



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Cofnod y Trafodion**

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

**Dydd Mawrth, 20 Medi 2005
Tuesday, 20 September 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 i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Dathliadau Hanes Morwrol Cymru Welsh Maritime History Celebrations

Q1 Lorraine Barrett: What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to celebrate Wales's maritime history? OAQ0727(FM)

C1 Lorraine Barrett: Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i ddathlu hanes morwrol Cymru? OAQ0727(FM)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): On 17 October, I will be opening the new National Waterfront Museum in Swansea. The opening coincides with Trafalgar week and is a major event in the SeaBritain 2005 festival, a year-long series of events around the UK coastline, waterways and islands inspired by the anniversary of Nelson's victory at Trafalgar.

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Ar 17 Hydref byddaf yn agor Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau yn Abertawe. Bydd yr agoriad yn cyd-daro ag Wythnos Trafalgar sydd yn ddigwyddiad pwysig yng ngŵyl SeaBritain 2005. Mae hon yn ŵyl a fydd yn parhau am flwyddyn gron gan drefnu cyfres o ddigwyddiadau o amgylch arfordir y DU, ei dyfrffyrdd a'i hynsoedd er mwyn dathlu buddugoliaeth Nelson yn Trafalgar.

Lorraine Barrett: You will know that Captain Scott's expedition ship, the Terra Nova, sailed from Cardiff in 1910; it has since become an essential part of Cardiff's maritime history. Given its importance in that regard, will you join me and us—I have also taken this up with the Presiding Officer, who I hope will be supportive—in supporting calls for the ship's binnacle to be placed on permanent display in Cardiff as a lasting tribute to Captain Scott and to Cardiff's maritime history?

Lorraine Barrett: Gwyddoch mae'n siŵr fod llong Capten Scott, y Terra Nova, wedi hwylio o Gaerdydd yn 1910; mae hyn bellach yn rhan hanfodol o hanes morwrol Caerdydd. O ystyried pwysigrwydd hynny, a wnewch ymuno â mi, a chyda ni - gan fy mod eisoes wedi codi hyn gyda'r Llywydd ac yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd ef yn gefnogol - i gefnogi'r cais i osod binacl y llong mewn arddangosfa barhaol yng Nghaerdydd yn deyrnged barhaol i Capten Scott ac i hanes morwrol Caerdydd?

The First Minister: It would be a tribute not only to Captain Scott, but also to Edgar Evans of Cwmrhydyceirw, one of the expedition's key members, who died, sadly, and failed to return. They did not get to the south pole first but they showed extraordinary bravery. No-one of my age could ever forget the post-war film with, inevitably, John Mills playing Captain Scott. If we can solve the dispute over who owns that binnacle, it is important that an appropriate home is found for it as close as possible to where the Terra Nova left.

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd hyn yn deyrnged nid yn unig i Capten Scott ond hefyd i Edgar Evans o Gwmrhydyceirw, un o aelodau allweddol y fordaith a fu farw, yn anffodus, ac na ddaeth yn ôl. Ni lwyddasant i gyrraedd pegwn y de gyntaf ond fe wnaethant ddangos dewrder anhygoel. Ni wnaiff neb o'm cenhedlaeth i anghofio'r ffilm ar ôl y rhyfel gyda John Mills, pwy arall, yn chwarae Capten Scott. Os gallwn ddatrys yr anghydfod ynghylch pwy yw perchennog y binacl, yna mae'n bwysig iddo gael cartref addas mor agos ag sy'n bosibl at fan hwylio'r Terra Nova.

Owen John Thomas: Yr wyf hefyd yn edrych ymlaen at weld yr amgueddfa forwrol yn agor fis nesaf. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn atyniad gwych i bobl o bob rhan o Gymru a'r byd. Fodd bynnag, mae diffyg amgueddfa leol i wasanaethu Caerdydd—ein prifddinas a chyn brif borthladd glo y byd. Dyma golli cyfle i hysbysebu ein gorffennol cyffrous. Beth yw eich gweledigaeth i facsimeiddio ar botensial cyfleoedd fel hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cytunaf ei bod yn dipyn o fwch nad oes amgueddfa leol i sôn am hanes diddorol dinas Caerdydd, gan gynnwys y ffaith y cyfeiriasoch ati. Nid mater i ni yw cael gweledigaeth o'r fath ond mater i'r awdurdodau lleol neu'r sector gwirfoddol i ddweud, 'Iawn, dyma beth yr hoffem ei wneud gyda'r hen lyfrgell' neu unrhyw adeilad arall.

Catherine Thomas: First Minister, as you are aware, Llanelli constituency has a long and proud maritime history. Do you share my great optimism for its future as the latest exciting plans were unveiled last week by the Minister for Economic Development and Transport, Carmarthenshire County Council and the Welsh Development Agency, thus securing the continued development and transformation of the Glan-y-Môr Communities First ward in my constituency, which is currently the poorest in Carmarthenshire?

The First Minister: I was aware of that last sad fact, and I am also aware of the enormous potential that has been revealed by the coastal millennium waterfront project in Llanelli, which has been going successfully for the past seven years. It had one temporary climax of great success, in the opening of the Jack-Nicklaus-designed golf course. A major golf tournament was held there a month ago, where I was able to present first prize. The latest development was launched by Andrew Davies last week. It is a remarkable recovery of a beautiful coastline, which had been heavily polluted during 200 years of industrial development. It is now recovering and returning to its enormous natural beauty. This can bring new kinds of jobs, which are much needed by some of the people who live next-door in a ward that is among the most

Owen John Thomas: I am also looking forward to the opening of the maritime museum next month. I am sure that it will prove to be a great draw for people from all parts of Wales and the world. However, we lack a local museum serving Cardiff—our capital city and formerly the world's largest coal port. This is a missed opportunity to publicise our exciting past. What is your vision to maximise the potential of such opportunities?

The First Minister: I agree with you that it is something of an oversight that there is no local museum about the city of Cardiff's interesting history, including the fact to which you alluded. It is not for us to have such a vision, but for local authorities or the voluntary sector to say, 'Okay, this is what we would like to do with the old library' or any other building.

Catherine Thomas: Brif Weinidog, fel y gwyddoch, mae gan etholaeth Llanelli hanes morwrol hir a balch. A ydych yn rhannu fy ngobeithion am ei dyfodol yn sgîl cyhoeddi'r cynlluniau cyffrous yr wythnos diwethaf gan y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth, Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, a fydd yn sicrhau bod ward Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Glan-y-Môr, yn fy etholaeth i, yn parhau i gael ei datblygu a'i gwednewid, gan ei bod ar hyn o bryd yn un o'r wardiau tlotaf yn sir Caerfyrddin?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn ymwybodol o'r ffaith ddigalon olaf honno, ond yr wyf hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r potensial anferthol a grewyd gan brosiect y mileniwm ar y glannau yn Llanelli, sydd wedi bod ar waith yn llwyddiannus bellach ers saith mlynedd. Cafwyd un uchafbwynt llwyddiannus iawn pan agorwyd y cwrs golff a gynlluniwyd gan Jack Nicklaus. Cynhaliwyd trnament golff pwysig yno fis yn ôl a chefais y fraint o gyflwyno'r wobwr gyntaf. Lanswyd y datblygiad diweddaraf gan Andrew Davies yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae'n rhyfeddol sut y llwyddwyd i adennill yr arfordir prydfert hwn, a lygrwyd yn sylweddol yn ystod 200 mlynedd o ddatblygu diwydiannol. Bellach, mae yno dro ar fyd, gyda'r ardal yn dychwelyd i'w harddwch naturiol rhyfeddol. Gall hyn ddod â mathau newydd o swyddi yn

deprived in Carmarthenshire.

David Melding: I do not know if you have had a chance to see Jonathan Williams's magnificent sculpture on the waterfront here, which commemorates the 1910 British Antarctic expedition, but, if you have not, I hope that you will go to see it. You would then perhaps agree with me that public art, including public sculpture, is a wonderful way of commemorating our traditions and history and of attracting tourists and those interested in these matters.

The First Minister: I do not disagree with a word of that. Public art can bring alive relevant history and modern history that can, in a way, form part of the job-creating attractions of an area, whether that is on the Llanelli waterfront, the Cardiff waterfront, or the Swansea SA1 waterfront. Public art, through an outstanding piece of art such as a statue, can sometimes provide the missing link to remind you of something that may be a fading memory for elderly people and bring it to life for today's generation.

Jenny Randerson: HMS Cardiff is part of Cardiff's maritime history. The council is working on a project to buy HMS Cardiff in order to open it up for public use as a convention and conference centre and as a museum. Will you give a commitment to doing all that you can, within your power as First Minister, to assist the council in this project?

The First Minister: This is the first that I have heard that the council is actively engaged in such a proposition. If it brings forward a proposition of that nature, we will read it carefully and see whether there is some way in which we can assist the process. It is a bit early to be talking about HMS Cardiff as a historic ship; it is not in the register of historic ships because it has only recently been decommissioned, and perhaps it could be sold by the Navy if it has a military value to other navies. However, if such a proposition came along, we would be quite interested.

ei sgîl, sydd eu hangen yn ddybryd ar rai o'r bobl sydd yn byw gerllaw yn un o wardiau mwyaf difreintiedig sir Gaerfyrddin.

David Melding: Nid wyf yn gwybod a ydych wedi cael cyfle i weld cerflun godidog Jonathan Williams yno ar lan y dŵr, sydd yn coffáu taith y gwŷr o Brydain i'r Antarcig yn 1910. Os nad ydych, gobeithio yr ewch yno i'w weld. Yna, efallai y byddech yn cytuno â mi fod celf gyhoeddus, gan gynnwys cerfluniau cyhoeddus, yn ffordd wych o goffáu ein traddodiadau a'n hanes ac yn fodd o ddenu twristiaid a rhai sydd â diddordeb yn y pethau hyn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn anghytuno â chi o gwbl. Gall celf gyhoeddus ddod â hanes perthnasol a hanes modern yn fyw ac fe all hynny, mewn ffordd, ddatblygu'n rhan o'r atyniadau a fydd yn creu swyddi mewn ardal, boed hynny ar lan y dŵr yn Llanelli, ar lan y dŵr yng Nghaerdydd neu yn ardal SA1 ar lan y dŵr yn Abertawe. Gall celf gyhoeddus, drwy gyfrwng darn eithriadol o gelf megis cerflun, roi'r ddolen goll weithiau i'ch atgoffa o rywbeth sy'n pylu yng nghof pobl oedrannus a'i wneud yn rhywbeth byw i genhedlaeth heddiw.

Jenny Randerson: Mae HMS Cardiff yn rhan o hanes morwrol Caerdydd. Mae'r cyngor yn gweithio ar brosiect i brynu HMS Cardiff er mwyn ei hagog i'r cyhoedd fel canolfan i gynnal cyfarfodydd a chynadledau ac fel amgueddfa. A wnewch roi ymrwymiad y gwnewch bopeth o fewn eich gallu fel Prif Weinidog i gynorthwyo'r cyngor yn y prosiect hwn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyma'r tro cyntaf i mi glywed bod y cyngor yn bwriadu gwneud hyn. Os cyflwynna gynnig o'r fath yna fe'i darllenwn yn ofalus i weld a oes modd inni allu cynorthwyo'r broses. Mae braidd yn gynnar eto i ddechrau sôn am HMS Cardiff fel llong hanesyddol; nid ydyw yn y rhestr o longau hanesyddol oherwydd mai yn ddiweddar y datgomisiynwyd hi, ac efallai y bydd y Llynges yn ei gwerthu os yw o werth milwrol i lyngesau eraill. Fodd bynnag, pe bai cynnig o'r fath yn dod gerbron, yna byddai gennym gryn diddordeb.

Polisi Trafnidiaeth Transport Policy

Q2 Janet Ryder: Does the First Minister intend to review the Assembly Government's transport policy? OAQ0718(FM)

The First Minister: I do not think that we would want a further review now, as we only announced the outcome of the previous review last December, and it could mean our suffering reviewitis. That is the last thing that the transport industry needs. The £8 billion, 15-year transport programme will increase the speed of delivery on transport. A good example of that is Andrew Davies's launch on Friday of the commencement in Port Talbot of a £400 million, 10-year programme to completely re-signal the south Wales main line.

Janet Ryder: You will be aware that fuel prices have risen to an unprecedented high level recently. In some parts of Wales, the price of petrol and diesel rose to more than £1 per litre. Would you agree that only a fuel regulator with the power to set prices and vary fuel duty in line with the fluctuations in oil barrel prices could solve the problem, and that this would bring an end to the situation where people are at the mercy of the oil market?

The First Minister: As you are aware, Gordon Brown abandoned the fuel escalator that you are talking about in 1999, and he has not increased fuel duty above inflation since that time. In the view of many environmental campaigners, with whom Plaid Cymru AMs sometimes like to associate themselves, he has caved in to the demands of the fuel protestors by failing to add to fuel tax during the last five or six years. Duty rates are at their lowest in real terms, stripping out the effect of inflation, for seven years. I think that there is a little bit of fuel-price opportunism, shall I say, behind that question, Janet.

Lisa Francis: The Llanbadarn Fawr relief

C2 Janet Ryder: A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn bwriadu adolygu polisi trafndiaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad? OAQ0718(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn credu y byddem am gael adolygiad arall ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd ym mis Rhagfyr y gwnaethom gyhoeddi canlyniad yr adolygiad diwethaf ac mae perygl y gallem gael ein llethu gan adolygiadau. Dyna'r peth olaf sydd ei angen ar y diwydiant trafndiaeth. Bydd y rhaglen drafndiaeth, dros 15 mlynedd, sy'n werth £8 biliwn, yn fodd o gyflwyno pethau yn gynt ym maes trafndiaeth. Enghraifft dda o hynny yw bod Andrew Davies ddydd Gwener ym Mhort Talbot yn lansio dechrau'r rhaglen 10 mlynedd, gwerth £400 miliwn, i roi signalau newydd ar hyd prif reilffordd de Cymru.

Janet Ryder: Yr ydym yn ymwybodol iawn bod prisiau tanwydd wedi codi i lefel ryfeddol o uchel yn ddiweddar. Mewn rhai ardaloedd yng Nghymru cododd pris petrol a disel i dros £1 y litr. A fydddech yn cytuno mai dim ond corff rheoleiddio, gyda'r pŵer i bennu prisiau ac addasu'r dreth ar danwydd i gyd-fynd â'r newidiadau ym mhris casgennaid o olew, a fyddai'n gallu datrys y broblem ac y byddai hyn yn datrys y sefyllfa unwaith ac am byth lle y mae pobl ar drugaredd y farchnad olew?

Y Prif Weinidog: Fel y gwyddoch, rhoddodd Gordon Brown y gorau i'r syniad yr ydych yn sôn amdano o bennu canran ar gyfer codi treth tanwydd yn 1999, ac nid ydyw wedi codi lefel y dreth ar danwydd yn uwch na chwyddiant ers hynny. Ym marn llawer o ymgyrchwyr amgylcheddol, ac mae Aelodau Cynulliad Plaid Cymru'n hoffi uniaethu eu hunain â hwy ar brydiau, y mae wedi ildio i alwadau'r protestwyr tanwydd drwy beidio â chodi mwy o dreth ar danwydd dros y pum neu'r chwe mlynedd diwethaf. Mae cyfraddau'r dreth ar eu hisaf mewn termau gwirioneddol, gan anwybyddu effaith chwyddiant, ers saith mlynedd. Credaf eich bod yn ceisio manteisio fymryn ar y sylw a roddwyd i brisiau tanwydd gyda'r cwestiwn hwnnw, os caf ddweud hynny, Janet.

Lisa Francis: Mae ffordd liniaru Llanbadarn

road in Aberystwyth, phase 2 of the Porthmadog bypass, and the remodelling of Aberystwyth bus station are all projects that have been put on hold due to lack of funding from your Government. It would appear that not much of your Government's transport budget is being spent on north and mid Wales. Do you not think that it is time that you reviewed the transport budget, so that transport delivery properly supports the economy throughout the whole of our country?

2.10 p.m.

The First Minister: I do not think that one can pick out every scheme of every county highways department and say that an absence of support demonstrates a lack of interest on the part of the Assembly Government in that particular area. That is the worst form of *plwyfoldeb*, or parochialism. Given that we have an £8 billion scheme and one of the biggest rail re-signalling projects in Welsh transport history being kicked off on Friday, to the value of £400 million over 10 years, I would expect some sort of strategic vision, rather than miniscule localism in trying to demonstrate that one area is not being looked after because a particular scheme has not been funded.

Kirsty Williams: Is it not the case that it is not just road-building programmes in mid and north Wales that are in difficulty at the moment? Could you confirm that your civil servants are expressing difficulties over the transport grant and that already attempts are being made by them to reschedule the published improvement programme and that many communities throughout Wales will have to wait longer for road improvements?

The First Minister: The only reason why that might happen is due to factors beyond our control. The price of steel and cement has ballooned because of Chinese demand over the past 12 months. We have announced an £8 billion programme over 15 years, and it may even itself out; we hope that it does. However, there is an inflation problem at the moment in relation to construction prices, which has hit everyone for six. We are trying to guess whether that will right itself and be a temporary blip in an upward movement of

Fawr yn Aberystwyth, cam 2 ffordd osgoi Porthmadog ac ailfodelu gorsaf fysus Aberystwyth i gyd yn brosiectau sydd wedi eu gohirio oherwydd diffyg arian gan eich Llywodraeth. Mae'n ymddangos nad yw llawer o gyllideb drafnidiaeth eich Llywodraeth yn cael ei gwario yn y Gogledd a'r Canolbarth. Onid ydych yn meddwl ei bod yn bryd ichi adolygu y gyllideb drafnidiaeth, er mwyn i'r ddarpariaeth drafnidiaeth gefnogi'r economi'n iawn drwy Gymru benbaladr?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf i'n meddwl y gallwch ddewis a dethol cynlluniau penodol adran priffyrdd pob cyngor gan ddweud bod diffyg cefnogaeth yn dangos diffyg diddordeb ar ran Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn yr ardal benodol honno. Dyma blwyfoldeb ar ei waethaf. O gofio bod gennym gynllun gwerth £8 biliwn ac un o'r prosiectau mwyaf yn hanes trafnidiaeth Cymru i osod signalau newydd ar ein rheilffyrdd yn cychwyn ddydd Gwener, gwerth £400 miliwn dros 10 mlynedd, byddwn yn disgwyl rhyw fath o weledigaeth strategol, yn hytrach na'r agwedd blwyfol o geisio dangos bod un ardal yn cael ei hanwybyddu am nad yw cynllun penodol wedi derbyn cyllid.

Kirsty Williams: Onid yw'n wir dweud nad dim ond rhaglenni adeiladu ffyrdd yn y Gogledd a'r Canolbarth sydd yn wynebu anawsterau ar hyn o bryd? A allwch gadarnhau bod eich gweision sifil yn sôn am anawsterau ynghylch y grant trafnidiaeth a'u bod eisoes yn ceisio ad-drefnu amserlen y rhaglen wella a gyhoeddwyd, ac y bydd rhaid i lawer o gymunedau ledled Cymru ddisgwyl yn hwy am welliannau i'r ffyrdd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dim ond ffactorau y tu hwnt i'n rheolaeth a allai beri hyn. Mae pris dur a sment wedi cynyddu'n aruthrol yn ddiweddar oherwydd y galw amdanynt yn Tsieina dros y 12 mis diwethaf. Yr ydym wedi cyhoeddi rhaglen gwerth £8 biliwn dros 15 mlynedd ac efallai, yn y cyfamser, bydd pethau'n dychwelyd i lefel fwy gwastad – dyna'r gobaith beth bynnag. Serch hynny, mae chwyddiant yn broblem ar hyn o bryd o ran prisiau yn y diwydiant adeiladu ac mae hyn wedi bod yn ergyd i bawb. Yr ydym yn

construction prices. If the price of steel and cement remains at that high level, given that those are key components of any transport programme, inevitably all programmes will have to be re-examined to see whether a bit more value for money can be squeezed out of them.

Peter Law: You mentioned in answer to Janet Ryder earlier the re-signalling contract on the main line. As I come from Blaenau Gwent, could we hope that this re-signalling contract will include Newport? The Ebbw Vale to Cardiff railway, which you have promised to open, is falling back further and further because there is no signalling into Newport. It was supposed to open in November 2006, but has now gone back to 2007, which I think is deplorable. I have written to you about it. Do we have a chance of getting the signalling into Newport to make this line viable and the success we all want it to be?

The First Minister: The answer is 'yes' to the principle, but not necessarily in the sense of being able to say that it will accelerate the re-signalling around the Gaer tunnel, which would provide early the ability of trains on that line to go into Newport station as well as turn right towards Cardiff. The re-signalling at Newport, about which you and I have been communicating for a long time, is part of the 10-year programme, but whether it will be accelerated as part of that, I am not sure. I do not believe so.

Adfywio yng Nghymoedd y De Regeneration in the South Wales Valleys

Q3 Christine Chapman: Will the First Minister make a statement on regeneration strategies in the south Wales Valleys? OAQ0737(FM)

The First Minister: Among a wide range of regeneration strategies we are implementing

ceisio dyfalu a fydd hyn yn cywiro'i hun ac ai naid dros dro yw hyn wrth i brisiau deunyddiau adeiladu godi. Os bydd pris dur a sment yn aros ar y lefel uchel hon, o gofio eu bod yn gydrannau allweddol o unrhyw raglen drafnidiaeth, yna nid oes amheuaeth na fydd rhaid edrych eto ar yr holl gynlluniau i weld a ellir gwasgu mymryn mwy o werth am arian ohonynt.

Peter Law: Cyfeiriasoch, wrth ateb Janet Ryder yn gynharach, at y contract i osod signalau newydd ar y brif reilffordd. Gan fy mod yn dod o Flaenau Gwent, a allwn obeithio y bydd y contract hwn i osod signalau newydd yn cynnwys Casnewydd? Mae'r rheilffordd rhwng Glyn Ebwy a Chaerdydd, yr ydych wedi addo'i hagog, yn cael ei gohirio drwy'r amser oherwydd nad oes signalau wrth fynd i mewn i Gasnewydd. Yr oedd i fod i agor ym mis Tachwedd 2006, ond bellach mae'r dyddiad wedi'i ohirio tan 2007, sydd yn sefyllfa gywilyddus yn fy marn i. Yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu atoch ynghylch hyn. A oes unrhyw obaith y gosodir signalau ar y ffordd i mewn i Gasnewydd er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y rheilffordd yn hyfyw ac y bydd yn llwyddiannus fel y dymunwn oll iddi fod?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ateb yw 'oes' i'r egwyddor, ond nid yw hynny'n golygu y gallaf ddweud y bydd yn cyflymu'r gwaith o osod signalau newydd ger twnnel Gaer, sef y gwaith a fyddai'n galluogi trenau ar y lein honno i fynd i mewn i orsaf Casnewydd yn ogystal â throi i'r dde tuag at Gaerdydd a hynny'n gynt na'r disgwyl. Mae'r gwaith o osod signalau newydd yng Nghasnewydd, sydd wedi bod yn destun sawl llythyr rhyngom ers tro, yn rhan o'r rhaglen 10 mlynedd, ond nid wyf yn sicr a fydd hyn yn cael ei gyflymu fel rhan o hynny. Ni chredaf y bydd.

C3 Christine Chapman: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar strategaethau adfywio yng Nghymoedd y De? OAQ0737(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymhlith yr amrywiaeth helaeth o strategaethau adfywio sydd ar waith

in the south Wales Valleys are Objective 1, Communities First and the Heads of the Valleys partnership programme, Pathways to Work and Want to Work.

Christine Chapman: I welcome all those. As you have mentioned, one of the foremost priorities for my constituency and others over coming years will be the implementation of the Heads of the Valleys strategy. We know that we have low unemployment in Wales, but I welcome the strategy's focus on tackling economic inactivity, which is a far deeper problem. Do you agree that in unlocking the potential of people in the Heads of Valleys, we must ensure that the benefits are retained in the region? Do you also agree that if this is to work, we must ensure that in developing the skills and qualifications upon which people can build better lives, there are higher rates of innovation, entrepreneurship and business growth for this to feed upon? Personal development must be matched by genuine advances in the Valleys economy if we are to get rid of the perception that people need a passport out of the Valleys to use the skills that they have acquired.

The First Minister: I agree that the most difficult part of regenerating the Valleys has been that they have the Welsh problem writ large, if you like: if you want to get on, you have to get out. That is a problem that we have had since the sixteenth century, probably, but it is particularly acute in the Valleys.

The important point about capacity building through Communities First and Objective 1 is that it is being supplemented by Pathways to Work, which has started in Bridgend and Rhondda Cynon Taf and which is being extended, by October 2006, to Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly. Likewise, Want to Work is being extended from one ward in Merthyr to all of Merthyr, I believe, by the middle of 2006. These are probably the most successful voluntary welfare-to-work programmes in the world.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Un peth sy'n cael effaith amlwg ar

gennym yng Nghymoedd y De y mae Amcan 1, Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, a rhaglen bartneriaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd, Llwybrau at Waith ac Eisiau Gweithio.

Christine Chapman: Yr wyf yn croesawu'r rheini i gyd. Fel yr ydych wedi sôn, un o'r prif flaenoriaethau i fy etholaeth i ac i eraill dros y blynyddoedd nesaf fydd gweithredu strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Gwyddom fod diweithdra'n isel yng Nghymru, ond yr wyf yn falch bod y strategaeth yn canolbwyntio ar fynd i'r afael ag anweithgarwch economaidd, sy'n broblem lawer dyfnach. A ydych yn cytuno wrth ryddhau potensial pobl ym Mlaenau'r Cymoedd y bydd rhaid i ni sicrhau y cedwir y manteision hynny yn y rhanbarth? A ydych hefyd yn cytuno, os yw hyn am weithio, y bydd rhaid i ni sicrhau, wrth ddatblygu sgiliau a chymwysterau i alluogi pobl i adeiladu bywydau gwell, fod mwy o arloesi, mwy o entrepreneuriaeth a mwy o dwf ymhlith busnesau i fwydo hyn? Ochr yn ochr â datblygiad personol rhaid cymryd camau breision yn economi'r Cymoedd os ydym am chwalu'r syniad bod rhaid i bobl gael tocyn allan o'r Cymoedd er mwyn defnyddio'r sgiliau y maent wedi'u hennill.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn cytuno mai'r cam anhawsaf wrth adfywio'r Cymoedd yw goresgyn y meddylfryd sydd mor gyffredin trwy Gymru gyfan: sef er mwyn symud ymlaen rhaid symud allan. Mae hon wedi bod yn broblem ers yr unfed ganrif ar bymtheg, mae'n siŵr, ond mae'n hynod o wir yn y Cymoedd.

Y pwynt pwysig ynghylch meithrin gallu drwy'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ac Amcan 1 yw ei fod yn cael ei ategu gan y Cynllun Llwybrau at Waith, sydd wedi dechrau ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Rhondda Cynon Taf ac sydd yn cael ei ymestyn, erbyn Hydref 2006, i Ferthyr Tudful, Blaenau Gwent a Chaerffili. Yn yr un modd, yr wyf yn credu bod Eisiau Gweithio yn cael ei ymestyn o un ward ym Merthyr i bob rhan o Ferthyr erbyn canol 2006. Mae'n debyg mai'r rhain yw'r rhaglenni o-fudd-dal-i-waith gwirfoddol mwyaf llwyddiannus yn y byd.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): One issue that obviously affects any

unrhyw strategaeth i adfywio'r Cymoedd yw lefelau uchel y dreth gyngor. A ydych yn cydnabod bellach fod lefelau uchel y dreth gyngor wedi bod yn niweidiol yn wleidyddol i'ch Llywodraeth chi? Mae'n amlwg eich bod chi'n fodlon cymryd Cymru yn ganiataol tra bo'r Llywodraeth yn Lloegr yn ofni'r ymateb yn y fan honno. Onid ydych yn gweld bod problem wirioneddol yn bodoli a bod Tony Blair wedi sylweddoli maint y niwed posibl cyn i hynny ddigwydd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw wedi newid y gyfraith, sy'n cyfleu rheidrwydd i ailwerthuso tai a gweithredu ar hynny. O ran lefel y dreth gyngor yn y Cymoedd, neu yng Nghymru gyfan, mae'n amlwg bod proffil lefel y dreth honno yn uwch o lawer yn Lloegr nag yng Nghymru. Ar y cyfan, mae treth band D 25 y cant yn uwch yn Lloegr nag yng Nghymru, felly, wrth sôn am yr effaith wleidyddol, gallwch ragweld y bydd yr ymateb lawer yn waeth yn Lloegr gan fod lefel y dreth gyngor yn uwch nag yng Nghymru.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Ond beth am yr ymateb yng Nghymru? Yr ydym wedi gweld traean o drethdalwyr Cymru, gan gynnwys trethdalwyr yn y Cymoedd, yn talu dros 20 y cant yn fwy mewn treth gyngor eleni. Yr wyf yn sylweddoli eich bod wedi rhoi £11 miliwn mewn cymorth trosiannol yn y gyllideb eleni, ond onid yw'n wir, o edrych ar y gwrthwynebiad yn Lloegr i godiadau sylweddol fel hyn, fod yn rhaid i chi edrych ar gymorth trosiannol yn y gyllideb ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf hefyd? A wnewch roi addewid y byddwch yn edrych ar hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Y ffigur yr oeddwn i yn sôn amdano—sef lefel treth gyngor o 25 y cant yn uwch nag yng Nghymru—yw'r ffigur wedi i'r ailfandio gael ei ystyried. Rhaid bod yn glir am hynny. Pan ddechreuodd y Cynulliad gyda'i gyfrifoldebau, yr oedd lefel y dreth gyngor yn Lloegr ryw 20 y cant yn uwch na'r lefel yng Nghymru. Erbyn hyn, 25 y cant yw'r gwahaniaeth, felly mae'r bwlch wedi cynyddu yn y chwe mlynedd diwethaf. Dyna'r pwynt pwysig. Mae proffil y ffactor hwn—a'r effaith wleidyddol y gellid ei ragweld—lawer yn uwch yn Lloegr nag yng Nghymru.

strategy to regenerate the Valleys is the high level of council tax there. Do you now acknowledge that high levels of council tax have been politically damaging to your Government? It is clear that you are willing to take Wales for granted although the Government in England is afraid of the backlash there. Do you not see that there is a real problem here, and that Tony Blair has recognised the extent of the potential damage before it becomes reality?

The First Minister: He has not changed the law, which places a duty to revalue homes and to take action on that. In terms of council tax levels in the Valleys, or across the whole of Wales, it is clear that the profile of the level of that tax is higher in England than it is in Wales. In general, band D tax is 25 per cent higher in England than it is in Wales, so, in talking about the political effect, you can foresee that the backlash will be far worse in England as the council tax level is higher than it is in Wales.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: But what about the backlash in Wales? We have seen a third of Welsh council tax payers, including those in the Valleys, paying over 20 per cent more in council tax this year. I realise that you have provided £11 million in transitional relief in this year's budget, but, if you look at the resistance to such significant increases in England, is it not true that you will also have to consider transitional relief for next year? Will you promise to consider that?

The First Minister: The figure that I quoted—namely a council tax level that is 25 per cent higher than in Wales—is the figure following revaluation. We must be clear about that. When the Assembly took up its responsibilities, council tax levels in England were about 20 per cent higher than those in Wales. The difference is now 25 per cent, so the gap has widened over the last six years. That is the important point. The profile of this factor—and the political backlash that can be expected—is much higher in England than it is in Wales.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am afraid that that is a struggling answer, because I can tell you that all those council tax payers in Wales who, last year, faced a 20 per cent increase simply because of rebanding will face that increase again next year; if they have gone up three bands, they will face it again the following year. This is creating a political backlash. You have refused to tell us that you are prepared to give us further transitional relief in next year's budget; you have not given us any assurances about that. Will you at least look at having a fairer system? The council tax system is clearly unfair, as it is based on property values rather than on people's ability to pay. Is it not time that we looked to a fairer system, such as local income tax?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Y mae arnaf ofn mai ateb cloff yw hwnnw, oherwydd gallaf ddweud wrthych y bydd yr holl drethdalwyr hynny yng Nghymru a wynebodd gynnydd o 20 y cant y llynedd oherwydd ailfandio yn wynebu'r cynnydd hwnnw eto y flwyddyn nesaf; os ydynt wedi codi tri band, byddant yn ei wynebu y flwyddyn wedyn yn ogystal. Mae hyn yn creu adwaith gwleidyddol. Yr ydych wedi gwrthod dweud wrthym a fyddwch yn barod i roi rhagor o gymorth trosiannol i ni yng nghyllideb y flwyddyn nesaf; nid ydych wedi rhoi dim sicrwydd i ni ynglŷn â hynny. A wnewch o leiaf ystyried cael system decach? Mae'r system treth gyngor yn amlwg yn annheg, gan ei bod yn seiliedig ar werth eiddo yn hytrach nag ar allu pobl i dalu. Onid yw'n bryd inni ystyried system decach, megis treth incwm leol?

The First Minister: We all want a fairer system, and we all accept that there is a small minority, of perhaps 5 or 10 per cent of the population, where there is a dislocation between income and the ability to pay according to the value of people's homes. The issue is what to do about that 5 or 10 per cent. The answer, surely, is to improve the council tax benefit system, which is the worst system in terms of the difference between the number of people eligible for it and the number of people who receive it by applying for it.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym i gyd am gael system decach, ac yr ydym i gyd yn derbyn bod lleiafrif bychan, 5 neu 10 y cant o'r boblogaeth o bosibl, lle y ceir anghysondeb rhwng incwm pobl a'u gallu i dalu ar sail gwerth eu cartrefi. Y broblem yw beth i'w wneud â'r 5 neu'r 10 y cant hynny. Onid yr ateb yw gwella system y budd-dal treth gyngor, sef y system waethaf o ran y gwahaniaeth rhwng nifer y bobl sy'n gymwys i'w dderbyn a'r nifer sydd yn ei dderbyn drwy wneud cais amdano?

2.20 p.m.

I am hopeful that the Lyons review will address the particular problem of the 5 or 10 per cent of people who have a low income but high property values, because I believe that it has received an enormous amount of evidence on that. If you want to solve that problem, you can do so by making the council tax benefit virtually automatic. You would not have to apply for it; rather, you would get it almost automatically using income tax information or whatever. That is the best way to solve that problem.

Yr wyf yn obeithiol y bydd adolygiad Lyons yn mynd i'r afael â phroblem neilltuol y 5 neu'r 10 y cant o bobl sydd ar incwm isel ond sy'n berchen ar eiddo uchel ei werth, oherwydd credaf ei fod wedi derbyn swm enfawr o dystiolaeth ar y pwnc. Os ydych eisiau datrys y broblem honno, gallwch wneud hynny drwy wneud y budd-dal treth gyngor yn awtomatig bron. Ni fyddai'n rhaid ichi wneud cais amdano; yn hytrach, byddech yn ei gael yn awtomatig bron gan ddefnyddio gwybodaeth am dreth incwm neu beth bynnag y bo. Dyna'r ffordd orau o ddatrys y broblem honno.

Lynne Neagle: As Chris Chapman has said, there is significant potential to make a lasting impact in the Valleys with regeneration projects stemming from the Heads of the

Lynne Neagle: Fel y mae Cris Chapman wedi dweud, mae potensial sylweddol i gael dylanwad hirhoedlog yn y Cymoedd gyda phrosiectau adfywio sy'n deillio o strategaeth

Valleys strategy. However, the recent announcement by TRW Automotive in Pontypool of 156 job losses could have a seriously detrimental effect on such efforts in my constituency. As you know, First Minister, these well paid jobs in a company that has been in Pontypool for many years are a mainstay of my local economy. Can I ask you for an update on the discussions that the Assembly Government has been having with the company, particularly in relation to the regional selective assistance offered by the Assembly Government to the company in the past?

The First Minister: You are right. I think that the company has been there some 40 years, and its partner plant in Cwmbrân, which makes truck brakes—although under different ownership now—has been there even longer, for some 60 years. It is important that we realise that, where there is overcapacity in car brakes, as is true, sadly, there will be difficult issues, which these companies will try to address by cost reductions. They also have the alternative of taking the plant overseas. There are difficult questions of industrial relations for the people who work there, and difficult commercial decisions for the people who run the plants. Certainly, we use regional selective assistance flexibly—you might even say aggressively—in order to try to save every job that we possibly can in Wales. We use the grant systems to the full to help to save those jobs.

Alun Cairns: 'A Winning Wales' is the Assembly Government's economic development strategy, aimed at regenerating the Valley communities that we have just been hearing about. However, as the document has been criticised so much and for so long, it appears as though the Welsh Assembly Government is about to kick it into touch and introduce a new document on which it will pin its hopes—something called 'WAVE'. Will the First Minister tell us whether it is the case that he is ditching 'A Winning Wales' at long last? Secondly, will 'WAVE', if that is the son of 'A Winning

Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Fodd bynnag, gallai'r cyhoeddiad diweddar gan TRW Automotive ym Mhont-y-pŵl ynghylch colli 156 o swyddi gael effaith andwyol ddirifol ar ymdrechion o'r fath yn fy etholaeth. Fel y gwyddoch, Brif Weinidog, mae'r swyddi hyn sy'n talu'n dda mewn cwmni sydd wedi bod ym Mhont-y-pŵl ers blynnyddoedd yn un o gonglfeini fy economi leol. A gaf fi ofyn i chi am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y trafodaethau y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi bod yn eu cael gyda'r cwmni, yn arbennig o ran y cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi'i gynnig i'r cwmni yn y gorffennol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle. Credaf fod y cwmni wedi bod yno ers rhyw 40 mlynedd, ac mae ei ffatri bartner yng Nghwmbrân, sy'n gwneud breciau i dryciau—er ei bod ym meddiant cwmni arall yn awr—wedi bod yno ers mwy byth, ers rhyw 60 mlynedd. Mae'n bwysig inni sylweddoli, lle y bydd gormod o freciau ceir yn cael eu gwneud, fel sy'n wir, yn anffodus, y bydd problemau anodd yn codi, a bydd y cwmnïau hyn yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â hyn drwy leihau costau. Mae ganddynt ddewis arall hefyd sef symud y ffatri dramor. Mae cwestiynau anodd o ran cysylltiadau diwydiannol i'r bobl sy'n gweithio yno, a phenderfyniadau masnachol anodd i'r bobl sy'n rhedeg y ffatrioedd. Yn sicr, yr ydym yn defnyddio cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol mewn modd hyblyg—neu mewn modd grymus hyd yn oed, gallech ddweud—er mwyn ceisio achub pob swydd bosibl yng Nghymru. Yr ydym yn defnyddio'r systemau grantiau i'r eithaf er mwyn ceisio achub y swyddi hynny.

Alun Cairns: 'Cymru'n Ennill' yw strategaeth datblygu economaidd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, gyda'r nod o adfywio cymunedau'r Cymoedd yr ydym newydd fod yn clywed amdanynt. Fodd bynnag, gan fod y ddogfen wedi'i beirniadu gymaint a chyhyd, ymddengys fod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar fin ei rhoi o'r neilltu a chyflwyno dogfen newydd y bydd yn hoelio'i gobeithion arni - rhywbeth a elwir yn 'WAVE'. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddweud wrthym a yw'n cael gwared ar 'Cymru'n Ennill' o'r diwedd? Yn ail, a fydd gan 'WAVE', os mai hwn fydd olynydd

Wales', have specific targets and will it reaffirm his comments about achieving 90 per cent of UK gross domestic product by 2010? First Minister, will you say, once again, that that is your target?

The First Minister: I have never said that it was my target. It is a little bit of nonsense that you have made up in failing to understand the difference between a goal and a target. I have always said that it is perfectly proper for us to express the ambition that we should halve the prosperity gap between Wales and the rest of the UK by 2010. That is an aim—

Alun Cairns: For shame. Will you take that back?

The Presiding Officer: Order. I know that we have been away for rather a long time, but that is no excuse for trying to get every possible question in at once.

The First Minister: This is important. Some 20 minutes ago, Janet Ryder was trying to persuade me to bring in a review of transport, when the previous review was published only in December. Now you are telling me that we should never review 'A Winning Wales', and you are implying that, in some way, it is a bad process. The opposition cannot have it both ways. Either you believe that we have the right to review after a reasonable period of time, to update and look to see where we can strengthen previous documents by consulting on new documents, or you want to have it the other way around and say that you want a new document every six months. Clearly, after a couple of years, it is necessary to review documents to see whether a strategy should be updated.

'Cymru'n Ennill', dargedau penodol ac a fydd yn ailategu ei sylwadau ynglŷn â chyrraedd 90 y cant o gynnyrch domestig gros y DU erbyn 2010? Brif Weinidog, a wnewch ddweud, unwaith eto, mai hynny yw eich targed?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf erioed wedi dweud mai hynny oedd fy nharged. Ychydig bach o ddwli yw hyn yr ydych wedi'i greu wrth i chi fethu â deall y gwahaniaeth rhwng nod a tharged. Yr wyf wastad wedi dweud ei bod yn gwbl briodol inni fynegi'r uchelgais y dylem haneru'r bwlch ffyniant rhwng Cymru a gweddill y DU erbyn 2010. Nod yw hynny—

Alun Cairns: Rhag eich cywilydd. A wnewch dynnu hynny'n ôl?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Gwn ein bod wedi bod i ffwrdd am gryn amser, ond nid yw hynny'n esgus dros geisio gofyn pob cwestiwn posibl ar yr un pryd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hyn yn bwysig. Tuag 20 munud yn ôl, yr oedd Janet Ryder yn ceisio fy narbwyllo i gynnal adolygiad o drafnidiaeth, er mai ym mis Rhagfyr y cyhoeddwyd yr adolygiad blaenorol. Yn awr yr ydych yn dweud wrthyf na ddylem byth adolygu 'Cymru'n Ennill', ac yr ydych yn awgrymu ei bod, mewn rhyw ffordd, yn broses wael. Ni all yr wrthblaid ei chael hi bob ffordd. Yr ydych naill ai'n credu bod gennym hawl i adolygu ar ôl cyfnod rhesymol o amser, diweddarau ac edrych i weld ble y gallwn gryfhau dogfennau blaenorol drwy ymgynghori ar ddogfennau newydd, neu yr ydych am ei chael hi y ffordd arall a dweud eich bod am gael dogfen newydd bob chwe mis. Mae'n amlwg, ar ôl ychydig o flynyddoedd, fod angen adolygu dogfennau i weld a ddylid diweddarau strategaeth.

Bagloriaeth Cymru Welsh Baccalaureate

Q4 Leanne Wood: Will the First Minister make a statement on the Welsh baccalaureate? OAQ0717(FM)

The First Minister: The pilot scheme of the Welsh baccalaureate qualification is

C4 Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar fagloriaeth Cymru? OAQ0717(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae cynllun peilot cymhwyster bagloriaeth Cymru yn mynd

progressing well. Some 31 schools and colleges are now piloting the intermediate and advanced-level modules and a foundation module is being developed for piloting from September 2006. This summer's results were encouraging, as was confirmed in recent letters from headmasters Steve Bowden and Brian Lightman in the *Western Mail*. I look forward to the planned roll-out from September 2007.

Leanne Wood: Thank you for that; however, there has been a high drop-out rate, and it is a fact that many universities, some in Wales, will not accept or recognise the Welsh baccalaureate. Will the First Minister therefore agree to undertake a review of the Welsh baccalaureate to bring it in line with the international baccalaureate, which is a much more widely recognised qualification?

The First Minister: That is a perfect example of what I referred to a minute ago in reply to Alun Cairns with regard to reviewing documents. Janet Ryder and you want a document or strategy to be reviewed while it is still in the pilot stage; that is farcical. The opposition parties are supposed to be getting their act together, but I can see that they have not made much progress today.

You used the expression 'drop-out rate', but we do not recognise that expression. In comparing like for like, there is no difference in the number of 16-year-olds proceeding to completion, whether attending further education colleges, studying the Welsh baccalaureate or FE courses, or sixth formers studying A-levels or the Welsh baccalaureate. That aspect is gone into in detail in two letters from Brian Lightman at St Cyres Comprehensive School in Penarth and Steve Bowden in Porth comprehensive school. They deal with this issue in detail, and I commend the letters from those two headteachers to you. You must not follow the media in going like a rat up a drainpipe on the basis that, if there is any way possible, you should knock a Welsh initiative. That would mean that a Welsh initiative could not possibly be successful. You are the last person I would have thought would follow,

rhagddo'n dda. Mae 31 o ysgolion a cholegau yn cymryd rhan yn y cynllun peilot ar fodiwlau y lefel ganolradd ac uwch, ac mae modiwl sylfaen wrthi'n cael ei ddatblygu i fod yn barod ar gyfer cynllun peilot ym mis Medi 2006. Yr oedd canlyniadau haf eleni yn galonogol, fel y cadarnhawyd mewn llythyrau gan y prifathrawon Steve Bowden a Brian Lightman yn y *Western Mail* yn ddiweddar. Edrychaf ymlaen at ei gyflwyno'n raddol o fis Medi 2007.

Leanne Wood: Diolch i chi am hynny; fodd bynnag, mae cyfradd rhoi'r gorau i'r cymhwyster wedi bod yn uchel a'r ffaith yw bod llawer o brifysgolion, rhai yng Nghymru, nad ydynt yn derbyn nac yn cydnabod bagloriaeth Cymru. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog felly gytuno i adolygu bagloriaeth Cymru er mwyn iddi fod yn gyson â'r fagloriaeth ryngwladol, sy'n gymhwyster sy'n cael llawer mwy o gydnabyddiaeth?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyna enghraifft berffaith o'r hyn y cyfeiriais ato funud yn ôl wrth ymateb i Alun Cairns ynglŷn ag adolygu dogfennau. Yr ydych chi a Janet Ryder am weld dogfen neu strategaeth yn cael eu hadolygu a'r rheini'n dal yn y cyfnod peilot; mae hynny'n chwerthinllyd. Mae'r gwrthbleidiau'n honni eu bod yn cael trefn arnynt eu hunain, ond gallaf weld nad ydynt wedi gwneud fawr o gynnydd heddiw.

Defnyddiasoch yr ymadrodd 'cyfradd rhoi'r gorau iddi', ond nid ydym yn cydnabod yr ymadrodd hwnnw. Wrth gymharu tebyg â'i debyg, nid oes gwahaniaeth yn nifer y bobl ifanc 16 oed sy'n mynd yn eu blaenau i gwblhau eu cyrsiau, boed y rheini mewn colegau addysg bellach, yn astudio bagloriaeth Cymru neu gyrsiau AB, neu'n fyfyrwyr chweched dosbarth sy'n astudio cyrsiau lefel A neu fagloriaeth Cymru. Manylir ar yr agwedd honno mewn dau lythyr oddi wrth Brian Lightman yn Ysgol Gyfun St Cyres ym Mhenarth a Steve Bowden yn ysgol gyfun y Porth. Maent yn delio'n fanwl â'r mater hwn, a chymeradwyaf y llythyrau oddi wrth y ddau bennaeth hynny i chi. Ni ddylech ddilyn y cyfryngau fel cath i gythraul gan dybio y dylech feirniadu menter Gymreig, os oes unrhyw fodd posibl o wneud hynny. Byddai hynny'n golygu nad oes dim gobaith i fenter Gymreig fod yn

lemming-like, that leap over the precipice, in saying, 'Oh, this can't be a good thing'. Just read in detail what those two headteachers say in their recent letters of protest against the media's mishandling of this issue.

Jeff Cuthbert: Unlike the pessimism expressed by Leanne Wood and some sections of the media, I am sure that you agree with me that, according to the feedback that has been received from the Welsh Joint Education Committee, educationalists and students who have participated in the pilot, the outcome is positive indeed. Are you particularly pleased to note, as I am, that the training officials at Airbus, which runs a significant apprenticeship scheme, are now seriously considering whether to introduce the core of the baccalaureate as part of the apprenticeship programme? That shows that the baccalaureate is capable of being delivered in a number of different learning settings.

The First Minister: That is absolutely right. I was interested to hear that because, obviously, Airbus is now the leading provider of industrial apprenticeships in Britain. It has the biggest intake of apprentices of any workplace in the UK, so if Airbus is saying that, it is a message that people who provide apprenticeships in lower numbers elsewhere will really think worth listening to.

In his recent letter, Steve Bowden, headteacher of Porth comprehensive, says that, if every student in his school and across the pilot had achieved the advanced baccalaureate, there would have been an outcry and talk of lowering standards. That is absolutely true. You must not listen to those in the media who are absolutely determined to do every Welsh initiative down, even when it is at the pilot stage. That is not to say that it is perfect as matters stand now—of course it is not, otherwise we would not be conducting a pilot. However, we are listening to what employers, universities and students say, as well as those who run apprenticeship programmes. Most of this is coming through positively in that this is an outstanding leap

llwyddiannus. Ni fyddwn wedi disgwyl i chi, o bawb, fynd gyda'r lli, a neidio fel leming dros y dibyn, gan ddweud, 'O, nid oes dim posibl i hyn fod yn beth da'. Da chi, darllenwch yn fanwl yr hyn y mae'r ddau bennaeth hynny yn ei ddweud yn eu llythyrau protest diweddar yn erbyn y modd y bu i'r cyfryngau gamdrafod y mater hwn.

Jeff Cuthbert: Yn wahanol i'r besimistiaeth a fynegwyd gan Leanne Wood a rhai carfannau yn y cyfryngau, yr wyf yn sicr eich bod yn cytuno â mi fod y canlyniad yn wirioneddol gadarnhaol, yn ôl yr adborth a gafwyd gan Gyd-bwyllgor Addysg Cymru, addysgwyr a myfyrwyr a fu'n rhan o'r peilot. A ydych yn hynod falch o nodi, fel minnau, fod y swyddogion hyfforddi yn Airbus, sy'n rhedeg cynllun prentisiaeth sylweddol, yn awr yn ystyried o ddifrif a ydynt am gyflwyno craidd y fagloriaeth fel rhan o'r rhaglen brentisiaeth? Mae hynny'n dangos y gellir cyflwyno'r fagloriaeth mewn nifer o wahanol sefyllfaedd dysgu.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n berffaith wir. Yr oedd clywed hynny'n ddi-ddorol oherwydd, wrth gwrs, Airbus bellach yw prif ddarparwr prentisiaethau diwydiannol ym Mhrydain. Airbus sy'n derbyn y nifer fwyaf o brentisiaid yn y DU ac felly, os yw Airbus yn dweud hynny, dyna neges y bydd y bobl hynny sy'n darparu llai o brentisiaethau mewn mannau eraill yn teimlo ei bod yn werth gwrando arni.

Yn ei lythyr diweddar, dywed Steve Bowden, pennaeth ysgol gyfun y Porth, petai pob myfyriwr yn ei ysgol ac ar draws y peilot wedi cyflawni'r fagloriaeth uwch, y byddid wedi cael gwaedd o brotest a sôn am ostwng safonau. Mae hynny'n hollol wir. Ni ddylech wrando ar y rhai yn y cyfryngau sy'n gwbl benderfynol o danseilio pob menter Gymreig, hyd yn oed yn ystod y cyfnod peilot. Nid yw hynny'n golygu ei bod yn berffaith fel y mae ar hyn o bryd—wrth gwrs nad ydyw, neu ni fyddem yn cynnal cynllun peilot. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn gwrando ar hyn y mae cyflogwyr, prifysgolion a myfyrwyr yn ei ddweud, yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n rhedeg rhaglenni prentisiaeth. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r ymateb yn gadarnhaol sef bod hyn yn gam

forward for Wales.

Peter Black: Obviously, it is too early to judge the success or otherwise of the Welsh baccalaureate as it is still a pilot scheme. Because it is a pilot, we must learn lessons from it. A fairly large number of students did not complete the course and, consequently, they had little recognition of the work that they had done—one has to complete the course to get the qualification. As part of the evaluation—I am trying to be positive and constructive about this matter—can you look at this particular aspect to see whether those students who are not completing the course can have their work recognised in some way as part of this qualification?

The First Minister: I think that you will find that it already is. That is the point in that the—[*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. The First Minister is answering the questions today.

The First Minister: And, unusually, he does know the answer in detail.

The point is that that work is recognised already, Peter. If you had read up on the details of this matter, or read either of the letters from Brian Lightman and Steve Bowden, you would have realised that the core elements are recognised separately as qualifications that you will receive, even if you do not complete the whole course.

gwych ymlaen i Gymru.

Peter Black: Wrth gwrs, mae'n rhy gynnar i farnu llwyddiant bagloriaeth Cymru neu fel arall gan mai cynllun peilot ydyw o hyd. Oherwydd mai cynllun peilot ydyw, rhaid i ni ddysgu gwersi ohono. Ni chwblhawyd y cwrs gan nifer eithaf mawr o fyfyrwyr ac, o ganlyniad, ychydig o gydnabyddiaeth a gafodd y gwaith a wnaed ganddynt—rhaid cwblhau'r cwrs i gael y cymhwyster. Fel rhan o'r gwerthusiad—yr wyf yn ceisio bod yn bositif ac yn adeiladol ynghylch y mater hwn—a allwch edrych ar yr agwedd neilltuol hon i weld a ellir rhoi cydnabyddiaeth mewn rhyw fodd fel rhan o'r cymhwyster hwn i waith y myfyrwyr hynny nad ydynt yn cwblhau'r cwrs ?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf y gwelwch fod hyn eisoes yn digwydd. Dyna'r pwynt sef bod y—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Y Prif Weinidog sy'n ateb y cwestiynau heddiw.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ac, yn wahanol i'r arfer, mae'n gwybod yr ateb yn fanwl.

Y pwynt yw bod y gwaith hwnnw'n cael ei gydnabod eisoes, Peter. Petaech wedi darllen y manylion am y mater hwn, neu wedi darllen unrhyw un o'r llythyrau oddi wrth Brian Lightman a Steve Bowden, byddech wedi sylweddoli bod yr elfennau craidd yn cael eu cydnabod ar wahân fel cymwysterau y bydd rhywun yn eu cael, hyd yn oed os na fydd yn cwblhau'r cwrs cyfan.

Tanau a Llosgi Bwriadol Fire and Arson

Q5 Sandy Mewies: Will the First Minister make a statement on strategies to combat fire and arson in north-east Wales? OAQ0719(FM)

The First Minister: The two reports of the community fire safety working group, 'Up in Flames' and 'Wired for Safety', made recommendations to address arson and fire safety. For the third successive year, the community fire safety budget of £5 million

C5 Sandy Mewies: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar strategaethau i fynd i'r afael â thanau a llosgi bwriadol yn y Gogledd-ddwyrain? OAQ0719(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn nau adroddiad y gweithgor diogelwch tân cymunedol, 'Up in Flames' a 'Wired for Safety', cafwyd argymhellion i fynd i'r afael â llosgi bwriadol a diogelwch rhag tân. Am y drydedd flwyddyn yn olynol, mae'r gyllideb diogelwch tân cymunedol o £5 miliwn

2.30 p.m.

has supported numerous projects within the community to address these very serious issues, especially those which arose in Prestatyn and Rhyl during the summer months.

Sandy Mewies: As you know, Flintshire, like most areas, including those that you mentioned, has had to deal with incidents of arson. The emergency services have reacted well, with innovative schemes to deal with the problem, not least by setting up the DangerPoint centre in Talacre in my constituency, Delyn. It is a fantastic project, which involves the public sector working with the private sector. As you know, BHP Billiton provided the building for this. As you were at the launch of this wonderful centre in October, will you join me in congratulating everyone involved in this exemplar of good practice, which will educate our young people about their individual and community responsibilities?

The First Minister: I agree, and it is my understanding that the DangerPoint centre covers more than fire and arson, covering all manner of safety-related issues related to growing up. When there are fires in schools, as there have been recently in north-east Wales, it highlights the issue, but it is much more widespread than that. I am pleased that DangerPoint is taking a comprehensive attitude to this issue, and I look forward to my visit.

Mark Isherwood: As someone who visited the DangerPoint centre two weeks ago, I add my support and that of my party for the initiative.

Firelink, the new national radio system, is being rolled out for the fire and rescue service, so that equipment will be held in common. However, the fire control project is currently only being rolled out in England. I have been copied a letter from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister which states that the longer Wales leaves it before deciding whether or not to join, the less opportunity it

wedi cynorthwyo llawer o brosiectau o fewn y gymuned i fynd i'r afael â'r materion difrifol iawn hyn, yn enwedig y rhai a gododd ym Mhrestatyn a'r Rhyl yn ystod misoedd yr haf.

Sandy Mewies: Fel y gwyddoch, mae sir y Fflint, fel y rhan fwyaf o ardaloedd, gan gynnwys y rhai a grybwyllasoch, wedi gorfod delio ag achosion o losgi adeiladau'n fwriadol. Mae'r gwasanaethau argyfwng wedi ymateb yn dda, gyda chynlluniau arloesol i ddelio â'r broblem, ac un o'r rheini oedd sefydlu canolfan y Pentre Peryglon yn Nhalacre yn fy etholaeth i, Delyn. Mae'n brosiect gwyb, yn golygu cydweithio rhwng y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat. Fel y gwyddoch, rhoddodd BHP Billiton yr adeilad ar gyfer hyn. Gan i chi fynychu lansiad y ganolfan ardderchog hon ym mis Hydref, a wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch pawb sydd ynghlwm â'r esiampl arbennig hon o arfer da, a fydd yn addysgu ein pobl ifanc am eu cyfrifoldebau unigol a chymunedol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cytunaf, a deallaf fod y Pentre Peryglon yn delio â mwy na than a llosgi bwriadol, gan ei fod yn ymwneud â phob math o faterion diogelwch sy'n gysylltiedig â llencyndod. Pan geir tanau mewn ysgolion, fel a gafwyd yn ddiweddar yn y gogledd-ddwyrain, mae'n rhoi sylw amlwg i'r broblem, ond mae'n llawer ehangach na hynny. Yr wyf yn falch bod y Pentre Peryglon yn dangos agwedd gynhwysfawr tuag at y mater hwn, ac edrychaf ymlaen at fy ymweliad.

Mark Isherwood: Fel un a ymwelodd â'r Pentre Peryglon bythefnos yn ôl, ychwanegaf fy nghefnogaeth a chefnogaeth fy mhlaid i'r fenter.

Mae Firelink, y system radio newydd i'r Deyrnas Gyfunol, yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r gwasanaeth tân ac achub, felly bydd yr offer hwnnw'n cael ei ddefnyddio gan bob gwasanaeth. Fodd bynnag, dim ond yn Lloegr y caiff y prosiect rheoli tanau ei roi ar waith ar hyn o bryd. Cefais gopi o lythyr gan Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog sy'n dweud po hwyaf y bydd Cymru'n oedi cyn

will have to contribute or to influence the decision. What action are you taking to ensure that cross-border working in areas such as north-east Wales is not handicapped by incompatible systems that leave Welsh forces with less capability than those across the border?

The First Minister: There are ongoing discussions on this issue. In terms of compatibility and inter-operability of the latest quality radio communication systems, the compatibility between base and the individual mobile equipment, compatibility between the three 999 services—ambulance, fire and police—and whether the ambulance systems can adapt easily to Airwave, the established police technology, or whether they must have different add-ons and so on, there are a wide variety of issues involved. We have ongoing discussions, and I do not think that you will find that your worst fears will be turned into reality.

Ann Jones: Will you join me in condemning those who caused significant damage to two high schools in my constituency, to which you have referred? Will you send a message of support to the teachers of those schools, and to the pupils who have lost valuable coursework through these acts of stupidity? Will you also congratulate Flintshire County Council and the fire services, which have worked together in that area to undertake a risk assessment of all schools to ensure that this does not happen again? Will you endorse that we should have sprinkler systems inside all schools? Where there are new build schools, perhaps we could lead on this in Wales.

The First Minister: On your last point, the sprinkler issue is the most difficult one. We have been running a pilot scheme to establish how many schools are suitable for sprinkler installation. The number is disappointingly low, and no schools in north or south Wales were identified as being suitable for sprinkler systems due to the need to maintain reasonable costs, to highlight sufficiently 'at risk' schools, and for installation to coincide with the refurbishment plans for those schools by the local authority.

penderfynu a yw am ymuno ai peidio, lleiaf o gyfle a gaiff i gyfrannu at y penderfyniad na dylanwadu arno. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau na chaiff gweithio trawsffiniol mewn ardaloedd fel gogledd-ddwyrain Cymru ei lyffetheirio gan systemau nad ydynt yn cydweddu a fydd yn gadael lluoedd Cymru yn llai galluog i weithredu na'r rhai dros y ffin?

Y Prif Weinidog: Y mae trafodaethau'n mynd rhagddynt ar y mater hwn. O ran cydweddoldeb a rhyngweithredoldeb y systemau cyfathrebu radio diweddaraf, y cydweddoldeb rhwng y ganolfan a'r offer symudol unigol, cydweddoldeb rhwng y tri gwasanaeth 999—ambiwylans, tân a'r heddlu—ac a all systemau'r ambiwlans ymaddasu'n hawdd i Airwave, technoleg sefydledig yr heddlu, ynteu a oes raid iddynt gael gwahanol ategion ac yn y blaen, mae amrywiaeth eang o gwestiynau dan sylw. Yr ydym yn trafod yn rheolaidd, ac nid wyf yn credu y gwelwch y gwireddir eich ofnau gwaethaf.

Ann Jones: A wnewch ymuno â mi i gondemnio'r rhai a achosodd ddifrod sylweddol i ddwy ysgol uwchradd yn fy etholaeth, yr ydych wedi cyfeirio ato? A wnewch anfon neges o gefnogaeth i athrawon yr ysgolion hynny, ac i'r disgyblion a gollodd waith cwrs pwysig drwy'r gweithredoedd hurt hyn? A wnewch hefyd longyfarch Cyngor Sir y Fflint a'r gwasanaethau tân, sydd wedi cydweithio yn yr ardal honno i wneud asesiad risg ar bob ysgol er mwyn sicrhau na wnaiff hyn ddigwydd eto? A wnewch ategu y dylem gael systemau taenellu dŵr ym mhob ysgol? Lle y caiff ysgolion eu hadeiladu o'r newydd, efallai y gallem arwain ar hyn yng Nghymru.

Y Prif Weinidog: O ran eich pwynt olaf, cwestiwn y taenellwyr yw'r un anoddaf. Yr ydym wedi bod yn rhedeg cynllun peilot i weld faint o ysgolion sydd yn addas ar gyfer gosod taenellwyr. Mae'r nifer yn siomedig o isel, ac ni chanfuwyd yr un ysgol yn y Gogledd na'r De a oedd yn addas ar gyfer systemau taenellu oherwydd yr angen i gadw costau rhesymol, i roi sylw digonol i ysgolion 'mewn perygl', ac i'r gwaith gosod gyd-fynd â chynlluniau adnewyddu'r awdurdod lleol ar gyfer yr ysgolion hynny.

That is rather disappointing, but I agree that the seriousness of the issue has been highlighted by the three arson attacks in Prestatyn and Rhyl during August. In one school—I think it was Rhyl—the start of the school year was delayed by a week as a result, and the damage runs into millions of pounds. We must find the answer, whether it is sprinklers or something else, but I would not like to say that we can find an answer that means it will never happen again. What we must do is to reduce the frequency with which this happens. Unfortunately, during the school holidays the devil does make work for idle hands. If we can possibly find things for young people to do to divert them from the idiocy of setting fire to schools—quite often their own schools—we should give a high priority to that.

Mae hynny braidd yn siomedig, ond yr wyf yn cytuno bod difrifoldeb y mater hwn wedi'i bwysleisio gan y tri ymosodiad gan losgwyr bwriadol ym Mhrestatyn a'r Rhyl ym mis Awst. Mewn un ysgol—credaf mai'r Rhyl ydoedd—bu raid gohirio dechrau'r flwyddyn ysgol am wythnos o ganlyniad, ac mae'r difrod yn werth miliynau o bunnoedd. Rhaid inni ddod o hyd i'r ateb, boed yn daenllwyr neu rywbeth arall, ond ni hoffwn ddweud y gallwn ganfod ateb a fydd yn golygu na wnaiff hyn byth ddigwydd eto. Yr hyn sy'n rhaid inni ei wneud yw sicrhau na fydd hyn yn digwydd mor aml. Yn anffodus, yn ystod gwyliau'r haf mae'r diafol yn creu gwaith i ddwylo segur. Os gallwn rywsut ganfod pethau i bobl ifanc eu gwneud rhag iddynt wneud peth mor ynyd â rhoi ysgolion ar dân—eu hysgolion hwy eu hunain yn aml—dylem roi blaenoriaeth uchel i hynny.

Papur Gwyn 'Trefn Lywodraethu Well i Gymru' 'Better Governance for Wales' White Paper

Q6 Eleanor Burnham: Will you make a statement on the 'Better Governance for Wales' White Paper? OAQ0721(FM)

C6 Eleanor Burnham: A wnewch ddatganiad ar y Papur Gwyn 'Trefn Lywodraethu Well i Gymru'? OAQ0721(FM)

The First Minister: The Secretary of State for Wales published the 'Better Governance for Wales' White Paper on 15 June 2005. The deadline for receipt of comments on the White Paper by the Wales Office was 16 September.

Y Prif Weinidog: Cyhoeddwyd y Papur Gwyn 'Trefn Lywodraethu Well i Gymru' gan Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ar 15 Mehefin 2005. Daeth y cyfnod a bennwyd gan Swyddfa Cymru ar gyfer derbyn sylwadau ar y Papur Gwyn i ben ar 16 Medi.

Eleanor Burnham: We have all read this week what Tony Blair apparently thinks of the Welsh. Is that why he does not trust us to write our own Standing Orders? What actions have you taken to ensure that the Assembly can write its own operating rules?

Eleanor Burnham: Yr ydym i gyd wedi darllen yr wythnos hon beth y mae Tony Blair yn ei feddwl, yn ôl pob tebyg, o'r Cymry. Ai dyna pam nad yw'n ymddiried ynom i ysgrifennu ein Rheolau Sefydlog ein hunain? Beth yr ydych wedi ei wneud i sicrhau y gall y Cynulliad ysgrifennu ei reolau gweithredu ei hun?

The First Minister: You might want to pick away at old scabs by referring to the weekend newspaper story; I certainly do not. The last-resort power, which the Secretary of State, practically speaking, needs to have in case we cannot come to an agreement on writing our own Standing Orders, is a good incentive for us to come together and agree our Standing Orders on a cross-party basis. I believe that

Y Prif Weinidog: Hwyrach bod gennych flys codi crachod drwy gyfeirio at stori papurau'r penwythnos; yn sicr, nid oes gennyf fi. Mae'r grym wedi iddi fynd i'r pen, y mae angen i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ei gael yn ymarferol rhag ofn inni fethu dod i gytundeb ar ysgrifennu ein Rheolau Sefydlog ein hunain, yn gymhelliad da inni ddod at ein gilydd a chytuno ar ein Rheolau Sefydlog ar sail

we will be able to do that, in which case the last-resort power will not be required.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): In light of the response that the First Minister has just given, is he stating that the Secretary of State simply has a reserve power in the event of our not being able to agree our Standing Orders? Is it the case that we are able to go forward and agree our Standing Orders and that this is only a reserve power? That is not as I understood it.

The First Minister: The Secretary of State has no wish to set our Standing Orders. He wants us to do it, I want us to do it, and I am sure that every Assembly Member wants us to do it.

Nick Bourne: Was that a 'yes', then? It is being left to us and he will only come in if we cannot agree on it?

The First Minister: That is roughly the understanding that I have, yes.

Nick Bourne: If we could cross out 'roughly' and say that that is the case, I think that everybody would be happy, but that is not the way that it has been reported. It was reported that he was taking the power and that it was not coming to the Assembly. That is the way in which it is written in the White Paper. Is the First Minister saying that that is now not the intention and that he is only there as a longstop if we cannot agree our Standing Orders?

The First Minister: That is correct.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): I will look at another aspect of 'Better Governance for Wales'. The Welsh people were used as the guinea pig for council tax rebanding and your colleagues in London have clearly decided that the experiment did not lead to better governance, or even lower bills, for Wales. It is a case of better governance for Wales, but better not for England. I also notice that they are hoping to improve police governance by reducing the number of police

drawsbleidiol. Credaf y byddwn yn gallu gwneud hynny, ac felly na fydd angen y grym wedi iddi fynd i'r pen.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Yn wyneb yr ateb a roddodd y Prif Weinidog yn awr, a ydyw'n dweud mai dim ond grym wrth gefn sydd gan yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol rhag ofn i ni fethu â chytuno ar ein Rheolau Sefydlog? A ydyw'n wir y gallwn fynd ymlaen a chytuno ar ein Rheolau Sefydlog ac mai dim ond grym wrth gefn yw hwn? Nid felly y deallais i'r peth.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn awyddus i osod ein Rheolau Sefydlog ni. Mae arno eisiau i ni wneud hynny, mae arnaf fi eisiau i ni wneud hynny, ac yr wyf yn siŵr bod ar bob Aelod Cynulliad eisiau i ni wneud hynny.

Nick Bourne: Ai ateb cadarnhaol oedd hynny, felly? Mae'n cael ei adael i ni, a dim ond os na allwn ni gytuno arno y daw efi mewn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyna'n fras y ddealltwriaeth sydd gennyf fi, ie.

Nick Bourne: Pe gallem ddileu'r 'yn fras' a dweud mai felly y mae hi, yr wyf yn meddwl y byddai pawb yn hapus, ond nid dyna'r ffordd y mae wedi cael ei adrodd. Dywedwyd ei fod yn cymryd y grym ac na fyddai hwnnw'n dod i'r Cynulliad. Dyna'r ffordd y mae wedi'i ysgrifennu yn y Papur Gwyn. A ydyw'r Prif Weinidog yn dweud nad dyna'r bwriad bellach ac mai dim ond yno petai'n mynd i'r pen y mae os na allwn gytuno ar ein Rheolau Sefydlog?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n gywir.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Edrychaf ar agwedd arall ar 'Trefn Lywodraethu Well i Gymru'. Defnyddiwyd pobl Cymru'n destun arbrawf gyda newid bandiau treth gyngor ac mae eich cyd-aelodau yn Llundain yn amlwg wedi penderfynu na wnaeth yr arbrawf arwain at drefn lywodraethu well, na hyd yn oed biliau is, i Gymru. Mae'n fater o drefn lywodraethu well i Gymru, ond gwell peidio i Loegr. Sylwaf hefyd eu bod yn gobeithio gwella

forces in Wales. Do you think that having a single police force for an area from Haverfordwest to Hawarden in north Wales will improve accountability for the people of Wales?

The First Minister: If you want to resist Kirsty Williams's leadership challenge, the fewer references to guinea pigs that you make the better, Mike. As regards the point about police forces, there are many ways in which you could improve the efficiency of the police force in Wales. There are shared service centres for dealing with pay and rations and paying suppliers. There are interoperable control centres with fire and ambulance services, similar to that in Carmarthen and possibly going even further. There are issues about joint operations, such as Operation Tarian, which includes three of the forces, although not north Wales for operational reasons, to combat organised crime and, in particular, drug gangs. There are many different ways in which you can do this. One option is to have a single police force, but, given the sharp differences between rural and urban Wales, that would have to take into account how you achieve the right level of democratic accountability to cover the different circumstances of urban and rural Wales. I am pretty sure that we are in for a period of some kind of instability. I do not think that no change is an option, but there are lots of possibilities here. That is why Edwina Hart has written to Janice Gregory, as the Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, to ask her to initiate a study on all these different factors that I have just illustrated. However, I think that this issue will run and run for a considerable time in England and Wales.

Michael German: This is obviously important for us in Wales, given that the Assembly and the council tax payers in Wales pay half of the bills for our police service. Nowhere in the reports that have been going to the Home Secretary have I heard mention that the National Assembly will be a consultee and will be informed and involved in decisions about Welsh police forces. Can you give me two assurances: that the National Assembly will have a full debate

trefn lywodraethu'r heddlu drwy leihau nifer yr heddluoedd yng Nghymru. A ydych yn credu y bydd cael un heddlu dros ardal o Hwlffordd i Benarlâg yn y Gogledd yn gwella atebolrwydd i bobl Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Os oes arnoch eisiau gwrthsefyll her Kirsty Williams i'ch arweinyddiaeth, gorau po leiaf o gyfeiriadau at foch cwta a wnewch, Mike. O ran y pwynt ynglŷn â heddluoedd, mae sawl ffordd y gellid gwella effeithlonrwydd yr heddlu yng Nghymru. Gellir rhannu canolfannau gwasanaeth ar gyfer delio â chyflogau a dognau a thalu i gyflenwyr. Ceir canolfannau rheoli a weithredir ar y cyd â gwasanaethau tân ac ambiwlans, tebyg i'r hyn a geir yng Nghaerfyrddin a gallent o bosibl fynd hyd yn oed ymhellach. Mae modd gweithredu ar y cyd, fel Operation Tarian, sy'n cynnwys tri o'r heddluoedd, ond nid heddlu'r Gogledd am resymau gweithredol, i ymladd yn erbyn troseddu sy'n cael ei drefnu ac, yn arbennig, gangiau cyffuriau. Mae llawer o wahanol ddulliau y gallwch wneud hyn. Un dewis yw cael un heddlu unigol, ond o gofio'r gwahaniaethau mawr rhwng y Gymru wledig a threfol, byddai'n rhaid i hynny ystyried sut mae sicrhau'r lefel iawn o atebolrwydd democrataidd i ofalu am amgylchiadau gwahanol y dref a'r wlad. Yr wyf yn eithaf siŵr ein bod yn symud i gyfnod o ryw fath o ansefydlogrwydd. Nid wyf yn meddwl fod dim newid yn opsiwn, ond mae llawer o bosibiliadau yma. Dyna pam y mae Edwina Hart wedi ysgrifennu at Janice Gregory, fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, i ofyn iddi ddechrau astudiaeth ar yr holl ffactorau gwahanol hyn yr wyf newydd eu rhestru. Fodd bynnag, credaf y bydd llawer o drin a thrafod ar y mater hwn am gryn amser yng Nghymru a Lloegr.

Michael German: Yn amlwg mae hyn yn bwysig i ni yng Nghymru, gan fod y Cynulliad a'r trethdalwyr yng Nghymru'n talu hanner y biliau am ein gwasanaeth heddlu. Nid wyf wedi clywed sôn yn unlle yn yr adroddiadau sydd wedi bod yn mynd i'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref y bydd y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn gorff yr ymgynghorir ag ef ac y caiff wybod am y penderfyniadau am heddluoedd Cymru a chael rhan yn y penderfyniadau hynny. A allwch roi sicrwydd

on this matter and a discussion about the future of our police forces, and that those views will be taken to any discussion about the future of our services in Wales, and that you will ensure that we have a debate with you about the issues around the future governance of Wales in the new Bill that the Government is proposing, and whether or not powers over police funding and interests should be transferred to the National Assembly?

2.40 p.m.

The First Minister: You are right that police funding substantially comes from us. Sometimes it is a one-off, as was the case with Operation Tarian; sometimes it is through the revenue support grant and the precepting system. Of course, the threat of capping, in terms of police authorities, is a matter for Sue Essex and not for John Prescott, David Miliband or the Home Secretary. I can assure you that there has been consultation. We are only at the early stages. The report was presented and said that you do not want a force with less than 4,000 officers in the middle of the week. On the day that it was published, Charles Clarke spoke to Edwina Hart to lay out what was coming. Therefore, there is consultation at this early stage, and that is why Edwina has set the ball rolling for the Assembly to be democratically involved through the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee.

I would be amazed if we did not have a debate on this in the Chamber. I do not set Assembly business, as you know, so it is not for me to give you guarantees. However, I would be amazed if we did not have such a debate. I am sure that the matter will also arise and be discussed among Welsh MPs in the House of Commons. They will have views on issues such as how you get local control, efficiency, career structures and the new specialisms that you need to combat new threats such as organised crime, drug gangs, terrorism and so forth, in small, relatively rural forces that have only 15,000 officers, such as the three in Wales other than South Wales Police.

imi ynghylch dau beth: y caiff y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ddadl lawn ar y mater hwn a thrafodaeth am ddyfodol ein heddluoedd, ac y bydd y sylwadau hynny'n rhan o unrhyw drafodaeth am ddyfodol ein gwasanaethau yng Nghymru, ac y gwnewch sicrhau y cawn ddadl gyda chi am y materion ynglŷn â threfn lywodraethu Cymru yn y dyfodol yn y Mesur newydd y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei gynnig, ac ynghylch a ddylid trosglwyddo pwerau dros gyllid a buddiannau'r heddlu i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ai peidio?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn gywir bod llawer o gyllid yr heddlu'n dod gennym ni. Weithiau mae'n achos unigol, fel gydag Operation Tarian; weithiau daw drwy'r grant cynnal refeniw a'r system braesept. Wrth gwrs, mae'r bygythiad i gapio, yn nhermau awdurdodau heddlu, yn fater i Sue Essex ac nid i John Prescott, David Miliband na'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref. Gallaf eich sicrhau bod ymgynghori wedi bod. Dim ond yn y camau cynnar yr ydym. Cyflwynwyd yr adroddiad a dywedodd nad oes eisiau heddlu gyda llai na 4,000 o swyddogion yng nghanol yr wythnos. Y diwrnod y'i cyhoeddwyd, siaradodd Charles Clarke ag Edwina Hart i amlinellu'r hyn a oedd ar y gweill. Felly, y mae ymgynghori ar y cam cynnar hwn, a dyna pam mae Edwina wedi gyrru'r cwch i'r dŵr i'r Cynulliad gael llais democrataidd drwy'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio.

Byddwn yn rhyfeddu pe na chaem ddadl ar hyn yn y Siambr. Nid fi fydd yn trefnu busnes y Cynulliad, fel y gwyddoch, felly nid mater i mi yw rhoi sicrwydd ichi. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn rhyfeddu pe na chaem ddadl o'r fath. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y mater hefyd yn codi ac yn cael ei drafod ymhlith ASau Cymru yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin. Bydd ganddynt hwy farn ar faterion fel sut y mae cael rheolaeth leol, effeithlonrwydd, strwythurau gyrfaol a'r arbenigeddau newydd sydd eu hangen i frwydro yn erbyn bygythiadau newydd fel troseddu sydd wedi'i drefnu, gangiau cyffuriau, terfysgaeth ac yn y blaen, mewn heddluoedd bach, cymharol wledig, nad oes ganddynt ond 15,000 o swyddogion, fel y tri yng Nghymru ar wahân i Heddlu De Cymru.

Michael German: We now have an ideal opportunity with the Better Governance of Wales Bill, and we have responsibility for other blue-light services, namely the ambulance and fire services. Surely this would be an ideal opportunity for us to bring all three together and to seek devolution of those powers within the Bill. The time is right, but the issue must be dealt with quite swiftly. Do you believe that this is the right time to do that?

The First Minister: I have mentioned already that we have, in a way, a half-way house in terms of having joint control rooms for the three 999 services, at least in Carmarthen where they are under one roof, although still separate. Two of the services are devolved and one is not, as you said, but they can work together and are doing so already. There is also the question of Airwave and other interoperable radio communication technology systems, which is an enormously important issue in terms of the three services working together.

Finally, there is the issue of how many separate constabularies you need. If the service is not devolved and the Home Office makes a decision across England and Wales to a fairly common pattern, then I would imagine that you would finish up with one police force in Wales. However, that might not be terribly popular, and it would perhaps not have involved all the different aspects that I have been talking about now such as control rooms, shared corporate service centres and so on, which may be used to get around the problems regarding the sharp divides in terms of policing needs between rural, urban and metropolitan areas.

Michael German: Mae gennym gyfle delfrydol yn awr gyda Mesur Trefn Lywodraethu Well i Gymru, ac mae gennym gyfrifoldeb dros wasanaethau golau glas eraill, sef y gwasanaethau ambiwlans a thân. Siawns na fyddai hyn yn gyfle delfrydol inni ddod â'r tri ynghyd a gofyn am ddatganoli'r pwerau hynny o fewn y Mesur. Mae'r amser yn iawn, ond rhaid delio â'r mater yn dra buan. A ydych yn credu mai dyma'r amser iawn i wneud hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf wedi sôn eisoes fod gennym, mewn ffordd, dŷ hanner ffordd yn nhermau cael ystafelloedd rheoli ar y cyd i'r tri gwasanaeth 999, o leiaf yng Nghaerfyrddin lle y maent dan yr unto, er yn dal i fod ar wahân. Mae dau o'r gwasanaethau wedi'u datganoli ac un heb gael ei wneud, fel y dywedaso, ond gallant weithio gyda'i gilydd ac maent eisoes yn gwneud hynny. Hefyd mae cwestiwn Airwave a systemau technoleg cyfathrebu radio rhyngweithredol eraill, sydd yn fater eithriadol o bwysig o ran cael y tri gwasanaeth i gydweithio.

Yn olaf, ceir y cwestiwn sawl heddlu ar wahân sydd eu hangen arnoch. Os na ddatganolir y gwasanaeth a bod y Swyddfa Gartref yn gwneud penderfyniad ar draws Cymru a Lloegr yn ôl patrwm gweddol gyffredin, yna gallwn ddyfalu mai un heddlu yng Nghymru fyddai'r canlyniad. Fodd bynnag, efallai na fyddai hynny'n ofnadwy o boblogaidd, ac efallai na fyddai wedi ystyried yr holl wahanol agweddau yr wyf newydd fod yn sôn amdanynt megis ystafelloedd rheoli, rhannu canolfannau gwasanaeth corfforaethol ac yn y blaen, y gellir eu defnyddio i osgoi'r problemau ynghylch y gwahaniaeth mawr o ran anghenion plismona rhwng ardaloedd gwledig, trefol a dinesig.

Lefelau Cyflogaeth yn Ne-ddwyrain Cymru Employment Levels in South-east Wales

Q7 Rosemary Butler: Will the First Minister give an update on employment levels in south-east Wales? OAQ0736(FM)

The First Minister: The latest labour force survey figures for May 2005 show that in the

C7 Rosemary Butler: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi'r newyddion diweddaraf am lefelau cyflogaeth yn y De-ddwyrain? OAQ0736(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Dengys ffigurau diweddaraf arolwg y gweithlu ar gyfer mis

10 south-east Wales local authorities there were 629,000 people in employment, which is an increase of 8 per cent since 1999 and is double the increase in the UK as a whole.

Rosemary Butler: Thank you for those excellent figures. I am delighted to say that nearly 17,000 new jobs have been created in Newport during the last two years. As a result, during the life of this Assembly, Newport West has seen a 47.3 per cent drop in unemployment claimants. Will your Government promise to continue to promote south-east Wales, and Newport in particular, as one of the prime development sites and areas for unemployment opportunities in the UK?

The First Minister: I would not give preferential treatment, as we govern the whole of Wales. There are also restrictions, because only parts of Newport have assisted area status. It is important to say that, even if an area does not have that status, you can still generate new jobs, as we have done, for example by persuading the relevant Westminster Government departments to bring National Statistics to Newport—that is an ongoing process, and I thank Len Cook, its former chief statistician, for his work on that—and the prison services shared service centre, of the kind that I spoke of before, where every prison's basic pay rations, human resources and all the other shared service centres will be run from one centre in Newport. I think that that amounts to around 1,200 jobs. That has nothing to do with assisted areas, because you can use that creatively where you do not have the advantage of being able to pay grants.

William Graham: Thank you for your remarks about new jobs in Wales, particularly those in Newport. However, would you acknowledge that National Statistics is expanding in Newport because of its wonderful workforce, and not because of Government departments? Will you also act as a spokesman for Wales, once again, to reassure those people who I understand from

Mai 2005 fod 629,000 o bobl mewn cyflogaeth yn y 10 awdurdod lleol yn y De-ddwyrain, sef cynnydd o 8 y cant ers 1999 a dwy waith y cynnydd yn y Deyrnas Unedig yn ei chyfanrwydd.

Rosemary Butler: Diolch am y ffigurau ardderchog hynny. Yr wyf yn falch iawn o ddweud bod bron 17,000 o swyddi newydd wedi'u creu yng Nghasnewydd yn ystod y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf. O ganlyniad, yn ystod oes y Cynulliad hwn, mae Gorllewin Casnewydd wedi gweld gostyngiad o 47.3 y cant yn y nifer sydd yn hawlio budd-dal diweithdra. A wnaiff eich Llywodraeth addo parhau i hyrwyddo de-ddwyrain Cymru, a Chasnewydd yn arbennig, fel un o'r prif safleoedd datblygu a'r prif ardaloedd ar gyfer cyfleoedd i'r di-waith yn y Deyrnas Unedig?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni fyddwn yn rhoi triniaeth ffafriol, gan ein bod yn llywodraethu dros Gymru gyfan. Mae cyfyngiadau hefyd, oherwydd dim ond rhannau o Gasnewydd sydd â statws ardal a gynorthwyr. Mae'n bwysig dweud, hyd yn oed os nad oes gan ardal y statws hwnnw, fod modd creu swyddi newydd, er hynny, fel yr ydym wedi gwneud, er enghraifft, drwy berswadio'r adrannau perthnasol yn Llywodraeth San Steffan i ddod â'r Ystadegau Gwladol i Gasnewydd—proses sydd yn dal i fynd yn ei blaen yw honno, a diolchaf i Len Cook, y cyn brif ystadegydd, am ei waith ar hynny—a chyd-ganolfan wasanaethu'r gwasanaethau carchardai, o'r math y soniais amdano o'r blaen, lle y bydd dognau cyflog sylfaenol pob carchar, adnoddau dynol a'r holl gyd-ganolfannau gwasanaethau eraill yn cael eu rhedeg o un ganolfan yng Nghasnewydd. Credaf fod hynny'n cyfrif am tua 1,200 o swyddi. Nid oes a wnelo hynny ddim ag ardaloedd a gynorthwyr, oherwydd gallwch ddefnyddio hynny'n greadigol lle nad oes gennyh y fantais o allu talu grantiau.

William Graham: Diolch ichi am eich sylwadau am swyddi newydd yng Nghymru, yn enwedig y rhai yng Nghasnewydd. Fodd bynnag, a fydddech yn derbyn bod yr Ystadegau Gwladol yn ehangu yng Nghasnewydd oherwydd ei weithlu rhagorol, ac nid oherwydd adrannau'r Llywodraeth? A wnewch fel llfarydd dros Gymru, unwaith eto, dawelu meddwl y bobl hynny sydd, yn ôl

press reports are reluctant to move from London to Newport?

The First Minister: I know that you and other members of your party are anxious to point the finger of blame from time to time, but not quite so anxious to point the finger of praise. I think a little more consistency could be in order there.

A great deal of work was done to help persuade National Statistics that it was a good idea to locate in Newport, given its three choices of London, Titchfield and Newport. You are right that there is an ease of recruitment and an excellent retention of staff in Newport, where you do not get the same staff turnover. In London, they might find it easy to recruit from universities because London is seen as the bright lights, but when people want to buy a house and settle down at the ages of 30, 32 or whenever that might be, Newport is a better choice than London. That is the big attraction in terms of transferring staff at the age when the bright lights are less relevant than housing choice, mortgages and so on.

You are right about the quality of staff and some people in London may prefer to opt for jobs in the City because they are highly qualified in terms of mathematics and statistics. Those jobs are highly prized by merchant banks, hedge funds, brokers and so on, and you cannot compete with the salaries, which would be four or five times as much as what the civil service could ever pay. However, Newport has a successful record in this respect, which is why it has chosen to expand from 1,200 to 1,900 members of staff.

Irene James: Do you agree that the planned creation of over 600 jobs at the construction of a new retail park as part of the strategic redevelopment of Blackwood is excellent news for the Islwyn constituency? Do you also agree that town-centre improvements and improved transport services are vital to the prosperity of Valleys towns such as Blackwood?

The First Minister: Blackwood is of course

yr hyn a ddeallaf o adroddiadau yn y wasg, yn amharod i symud o Lundain i Gasnewydd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwn eich bod chi ac aelodau eraill eich plaid yn awyddus i roi bai o bryd i'w gilydd, ond nad ydych mor barod i ganmol. Credaf y byddai ychydig mwy o gysondeb yn dderbyniol yma.

Gwnaethpwyd llawer o waith i helpu i berswadio'r Ystadegau Gwladol ei fod yn syniad da symud i Gasnewydd, o gofio bod ganddo tri dewis, sef Llundain, Titchfield a Chasnewydd. Yr ydych yn gywir wrth ddweud ei bod yn rhwydd recriwtio a chadw staff yng Nghasnewydd, lle na cheir yr un trosiant o ran staff. Yn Llundain, gallai fod yn hawdd iddynt recriwtio o brifysgolion gan fod Llundain yn llawn atyniadau, ond pan fydd pobl am brynu tŷ a magu teulu pan fyddant yn 30, 32 neu pryd bynnag y bydd hynny, bydd Casnewydd yn well dewis na Llundain. Dyna yw'r atyniad mawr o ran trosglwyddo staff sydd wedi cyrraedd oed pan nad yw goleuadau llachar y ddinas mor bwysig â dewis o ran cartref, morgeisi ac yn y blaen.

Yr ydych yn dweud y gwir am ansawdd y staff ac efallai y byddai'n well gan rai pobl yn Llundain ddewis swyddi yn y Ddinas gan fod ganddynt gymwysterau da mewn mathemateg ac ystadegau. Mae'r swyddi hynny'n werthfawr iawn i fanciau masnachol, cronfeydd gwarchod, broceriaid ac yn y blaen, ac ni ellir cystadlu o ran cyflogau, a fyddai bedair neu bump gwaith yn uwch na'r hyn y gallai'r gwasanaeth sifil ei dalu. Fodd bynnag, mae gan Gasnewydd enw da yn hyn o beth, a dyna pam y mae wedi dewis ehangu o 1,200 aelod o staff i 1,900.

Irene James: A ydych yn credu bod y cynllun i greu dros 600 o swyddi i adeiladu parc manwerthu fel rhan o ailddatblygiad strategol y Coed Duon yn newyddion ardderchog i etholaeth Islwyn? A ydych yn cytuno hefyd fod y gwelliannau i ganol y dref a gwell gwasanaethau trafndiaeth yn hanfodol i ffyniant trefi'r Cymoedd megis y Coed Duon?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r Coed Duon wrth

as much a part of south-east Wales as Newport, and having an effective retail centre in the Valleys, where you have some of the attractions of the M4-belt cities like Cardiff, Newport and Swansea, is essential. One of the most notable features of the central valleys of the Glamorgan-Gwent border is that, for example, Bargoed's position as the main shopping centre back in the 1930s and 1940s has now been transferred to Blackwood, which seems to be thriving. I am afraid that that is not particularly good news for Bargoed, but you need one big shopping centre and it is probably not possible to have two. Blackwood seems to have the grip on it at the moment.

Jenny Randerson: Despite the jobs that have just been referred to by my colleagues and a massive influx of pump-priming money into the public sector in Wales, unemployment statistics are creeping up again, just like the health service waiting time statistics. When will your Government recognise that we need a fresh look at the importance of creating indigenous businesses in Wales so that we are no longer at the mercy of the more fleeting input of inward investors from the world as a whole? We all know that this is a precarious position for any western European country at the moment.

The First Minister: I am afraid, Jenny, that you have just displayed the-rat-up-a-drainpipe-attracted-to-a-negative-news-headline phenomenon even though, once again, there is no factual basis. You read the business news in the *Western Mail* last Wednesday and its coverage of the unemployment data that was published that morning, which stated that unemployment was creeping up again. However, that was not the case for Wales, because it has stabilised here after a seven-month rise, which we have discussed in the Chamber on several occasions. However, there was no increase in the figures for July and August. Unemployment has stabilised after a seven-month increase, and it is still at one third of the level it was under the Conservatives. You are also wrong about the health service.

gwrs yn gymaint rhan o'r De-ddwyrain â Chasnewydd, ac mae'n hanfodol cael canolfan fanwerthu effeithiol yn y Cymoedd, lle y ceir rhai o atyniadau dinasoedd cyrion yr M4 fel Caerdydd, Casnewydd ac Abertawe. Un o nodweddion amlycaf y cymoedd canol ar y ffin rhwng Morgannwg a Gwent yw bod safle Bargoed, er enghraifft, fel prif ganolfan siopa yn y 1930au a'r 1940 bellach wedi symud i'r Coed Duon, sydd i'w gweld yn ffynnu. Mae arnaf ofn nad yw hynny'n newyddion arbennig o dda i Fargoed, ond mae angen un ganolfan siopa fawr ac mae'n debyg nad oes modd cael dwy. Ymddengys mai'r Coed Duon sydd yn y sefyllfa gryfaf ar hyn o bryd.

Jenny Randerson: Er gwaethaf y swyddi y mae fy nghyd-Aelodau wedi cyfeirio atynt a llif enfawr o arian ysgogi i'r sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, mae'r ystadegau diweithdra'n cynyddu'n raddol unwaith eto, yn union fel ystadegau amseroedd aros y gwasanaeth iechyd. Pa bryd y bydd eich Llywodraeth yn derbyn bod angen inni edrych o'r newydd ar bwysigrwydd creu busnesau cynhenid yng Nghymru fel na fyddwn wedyn ar drugaredd mympwy mewnfuddsoddwyr o weddill y byd? Gwyddom i gyd fod hyn yn sefyllfa sy'n achosi ansicrwydd ym mhob gwlad yng ngorllewin Ewrop ar hyn o bryd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae arnaf ofn, Jenny, eich bod unwaith eto wedi dangos enghraifft o rywun sy'n cael pleser o ddarllen penawdau negyddol y newyddion er nad oes, unwaith eto, ddim ffeithiau sy'n sail i'r hyn a ddywedaso. Darlennaso y newyddion busnes yn y *Western Mail* ddydd Mercher diwethaf, a'i adroddiad ar y data diweithdra a gyhoeddwyd y bore hwnnw, a oedd yn dweud bod diweithdra ar gynnydd unwaith eto. Fodd bynnag, nid dyna oedd y sefyllfa yng Nghymru, gan ei fod wedi sefydlogi yma ar ôl cynyddu am saith mis, rhywbeth yr ydym wedi ei drafod yn y Siambr ar sawl achlysur. Fodd bynnag, ni fu cynnydd yn y ffigurau ar gyfer Gorffennaf ac Awst. Mae diweithdra wedi sefydlogi ar ôl cynyddu am saith mis, ac un rhan o dair o'r lefel a welwyd o dan y Ceidwadwyr ydyw o hyd. Yr ydych yn anghywir hefyd ynglŷn â'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

2.50 p.m.

**Cysylltiadau Ffordd Rhwng Sir Benfro a'r Rhwydwaith Traffyrdd
Road Links Between Pembrokeshire and the Motorway Network**

Q8 Glyn Davies: What investment is planned for the road links between Pembrokeshire and the motorway network? OAQ0723(FM)

The First Minister: Investment of about £90 million is planned on the A477 and A40 trunk roads in west Wales to improve the links to and from Pembroke Dock, Haverfordwest and Milford Haven to the dual carriageway section of the A40 to St Clears and onwards to the M4. I am sometimes asked why north Wales has done so well in having a dual carriageway all of the way to Holyhead when it stops around 40 miles short in south Wales. The reason is that there is one ferry port in north Wales, but there are two in south Wales, or three if Swansea is included. Pembroke Dock must be serviced as it is the prime freight transport port, as well as Fishguard, which is the prime passenger transport port for ferries to Ireland.

Glyn Davies: I would like to ask you about the A477. Last week, I spent a full day visiting energy businesses in the Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock area, which is the emerging energy capital of Britain. The road network, particularly the A477, is hopelessly inadequate. I do not think that the degree of investment is sufficient bearing in mind the scale of what is happening in that area, particularly if the Bluestone project, the power station that has been talked about, and the associated marina and housing developments come on-stream. Do you accept that there is a need to look at this again because of what is happening in that area, and to ensure that you have a sufficient concentration of investment in the A477?

The First Minister: An £8 million scheme—the A477 Nash to Bangeston scheme—will be launched by Andrew Davies in two months' time, on 17 November. The next big scheme will be the £42 million A477 Red Roses to St Clears scheme, which we hope will be ready to start in April 2010. I think

C8 Glyn Davies: Pa fuddsoddiad sydd ar y gweill ar gyfer y cysylltiadau ffordd rhwng sir Benfro a'r rhwydwaith traffyrdd? OAQ0723(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae buddsoddiad gwerth tua £90 miliwn yn yr arfaeth ar gyfer cefnffyrdd yr A477 a'r A40 yn y Gorllewin i wella'r cysylltiadau yn ôl a blaen o Ddoc Penfro, Hwlfordd ac Aberdaugleddau i'r rhan ddeuol o'r A40 i Sanclêr ac ymlaen i'r M4. Gofynnir imi weithiau pam y mae'r Gogledd wedi gwneud cystal drwy gael ffordd ddeuol yr holl ffordd i Gaergybi a'r ffordd honno yn dod i ben 40 milltir cyn cyrraedd pen y daith yn y De. Y rheswm yw mai dim ond un porthladd fferi sydd yn y Gogledd, tra bo dau yn y De, neu dri os ydych yn cynnwys Abertawe. Rhaid i Ddoc Penfro gael ei wasanaethu gan mai dyma'r prif borthladd i drafnidiaeth cludo nwyddau, yn ogystal ag Abergwaun, sef y prif borthladd cludo teithwyr ar gyfer llongau i Iwerddon.

Glyn Davies: Hoffwn ofyn i chi ynghylch yr A477. Yr wythnos diwethaf, treuliais ddiwrnod cyfan yn ymweld â busnesau ynni yn ardal Aberdaugleddau a Doc Penfro, sy'n datblygu'n brif ganolfan ynni Prydain. Mae'r rhwydwaith ffyrdd, yn enwedig yr A477, yn gwbl annigonol. Nid wyf yn credu fod maint y buddsoddiad yn ddigon o gofio graddfa'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn yr ardal honno, yn enwedig os bydd prosiect y Garreg Las, y pwerdy y bu sôn amdano, y marina a'r datblygiadau tai cysylltiedig yn cael eu hadeiladu. A ydych yn derbyn bod angen edrych eto ar hyn oherwydd yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn yr ardal honno, a sicrhau bod buddsoddiad digonol wedi'i glustnodi ar gyfer yr A477?

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd cynllun £8 miliwn—cynllun yr A477 o Nash i Bangeston—yn cael ei lansio gan Andrew Davies ymhen deufis, ar 17 Tachwedd. Y cynllun mawr nesaf fydd cynllun yr A477 o Ros-goch i Sanclêr, sy'n werth £42 miliwn, a'r gobaith yw y bydd yn barod i ddechrau yn Ebrill

that you should have a word with the chairman of the Conservative Association of Carmarthen East, whose newspaper article published this morning is against all development in the area. He says that he does not want the liquefied natural gas import terminal or the pipelines, and, therefore, he would not, presumably, want any kind of dual carriageway or other investment going down to Pembrokeshire either. Please have a word with him. I thought at first that I was reading a letter from Cymuned about the Pwllheli marina, but it was from the chairman of the Conservative Association of Carmarthen East.

Helen Mary Jones: Er ein bod yn ymddiddori yn y ffordd y mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn trin a thrafod ei gilydd, hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Prif Weinidog yn ôl at y pwnc, sef trafndiaeth yn sir Benfro. Er y cytunwn fod angen buddsoddi yn y rhwydwaith ffyrdd o gofio'r datblygiadau y cyfeiriodd Glyn Davies atynt, pryd y bydd eich Llywodraeth yn fodlon gwneud yr un math o fuddsoddiad yn rhwydwaith trafndiaeth gyhoeddus—yn arbennig y gwasanaeth rheilffordd—er mwyn lleihau'r pwysau ar y ffyrdd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyma pam y cyfeiriais at ddechrau'r cynllun sydd lawer yn fwy na'r ddau fuddsoddiad mewn ffyrdd o £8 miliwn a £42 miliwn. Soniais yn gynharach fod £400 miliwn i'w fuddsoddi yn y system rheilffordd gan Network Rail. Bydd Andrew Davies yn lansio'r cynllun signalau newydd ar brif lein de Cymru. Bydd hwn o fudd mawr i bobl sir Benfro sy'n defnyddio trafndiaeth gyhoeddus ac nid yn defnyddio eu ceir ar rwydwaith y ffyrdd.

2010. Credaf y dylech gael gair gyda Chadeirydd Cymdeithas Ceidwadwyr Dwyrain Caerfyrddin, a gyhoeddodd erthygl bapur newydd y bore yma sy'n gwrthwynebu pob datblygiad yn yr ardal. Dywed nad yw am weld porthladd mewnfario nwy naturiol hylifedig na'r pibelli, ac felly, fe dybiaf, nid yw am weld dim math o ffordd ddeuol na dim buddsoddiad arall ychwaith yn mynd i sir Benfro. Dylech gael gair ag ef. Yr oeddwn yn credu i ddechrau fy mod yn darllen llythyr gan Cymuned ynghylch marina Pwllheli, ond llythyr ydoedd gan Gadeirydd Cymdeithas Ceidwadwyr Dwyrain Caerfyrddin.

Helen Mary Jones: Despite the fact that we all take an interest in the way in which the Conservatives deal with each other, I would like to bring the First Minister back to the subject in question, namely transportation in Pembrokeshire. Although we all agree that investment in the road network is needed given the developments that Glyn Davies referred to, when will your Government be willing to make a similar investment in the public transport infrastructure—rail services in particular—in order to try to reduce the pressure on the roads?

The First Minister: That is why I referred to the commencement of the scheme that is much larger than the £8 million or £42 million investment in the road network. I mentioned earlier that £400 million will be invested in the rail network by Network Rail. Andrew Davies will launch the re-signalling scheme on the south Wales main line. This will greatly benefit the people of Pembrokeshire who use public transport and do not use their cars on the road network.

Pobl sy'n Prynu Tŷ am y Tro Cyntaf First-time House Buyers

Q9 Mick Bates: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to help first-time house buyers in Wales? OAQ0726(FM)

C9 Mick Bates: Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i helpu pobl sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru? OAQ0726(FM)

The First Minister: Our consultation draft 'The Affordable Housing Toolkit' identifies action that local authorities can take to increase the supply of affordable housing. The recent update to our homebuy scheme means that in Powys, for instance, an eligible

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae ein hymgyngoriad drafft 'Y Pecyn Cymorth Tai Fforddiadwy' yn nodi'r camau y gall awdurdodau lleol eu cymryd i gynyddu'r cyflenwad o dai fforddiadwy. Mae'r diweddariad diweddar o'n cynllun cymorth prynu yn golygu ym

couple can receive an equity loan of up to £72,300 towards the cost of purchasing a property.

Mick Bates: From the tone of your answer, I am not sure that you recognise that there is an affordable housing crisis in Wales. In my rural constituency of Montgomeryshire, the average house price is £165,000, which is only 5 per cent less than the United Kingdom average. However, our income in Montgomeryshire is 22 per cent less than the national average. Are you creating a two-tier economy in Wales in which urban areas are booming while we in rural Wales are left behind and cannot afford to buy a house?

The First Minister: I do not think that you listened to the answer. If first-time buyers have access to a homebuy loan of £72,500, it is up to 50 per cent of the cost of the house that they are attempting to acquire. We accept the problem that in some areas dominated by low-wage industries such as agriculture, tourism and small business, you can have low wages and high house prices. Powys—to which you are probably referring—is an example of that, but it is not the only area in Wales. That is why we have the flexibility. We do not just have one national scheme in Wales where all parts of Wales have the same scheme and terms, but we have a scheme that local authorities can operate flexibly. That is why I mentioned maximum homebuy loans for eligible couples in Powys of over £72,000.

Leighton Andrews: Are you aware that, two weeks ago, the Royal Bank of Scotland announced that Ferndale and Blaenrhondda in my constituency are two of the 20 most desirable places in the United Kingdom for first-time buyers. While first-time buyers are welcome, property speculators are not welcome. Do you agree that this is an opportunity to overcome the old stereotypes of the Valleys, and instead talk rather more about their opportunities and the beauty of their environment?

The First Minister: The combination of the beauty of the environment and the ability to

Mhowys, er enghraifft, y gall cwpl cymwys dderbyn benthyciad ecwiti hyd at £72,300 tuag at y gost o brynu eiddo.

Mick Bates: Yn ôl goslef eich ateb, nid wyf yn siŵr a ydych yn derbyn bod argyfwng tai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru. Yn fy etholaeth wledig yn sir Drefaldwyn, mae pris tŷ ar gyfartaledd yn £165,000, nad yw ond 5 y cant yn is na chyfartaledd y Deyrnas Unedig. Fodd bynnag, mae ein hincwm yn sir Drefaldwyn 22 y cant yn is na'r cyfartaledd cenedlaethol. A ydych yn creu economi dwy haen yng Nghymru lle y mae'r ardaloedd trefol yn ffynnu tra ydym ni yn y Gymru wledig yn cael ein gadael ar ôl a heb fedru fforddio prynu tŷ?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn credu eich bod wedi gwrandao ar yr ateb. Os yw prynwyr tŷ am y tro cyntaf yn cael benthyciad cymorth prynu o £72,500, mae hynny'n 50 y cant o gost y tŷ y maent yn ceisio'i brynu. Yr ydym yn derbyn bod problem mewn rhai ardaloedd gyda diwydiannau cyflog isel fel amaethyddiaeth, twristiaeth a busnesau bach, lle y ceir cyflogau isel a phrisiau tai uchel. Mae Powys—yr ardal yr ydych yn cyfeirio ati, mae'n debyg—yn enghraifft o hynny, ond nid dyna'r unig ardal yng Nghymru. Dyna pam yr ydym yn hyblyg. Nid un cynllun cenedlaethol yn unig sydd gennym yng Nghymru lle y mae gan bob rhan o Gymru yr un cynllun a'r un amodau, ond mae gennym yn hytrach gynllun cenedlaethol y gall awdurdodau fod yn hyblyg wrth ei weithredu. Dyna pam y bu imi grybwyll uchafswm benthyciadau cymorth prynu sydd dros £72,000 i gyplau cymwys ym Mhowys.

Leighton Andrews: A ydych yn ymwybodol bod y Royal Bank of Scotland wedi cyhoeddi bythefnos yn ôl fod Glynrhedynog a Blaenrhondda yn fy etholaeth yn ddau o'r 20 lle mwyaf deniadol yn y Deyrnas Unedig i bobl sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf? Er bod croeso yno i bobl sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf, nid oes croeso yno i hapfasnachwyr eiddo. A ydych yn cytuno bod hwn yn gyfle i ddiosg yr hen ystrydebau am y Cymoedd, a rhoi sylw yn hytrach i'r cyfleoedd sydd yno a harddwch eu hamgylchedd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r cyfuniad o harddwch yr amgylchedd a'r gallu i gael

have local jobs or to commute to jobs on the M4 belt, creates an attractive package to regenerate and revitalise the housing market in the Valleys, which has not been as it should be. It has not operated normally since the commencement of the long decline of the coal industry some 70 or 80 years ago. It has been too dominated by the sale of 100-year-old properties without enough new properties, although this is beginning to change, which I am pleased to see. We need to see the normalisation of the housing market in the Valleys, and the first sign of it is the nomination of Valleys towns as the best option for first-time buyers.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae'r Canghellor, Gordon Brown, yn bwriadu rhoi'r hawl i unigolion cyfoethog gynnwys ail a thrydydd cartref—a phedwerydd cartref am a wn i—fel rhan o gynllun pensiwn preifat. Mae pennaeth yr asiantaeth tai gwledig yn Lloegr wedi condemnio'r cynllun fel un a fydd yn cynyddu prisiau ac yn gwaethygu argyfwng tai gwledig ac arfordirol. A ydych yn cefnogi bwriad y Canghellor, neu a gredwch y bydd yn gwaethygu'r prinder tai?

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd rhaid aros i weld yr hyn a ddigwydd. Pe bai rhai o'r peryglon a amlinellwyd gennych yn dod i'r amlwg, mae'n siŵr gennyf y gallem ddefnyddio'r dulliau sydd gennym i fod yn hyblyg ynglŷn â sut yn union y defnyddir yr arian cyhoeddus sydd yn ein cyllideb. Bydd y swm yn codi o £58 miliwn y llynedd i dros £90 miliwn ymhen blwyddyn ar gyfer tai yn y sector cymdeithasol a thai fforddiadwy.

Rali Cymru Prydain Fawr Wales Rally GB

Q10 Gwenda Thomas: Will the First Minister make a statement on the recent Wales Rally GB? OAQ0738(FM)

The First Minister: I am sure that all Members will join me in expressing our sincerest condolences to the family, friends and team mates of Michael Park, who was tragically killed on Sunday while competing in this year's rally. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS:

swyddi lleol neu gymudo i swyddi ar hyd yr M4, yn creu pecyn atyniadol i adfywio a hybu'r farchnad dai yn y Cymoedd, sydd heb fod cystal ag y dylai. Nid yw wedi bod fel y dylai ers dechrau dirywiad hir y diwydiant glo tua 70 neu 80 mlynedd yn ôl. Mae wedi dibynnu'n ormodol ar werthu eiddo 100 mlwydd oed heb ddigon o dai newydd, er bod hyn yn dechrau newid, sy'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn ei groesawu. Rhaid inni weld y farchnad dai yn y Cymoedd yn cael ei normaleiddio, a'r arwydd cyntaf o hyn yw enwebu trefi'r Cymoedd fel yr opsiwn gorau i brynwyr tŷ am y tro cyntaf.

Alun Ffred Jones: The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, intends to give wealthy individuals the right to buy second and third homes, and a fourth as far as I am aware, as part of a private pension scheme. The head of the rural housing association in England has condemned this scheme as one which will increase prices and make the housing crisis in rural and coastal areas even more serious. Do you support the Chancellor's intention, or do you believe that it will worsen the situation in terms of the availability of affordable housing?

The First Minister: We must wait to see what happens. If some of the dangers that you have outlined were to come about, I am sure that we would be able to use the means available to us to be flexible in how the public money that we have made available in our budget is used. The amount is set to increase from last year's £58 million to over £90 million in a year's time for social and affordable housing.

C10 Gwenda Thomas: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar Rali Cymru Prydain Fawr a gynhaliwyd yn ddiweddar? OAQ0738(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd pob Aelod yn ymuno â mi i gydymdeimlo'n ddwys â theulu, ffrindiau ac aelodau o dîm Michael Park, a fu farw o dan amgylchiadau hynod drist ddydd Sul wrth gystadlu yn y rali eleni. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'Clywch,

‘Hear, hear.’]

clywch.’]

Gwenda Thomas: Bearing in mind the tragic events of last Sunday, and in acknowledging the exemplary behaviour of the teams, I will confine my supplementary to adding my condolences to those of the First Minister.

Gwenda Thomas: Gan gofio digwyddiadau trychinebus y Sul diwethaf, ac wrth gydnabod ymddygiad anrhydeddus y timau, cyfyngaf fy nghwestiwn atodol i ychwanegu fy nghydymdeimlad at gydymdeimlad y Prif Weinidog.

The First Minister: I am grateful to you for doing that. I am sure that we recognise—as has happened with the four deaths in the Great North Run—that sport, whether it is an obviously dangerous sport such as rallying or not such an obviously dangerous sport such as half marathon running, occasionally involves risks of the worst possible kind. We must also recognise that Wales Rally GB brings £7 million per year to Wales—to Cardiff, Powys, Swansea, and so forth—and that is the balance that must always be considered in engaging in public funding of sport events. I am grateful for your sincerely held thoughts.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am hynny. Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod yn derbyn—fel sydd wedi digwydd yn y Great North Run—fod chwaraeon, boed yn gamp sy’n amlwg yn un beryglus fel raliŵ neu gamp nad yw’n amlwg yn un beryglus fel rhedeg hanner marathon, o bryd i’w gilydd yn golygu risgiau o’r math gwaethaf posibl. Rhaid inni gydnabod bod Rali Cymru Prydain Fawr yn dod â £7 miliwn y flwyddyn i Gymru—i Gaerdydd, Powys, Abertawe ac yn y blaen—a hynny yw’r cydbwysedd y mae’n rhaid ei ystyried bob amser wrth roi arian cyhoeddus i ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am eich sylwadau diffuant.

Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question

Gwenwyn Bwyd E.coli E.coli Food Poisoning

Leanne Wood: Will the Minister make a statement about the reported E.coli food poisoning at schools in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr? EAQ0437(HSS)

Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar yr achosion o wenwyn bwyd yn gysylltiedig ag E.coli yr adroddwyd amdanynt mewn ysgolion yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a Merthyr? EAQ0437(HSS)

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): I was informed of the outbreak over the weekend by the outbreak control team, and I have received regular updates on the situation. The outbreak control team is working on identifying the source of the outbreak and will advise parents and the public of the emerging conclusions as soon as possible.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Cefais fy hysbysu am yr achosion dros y Sul gan y tîm rheoli achosion, ac yr wyf wedi derbyn y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y sefyllfa’n rheolaidd. Mae’r tîm rheoli achosion yn gweithio i ganfod y ffynhonnell a bydd yn rhoi gwybod i’r rhieni a’r cyhoedd am y casgliadau a ddaw i’r amlwg cyn gynted â phosibl.

3.00 p.m.

Leanne Wood: I am sure that I speak on behalf of all when I say that our thoughts are with the families affected by this outbreak. A

Leanne Wood: Yr wyf yn siŵr fy mod yn siarad ar ran pawb pan ddywedaf ein bod yn cydymdeimlo â’r teuluoedd y mae’r haint

number of parents from these schools will be looking for guidance on how best to protect their children. What guidance are you giving to concerned parents about the safety of school meals, and what steps are you taking to stop this outbreak from spreading to other schools?

Brian Gibbons: Your questions, Leanne, are similar to those that Leighton Andrews raised with me this morning. You will understand that he shares many of the concerns that you have articulated. In relation to food, the information that I currently have is that the precise source of the infection has yet to be isolated. Therefore, at this stage, it would be premature to identify one possible cause as being the source of the problem. Statistically, food is likely to be the source, but that has not been demonstrated to date. A large number of environmental health officers and members of the National Public Health Service are still working on the ground in the affected areas, trying to get to the bottom of this.

I commend the parents of the children attending the schools involved, and would advise them that this is not a panic situation. The parents have behaved responsibly in their response to the information available. In terms of school meals, it is important to note that only cooked meals will be available until the situation is clarified. Public and personal hygiene are equally important pending further information from the teams on the ground, who are trying to pin down the source of this particular outbreak.

There has only been one flare-up of this outbreak, which may suggest that there was only one point at which people were exposed. That would suggest that the source of the outbreak has passed, and that the major risk of new cases has passed on. However, if people do not adhere to basic advice in relation to the water that they drink and in terms of cooking food, and in attending to personal hygiene and so on, there may be a relapse. Hopefully, the worst is over.

Leighton Andrews: My thoughts, as are everyone else's, are with the children and parents affected by this outbreak. While it is a worrying time, I can confirm, from a

hwn wedi effeithio arnynt. Bydd nifer o rieni yn yr ysgolion hyn yn disgwyl cael canllawiau ynghylch y modd gorau i warchod eu plant. Pa ganllawiau yr ydych yn eu rhoi i rieni sydd yn bryderus am ddiogelwch prydau ysgol, a pha gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i atal yr haint rhag ymledu i ysgolion eraill?

Brian Gibbons: Mae eich cwestiynau, Leanne, yn debyg i'r rhai a gododd Leighton Andrews gyda mi y bore yma. Byddwch yn deall ei fod yn rhannu llawer o'r pryderon yr ydych wedi eu cyfleu. Mewn cysylltiad â bwyd, yn ôl y wybodaeth sydd gennyf ar hyn o bryd, ni chanfuwyd union darddle'r haint eto. Felly, ar hyn o bryd, mae'n rhy gynnar i ddweud mai un achos dichonol yw gwraidd y broblem. Ar sail ystadegol, mae'n debygol mai bwyd yw'r ffynhonnell, ond ni phrofwyd hynny hyd yn hyn. Mae nifer fawr o swyddogion iechyd amgylcheddol ac aelodau o'r Gwasanaeth Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cenedlaethol yn dal i weithio yn y maes yn yr ardaloedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt, yn ceisio mynd at wraidd y mater.

Canmolaf rieni'r plant sydd yn mynychu'r ysgolion dan sylw, a dywedaf wrthynt nad oes rheswm iddynt ddychryn. Mae'r rhieni wedi ymddwyn yn gyfrifol wrth ymateb i'r wybodaeth sydd ar gael. O ran prydau ysgol, mae'n bwysig nodi mai dim ond prydau sydd wedi eu coginio a fydd ar gael hyd nes y bydd y sefyllfa'n glir. Mae hylendid cyhoeddus a phersonol yr un mor bwysig hyd nes y ceir gwybodaeth bellach gan y timau ar lawr gwlad sydd yn ceisio darganfod tarddle'r haint penodol hwn.

Ni chafwyd ond un enyniad o'r haint hwn, a gallai hynny awgrymu mai dim ond mewn un man y bu pobl yn agored iddo. Byddai hynny'n awgrymu bod tarddle'r haint wedi darfod, ac nad oes perygl mawr o gael achosion newydd. Fodd bynnag, os na wnaiff pobl ddilyn y cyngor syml ynghylch y dŵr y maent yn ei yfed a choginio bwyd, a gofalu am hylendid personol ac yn y blaen, efallai y bydd yn ailafael. Mae'r gwaethaf drosodd, gobeithio.

Leighton Andrews: Yr wyf fi, fel pawb arall, yn cydymdeimlo â'r plant a'r rhieni y mae'r haint hwn wedi effeithio arnynt. Er ei bod yn adeg bryderus, gallaf gadarnhau, ar

conversation that I had with the headteacher of the affected Penygraig school in my constituency, that parents are responding in a responsible way and are not panicking; that is good to see. Will you ensure that the utmost amount of information comes out to parents as soon as possible so that everyone understands the reasons for this outbreak? Are you satisfied that this information came out quickly enough over the weekend?

Brian Gibbons: As I said in my response to Leanne, the outbreak control team regularly kept me informed on developments. It is difficult to have an overall view of what is happening at the early stages of such an outbreak, and I was impressed by the thoroughness of the outbreak team in quickly trying to monitor the situation to see whether there was a single source. From the information I received, as the reports came in, the pattern of this illness gradually began to emerge, probably up to late Sunday evening. The two to three dozen staff involved on the ground over the weekend, and the additional numbers now involved, are working hard, and I hope that the necessary assurance becomes available.

William Graham: Thank you for the assurances you have given us this afternoon, but I understand that, normally, only about 30 cases of E.coli poisoning are reported in Wales every year. In this case, there are already 23 people involved. Will you, therefore, give adequate assurance of proper provision for necessary continuing care and, where necessary, the treatment and monitoring of children in the schools affected? It would appear that the common link between all the children involved is that, somewhere, something has happened in the school catering system. If this is the case, will you make certain that any lessons learned from this can be properly implemented and passed through the system, so that people are not put through the same problems again?

Brian Gibbons: Yes. You are right, William, that the first priority is to isolate the source—if there is a common source—along the lines that you suggest. However, we are not yet in a position to be definitive. Statistically, food would be a likely source, but I do not believe

sail sgwrs a gefais â phennaeth ysgol Pen-y-graig yn fy etholaeth, sef yr un yr effeithiwyd arni, fod rhieni'n ymateb yn gyfrifol ac nad ydynt yn dychryn; mae'n dda gweld hynny. A wnewch sicrhau y rhoddir y wybodaeth helaethaf posibl i rieni cyn gynted ag y bo modd fel y bydd pawb yn deall y rhesymau dros yr haint hwn? A ydych yn sicr bod y wybodaeth hon wedi ei chyhoeddi'n ddigon cyflym dros y penwythnos?

Brian Gibbons: Fel y dywedais yn fy ymateb i Leanne, yr oedd tîm rheoli'r haint yn rhoi gwybod imi'n rheolaidd am y datblygiadau. Mae'n anodd cadw golwg ar y cwbl sydd yn digwydd pan fydd haint o'r fath yn dechrau, a gwnaed cryn argraff arnaf gan y gwaith trylwyr a wnaeth tîm rheoli'r haint wrth geisio monitro'r sefyllfa'n gyflym i weld a oedd un tarddle. Yn ôl y wybodaeth a gefais, wrth i'r adroddiadau ddod i law, daeth patrwm y salwch hwn i'r golwg yn raddol, tan yn hwyr nos Sul, mae'n debyg. Mae'r ddau neu dri dwsin o staff a fu'n gweithio yn y maes dros y penwythnos, a'r niferoedd ychwanegol sydd yn ymwneud â hyn yn awr, yn gweithio'n galed, a gobeithiaf y ceir y sicrwydd angenrheidiol.

William Graham: Diolch i chi am y sicrwydd yr ydych wedi ei roi i ni y prynhawn yma, ond deallaf mai dim ond tua 30 o achosion o wenwyn E.coli y rhoddir gwybod amdanynt yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn fel arfer. Y tro hwn, effeithiwyd ar 23 o bobl yn barod. Gan hynny, a wnewch roi sicrwydd digonol y ceir darpariaeth briodol ar gyfer unrhyw ofal parhaus sydd yn ofynnol ac, os bydd angen, ar gyfer trin a monitro plant yn yr ysgolion yr effeithiwyd arnynt? Ymddengys mai'r hyn sydd yn gyffredin i'r holl blant dan sylw yw bod rhywbeth wedi digwydd yn rhywle yn system arlwyo'r ysgol. Os felly y mae, a wnewch sicrhau y bydd modd rhoi ar waith unrhyw wersi a ddysgwyd o hyn mewn modd priodol a'u trosglwyddo drwy'r system, fel na fydd pobl yn gorfod profi'r un problemau eto?

Brian Gibbons: Gwnaf. Yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud, William, mai'r brif flaenoriaeth yw ynysu'r ffynhonnell—os oes ffynhonnell gyffredin—fel yr awgrymasoch. Fodd bynnag, ni allwn fod yn bendant eto. Ar sail ystadegol, byddai bwyd yn ffynhonnell

that the investigating teams have been able to pin down a source with the degree of accuracy that you have suggested. Having dealt with the immediate outbreak, it is essential that we learn the lessons. E.coli 0157 can be a serious infection—it is not a trivial illness by any means.

Christine Chapman: I also thank you, Minister, for your response. Will you join me in commending the work of the environmental health services and education welfare officers in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil authorities in supporting the schools over these incidents? I understand that they reacted quickly and calmly to this understandably worrying problem. My office has spoken to the eight schools affected in the Cynon valley, and I was impressed with how the teachers and parents have also reacted to this. It is sometimes tempting for the media to try to inflame the situation, which is not productive.

I have been told that school attendances have not been significantly affected, and that parents are happy with the information that they have been given. However, as other Members have said, it is now imperative to determine the source of the outbreak, and the possible link between the cases. I would be grateful if you continued to monitor the situation, as you are doing. As others have said, we must learn lessons from this.

Brian Gibbons: The people who worked long hours to try to get to the bottom of this deserve our gratitude. Learning the lessons is important. However, in all these cases, these are not just lessons for a crisis period; we need to incorporate some of these lessons into our everyday practice. The proper cooking and sanitary preparation of food is important, as is basic personal hygiene. If people do not continually pay attention to these basics, we run the risk of similar episodes flaring up. Therefore, this is not just a lesson for today; it is a lesson in how we live our daily lives. It is important that we do not consider these measures as simply crisis measures—we must incorporate them into our everyday personal practice, whether we

debygol, ond ni chredaf fod y timau ymchwilio wedi gallu canfod ffynhonnell mewn modd mor fanwl ag yr ydych wedi awgrymu. Ar ôl delio â'r haint presennol, mae'n hollbwysig inni ddysgu'r gwersi. Gall E.coli 0157 fod yn haint difrifol—nid salwch dibwys ydyw o bellffordd.

Christine Chapman: Yr wyf finnau'n diolch i chi, Weinidog, am eich ymateb. A wnewch ymuno â mi i ganmol y gwaith a wnaiff y gwasanaethau iechyd amgylcheddol a'r swyddogion lles addysg yn awdurdodau Rhondda Cynon Taf a Merthyr Tudful wrth gynorthwyo'r ysgolion ynglŷn â'r digwyddiadau hyn? Deallaf eu bod wedi ymateb yn gyflym ac yn bwylllog i'r broblem hon, sydd yn sicr o beri pryder. Mae rhai yn fy swyddfa wedi siarad â'r wyth ysgol yr effeithiwyd arnynt yng nghwm Cynon, ac mae'r modd y mae'r athrawon a'r rhieni hefyd wedi ymateb i hyn wedi gwneud argraff arnaf. Mae temtasiwn weithiau i'r cyfryngau geisio cynhyrfu'r dyfroedd, ac nid yw hynny'n fuddiol.

Dywedwyd wrthyf nad yw hyn wedi cael fawr o effaith ar y nifer sydd yn dod i'r ysgol, a bod rhieni'n fodlon ar y wybodaeth sydd wedi cael ei rhoi iddynt. Er hynny, fel y mae Aelodau eraill wedi dweud, mae'n hollbwysig canfod ffynhonnell yr haint yn awr, a'r cysylltiad posibl rhwng yr achosion. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe baech yn parhau i fonitro'r sefyllfa, fel yr ydych yn gwneud. Fel y mae eraill wedi dweud, rhaid inni ddysgu gwersi o hyn.

Brian Gibbons: Mae'r rhai a weithiodd oriau maith i geisio mynd at wraidd hyn yn haeddu ein diolch. Mae'n bwysig dysgu gwersi o hyn. Fodd bynnag, ym mhob achos o'r fath, nid gwersi ar gyfer y cyfnod o argyfwng yn unig yw'r rhain; rhaid inni roi sylw i rai o'r gwersi yn ein harferion bob dydd. Mae'n bwysig coginio bwyd yn iawn a'i barato'i'n lanwaith, ac mae hylendid personol sylfaenol yn bwysig hefyd. Os na wnaiff pobl roi sylw'n barhaus i'r hanfodion hyn, bydd perygl o gael achosion tebyg. Felly, nid gwers ar gyfer heddiw'n unig yw hon; mae'n wers o ran y modd yr ydym yn byw o ddydd i ddydd. Mae'n bwysig nad ystyriwn y mesurau hyn yn fesurau argyfwng yn unig—rhaid inni eu cynnwys yn ein

work in schools, or whether we live our normal lives in our own homes.

harferion personol beunyddiol, pa un a ydym yn gweithio mewn ysgolion neu'n byw yn ôl ein harfer ar ein haelwydydd.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you, Minister, for responding to that urgent question. It provides the Assembly with an opportunity to have democratic scrutiny of these difficult issues.

Y Llywydd: Diolch i chi, Weinidog, am ymateb i'r cwestiwn brys hwnnw. Mae'n rhoi cyfle i'r Cynulliad graffu'n ddemocrataidd ar y materion dyrys hyn.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I have one change to report to this week's business. The motion to elect members to the Local Government Partnership Council has been postponed until next Tuesday, 27 September. Business for the next three weeks is as set out on the draft statement, which can be found on the Chamberweb under supporting documents. Further to this morning's deliberations in the Business Committee, it has been determined that the following items of subordinate legislation need not be referred to a subject committee for extended consideration: the Education (Assisted Places) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005, the Education (Assisted Places) (Incidental Expenses) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005, the Food Labelling (Amendment) (Wales) (No. 2) Regulations 2005, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Commencement No. 4 and Consequential and Transitional Provisions) (Wales) Order 2005, the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005, the Reporting of Prices of Milk Products (Wales) Regulations 2005, and the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2005 (Commencement No. 1 and Transitional Provisions and Savings) Order 2005.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Mae gennyf un newid i'w adrodd i fusnes yr wythnos hon. Mae'r cynnig i ethol aelodau i'r Cyngor Partneriaeth Llywodraeth Leol wedi ei ohirio tan ddydd Mawrth nesaf, 27 Medi. Mae busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf fel y mae wedi ei nodi yn y datganiad drafft, y gellir ei weld ar we'r Siambwr o dan ddogfennau ategol. Yn dilyn y trafodaethau y bore yma yn y Pwyllgor Busnes, penderfynwyd nad oes angen cyfeirio'r eitemau a ganlyn o is-ddeddfwriaeth at bwyllgor pwnc i'w hystyried yn helaethach: Rheoliadau Addysg (Lleoedd a Gynorthwyr) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005, Rheoliadau Addysg (Lleoedd a Gynorthwyr) (Mân Dreuliau) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005, Rheoliadau Labelu Bwyd (Diwygio) (Cymru) (Rhif 2) 2005, Gorchymyn Deddf Cynllunio a Phrynu Gorfodol 2004 (Cychwyn Rhif 4 a Darpariaethau Canlyniadol a Throsiannol) (Cymru) 2005, Rheoliadau Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Cynlluniau Datblygu Lleol) (Cymru) 2005, Rheoliadau Hysbysu am Brisiau Cynhyrchion Llaeth (Cymru) 2005, a Gorchymyn Deddf Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus (Cymru) 2005 (Cychwyn Rhif 1 a Darpariaethau Trosiannol ac Arbedion) 2005.

3.10 p.m.

Y Llywydd: A oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes drafft? Gwelaf nad oes. Felly, galwaf am sylwadau.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the draft business statement? It appears that there are not. Therefore, I invite comments.

David Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on council tax rebanding? We are aware that the proposal has been ditched in England, but it is in place in Wales. The

David Lloyd: A wnaiff y Trefnydd ddatganiad ynghylch ailfandio'r dreth gyngor? Gwyddom fod y bwriad wedi ei roi heibio yn Lloegr, ond mae'n digwydd yng

Minister is aware that Plaid Cymru favours a local income tax and abolishing council tax. Be that as it may, are there any thoughts in the meantime on extending the transitional relief for council tax payers? The need to extend transitional relief in view of financial hardship would be the intention of such a statement on council tax rebanding.

Will the Minister consider a statement on funding for community hospitals in Wales? The Minister, and Llywydd, are aware that a number of community hospitals are under threat, in Blaenau Ffestiniog, in Tywyn, where I was born, and in Fairwood in Swansea.

David Melding: I am very disappointed that there will not be a statement on rebanding. The concept of rebanding had cross-party support, but then, for some reason, the Labour Party decided to increase the tax yield considerably. That undermined the whole policy and the non-partisan way in which the other parties, responsibly, tried to support the Government.

Having said that, I thank the Minister for agreeing to a statement on the possible amalgamation of police forces in Wales, resulting from a change of policy in England that seems imminent. At some point, it would also be appropriate for a debate to be held on the matter, but, as a first step, it is responsible for the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration to make a statement. We are grateful for that.

Kirsty Williams: I share the disappointment expressed by the last two speakers about the lack of a statement from the Government on rebanding. Given the decision that has been taken in England, it would be opportune to have a further look at the effects that the rebanding exercise has had on people in Wales. It would provide the First Minister with an opportunity to explain to people who are struggling to pay their bills why they should be grateful simply for the fact that their bills are cheaper than bills in England. That does not help people to pay their bills.

With regard to police reorganisation, we welcome Edwina Hart's letter to the Chair of

Nghymru. Gŵyr y Trefnydd fod Plaid Cymru o blaid cael treth incwm leol a diddymu'r dreth gyngor. Bid a fo am hynny, a oes unrhyw feddwl wedi bod yn y cyfamser am ymestyn y rhyddhad trosiannol ar gyfer talwyr y dreth gyngor? Yr angen i ymestyn rhyddhad trosiannol yn wyneb caledi ariannol fyddai'r rheswm dros roi datganiad o'r fath ynghylch ailfandio'r dreth gyngor.

A wnaiff y Trefnydd ystyried cynnwys datganiad ynghylch cyllid ar gyfer ysbytai cymunedol yng Nghymru? Mae'r Trefnydd, a'r Llywydd, yn gwybod bod nifer o ysbytai cymunedol o dan fygythiad, ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog, yn Nhywyn, lle y'm ganed i, ac ym Mynydd Llwynteg yn Abertawe.

David Melding: Yr wyf yn siomedig iawn na cheir datganiad ar ailfandio. Yr oedd yr holl bleidiau o blaid y syniad o ailfandio, ond wedyn, am ryw reswm, penderfynodd y Blaid Lafur godi swm ychwanegol sylweddol drwy'r dreth. Tanseiliodd hynny'r holl bolisi a'r modd amhleidiol yr oedd y pleidiau eraill wedi ceisio rhoi cefnogaeth gyfrifol i'r Llywodraeth.

Wedi dweud hynny, diolchaf i'r Trefnydd am gytuno i gynnwys datganiad ar y posibilrwydd o gyfuno heddluoedd yng Nghymru, o ganlyniad i newid polisi yn Lloegr sydd ar fin digwydd, yn ôl pob golwg. Ar ryw adeg, byddai hefyd yn briodol cynnal dadl ar y mater ond, fel cam cyntaf, peth cyfrifol i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yw gwneud datganiad. Yr ydym yn ddiolchgar am hynny.

Kirsty Williams: Rhannaf y siom a fynegwyd gan y ddau siaradwr diwethaf am na cheir datganiad gan y Llywodraeth ar ailfandio. O ystyried y penderfyniad a wnaed yn Lloegr, amserol fyddai edrych eto ar effeithiau'r ailfandio ar bobl yng Nghymru. Rhoddai gyfle i'r Prif Weinidog egluro i bobl sydd yn ei chael yn anodd talu eu biliau pam y dylent fod yn ddiolchgar dim ond am fod eu biliau'n rhatach na'r rhai yn Lloegr. Nid yw hynny'n helpu pobl i dalu eu biliau.

Gyda golwg ar ad-drefnu'r heddlu, croesawn lythyr Edwina Hart at Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor

the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee and the commitment of that committee to consider a report into the matter. However, the Minister will be aware that any report from that committee would be subject to a non-amendable motion. The Welsh Liberal Democrats believe that we should have the opportunity to debate an amendable motion on the potential proposals. Will the Minister confirm that, following discussions with the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, the report could also consider the possibility of devolving powers over the police to the National Assembly for Wales? Will she also confirm that any decisions about the amalgamation of police forces in Wales will be taken in Wales?

Jane Hutt: It was expected that there would be a variety of views on the announcement that was made by the UK Government, not the Welsh Assembly Government. We complied with legislation, and the revaluation exercise has been completed in Wales. I am grateful that David recognised that it was the cross-party Local Government and Public Services Committee that signed up to the revaluation of this property tax. I noted that issues about credibility were raised earlier. The people of Wales did not recognise the credibility of the poll tax and the former Tory Government had to change it in order to move forward to council tax.

On the important points that Dai, David and Kirsty made about financial hardship, as the First Minister said, the Lyons review will look at the issue of council tax benefit, which is a crucial issue which is crucial in terms of fairness in relation to a property tax. It is true that, as a result of the differences and the rebanding, the levels are still 25 per cent lower in Wales than they are in England, which is the important point in terms of recognising fairness. Let us get on and hear from the Lyons review about the reforms and improvements—we hope—in the council tax benefit.

Dai raised the issue of funding community hospitals. I do not intend to schedule time for that, because it will come through the 'Designed for Life' 10-year strategy debate,

Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ac ymrwymiad y pwyllgor hwnnw i ystyried llunio adroddiad ar y mater. Er hynny, gŵyr y Trefnydd y byddai unrhyw adroddiad gan y pwyllgor hwnnw'n destun cynnig na ellid ei ddiwygio. Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru'n credu y dylem gael cyfle i gael dadl ar gynnig y gellid ei ddiwygio ar y cynlluniau posibl. A wnaiff y Trefnydd gadarnhau, ar ôl cael trafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, y byddai modd hefyd i'r adroddiad ystyried y posibilrwydd o ddatganoli pwerau dros yr heddlu i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru? A wnaiff gadarnhau hefyd y bydd unrhyw benderfyniadau ynghylch cyfuno heddluoedd yng Nghymru'n cael eu gwneud yng Nghymru?

Jane Hutt: Yr oedd disgwyl y byddai gwahaniaeth barn am y cyhoeddiad a wnaed gan Lywodraeth y DU, nid Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Cydymffurfiasom â'r ddeddfwriaeth, ac mae'r gwaith ailbriso wedi ei gwblhau yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar bod David wedi cydnabod mai'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus trawsbleidiol a roddodd sêl bendith ar ailbriso'r dreth eiddo hon. Sylwais fod materion sydd yn ymwneud â hygrededd wedi eu codi'n gynharach. Nid oedd pobl Cymru'n cydnabod hygrededd treth y pen a bu'n rhaid i'r Llywodraeth Doriaidd flaenorol ei newid er mwyn symud ymlaen at y dreth gyngor.

Ynghylch y pwyntiau pwysig a wnaeth Dai, David a Kirsty am galedi ariannol, fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog, bydd adolygiad Lyons yn ystyried mater budd-dal y dreth gyngor, sydd yn fater hollbwysig o ran tegwch yng nghyswllt treth eiddo. Mae'n wir, o ganlyniad i'r gwahaniaethau a'r aifandio, fod y lefelau'n dal i fod 25 y cant yn is yng Nghymru nag yn Lloegr, sy'n bwynt pwysig o ran cydnabod tegwch. Gadewch inni symud ymlaen a chlywed gan adolygiad Lyons ynghylch y diwygiadau a'r gwelliannau—gobeithio—i fudd-dal y dreth gyngor.

Cododd Dai'r cwestiwn o ran cyllido ysbytai cymunedol. Nid wyf yn bwriadu trefnu amser ar gyfer hynny, oherwydd bydd yn rhan o'r drafodaeth ar y strategaeth 'Cynllun Oes' 10

for which we have scheduled time later in the term.

I very much welcome David and Kirsty's response to a statement by the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration on the police and the number of police forces in England and Wales. I have scheduled that statement for Wednesday, 28 September, which I am sure you all welcome. I am also glad that you welcome the opportunity for the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee to look at this fully. However, I am sure that, in discussion, we will look towards a debate in the future, which may go beyond the debate on the committee report, with regard to looking at all the issues and implications of this, as Kirsty said.

*Derbyniwyd y datganiad busnes.
Business statement adopted.*

Pwyntiau o Drefn Points of Order

Nick Bourne: Point of order. Many people in Wales, and in the Assembly, will have been concerned about the Prime Minister's comments and their effect on our business in this place. It was referred to by Eleanor Burnham in questions to the First Minister, and when he responded that he did not want to scratch an old scab, given the warmth of their relationship, I was not sure whether that was a subtle dig or an attempt at black humour in relation to the Prime Minister. However, I feel that we need some reassurance that, when we put in bids to Westminster for legislation, they will be dealt with in a non-prejudiced way. Given those comments, many of us will have concerns about that.

The Presiding Officer: I read certain comments fully in the very well redesigned *The Guardian*, but it is not a matter for me to comment on any alleged remarks. I will await the publication of the volume, and even then it would not be a matter for me, at least not while I am sitting here. [*Laughter.*]

Alun Cairns: I raise a point of order under

mlynedd yr ydym wedi neilltuo amser ar ei chyfer yn nes ymlaen yn y tymor.

Yr wyf yn croesawu'n fawr iawn ymateb David a Kirsty i ddatganiad y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar yr heddlu a nifer yr heddluoedd yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Yr wyf wedi trefnu amser ar gyfer y datganiad hwnnw ddydd Mercher, 28 Medi, rhywbeth yr ydych i gyd yn ei groesawu yr wyf yn siŵr. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch eich bod yn croesawu'r cyfle sydd gan y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i edrych ar hyn yn llawn. Er hynny, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwn, wrth drafod, yn ystyried dadl yn y dyfodol a fydd efallai yn mynd ymhellach na'r un ar adroddiad y pwyllgor, er mwyn ystyried yr holl gwestiynau a goblygiadau ynglŷn â hyn, fel y dywedodd Kirsty.

Nick Bourne: Pwynt o drefn. Diau y bydd llawer o bobl yng Nghymru, ac yn y Cynulliad, wedi teimlo'n bryderus ynghylch sylwadau Prif Weinidog Prydain a'u heffaith ar ein busnes yn y lle hwn. Cyfeiriwyd at hyn gan Eleanor Burham mewn cwestiynau i'n Prif Weinidog ni, a phan atebodd nad oedd am godi crachen, o ystyried agosatrwydd eu perthynas, nid wyf yn siŵr ai beirniadaeth gynnil ydoedd hynny ynteu ymgais i gyfleu hiwmor du yng nghyswllt Prif Weinidog Prydain. Er hynny, teimlaf fod angen inni gael rhywfaint o sicrwydd, pan fyddwn yn cyflwyno cynigion i San Steffan i gael deddfwriaeth, yr ymdrinnir â hwy'n ddiuedd. O ystyried y sylwadau hynny, bydd llawer ohonom yn poeni ynghylch hynny.

Y Llywydd: Darllenais rai sylwadau yn llawn yn y *Guardian*, ar ei newydd wedd ragorol, ond nid mater i mi yw cyflwyno sylwadau ar unrhyw sylwadau honedig. Yr wyf am ddisgwyl i'r gyfrol gael ei chyhoeddi, ac ni fyddai'n fater i mi hyd yn oed wedyn, o leiaf nid tra byddaf yn eistedd yma. [*Chwerthin.*]

Alun Cairns: Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan

Standing Order No. 7 in relation to the response from the First Minister to my question about the economic development strategy, 'A Winning Wales'. I fear that he may have inadvertently misled the Chamber when he denied the target of 90 per cent of UK gross domestic product. I remind him of his statement on Thursday, 13 December 2001, when he said

'I realise that it is ambitious. Many things must go right for us to be able to achieve that target of 90 per cent of UK average GDP per capita'.

Therefore, he either inadvertently misled the Chamber, or it could well have been a senior moment.

The Presiding Officer: Order. On the first point, the First Minister would neither advertently nor inadvertently mislead the Chamber, neither would any other Minister or Member. I ask you to reconsider, at your tender age, the reference to 'a senior moment', which I could construe as disorderly and verging on the ageist.

Alun Cairns: I withdraw that comment without exception. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. I need no assistance, not even from the Right Reverend Prelate.

Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Grantiau Adnewyddu Tai (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005 Approval of the Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005, a copy of which was laid in Table Office on 28 June 2005. (NDM2555)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

Orchymyn Sefydlog Rhif 7 yng nghyswllt ymateb y Prif Weinidog i fy nghwestiwn ar y strategaeth datblygu economaidd, 'Cymru'n Ennill'. Ofnaf y gallai fod wedi camarwain y Siambr yn anfwriadol pan wadodd y targed o 90 y cant o gynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y DU. Hoffwn ei atgoffa o'i ddatganiad ddydd Iau, 13 Rhagfyr 2001, pan ddywedodd

'Sylweddolaf ei fod yn uchelgeisiol. Bydd yn rhaid i lawer o bethau fynd yn iawn os ydym am gyrraedd y targed o 90 y cant o gynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth cyfartalog y DU y pen'.

Felly, mae naill ai wedi camarwain y Siambr yn anfwriadol, neu efallai mai henaint yn codi ei ben ydoedd.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ar y pwynt cyntaf, ni fyddai'r Prif Weinidog wedi camarwain y Siambr nac yn fwriadol nac yn anfwriadol, ac ni fyddai dim un Gweinidog nac Aelod arall ychwaith. Gofynnaf ichi ailystyried, a chithau mor ifanc, y cyfeiriad at 'henaint yn codi ei ben', y gallwn ei ystyried yn amharchus ac yn ymylu ar fod yn wahaniaethu ar sail oed.

Alun Cairns: Tynnaf y sylw hwnnw'n ôl yn ddieithriad. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid oes arnaf angen cymorth, nid hyd yn oed gan y Gwir Barchedig Esgob.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart) : Cynigiad fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Rheoliadau Grantiau Adnewyddu Tai (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005, y gosodwyd copi ohonynt yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2005. (NDM2555)

Cynigiad fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

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| <p>1. <i>considers the report of the Legislation Committee, laid in the Table Office on 12 July 2005, in relation to the draft Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005; and</i></p> <p>2. <i>approves that the Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005 be made in accordance with:</i></p> <p>a) <i>the draft laid in the Table Office on 28 June 2005,</i></p> <p>b) <i>the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 28 June 2005, and</i></p> <p>c) <i>the memorandum of corrections laid in the Table Office on 15 July 2005. (NDM2556)</i></p> | <p>1. <i>yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 12 Gorffennaf 2005, ynghylch drafft y Rheoliadau Grantiau Adnewyddu Tai (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005; a</i></p> <p>2. <i>yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Grantiau Adnewyddu Tai (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol ag:</i></p> <p>a) <i>y drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2005,</i></p> <p>b) <i>yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2005, ac</i></p> <p>c) <i>y memorandwm cywiriadau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 15 Gorffennaf 2005. (NDM2556)</i></p> |
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You will all recall that the independent review of the housing adaptations and disabled facilities grant recommended, after extensive research and consultation, that the means test for disabled facilities grant for the parents of disabled children should be abolished. I formally accepted this recommendation on 27 April in the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee and announced our intention, across the board, to abolish the test. This decision was widely accepted by everyone in the committee, and the committee also endorsed my decision that the regulation should proceed through the Assembly via the accelerated procedure. However, the Assembly's Business Committee did not endorse this view, and so we are taking matters forward using this procedure. Today, we have the opportunity to put into being an excellent change in regulations; I believe that it enjoys the support of the four parties in the Chamber.

3.20 p.m.

I can think of nothing more harrowing for the parents of a disabled child than having to go through the nightmare of getting everything that that child requires, and then having to go through the angst of completing forms to see whether they must make funding available. Therefore, I hope that the Assembly will endorse the changes in these regulations today.

Byddwch yn cofio bod yr adolygiad annibynnol o'r grant addasiadau tai a chyfleusterau i'r anabl wedi argymhell, ar ôl cryn ymchwil ac ymgynghori, y dylid dileu'r prawf modd ar gyfer y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl i rieni plant anabl. Derbyniais yr argymhelliad hwn yn ffurfiol ar 27 Ebrill yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio pan gyhoeddais ein bwriad i ddileu'r prawf yn gyffredinol. Derbyniwyd y penderfyniad hwn yn eang gan bawb yn y pwyllgor, a chefnogodd y pwyllgor hefyd fy mhenderfyniad y dylai rheoleiddio ddiwydd drwy'r Cynulliad drwy gyfrwng y drefn garlam. Fodd bynnag, ni chefnogwyd y farn hon gan Bwyllgor Busnes y Cynulliad, a symudwn ymlaen gyda'r mater felly drwy ddefnyddio'r weithdrefn hon. Heddiw, mae gennym gyfle i roi newid rhagorol i'r rheoliadau ar waith; credaf ei fod yn cael ei gefnogi gan y pedair plaid yn y Siambr.

Ni allaf feddwl am ddim mwy erchyll i rieni plentyn anabl na gorfod mynd drwy'r hunllef o gael popeth y mae'r plentyn hwnnw ei angen, ac yna gorfod mynd drwy'r boen o lenwi ffurflenni i weld a fydd yn rhaid iddynt dalu. Felly, gobeithio y bydd y Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r newidiadau i'r rheoliadau hyn heddiw.

Leanne Wood: Plaid Cymru welcomes these regulations, because we support the principle of removing the means test for people with disabilities. I have had a number of items of correspondence on this issue, so I am happy to support it. Our concerns are related to the fact that, according to the Welsh house condition survey, 8.5 per cent of housing in Wales is unfit. Therefore, we would like confirmation of the steps that are in place to ensure that this move can be sustained financially, particularly in view of the fact that additional resources are needed to counteract previous poor investment.

Mark Isherwood: We, too, are pleased to support a motion that abolishes the disabled facilities grant for parents or guardians of a disabled child or young person. As Mencap Cymru stated, the means test has failed to accurately assess a family's ability to contribute towards vital housing adaptations, and has heavily penalised working parents. It is not acceptable that a third of the families that have been assessed as able to make a contribution towards the cost of adaptations have been unable to meet the cost, and the vital work has therefore not been carried out.

However, we are concerned that the cost implications for local authorities arising from these regulations will be met from the existing annual provision to local authorities, when the Welsh Assembly Government told us that it would no longer impose unfunded burdens on local authorities. This comes at a time when local authorities in many parts of Wales are already being forced to impose cuts in key services, including home improvement grants and social services. This has been caused by shortfalls in Welsh Assembly Government funding.

Mick Bates: I thank you, Minister, for the statement. The Welsh Liberal Democrats welcome these regulations, and I am sure that all of us, in our roles as AMs, have come across cases of great distress. I believe that many people are still waiting an average time of 18 months to get the work done.

First, we should praise those organisations, like Montgomeryshire Care and Repair,

Leanne Wood: Mae Plaid Cymru yn croesawu'r rheoliadau hyn, gan ein bod yn cefnogi'r egwyddor o ddileu'r prawf modd i bobl sydd ag anableddau. Cefais sawl eitem o ohebiaeth ar y mater hwn, ac yr wyf yn falch felly o'i gefnogi. Mae ein pryderon yn ymwneud â'r ffaith bod 8.5 y cant o dai yng Nghymru, yn ôl arolwg cyflwr tai Cymru, yn anaddas. Felly, hoffem gael cadarnhad ynghylch y camau sydd ar waith i sicrhau y gellir cynnal y newid hwn yn ariannol, yn enwedig o ystyried y ffaith bod angen rhagor o adnoddau i wrthbwysu'r buddsoddiad gwael yn y gorffennol.

Mark Isherwood: Yr ydym ninnau, hefyd, yn falch o gefnogi cynnig sy'n dileu'r grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl i rieni neu warcheidwaid plentyn neu berson ifanc anabl. Fel y mae Mencap Cymru wedi dweud, mae'r prawf modd wedi methu ag asesu, yn gywir, allu teuluoedd i gyfrannu tuag at addasiadau hanfodol i'w cartrefi, ac wedi cosbi'n drwm rieni sy'n gweithio. Nid yw'n dderbyniol bod traean o deuluoedd yr aseswyd eu bod yn gallu cyfrannu tuag at gost addasiadau wedi methu â fforddio talu, ac o ganlyniad na chafodd y gwaith hanfodol ei wneud.

Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn poeni y bydd y gost sy'n deillio o'r rheoliadau hyn i awdurdodau lleol yn cael ei thalu o'r ddarpariaeth flynyddol bresennol, pan ddywedodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wrthym na fyddai mwyach yn rhoi beichiau heb eu cyllido i awdurdodau lleol. Daw hyn ar adeg pan orfodir awdurdodau lleol mewn sawl rhan o Gymru i wneud toriadau mewn gwasanaethau allweddol, gan gynnwys grantiau gwella tai a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae hyn wedi'i achosi gan ddiffygion yn y cyllid gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Mick Bates: Diolch, Weinidog, am y datganiad. Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn croesawu'r rheoliadau hyn, ac yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod i gyd, yn ein rolau fel Aelodau'r Cynulliad, wedi dod ar draws achosion o drallod mawr. Credaf fod nifer o bobl yn dal i aros tua 18 mis ar gyfartaledd i gael gwneud y gwaith.

Yn gyntaf, dylem ganmol y mudiadau hynny, fel Gofal a Thrwsio Sir Drefaldwyn, sydd

which have helped so many people adapt their homes to improve their quality of life. There are, however, two outstanding questions on this that need to be answered. There is an estimated cost in the region of £2 million to £3 million. If that figure is overrun, because it comes out of the local authority budget, what will the Government do? Will you provide extra support to meet extra demand? This is such a critical issue that we need to see to that. Would you therefore reassess the allocation as you look at the expenditure over the years? Otherwise, we find this a very good piece of legislation.

Peter Law: I am pleased to support the regulations, which I think are in the interests of the people of Wales, and particularly the children whom you have spoken about. I am glad that you have brought it forward.

I am also aware that we are only as good as the local authorities that operate these schemes on our behalf. I have difficulties in Blaenau Gwent, for instance—not with the disabled facilities grant as much as with general grants for improvement. Despite the fact that the authority received another generous settlement from you this year, people are told that there is no money available for improvement grants. Is there a way for you to monitor local authorities to ensure that the amount of money that you give to them is being properly diverted to the appropriate causes? It would also apply in this instance. I think that that is important. If we are to get the message home to people that the National Assembly is here to help them to improve their quality of life and where they live, we need to ensure that our partners in local government are delivering on that. As you know, I have written to you on this matter, and I would welcome some way for you to review these matters occasionally.

Peter Black: I welcome these regulations. However, I also share Mick Bates's concern with regard to the costs involved. According to the regulatory appraisal, costs are to be met from the current budget available to local authorities yet, when the report in which this recommendation was contained came before the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, strong representations were made

wedi helpu cymaint o bobl i addasu eu cartrefi i wella ansawdd eu bywydau. Er hynny, erys dau gwestiwn ynglŷn â hyn sydd angen eu hateb. Amcangyfrifir mai'r gost fydd tua £2 miliwn i £3 miliwn. Os bydd y gost yn fwy na hynny, gan y bydd yn dod allan o gyllideb yr awdurdod lleol, beth fydd y Llywodraeth yn ei wneud? A fyddwch yn rhoi cymorth ychwanegol i ateb y galw ychwanegol? Mae hyn yn fater mor bwysig fel bod angen sicrhau hynny. A wnewch felly ailasesu'r dyraniad wrth edrych ar y gwariant dros y blynyddoedd? Fel arall, mae'n ddeddfwriaeth dda iawn yn ein barn ni.

Peter Law: Yr wyf yn falch o gefnogi'r rheoliadau, sydd yn fy marn i er budd pobl Cymru, ac yn enwedig y plant yr ydych wedi siarad amdanynt. Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi ei chyflwyno.

Yr wyf hefyd yn ymwybodol nad ydym ond cystal â'r awdurdodau lleol sy'n gweithredu'r cynlluniau hyn ar ein rhan. Mae gennyf anawsterau ym Mlaenau Gwent, er enghraifft—nid yn gymaint gyda'r grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl ond gyda'r grantiau cyffredinol i wella tai. Er gwaetha'r ffaith bod yr awdurdod wedi derbyn setliad hael arall gennyf eleni, mae rhai pobl yn cael gwybod nad oes arian ar gael ar gyfer grantiau gwella tai. A oes modd ichi fonitro awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau bod yr arian a roddwch iddynt yn cael ei gyfeirio'n briodol at yr achosion iawn? Byddai hefyd yn berthnasol yn yr achos hwn. Credaf fod hynny'n bwysig. Os gallwn roi'r neges i bobl fod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yma i'w helpu i wella ansawdd eu bywydau a'u cartrefi, rhaid inni sicrhau bod ein partneriaid mewn llywodraeth leol yn cyflawni hynny. Fel y gwyddoch, yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu atoch am y mater hwn, a byddwn yn falch pe gallech adolygu'r materion hyn o bryd i'w gilydd.

Peter Black: Croesawaf y rheoliadau hyn. Fodd bynnag, mae'r un pryder ag sydd gan Mick Bates gennyf finnau ynghylch y costau. Yn ôl yr arfarniad rheoliadol, bydd y costau yn cael eu talu o'r gyllideb bresennol sydd gan awdurdodau lleol, ond eto, pan ddaeth yr adroddiad a oedd yn cynnwys yr argymhelliad hwn o flaen y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio,

to the effect that any additional costs arising from this provision should be met by the Welsh Assembly Government.

I am sure that you are aware, Minister, as are many other Members, of the concerns of many with regard to the waiting times to get a disabled facilities grant. The average waiting time in Wales is between 18 months and 20 months, and many people have to suffer for that period while they try to secure this grant to have the adaptations put in place. If resources are to be taken up again, even with such a worthwhile change as this, then it is inevitable that the waiting time will continue to increase, or that local authorities will find it more difficult to reduce the waiting time for people to have their adaptations.

Minister, in responding to this debate, will you give an undertaking that you will monitor the impact of these regulations and the cost to local authorities, and that, if it appears that the additional cost to local authorities as a result of implementing these regulations is having an impact on waiting times, you will make additional resources available?

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): Peter, I am happy to give an undertaking to monitor these issues of expenditure and waiting times, as I think that they are crucial. I will also, of course, advise committee of any consequent changes that I would wish to make.

Peter Law, you are quite right. In the wider discussion of the issue of disabled facilities grants, the report contained many recommendations that fell to local authorities, particularly with regard to streamlining procedures, greater corporate control, the sharper setting of targets and the reduction of bureaucracy and delays, which, I think, are your major concerns in this regard. Obviously, I am happy to look at any issues that arise with local government, because I think that we have allocated sufficient resources to meet the demand for disabled facilities grants. That allocation is largely

gwnaethpwyd sylwadau cryf i'r perwyl y dylai unrhyw gostau ychwanegol a allai godi o'r ddarpariaeth hon gael eu talu gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol, Weinidog, fel y mae nifer o Aelodau eraill, o bryderon llawer ynghylch yr amser aros i gael grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl. Mae'r amser aros cyfartalog yng Nghymru rhwng 18 mis a 20 mis, ac mae llawer o bobl yn gorfod dioddef dros y cyfnod hwn tra bônt yn ymgeisio am grant i wneud yr addasiadau. Os bydd adnoddau yn cael eu defnyddio eto, hyd yn oed ar gyfer newid sydd mor fuddiol â hwn, yna mae'n anochel y bydd yr amser aros yn parhau i gynyddu, neu y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn ei chael yn anoddach lleihau'r amser aros i bobl sy'n disgwyl am addasiadau.

Weinidog, wrth ymateb i'r ddadl hon, a wnewch addo y byddwch yn monitro effaith y rheoliadau hyn a'r gost i awdurdodau lleol, ac os bydd yn ymddangos bod y gost ychwanegol i awdurdodau lleol o ganlyniad i weithredu'r rheoliadau hyn yn cael effaith ar amseroedd aros, a wnewch sicrhau bod adnoddau ychwanegol ar gael?

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Peter, yr wyf yn falch o addo y byddaf yn monitro'r materion yn ymwneud â gwariant ac amseroedd aros, gan eu bod yn fy marn i yn hanfodol bwysig. Rhof wybod i'r pwyllgor hefyd, wrth gwrs, am unrhyw newidiadau y byddwn yn dymuno eu gwneud o ganlyniad.

Peter Law, yr ydych yn hollol gywir. Yn y drafodaeth ehangach ar grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl, yr oedd yr adroddiad yn cynnwys sawl argymhelliad i awdurdodau lleol, yn enwedig yng nghyswllt symleiddio gweithdrefnau, mwy o reolaeth gorfforaethol, gosod targedau mwy pendant a llai o fiwrocratiaeth ac oedi, sef y materion sy'n eich poeni fwyaf ynglŷn â hyn, yr wyf yn tybio. Mae'n amlwg fy mod yn fodlon edrych ar unrhyw fater sy'n codi gyda llywodraeth leol, oherwydd credaf ein bod wedi dyrannu digon o adnoddau i ateb y galw am grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl. Mae'r dyraniad hwnnw

unhypothecated, and local authorities have freedom in allocating it. However, I will consider mechanisms to see how DFG moneys are being used, because I want to see improvements with the acceptance of this report in its wider stage, but also with regard to the way in which different aspects are utilised and how delays are dealt with. Some people are waiting forever and a day to get work done. Those are the key issues that we must deal with in the wider report.

We have looked at the cost issues. Some 70 per cent of DFGs, apparently, goes to applicants over the age of 60, while 5 per cent goes to families with disabled children, which is a relatively smaller amount. Based on these percentages, this would suggest that 200 to 250 mandatory grants are for children. Assuming that the cost of DFGs for children is higher, based on the 2001-02 statistics, the cost is about £10,000 per case. Therefore, there is an expenditure issue of between £2 million and £2.5 million a year.

I think that evidence of a backlog will appear because, as we discussed in committee in April, I am sure that some people are now waiting for the changes in regulations. I am, however, mindful of the points that Leanne and others made about the funding issues, and I will keep those under review and report to committee.

This is a welcome change, and puts children and people first, which is important. We must recognise that, for some parents, this system has not been satisfactory in any way, shape or form. The improvements that we want to introduce as a result of more means testing must also offer improvements in the waiting times to get these grants approved.

at ei gilydd heb ei glustnodi, ac mae gan awdurdodau lleol ryddid i'w ddyrannu. Er hynny, ystyriaf pa ddulliau y gellid eu defnyddio i weld sut y defnyddir cyllid y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl, gan fy mod eisiau gweld gwelliannau pan dderbynnir yr adroddiad hwn yn ei gam ehangach, ond hefyd gyda'r modd y defnyddir gwahanol agweddau a sut yr ymdrinnir ag oedi. Mae rhai pobl yn aros am hydoedd i gael gwneud y gwaith. Mae'r rhain yn faterion hollbwysig y mae'n rhaid inni roi sylw iddynt yn yr adroddiad ehangach.

Yr ydym wedi edrych ar y cwestiynau'n ymwneud â'r gost. Yn ôl pob golwg, mae tua 70 y cant o grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl yn mynd i ymgeiswyr dros 60 oed, tra bo 5 y cant yn mynd i deuluoedd sydd â phlant anabl, sy'n swm llai o'i gymharu. Ar sail y canrannau hyn, byddai hyn yn awgrymu bod rhwng 200 a 250 o grantiau gorfodol yn mynd i blant. Gan dybio bod cost grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl ar gyfer plant yn uwch, ar sail ystadegau 2001-02, mae'r gost tua £10,000 ym mhob achos. Felly, mae'r gwariant rhwng £2 miliwn a £2.5 miliwn y flwyddyn.

Credaf y gwelir tystiolaeth bod achosion yn cronni oherwydd, fel y trafodasom yn y pwyllgor ym mis Ebrill, yr wyf yn siŵr bod rhai pobl erbyn hyn yn aros am y newidiadau i'r rheoliadau. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn derbyn y pwyntiau a wnaed gan Leanne ac eraill am y problemau o ran cyllid, a byddaf yn parhau i'w hadolygu ac yn adrodd arnynt i'r pwyllgor.

Mae hwn yn newid i'w groesawu, ac yn rhoi plant a phobl yn gyntaf, sy'n bwysig. Rhaid inni gydnabod nad yw'r system hon, i rai rhieni, wedi bod yn foddhaol o gwbl. Rhaid i'r gwelliannau yr ydym eisiau eu cyflwyno o ganlyniad i fwy o brofi modd hefyd gynnig gwelliannau i'r amseroedd aros ar gyfer cymeradwyo'r grantiau hyn.

*Cynnig (NDM2555): O blaid 53, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2555): For 53, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

3.30 p.m.

*Cynnig (NDM2556): O blaid 53, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2556): For 53, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Pwyllgorau Amddiffyn rhag Llifogydd Rhanbarthol
Gogledd Orllewin Lloegr, Hafren-Trent a Chymru (Newid Ffiniau) 2005
Approval of the North West, Severn-Trent and Welsh Regional Flood Defence
Committees (Boundaries Alteration) Order 2005**

**The Minister for the Environment, Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd,
Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones):
Jones): I propose that Cynigiad fod**

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 25.13:

1. approves the draft the North West, Severn-Trent and Welsh Regional Flood Defence Committees (Boundaries Alterations) Order 2005 a copy of which was laid in Table Office on 14 July 2005; and

2. notes the explanatory memorandum for this Order laid in the Table Office on 14 July 2005. (NDM2557)

This report brings the boundary of the flood defence committee in line with the political boundary between England and Wales.

Helen Mary Jones: Dim ond gair byr i gefnogi'r rheoliadau ar ran Plaid Cymru. Mae'r Gweinidog yn ymwybodol inni gefnogi'r syniad o wneud hynny ers y dechrau, ac yr ydym yn falch o'i weld yn dod i ffrwyth o'r diwedd.

Dymunaf godi ambell bwynt yn sgîl y rheoliadau, gan edrych ymlaen at drafod hyn ymhellach yn y pwyllgor, a chadw llygad drwy'r bwyllgor ar y modd y mae hyn yn datblygu. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn sicrhau gweithgarwch effeithiol dros y ffin. Lle y gwneir buddsoddiad yng Nghymru a fydd o les i gymunedau ymhellach lawr y gadwyn yn Lloegr, mae'n bwysig bod system i sicrhau bod yr ariannu'n deg, ac nad ydym yn buddsoddi llawer yn nalgylch Hafren uchaf, a fydd o fwy o fudd i bobl lawr y gadwyn, heb fod rhyw fath o ad-dalu.

Wrth i'r hinsawdd newid, mae'n bwysig bod digon o adnoddau o ran cyllid hirdymor, ond, fel y dywedais, yr ydym yn falch o gefnogi'r rheoliadau, ac edrychwn ymlaen i'r broses o graffu ar y broses o'u cyflwyno ymhellach yn y pwyllgor.

Glyn Davies: We also support the intention behind this statutory instrument, and the instrument itself, but there are two related issues, both of which were referred to by Helen Mary Jones, that I wish to comment on

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 25.13:

1. yn cymeradwyo drafft y Gorchymyn Pwyllgorau Amddiffyn rhag Llifogydd Rhanbarthol Gogledd Orllewin Lloegr, Hafren-Trent a Chymru (Newid Ffiniau) 2005 y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 14 Gorffennaf 2005; a

2. yn nodi'r memorandwm esboniadol ar gyfer y Gorchymyn hwn a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 14 Gorffennaf 2005. (NDM2557)

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn sicrhau bod ffin y pwyllgor amddiffyn rhag llifogydd yn cyfateb i'r ffin wleidyddol rhwng Cymru a Lloegr.

Helen Mary Jones: Just a brief word to support the regulations on behalf of Plaid Cymru. The Minister is aware that we have supported the idea from the outset, and we are pleased to see it come to fruition at last.

I wish to raise a few points with regard to the regulations, and I look forward to discussing this further in committee, and to scrutinising in committee how this develops. It is important that we ensure effective cross-border activity. Where investment is made in Wales that will benefit communities further down the line in England, it is important that there is a system to ensure that the funding is fair, and that we are not investing a great deal in the upper Severn catchment, which will be more beneficial to people further down the line, without there being some kind of remuneration.

As the climate changes, it is important that there should be adequate resources in terms of long-term funding, but, as I say, we are pleased to support the regulations, and we look forward to further scrutinising their implementation in committee.

Glyn Davies: Yr ydym ninnau hefyd yn cefnogi'r bwriad sy'n sail i'r offeryn statudol hwn, a'r offeryn ei hun, ond ceir dau fater cysylltiedig y cyfeiriwyd atynt gan Helen Mary Jones yr hoffwn gynnig sylwadau yn eu

so that our position is on the record. We are in some disagreement with the Minister on at least one issue.

The first issue is simply one of how things will work out. There will be a need for cross-border subventions, because much of the work in the upper Severn valley, for example, now that the border is the England-Wales border, will benefit England. There will have to be some kind of cross-over, which may well be an issue to which we will return when we see how this works out.

The second issue relates to the new Welsh flood risk committee and its membership. From discussions that we have had on this previously, the Minister will know that we accept that there was a need to rationalise the many flood defence committees that previously existed. However, we favoured having three committees, rather than one. Our concern, if there was to be one committee, was that it would have to be very large in order to accommodate the interests and experience of which we should be taking advantage. Inevitably, having a committee of 16 members will mean that much of that experience will be lost, which is a great shame, and I wish to place that on record. There is always a balance to be struck between the size and the efficiency of the committee. Our view is that the committee should have been larger. That was the price that we felt had to be paid for the fact that the Minister went down the road of having one all-Wales committee. With that relatively small disagreement in terms of restructuring the boundaries, we generally support what the Minister is doing.

Mick Bates: In line with the other speakers, I welcome the regulations. We have long called for this. I have similar concerns to those expressed by my colleague, Glyn Davies. The main issue is the loss of local knowledge that is possibly inherent within the new structure. A network has been built up over many years of knowledge about flooding and the flood defence arrangements in certain areas, and there is some concern that the the new structure will overlook this depth of expertise, not only in mid Wales but

cylch er mwyn sicrhau bod ein safbwynt wedi'i gofnodi. Yr ydym yn anghytuno rhywfaint â'r Gweinidog ynghylch un mater, o leiaf.

Y mater cyntaf dan sylw yw sut y bydd pethau'n gweithio. Bydd angen cymorthdaliadau trawsffiniol oherwydd mai Lloegr fydd yn elwa o lawer o'r gwaith a wneir yn rhan uchaf dyffryn Hafren, er enghraifft, gan mai'r ffin rhwng Lloegr a Chymru yw'r ffin bellach. Bydd rhaid sicrhau rhywfaint o drawsgroesi, a gall hyn fod yn fater y byddwn yn dychwelyd ato pan welwn sut y bydd hyn yn gweithio.

Mae'r ail fater yn ymwneud â'r pwyllgor newydd i ymdrin â pherygl llifogydd yng Nghymru a'i aelodau. Yn sgîl y trafodaethau a gawsom ynghylch hyn o'r blaen, bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol ein bod yn derbyn bod angen ad-drefnu'r lluo o bwyllgorau amddiffyn rhag llifogydd a oedd yn bod o'r blaen. Fodd bynnag, yr oeddem o blaid cael tri phwyllgor yn hytrach nag un. Gydag un pwyllgor yn unig, ein pryder oedd y byddai'n rhaid i'r pwyllgor hwnnw fod yn un mawr iawn er mwyn cynnwys y buddiannau a'r profiad y dylem fod yn manteisio arno. Yn anochel, bydd cael pwyllgor o 16 aelod yn golygu y byddwn yn colli llawer o'r profiad hwnnw, sy'n drueni mawr, ac yr wyf am i hynny gael ei gofnodi. Rhaid ceisio cael cydbwysedd bob amser rhwng maint ac effeithlonrwydd y pwyllgor. Yn ein barn ni, dylai'r pwyllgor fod wedi bod yn fwy. Dyna'r pris yr oedd rhaid ei dalu, yn ein barn ni, oherwydd bod y Gweinidog wedi dewis cael un pwyllgor i Gymru gyfan. Ac eithrio'r anghytundeb cymharol fach hwnnw o ran ailstrwythuro'r ffiniau, yr ydym, ar y cyfan, yn cefnogi'r hyn y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud.

Mick Bates: Yr un fath â'r siaradwyr eraill, yr wyf yn croesawu'r rheoliadau. Yr ydym wedi galw am hyn ers amser maith. Mae gennyf finnu bryderon tebyg i'r rhai a fynegwyd gan fy nghyd-Aelod, Glyn Davies. Y brif broblem yw colli'r wybodaeth leol sydd, o bosibl, yn gynhenid yn y strwythur newydd. Mae rhwydwaith o wybodaeth wedi cael ei gronni ar hyd y blynyddoedd ynghylch llifogydd a threfniadau amddiffyn rhag llifogydd mewn ardaloedd penodol, a cheir rhywfaint o bryder yr anwybyddir yr

along the border areas.

The second issue is to ensure that cross-border working is effective. There have been examples in the past where this has not proved the case, and I cite the work that I undertook to adjust the maintenance level of water in the Clywedog dam. Clearly that was to benefit England more than Wales. Water was let out to flood the upper Severn valley at the behest of a management agreement to protect areas in England. That has long been a bone of contention and I hope that the cross-border working will work to benefit people in Wales as much as in England.

Finally, Minister, I want you to give a commitment to monitor the operation of this, so that the effectiveness of cross-border working is kept under review and the knowledge that exists in localities is not overlooked. I also want a commitment that you will present a full report to the Assembly on the operation of this new committee.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd fydd yn gyfrifol am reoli'r gwaith ar lifogydd yn Lloegr ac yng Nghymru, felly nid oes problem yno. Ynglŷn â'r pwyllgorau, mae'n bwysig bod gennym bwyllgor Cymreig y gall y Cynulliad ei gyllido a bod pobl yn gwybod bod ffiniau'r pwyllgor yr un peth â'r ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr. Mae gennym drefn i sicrhau, lle bo gwaith yn cael ei wneud yng Nghymru sydd o les i Loegr, mai Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig fydd yn talu, ac i'r gwrthwyneb. Mae hynny'n ddigon teg.

Helen Mary Jones: Yr wyf yn falch o glywed bod y cytundeb hwnnw yn bodoli. A fydddech yn fodlon inni weld y protocol hwnnw, nid ar ffurf papur i'w drafod yn y pwyllgor ond ar ffurf papur er mwyn gwybodaeth i'r pwyllgor, er mwyn inni allu sicrhau ei fod yn ddigon cadarn?

Carwyn Jones: Gwnaf hynny. Mae'n bwysig dros ben achos bod mwy o waith yn

arbenigedd manwl hwn yn y strwythur newydd, nid yn unig yn y Canolbarth ond yn yr ardaloedd sydd ar y ffin hefyd.

Yr ail broblem yw sicrhau bod gweithio ar draws ffiniau yn effeithiol. Gwelwyd enghreifftiau yn y gorffennol a ddangosai nad oedd hyn yn wir bob amser, a chyfeiriaf at y gwaith a wneuthum er mwyn addasu lefel cynnal y dŵr yn argae Clywedog. Yn amlwg, yr oedd hynny i fod o fwy o fudd i Loegr nag i Gymru. Gollyngwyd dŵr er mwyn boddi rhan uchaf dyffryn Hafren ar gais cytundeb rheoli i amddiffyn ardaloedd yn Lloegr. Mae hynny wedi bod yn asgwrn cynnen ers amser maith a gobeithiaf y bydd y gwaith ar draws ffiniau yn gweithio er budd pobl Cymru yn gymaint â phobl Lloegr.

Yn olaf, Weinidog, gofynnaf ichi ymrwymo i fonitro sut y rhoddir hyn ar waith, er mwyn sicrhau yr adolygir effeithiolrwydd gweithio ar draws ffiniau ac nad anwybyddir y wybodaeth sydd ar gael yn lleol. Gofynnaf hefyd am ymrwymiad y byddwch yn cyflwyno adroddiad llawn i'r Cynulliad ynghylch sut bydd y pwyllgor newydd hwn yn gweithredu.

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): The Environment Agency will be responsible for managing work on flooding in England and in Wales, so there is no problem there. In terms of the committees, it is important that we have a Welsh committee, which the Assembly can fund, and that people know that the boundaries of the committee are the same as that between Wales and England. We already have a system in place to ensure that where work is carried out in Wales that benefits England, the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs will pay, and vice versa. That is fair enough.

Helen Mary Jones: I am glad to hear that that agreement is in place. Would you be willing for us to see that protocol, not in the form of a discussion paper to the committee but in the form of a paper for the committee's information, so that we can ensure that it is robust enough?

Carwyn Jones: I will do that. It is extremely important because more work is done in

cael ei wneud yng Nghymru sydd o les i'r rheini sydd yn byw ymhellach i lawr yr afonydd nag i'r gwrthwyneb. Dyna'r sefyllfa yng nghyffiniau Caer, er enghraifft. Mae'n bwysig bod hynny yn cael ei wneud ac mae wedi cael ei wneud.

Wales that benefits those living down river than vice versa. That is the situation in the Chester area, for example. It is important that that is done and it has been done.

On Glyn Davies's point about the committee's composition, consultation is taking place on the committee and its size, and it is due to end on 21 October. The committee's workings will be monitored not only by me but, I am sure, by the relevant subject committee.

Ynghylch pwynt Glyn Davies ynglŷn â chyfansoddiad y pwyllgor, cynhelir ymgynghoriad ynghylch y pwyllgor a'i faint a daw hyn i ben ar 21 Hydref. Bydd gwaith y pwyllgor yn cael ei fonitro nid yn unig gennyf fi, ond gan y pwyllgor pwnc perthnasol, yr wyf yn sicr.

*Cynnig (NDM2557): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2557): For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, 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
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny

Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

**Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau o dan Ddeddf Meinweoedd Dynol 2004 i'r Prif
 Weinidog
 Delegation of Functions under the Human Tissue Act 2004 to the First Minister**

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

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under section 62 (1) (b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, resolves to delegate all functions of the National Assembly contained in or under the Human Tissue Act 2004, to the Assembly First Minister, save those which by law cannot be so delegated and those which require the consent of the Assembly to the making of regulations under sections 14(4) and 16(5) in so far as they relate to museums in Wales.

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

This delegation will be made in the knowledge that those functions delegated to the First Minister will, as appropriate, be further delegated to the appropriate Assembly Minister and to staff. (NDM2558)

Owen John Thomas: Deallaf fod yr Adran dros Ddiwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon wedi ymgynghori ag Amgueddfeydd ac Orielau Cymru a bod adnoddau'r amgueddfa ar gyfer cadw meinweoedd dynol yn uwch na'r safon a ddisgwylir. Gallwn ymfalchïo felly, Brif Weinidog, fod o leiaf un o'n sefydliadau cenedlaethol yn cyflawni ei bwrpas. A fydech hefyd yn fodlon rhoi eich ymrwymiad i ddychwelyd o'r amgueddfa unrhyw olion dynol a ddaeth o wledydd eraill

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

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu dan adran 62 (1) (b) Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, yn penderfynu dirprwyo i'r Prif Weinidog holl swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a gynhwysir yn neu o dan Ddeddf Meinweoedd Dynol 2004, ac eithrio'r rhai na ellir, yn ôl y gyfraith, eu dirprwyo yn y modd hwnnw a'r rhai sydd ag angen caniatâd y Cynulliad ar gyfer llunio rheoliadau dan adrannau 14(4) ac 16(5), cyn belled ag y maent yn berthnasol i amgueddfeydd yng Nghymru.

Ni fydd dim yn y cynnig hwn yn lleihau goruchafiaeth awdurdod y Cynulliad llawn nac yn lleihau rôl pwyllgorau'r Cynulliad wrth arfer y swyddogaethau uchod.

Gwneir y dirprwyo hwn ar y ddealltwriaeth y dirprwyir y swyddogaethau hynny a ddirprwyir i'r Prif Weinidog ymhellach, fel y bo'n briodol, i'r Gweinidog Cynulliad priodol ac i staff. (NDM2558)

Owen John Thomas: I understand that the Department for Culture, Media and Sport has consulted with the National Museums and Galleries of Wales and that the museum's resources for retaining human tissue exceeds the expected standard. We can therefore be proud, First Minister, that at least one of our national organisations is achieving its purpose. Would you also be willing to commit to returning from the museum any human remains that came from other

pe bai gofyn?

Jenny Randerson: The Welsh Liberal Democrats welcome this Act, which follows the tragic circumstances at the time of the problems at Bristol Royal Infirmary and the Royal Liverpool Children's NHS Trust at Alder Hey and the subsequent Kennedy and Redfern inquiries. The Isaacs report showed that the storage and use of organs and tissues without proper consent has been widespread and, therefore, we welcome this long overdue comprehensive look at the issues connected with that as well as at the issues connected with human remains held by museums.

Only narrow aspects of this Act lie within our powers in the Assembly. One of the important ones is the right to appoint a member of the Human Tissue Authority, and we strongly welcome that authority. It should help to re-establish, in particular, public confidence in the whole process. There is a tremendous shortage of donated organs and human tissue for research and for human beings who can live on as a result of such donations. We will not overcome this without the re-establishment of public confidence.

3.40 p.m.

I wish to make some detailed points about the regulations that will eventually be produced. They will be produced, one assumes, by the Human Tissue Authority, and, therefore, our nominee to the authority has an important role. I wish to place my comments on record. The regulations will have to be detailed, but they should not be overly bureaucratic and cumbersome so as to slow down the process and deter donations. They should emphasise the importance of good, clear communication with relatives. Medical and nursing staff who are in contact with relatives must be properly consulted on the guidelines before they are drawn up and fully trained in them once they are devised. Without full training, the whole scheme will fall down.

countries, if that is requested?

Jenny Randerson: Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn croesawu'r Ddeddf hon, sy'n dilyn yr amgylchiadau trasig pan gododd problemau yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Bryste ac Ysbyty Plant Brenhinol Lerpwl Ymddiriedolaeth y GIG yn Alder Hey a'r ymchwiliadau dilynol gan Kennedy a Redfern. Yn adroddiad Isaacs, dangoswyd bod storio a defnyddio organau a meinweoedd heb ganiatâd priodol wedi digwydd yn aml a chroesawn, felly, yr ymchwiliad cynhwysfawr hwn y dylid bod wedi'i gynnal ers tro i'r materion sy'n berthnasol i hynny yn ogystal â'r materion sy'n berthnasol i weddillion dynol a gedwir gan amgueddfeydd.

Dim ond rhywfaint o elfennau'r Ddeddf hon a ddaw o fewn ein pwerau yn y Cynulliad. Un o'r rhai pwysicaf yw'r hawl i benodi aelod i'r Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol, a chroesawn yr awdurdod hwnnw yn frwd. Dylai fod o gymorth i ailfeithrin, yn benodol, hyder y cyhoedd yn y broses gyfan Mae prinder dychrynlyd o ran organau a meinweoedd a roddir er budd gwaith ymchwil ac ar gyfer bodau dynol a all barhau i fyw o ganlyniad i roddion o'r fath. Ni fyddwn yn goresgyn hyn heb ailfeithrin hyder y cyhoedd.

Hoffwn gyflwyno pwyntiau manwl am y rheoliadau a gaiff eu llunio yn y pen draw. Yr wyf yn cymryd mai'r Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol a fydd yn eu llunio a bod gan ein henwebai i'r awdurdod felly ran bwysig i'w chwarae. Hoffwn i'm sylwadau gael eu cofnodi. Bydd rhaid i'r rheoliadau fod yn fanwl ond heb fod yn rhy fiwrocraidd a beichus fel eu bod yn arafu'r broses ac yn rhwystro pobl rhag rhoi. Dylent bwysleisio pa mor bwysig yw cyfathrebu'n dda ac yn glir gyda pherthnasau. Rhaid ymgynghori'n briodol gyda staff meddygol a nyrsio, sydd mewn cysylltiad â pherthnasau, ynghylch y canllawiau cyn iddynt gael eu llunio, a sicrhau eu bod wedi'u hyfforddi'n llawn ynddynt ar ôl iddynt gael eu llunio. Heb hyfforddiant llawn, bydd y cynllun cyfan yn dadfeilio.

I ask the Minister to comment on how the Human Tissue Authority and other authorities, such as the National Blood Authority, UK Transplant and the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, will co-ordinate with each other in Wales. How will they liaise on matters that affect Wales? We need detailed and carefully worded regulations in order to protect the interests of those adults who do not have the capacity to make decisions for themselves. There are important points in the Act about children and adults who cannot make their own decisions. The detail is key on this, and therefore our appointment to the Human Tissue Authority is important as that person will be the voice for Wales in terms of the concerns that we have on this key issue.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): I thank Members for their contributions. I am pleased that Owen John at least concedes that one organisation in Wales is doing a good job. I would not accept for a minute that there is only one, but it is typical of Plaid Cymru and Owen John that they always see the glass as being half empty. He raised the issue of making a request. It must be an individual's request rather than that of a nation or a country. If the tissues were of a person, it would be the individuals who had a relevant interest in doing so who would make an application, rather than countries.

The points that Jenny made are important. If you read the detail, the whole point of delegating these functions to the First Minister is to set in place a system by which we can be consulted on the wide range of detailed regulations and codes of practice that will underpin this Act. Therefore, when the Human Tissue Authority and the Secretary of State for Health are forming the regulations, in terms of the long list of areas—I will not list them all as it is a long list—they will have a statutory obligation to consult with us. A number of the areas that you mentioned will be those on which consultation will take place. You are right that we have one representative on the authority, and I am

Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog gynnig sylwadau ynghylch sut y bydd yr Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol ac awdurdodau eraill, megis yr Awdurdod Gwaed Cenedlaethol, Canolfan Trawsblannu'r DU a'r Awdurdod Ffrwythloni Dynol ac Embryoleg, yn cydgyssylltu â'i gilydd yng Nghymru. Sut y byddant yn cysylltu ynghylch materion sy'n effeithio ar Gymru? Mae'n rhaid cael rheoliadau manwl sydd wedi'u geirio'n ofalus er mwyn amddiffyn buddiannau'r oedolion hynny nad ydynt yn meddu ar y gallu i wneud penderfyniadau drostynt eu hunain. Ceir pwyntiau pwysig yn y Ddeddf am blant ac oedolion na allant benderfynu drostynt eu hunain. Mae'r manylion yn allweddol o ran hyn, ac felly mae'r sawl a benodwn i'r Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol yn bwysig gan mai'r unigolyn hwnnw fydd llais Cymru i fynegi'r pryderon sydd gennym ynghylch y mater allweddol hwn.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Diolchaf i'r Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau. Yr wyf yn falch bod Owen John o leiaf yn cytuno bod un sefydliad yng Nghymru yn gwneud gwaith da. Ni fyddwn am un eiliad yn cytuno mai dim ond un sydd, ond mae'n nodweddiadol o Blaid Cymru ac Owen John eu bod bob amser yn gweld yr ochr ddu. Cododd fater gwneud cais. Rhaid i'r cais fod yn gais gan unigolyn yn hytrach na chais gan genedl neu wlad. Pe bai'r meinweoedd yn feinweoedd person, yna'r unigolion hynny a fyddai â diddordeb perthnasol mewn gwneud hynny fyddai'n gwneud y cais, yn hytrach na'r gwledydd.

Mae'r pwyntiau a wnaethpwyd gan Jenny yn bwysig. Os darllenwch y manylion, holl bwrpas dirprwyo'r swyddogaethau hyn i'r Prif Weinidog yw rhoi system ar waith a fydd yn rhoi cyfle i ymgynghori gyda ni ynghylch yr ystod eang o reoliadau manwl a'r codau ymarfer a fydd yn sail i'r Ddeddf hon. Felly, pan fydd yr Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol a'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Iechyd yn llunio'r rheoliadau, bydd ganddynt ddyletswydd statudol i ymgynghori â ni, mewn perthynas â'r rhestr hir o feysydd—ni wnaef eu rhestru i gyd gan ei bod yn rhestr hir. Ymgynghorir ynghylch sawl un o'r meysydd y soniasoch amdanynt. Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle fod gennym un cynrychiolydd ar yr

pleased to say that it is Jane Jeffs, who is well known within the health community in Wales, particularly in terms of the patient movement and her work with community health councils. Therefore, we have an experienced and well-respected representative to articulate the point of view of the public and patients. Given her networks and links with the health service and service users in Wales, we have, hopefully, made a wise choice in nominating Jane Jeffs to do that particular job. I would have to take further advice on co-ordination because many of these matters are not devolved, and the tissue authority will be the lead agency. I will take further advice on that and write to you.

awdurdod, ac yr wyf yn falch o ddweud mai Jane Jeffs yw honno, sy'n adnabyddus yn y gymuned iechyd yng Nghymru, yn enwedig o ran mudiadau cleifion a'i gwaith gyda'r cynghorau iechyd cymuned. Mae gennym, felly, gynrychiolydd profiadol ac uchel ei pharch i gyflwyno safbwynt y cyhoedd a'r cleifion. O gofio'r rhwydweithiau a'r cysylltiadau sydd ganddi gyda'r gwasanaeth iechyd a defnyddwyr y gwasanaeth yng Nghymru, yr ydym, gobeithio, wedi gwneud dewis doeth wrth enwebu Jane Jeffs i gyflawni'r swydd arbennig honno. Byddai'n rhaid imi gymryd cyngor pellach ynghylch cyd-drefnu gan fod llawer o'r materion hyn heb gael eu datganoli, a'r awdurdod meinweoedd fydd yr asiantaeth fydd yn bennaf cyfrifol. Cymeraf gyngor pellach ynghylch hynny ac ysgrifennaf atoch.

*Cynnig (NDM2558): O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2558): For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, 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
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.45 p.m.
 The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.45 p.m.*

Adroddiad Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol 2005 The Social Justice Report 2005

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

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

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Cynigiad fod

the National Assembly for Wales notes the Welsh Assembly Government's Social Justice Report 2005, as presented to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 18 May 2005. (NDM2559)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn nodi Adroddiad Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol 2005 Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, fel y'i cyflwynwyd gerbron y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 18 Mai 2005. (NDM2559)

The Welsh Assembly Government has a commitment to report regularly on what it is achieving to tackle poverty and social disadvantage. Last year's report focused on my ministerial portfolio. However, I agreed that consideration should be given to expanding the 2005 report to present a comprehensive picture of activity across the Assembly. That has resulted in a more comprehensive, cross-cutting report of those policies and programmes in all parts of the Assembly Government aimed at tackling social exclusion.

Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi gwneud ymrwymiad i adrodd yn rheolaidd ar yr hyn y mae'n ei gyflawni o ran delio â thlodi ac anfantais gymdeithasol. Yr oedd adroddiad y flwyddyn ddiwethaf yn ymwneud yn bennaf â'm portffolio fel Gweinidog. Fodd bynnag, cytunais y dylid ystyried ehangu'r adroddiad ar gyfer 2005 er mwyn rhoi darlun cynhwysfawr o'r gweithgarwch drwy'r Cynulliad. Oherwydd hynny, cafwyd adroddiad sydd yn fwy cynhwysfawr a thrawsbynciol ar y polisiau a'r rhaglenni hynny ym mhob rhan o Lywodraeth y Cynulliad sydd â'r nod o ddelio ag allgáu cymdeithasol.

The 2005 report incorporates a greater degree of clarity by reporting what the Assembly Government achieved in the 2004-05 financial year, and, for most programmes, it sets out key objectives for 2005-06. New indicators have been introduced throughout section 4 of the 2005 report, but so that that progress can be tracked, annex A of the report outlines the robust and quantifiable indicators included in previous reports.

This week, we are also publishing a statistical bulletin, 'Social Justice Report 2005—Statistical Indicators'. As the indicators in the report show, progress is being made. Latest figures show that the unemployment rate in Wales is below the UK average, deaths from heart disease among older people have decreased, and the proportion of 15-year-olds leaving school without any GCSEs or GNVQs has decreased since 1999-2000. I fully recognise that there is more to do, and this Assembly Government is committed to improving the outcomes in terms of health, education and economic stability for those living in our poorest communities.

The report also highlights how the Assembly Government's groundbreaking spending review, carried out in 2004, has resulted in significant resources being made available to support the commitments outlined in our strategic plan, 'Wales: A Better Country', much of which is about achieving social justice for the people of Wales. The report has been endorsed by my colleagues in the Assembly Government Cabinet and was considered by the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 18 May. I have agreed to build on this year's report by seeking to include targets and outputs for the key programmes in 2006. As the report shows, many of the policies and programmes in place to combat social exclusion fall outside my ministerial portfolio, which is why it is so important to work across ministerial portfolios and Assembly Government departments to achieve our objectives.

Ceir mwy o eglurder yn adroddiad 2005 drwy adrodd ar yr hyn a gyflawnodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn y flwyddyn ariannol 2004-05, ac, ar gyfer y rhan fwyaf o'r rhaglenni, mae'n nodi'r prif amcanion ar gyfer 2005-06. Cyflwynwyd dangosyddion newydd yn adran 4 adroddiad 2005 drwyddi draw, ond fel y gellir dilyn y cynnydd a wnaed, ceir disgrifiad yn atodiad A i'r adroddiad o'r dangosyddion mesuradwy a dibynadwy a gafwyd mewn adroddiadau blaenorol.

Yr wythnos hon, yr ydym hefyd yn cyhoeddi bwletin ystadegol, 'Social Justice Report 2005—Statistical Indicators'. Fel y mae'r dangosyddion yn yr adroddiad yn dangos, mae cynnydd yn digwydd. Dengys y ffigurau diweddaraf fod cyfradd diweithdra yng Nghymru'n is na'r cyfartaledd yn y DU, fod llai o farwolaethau oherwydd clefyd y galon ymysg pobl hŷn, a bod cyfran y rhai 15 mlwydd oed sydd yn gadael yr ysgol heb ddim cymwysterau TGAU na GNVQ wedi gostwng ers 1999-2000. Llwyd dderbyniad fod angen gwneud mwy, ac mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn y Cynulliad wedi ymrwmo i wella'r canlyniadau o ran iechyd, addysg a sefydlogrwydd economaidd ar gyfer y rhai sydd yn byw yn ein cymunedau tlotaf.

Mae'r adroddiad yn dangos hefyd sut y mae'r adolygiad arloesol o wariant a wnaed gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad yn 2004 wedi arwain at ddarparu adnoddau sylweddol i gefnogi'r ymrwymadau a amlinellir yn ein strategaeth, 'Cymru: Gwlad Well', y mae llawer ohono'n ymwneud â sicrhau cyfiawnder cymdeithasol i bobl Cymru. Cymeradwywyd yr adroddiad gan fy nghyd-Weinidogion yng Nghabinet Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac fe'i hystyriwyd gan y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 18 Mai. Yr wyf wedi cytuno i ddatblygu'r adroddiad ar gyfer eleni drwy geisio cynnwys targedau ac allbynnau ar gyfer y prif raglenni yn 2006. Fel y dengys yr adroddiad, mae llawer o'r polisiâu a'r rhaglenni sydd ar waith ar gyfer gwrthweithio allgáu cymdeithasol y tu allan i'm portffolio gweinidogol, a dyna pam y mae mor bwysig gweithio ar draws portffolios gweinidogol ac adrannau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i gyrraedd ein hamcanion.

On the amendments, David Melding's amendment 1 regrets the lack of progress made in the sustainable delivery of key social justice and regeneration objectives. I am sorry that he regrets the fact that we are putting child poverty and overindebtedness at the top of the political agenda in Wales, or investing substantial extra funds into care for very young children via Flying Start.

The work that my deputy minister, Huw Lewis, is undertaking on child poverty shows how we wish to take forward that agenda in a very real way. I am also sorry that keeping down unemployment rates in Wales to below the UK average or getting structural fund money is to be regretted, along with the reduction in prescription charges, improving the life chances of older people in terms of their health, and the £24 million invested in the Communities First programme. I am sorry that those regrets have come from the Tory benches. I am a realist and, as such, I recognise that more needs to be done. I am committed to working with partners on local, national and UK levels to achieve more.

On Kirsty Williams's amendment 2 on affordable housing, the social justice report describes the actions we are already taking to find new ways of promoting affordable housing. We are working with local authorities to improve the development of local housing strategies, increasing funding for the social housing grant programme and working with housing associations to improve efficiency and the cost-effectiveness of how development programmes are delivered.

3.50 p.m.

'The Affordable Housing Toolkit' has been published. This brings together guidance on the tools and powers available to local authorities and partners to improve the supply of affordable housing. Taken together, these actions are designed to improve the understanding of local housing needs and to provide improved mechanisms for targeting

Ynghylch y gwelliannau, mae gwelliant 1 o eiddo David Melding yn gresynu at y diffyg cynnydd wrth gyflawni amcanion allweddol cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio mewn ffordd gynaliadwy. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf ei fod yn gresynu at y ffaith ein bod yn rhoi tloidi plant a gorddyled ar ben yr agenda wleidyddol yng Nghymru, neu'n buddsoddi cyllid ychwanegol sylweddol mewn gofal ar gyfer plant ifanc iawn drwy Cychwyniad Da.

Mae'r gwaith a wnaiff fy nirprwy weinidog, Huw Lewis, ar dlodi plant yn dangos ein bod yn dymuno hyrwyddo'r agenda honno mewn modd pendant iawn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf hefyd fod rhaid gresynu at y ffaith bod cyfraddau diweithdra yng Nghymru wedi'u cadw'n is na'r cyfartaledd yn y DU neu fod arian y cronfeydd strwythurol wedi ei sicrhau, ynghyd â'r gostyngiad mewn taliadau presgripsiwn, gwella cyfleoedd bywyd pobl hŷn o ran eu hiechyd, a'r £24 miliwn a fuddsoddwyd yn rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf fod y rhai ar feinciau'r Torïaid yn gresynu at hynny. Realydd ydwyf ac, oherwydd hynny, derbyniaf fod angen gwneud mwy. Yr wyf wedi ymrwymo i weithio gyda phartneriaid ar lefel leol, lefel genedlaethol a lefel y DU i gyflawni mwy.

Ynghylch gwelliant 2 o eiddo Kirsty Williams ar dai fforddiadwy, mae'r adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn disgrifio'r camau yr ydym yn eu cymryd eisoes i ddarganfod dulliau newydd o hybu tai fforddiadwy. Yr ydym yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol i hyrwyddo'r gwaith o ddatblygu strategaethau tai lleol, gan roi rhagor o gyllid ar gyfer y rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol, ac yn gweithio gyda chymdeithasau tai i sicrhau bod rhaglenni datblygu'n cael eu rhedeg yn fwy effeithlon a chost-effeithiol.

Mae'r 'Pecyn Cymorth Tai Fforddiadwy' wedi ei gyhoeddi. Mae hwn yn cynnwys canllawiau ar yr offer a'r pwerau sydd ar gael i awdurdodau lleol a'u partneriaid i wella'r cyflenwad o dai fforddiadwy. Amcan y camau gweithredu hyn, gyda'i gilydd, yw cael gwell dealltwriaeth o anghenion tai lleol a chynnig gwell mecanweithiau ar gyfer

increased resources to meet those needs. I am, therefore, happy to accept Kirsty's amendment 2.

Kirsty's amendment 3 concerns the measurement of progress within the report. Following consideration of the report by the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, I agreed to build on this year's report by seeking to include targets and outputs for key programmes in 2006. We share the ambition set out in the amendment, and I am happy to accept it on that basis.

I am also happy to accept Kirsty's amendment 4. We are always keen to look at new ways of addressing this complex and challenging area. The establishment of quality standards based on solid evidence for the treatment and continuing support of individuals with substance misuse problems has been a fundamental part of my agenda since I took over this portfolio. I refer Kirsty to the substance misuse treatment framework for Wales that we began to develop in 2003 in collaboration with the treatment community. Individual modules being put together by specialist sub-groups are based upon research and evidence. In particular, Kirsty should look at some of the modules, as this would be helpful in future discussions. We need to look particularly at issues around post-rehabilitation.

A further three new modules are under development, namely housing and services to homeless people, day and community support services, and advice and information specialist services. We will also look at post-rehabilitation support in that context. This shows that the Government has been proactive in identifying the most effective methods of treating substance misuse.

I understand the sentiment of Jocelyn Davies's amendment 5, and a similar amendment was tabled during last year's debate. However, my response, as at that time, is that we must work within the confines of the current devolution framework, which will be the subject of

targeddu mwy o adnoddau er mwyn diwallu'r anghenion hynny. Felly, yr wyf yn fodlon derbyn gwelliant 2 yn enw Kirsty.

Mae gwelliant 3 o eiddo Kirsty yn ymwneud â mesur cynnydd yn yr adroddiad. Wedi i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ystyried yr adroddiad hwn, cytunais i ddatblygu'r adroddiad ar gyfer eleni drwy geisio cynnwys targedau ac allbynnau ar gyfer rhaglenni allweddol yn 2006. Rhannwn y dyhead a nodir yn y gwelliant, ac yr wyf yn fodlon ei dderbyn ar y sail honno.

Yr wyf hefyd yn fodlon derbyn gwelliant 4 o eiddo Kirsty. Yr ydym bob amser yn awyddus i ystyried dulliau newydd o ymdrin â'r maes anodd a chymhleth hwn. Mae'r bwriad i bennu safonau ansawdd ar sail tystiolaeth gadarn ar gyfer triniaeth a chymorth parhaus i'r rhai sydd â phroblemau sy'n ymwneud â chamddefnyddio sylweddau'n rhan annatod o'm hagenda ers imi gymryd drosodd y portffolio hwn. Tynnaf sylw Kisty at y fframwaith triniaeth ar gyfer camddefnyddio sylweddau i Gymru y dechreuasom ei ddatblygu yn 2003 drwy gydweithio â'r rhai sydd yn ymwneud â thriniaethau. Mae'r gwahanol fodiwlau a lunnir gan is-grwpiau arbenigol yn seiliedig ar ymchwil a thystiolaeth. Yn benodol, dylai Kirsty edrych ar rai o'r modiwlau, gan y byddai hynny'n fuddiol mewn trafodaethau yn y dyfodol. Rhaid inni edrych yn benodol ar faterion sydd yn ymwneud â'r cyfnod ar ôl adsefydlu.

Mae tri modiwl newydd arall yn cael eu datblygu, sef tai a gwasanaethau ar gyfer pobl ddigartref, gwasanaethau cymorth dydd a chymorth cymunedol, a gwasanaethau arbenigol ar gyfer rhoi cyngor a gwybodaeth. Byddwn hefyd yn ystyried cymorth ar ôl adsefydlu yn y cyd-destun hwnnw. Mae hyn yn dangos bod y Llywodraeth wedi mynd ati i ganfod y dulliau mwyaf effeithiol o drin rhai sydd yn camddefnyddio sylweddau.

Deallaf y teimlad sydd yng ngwelliant 5 o eiddo Jocelyn Davies, a chyflwynwyd gwelliant tebyg yn ystod y ddadl y llynedd. Fodd bynnag, fy ymateb i'n awr, fel yr oedd bryd hynny, yw bod rhaid inni weithio o fewn cyfyngiadau'r fframwaith presennol ar gyfer datganoli, y ceir trafodaeth bellach arno

further discussion tomorrow. Poverty is not just about benefits or income; it is about health, education, community safety, and a strong economy, all of which come within the remit of the Assembly. We work closely with Whitehall departments in addressing the key issues that impact on poverty that are not fully devolved. There will obviously be a debate on that in the future.

I cannot accept Jocelyn's amendment 6. I already make use of the range of existing mechanisms to report fully to Assembly Members on the progress of Communities First. The annual social justice report provides a review on the progress of all of the subjects within my portfolio. It helps to set Communities First in the wider context of all the social justice policies. I provide regular reports to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee in my ministerial report. The Communities First programme is the subject of an ongoing evaluation. The evaluation team has reported on progress to the committee—most recently on 6 July 2005—and there is an opportunity for the evaluation team to come back to discuss any issues if the committee wishes it to do so. There have also been interesting questions and debates in the Chamber on Communities First, therefore, Members can hold the Government to account. There are sufficient mechanisms without accepting Jocelyn's recommendation.

The second social justice report is an improvement on the first. I look forward to working with colleagues to get a design that is fit for purpose so that we can effectively monitor the activity within my portfolio. I commend the report to Members.

Mark Isherwood: I propose amendment 1 in the name of David Melding. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

regrets the lack of progress by the Welsh Assembly Government in the sustainable delivery of key social justice and regeneration objectives.

I start by thanking the committee Chair,

yfory. Nid â budd-daliadau ac incwm yn unig y mae a wnelo tlodi; mae'n ymwneud ag iechyd, addysg, diogelwch cymunedol, ac economi gref, y mae pob un ohonynt o fewn cylch gwaith y Cynulliad. Yr ydym yn cydweithio'n agos ag adrannau Whitehall wrth ddelio â'r prif faterion sydd yn effeithio ar dlodi sydd heb eu datganoli'n llawn. Mae'n sicr y ceir dadl ar hynny yn y dyfodol.

Ni allaf dderbyn gwelliant 6 o eiddo Jocelyn. Yr wyf eisoes yn defnyddio'r holl fecanweithiau sydd ar gael yn awr i adrodd yn llawn i Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar gynnydd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae'r adroddiad blynyddol ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn cynnig adolygiad o'r cynnydd a wneir ar yr holl bynciau sydd yn fy mhortffolio. Mae'n helpu i roi Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yng nghydestun ehangach yr holl bolisiau ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn rhoi adroddiadau rheolaidd i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yn fy adroddiad gweinidogol. Mae'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn cael ei gwerthuso yn barhaus. Mae'r tîm gwerthuso wedi adrodd ar gynnydd i'r pwyllgor—yn fwyaf diweddar ar 6 Gorffennaf 2005—a bydd cyfle i'r tîm gwerthuso ddod yn ôl i drafod unrhyw faterion os bydd y pwyllgor yn dymuno iddo wneud hynny. Cafwyd cwestiynau a dadleuon diddorol yn y Siambr hefyd ar Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, felly, caiff Aelodau alw'r Llywodraeth i gyfrif. Mae digon o fecanweithiau, felly nid oes angen derbyn argymhelliad Jocelyn.

Mae'r ail adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn well na'r cyntaf. Edrychaf ymlaen at weithio gyda'm cyd-Aelodau i sicrhau cynllun sydd yn addas i'w ddiben fel y gallwn arolygu'r gweithgarwch yn fy mhortffolio'n effeithiol. Cymeradwyaf yr adroddiad i'r Aelodau.

Mark Isherwood: Cynigiau welliant 1 yn enw David Melding. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn gresynu at ddiffyg cynnydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o ran cyflawni amcanion allweddol cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio mewn ffordd gynaliadwy.

Dechreuaf drwy ddiolch i Gadeirydd y

Janice Gregory, for the fair and impartial way in which she has carried out her duties, the committee clerks for their hard work and dedication, and all the representatives of voluntary, public and community bodies who have given evidence to the committee.

By its very nature, this report is a neutral, no fault overview of committee activity. However, necessity dictates that we must also address the regeneration reality in Wales today. It is for this reason that I propose amendment 1 in the name of David Melding. We will also be supporting amendments 2 to 6 in the names of Kirsty Williams and Jocelyn Davies.

Section 6 of this report states that the committee believes that housing matters are the key to addressing poverty and to achieving better, simpler Government. In my short debate on 16 March, I stated that housing is the key vehicle for sustainable social justice and regeneration, by which I mean the use of housing generation and regeneration to stimulate local training, skills, employment, economic development, social enterprise, health and strong, safe communities. This, in other words, means putting people first. My regret is that this has not, so far, been given sufficient priority as the glue that holds social and economic regeneration together in our devolved Wales.

The scandalous reality is that the number of new social housing dwellings built in Wales has been cut by 75 per cent, and that Welsh Assembly Government funding for 2008 will still leave the social housing budget below the level inherited by Labour in 1997. Homelessness is rising and 98,000 Welsh homes are unfit for human habitation. We now learn that the number on housing waiting lists in Flintshire alone has doubled to 8,000 in a matter of months. The county's executive member for housing has rightly stated that it is not just a problem in Flintshire, but all over the country.

We face the frightening possibility of more

pyyllgor, Janice Gregory, am y modd teg ac amhleidiol y mae wedi cyflawni ei dyletswyddau, i glercod y pyyllgor am eu gwaith caled a'u hymroddiad, ac i holl gynrychiolwyr y cyrff gwirfoddol, cyhoeddus a chymunedol a roddodd dystiolaeth i'r pyyllgor.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn, o'i hanfod, yn arolwg diduedd o weithgarwch y pyyllgor nad yw'n bwrw bai. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni hefyd ymdrin â'r wir sefyllfa o ran adfywio yng Nghymru heddiw. Oherwydd hynny y cynigiau welliant 1 yn enw David Melding. Byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliannau 2 i 6 yn enwau Kirsty Williams a Jocelyn Davies.

Dywedir yn adran 6 yr adroddiad hwn fod y pyyllgor yn credu mai materion sydd yn ymwneud â thai yw'r allwedd i ymdrin â thlodi a sicrhau Llywodraeth well a symlach. Yn fy nadl fer ar 16 Mawrth, dywedais mai tai yw'r prif gyfrwng ar gyfer sicrhau cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio cynaliadwy, a'r hyn a olygaf wrth hynny yw'r defnydd o ddatblygiadau tai ac adfywio i hybu hyfforddiant lleol, sgiliau, cyflogaeth, datblygu economaidd, mentrau cymdeithasol, iechyd a chymunedau cadarn a diogel. Mae hynny, mewn geiriau eraill, yn golygu rhoi pobl yn gyntaf. Gresynaf at y ffaith na roddwyd digon o flaenoriaeth i hynny, hyd yn hyn, fel y peth sydd yn dal adfywio cymdeithasol ac economaidd wrth ei gilydd yn ein Cymru ddatganoledig.

Y ffaith warthus yw bod nifer yr anheddau newydd sy'n dai cymdeithasol sydd wedi eu codi yng Nghymru wedi ei dorri o 75 y cant, ac y bydd cyllid Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer 2008 yn dal i adael y gyllideb ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol yn is na'r lefel a etifeddwyd gan Lafur yn 1997. Mae digartrefedd ar gynydd ac mae 98,000 o gartrefi yng Nghymru'n anaddas i bobl fyw ynddynt. Cawsom wybod bod y nifer sydd ar restrau aros am dai yn sir y Fflint yn unig wedi dyblu i 8,000 o fewn ychydig fisoedd. Mae aelod gweithredol y sir dros dai wedi dweud, yn hollol iawn, nad problem yn sir y Fflint yn unig yw hon, ond ym mhob rhan o'r wlad.

Wynebwn y posibilrwydd brawychus o weld

than one person in 20 being trapped on a housing waiting list. The housing sector in Wales has been cut, slashed and spurned by a Minister whose stubborn refusal to acknowledge the gravity of the situation is a betrayal of a whole generation in housing need and an affordable housing sector whose cries have been ignored.

Labour Members claim in the press that the Labour-run Assembly is adding an extra £35 million to the social housing budget. Given that the Minister herself told us in Plenary on 13 July 2005 that this was conjecture and spin and that this money was already included in previous budgets, we must question the sincerity of Members who represent their party in their constituencies, rather than their constituents in the Assembly.

Jeff Cuthbert: If your party had won the general election, it would have introduced massive spending cuts. Will you explain how you would have covered the costs, for which you claim the funding has been cut?

Mark Isherwood: The spending cuts were primarily two thirds and were based on the Labour Gershon report, and they excluded front-line cuts, particularly in areas such as housing.

This report refers to the committee's report on housing for older people. Speaking in Plenary on the Minister's response to this report's recommendations, I referred to the high and tragic incidence of early deaths of those evicted through care home closures, and stated that no older person is expendable. Quoting from the Wales care strategy group report, which predicted a significant increase in the demand for care home and nursing care services, I asked how we square that with the reality that care homes are closing and that care beds are being lost in their hundreds across Wales, with north Wales hit particularly hard.

However, 11 months later, the situation is best summed up by evidence provided to the Audit Committee by the Wrexham Local

mwy nag un o bob 20 yn cael ei ddal ar restr aros am dai. Mae'r sector tai yng Nghymru wedi ei dorri a'i ddiystyru gan Weinidog sydd, drwy wrthod yn ystyfnig gydnabod difrifoldeb y sefyllfa, yn bradychu cenhedlaeth gyfan sydd ag angen am dai a sector tai fforddiadwy yr anwybyddwyd ei gri.

Mae Aelodau Llafur yn honni yn y wasg fod y Cynulliad sydd yn cael ei redeg gan Lafur yn ychwanegu £35 miliwn at y gyllideb ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol. Gan fod y Gweinidog ei hun wedi dweud wrthym yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 13 Gorffennaf 2005 mai dyfalu a sbinio oedd hynny a bod yr arian hwn wedi ei gynnwys eisoes mewn cyllidebau blaenorol, rhaid inni amau diffuantrwydd Aelodau sydd yn cynrychioli eu plaid yn eu hetholaethau, yn hytrach na'u hetholwyr yn y Cynulliad.

Jeff Cuthbert: Pe byddai'ch plaid chi wedi ennill yr etholiad cyffredinol, byddai wedi cyflwyno toriadau anferth ar wariant. A wnewch egluro sut y byddech wedi talu am y costau, yr honnwch fod y cyllid ar eu cyfer wedi ei dorri?

Mark Isherwood: Toriadau ar wariant o ddwy ran o dair oeddent yn bennaf ac yr oeddent yn seiliedig ar adroddiad Gershon o eiddo Llafur, ac nid oeddent yn cynnwys toriadau yn y rheng flaen, yn enwedig mewn meysydd fel tai.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn cyfeirio at adroddiad y pwyllgor ar dai ar gyfer pobl hŷn. Wrth siarad yn y Cyfarfod Llawn am ymateb y Gweinidog i argymhellion yr adroddiad hwnnw, cyfeiriais at y nifer uchel a thrist o farwolaethau cynnar a geir ymysg y rhai a gaiff eu troi allan drwy gau cartrefi gofal, a dywedais nad oes neb mewn oed sydd yn hepgoradwy. Wrth ddyfynnu o adroddiad grŵp strategaeth gofal Cymru, a oedd yn rhagweld cynnydd sylweddol yn y galw am gartrefi gofal a gwasanaethau gofal nyrsio, gofynnais sut y gallwn gysoni hynny â'r ffaith bod cartrefi gofal yn cau a bod cannoedd o welyau gofal yn cael eu colli ledled Cymru, ac yn enwedig yn y Gogledd.

Fodd bynnag, 11 mis yn ddiweddarach, mae'r sefyllfa'n cael ei chrisialu gan y dystiolaeth a roddwyd i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio gan Fwrdd

Health Board that delays in transfers of care resulted from insufficient independent care home capacity and a reduction in social services resources. It is also best summed up by an e-mail received this month from concerned relatives of elderly family members resident in a council care home in north Wales, which stated that funding to maintain this home is threatened by cutbacks in the amount of funding provided by the Welsh Assembly Government via the council, and by the constituent who told me this month that his dependent and infirm 92-year-old mother has been threatened with removal from her nursing home to a bungalow, with council officers blaming this on the guidelines issued to them. This is the real world in which the housing needs of older people are treated by this dogmatic Welsh Assembly Government.

The report refers to the committee's inquiry into substance misuse. In combating substance misuse, community safety strategies must aim to enable people with substance misuse problems to overcome them and live healthy and fulfilling lives, and, in the case of offenders, crime-free lives. However, the reality today is that the Hafan Wen detoxification unit in north Wales is threatened with a loss of beds, that rehabilitation schemes for ex-offenders such as Touchstones 12 are denied the funding needed to concentrate their work on Welsh clients, and that prisoners at Liverpool Altcourse—the main prison for north Wales—told me during my visit earlier this month that they could only see a future of drug-related crime after their release.

The report refers to Communities First, but we will never regenerate the poorest communities in Wales when adult learning and rural outreach are facing cuts. In the context of Welsh housing cuts, we must also accept the point made by the regeneration institute in Cardiff University that housing has a major role to play in the development of sustainable local communities.

Iechyd Lleol Wrecsam sydd yn dangos bod oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yn ganlyniad i brinder lleoedd mewn cartrefi gofal annibynnol a gostyngiad yn adnoddau'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Caiff ei chrisialu hefyd mewn neges e-bost a ddaeth i law y mis hwn oddi wrth berthnasau pryderus i breswylwyr oedrannus mewn cartref gofal yn y Gogledd, a ddywedodd fod y cyllid i gynnal y cartref hwnnw o dan fygythiad oherwydd toriadau yn y cyllid a roir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru drwy'r cyngor, a chan etholwr a ddywedodd wrthyf y mis hwn fod bygythiad i symud ei fam 92 flwydd oed, sydd yn ddibynnol ac yn fregus, o'i chartref nyrsio i fyngalo, a bod swyddogion y cyngor yn rhoi'r bai am hynny ar y canllawiau a roddwyd iddynt. Fel hyn y trinnir anghenion tai pobl hŷn yn y byd go iawn gan y Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ddogmatig hon.

Mae'r adroddiad yn cyfeirio at ymchwiliad y pwyllgor i'r camddefnydd o sylweddau. Wrth ymladd yn erbyn y camddefnydd o sylweddau, rhaid i strategaethau diogelwch cymunedol geisio galluogi pobl sydd â phroblemau o ran camddefnyddio sylweddau i'w datrys ac i fyw bywyd iach a bywyd sy'n rhoi boddhad iddynt, ac, yn achos troseddwy, bywyd heb droseddu. Fodd bynnag, y gwir amdani heddiw yw bod bygythiad i ostwng nifer y gwelyau yn uned ddadwenwyno Hafan Wen yn y Gogledd, nad yw cynlluniau adsefydlu ar gyfer cyn-droseddwy fel Touchstones 12 yn cael y cyllid y mae arnynt ei angen er mwyn gallu canolbwyntio ar gleientiaid o Gymru, a bod carcharorion yn Liverpool Altcourse—y prif garchar ar gyfer y Gogledd—wedi dweud wrthyf yn ystod fy ymweliad yn gynharach y mis hwn mai'r cwbl y gallent ei weld o'u blaen ar ôl eu rhyddhau oedd troseddu sydd yn gysylltiedig â chyffuriau.

Mae'r adroddiad yn cyfeirio at Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ond ni wnawn byth adfywio'r cymunedau tlotaf yng Nghymru os yw dysgu ar gyfer oedolion a gwaith allgymorth mewn ardaloedd gwledig yn wynebu toriadau. Yng nghyd-destun y toriadau ym maes tai yng Nghymru, rhaid inni hefyd dderbyn y pwynt a wnaeth yr athrofa adfywio ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd i'r perwyl bod rôl bwysig i dai wrth ddatblygu cymunedau lleol cynaliadwy.

The report refers to the voluntary sector, but the reality is summed up by the £150,000 annual cut in grants to voluntary organisations needed to address the budget shortfall in Flintshire alone. All voluntary sector AGMs across north Wales in recent weeks have referred to worsening funding problems, and the contradictions associated with this are highlighted by a recent Flintshire report on the support provided to carers. This confirmed that voluntary sector services had provided care at a public cost of £3.68 per hour, compared with between £11 and £18 per hour for equivalent care provision from the council's direct labour force.

4.00 p.m.

We cannot blame the Minister alone, as much of the social justice and regeneration agenda is dependant on delivery across many Welsh Assembly Government departments. We must strengthen the welfare society, providing fairness to those who give help, as well as to those who need it. Above all, we need a commitment to combating social injustice, embodying values that are good for me and my neighbour, heeding—at last—the advice of experts at the front line.

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

calls on the Assembly Government to explore new ways of addressing the affordable housing crisis.

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

reaffirms the view of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee that in next year's report there should include better measurement of progress through increased information on outputs.

Mae'r adroddiad yn cyfeirio at y sector gwirfoddol, ond gwelir y wir sefyllfa yn y toriad o £150,000 a wneir eleni yn y grantiau i gyrff gwirfoddol er mwyn delio â'r diffyg yng nghyllideb sir y Fflint, heb sôn am un man arall. Mae'r holl gyfarfodydd blynyddol cyffredinol yn y sector gwirfoddol ledled y Gogledd yn yr wythnosau diwethaf wedi cyfeirio at y problemau sy'n gwaethygu o ran ariannu, a thynnir sylw at y gwrth-ddweud sydd yn gysylltiedig â hyn mewn adroddiad diweddar yn sir y Fflint ar gymorth i ofalwyr. Cafwyd cadarnhad ynddo fod gwasanaethau sector gwirfoddol wedi darparu gofal ar gost i'r cyhoedd o £3.68 yr awr, o'i gymharu â swm o £11 i £18 yr awr am ddarpariaeth gofal gyfatebol gan y gweithwyr a gyflogir gan y cyngor yn uniongyrchol.

Ni allwn feio'r Gweinidog yn unig, oherwydd bod cymaint o'r agenda cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio yn dibynnu ar y modd y mae'n cael ei chyflawni ar draws nifer o adrannau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Rhaid inni gryfhau'r gymdeithas les, gan roi tegwch i'r rhai sy'n rhoi cymorth, yn ogystal ag i'r rhai y mae arnynt ei angen. Yn anad dim, mae angen inni gael ymrwymiad i frwydro yn erbyn anghyfiawnder cymdeithasol, gan wireddu gwerthoedd sydd yn dda i mi ac i'm cymydog, gan wrando—o'r diwedd—ar gyngor arbenigwyr yn y rheng flaen.

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

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i archwilio ffyrdd newydd o fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng tai fforddiadwy.

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

yn ailgadarnhau barn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio y dylai adroddiad y flwyddyn nesaf gynnwys gwell mesurau o gynnydd, drwy gynnwys mwy o wybodaeth am ganlyniadau.

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

calls on the Assembly Government to investigate new ways of helping people after they have gone through rehabilitation for substance misuse.

I start by paying tribute to the work undertaken by my colleague, Peter Black, whom I have recently replaced on the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. Based on the few meetings that I have attended, I pay tribute to the way that the committee is run, and to the inclusive way in which the Chair operates. Those remarks also extend to the Minister, for her inclusivity in this agenda. We all, as committee members, share in an improvement agenda, which raises some interesting points.

The first point, with regard the Minister's introduction to this report—and she may clarify this later—is that she noted difficulties in working across portfolios in some areas. Could she elaborate on that, and say in which parts of other people's portfolios she would like to make her role more effective?

Turning to amendment 2, on exploring ways of addressing the affordable housing crisis in Wales, I am pleased that the Minister supports the amendment, but I would like to hear her comments on further issues. The lack of power for local authorities to address this issue since the introduction of the right to buy, may be fundamental to this. Will the Minister explain her Government's attitude to the right-to-buy scheme? She will be aware that the Liberal Democrats have tried to get a suspension of the right-to-buy scheme because we see this as a fundamental issue in how local democratic structures can resolve local issues. We feel that local government has a focus in this matter, which has been stymied by the right-to-buy scheme and the Labour Government's refusal to get rid of the whole process.

We are all aware of the figures, which I mentioned earlier in my questions to the First Minister. In terms of funding, Minister, I

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

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i archwilio ffyrdd newydd o helpu pobl ar ôl iddynt dreulio cyfnod o adsefydlu ar ôl camddefnyddio sylweddau.

Dechreuaf drwy dalu teyrnged i'r gwaith a wnaeth fy nghyd-Aelod, Peter Black, y bu imi gymryd ei le yn ddiweddar ar y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Ar sail yr ychydig gyfarfodydd yr wyf wedi eu mynychu, talaf deyrnged i'r ffordd y caiff y pwyllgor ei redeg, ac i'r modd cynhwysol y mae'r Cadeirydd yn gweithredu. Mae'r sylwadau hyn hefyd yn wir am y Gweinidog, oherwydd ei hagwedd gynhwysol yn yr agenda hon. Yr ydym oll, fel aelodau o'r pwyllgor, yn rhannu mewn agenda wella, sy'n codi rhai pwyntiau diddorol.

Y pwynt cyntaf, yng nghyswllt cyflwyniad y Gweinidog i'r adroddiad hwn—a chaiff fwrw goleuni ar hyn yn ddiweddarach—yw ei bod wedi sylwi ar anawsterau wrth weithio ar draws portffolios mewn rhai meysydd. A allai fanylu ynghylch hynny, a dweud ym mha ran o bortffolios pobl eraill yr hoffai wneud ei rôl yn fwy effeithiol?

A throi at welliant 2, ar archwilio ffyrdd newydd o roi sylw i'r argyfwng tai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru, yr wyf yn falch bod y Gweinidog yn cefnogi'r gwelliant, ond hoffwn glywed ei sylwadau ynghylch materion pellach. Mae'n bosibl bod diffyg grym awdurdodau lleol i roi sylw i'r mater hwn ers cyflwyno'r hawl i brynu, yn elfen sylfaenol yn hyn. A wnaiff y Gweinidog esbonio agwedd ei Llywodraeth tuag at y cynllun hawl-i-brynu? Bydd yn ymwybodol bod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi ceisio gohirio'r cynllun hawl-i-brynu oherwydd ein bod yn ystyried hwn yn fater sylfaenol o ran sut y gall strwythurau democrataidd lleol ddelio â materion lleol. Teimlwn fod gan lywodraeth leol ffocws yn y mater hwn, sydd wedi cael ei lesteirio gan y cynllun hawl-i-brynu ac oherwydd bod y Llywodraeth Lafur yn gwrthod cael gwared â'r holl broses.

Yr ydym oll yn ymwybodol o'r ffigurau, a grybwyllais yn gynharach yn fy nghwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog. O ran cyllid,

wish to see clarity in the package of measures that you announced to assist with affordable housing. I am still unclear as to whether the money you announced last term was new money, or whether it was in your budget previously.

Similarly, to address the question of the role of local authorities, the social housing grant is a massive and difficult area to operate in local government, and yet it has to take the Homebuy budget from it. In terms of people who need assistance, it would be helpful to see a separate line for the Homebuy budget. The Minister is familiar with my lobbying on this issue, and I would like to hear her view on whether she feels that that would be possible, so that we can scrutinise the way that the Government is moving to resolve this crisis in affordable housing.

I have two other issues on this amendment. First, you have been very supportive so far, Minister, of the concept of community land trusts. As you are aware, one of the biggest problems in affordability is the price of land. By using the concept of a trust—such as a community land trust—that problem can be overcome. Are you working with other Ministers—with reference to my earlier remarks—on how we can release government-owned land in order to build affordable homes? This is a crucial issue.

Secondly, John Prescott made great play of working in the private sector to have houses built at affordable prices. As far as I am aware, the Welsh Assembly Government has not yet taken this action. The private sector should be encouraged to become involved in building affordable houses.

I welcome wholeheartedly your comments on amendment 3, as we move towards a streamlined report in which we can see outcomes. Peter Black has always pushed this agenda, and deserves credit for this. It assists scrutiny, and we need good, reliable data to proceed with that. Substance misuse is mentioned within the report, and how you are

Weinidog, hoffwn weld eglurdeb yn y pecyn o fesurau a gyhoeddwyd gennych i gynorthwyo gyda thai fforddiadwy. Yr wyf yn dal yn ansicr a oedd yr arian a gyhoeddasoch y tymor diwethaf yn arian newydd, ynteu a oedd yn eich cyllideb cyn hynny.

Yn yr un modd, a rhoi sylw i gwestiwn rôl awdurdodau lleol, mae'r grant tai cymdeithasol yn faes anferthol ac anodd ei weithredu o fewn llywodraeth leol, ond eto rhaid iddi gymryd cyllideb Cymorth Prynu ohono. O ran pobl y mae arnynt angen cymorth, byddai'n ddefnyddiol gweld llinell ar wahân ar gyfer cyllideb Cymorth Prynu. Mae'r Gweinidog yn gyfarwydd â'm lobio ar y mater hwn, a hoffwn glywed ei barn ynghylch a yw'n teimlo a fyddai hynny yn bosibl, fel y gallwn graffu ar y modd y mae'r Llywodraeth yn symud i ddatrys yr argyfwng hwn ym maes tai fforddiadwy.

Mae gennyf ddau fater arall ynghylch y gwelliant hwn. Yn gyntaf, yr ydych wedi bod yn gefnogol dros ben hyd yn hyn, Weinidog, i'r cysyniad o ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol. Fel y gwyddoch, un o'r problemau mwyaf o ran fforddiadwyedd yw pris tir. Drwy ddefnyddio'r cysyniad o ymddiriedolaeth—megis ymddiriedolaeth tir cymunedol—gellir goresgyn y broblem honno. A ydych yn gweithio gyda Gweinidogion eraill—gan gyfeirio at fy sylwadau cynharach—ynghylch sut y gallwn ryddhau tir sy'n eiddo i'r llywodraeth er mwyn adeiladu tai fforddiadwy? Mae hwn yn fater hollbwysig.

Yn ail, gwnaeth John Prescott fôr a mynydd o weithio yn y sector preifat er mwyn adeiladu tai am brisiau fforddiadwy. Hyd y gwn, nid yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi cymryd y cam hwn eto. Dylid annog y sector preifat i fod yn gysylltiedig ag adeiladu tai fforddiadwy.

Croesawaf yn galonnog eich sylwadau ynghylch gwelliant 3, wrth inni symud tuag at adroddiad symlach y gallwn weld canlyniadau ynddo. Mae Peter Black wastad wedi gwthio'r agenda hon, ac mae'n haeddu clod am hyn. Mae'n gymorth i'r broses graffu, ac mae arnom angen data da, dibynadwy i fwrw ymlaen â hynny. Sonrir

moving forward to collect robust data.

Finally, amendment 4 calls on the Assembly Government to consider ways of helping people after rehabilitation. I believe that we all have experience of this, having met people whose lives have been ruined by the impact of substance misuse. The tremendous work done in rehabilitation is somewhat undermined by the lack of aftercare support. This issue was emphasised when I visited a Cardiff-based rehabilitation centre called Inroads. I know that you are interested in this approach, Minister, which I have called the big brother idea, where people can be housed together after rehab so that they can support one another. I know that you believe in this inclusive principle, and we could see it operate here to the benefit of many people who genuinely need assistance.

The Welsh Liberal Democrats welcome the report, as well as your support for our amendments, Minister.

Leanne Wood: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 5: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

regrets that the Assembly's lack of powers prevents it from addressing the increasing gap between rich and poor in Wales.

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

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to produce an annual progress report on the Communities First programme which includes any progress made in addressing the inequality gap.

According to new figures from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the richest 10 per cent of the UK population has 25 per cent of total income, whereas the poorest 10 per cent has just 2.5 per cent of all income. After eight years of a Labour Government in London,

am gamddefnyddio sylweddau yn yr adroddiad, a sut yr ydych yn symud ymlaen i gasglu data cadarn.

Yn olaf, mae gwelliant 4 yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i ystyried ffyrdd o helpu pobl ar ôl iddynt fod drwy gyfnod o adsefydlu. Credaf fod gennym oll brofiad o hyn, gan ein bod wedi cwrdd â phobl y mae eu bywydau wedi eu difetha oherwydd effaith camddefnyddio sylweddau. Mae'r gwaith aruthrol a wneir wrth adsefydlu yn cael ei danseilio i ryw raddau oherwydd diffyg cefnogaeth ôl-ofal. Pwysleisiwyd y mater hwn pan ymwelais â chanolfan adsefydlu o'r enw Inroads yng Nghaerdydd. Gwn fod gennych ddiddordeb yn y dull hwn, Weinidog, dull yr wyf wedi ei alw yn syniad y brawd mawr, gyda phobl yn cael eu lletya gyda'i gilydd ar ôl bod drwy gyfnod o adsefydlu fel y gallant gefnogi ei gilydd. Gwn eich bod yn credu yn yr egwyddor gynhwysol hon, a gallem ei gweld ar waith yma er budd nifer o bobl y mae arnynt wir angen cymorth.

Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn croesawu'r adroddiad, yn ogystal â'ch cefnogaeth i'n gwelliannau, Weinidog.

Leanne Wood: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 5: ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn gresynu bod diffyg pwerau'r Cynulliad yn ei atal rhag mynd i'r afael â'r bwlch cynyddol rhwng y cyfoethog a'r tlawd yng Nghymru.

Cynigiau welliant 6: ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gynhyrchu adroddiad cynnydd blynyddol ar y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, i gynnwys unrhyw gynnydd a wnaed o ran mynd i'r afael â'r bwlch anghydraddoldeb.

Yn ôl y ffigurau newydd oddi wrth Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree, mae gan y 10 y cant cyfoethocaf ym mhoblogaeth y DU 25 y cant o'r holl incwm, tra bo gan y 10 y cant tlotaf 2.5 y cant yn unig o'r holl incwm. Ar ôl wyth mlynedd o Lywodraeth Lafur yn Llundain, ni

there has been no attempt to address the inequalities gap that grew under Thatcher and Major. In Wales, the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration can do nothing meaningful about income inequality. She cannot use the tax system to take excess wealth from the rich to be redistributed to the poor, and she cannot use the benefits system to take people out of the poverty trap. Without these two key policy tools, we cannot have an impact on income poverty in Wales.

When the Assembly is turned into a proper parliament, and we are given the tools to create a better society, we will be able to address income inequality. Plaid Cymru will continue to work for us to have full powers to tackle poverty, and it is a shame that Labour in Wales will not do the same. London New Labour presides over a tax and benefits system that makes matters worse. The United Nations says that inequality in the UK has stalled development. It says that there is a need for a complete reversal of the pro-rich bias to eradicate Thatcher's legacy.

If we are honest, we all know that Tony Blair is not interested in reversing or eradicating Thatcherism—his mission is to extend it. The UN report says that meeting the 2010 target of halving child poverty will require more redistribution of wealth. Another report, by the think tank Civitas, claims that the high rate of child poverty is a result of New Labour's tax and benefits system. It argues that the system offers perverse incentives to people, and cites the example of the woman earning the minimum wage who becomes a non-working single mother and sees a significant increase in her standard of living. It also showed that the tax credit system can mean that some families are better off if they split up. I am sure that you will all agree that that is a perverse incentive.

The UK Government has focused on child poverty, which is to be commended. However, we should not ignore the poverty experienced by other groups. The number of low earners without dependents in poverty

chafwyd dim ymgais i roi sylw i'r bwlch anghydraddoldebau a dyfodd dan Thatcher a Major. Yng Nghymru, ni all y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio wneud dim byd ystyrlon ynghylch anghydraddoldeb incwm. Ni all ddefnyddio'r system dreth i fynd â'r gormodedd cyfoeth oddi ar y cyfoethog i'w ailddosbarthu i'r tlawd, ac ni all ddefnyddio'r system fudd-daliadau i ddwyn pobl allan o'r fagl dlodi. Heb y ddau gyfrwng polisi allweddol hyn, ni allwn gael effaith ar dlodi incwm yng Nghymru.

Pan droir y Cynulliad yn senedd iawn, a phan roddir inni'r cyfryngau i greu gwell cymdeithas, byddwn yn gallu rhoi sylw i anghydraddoldeb incwm. Bydd Plaid Cymru yn parhau i weithio er mwyn inni gael grymoedd cyflawn i fynd i'r afael â thlodi, ac mae'n bechod na wnaiff Llafur yng Nghymru yr un peth. Mae Llafur Newydd Llundain yn rheoli system sy'n gwneud pethau'n waeth. Dywed y Cenhedloedd Unedig fod anghydraddoldeb yn y DU wedi bod yn rhwystr rhag datblygu. Dywed fod yn rhaid gwrthdroi'r rhagfarn o blaid y cyfoethog yn llwyr i ddileu etifeddiaeth Thatcher.

Os ydym yn onest, gwyddom oll nad oes gan Tony Blair ddiddordeb mewn gwrthdroi na dileu Thatcheriaeth—ei genhadaeth yw ei hymestyn. Dywed adroddiad y CU y bydd cyrraedd y targed yn 2010 i haneru tlodi ymysg plant yn gofyn am ragor o ailddosbarthu cyfoeth. Mae adroddiad arall, gan y seiat syniadau Civitas, yn honni mai system dreth a budd-daliadau Llafur Newydd sydd wedi esgor ar y cyfraddau uchel o dlodi ymysg plant. Dadleua fod y system yn cynnig cymelliannau gwrthnysig i bobl, a chyfeiria at yr esiampl o fenyw sy'n ennill yr isafswm cyflog sy'n mynd yn fam sengl ddi-waith ac yn gweld cynnydd sylweddol yn ei safon byw. Dangosodd hefyd y gall y system credydau treth olygu bod rhai teuluoedd ar eu hennill os byddant yn gwahanu. Yr wyf yn sicr y byddwch oll yn cytuno bod hynny yn gymhelliad gwrthnysig.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi canolbwyntio ar dlodi ymysg plant, ac mae hyn i'w gymeradwyo. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylem anwybyddu'r tlodi y mae grwpiau eraill yn ei wynebu. Mae nifer y bobl sy'n ennill incwm

has increased by 300,000 since New Labour came to power. Single pensioners form another group that experiences disproportionate poverty—an estimated one in five people over 65 are cash poor, and that figure is even worse when you consider women. People with disabilities, students and asylum seekers form other groups that experience poverty, and, in many cases, Government policies make their situation even worse.

Plaid Cymru's amendment 6 asks for an annual progress report on the Communities First programme to see how it has reduced inequalities. We have seen several reviews of the Communities First programme that have resulted in quite a few different recommendations. Some of those recommendations refer to the need to measure effectiveness. Plaid Cymru—the Party of Wales wants to see an annual report specifically addressing the question of inequalities in the Communities First programme. Without this we cannot know whether or not the Communities First programme is having an impact; after all, we are spending a huge amount of money on this programme, and we must know whether or not it works.

One stated goal for Communities First is to tackle poverty. How do you intend to find out when you have reached that goal, Minister? I accept, because I sit on the committee, that you provide regular reports on Communities First, but we have no baseline for measuring poverty at the start of the programme in order to measure changes in the situation as time goes on. There are no measurements or benchmarks, and without these, we cannot know whether progress is being made.

4.10 p.m.

Janice Gregory: I will confine my remarks to the social justice report. I am sure that Leanne feels better after that tirade, as, I am sure, does Mark Isherwood, but I cannot accept that the Labour Party—new or old—has done nothing to address poverty. It certainly has in my constituency. I am

isel nad oes ganddynt ddibynyddion ac sydd mewn tlodi wedi cynyddu 300,000 ers i Lafur Newydd ddod i rym. Mae pensiynwyr sengl yn grŵp arall sy'n wynebu tlodi anghymesur—amcangyfrifir bod un o bob pump o bobl dros 65 yn dioddef tlodi ariannol, ac mae'r ffigur hwn yn waeth fyth os ystyriwch fenywod. Mae pobl ag anableddau, myfyrwyr a cheiswyr lloches yn grwpiau eraill sy'n wynebu tlodi, ac, mewn sawl achos, mae polisïau'r Llywodraeth yn gwneud eu sefyllfa yn waeth fyth.

Mae gwelliant 6 Plaid Cymru yn gofyn am adroddiad cynnydd blynyddol ar y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf i weld sut y mae wedi lleihau anghydraddoldebau. Yr ydym wedi gweld sawl adolygiad o'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf sydd wedi arwain at gryn dipyn o argymhellion gwahanol. Mae rhai o'r argymhellion hynny'n cyfeirio at yr angen i fesur effeithiolrwydd. Mae Plaid Cymru eisiau gweld adroddiad blynyddol yn rhoi sylw yn benodol i gwestiwn anghydraddoldebau yn y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Heb hyn, ni allwn wybod a yw'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn cael effaith ai peidio; wedi'r cyfan, yr ydym yn gwario swm aruthrol o arian ar y rhaglen hon, a rhaid inni wybod a yw'n gweithio ai peidio.

Un o'r nodau a ddynodwyd ar gyfer Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yw mynd i'r afael â thlodi. Sut y bwriadwch ganfod pa bryd yr ydych wedi cyrraedd y nod hwnnw, Weinidog? Derbyniaf, oherwydd fy mod yn eistedd ar y pwyllgor, eich bod yn darparu adroddiadau rheolaidd am y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ond nid oes gennym linell sylfaen i fesur tlodi ar ddechrau'r rhaglen er mwyn mesur newidiadau yn y sefyllfa gyda threigl amser. Nid oes dim mesuriadau na meincnodau, a heb y rhain, ni allwn wybod a oes cynnydd.

Janice Gregory: Cyfyngaf fy sylwadau i'r adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn sicr bod Leanne yn teimlo'n well ar ôl yr araith lem honno, a Mark Isherwood yr un modd, yr wyf yn sicr, ond ni allaf dderbyn nad yw'r Blaid Lafur—boed hen neu newydd—wedi gwneud dim i roi sylw i

delighted when I talk to people in my constituency who have benefited under the Labour Government in Cardiff bay and Westminster.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the report. When the 2004 report was considered by the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee and in Plenary, a number of reservations were expressed about the lack of detail and illustrations included that related to the non-social justice portfolio. Therefore, the 2004 report did not reflect the cross-cutting nature of the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to social justice. I am pleased to see that, to a large extent, that has been addressed.

As the Minister said, the 2005 report was considered by the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 18 May. On that occasion, the Minister said that the report in its current format may not be perfect. Who has ever produced a perfect report? However, it is packed with information that indicates the cross-cutting nature of her portfolio and enables the reader to see the wide range of work successfully being undertaken in the social justice arena.

The Social Justice and Regeneration Committee welcomed the report. It is true to say that some Members had reservations about the progress being made in measuring output, and therefore progress in the report itself. Members suggested that it would be helpful if the report were to include outputs that we, or rather the Welsh Assembly Government, are aiming for, and that are achieved over time so that progress, or lack of it, may be measured. As always, the Minister agreed to take these points on board, in the same way as she encompassed the committee's comments on last year's report. She undertook to examine how she may take this forward in the manner suggested.

The report provides a good basis from which to work, and I look forward to further progress. The Minister also undertook to

dlodi. Mae wedi gwneud hynny'n bendant yn fy etholaeth i. Yr wyf wrth fy modd pan fyddaf yn sgwrsio gyda phobl yn fy etholaeth sydd wedi elwa dan y Llywodraeth Lafur ym mae Caerdydd a San Steffan.

Mae'n rhoi pleser mawr imi groesawu'r adroddiad. Pan ystyriwyd adroddiad 2004 yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ac yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, mynegwyd nifer o amheuon ynghylch y diffyg manylder ac enghreifftiau a gynhwyswyd a oedd yn gysylltiedig â'r portffolio nad oedd yn ymwneud â chyfiawnder cymdeithasol. O'r herwydd, nid adlewyrchai adroddiad 2004 natur drawsbynciol ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn falch o weld bod hynny, i raddau helaeth, wedi cael sylw.

Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, ystyriodd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio adroddiad 2005 ar 18 Mai. Bryd hynny, dywedodd y Gweinidog nad oedd yr adroddiad yn berffaith o bosibl ar ei ffurf bresennol. Pwy sydd wedi cynhyrchu adroddiad perffaith erioed? Fodd bynnag, mae'n llawn gwybodaeth sy'n dangos natur drawsbynciol ei phortffolio ac mae'n galluogi'r darlennydd i weld yr amrywiaeth helaeth o waith a wneir yn llwyddiannus ym maes cyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

Croesawodd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yr adroddiad. Mae'n wir dweud bod gan rai Aelodau amheuon am y cynnydd a wneir o ran mesur allbwn, ac felly'r cynnydd yn yr adroddiad ei hun. Awgrymodd yr Aelodau y byddai o gymorth pe byddai'r adroddiad yn cynnwys yr allbynnau yr ydym ni, neu yn hytrach Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, yn anelu tuag atynt, ac a sicrheir dros amser fel y gellir mesur y cynnydd, neu'r diffyg cynnydd. Fel arfer, cytunodd y Gweinidog y byddai'n derbyn y pwyntiau hyn, yn yr un modd ag y derbyniodd sylwadau'r pwyllgor am adroddiad y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Addawodd y byddai'n archwilio sut y bydd o bosibl yn bwrw ymlaen â hyn yn y modd a awgrymwyd.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhoi sylfaen dda i weithio arni, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gynnydd pellach. Addawodd y Gweinidog hefyd y

come back to the committee after today's debate to discuss Members' suggestions on what targets she should look at for next year's report. I also look forward to that. Such commitment from the Minister is appreciated by all Assembly Members. I believe that Rhodri Glyn said in committee that the report is evidence of what can be achieved when people work in an inclusive manner. I am proud of the consensus that is reached as a rule, rather than as an exception, in the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. I pay tribute to my fellow committee members for their part in that.

William Graham: As a former member of the committee, I will start by thanking the Chair, the Minister and the committee members for their indulgence to me while I was a member. I particularly pay tribute to those who gave their time to provide such excellent evidence, which formed a great basis for this report.

I wish to note that, as the Chair has just remarked, there is a greater level of consensus in this committee than there may be in others. However, we were often dealing with issues arising from specialist expert reports, such as substance abuse or accommodation for the elderly. Such discussions focus on providing for people's physical needs, allowing them to regain access to normal lives, and not upon determining the structure of society. Although we may all share aspirations to achieve specific objectives, wide differences would be seen between our approaches to achieving those. On this side of the Chamber, we would offer broad support to any schemes that promote wider participation in all aspects of improving community life.

I regret however that we must acknowledge that we may not always be looking in the right direction when addressing social problems. Poverty is one such example, as highlighted in the recent Joseph Rowntree Foundation centenary report, which stated that many of the communities in Wales that

byddai'n dod yn ôl at y pwyllgor ar ôl y ddaidl heddiw i drafod awgrymiadau'r Aelodau ynghylch pa dargedau y dylai edrych arnynt ar gyfer adroddiad y flwyddyn nesaf. Edrychaf ymlaen at hynny hefyd. Mae holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn gwerthfawrogi ymrwymiad o'r fath. Credaf fod Rhodri Glyn wedi dweud yn y pwyllgor fod yr adroddiad yn dystiolaeth o'r hyn y gellir ei gyflawni pan fydd pobl yn gweithio mewn modd cynhwysol. Yr wyf yn falch o'r consensws a sicrheir fel rheol, yn hytrach nag fel eithriad, yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Talaf deyrnged i fy nghyd-aelodau o'r pwyllgor am eu rhan yn hynny.

William Graham: Fel cyn aelod o'r pwyllgor, dechreuaf drwy ddiolch i'r Cadeirydd, i'r Gweinidog ac i aelodau'r pwyllgor am eu goddefgarwch tuag ataf tra oeddwn yn aelod. Talaf deyrnged yn arbennig i'r rhai a roddodd o'u hamser i ddarparu tystiolaeth mor ardderchog, tystiolaeth a ffurfiodd sail wych i'r adroddiad hwn.

Hoffwn nodi, fel y dywedodd y Cadeirydd yn awr, fod lefel fwy o gonsensws yn y pwyllgor hwn nag a geir mewn rhai eraill efallai. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn aml yn delio â materion sy'n codi o adroddiadau arbenigwyr, megis camddefnyddio sylweddau neu letyau i'r henoed. Mae trafodaethau o'r fath yn canolbwyntio ar ddarparu ar gyfer anghenion corfforol pobl, gan ganiatáu iddynt gael bywydau normal drachefn, ac nid ar bennu strwythur y gymdeithas. Er ein bod oll o bosibl yn rhannu dyheadau i fodloni amcanion penodol, byddai gwahaniaethau eang i'w gweld rhwng ein dulliau o gyflawni'r amcanion hynny. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, byddem yn cynnig cefnogaeth eang i unrhyw gynlluniau sy'n hybu cyfranogaeth ehangach ym mhob agwedd ar wella bywyd cymunedol.

Gresynaf fodd bynnag at y ffaith bod yn rhaid inni gydnabod nad ydym bob amser o bosibl yn edrych i'r cyfeiriad cywir wrth roi sylw i broblemau cymdeithasol. Mae tlodi yn un esiampl o'r fath, fel yr amlygwyd yn adroddiad canmlwyddiant Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree yn ddiweddar. Dywedwyd yn yr

are classified as deprived are outside the Communities First areas. I also recall a visit by the Deputy Minister to Merthyr, where difficulties with the GPs' contract had exacerbated the problems of people who were seeking treatment, particularly in the case of people with alcohol and substance abuse problems. I would welcome an assurance from the Minister that she will look at this matter in conjunction with her colleague in order to see how the situation could be improved. The number of GPs that are actually prepared to treat drug addicts in Merthyr is alarmingly low, and I look forward to hearing from the Deputy Minister for Communities on that particular issue.

In improving our communities, we must place greater emphasis on the promotion of citizenship and respect for other people and their property. We must also acknowledge the need to continually review our approach to substance abuse, particularly when the availability of drugs in Welsh towns is said to be increasing and the cost, falling. We await the social outcome arising from the new licensing laws and the anticipated impact upon our health services and police services. Sadly, many of these pressures are visible today within our binge-drinking culture.

The Minister will know that massive concern is now being expressed with regard to the Supporting People fund and the carers special grant, which will cease to be ring-fenced when it is handed over to local authorities next year, at a time when we know that council budgets are under massive pressure. As for anti-poverty initiatives, debt poverty is reaching crisis proportions, and citizens advice bureaux report that debt inquiries are increasing faster in Wales than elsewhere in the UK.

In tackling some of the problems of binge drinking, the Minister could look again at my suggestion of the use of a 'three R' programme, which is about: respect for other people, their property and themselves; refusal

adroddiad fod llawer o'r cymunedau yng Nghymru sy'n cael eu dynodi'n gymunedau difreintiedig y tu allan i ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yr wyf hefyd yn cofio ymweliad gan y Dirprwy Weinidog â Merthyr, lle'r oedd anawsterau gyda chontract y meddygon teulu wedi dwysáu problemau'r bobl a oedd yn ceisio cael triniaeth, yn enwedig yn achos pobl a oedd â phroblemau camddefnyddio alcohol a sylweddau. Byddem yn croesawu sicrwydd oddi wrth y Gweinidog y bydd yn edrych ar y mater hwn mewn cydweithrediad â'i chyd-Aelod er mwyn gweld sut y gellid gwella'r sefyllfa. Mae nifer y meddygon teulu sy'n barod mewn gwirionedd i drin pobl sy'n gaeth i gyffuriau ym Merthyr yn frawychus o isel, ac edrychaf ymlaen at glywed gan y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Gymunedau ar y mater arbennig hwnnw.

Wrth wella ein cymunedau, rhaid inni roi mwy o bwyslais ar hybu dinasyddiaeth a pharch at bobl eraill a'u heiddo. Rhaid inni gydnabod hefyd yr angen i adolygu'n barhaus ein dull o ymdrin â chamddefnyddio sylweddau, yn enwedig pan ddywedir bod nifer gynyddol o gyffuriau ar gael yn nhrefi Cymru a bod y gost yn gostwng. Arhoswn am ganlyniadau cymdeithasol y deddfau trwyddedu newydd a'r effaith ddisgwyliedig ar ein gwasanaethau iechyd a gwasanaethau'r heddlu. Gwaetha'r modd, mae llawer o'r pwysau hyn i'w gweld heddiw yn ein diwylliant o oryfed mewn pyliau.

Gŵyr y Gweinidog fod pryder mawr yn cael ei fynegi ar hyn o bryd ynglŷn â'r gronfa Cefnogi Pobl a grant arbennig y gofalwyr, na chânt eu neilltuo mwyach ar ôl eu trosglwyddo i'r awdurdodau lleol y flwyddyn nesaf, ar adeg pan wyddom fod cyllidebau'r cynghorau dan bwysau aruthrol. O ran cynlluniau gwrthdlodi, mae tlodi dyledion bellach bron yn argyfwng, ac yn ôl y canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth mae ymholiadau ynghylch dyledion yn cynyddu'n gyflymach yng Nghymru nag yn unman arall yn y Deyrnas Unedig.

Wrth fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r problemau sy'n ymwneud â goryfed mewn pyliau, gallai'r Gweinidog edrych drachefn ar fy awgrym o ddefnyddio rhaglen driphlyg, sy'n ymwneud â pharch at bobl eraill, eu heiddo a hwy eu

to serve alcohol to, or buy it for, anyone who is clearly intoxicated; and reviewing licences to sell alcohol in establishments failing to comply with these guidelines and the freedom to buy alcohol for those unable to behave.

Karen Sinclair: I welcome this latest social justice report and thank the Minister and her officials for all their hard work in putting it together. I chaired the task and finish group on British Sign Language interpreter services in Wales, and I was delighted to see it included in the report as an example of one of the ways in which the Labour Assembly Government is tackling social inequality in Wales.

The Labour Assembly Government has made its position on British Sign Language clear, recognising it as a language used by more than 3,000 deaf citizens in Wales and publishing recommendations to ensure that those citizens have access to essential services and are not socially excluded because of the language that they use, as has so often been the case in the past.

If, as the published recommendations suggest, the number of BSL interpreters in Wales is increased to be in line with other European countries, it will significantly move forward the agendas of tackling inequality, economic inactivity and promoting sustainable development for BSL users in Wales. It will help us and other public service providers to fulfil our obligations under current legislation to remove the barriers that make it unreasonably difficult for deaf people to access services that most of us take for granted. It will also ensure that thousands of BSL users in Wales can achieve their economic potential, of which they have been deprived in the past, by making properly qualified interpreters available in the workplace.

The work contained in this social justice

hunain; gwrthod gweini alcohol i neb, na'i brynu i neb, sy'n amlwg yn feddw; ac adolygu trwyddedau gwerthu alcohol mewn lleoedd nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â'r canllawiau hyn a'r rhyddid i brynu alcohol i'r rhai sy'n methu ag ymddwyn.

Karen Sinclair: Yr wyf yn croesawu'r adroddiad diweddaraf hwn ynghylch cyfiawnder cymdeithasol a diolchaf i'r Gweinidog a'i swyddogion am eu gwaith caled wrth ei lunio. Cadeiriais y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen ar wasanaethau cyfieithu Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yng Nghymru, a braf oedd gweld ei gynnwys yn yr adroddiad fel enghraifft o un o'r ffyrdd y mae Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad yn mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb yng Nghymru.

Mae Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad wedi gwneud ei safbwynt ar Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yn eglur, gan ei chydabod yn iaith a ddefnyddir gan fwy na 3,000 o ddinasyddion byddar yng Nghymru a chyhoeddi argymhellion i sicrhau boe y dinasyddion hynny'n gallu defnyddio gwasanaethau hanfodol ac na chânt eu hallgáu'n gymdeithasol oherwydd yr iaith y maent yn ei defnyddio, fel sydd wedi digwydd mor aml yn y gorffennol.

Os cynyddir nifer cyfieithwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain i gyd-fynd â'r niferoedd mewn gwledydd Ewropeaidd eraill, fel yr awgrymir yn yr argymhellion sydd wedi eu cyhoeddi, bydd yn gam mawr ymlaen i agendâu mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb, anweithgarwch economaidd a hybu datblygu cynaliadwy ar gyfer defnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yng Nghymru. Bydd yn help i ni ac i eraill sy'n darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus gyflawni ein rhwymedigaethau dan y ddeddfwriaeth gyfredol i ddileu'r rhwystrau sy'n ei gwneud yn afresymol o anodd i bobl fyddar fedru defnyddio'r gwasanaethau hynny y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn eu cymryd yn ganiataol. Bydd hefyd yn sicrhau y gall miloedd o ddefnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yng Nghymru gyflawni eu potensial economaidd, rhywbeth yr amddifadwyd hwy ohono yn y gorffennol, drwy ddarparu cyfieithwyr trwyddedig a chymwys yn y gweithle.

Mae'r gwaith a geir yn yr adroddiad hwn ar

report is a prime example of how Labour Assembly Government policy leads to action that, in turn, leads to a truly inclusive society. Current Assembly Government thinking, as laid out in 'Making the Connections', 'The Learning Country' and other documents, backs action to improve quality of life through higher levels of skill acquisition that will engage BSL users as non-traditional workforce learners in training, enabling them to deliver their economic potential. That will be achieved only if competent interpreters are made widely available. From the Government's position, the need to effectively implement the recommendations contained in the BSL report is clear and unmistakable. Inability to access interpreter services causes poor service delivery, economic inactivity and social exclusion throughout the country. It is paramount that, as the Assembly Government, we make a robust and united effort to remedy this situation.

The BSL task and finish group recommended setting up a scheme that would fast-track training for BSL interpreters to substantially increase their availability. While considering this report, members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee highlighted the importance of outputs when evaluating efforts to tackle social exclusion in Wales. The outcomes of the particular scheme I mentioned are clear and apparent: it will create 36 BSL interpreter services for small and medium-sized enterprises; it will enable 50 BSL users to qualify to teach in their own language; and support thousands of BSL users in Wales to achieve their economic potential by making properly qualified interpreters available in the workplace.

4.20 p.m.

As with any measure, that will make a real and permanent change. This scheme will not come without a price tag, of course. An

gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn enghraifft wych o'r modd y mae polisi Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad yn arwain at weithredu sydd, yn ei dro, yn arwain at gymdeithas wirioneddol gynhwysol. Mae meddylfryd cyfredol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, fel y mae wedi ei fynegi yn 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau', 'Y Wlad sy'n Dysgu' a dogfennau eraill, o blaid gweithredu i wella ansawdd bywyd drwy ennill sgiliau uwch a fydd yn cynnwys defnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain fel dysgwyr anhraddodiadol ymhlith y gweithlu mewn hyfforddiant, gan eu galluogi i gyflawni eu potensial economaidd. Ni chyflawnir hynny oni bai fod digonedd o gyfieithwyr cymwys ar gael. O safbwynt y Llywodraeth, mae angen clir a diamwys i weithredu'r argymhellion sydd yn yr adroddiad ar Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yn effeithiol. Mae'r anallu i gael gwasanaethau cyfieithu yn achosi darpariaeth wael o ran y gwasanaethau, anweithgarwch economaidd ac allgáu cymdeithasol ar draws y wlad. Mae'n hanfodol i ni, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, wneud ymdrechion cadarn ac unedig i unioni'r sefyllfa hon.

Argymhellodd grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen Iaith Arwyddion Prydain y dylid sefydlu cynllun a fyddai'n rhoi hyfforddiant drwy'r llwybr cyflym i gyfieithwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain fel y byddai llawer mwy ohonynt ar gael. Wrth ystyried yr adroddiad hwn, tynnodd aelodau'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio sylw at bwysigrwydd canlyniadau wrth gloriannu ymdrechion i fynd i'r afael ag allgáu cymdeithasol yng Nghymru. Mae canlyniadau'r cynllun neilltuoel a grybwyllais yn eglur ac yn amlwg: bydd yn creu 36 o wasanaethau cyfieithwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain i fentrau bach a chanolig; bydd yn galluogi 50 o ddefnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain i ennill cymwysterau i ddysgu yn eu haith eu hunain; a chefnogi miloedd o ddefnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yng Nghymru i gyflawni eu potensial economaidd drwy ddarparu cyfieithwyr trwyddedig a chymwys yn y gweithle.

Fel gyda phob mesur, bydd hynny'n creu newid gwirioneddol a pharhaol. Ni ddaw'r cynllun hwn yn rhad ac am ddim, wrth

Assembly commitment to the scheme of £1.25 million matched with support from Europe would, I believe, ensure that this scheme could be established, enabling deaf BSL users to play a full part as economically active citizens of Wales. That is their right.

The Assembly Government has made a bold move in publishing recommendations on social inclusion for the BSL community in this report. It now has a chance to promote economic equality, development and competitiveness at the same time as improving access to a host of different services that will improve the quality of life of the deaf community in Wales.

Unlocking the potential of Wales is the thrust of this social justice report, and I wholeheartedly welcome the commitment of the Labour Welsh Assembly Government in its efforts to do this.

Lorraine Barrett: First of all, I would like to thank the Minister for committing £5,000 a year for the next three years to the Cardiff Mardi Gras, which has become one of Wales's premier cultural events, along with the Eisteddfod and even the Royal Welsh Show.

I was a bit disappointed to see the Tory amendment before us today—it took me back to the time of John Redwood, when he made his infamous attack on St Mellons. I want to use St Mellons as an example of what the Government in Wales and the UK can do, as all sorts of funding has been put into St Mellons. However, it is the people of St Mellons who have lifted themselves out of the terrible mire into which John Redwood put them all those years ago. People still remember the harsh words that he used to unfairly attack them.

David Davies: Will you give way?

Lorraine Barrett: I will give way this one time.

David Davies: I wonder whether the Member

reswm. Byddai ymrwymiad gan y Cynulliad i roddi £1.25 miliwn i'r cynllun a chefnogaeth gyfatebol o Ewrop, fe gredaf, yn sicrhau y gellid sefydlu'r cynllun hwn, a galluogi defnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain i chwarae rhan lawn fel dinasyddion sy'n weithredol yn economaidd yng Nghymru. Mae ganddynt hawl i gael hynny.

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi bod yn ddewr wrth gyhoeddi argymhellion ar gynhwysiant cymdeithasol ar gyfer cymuned Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yn yr adroddiad hwn. Bellach mae ganddi gyfle i hybu cydraddoldeb, datblygiad a chystadleurwydd economaidd ar yr un pryd â gwella mynediad at lu o wasanaethau gwahanol a fydd yn gwella ansawdd bywyd y gymuned fyddar yng Nghymru.

Rhyddhau potensial Cymru yw byrdwn yr adroddiad hwn ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, ac yr wyf yn llwyr groesawu ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Lafur Cynulliad Cymru yn ei hymdrechion i wneud hyn.

Lorraine Barrett: Yn gyntaf oll, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am ymrwymo i roddi £5,000 y flwyddyn i Mardi Gras Caerdydd, sydd wedi tyfu'n un o brif ddiwyddiadau diwylliannol Cymru, ynghyd â'r Eisteddfod a hyd yn oed Sioe Frenhinol Cymru.

Yr oeddwn ychydig yn siomedig o weld gwelliant y Ceidwadwyr o'n blaenau heddiw—aeth â mi yn ôl i amser John Redwood, pan wnaeth ei ymosodiad gwaradwyddus ar Laneirwg. Yr wyf am ddefnyddio Llaneirwg fel enghraifft o'r hyn y gall y Llywodraeth yng Nghymru a'r Deyrnas Unedig ei wneud, gan fod pob math o gyllid wedi ei roddi i Laneirwg. Fodd bynnag, pobl Llaneirwg sydd wedi eu codi eu hunain o'r gors ofnadwy y rhoes John Redwood hwy ynddi amser maith yn ôl. Mae pobl yn dal i gofio'r geiriau cas a ddefnyddiodd i ymosod arnynt yn y modd mwyaf annheg.

David Davies: A wnewch ildio?

Lorraine Barrett: Ildiaf unwaith.

David Davies: Tybed a wnaiff yr Aelod

will tell us what he actually said, and then we can decide for ourselves.

Lorraine Barrett: Actually, no—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You gave way, Lorraine. Have you finished with the intervention, David?

David Davies: Yes, I have.

Lorraine Barrett: I am sorry, Deputy Presiding Officer, I was just reminded that David Davies was not here for the whole debate, so I was not minded to allow his intervention.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. David Davies is not asking to speak but to intervene, which is in your gift, and I thought that you sat down to allow him to intervene, which he duly did.

Lorraine Barrett: In St Mellons, we have a brand new community centre called the Beacon Centre, which was officially opened by the First Minister, supported by an injection of Objective 2 funding. We have a £1.3 million St Mellons healthy living project. Vital youth and nutrition work goes on there. There is a play-work project and a food co-operative. However, the most important thing is not just the essential funding from this Government, but the way in which that money has been used by community members to help themselves. It really is inspiring.

While an awful lot of really good things have happened under the umbrella of social justice, Minister, sustained funding is needed for these projects in St Mellons. Some will continue by other means, but I know that the workers in St Mellons wanted me to bring that message to you. If there is any other way of helping some of the projects to continue, I know that they would be grateful for it.

My other point is about affordable rented housing. As the Minister will know, I have spoken on several occasions about looking

ddweud wrthym beth a ddywedodd ef mewn gwirionedd, er mwyn inni gael penderfynu drosom ein hunain.

Lorraine Barrett: Fel y mae'n digwydd, na wnaaf—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ildiasoch, Lorraine. A ydych wedi gorffen eich ymyriad, David?

David Davies: Ydw.

Lorraine Barrett: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Ddirprwy Lywydd, cefais fy atgoffa nad oedd David Davies yma ar gyfer y drafodaeth gyfan, ac felly nid oeddwn am ganiatáu ei ymyriad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Nid gofyn am gael siarad y mae David Davies ond yn hytrach am gael ymyrryd, a chennych chi y mae hawl i ganiatáu hynny, a chredwn ichi eistedd i ganiatáu iddo ymyrryd, a dyna a wnaeth.

Lorraine Barrett: Yn Llaneirwg mae gennym ganolfan gymunedol newydd sbon o'r enw y Goleufan, a agorwyd yn swyddogol gan y Prif Weinidog, gyda chymorth cyllid Amcan 2. Mae gennym brosiect byw'n iach gwerth £1.3 miliwn yn Llaneirwg. Mae gwaith hanfodol yn mynd rhagddo yno o ran pobl ifanc ac ym maes maeth. Ceir prosiect gwaith a chwarae a chwmni bwyd cydweithredol. Fodd bynnag, nid y cyllid hanfodol gan y Llywodraeth hon yw'r peth pwysicaf, ond yn hytrach y modd y defnyddiwyd yr arian hwnnw gan aelodau o'r gymuned i'w helpu eu hunain. Mae'n ysbrydoliaeth yn wir.

Er bod llawer iawn o bethau da wedi digwydd dan nawdd cyfiawnder cymdeithasol, Weinidog, mae angen cyllid parhaus ar y prosiectau hyn yn Llaneirwg. Bydd rhai'n parhau drwy ddulliau eraill, ond gwn fod gweithwyr Llaneirwg am imi drosglwyddo'r neges honno ichi. Os oes dull arall o helpu rhai o'r prosiectau i barhau, gwn y byddent yn ddiolchgar am hynny.

Mae a wnelo fy mhwynt arall â thai rhent fforddiadwy. Fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, yr wyf wedi siarad droeon ynghylch ailedrych ar yr

again at the right to buy, and bringing it to an end. Some 11,000 council properties in Cardiff alone have been sold off since 1981, but the population has grown by 30,000, and I think that we must all have people coming to see us in our surgeries and writing to us about their situations. Places are overcrowded, and there is no hope of getting another council or housing association house for many years. I support Shelter Cymru's call for the right to buy to be halted, at least for the time being, because, as far as I am concerned, people have a right to rent. I wonder whether the Tories will support my call for that.

Sandy Mewies: One thing that has particularly interested me in this report has been the look across the portfolios at social justice, which is extremely important. It gives a flavour of what the Welsh Assembly Government and, indeed, the Assembly is doing in that regard. I was not going to comment on what people had said, but Lorraine Barrett mentioned the right to buy. Mark Isherwood would be well reminded that it was his party that introduced the right to buy, and it was his party that would have had the first opportunity to change that policy. In fact, the rot continued for years. That was one of the major changes to happen.

Mark Isherwood *rose—*

Sandy Mewies: I am not taking an intervention, as you had plenty of time to make your case. I do not have enough time.

Perhaps it would be as well to remember that fact when we consider the effects of homelessness, which is causing huge problems.

Alun Ffred Jones *rose—*

Sandy Mewies: I do not have much time, as there are many speakers to come. We have already had that message from the Deputy Presiding Officer, so, if you do not mind, I will continue.

I wish to concentrate on what we are doing because, sometimes, it takes time to remedy

hawl i brynu, a dod ag ef i ben. Mae tua 11,000 o dai cyngor yng Nghaerdydd yn unig wedi eu gwerthu ers 1981, ond mae'r boblogaeth wedi cynyddu 30,000, ac yr wyf yn credu bod pobl yn dod at bob un ohonom yn ein cymorthfeydd ac yn ysgrifennu atom am eu sefyllfaoedd. Mae lleoedd wedi gorlenwi, ac nid oes gobaith cael tŷ cyngor neu dŷ gan gymdeithas dai am flynyddoedd lawer. Yr wyf yn cefnogi galwad Shelter Cymru am atal yr hawl i brynu, am y tro o leiaf, oherwydd, lle yr wyf fi yn y cwestiwn, mae gan bobl hawl i rentu. Tybed a wnaiff y Ceidwadwyr gefnogi fy ngalwad yn hyn o beth?

Sandy Mewies: Mae un peth wedi ennyn diddordeb neilltuol ynof yn yr adroddiad hwn sef iddo fwrw golwg ar draws y portffolios ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, sy'n beth pwysig iawn. Mae'n rhoi blas ar yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac, yn wir, y Cynulliad yn ei wneud yn hynny o beth. Nid oeddwn am gynnig sylwadau am yr hyn y mae pobl wedi ei ddweud, ond soniodd Lorraine Barrett am yr hawl i brynu. Dylai Mark Isherwood gofio mai ei blaid ef a gyflwynodd yr hawl i brynu, ac mai ei blaid ef a fyddai wedi cael y cyfle cyntaf i newid y polisi hwnnw. Mewn gwirionedd, parhaodd y drwg yn y caws am flynyddoedd. Dyna un o'r prif newidiadau a ddigwyddodd.

Mark Isherwood *a gododd—*

Sandy Mewies: Nid wyf yn derbyn ymyriad, gan i chi gael digonedd o amser i gyflwyno'ch dadl. Nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser.

Efallai y dylid cofio'r ffaith honno pan ystyriwn effeithiau digartrefedd, sy'n achosi problemau enfawr.

Alun Ffred Jones *a gododd—*

Sandy Mewies: Nid oes gennyf lawer o amser, gan fod nifer o siaradwyr eraill am siarad. Cawsom y neges honno eisoes gan y Dirprwy Lywydd, ac felly, os nad oes ots gennyf, af ymlaen.

Hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud oherwydd, weithiau, mae'n cymryd

great wrongs. Care and Repair Cymru is one example of what is happening throughout Wales; that is helping people to stay in their own homes. When I was a chair of social services, I could see that disrepair in homes was driving people into nursing and residential homes, because they could not bear to live in the conditions that they were in.

In Delyn, we have had well over £1 million from Communities First. That has benefited bigger schemes, such as community centres, but also, as has been mentioned, it has been used to tackle indebtedness. In areas such as mine, some extremely poor areas are targeted constantly by finance companies offering people huge loans that they cannot afford to pay back. These are long-term issues needing long-term solutions; they are being put into practice.

Social justice is quite a hard concept to grasp, and that was brought home to me when I was listening to a presentation at a seminar organised by Age Concern in north-east Wales last week. A professor from Cardiff came to talk about how all of us who face ageing can tackle that problem ourselves and help ourselves. He talked about nutrition and exercise, and someone from the audience raised a concern about older people who cannot, perhaps, afford to shop as well as some of us, luckily, can. I was able to tell him about the food co-operatives that work so well. In my area, there is one in Bryn Gwalia, which is the biggest in Wales, but there are food co-operatives throughout. That means that older people do not have to rely on tinned food and so on, as they can buy and receive fresh food every week that will last them and do them good, and they do not have to use public transport to get it.

These are long-term solutions, and I feel that it is time that governments started to look at long-term solutions, and not at quick fixes. Some governments have done enormous

amser i unioni camweddau mawr. Un enghraifft yw Gofal a Thrwsio Cymru o'r hyn sy'n digwydd ar draws Cymru; mae hynny'n helpu pobl i aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Pan oeddwn yn gadeirydd gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, gallwn weld fod cyflwr gwael eu cartrefi'n gorfodi pobl i fynd i gartrefi nyrsio a chartrefi preswyl, am na allent oddef byw dan yr amodau yr oeddent yn byw ynddynt.

Yn Nelyn, yr ydym wedi cael rhagor na £1 miliwn gan Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae hynny wedi bod o fudd i'r cynlluniau mwyaf, fel canolfannau cymunedol, ond hefyd, fel y crybwyllwyd, cafodd ei ddefnyddio i fynd i'r afael â dyledusrwydd. Mewn ardaloedd fel fy un i, mae cwmnïau cyllid yn targedu ardaloedd tlawd iawn drwy'r amser gan gynnig benthyciadau anferth i bobl na fedrant fforddio eu had-dalu. Materion hirdymor yw'r rhain ac mae angen atebion hirdymor iddynt; maent yn cael eu rhoi ar waith.

Mae cyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn gysyniad eithaf anodd ei ddeall, a daeth hynny'n amlwg i mi pan oeddwn yn gwrandao ar gyflwyniad mewn seminar a drefnwyd gan Gyngor yr Henoed yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru yr wythnos diwethaf. Daeth athro coleg o Gaerdydd i siarad am y modd y gall pawb ohonom sy'n wynebu henaient fynd i'r afael â'r broblem honno drosom ein hunain a'n helpu ein hunain. Soniodd am faeth ac ymarfer corff, a chododd rhywun yn y gynulleidfa bwynt ynghylch bryder ynglŷn â phobl hŷn na allant, efallai, siopa cystal ag y mae'r rhelyw ohonom yn medru gwneud, drwy lwc. Yr oeddwn yn gallu sôn wrtho am y cwmnïau bwyd cydweithredol sy'n gweithio mor dda. Yn fy ardal i, mae un ym Mryn Gwalia, a hwnnw yw'r mwyaf yng Nghymru, ond mae cwmnïau bwyd cydweithredol i'w cael ym mhobman. Golyga hynny nad oes raid i bobl hŷn ddibynnu ar fwyd tun ac yn y blaen, gan fod modd iddynt brynu a chael bwyd ffres bob wythnos a fydd yn para ac yn gwneud lles iddynt, ac nid oes raid iddynt ddefnyddio cludiant cyhoeddus i fynd i'w gael.

Atebion hirdymor yw'r rhain, ac yr wyf yn credu ei bod yn bryd i lywodraethau edrych ar atebion hirdymor, yn hytrach nag atebion sydyn. Mae rhai llywodraethau wedi gwneud

damage in the past—and I refer to the Thatcher Government in that context. The long-term benefits that will be received from a Labour-run Welsh Assembly Government and a Labour Government at Westminster will be seen, on reflection, in years to come, because we will have provided long-term, thoughtful solutions. Members on the opposition benches may smile, but that cynicism is part of what brought Wales to its knees during the Conservative Government.

Peter Law: To understand poverty and deprivation, you have to live in it, and those who live in it are committed to it for a long time, which is why this debate is important. I listened carefully to the Minister's opening remarks as she is a great champion for people in deprived communities. However, it is a pretty poor reflection on the First Minister and the Minister for Economic Development and Transport that they disappeared through the doors as soon as they could afterwards. That is a poor reflection indeed, and people can see that.

The fact is that we need the Government to take account of what people need, and what children need as the generation of tomorrow. We need to see the infrastructure and the opportunity to create those jobs that will bring wealth and quality of life. If you do not have well-paid quality jobs, you will not have quality of life, and that cannot cascade down, as it must in any family, to help those children to have a future. That is why I am concerned that we should have direction of industry into places such as Blaenau Gwent and other places where there is such poverty. That poverty is still there and it must be addressed.

4.30 p.m.

The report tells of many good things that the Government has done over the last few years, but do not forget about basics and fundamentals, such as speech and language therapy. How many of you know how many children cannot speak clearly and enjoy what we take for granted? That is a big problem in areas such as Blaenau Gwent and other Valleys communities. We must have more speech and language therapists—they must

difrod mawr yn y gorffennol—a sôn yr wyf am Lywodraeth Thatcher yn hynny o beth. Gwelir manteision hirdymor Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru dan ofal Llafur a Llywodraeth Lafur yn San Steffan, o ystyried y peth, ymhen blynyddoedd, am y byddwn wedi darparu atebion meddylgar, hirdymor. Hawdd y gall Aelodau sydd ar feinciau'r wrthblaid wenu, ond mae'r sinigiaeth honno'n rhan o'r hyn a loriodd Gymru yn ystod Llywodraeth y Ceidwadwyr.

Peter Law: I ddeall tlodi ac amddifadedd, rhaid byw ynddo, ac mae'r rhai sy'n byw ynddo yn gorfod bod ynddo am amser maith, a dyna pam y mae'r drafodaeth hon yn bwysig. Bùm yn gwrando'n ofalus ar sylwadau agoriadol y Gweinidog gan ei bod yn lladmerydd gwych i bobl mewn cymunedau amddifad. Fodd bynnag, mae'n adlewyrchu'n wael ar y Prif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth iddynt ddiplannu drwy'r drws cyn gynted ag y medrent wedi hynny. Mae'n adlewyrchiad gwael iawn, a gall pobl weld hynny.

Y gwir amdani yw bod angen i'r Llywodraeth gadw mewn cof yr hyn y mae ar bobl ei angen, a'r hyn y mae ar blant ei angen fel cenhedlaeth y dyfodol. Mae angen inni weld y seilwaith a'r cyfle i greu'r swyddi hynny a ddaw â chyfoeth a bywyd o ansawdd da. Onid oes gennyh swyddi da sy'n talu'n dda, ni fydd ansawdd eich bywyd yn dda, ac ni all hynny raeadru i lawr, fel y dylai mewn unrhyw deulu, i helpu'r plant hynny i gael dyfodol. Dyna pam yr wyf yn awyddus i weld cyfeirio diwydiant i leoedd megis Blaenau Gwent a lleoedd eraill lle y ceir tlodi o'r fath. Mae'r tlodi hwnnw yno o hyd, a rhaid mynd i'r afael ag ef.

Cyfeiria'r adroddiad at nifer o bethau da y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi eu gwneud dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, ond gadewch inni beidio ag anghofio am bethau sylfaenol ac elfennol, megis therapi lleferydd ac iaith. Faint ohonoch sy'n gwybod faint o blant sy'n methu â siarad yn glir, a mwynhau'r hyn a gymerwn ni'n ganiataol? Mae hon yn broblem fawr mewn lleoedd fel Blaenau Gwent a chymunedau eraill yn y Cymoedd.

be a priority and the issue must be addressed. Not everything in the garden is rosy, and there is no room for complacency.

I see some major references in the report to what has been spent in terms of the Corus closures, in my area. There is much disappointment in Blaenau Gwent, because we still have a base from the days of the steelworks and we were promised a learning campus, which has evaporated. No-one knows anything about it—it has disappeared.

Huw Lewis: Rubbish.

Peter Law: It is not rubbish—come to meet me in Ebbw Vale and we will have a debate about it, Mr Deputy Minister. You know that you are inadequate in Merthyr. Come up to Ebbw Vale to speak with me—I will deal with you.

The other issue is the community hospital. We were promised a community hospital, and we have looked forward to it, but we are now told that it will not be ready until 2009. There is not a brick down, and it is a major concern to the people of Blaenau Gwent. That project has fallen back.

As I said earlier to the First Minister, what about the railway? That was a gem for us, to give young people the chance to get to work in Cardiff and to have educational and social opportunities, but the date has slid back from 2005 to 2007. It is a disgrace, as I said earlier. We need a Government which will deliver on its promises, which is part of this report. It is no good to just have platitudes and complacency, so I ask again for this to be looked at carefully as far as the Corus package in Ebbw Vale is concerned, because people are not seeing what we were told would be delivered. I did not wish to lump it on the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, because she is a great champion for the oppressed. The First Minister is now back in the Chamber, so there is a chance there. I do not know if the Minister for Economic Development and Transport is listening, because the other issue is that we need to complete the dualling of

Rhaid i ni gael rhagor o therapyddion iaith a lleferydd—rhaid iddynt fod yn flaenoriaeth a rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r mater. Nid yw'r cyfan yn fêl i gyd, ac nid oes dim lle inni fod yn hunanfodlon.

Gwelaf rai cyfeiriadau pwysig yn yr adroddiad at yr hyn a wariwyd yn sgîl cau Corus, yn fy ardal. Mae'n destun siom sylweddol ym Mlaenau Gwent, oherwydd y mae gennym safle o hyd ers dyddiau'r gwaith dur ac addawyd campws dysgu i ni, ond aeth yr addewid hwnnw'n angof. Nid oes neb yn gwybod dim oll amdano—mae wedi diflannu.

Huw Lewis: Lol.

Peter Law: Nid lol yw hynny—dewch i gwrdd â mi yng Nglyn Ebwy, ac fe drafodwn y mater, Mr Dirprwy Weinidog. Yr ydych yn gwybod eich bod yn annigonol ym Merthyr. Dewch i Lyn Ebwy i siarad â mi—fe ddeliaf i â chi.

Y mater arall yw'r ysbyty cymunedol. Addawyd ysbyty cymunedol inni, ac yr ydym wedi edrych ymlaen at hynny, ond cawn ar ddeall yn awr na fydd yn barod tan 2009. Nid oes bricsen wedi ei gosod, ac mae hynny'n destun pryder mawr i bobl Blaenau Gwent. Mae'r prosiect wedi colli tir.

Fel y dywedais yn gynharach wrth y Prif Weinidog, beth am y rheilffordd? Yr oedd honno'n edefyn euraid i ni, i roi cyfle i bobl ifanc gyrraedd gwaith yng Nghaerdydd a chael cyfleoedd addysgiadol a chymdeithasol, ond mae'r dyddiad wedi llithro o 2005 i 2007. Mae'n warth, fel y dywedais yn gynharach. Mae angen Llywodraeth arnom a fydd yn gwireddu ei haddewidion, ac mae hynny'n rhan o'r adroddiad hwn. Rhaid wrth fwy nag ystrydebau a hunanfodlonrwydd, felly gofynaf eto i hyn gael ei ystyried yn fanwl yng nghyd-destun pecyn Corus yng Nglyn Ebwy, oherwydd nid yw pobl yn gweld yr hyn y dywedwyd wrthym y câi ei gyflawni. Nid oeddwn am roi'r baich hwn ar ysgwyddau'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, gan ei bod hi'n lladmeredd gwych dros y gorthrymedig. Mae'r Prif Weinidog yn ôl yn y Siambr erbyn hyn, felly dyma gyfle. Ni wn a yw'r

the Heads of the Valleys road as soon as possible, and he has the scope to do that.

Therefore, so far so good, but not enough, and we have much more to do. I wish the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration well in what she is doing on that.

Jeff Cuthbert: As the Assembly Member for Caerphilly, I know how vital investment in our Communities First areas continues to be. I represent a constituency that has 19 Communities First areas, and, according to the index of multiple deprivation, the Caerphilly borough has more wards than any other authority in Wales in the list of the 25 most deprived. I have worked alongside Communities First partnerships, and I have seen the real difference that many local projects have made to the communities in which they operate.

The Assembly Government's investment within Communities First areas is, for the first time, breaking the cycle of poverty that has hindered us for too long. Tackling childhood inequality is a complex and costly exercise, but it is a major concern of most western European nations today. Most have come to recognise that tackling social inequality at birth will, in the long term, provide huge economic and social returns. As the social justice report clearly shows, joined-up working by the Assembly Government, local authorities and the voluntary sector is beginning to maximise a child's social mobility and minimise social inequality.

Education is a key determinant of life chances in all modern societies and the link between cognitive development and nutrition is now well established. The Assembly Government's flagship free school breakfast

Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth yn gwrando, oherwydd y mater arall yw bod angen inni gwblhau'r gwaith o ddeuoli ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd cyn gynted â phosibl, ac mae'r gallu ganddo i wneud hynny.

Felly, popeth yn iawn hyd yma, ond nid yw'n ddigon, ac mae gwaith mawr eto i'w wneud. Dymunaf y gorau i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yn yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud yn hynny o beth.

Jeff Cuthbert: Fel yr Aelod Cynulliad dros Gaerffili, gwn pa mor allweddol bwysig o hyd yw buddsoddi mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yr wyf yn cynrychioli etholaeth sydd â 19 o ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ac, yn ôl y mynegai amddifadedd lluosog, mae gan Gaerffili fwy o wardiau na dim un awdurdod arall yng Nghymru yn y rhestr o'r 25 mwyaf difreintiedig. Yr wyf wedi gweithio law yn llaw â phartneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ac yr wyf wedi gweld y gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol y mae nifer o brosiectau lleol wedi ei wneud i'r cymunedau lle y maent ar waith.

Mae buddsoddiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, am y tro cyntaf, yn chwalu'r cylch tloidi sydd wedi ein llesteirio ers gormod o amser. Mae mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb ymhlith plant yn waith dyrus a drud, ond mae'n rhywbeth y mae'r rhan fwyaf o genhedloedd gorllewin Ewrop yn poeni'n ddifawr yn ei gylch y dyddiau hyn. Mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt bellach yn cydnabod y bydd mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb pan fydd plant yn cael eu geni, yn y tymor hir, yn dwyn ffrwyth aruthrol ar lefel economaidd a chymdeithasol. Fel y dengys yr adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yn glir, mae gwaith cydgysylltiedig rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, awdurdodau lleol a'r sector gwirfoddol yn dechrau cynyddu symudedd cymdeithasol plant i'r eithaf a lleihau anghydraddoldeb cymdeithasol i'r eithaf.

Mae addysg yn un o'r ffactorau allweddol sy'n llywio cyfleoedd bywyd ym mhob cymdeithas fodern, ac mae'r cysylltiad rhwng datblygu gwybyddol a maeth wedi hen ennill ei blwyf bellach. Mae cynllun arloesol

initiative is, therefore, an initiative of which we should be rightly proud. It is an excellent example of joined-up thinking, as it delivers on so many of Labour's key policy targets of increased mobility, choice and decreased social inequalities. By 2006, the Assembly Government aims to extend the offer of the scheme to all primary schools in Communities First areas, with new schools being added each term until January 2007. That seems to be entirely reasonable and a welcome extension to this initiative.

Opposition Members, unfortunately, are still keen to cry down the scheme, even though a study of the preliminary phase of the Assembly Government's primary school free breakfast initiative is overwhelmingly positive. One teacher responded to the review by saying,

'nothing has impacted on children as this has. Because it's free, it reaches children who really need it.'

The free breakfast scheme is social justice in action. It delivers on so many fronts for the long and short term. It will help learning, and, consequently, will help young people into jobs. That is the only way to deal with poverty effectively.

As the chair of the Objective 1 programme monitoring committee, I am proud that Objective 1 has created and safeguarded just under 108,000 jobs in Wales, as of 31 August this year. That represents an average of 1,500 new jobs every month since the beginning of May this year. It is clear to me that the Assembly Government is working hard to deliver real life improvements to deprived communities in Wales.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn barod i ategu'r hyn a ddywedais yn y pwyllgor, sef bod yr adroddiad hwn yn dangos yr hyn y gellir ei gyflawni wrth weithio yn gynhwysol. Llongyfarchaf y Gweinidog a Chadeirydd y pwyllgor am weithredu yn gynhwysol ac mae lle i ganmol aelodau'r pwyllgor am ymateb

Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion, o'r herwydd, yn gynllun y dylem ymfalchïo ynddo, ac mae'n iawn inni wneud hynny. Mae'n enghraifft ardderchog o feddylfryd cydgysylltiedig, gan ei fod yn cyflawni cymaint o dargedau polisi allweddol Llafur, sef mwy o symudedd a dewis a llai o anghydraddoldebau cymdeithasol. Erbyn 2006, nod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yw ehangu'r cynllun i gynnwys pob ysgol gynradd mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, gydag ysgolion newydd yn cael eu hychwanegu bob tymor tan fis Ionawr 2007. Ymddengys fod hyn yn gwbl resymol, ac yn estyniad i'w groesawu i'r cynllun hwn.

Mae Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau, yn anffodus, yn awyddus o hyd i weld bai ar y cynllun, er bod arolwg o gam cychwynol cynllun Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion, yn ysgubol o gadarnhaol. Ymatebodd un athrawes i'r adolygiad drwy ddweud,

nid oes dim wedi effeithio cymaint ar blant â hyn. Oherwydd ei fod am ddim, mae'n cyrraedd y plant y mae arnynt ei wir angen.

Mae'r cynllun brecwast am ddim yn enghraifft o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol ar waith. Mae'n cyflawni mewn cynifer o wahanol feysydd, a hynny yn y tymor hir a'r tymor byr. Bydd yn helpu plant i ddysgu, ac, o'r herwydd, bydd yn helpu pobl ifanc i gael swyddi. Dyna'r unig ffordd i ddelio'n effeithiol â thlodi.

Fel cadeirydd pwyllgor monitro rhaglen Amcan 1, yr wyf yn ymhyfrydu bod Amcan 1 wedi creu a diogelu ychydig dan 108,000 o swyddi yng Nghymru, fel yr oedd y sefyllfa ar 31 Awst eleni. Mae hynny'n golygu 1,500 o swyddi newydd bob mis ar gyfartaledd ers dechrau Mai eleni. Mae'n amlwg i mi fod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio'n galed i sicrhau gwelliannau go iawn ym mywydau'r cymunedau difreintiedig yng Nghymru.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I am willing to echo what I said in committee, namely that this report shows what can be achieved by working in an inclusive way. I congratulate the Minister and the Chair of the committee on working in an inclusive manner and committee members can be congratulated for

yn gadarnhaol i hynny. Mae pethau wedi'u cyflawni.

Serch hynny, cafwyd gor-ddweud ar y naill ochr a'r llall yn y ddadl hon. Mae cyflawniadau yn yr adroddiad hwn ond mae'r Gweinidog yn ddigon o realydd hefyd i wybod ein bod wedi methu â chyflawni rhai pethau. Yr ydym wedi methu â chyflawni targedau o ran cancr yr ysgyfaint a chancr y fron, mae methiant wedi bod o ran strôc, damweiniau, hunanladdiad a phlant sydd yn cael eu geni gyda phwysau ysgafn. Mae methiannau o ran merched ifanc yn ysmegu, a gwelwyd methiant i gyrraedd targedau o ran glendid a gofal y dannedd. Mae'r rhain yn feysydd sylweddol lle mae targedau, sydd wedi'u gosod gan y Llywodraeth a chan y Gweinidog, wedi'u methu. Felly, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn edrych ar yr hyn y gellir ei wneud o ran cyflawni'r targedau hynny.

Mae cyflawniadau yma, ond credaf fod rhai pethau syml, sylfaenol y gallwn eu gwneud—

Huw Lewis: I have spoken to some Plaid Cymru Members today and you, at least, have the good grace to recognise the complexity of the issues that we are up against. Were you about to reiterate your shadow minister's commitment to devolving the tax and benefits system as the only way to cure poverty and the income gap in Britain? Are you concerned that the policy of having higher taxes and higher benefits in a more independent Wales might cause upset to Plaid Cymru's wooing of the Welsh Conservatives as potential coalition partners?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I always get worried when you praise me because it means that my career in Plaid Cymru is coming to an end. I support Leanne in what she has said. What concerns me, and what seems to be of no concern to some people in the Labour Party these days, is that the gap between the wealthy and the poor in Wales, and throughout the UK, is increasing. There is a need to address that, and your own officials say so, Huw, so you cannot deny it. No doubt, the Minister, who is a far greater realist and who is not perhaps as keen to adhere to everything that New Labour offers,

responding positively to that. Things have been achieved.

Despite that, there has been exaggeration on both sides of this argument. There are achievements in this report but the Minister is enough of a realist to know that we have failed to achieve some things. We have failed to achieve targets in terms of lung cancer and breast cancer, there have been failures in terms of strokes, accidents, suicides and children who are born with a low birth-weight. There are failures in terms of young women smoking, and there has been a failure to achieve targets in terms of hygiene and dental care. Those are significant areas where targets set by the Government and by the Minister have not been met. Therefore, it is important that we consider what can be done to achieve those targets.

There are achievements here, but I believe that there are simple, fundamental things that we could do—

Huw Lewis: Yr wyf wedi siarad â rhai o Aelodau Plaid Cymru heddiw ac yr ydych chi, o leiaf, yn ddigon graslon i gydnabod cymhlethdodau'r materion sy'n ein hwynebu. A oeddech ar fin ategu ymrwymiad eich gweinidog cysgodol i'r syniad mai datganoli'r system treth a budd-daliadau yw'r unig ffordd o ddileu tlodi a chau'r bwlch incwm ym Mhrydain? A ydych yn poeni y gallai'r polisi o gael trethi uwch a budd-daliadau uwch mewn Cymru fwy annibynnol beryglu'r garwriaeth y mae Plaid Cymru yn ceisio ei sefydlu â Cheidwadwyr Cymru, fel partneriaid posibl mewn clymblaid?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf bob amser yn dechrau poeni pan fyddwch yn fy nghanmol, gan ei fod yn golygu bod fy ngyrfa gyda Phlaid Cymru yn dod i ben. Cefnogaf Leanne yn yr hyn a ddywedodd. Yr hyn sy'n destun pryder i mi, a'r hyn sydd fel pe na bai yn poeni dim ar rai pobl yn y Blaid Lafur heddiw, yw bod y bwlch rhwng y cyfoethog a'r tlawd yng Nghymru, a ledled y DU, yn cynyddu. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â hynny, ac mae eich swyddogion chi eich hun yn dweud hynny, Huw, felly ni allwch ei wadu. Tybiaf y bydd y Gweinidog, sy'n llawer mwy o realydd ac yn rhywun nad yw, o bosibl,

will admit that that gap is increasing and that we have to address it and look at it seriously. I am certainly supportive of the way in which Leanne has been considering that issue and challenging the Government on it.

mor awyddus i goleddu popeth y mae Llafur Newydd yn ei gynnig, yn cyfaddef bod y bwlech yn cynyddu a bod rhaid i ni fynd i'r afael â hynny ac edrych arno o ddifrif. Yr wyf yn sicr yn cefnogi'r modd y mae Leanne wedi bod yn ystyried y mater hwnnw ac yn herio'r Llywodraeth yn ei gylch.

4.40 p.m.

Some of the things that I have mentioned could be done with no real difficulty and no real financial burden to the Government, because this report shows clearly what can be done and what could be done in addition to what is now being done if the resources were available. If we had a system whereby Ministers gained their budgets on the basis of what they have managed to do, I am sure that the social justice and regeneration budget would increase dramatically; some of the other budgets would decline just as dramatically if they were based on successfully reaching targets.

Gellid gwneud rhai o'r pethau y cyfeiriais atynt heb fawr o drafferth mewn gwirionedd, heb osod baich ariannol gwirioneddol ar y Llywodraeth, oherwydd y mae'r adroddiad hwn yn dangos yn glir beth y gellir ei wneud a beth y gellid ei wneud yn ychwanegol at yr hyn a wneir yn awr, pe bai'r adnoddau ar gael. Pe bai gennym system lle y byddai Gweinidogion yn ennill eu cyllidebau ar sail yr hyn y llwyddasant i'w gyflawni, yr wyf yn sicr y byddai'r gyllideb cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio'n cynyddu'n sylweddol; byddai rhai o'r cyllidebau eraill yn crebachu yr un mor ddramatig pe baent yn seiliedig ar lwyddo i gyrraedd targedau.

Hoffwn gyfeirio at rai o'r pethau y gellir eu cyflawni, gan ddechrau gyda phle ar ran y pwyllgor ambleidiol ar awtistiaeth a'r rhai ohonom sy'n pryderu am bobl sy'n dioddef o asthma. Rhywbeth syml y gellid ei wneud a fyddai'n gwella ansawdd bywydau'r bobl sy'n dioddef o'r afiechydon hyn, ac a fyddai'n gwella'r gwasanaeth y maent yn ei dderbyn gan y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, fyddai rhoi cardiau iddynt yn nodi y byddai gorfod aros yn hir am driniaeth yn peri iddynt fod mewn sefyllfa anghysurus a allai effeithio ar eu hiechyd. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth bach, syml y gellid ei wneud na fyddai angen llawer o arian ar ei gyfer.

I wish to refer to some of the things that could be achieved, beginning with a plea on behalf of the cross-party committee on autism and those of us who have concerns about asthma sufferers. A simple step that could be taken which would improve sufferers' quality of life, and improve the service that they receive from the national health service, would be to give them cards noting that waiting a long time for treatment could lead to their being in an uncomfortable situation that could affect their health. That is a small and simple step that could be taken without much cost.

Hoffwn gyfeirio hefyd at ddau fater ychydig yn fwy sylweddol. Soniwech yn yr adroddiad am y ffaith bod gennym gymdeithas sy'n heneiddio. Mae gennyf ble ar ran gofalwyr. Mae 350,000 ohonynt yng Nghymru, sy'n cyfrannu £3.5 biliwn at yr economi—dyna fyddai cost ariannu'r gwasanaeth y maent yn ei gynnig. Gofynnaf ichi, o fewn eich portffolio ac mewn cydweithrediad â Gweinidogion eraill, i edrych ar sut y gallwn gynnal a chefnogi'r gofalwyr hyn y cymerwn eu gwaith yn aml yn rhy ganiataol.

I also wish to refer to two rather more substantial issues. You refer in the report to the fact that we have an ageing population. I make a plea on the behalf of carers. There are 350,000 carers in Wales, and they contribute £3.5 billion to the economy—that would be the cost of funding the services that they offer. I ask you, within your portfolio and in collaboration with other Ministers, to consider how we can sustain and support these carers whose work we often take too much for granted.

Cyfeiriaf at yr angen am dai fforddiadwy. Mae hyn yn parhau'n broblem. Byddai'n ddiddorol gwybod beth y gallech ei wneud pe bai'r cyfrifoldeb i gyd yn gorwedd o fewn eich portffolio chi. Nid yw hynny'n wir, ond yr wyf yn barod i gydnabod eich bod chi o leiaf yn barod i geisio mynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon o fewn cyfyngiadau eich cyllideb. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn rhywbeth sylfaenol. Dylai pawb yng Nghymru allu cael mynediad at dŷ o safon naill ai drwy ei rentu neu ei brynu. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn gweithio tuag at hyrwyddo hynny.

Yr wyf yn barod i groesawu'r adroddiad hwn a'r hyn a gyflawnwyd, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gydweithio gyda'r Gweinidog a Chadeirydd y pwyllgor i weld beth y gellir ei gyflawni yn ystod y flwyddyn nesaf.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): This has been an extremely informative and interesting debate. First, I wish to refer to the section in the report on British sign language, to which Karen Sinclair referred. There might only be a small reference to it in the report, but it is an enormously important issue. I place on record my thanks to Karen for chairing the group on this and bringing forward these recommendations. There is a price tag on this, but if we can find the money to do this, we will make a real difference in terms of that small group. Social justice is often about achieving social justice for small groups, and I thank Karen for raising those points. I will take them forward.

There has been a great deal of discussion today on a wide breadth of subjects, including affordable housing. This is a key issue across all parties. Everyone is entitled to a decent place in which to live. I have recently been studying statistics on the number of social housing properties available. There were 249,232 properties available for rent in 1999, and there were just over 226,571 available in 2004. The decrease in numbers is probably the result of right to buy. Even though we dealt with the discount issue in 2003, which was important, I have continued to ask for the right to suspend right to buy in terms of areas where there is

I will refer to the need for affordable housing. This continues to be of concern. It would be interesting to know what you could do if responsibility for this lay wholly within your portfolio. It does not, but I am willing to acknowledge that you are at least willing to try to address this problem within the restrictions of your budget. However, this is a fundamental issue. Everyone in Wales should have access to good quality housing to rent or buy. It is important that we work towards promoting that.

I am willing to welcome this report and what has been achieved, and I look forward to collaborating with the Minister and the committee Chair to see what we can achieve during the coming year.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Mae hon wedi bod yn drafodaeth hynod fuddiol a diddorol. Yn gyntaf, carwn gyfeirio at yr adran yn yr adroddiad ar iaith arwyddion Prydain y cyfeiriodd Karen Sinclair ati. Er mai dim ond cyfeiriad bach sydd ato yn yr adroddiad efallai, mae'n fater arbennig o bwysig. Carwn gofnodi fy niolch i Karen am gadeirio'r grŵp ynglŷn â hyn ac am gyflwyno'r argymhellion hyn. Mae pris i'w dalu am hyn, ond os gallwn ddod o hyd i'r arian i wneud hyn, byddwn yn gwella byd y grŵp bach hwnnw'n fawr iawn. Mae cyfiawnder cymdeithasol, yn aml, yn ymwneud â sicrhau cyfiawnder cymdeithasol i grwpiau bach, a charwn ddiolch i Karen am godi'r pwyntiau hynny. Gweithredaf yn eu cylch.

Cafwyd trafodaeth helaeth heddiw ar amrywiaeth eang o bynciau, gan gynnwys tai fforddiadwy. Mae hwn yn fater allweddol gan yr holl bleidiau. Mae gan bawb yr hawl i gael lle iawn i fyw ynddo. Yr wyf wedi bod yn astudio ystadegau ynghylch faint o eiddo sy'n dai cymdeithasol sydd ar gael. Yr oedd 249,232 ar gael ar rent yn 1999, ac yr oedd ychydig dros 226,571 ar gael yn 2004. Mae'n debyg mai'r hawl i brynu sydd wrth wraidd y gostyngiad hwn mewn niferoedd. Er i ni ddelio â mater y disgownt yn 2003, a oedd yn bwysig, yr wyf wedi parhau i ofyn am yr hawl i atal yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd sydd dan bwysau. Rhaid imi barhau i ofyn

pressure. I must continue to ask for these powers as we must start to tackle the issue in that way. I am hoping to bring an Order before the Assembly shortly to enable social landlords to repurchase former right-to-buy properties. I think that that will be quite important. We have seen a massive increase in the social housing grant of around 60 per cent between 2004-05 and 2007. Rhodri Glyn is correct in saying that I do what I can within my portfolio with the money that is available, but we must look at other levers to deal with the issue.

Mick referred to community land trusts, and this is ongoing work that we must do. We must start to look quite radically at this agenda and perhaps put away some of our assumptions, start to do some clear thinking and, with advice, take this agenda forward.

I thank Mick for making comments on further bids for work for my portfolio, but I am not certain that I could take more on at this time. He raised considerable issues in his contribution, which relate directly to the Liberal Democrat amendments, which we have accepted. However, we will have the opportunity in committee to consider the outcomes of discussions here and see how we can improve on the social justice report and what other issues we might want to take forward as a result of the discussions.

It is important, when looking at outcomes, that we have reliable data. That is the key in terms of a range of issues. We need to improve our data so that we can consider the end gains to see if things are being improved. I am happy to take that forward.

I am not sure that I like the *Big Brother* approach of having cameras in houses in terms of after-care, but there is an issue of how to look after people who have been through a programme and need a sense of security.

I felt that Leanne Wood and Peter Law should have a discussion outside the

am y pwerau hyn, gan fod rhaid i ni ddechrau mynd i'r afael â'r broblem yn y modd hwnnw. Yr wyf yn gobeithio cyflwyno Gorchymyn gerbron y Cynulliad yn fuan a fydd yn galluogi landlordiaid cymdeithasol i ailbrynu eiddo a arferai fod yn eiddo hawl i brynu. Credaf y bydd hynny'n bur bwysig. Yr ydym wedi gweld cynnydd aruthrol o tua 60 y cant yn y grant tai cymdeithasol rhwng 2004-05 a 2007. Mae Rhodri Glyn yn llygad ei le pan ddywed fy mod yn gwneud yr hyn a allaf o fewn fy mhortffolio gyda'r arian sydd ar gael, ond mae'n rhaid inni edrych ar elfennau eraill a all fod o gymorth i ddelio â'r mater.

Cyfeiriodd Mick at ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol, ac mae hwn yn waith sy'n dal i fynd rhagddo y mae'n rhaid i ni ei wneud. Mae'n rhaid inni ddechrau cymryd golwg bur radical ar yr agenda hon ac efallai roi heibio rai o'n rhagdybiaethau, dechrau meddwl yn eglur a, chyda chynghor, bwrw ymlaen gyda'r agenda hon.

Diolchaf i Mick am ei sylwadau ar geisiadau pellach am waith ar gyfer fy mhortffolio, ond nid wyf yn sicr a allwn ymgymryd â mwy ar hyn o bryd. Mae wedi codi materion pwysig yn ei gyfraniad, sy'n ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â gwelliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, a dderbyniwyd gennym. Fodd bynnag, cawn gyfle yn y pwyllgor i ystyried canlyniadau'r trafodaethau a gafwyd yma a gweld sut y gallwn wella'r hyn sydd yn yr adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol a pha faterion eraill y gallem fod am fwrw ymlaen â hwy o ganlyniad i'r trafodaethau.

Mae'n bwysig, wrth edrych ar ganlyniadau, fod gennym ddata dibynadwy. Mae hynny'n allweddol o ran amrywiaeth o faterion. Mae angen inni wella ein data er mwyn inni allu ystyried yr enillion terfynol i weld a yw pethau'n gwella. Yr wyf yn fodlon bwrw ymlaen â hynny.

Nid wyf yn siŵr a wyf yn hoff o'r agwedd *Big Brother* o gael camerâu mewn tai o ran ôl-ofal, ond rhaid meddwl sut yr ydym am ofalu am bobl sydd wedi bod drwy raglen ac angen teimlo'n ddiogel.

Teimlaf y dylai Leanne Wood a Peter Law gael trafodaeth y tu allan i'r Siambr. Yr oedd

Chamber. Their contributions were rather like discussions from trades council days on the international economy, the impact of poverty and all those issues. They are all valid, but I have to work within the devolution settlement, and even though I might have views on the levers that I require here, we must recognise that we have our settlement and use what we can within that to achieve social justice.

On child poverty, if it were not for a Labour Government and some of our initiatives, people would be far worse off. It is important to recognise that we need to move forward with policy development in Westminster to ensure that policy develops there.

On Communities First, we have already had three major reviews of, so I am not keen on amendment 6, but I am happy to discuss what I can include in future reviews of Communities First.

Janice Gregory referred to the future and what we will do in next year's report and what happened in last year's report. From the committee's perspective, it is good that we have been able to take forward issues collectively, which reflects Rhodri Glyn's comments that, ultimately, we must acknowledge where there has been an element of success, but we must also acknowledge where further progress is needed. That is the grown-up approach that applies particularly to politics.

In response to William Graham, we all want to tackle poverty, and when we get the new index of multiple deprivation, we will need to look at a new focus on some of the work that we want to undertake. William also referred to binge drinking and licensing. I attended an interesting conference this morning with the police and local authorities where we discussed these issues and our responsibility in society. I reiterated my opposition to alcohol advertising and to happy hours, because we need to continue to press on these issues if we are to adopt an holistic approach.

eu cyfraniadau yn atgoffa rhywun o drafodaethau ar yr economi ryngwladol, effaith tlodi a'r holl faterion hynny o ddyddiau'r cyngor undebau llafur. Maent i gyd yn ddilys, ond rhaid imi weithio o fewn y setliad datganoli, ac er bod gennyf farn am y cyfryngau sydd eu hangen arnaf yma, rhaid inni gydnabod bod gennym setliad a bod rhaid inni ddefnyddio'r hyn a allwn o fewn hynny i sicrhau cyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

O ran tlodi plant, oni bai am Lywodraeth Lafur a rhai o'n cynlluniau ni, byddai amgylchiadau pobl yn llawer gwaeth. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod bod rhaid inni fwrw ymlaen gyda datblygiadau polisi yn San Steffan er mwyn sicrhau bod polisiau'n datblygu yno.

O ran Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yr ydym eisoes wedi cael tri adolygiad pwysig ohono, felly nid wyf yn fodlon ar welliant 6, ond yr wyf yn fodlon trafod yr hyn y gallaf ei gynnwys mewn adolygiadau o Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn y dyfodol.

Cyfeiriodd Janice Gregory at y dyfodol a'r hyn y byddwn yn ei wneud yn adroddiad y flwyddyn nesaf a'r hyn a ddigwyddodd yn adroddiad y llynedd. O safbwynt y pwyllgor, mae'n beth da ein bod yn gallu bwrw ymlaen â materion ar y cyd, sy'n ategu sylwadau Rhodri Glyn bod rhaid inni, yn y pen draw, gydnabod llwyddiant, ond bod rhaid inni hefyd gydnabod y meysydd hynny lle y mae angen cynnydd pellach. Hynny yw'r ymagwedd aeddfed sy'n arbennig o berthnasol i wleidyddiaeth.

Mewn ymateb i William Graham, yr ydym i gyd yn awyddus i fynd i'r afael â thlodi, a phan gawn y mynegai amddifadedd lluosog newydd, bydd angen inni chwilio am ffocws newydd ar rywfaint o'r gwaith yr ydym am ei wneud. Cyfeiriodd William hefyd at oryfed mewn pyliau a thrwyddedu. Yr oeddwn yn bresennol mewn cynhadledd ddiddorol y bore yma gyda'r heddlu ac awdurdodau lleol lle y buom yn trafod y materion hyn a'n cyfrifoldeb mewn cymdeithas. Pwysleisiais fy ngwrthwynebiad i hysbysebu alcohol ac oriau hapus mewn tafarnau, oherwydd bod rhaid inni ddal ati i weithio ar hyn os ydym am fabwysiadu ymagwedd gyfannol.

On Lorraine Barrett's comments, my friend lives in St Mellons, and the St Mellons community has done an excellent job in terms of how it has developed, given the comments made some time ago. Lorraine and Sandy mentioned right to buy, and I have already articulated my views on that. Sandy commented on the innovation that exists in Wales in terms of food co-operatives and how you deal with indebtedness, which is part of a much wider portfolio.

Peter Law is right: the garden is sometimes rosy and sometimes is not, and economic prosperity is the key to tackling poverty in our communities. I loved his reference to the direction of industry, because it was almost like going back to the days of Joe Stalin and what they did in the USSR. However, it is important to recognise that, at the end of the day, economic prosperity is the key to helping young people to get jobs, to have hope and security and to understand how they are a part of mainstream society.

Jeff Cuthbert picked up on Communities First and other issues, for which I am grateful. When Rhodri spoke, he mentioned resource implications and cross-cutting. The challenge of my portfolio is one of cross-cutting—picking up the issues dealing with social justice that move across portfolios, and seeing if, with often small amounts of cash, we can rectify some of the problems.

I will take up all the points raised in this debate for further discussion in committee. I am grateful for today's discussion. The report is a good one and I commend it to you, but we need to improve certain aspects of our work to make social justice a reality.

4.50 p.m.

David Melding: I request that the divisional bell be rung.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Under

Ynglŷn â sylwadau Lorraine Barrett, mae fy ffrind yn byw yn Llaneirwg, ac mae cymuned Llaneirwg wedi gwneud gwaith rhagorol o ran sut y mae wedi datblygu, o gofio'r sylwadau a wnaethpwyd beth amser yn ôl. Soniodd Lorraine a Sandy am yr hawl i brynu, ac yr wyf eisoes wedi mynegi fy marn am hynny. Cafwyd sylw gan Sandy ar yr arloesedd sy'n bodoli yng Nghymru o ran mentrau bwyd cydweithredol a sut y mae delio â dyledion, sy'n rhan o bortffolio llawer ehangach.

Mae Peter Law yn dweud y gwir: mae pethau'n edrych yn braf ar rai adegau ond nid ar adegau eraill, ac mae ffyniant economaidd yn allweddol i fynd i'r afael â thlodi yn ein cymunedau. Yr oeddwn wrth fy modd gyda'i sylw ynghylch cyfeiriad diwydiant, gan ei fod bron fel mynd yn ôl i ddyddiau Joe Stalin a'r hyn a digwyddodd yn yr Undeb Sofietaidd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig derbyn, yn y pen draw, fod ffyniant economaidd yn allweddol i helpu pobl ifanc i gael gwaith, i deimlo gobaiith a sicrwydd ac i ddeall sut y maent yn rhan o brif ffrwd y gymdeithas.

Soniodd Jeff Cuthbert am Cymunedau yn Gyntaf a materion eraill, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am hynny. Pan siaradodd Rhodri, soniodd am yr oblygiadau o ran adnoddau a gweithredu trawsbynciol. Her fy mhortffolio yw gweithredu trawsbynciol—canfod y materion sy'n ymwneud â chyfiawnder cymdeithasol sy'n cyffwrdd â gwahanol bortffolios, a gweld a allwn, gyda symiau bach o arian yn aml, ddatrys rhai o'r problemau.

Byddaf yn dilyn yr holl bwyntiau a godwyd yn y ddadl hon i'w trafod ymhellach yn y pwyllgor. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y drafodaeth a gafwyd heddiw. Mae'r adroddiad yn un da ac yr wyf yn ei gymeradwyo i chi, ond bydd angen inni wella rhai agweddau ar ein gwaith os yw cyfiawnder cymdeithasol i gael ei wireddu.

David Melding: Galwaf am i'r gloch bleidleisio gael ei chanu.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog

Standing Order No. 6.21, at least three Members must request that the bell be rung. Do three Members support the request? I see that they do. Clerk, please ring the bell.

Rhif 6.21, rhaid i o leiaf dri Aelod wneud cais i'r gloch gael ei chanu. A oes tri Aelod yn cefnogi'r cais? Gwelaf fod tri'n cefnogi. Glerc, canwch y gloch os gwelwch yn dda.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 27, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.

Amendment 1: For 27, Abstain 0, Against 29.

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

Gwelliant 2: O blaid 57, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Amendment 2: For 57, 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, David
Davies, Glyn

Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 57, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 3: For 57, 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, David

Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 57, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 4: For 57, 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, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.

Amendment carried.

Gwelliant 5: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.

Amendment 5: For 28, Abstain 0, Against 29.

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice

Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
 Amendment 6: For 28, Abstain 0, Against 29.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

Cynnig NDM2559 fel y'i diwygiwyd:
 Motion NDM2559 as amended:

*the National Assembly for Wales**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru*

notes the Welsh Assembly Government's Social Justice Report 2005, as presented to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 18 May 2005;

yn nodi Adroddiad Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol 2005 Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, fel y'i cyflwynwyd gerbron y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 18 Mai 2005;

calls on the Assembly Government to explore new ways of addressing the affordable housing crisis;

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i archwilio ffyrdd newydd o fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng tai fforddiadwy;

reaffirms the view of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee that in next year's report there should include better measurement of progress through increased information on outputs; and

yn ailgadarnhau barn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio y dylai adroddiad y flwyddyn nesaf gynnwys gwell mesurau o gynnwdd, drwy gynnwys mwy o wybodaeth am ganlyniadau; ac

calls on the Assembly Government to investigate new ways of helping people after they have gone through rehabilitation for substance misuse.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i archwilio ffyrdd newydd o helpu pobl ar ôl iddynt dreulio cyfnod o adsefydlu ar ôl camddefnyddio sylweddau.

*Cynnig fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 57, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amended motion: For 57, 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, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn

Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig fel y'i diwygiwyd.
 Amended motion carried.*

**Adroddiad yr Astudiaeth Ddichonoldeb ar Gynnig Christine Chapman o dan
 Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31 a Draffodwyd ar 14 Mehefin
 The Feasibility Study Report on Christine Chapman's Standing Order No. 31
 Proposal debated on 14 June**

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

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting
 under Standing Order No. 31:*

*1. welcomes the principle behind the motion
 NDM2553 tabled by Christine Chapman and
 debated in Plenary on 14 June; and*

*2. supports the approach recommended in the
 feasibility report tabled on 6 September to
 take forward a scheme from April 2006 to
 encourage local authorities, as part of their
 corporate parenting responsibilities to
 provide an annual contribution of £50 to the
 child trust funds of children looked after by
 them.(NDM2560)*

In June, Assembly Members debated and approved the principle behind a motion tabled by Christine Chapman to require local authorities to make annual contributions to child trust funds for children in their care. I remind Members that I said on that occasion,

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan
 weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31:*

*1. yn croesawu'r egwyddor y tu ôl i gynnig
 NDM2553 a gyflwynwyd gan Christine
 Chapman ac a draffodwyd mewn Cyfarfod
 Llawn ar 14 Mehefin; a*

*2. yn cefnogi'r agwedd a argymhellir yn yr
 adroddiad dichonoldeb a gyflwynwyd ar 6
 Medi i weithredu cynllun o Ebrill 2006
 ymlaen a fydd yn annog awdurdodau lleol, fel
 rhan o'u cyfrifoldebau rhianta corfforaethol,
 i roi cyfraniad blynyddol o £50 i gronfeydd
 ymddiriedolaeth plant y plant sy'n derbyn eu
 gofal.(NDM2560)*

Ym mis Mehefin, bu Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn dadlau egwyddor sy'n sail i gynnig a gyflwynwyd gan Christine Chapman i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol wneud cyfraniadau blynyddol at gronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant ar gyfer plant yn eu

that, while supporting the principle behind the motion tabled by Christine Chapman, it is only fair to advise the Assembly that legal advice already suggests that there may be obstacles to achieving Christine's aims by formally requiring local authorities to exercise their general powers in relation to looked-after children in a specific way. However, that is a matter for the next stage, and if today's debate comes to a successful conclusion, we would return to the Assembly within three months with a report on the feasibility of the proposal as set out in the motion. That is what I am doing today.

gofal, gan gymeradwyo'r cynnig. Hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelodau fy mod wedi dweud ar y pryd, er fy mod yn cefnogi'r egwyddor wrth wraidd y cynnig a roddwyd gerbron gan Christine Chapman, nad yw ond yn deg hysbysu'r Cynulliad bod cyngor cyfreithiol eisoes yn dangos y gall fod rhwystrau rhag cyflawni nodau Christine drwy fynnu'n ffurfiol fod awdurdodau lleol yn gweinyddu eu pwerau cyffredinol o ran plant sy'n derbyn gofal mewn ffordd benodol. Fodd bynnag, rhywbeth ar gyfer y cam nesaf yw hynny, ac os bydd diwedd glo llwyddiannus i'r ddadl heddiw, byddwn yn dychwelyd i'r Cynulliad o fewn tri mis gydag adroddiad ar ddichonoldeb y cynnig fel y'i hamlinellwyd yn y cynnig. Dyna beth yr wyf yn ei wneud heddiw.

5.00 p.m.

Most of what I want to say today is positive news about how the proposed policy can be taken forward. However, I need to clarify at the outset the Government's conclusion that we will not pursue this matter through a legislative route. This means that, formally, today's debate brings to an end the Standing Order No. 31 process in this regard, and that any future discussions we may have in Plenary will take place outside that procedure. That said, the main contribution that I have to make today is to outline the positive ways in which the Government is able to take forward this policy.

Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r hyn sydd gennyf i'w ddweud heddiw'n newyddion cadarnhaol ynglŷn â sut y gellir gweithredu'r polisi arfaethedig. Fodd bynnag, rhaid imi egluro o'r cychwyn gasgliad y Llywodraeth na fyddwn yn dilyn trywydd deddfwriaethol gyda'r mater hwn. Mae hyn yn golygu bod y ddadl heddiw'n dod â'r broses Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31 i ben yn ffurfiol, ac y bydd unrhyw drafodaethau a gawn yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yn y dyfodol yn cael eu cynnal y tu allan i'r weithdrefn honno. Wedi dweud hynny, y prif gyfraniad sydd gennyf i'w wneud heddiw yw amlinellu'r dulliau positif sydd ar gael i'r Llywodraeth i fwrw ymlaen â'r polisi hwn.

The motion refers to the feasibility report that the Government tabled on 6 September. This outlines development since June. I agreed to look at ways in which the principle behind the proposal could be put into practice, and I am happy to report that the Welsh Local Government Association and local authorities gave a positive response to outline proposals, and indicated their willingness to work with the Assembly Government in devising a scheme.

Mae'r cynnig yn cyfeirio at yr adroddiad dichonoldeb a gyflwynwyd gan y Llywodraeth ar 6 Medi. Mae'n amlinellu'r datblygiadau ers Mehefin. Cytunais i edrych ar ffyrdd o roi'r egwyddorion a oedd yn sail i'r cynnig ar waith, ac yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod ymateb Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a'r awdurdodau lleol i'r cynigion amlinellol wedi bod yn gadarnhaol, a'u bod wedi mynegi eu parodrwydd i weithio gyda Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wrth lunio cynllun.

The Welsh Local Government Association and local authorities indicated support for a special grant to reimburse local authorities for contributions to the child trust funds of

Mynegodd Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a'r awdurdodau lleol eu cefnogaeth i grant arbennig i ddigolledu awdurdodau lleol am y cyfraniadau i gronfeydd

children whom they look after. A special grant would offer transparency and accountability, and it would ensure that those children who are meant to benefit will receive an annual payment at a minimum of £50 into their child trust fund accounts.

The term 'looked-after child' covers a wide spectrum. It will be necessary to consider which children within the looked-after group will be eligible for the scheme. For example, to include children who spend short periods in care due to parental illness would run counter to the principle behind the proposal. Therefore, we want to ensure that those children most in need will benefit. Eligibility might be determined on the basis of a period in care or on the basis that the plan for the child does not anticipate a return home to birth parents. We will consult further on options and refine the details.

The motion that I propose today supports the aims behind the principle of the motion tabled by Christine Chapman and enthusiastically supported by Members in June. In addition, the child trust fund contribution scheme will send a strong message to local authorities to remind them of their corporate parenting responsibilities. I repeat the Welsh Assembly Government's support for the proposal, and our commitment to resourcing the scheme will offer extra support to our most vulnerable children—those who are looked after and likely to spend a large part of their childhood in care. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that these children have extra financial support. What better way to provide that than through assets accumulation through regular contributions to their child trust fund? This would, as far as possible, ensure that they reap the same benefits from the child trust fund as their peers when the funds mature at 18 years of age.

Christine Chapman: I thank the Minister for the progressive approach set out in the feasibility report, which is in keeping with the positive way in which the Minister responded in June when I proposed the

ymddiriedolaeth plant y plant sy'n derbyn gofal ganddynt. Byddai grant arbennig yn golygu tryloywder ac atebolrwydd, a byddai'n sicrhau y byddai'r plant hynny sydd i fod i elwa o'r cynllun yn derbyn taliad blynyddol o £50 fan leiaf i'w cyfrifon cronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant.

Mae'r term 'plentyn sy'n derbyn gofal' yn un eang. Bydd rhaid ystyried pa blant o fewn y grŵp sy'n derbyn gofal a fydd yn gymwys i fod yn rhan o'r cynllun. Er enghraifft, byddai cynnwys plant sy'n treulio cyfnodau byr mewn gofal oherwydd salwch rhiant yn mynd yn groes i egwyddor y cynnig. Felly, rhaid inni sicrhau mai'r plant mwyaf anghenus a fydd yn elwa. Gellid pennu cymhwyster ar sail y cyfnod a dreulir mewn gofal neu ar y sail nad yw'r cynllun ar gyfer y plentyn yn rhagweld y bydd yn dychwelyd adref at ei rieni gwaed. Byddwn yn ymgynghori ymhellach ynghylch yr opsiynau ac yn rhoi trefn ar y manylion.

Mae'r cynnig yr wyf yn ei roi gerbron heddiw yn cefnogi'r nodau sy'n sail i egwyddor y cynnig a roddwyd gerbron gan Christine Chapman ac a gefnogwyd yn frwd gan yr Aelodau ym mis Mehefin. Hefyd, bydd cynllun cyfraniadau'r gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant yn cyfleu neges gref i awdurdodau lleol i'w hatgoffa o'u cyfrifoldebau rhianta corfforaethol. Ategef gefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i'r cynnig, a bydd ein hymrwymiad i ariannu'r cynllun yn cynnig cymorth ychwanegol i'n plant mwyaf bregus—y rhai sydd mewn gofal ac yn debygol o dreulio cyfran sylweddol o'u plentynod mewn gofal. Mae'n ddyletswydd arnom sicrhau bod y plant hyn yn derbyn cymorth ariannol ychwanegol. Pa ffordd well o sicrhau hynny na thrwy grynhoi asedau drwy gyfraniadau rheolaidd i'w cronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant? Byddai hyn, cyn belled ag sy'n bosibl, yn sicrhau eu bod yn cael yr un manteision o'u cronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant â'u cymheiriaid pan fydd y cronfeydd yn aeddfedu pan fyddant yn 18 oed.

Christine Chapman: Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am yr ymagwedd flaengar sydd yn yr adroddiad dichonoldeb, sy'n cyd-fynd ag ymateb cadarnhaol y Gweinidog ym mis Mehefin pan gyflwynais y cynnig o dan reol

motion under Standing Order No. 31. I also thank the Deputy Minister, Huw Lewis, who originally proposed the idea in his review of overindebtedness in Wales.

While we cannot currently prescribe to local authorities how they exercise their duty to promote the interests of children in their care, the paper tabled by the Minister charts the way forward for achieving the original motion's objective by alternative means. I was pleased that the principle of providing annual contributions to the trust funds of looked-after children was widely supported, with the regrettable exception of the Liberal Democrats. I think that it represents what we, as an Assembly, have striven to achieve and should continue to strive to achieve.

Child trust funds extend the practice of asset building to every child, rather than it just being for those who can afford it. Their introduction by a Labour Government is a step towards making investment in the futures of our young people inclusive of the whole population. If we are to tackle poverty effectively, we must not simply react to its consequences, but challenge its causes: in many cases the complete lack of ability or opportunity to save and invest in the future.

Children in care are disproportionately disadvantaged, as the evidence shows. For example, we know that the educational performance of children in care can often be affected, and their life chances blighted. In the same way that we need to address that issue so that looked-after children can build a good future for themselves, both academically and vocationally, we also need to give them a stake in society, which will help them at a very important stage of their lives. As I argued in June, we need to look at the children who are not supported by parents or family, but who are cared for by the state. We need to ensure that they are not prevented from adding to their own unique opportunity fund because of their circumstances. Looked-after children are likely to have smaller trust funds than other children, although they will be in greater need of them. I commend the Assembly Government's commitment to

Sefydlog Rhif 31. Diolchaf hefyd i'r Dirprwy Weinidog, Huw Lewis, a gynigiodd y syniad yn wreiddiol yn ei adolygiad o orddyled yng Nghymru.

Er na allwn ar hyn o bryd orchymyn sut y mae awdurdodau lleol yn gweinyddu eu dyletswydd i hyrwyddo buddiannau'r plant sydd yn eu gofal, mae'r papur a gyflwynwyd gan y Gweinidog yn amlinellu'r ffordd ymlaen i gyflawni amcan y cynnig gwreiddiol drwy ddulliau eraill. Yr oeddwn yn falch bod yr egwyddor o roi cyfraniadau blynyddol i gronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant sy'n derbyn gofal wedi derbyn y fath gefnogaeth, ac eithrio'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, yn anffodus. Yr wyf yn credu ei fod yn adlewyrchiad o'r hyn yr ydym ni, fel Cynulliad, wedi ymdrechu i'w gyflawni ac y dylem ddal ati i ymdrechu i'w gyflawni.

Mae cronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant yn ymestyn yr arfer o adeiladu asedau i bob plentyn, yn hytrach na dim ond i'r rhai a all fforddio hynny. Wrth eu cyflwyno mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur wedi cymryd cam tuag at sicrhau bod y boblogaeth gyfan wedi'i chynnwys yn y buddsoddiad yn nyfodol ein pobl ifanc. Os ydym am fynd i'r afael â thlodi yn effeithiol, rhaid inni wneud mwy nag adweithio i'w ganlyniadau, rhaid herio'i achosion: sef mewn sawl achos y diffyg gallu neu gyfle i gynilo a buddsoddi yn y dyfodol.

Mae plant sydd yn derbyn gofal dan anfantais anghymesur, fel y dengys y dystiolaeth. Er enghraifft, gwyddom y gall perfformiad addysgol plant sydd yn derbyn gofal ddiodesffol yn aml, a difetha'u cyfleoedd mewn bywyd. Yn yr un modd ag y mae angen inni roi sylw i'r mater hwnnw fel y gall plant sydd yn derbyn gofal adeiladu dyfodol da iddynt eu hunain, yn academaidd ac yn alwedigaethol, mae angen hefyd inni roi rhan iddynt yn y gymdeithas, a fydd yn eu helpu pan fo'n adeg bwysig iawn yn eu bywydau. Fel y dadleuais ym mis Mehefin, mae angen inni edrych ar y plant na chânt gefnogaeth rhieni na theulu, ond sydd yn derbyn gofal gan y wladwriaeth. Mae angen inni sicrhau na chânt eu hatal rhag ychwanegu at eu cronfa gyfle unigryw eu hunain oherwydd eu hamgylchiadau. Mae plant sydd yn derbyn gofal yn debygol o fod â chronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth llai na phlant eraill, er y bydd arnynt fwy o'u hangen.

working towards making local authority contributions a statutory duty. This would bolster the measure, making it more difficult for a future administration to unravel the investment that we are making in the future of looked-after children. The motion seeks to overcome structural inequalities and establish greater social justice, and I am pleased that this debate has followed that on the social justice report. I urge all Members to support the motion.

David Lloyd: With regard to child trust funds, we are asked to support the approach recommended in the feasibility report on Christine Chapman's motion, which we debated on 14 June 2005. That motion required local authorities, as part of their corporate parenting responsibilities, to provide an annual contribution to the child trust funds of children looked after by them. With a number of caveats, Plaid Cymru supported the principle of that motion, and rejected any notion that local authorities only be encouraged to provide such a contribution, rather than required to do so, as proposed in Christine Chapman's motion. Local authorities already have a discretion in place today.

Time precludes me from repeating the arguments as to why looked-after children need additional financial help to succeed. However, those arguments still hold good, as Christine Chapman has outlined. The feasibility report recommends a way forward

'to put the principle behind the motion into practice through a phased approach'.

Questions remain with regard to this feasibility report, such as, what the timetable is for placing a statutory duty on local authorities to provide this annual contribution. I am well aware, as the Minister has outlined, and as is stated in the feasibility report, that the Assembly does not have the legal powers at present to insist that local authorities provide such a contribution. Another question arising from this report is

Cymeradwyaf ymrwymiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i weithio tuag at wneud cyfraniadau awdurdodau lleol yn ddyletswydd statudol. Byddai hyn yn cryfhau'r mesur, ac yn ei gwneud yn anoddach i weinyddiaeth yn y dyfodol ddadwneud y buddsoddiad yr ydym yn ei wneud yn nyfodol plant sydd yn derbyn gofal. Mae'r cynnig yn ymgais i oresgyn anghydraddoldebau strwythurol a sefydlu mwy o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, ac yr wyf yn falch bod y ddadl hon wedi dilyn honno ar yr adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Anogaf yr Aelodau i gyd i gefnogi'r cynnig.

David Lloyd: Gyda golwg ar gronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant, gofynnir inni gefnogi'r hyn a argymhellir yn yr adroddiad dichonoldeb ar gynnig Christine Chapman, a drafodwyd gennym ar 14 Mehefin 2005. Yr oedd y cynnig hwnnw'n mynnu bod awdurdodau lleol, fel rhan o'u cyfrifoldebau fel rhieni corfforaethol, yn rhoi cyfraniad blynyddol i gronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant y plant sydd yn eu gofal. Gyda amryw o gafeatau, cefnogodd Plaid Cymru egwyddor y cynnig hwnnw, a gwrthododd yr awgrym mai dim ond annog awdurdodau lleol i wneud cyfraniad o'r fath a ddylid, yn hytrach na mynnu eu bod yn gwneud, fel y cynigid yng nghynnig Christine Chapman. Mae gan awdurdodau lleol ddisgresiwn eisoes heddiw.

Nid yw amser yn caniatáu imi ailadrodd y dadleuon ynghylch pam y mae angen cymorth ariannol ychwanegol ar blant sydd yn derbyn gofal er mwyn iddynt lwyddo. Serch hynny, mae'r dadleuon hynny'n dal yn ddilys, fel y mae Christine Chapman wedi amlinellu. Mae'r adroddiad dichonoldeb yn argymhell ffordd ymlaen, sef

'rhoi'r egwyddor y tu ôl i'r cynnig ar waith drwy fynd ati fesul cam'.

Mae cwestiynau'n parhau ynglŷn â'r adroddiad dichonoldeb hwn, megis, beth yw'r amserlen ar gyfer gosod dyletswydd statudol ar awdurdodau lleol i roi'r cyfraniad blynyddol hwn. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn, fel y mae'r Gweinidog wedi amlinellu, ac fel y dywedir yn yr adroddiad ymarferoldeb, nad oes gan y Cynulliad y pwerau cyfreithiol ar hyn o bryd i fynnu bod awdurdodau lleol yn rhoi cyfraniad o'r fath. Cwestiwn arall sydd

what guarantee there is that the Welsh Assembly Government will continue to fully fund this as a national responsibility. Another question is whether £50 is sufficient to close the inequality gap, when children could get £1,200 every year. Also, who will benefit from such an annual contribution? Who is the child in care? Do we mean short-term or long-term care? There are also other issues, which we debated in June, with regard to the definition of a child in care in order to qualify for such an annual contribution.

I return to today's motion, which seeks merely to encourage, not to require, local authorities to make an annual contribution to the child trust funds of looked-after children. There is no requirement here. I understand perfectly the legal constraint—the Assembly currently does not have the legal power to change encouragement to a statutory requirement. However, what the Minister describes as the way forward is the current, discretionary situation—there is no change. The requirement proposed in Christine Chapman's motion has been ditched in favour of mere encouragement, because the Assembly does not have the powers to insist on requirement. Plaid Cymru will abstain in the vote today.

Gwenda Thomas: I welcome the approach that the Minister has outlined in the feasibility report regarding child trust fund contributions by local authorities and on how we can ensure that we further social justice and equality of opportunity for children and young people in care in Wales.

5.10 p.m.

As I said during the original debate, recommendation 58 of the Waterhouse report is also relevant. It states that elected members should, from time to time, be advised about and reminded of their responsibilities to develop policy and oversee and monitor the discharge by the local authority of its parental obligations towards looked-after children. By initially setting up a scheme that can operate on a grant basis in 2006, thereby enabling

yn codi o'r adroddiad hwn yw pa sicrwydd sydd y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n parhau i ariannu hyn yn llawn fel cyfrifoldeb cenedlaethol. Cwestiwn arall yw a ydyw £50 yn ddigon i gau'r bwlch anghydraddoldeb, pryd y gallai plant gael £1,200 bob blwyddyn. Hefyd, pwy fydd yn elwa o gyfraniad blynyddol o'r fath? Pwy yw'r plentyn mewn gofal? A ydym yn golygu gofal tymor byr ynteu hirdymor? Mae cwestiynau eraill hefyd, a drafodwyd gennym ym Mehefin, ynglŷn â diffinio plentyn mewn gofal er mwyn bod yn gymwys ar gyfer cyfraniad blynyddol o'r fath.

Dychwelaf at y cynnig heddiw, nad yw ond yn ceisio annog awdurdodau lleol i roi cyfraniad blynyddol, yn hytrach na mynnu eu bod yn gwneud hynny, i gronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant plant sydd yn derbyn gofal. Nid oes dim gofyniad yma. Deallaf yn berffaith y cyfyngiad cyfreithiol—nid oes gan y Cynulliad ar hyn o bryd y pŵer cyfreithiol i newid anogaeth yn ofyniad statudol. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn a ddisgrifir gan y Gweinidog fel y ffordd ymlaen yw'r sefyllfa sy'n ddewisol ar hyn o bryd—nid oes dim newid. Cafwyd gwared â'r gofyniad a gynigiwyd yng nghynnig Christine Chapman gan roi dim ond anogaeth yn ei le, a hynny am nad oes gan y Cynulliad y pwerau i fynnu gofyniad. Bydd Plaid Cymru'n ymatal yn y bleidlais heddiw.

Gwenda Thomas: Croesawaf y dull a amlinellodd y Gweinidog yn yr adroddiad dichonoldeb ynglŷn â chyfraniadau i gronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant gan awdurdodau lleol ac ynghylch sut y gallwn sicrhau ein bod yn hybu cyfiawnder cymdeithasol a chyfle cyfartal i blant a phobl ifanc mewn gofal yng Nghymru.

Fel y dywedais yn y ddadl wreiddiol, mae argymhelliad 58 adroddiad Waterhouse yn berthnasol hefyd. Mae'n dweud y dylid cynghori ac atgoffa aelodau etholedig, o bryd i'w gilydd, ynghylch eu cyfrifoldebau i ddatblygu polisi a goruchwylio a monitro'r modd y mae'r awdurdod lleol yn cyflawni ei ddyletswyddau o safbwynt rhieni tuag at blant sydd yn derbyn gofal. Drwy sefydlu cynllun i ddechrau a all weithredu ar sail

local authorities to make these payments to children and young people, we will, in reality, enable local authorities to act in their capacity as a corporate parent.

I also welcome the commitment by the Minister and the Welsh Assembly Government to consider proposals for creating a statutory duty—the commitment is there, Dai—to require local authorities to make an annual contribution to the child trust fund, subject to the developments in the White Paper. In ensuring that these already vulnerable children and young people are not marginalised further, we are taking an important step forward. I congratulate Christine Chapman and Huw Lewis on bringing forward this important issue for looked-after children in Wales.

Jenny Randerson: The Welsh Liberal Democrats, as has already been referred to, are not great enthusiasts of the child trust fund—we believe that there are higher priorities for looked-after children in Wales. Their lack of achievement in school and the patchy record of many social services departments in the continuity of how they are looked after are areas of far greater concern. Having said that, we would not seek to oppose this measure, but I will raise some specific issues.

First, it is not at all clear from the wording of the motion which of these three roads you prefer to go down. I suspect that option 3 in the feasibility report will be the one that you take in the end. Simply encouraging local authorities sounds suspiciously as if you will not fully reimburse the local authorities concerned, and will use the excuse, when the time comes, that it is up to them and at their discretion, and therefore they should not have to be reimbursed. Reimbursing local authorities, if you are to follow this policy, is essential—it is essential to their confidence and to the credibility of the whole process. It is not just a matter of saying that we will reimburse them this year and next year, but of a guarantee of reimbursement throughout the period. Therefore, within our current powers, option 2 provides very much more

grant yn 2006, gan alluogi awdurdodau lleol felly i roi'r taliadau hyn i blant a phobl ifanc, byddwn, mewn gwirionedd, yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i weithredu yn eu swyddogaeth fel rhiant corfforaethol.

Yr wyf hefyd yn croesawu'r ymrwymiad gan y Gweinidog a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ystyried cynigion ar gyfer creu dyletswydd statudol—mae'r ymrwymiad yno, Dai—i fynnu bod awdurdodau lleol yn rhoi cyfraniad blynyddol i'r gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant, yn amodol ar y datblygiadau yn y Papur Gwyn. Wrth sicrhau na chaiff y plant a phobl ifanc hyn, sydd eisoes yn fregus, eu gwthio ymhellach i'r ymylon, yr ydym yn cymryd cam pwysig ymlaen. Yr wyf yn llongyfarch Christine Chapman a Huw Lewis am gyflwyno'r mater pwysig hwn i blant sydd yn derbyn gofal yng Nghymru.

Jenny Randerson: Nid yw Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, fel y crybwyllwyd eisoes, yn frwd iawn dros y gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant—credwn fod blaenoriaethau uwch i blant sydd yn derbyn gofal yng Nghymru. Mae eu diffyg cyflawniad yn yr ysgol a record anghyson llawer o adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn nilyniant y gofal a roddir iddynt yn feysydd sydd yn peri llawer mwy o bryder. Wedi dweud hynny, ni fyddem am geisio gwrthwynebu'r mesur hwn, ond codaf ambell bwynt penodol.

Yn gyntaf, nid yw'n glir o gwbl yn ôl geiriad y cynnig pa un o'r tair ffordd hyn y mae'n well gennych ei dilyn. Yr wyf yn amau mai opsiwn 3 yn yr adroddiad dichonoldeb fydd yr un a ddewiswch yn y diwedd. Mae amheuaeth bod dim ond annog awdurdodau lleol yn swnio fel pe na baech yn bwriadu ad-dalu'n llawn i'r awdurdodau lleol dan sylw, ac y defnyddiwch yr esgus, pan ddaw'r amser, mai mater iddynt hwy ac yn ôl eu disgrisiwn ydyw, ac felly na ddylid gorfod ad-dalu iddynt. Mae ad-dalu i awdurdodau lleol, os ydych am ddilyn y polisi hwn, yn hanfodol—mae'n hanfodol i'w hyder ac i hygrededd yr holl broses. Nid dim ond mater ydyw o ddweud y gwnawn ad-dalu iddynt eleni a'r flwyddyn nesaf, ond o warantu ad-daliad drwy gydol y cyfnod. Felly, o fewn ein pwerau cyfredol, mae opsiwn 2 yn rhoi

certainty on the issues.

Secondly, not all looked-after children remain in local authority care throughout their youth. They can be in long-term care, but at some point, fortunately, can leave care and return to their families. What arrangements will you put in place to ensure that the money given to them under this scheme is invested in the most effective way to truly benefit those children when they are 18, and that that money is properly used at that time?

Finally, yet again we stumble against the fact that, even for the simplest of notions—and this is a simple, basic measure—we do not have the powers. This is yet another example of the impossible situation that we are in. I note the comments in the feasibility study about the delay that we would experience in trying to gain these powers. However, we must consider this from a long-term point of view. I hope that, once the Better Governance for Wales White Paper becomes law, there will be an easier route to gaining such powers. However, it will be a tedious process, advanced at a snail's pace, if the proposed Orders in Council have to drill down to this level of detail.

Therefore, as it stands, the motion does not provide us with sufficient certainty that local authorities will be guaranteed reimbursement. It is a relatively small amount of money, but the principle is important. I would welcome the Minister's addressing these points in her reply. The Liberal Democrats will abstain on the vote as a result of this.

Huw Lewis: I am so pleased that Christine has pursued the issue and given the time and energy necessary to bring the motion to the floor of the Chamber. As she said, it arose from the review of overindebtedness that was completed some time ago. This sort of thinking and such ideas have informed my work over the summer on a child poverty action plan for Wales. Let us be clear: the child trust fund is about redistributive politics. As well as requiring local government to act, as it should, as a good corporate parent, it begins to address the

llawer mwy o sicrwydd ar y materion hyn.

Yn ail, ni fydd pob plentyn sydd yn derbyn gofal yn aros yng ngofal yr awdurdod lleol drwy gydol eu hieuenctid. Gallant fod mewn gofal hirdymor, ond ar ryw bwynt, yn ffodus, gallant adael gofal a dychwelyd at eu teuluoedd. Pa drefniadau a rowch ar waith i sicrhau bod yr arian a roddir iddynt dan y cynllun hwn yn cael ei fuddsoddi yn y ffordd fwyaf effeithiol i roi budd gwirioneddol i'r plant hynny pan fyddant yn 18, a bod yr arian hwnnw'n cael ei ddefnyddio'n briodol bryd hynny?

Yn olaf, unwaith eto yr ydym yn cael ein baglu gan y ffaith nad yw'r pwerau gennym, hyd yn oed ar gyfer y syniad symlaf—a mesur syml, sylfaenol ydyw hwn. Dyma enghraifft arall eto fyth o'r sefyllfa amhosibl yr ydym ynnddi. Nodaf y sylwadau yn yr astudiaeth dichonoldeb ynghylch yr oedi a gaem wrth geisio cael y pwerau hyn. Serch hynny, rhaid inni ystyried hyn o safbwynt y tymor hir. Gobeithiaf, wedi i'r Papur Gwyn ar Drefn Lywodraethu Well i Gymru ddod yn gyfraith, y bydd dull haws o gael pwerau o'r fath. Ond bydd yn broses ddiflas, a fydd yn symud fel malwen, os bydd rhaid i'r Gorchmynion arfaethedig yn y Cyfrin Gyngor ddrilio i lawr i'r lefel hon o fanylder.

Felly, fel y mae ar hyn o bryd, nid yw'r cynnig yn rhoi digon o sicrwydd pendant inni y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn derbyn addaliad. Mae'n swm cymharol fach o arian, ond mae'r egwyddor yn bwysig. Byddwn yn croesawu pe bai'r Gweinidog yn ateb y pwyntiau hyn yn ei hymateb. Bydd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn ymatal ar y bleidlais hon o ganlyniad i hyn.

Huw Lewis: Yr wyf mor falch bod Christine wedi mynd ar ôl y mater hwn ac wedi rhoi'r amser a'r egni angenrheidiol i ddod â'r cynnig gerbron y Siambr. Fel y dywedodd, mae wedi codi o'r adolygiad o orddyled a gwblhawyd beth amser yn ôl. Mae'r math hwn o feddwl a syniadau o'r fath wedi llywio fy ngwaith dros yr haf ar gynllun gweithredu tloidi plant i Gymru. Gadewch inni fod yn glir: mae'r gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant yn ymwneud â gwleidyddiaeth ailddosbarthu. Yn ogystal â mynnu bod llywodraeth leol yn ymddwyn, fel y dylai, fel rhiant corfforaethol

issue of what better-off families have always taken for granted—that at the crucial stage of life when a person enters adulthood, there will be a boost from a parent, be the parent corporate or not.

It is about a historic—and, as far as I can remember, the only example of—direct transfer of capital from state to citizen. It is happening because the Labour Party recognises that outcomes are as important as opportunities when it comes to addressing social justice. When it comes to the means of accessing a civilised life, it is not just reiterating rights that matters; the means to exercise those rights and the outcome of the situation matter so much. This is where the Liberal Democrat horse pulls up at the fence and is unable to jump over it. The Liberal Democrats are happy enough to subsidise and boost 18-year-olds as long as those 18-year-olds are going to university. However, when it comes to some of the least well-off, most damaged children in society, they cannot bring themselves even to vote for this measure. They will sit on their hands.

Take a look at the access rates to higher education for looked-after children. You just spent £50 million on the best-off and strongest in society, and refused to vote for the equivalent support for those that are weakest and the least well-off. That is the Liberal Democrats' attitude to redistributive politics.

Peter Black: When we discussed top-up fees, you argued that all the money should go to early years learning. We are arguing that this money should go into early years learning. What is your problem?

Huw Lewis: The musical chairs that the Liberal Democrats are prepared to play with this or that pot of funding leave me rather bewildered, but the issue today is very simple: are you willing to put money in the pockets of looked-after children when they turn 18, or will you sit on your hands? Plaid Cymru is doing exactly the same thing. Its reasoning is even more stupendous.

da, mae hefyd yn dechrau mynd i'r afael â'r hyn y mae teuluoedd mwy cefnog wedi ei gymryd yn ganiataol erioed—ar yr adeg dyngedfennol pan fydd unigolyn yn cyrraedd ei lawn dwf, y bydd yn cael hwb gan riant, boed y riant yn un corfforaethol ai peidio.

Mae a wnelo ag enghraifft hanesyddol—a'r unig enghraifft ohono hyd y cofiaf—o drosglwyddo cyfalaf gan y wladwriaeth i'r dinesydd. Mae'n digwydd oherwydd bod y Blaid Lafur yn cydnabod bod canlyniadau yr un mor bwysig â chyfleoedd pan fo'n fater o roi sylw i gyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Pan ddaw'n fater o gael y modd i fyw bywyd gwâr, nid ailddatgan hawliau yn unig sy'n bwysig; mae cael y modd i arfer yr hawliau hynny a chanlyniad y sefyllfa yr un mor bwysig. Dyma lle y mae ceffyl y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cyrraedd y ffens ond yn methu â neidio drosti. Mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn ddigon bodlon noddi a hybu pobl ifanc 18 oed cyn belled ag y bo'r bobl ifanc hynny yn mynd i'r brifysgol. Fodd bynnag, o ran rhai o'r plant lleiaf cefnog ac sydd wedi eu brifo fwyaf yn ein cymdeithas, ni wnânt hyd yn oed bleidleisio dros y cynnig hwn. Eistedd ar eu dwylo a wnânt.

Edrychwch ar gyfraddau'r plant sy'n derbyn gofal sy'n mynd i addysg uwch. Yr ydych newydd wario £50 miliwn ar y rhai mwyaf cefnog a chryfaf yn ein cymdeithas, ac yn gwrthod pleidleisio dros roi'r un cymorth i'r rhai gwannaf a lleiaf cefnog. Dyna agwedd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol at wleidyddiaeth aiddosbarthu.

Peter Black: Pan oeddem yn trafod ffioedd atodol, yr oeddech yn dadlau y dylai'r holl arian fynd at addysg blynyddoedd cynnar. Yr ydym ni'n dadlau y dylai'r arian hwn fynd at addysg blynyddoedd cynnar. Beth yw eich problem?

Huw Lewis: Mae'r gêm symud cadeiriau y mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn barod i'w chwarae gyda'r cyllid hwn a'r arian hwnnw yn fy nrysu'n lân, ond mae'r cwestiwn heddiw'n syml iawn: a ydych yn fodlon rhoi arian ym mhocedi plant sy'n derbyn gofal pan fyddant yn 18 oed, neu a fyddwch yn eistedd ar eich dwylo? Mae Plaid Cymru'n gwneud yr un peth yn union. Mae

eu rhesymu hwy'n fwy anghredadwy fyth.

David Lloyd: Plaid Cymru voted in favour of Christine Chapman's earlier motion because it said 'requires' local authorities. Today's motion 'encourages' local authorities. There is no requirement, so there will be no change in the situation.

David Lloyd: Pleidleisiodd Plaid Cymru o blaid cynnig blaenorol Christine Chapman gan ei fod yn dweud 'mae'n ofynnol bod' awdurdodau lleol. Mae'r cynnig heddiw yn 'annog' awdurdodau lleol. Nid oes dim rheidrwydd arnynt, felly ni fydd y sefyllfa'n newid.

Huw Lewis: We realise the difference between people such as Christine Chapman and people such as those on the benches opposite. Christine Chapman is a politician who is prepared to push the machinery of government as far as it will go to benefit the least well-off in our society. This gang is prepared to use technical points, which, frankly, would put the average member of the public to sleep, in order to excuse itself from doing a bit of social justice this afternoon. That is the quality of the opposition that we are up against in this Chamber, and it is beneath contempt. I am considering the expansion and development of this idea in developing the action plan to eradicate child poverty in Wales by 2020. That is Labour's agenda. Labour votes, and Labour votes alone it seems, will drive this measure through this afternoon.

Huw Lewis: Yr ydym yn sylweddoli beth yw'r gwahaniaeth rhwng pobl fel Christine Chapman a phobl fel y rhai ar y meinciau gyferbyn. Mae Christine Chapman yn wleidydd sy'n barod i wthio'r broses lywodraethu cyn belled ag y gall fynd er budd y rhai llai cefnog yn ein cymdeithas. Mae'r criw hwn yn barod i ddefnyddio pwyntiau technegol a fyddai, mewn gwirionedd, yn ddigon i beri i aelod cyffredin o'r cyhoedd fynd i gysgu, er mwyn esgusodi eu hunain rhag cyflawni ychydig o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol y prynhawn yma. Dyna ansawdd yr wrthblaid yn y Siambr hon, ac mae'n warthus. Yr wyf yn ystyried ehangu a datblygu'r syniad hwn fel rhan o ddatblygu cynllun gweithredu i ddileu tlodi plant yng Nghymru erbyn 2020. Dyna agenda'r Blaid Lafur. Pleidleisiau Llafur, a phleidleisiau Llafur yn unig i bob golwg, a fydd yn gyrru'r cynnig hwn drwodd y prynhawn yma.

5.20 p.m.

Jonathan Morgan: The Welsh Conservative group will support the motion, as we supported Christine Chapman's motion in June. I would like to put on record our congratulations to Christine Chapman on pursuing this particular issue, and to the Government, in all fairness, for providing a considered response. We may, and could, have an interesting debate about the lack of powers in this institution, and the fact that we are, therefore, only able to encourage and not able to direct in this particular regard, but the important thing about this is that we ensure that it goes through. We can do at least something to encourage local authorities to make this provision for a group of individuals who are extremely vulnerable.

Jonathan Morgan: Bydd grŵp Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn cefnogi'r cynnig, fel y cefnogasom gynnig Christine Chapman ym mis Mehefin. Hoffwn gofnodi ein llongyfarchiadau i Christine Chapman ar fynd ar ôl y mater neilltuol hwn, ac i'r Llywodraeth, a bod yn deg, am roi ymateb pwyllog. Gallwn, a gallem, gael dadl ddiddorol ynghylch y diffyg pwerau yn y sefydliad hwn, a'r ffaith nad ydym o'r herwydd ond yn gallu annog ac nid cyfarwyddo yn y cyswllt arbennig hwn, ond y peth pwysig am hyn yw ein bod yn sicrhau ei fod yn cael ei basio. Gallwn wneud rhywbeth o leiaf i annog awdurdodau lleol i wneud y ddarpariaeth hon ar gyfer grŵp o unigolion sy'n agored iawn i niwed.

Looked-after children are perhaps some of the most vulnerable children in society. It is fair, therefore, that we can do at least the

Efallai mai plant sy'n derbyn gofal yw rhai o'r plant mwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymdeithas. Mae'n deg, felly, inni o leiaf allu

maximum that we can at this particular point in time. There may be some other point in the future when this can be amended and common sense should prevail. I encourage my colleagues in Plaid Cymru and in the Liberal Democrats to reconsider merely sitting on the fence. They should certainly support this—

David Lloyd *rose*—

Jonathan Morgan: I am not giving way. Perhaps in the future, if we are able to amend this and provide a greater degree of direction, we can do that. However, we seem to be constrained by the devolution settlement. In response to Dai Lloyd, it is better to support this in its current format than to have a hissy fit about the Assembly's apparent lack of powers. This is about grown-up politics, and I encourage my colleagues on this side of the Chamber to join the Conservative group and the Labour group in supporting an eminently sensible piece of legislation and an eminently sensible suggestion from the Government to do something for a very vulnerable group of children in society. To do otherwise, and to merely sit on the fence, sends out the wrong message.

Sandy Mewies: Thank you, Jonathan, for that, which was a sensible way of going forward. Looked-after children are victimised and stigmatised. This is a positive move to help them. It may be the first of our positive moves, but it should not be the last. Sitting on the fence is an absolute disgrace.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): Thank you, Christine and Huw, particularly for restating the points made in the debate in June that this is a key plank in our policy to tackle child poverty. It is a key plank to ensure that our children who are looked after in public care have the same advantages as other children, as well as additional advantages. As Sandy said, this is just the start in terms of that movement and of taking these opportunities forward with regard to supporting our most vulnerable children. I also thank Jonathan. As he said, we are talking about outcomes, which are important for these children.

gwneud hynny a allwn ar hyn o bryd. Efallai y daw adeg yn y dyfodol pan allwn ddiwygio hyn ac y bydd synnwyr cyffredin yn cael y maen i'r wal. Anogaf fy nghyd-Aelodau ym Mhlaid Cymru ac yn y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i ailystyried peidio â gwneud dim ond eistedd ar y ffens. Dylent yn sicr gefnogi'r cynnig hwn—

David Lloyd *a gododd*—

Jonathan Morgan: Nid wyf yn ildio. Efallai yn y dyfodol, os gallwn ddiwygio hyn a rhoi mwy o gyfarwyddyd, y byddwn yn gallu gwneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, ymddengys ein bod wedi ein cyfyngu gan y setliad datganoli. Mewn ymateb i Dai Lloyd, mae'n well cefnogi hyn fel y mae na strancio ynghylch diffyg pwerau'r Cynulliad. Gwleidyddiaeth aeddfed yw hyn, ac anogaf fy nghyd-Aelodau ar ochr hon y Siambr i ymuno â grŵp y Ceidwadwyr a'r grŵp Llafur a chefnogi deddfwriaeth hynod gall ac awgrym hynod gall gan y Llywodraeth i wneud rhywbeth dros grŵp o blant sy'n agored iawn i niwed yn ein cymdeithas. Bydd peidio â gwneud hynny, a dim ond eistedd ar y ffens, yn rhoi'r neges anghywir.

Sandy Mewies: Diolch yn fawr, Jonathan, am yr hyn a ddywedasoch, sy'n ffordd gall o symud ymlaen. Mae plant sy'n derbyn gofal yn cael cam ac yn cael eu gwaradwyddo. Mae hyn yn gam cadarnhaol i'w helpu. Efallai mai hwn fydd y cyntaf o'n camau cadarnhaol, ond ni ddylai fod yn gam olaf. Mae eistedd ar y ffens yn beth hollol warthus i'w wneud.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Diolch yn fawr, Christine a Huw, yn arbennig am ailddatgan y pwyntiau a wnaed yn y ddadl ym mis Mehefin sef bod hyn yn un o elfennau allweddol ein polisi i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant. Mae'n elfen allweddol i sicrhau bod gan ein plant sy'n derbyn gofal cyhoeddus yr un manteision â phlant eraill, yn ogystal â manteision ychwanegol. Fel y dywedodd Sandy, dim ond megis dechrau y mae hyn o ran y symudiad hwnnw ac o ran cyflwyno'r cyfleoedd hyn i gynorthwyo ein plant mwyaf agored i niwed. Diolchaf hefyd i Jonathan. Fel y dywedodd, siarad am ganlyniadau yr ydym, sy'n bwysig i'r plant hyn.

The message to Dai and Jenny and to the rest of Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats is to think of the children who will benefit from the policy decision that the Assembly Government is making today. Of course, Jenny, we must consult further, and Dai and others have raised points across the board that we must look at issues relating to criteria, we must get this right and we must consult local government.

There were three options to take forward in the feasibility study, but I have already indicated that local authorities, and the Welsh Local Government Association, are very keen on the special grant route. That would mean that money would be forthcoming from the Assembly Government to enable a special grant to get the money out, and we can do that from next April. From April 2006, we can make a difference to the lives of looked-after children who are in our care and who are our responsibility. We can make that move in terms of redistribution and the social justice agenda.

Leanne is not here, but the point was made earlier in the debate on the social justice report that this is about a Labour Welsh Assembly Government making that policy move to redistribute incomes and resources to our most vulnerable looked-after children in Wales. Abstaining or voting against this motion is not only extraordinary; it works directly against the interests of children and social justice.

Finally, as Huw said, outcomes are as important as opportunities, and I hope that the Liberal Democrats and Plaid Cymru will play their part, publicly and politically, in backing these children.

Y neges i Dai a Jenny ac i weddill Plaid Cymru a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yw y dylid meddwl am y plant a fydd yn elwa o'r penderfyniad polisi y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud heddiw. Wrth gwrs, Jenny, rhaid inni ymgynghori ymhellach, ac mae Dai ac eraill wedi codi pwyntiau yn gyffredinol o ran bod yn rhaid edrych ar faterion yn ymwneud â meini prawf, rhaid inni gael hyn yn iawn a rhaid inni ymgynghori â llywodraeth leol.

Yr oedd yr astudiaeth ddichonoldeb yn cynnig tri opsiwn, ond yr wyf eisoes wedi sôn bod yr awdurdodau lleol, a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, yn frwd iawn dros opsiwn y grant arbennig. Byddai hynny'n golygu y byddai arian ar gael gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i alluogi grant arbennig i gael yr arian allan, a gallwn wneud hynny o fis Ebrill nesaf ymlaen. O fis Ebrill 2006, gallwn wneud gwahaniaeth i fywydau plant sy'n derbyn gofal gennym ac yr ydym yn gyfrifol amdanynt. Gallwn wneud rhywbeth ynghylch aildosbarthu a'r agenda cyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

Nid yw Leanne yma, ond gwnaethpwyd y pwynt yn gynharach yn y ddadl ar yr adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol fod a wnelo hyn â Llywodraeth Lafur Cynulliad Cymru yn symud ymlaen gyda'i pholisi i aildosbarthu incwm ac adnoddau i'n plant sy'n derbyn gofal sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yng Nghymru. Mae ymatal neu bleidleisio yn erbyn y cynnig hwn nid yn unig yn anhygoel; mae'n gweithio yn uniongyrchol yn erbyn buddiannau plant a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

I gloi, fel y dywedodd Huw, mae canlyniadau yr un mor bwysig â chyfleoedd, a gobeithio y bydd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a Phlaid Cymru yn gwneud eu rhan, yn gyhoeddus ac yn wleidyddol, i gefnogi'r plant hyn.

*Cynnig (NDM2560): O blaid 37, Ymatal 13, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2560): For 37, Abstain 13, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick

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

Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Janet
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â
concludes our business for this afternoon. chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.25 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.25 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, 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)