanwadu ar fyfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru pan fyddant yn penderfynu lle i astudio. Mae prifysgolion yng Nghymru yn dal i fod yn ddewis poblogaidd i fyfyrwyr o Loegr.

Wrth ystyried materion o ran lleoedd, rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru hefyd gynnal ymchwiliad annibynnol i nifer y graddedigion sydd eu hangen ar gymdeithas. Dengys ymchwil gan Phil Brown o Brifysgol Caerdydd a Dr Nigel O'Leary o Brifysgol Cymru Abertawe fod lefel yr uwch y gall graddedigion eu disgwyl dros oes, yn gydnabyddiaeth am wneud gradd, wedi gostwng yn sylweddol.

Jenny Randerson: Cymeradwyaf y Prif Weinidog am ei ymagwedd gadarnhaol tuag at broblemau Llywodraeth leiafrifol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg heddiw fod ganddo dipyn o waith i'w wneud i addysgu rhai o'i aelodau ar y meinciau cefn, sydd wedi ffynnu o ganlyniad i addysg prifysgol am ddim.

Huw Lewis *a gododd*—

Jenny Randerson: Nid ildiaf. Hoffwn eu hatgoffa o gasgliad adroddiad cyntaf Rees bod ffioedd dysgu yn rhwystro'r rhai o gartrefi tlawd yn anghymesur, er gwaethaf gostyngiad yn y ffioedd a delir gan fyfyrwyr o deuluoedd incwm isel. Sut y mae pethau'n newid o fewn mis. Ar 26 Mai, dywedwyd wrthym fod rhaid wrth ffioedd atodol, ond, dyma ni, dim ond pedair wythnos yn ddiweddarach, ac mae gennym ateb, ac nid dim ond i broblem ffioedd atodol, ond i'r posibilrwydd cryf o gael ateb i sawl problem arall y mae'r sector addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn eu hwynebu, sef yr anghyfiawnder hirdymor sydd wedi golygu bod myfyrwyr rhan amser yn talu ffioedd, a hynny hyd yn oed pan nad oedd myfyrwyr

further education lecturer, many of my mature students went on to be part-time students themselves, and they were the ones who made the greatest sacrifice.

I am delighted that there will be work to deal with the funding gap between Welsh and English universities; back in the Redwood days, that was over £1,000. It then went to virtually nothing in 1997, and now it has grown to over £400 per student per year. I am also pleased that there will be work to boost Welsh-medium education in universities. We want the best for our students, which means that we also want the best for our universities. Our universities cannot be the cinderellas of the university world in the UK.

As an Assembly Member representing the Cardiff Central constituency, I represent one of the highest percentages of students in the UK in constituency terms. I deal with students with serious debt problems—mortgage-sized debt problems. We are therefore making an important decision for my constituency.

Given that Cardiff University, UWIC and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama are all located within my constituency, it is important that we remember the thousands of staff who live here. Over a year ago, the vice-chancellor of Cardiff University voiced to me his concerns about staff losses due to uncertainty. I am delighted that that uncertainty has now been resolved today.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): The consensus that has been the feature of today's debate is important, as it reflects the vital role that our universities play in building a modern Wales. Successful higher education institutions are not good only for students; they play a key role in supporting our competitiveness as a country. We are in the process of doubling our support for university third-mission activities in recognition of this. Higher education also makes an essential contribution to the training and development of the professional staff who deliver our public services.

llawn amser yn gwneud hynny. Fel cyn-ddarlithydd addysg bellach, aeth llawer o'm myfyrwyr aeddfed ymlaen i fod yn fyfyrwyr rhan amser eu hunain, a hwy a wnaeth yr aberth fwyaf.

Yr wyf yn falch y bydd gwaith yn cael ei wneud i ymdrin â'r bwlch ariannu rhwng prifysgolion yng Nghymru a Lloegr; yn ôl yng nghyfnod Redwood, yr oedd y bwlch dros £1,000. Yna diflannodd bron yn gyfan gwbl yn 1997, ac erbyn hyn mae wedi tyfu i fwy na £400 fesul myfyriwr y flwyddyn. Yr wyf yn falch hefyd y bydd gwaith yn cael ei wneud ar hybu addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg mewn prifysgolion. Yr ydym am gael y gorau i'n myfyrwyr, sy'n golygu ein bod hefyd am gael y gorau i'n prifysgolion. Ni all ein prifysgolion fod yn sinderela byd y prifysgolion yn y DU.

Fel Aelod Cynulliad sy'n cynrychioli etholaeth Canol Caerdydd, cynrychiolaf un o'r canrannau mwyaf o fyfyrwyr yn y DU o ran etholwyr. Ymdriniaf â myfyrwyr sydd â phroblemau mawr o ran dyledion—dyledion ar yr un raddfa â morgais. Yr ydym felly yn gwneud penderfyniad pwysig i'm hetholaeth.

O ystyried bod Prifysgol Caerdydd, UWIC a Choleg Brenhinol Cerdd a Drama Cymru oll wedi'u lleoli yn fy etholaeth, mae'n bwysig ein bod hefyd yn cofio'r miloedd o staff sy'n byw yno. Dros flwyddyn yn ôl, mynegodd is-ganghellor Prifysgol Caerdydd ei bryderon ynghylch colledion staff o ganlyniad i ansicrwydd. Yr wyf yn falch bod yr ansicrwydd hwnnw wedi'i ddatrys heddiw.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Mae'r consensws a fu'n nodwedd o'r ddadl heddiw yn bwysig, am ei fod yn adlewyrchu'r rhan hanfodol y mae ein prifysgolion yn ei chwarae wrth adeiladu Cymru fodern. Nid dim ond i fyfyrwyr y mae sefydliadau addysg uwch llwyddiannus yn bwysig; maent yn chwarae rhan allweddol wrth gynnal ein cystadleurwydd fel gwlad. Yr ydym wrthi'n dyblu ein cymorth i weithgareddau trydedd genhadaeth prifysgolion er mwyn cydnabod hyn. Mae addysg uwch hefyd yn gwneud cyfraniad hanfodol i hyfforddi a datblygu'r staff proffesiynol sy'n darparu ein

gwasanaethau cyhoeddus.

From my recent meetings with representatives from the sector, I know that higher education in Wales would welcome the stability that an agreed Assembly approach to higher education funding will provide. That stability is important, because the sector operates in an increasingly competitive higher education marketplace. The growing European interest in higher education introduces important new opportunities for our institutions. Higher education is one of this country's strengths, and our institutions are well placed to benefit from the additional support being provided at the European level through the Bologna process.

Much has been made of issues surrounding heads of agreement and principles that people have used in terms of their position in today's debate. There were some previous Welsh Assembly Government commitments, which, from our perspective, were absolutely solid principles that we needed to support in coming to the agreement today. We wanted to ensure that enough funding was made available to the sector in terms of the additional income for institutions in England as a result of the variable-fee agenda. We also wanted to maintain our previous commitment to ensure that our student support mechanisms encouraged students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds to go to university. I asked Professor Rees and her group, including nominees from both Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats, to advise us of the best way to deliver and how best to take this forward.

We want to continue to attract students to Wales from the rest of the United Kingdom. That is an important feature of higher education in Wales. We want those students to come to Wales because they are attracted by the excellence of our institutions, not because we charge lower fees. That is why the key recommendation in this second Rees report, namely that we should introduce flexible deferred fees, is the recommendation going through the Assembly today.

We need to deliver a level of honesty about

O'm cyfarfodydd diweddar gyda chynrychiolwyr o'r sector, gwn y byddai addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn croesawu'r sefydlogrwydd y byddai ymagwedd y Cynulliad y cytunwyd arni tuag at ariannu addysg uwch yn ei roi. Mae'r sefydlogrwydd hwnnw'n bwysig, oherwydd bod y sector yn gweithredu mewn marchnad addysg uwch gynyddol gystadleuol. Mae'r diddordeb Ewropeaidd cynyddol mewn addysg uwch yn cyflwyno cyfleoedd newydd pwysig i'n sefydliadau. Addysg uwch yw un o gryfderau'r wlad hon, ac mae ein sefydliadau mewn sefyllfa dda i elwa ar y cymorth ychwanegol a ddarperir ar y lefel Ewropeaidd drwy broses Bologna.

Cafwyd llawer o ddadlau ynghylch y materion sy'n ymwneud â phenawdau'r cytundeb a'r egwyddorion a arddelwyd gan bobl o ran eu safbwynt yn y ddadl heddiw. Cafwyd rhai ymrwymadau blaenorol gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, a oedd, o'n safbwynt ni, yn egwyddorion cwbl gadarn yr oedd angen inni eu cefnogi wrth ddod i'r cytundeb heddiw. Yr oeddem am sicrhau bod digon o arian ar gael i'r sector o ran yr incwm ychwanegol i sefydliadau yn Lloegr o ganlyniad i agenda'r ffioedd amrywiadwy. Yr oeddem hefyd am gadw at ein hymrwymiad blaenorol i sicrhau bod ein mecanweithiau cymorth i fyfyrwyr yn annog myfyrwyr o'r cefndiroedd mwyaf difreintiedig i fynd i'r brifysgol. Gofynnais i'r Athro Rees a'i grŵp, gan gynnwys enwebion o Blaid Cymru a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, i'n cynghori ynglŷn â'r ffordd orau o ddarparu a sut i weithredu ar hyn orau.

Yr ydym am barhau i ddenu myfyrwyr i Gymru o weddill y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae hynny'n nodwedd bwysig o addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Yr ydym am i'r myfyrwyr hynny ddod i Gymru oherwydd cânt eu denu gan ragoriaeth ein sefydliadau, nid oherwydd ein bod yn codi ffioedd llai. Dyna'r rheswm mai'r argymhelliad allweddol yn yr ail adroddiad hwn gan Rees, sef y dylem gyflwyno ffioedd hyblyg wedi'u gohirio, yw'r argymhelliad sy'n cael ei gyflwyno gerbron y Cynulliad heddiw.

Mae angen inni fod yn onest ynglŷn â'r hyn

what we are voting for today. I say that because the first Rees report did not say that fees in themselves deterred students from entering higher education; it said that it was up-front tuition fees that deterred students. Professor Rees said explicitly in her first report, with the full support of all of her group, that we should introduce a deferred graduate contribution. We are also supporting a deferred graduate contribution in our agenda today.

We also want to see more Welsh students choosing more Welsh higher education institutions; we have said that in committee before, and Leighton and others have pointed out that we have some very low representations from our most disadvantaged areas. In fact, among that representation in higher education institutions, the vast majority of the students choose to stay in Wales. I am, therefore, confident that there will be a benefit in our most disadvantaged areas from the decision to support Welsh-domiciled students particularly.

5.20 p.m.

We want Welsh-domiciled students to study here, to stay and to contribute towards Wales's prosperity. However, we must evaluate this issue carefully. We must continue the evidence base, which we have done hitherto. We must make sure that this agenda continues to support the most disadvantaged students. You will have heard Members on my side of the Chamber expressing their concern that that is the one element that is not explicit in this motion before us today, which our Members would have liked to see. Every other party has said what they would have liked to see in an ideal situation. Our party is committed to social justice, and we would have liked to see a means assessment of students. We are always happy to look at additional support, but we would have liked to see the focus on disadvantaged students remain in this agenda.

However, we have a positive response to the consensual work of the Assembly today. We will have that review of factors affecting part-time students. Without the work of

yr ydym yn pleidleisio o'i blaidd heddiw. Dywedaf hynny oherwydd nad oedd adroddiad cyntaf Rees yn dweud bod ffioedd ynddynt eu hunain yn atal myfyrwyr rhag dilyn cyrsiau addysg uwch; dywedodd mai ffioedd dysgu cyn cychwyn a oedd yn atal myfyrwyr. Dywedodd yr Athro Rees yn benodol yn ei hadroddiad cyntaf, gyda chefnogaeth lawn ei holl grŵp, y dylem gyflwyno cyfraniad graddedigion wedi'i ohirio yn ein hagenda heddiw.

Yr ydym hefyd am weld mwy o fyfyrwyr yng Nghymru yn dewis mwy o sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru; bu inni ddweud hynny yn y pwyllgor o'r blaen, a bu i Leighton ac eraill gyfeirio at y ffaith bod cynrychioliadau isel iawn o'n hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig. Yn wir, ymhlith y gynrychiolaeth honno mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch, mae'r mwyafrif helaeth o'r myfyrwyr yn dewis aros yng Nghymru. Yr wyf, felly, yn hyderus y bydd ein hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig yn gallu elwa ar y penderfyniad i gefnogi myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru yn arbennig.

Yr ydym am i fyfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru astudio yma, i aros ac i gyfrannu at ffyniant Cymru. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni werthuso'r mater hwn yn ofalus. Rhaid inni barhau â'r sylfaen dystiolaeth, sef yr hyn a wnaethom hyd yma. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod yr agenda hon yn parhau i gefnogi'r myfyrwyr mwyaf difreintiedig. Byddwch wedi clywed Aelodau ar fy ochr i o'r Siambr yn mynegi eu pryder mai dyma'r unig elfen nad yw'n eglur yn y cynnig hwn ger ein bron heddiw, y byddai ein Haelodau wedi dymuno ei gweld. Mae pob plaid arall wedi sôn am yr hyn y byddent wedi dymuno ei weld mewn sefyllfa ddelfrydol. Mae ein plaid ninnau'n ymrwymedig i gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, a byddem wedi hoffi gweld asesiad o fodd myfyrwyr. Yr ydym bob amser yn fodlon edrych ar gymorth ychwanegol, ond byddem wedi dymuno gweld y ffocws ar fyfyrwyr difreintiedig yn parhau yn yr agenda hon.

Fodd bynnag, cawn ymateb cadarnhaol i waith cydsyniol y Cynulliad heddiw. Cawn yr adolygiad hwnnw o'r ffactorau sy'n effeithio ar fyfyrwyr rhan amser. Heb waith

Professor Teresa Rees, in the real service that she has done by highlighting the importance of this issue, we would not be debating it today. As Leighton pointed out, five of the six parts of this motion are directly attributable to the evidence-based Rees report.

For the future, we must pick up the issues outlined by Lynne Neagle. We need to make sure that more young people are university-ready. I know that the National Union of Students supports this. More young people should be able to go on to higher education because more young people are university-ready. Therefore, we must ensure that we spend wisely and well on early years and throughout other parts of the education system to take this agenda forward.

Professor Rees points out that the issue is not about persuading young people with A-levels to go on to higher education, because they already do so, irrespective of family background; it is about making sure that enough young people in Wales have the opportunities to have the high-quality qualifications that they can use to go on to university. We must continue our efforts in that direction.

The higher education sector in Wales must also continue to strive for academic excellence. A guaranteed flow of funds will not in itself enable the sector to compete successfully. The sector must use that money wisely. We will distribute it according to 'Reaching Higher' principles. We will want Wales to build on its strength. We need effective leadership at institutional level and we must make sure that funding made available via the Assembly Government is harnessed to best effect. On that basis, I am happy to support the motion.

yr Athro Teresa Rees, a'r cyfraniad gwirioneddol a wnaeth drwy amlygu pwysigrwydd y mater hwn, ni fyddem yn ei drafod heddiw. Fel y nododd Leighton, gellir priodoli pump o'r chwe rhan o'r cynnig hwn yn uniongyrchol i adroddiad Rees sy'n seiliedig ar dystiolaeth.

Ar gyfer y dyfodol, rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â'r materion a amlinellwyd gan Lynne Neagle. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod mwy o bobl ifanc yn barod ar gyfer mynd i'r brifysgol. Gwn fod Undeb Cenedlaethol y Myfyrwyr yn cefnogi hyn. Dylai fod mwy o bobl ifanc yn gallu mynd ymlaen i addysg uwch gan fod mwy o bobl ifanc yn barod ar gyfer mynd i'r brifysgol. Felly, rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn gwario'n ddoeth ac yn dda ar addysg y blynyddoedd cynnar a thrwy rannau eraill o'r system addysg er mwyn cyflwyno'r agenda hon.

Dywed yr Athro Rees nad oes a wnelo'r mater hwn â pherswadio pobl ifanc sydd â chymwysterau safon Uwch i fynd ymlaen i addysg uwch, am eu bod eisoes yn gwneud hynny, waeth beth fo cefndir teuluol y myfyrwyr; mae a wnelo â sicrhau bod digon o bobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn cael cyfle i ennill y cymwysterau o safon uchel y gallant eu defnyddio i fynd ymlaen i'r brifysgol. Rhaid inni barhau i ymdrechu i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw.

Rhaid i'r sector addysg uwch yng Nghymru hefyd barhau i anelu at ragoriaeth academiaidd. Ni fydd llif gwarantedig o arian, ynddo'i hun, yn galluogi'r sector i gystadlu'n llwyddiannus. Rhaid i'r sector ddefnyddio'r arian hwnnw'n ddoeth. Byddwn yn ei ddosbarthu yn ôl egwyddorion 'Ymgeisio yn Uwch'. Byddwn am i Gymru adeiladu ar ei chryfder. Mae angen arweinyddiaeth effeithiol ar lefel sefydliadol a rhaid inni sicrhau y gwneir y defnydd mwyaf effeithiol o'r arian a ryddheir gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Ar y sail honno, yr wyf yn fodlon cefnogi'r cynnig.

*Cynnig (NNDM2491): O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NNDM2491): For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Glyn
 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, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

Owen John Thomas: I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, under Standing Order No. 6.11, defers the short debate to be held at a subsequent date.

Owen John Thomas: Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.11, yn gohirio'r ddadl fer i'w chynnal ar ddyddiad hwyrach.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I am **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Fe'm bodlonwyd bod y satisfied that the motion is in order. I cynnig mewn trefn, felly galwaf y bleidlais. therefore call for a vote.

*Cynnig: O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 34, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â today's proceedings to a close. chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.24 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.24 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 (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Marek, John (Cymru Ymlaen – Forward Wales)
 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)