



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Cofnod y Trafodion**

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

**Dydd Mercher, 8 Chwefror 2006
Wednesday, 8 February 2006**

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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 Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration

Cyfleusterau ar gyfer Trin Pobl sy'n Camddefnyddio Sylweddau Facilities for the Treatment of Substance Misuse

Q1 Sandy Mewies: Will the Minister give a progress report on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to improve facilities for the treatment of substance misuse? OAQ0525(SJR)

C1 Sandy Mewies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi adroddiad cynnydd ar yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i wella cyfleusterau ar gyfer trin pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau? OAQ0525(SJR)

Q10 Gwenda Thomas: Will the Minister give a progress report on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to improve facilities for the treatment of substance misuse? OAQ0570(SJR)

C10 Gwenda Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi adroddiad cynnydd ar yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i wella cyfleusterau ar gyfer trin pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau? OAQ0570(SJR)

Q11 Catherine Thomas: Will the Minister provide an update on the progress of the substance misuse strategy? OAQ0554(SJR)

C11 Catherine Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am hynt y strategaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau? OAQ0554(SJR)

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I have increased the substance misuse action fund by 600 per cent since 2003. This includes the establishment of a capital grant scheme of £3 million in 2005-06, and a further £12.5 million between 2006-07 and 2008-09. This will improve and enhance a range of substance misuse treatment facilities, including residential rehabilitation services.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Yr wyf wedi cynyddu'r gronfa weithredu ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau 600 y cant ers 2003. Mae hyn yn cynnwys sefydlu cynllun grant cyfalaf o £3 miliwn yn 2005-06, a £12.5 miliwn arall rhwng 2006-07 a 2008-09. Bydd hyn yn gwella ac yn cryfhau amrywiaeth o gyfleusterau ar gyfer trin pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau, gan gynnwys gwasanaethau adsefydlu preswyl.

Sandy Mewies: I am sure that you would agree that it is imperative that we treat the underlying causes of substance misuse. I am pleased that there has been such an increase in funding so that facilities can be improved. What is being done to ensure that people across Wales receive the same high standard of treatment and that GPs and pharmacists are adequately equipped to provide services to drug and alcohol misusers?

Sandy Mewies: Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunech ei bod yn hanfodol inni drin achosion gwaelodol camddefnyddio sylweddau. Yr wyf yn falch fod cynnydd felly wedi bod yn y cyllid fel y gellir gwella cyfleusterau. Beth sy'n cael ei wneud i sicrhau bod pobl ledled Cymru yn cael yr un safon uchel o driniaeth, a bod gan feddygon teulu a fferyllwyr adnoddau digonol i ddarparu gwasanaethau i bobl sy'n camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol?

Edwina Hart: Guidance has been issued recently to community safety partnerships

Edwina Hart: Cyhoeddwyd canllawiau'n ddiweddar ar gyfer partneriaethau diogelwch

aimed at strengthening the planning and commissioning of substance misuse treatment services at a local level. In 2006-07, all community safety partnerships will be carrying out in-depth needs assessments and producing commissioning plans to underpin the delivery of their local action plans. Therefore, I hope to have consistency across Wales.

Gwenda Thomas: Would you join me in congratulating the Neath Port Talbot community safety partnership on becoming one of the first recipients of funding from the substance misuse capital programme in the autumn of last year? Do you agree that having a multi-agency misuse centre such as Emroch House, which provides help and support for my constituents in need, enables services to be targeted at where they would be most appropriately used?

Edwina Hart: I concur with you in congratulating Neath Port Talbot. Excellent progress has been made on this agenda in the area, and I commend to Members the excellent examples of best practice seen there.

Catherine Thomas: Arts Care is an arts organisation that works in Llanelli with a range of groups, including young homeless people who are at risk of developing substance misuse problems. This organisation uses drama, music and art workshops to engage with these young people and to help them to overcome the pressures that they face. Do you agree that organisations such as Arts Care have a crucial role to play in supporting some of our most vulnerable citizens, who are at risk of substance misuse? May I invite you, Minister, to Llanelli to see some of the organisation's projects at work?

Edwina Hart: I would be delighted to accept your invitation to Llanelli. It is important that we recognise the role that art and sport can play in assisting young people, and that we consider any further contribution that groups such as Arts Care can make to work being undertaken across Wales.

cymunedol sy'n anelu at gryfhau'r gwaith o gynllunio a chomisiynu gwasanaethau trin pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau ar lefel leol. Yn 2006-07, bydd pob partner diogelwch cymunedol yn gwneud asesiadau anghenion manwl ac yn cynhyrchu cynlluniau comisiynu fel sail i'r broses o roi eu cynlluniau gweithredu lleol ar waith. Felly, gobeithiaf sicrhau cysondeb ledled Cymru.

Gwenda Thomas: A ymunech â mi i longyfarch partneriaeth diogelwch cymunedol Castell-nedd Port Talbot ar ddod yn un o'r partneriaethau cyntaf i gael cyllid gan y rhaglen gyfalaf ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau yn ystod hydref y llynedd? A gytunwch fod cael canolfan camddefnyddio aml-asiantaeth fel Emroch House, sy'n darparu help a chymorth i'm hetholwyr mewn angen, yn ein galluogi i dargedu gwasanaethau i'r ardaloedd lle y gwneid y defnydd mwyaf priodol ohonynt?

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf â chi i longyfarch Castell-nedd Port Talbot. Gwnaed cynnydd sylweddol ar yr agenda hon yn yr ardal, a chymeradwyaf i'r Aelodau yr esiamplau gwych o arfer gorau a welwyd yno.

Catherine Thomas: Mae Gofal Celf yn sefydliad celf sy'n gweithio yn Llanelli gydag amrywiaeth o grwpiau, yn cynnwys pobl ifanc ddigartref sydd mewn perygl o ddatblygu problemau camddefnyddio sylweddau. Mae'r sefydliad hwn yn defnyddio gweithdai drama, cerddoriaeth a chelf i ymgysylltu â'r bobl ifanc hyn a'u helpu i oresgyn y pwysau sydd arnynt. A gytunwch fod gan sefydliadau fel Gofal Celf rôl hanfodol i'w chwarae wrth gefnogi rhai o'n dinasyddion sydd fwyaf agored i niwed, ac ydd mewn perygl o gamddefnyddio sylweddau? A gaf fi eich gwahodd, Weinidog, i Lanelli i weld rhai o brosiectau'r sefydliad ar waith?

Edwina Hart: Byddai'n bleser gennyf dderbyn eich gwahoddiad i Lanelli. Mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod y rôl y gall celf a chwaraeon ei chwarae wrth helpu pobl ifanc, ac ystyried unrhyw gyfraniad pellach y gall grwpiau fel Gofal Celf ei wneud i waith sy'n mynd ymlaen ledled Cymru.

Leanne Wood: A recent report by Turning Point Cymru warns of an alarming increase in the number of crack cocaine users in Wales. There are, apparently, more crack users than heroin users among certain young vulnerable groups. The average crack habit costs £500 a week to maintain, and there are obvious links to the sex trade and to gun crime. Treatment is the most powerful weapon against problematic drug misuse. Will you tell us what you are doing to assess the level of crack addiction in Wales, and what treatment services do you plan to develop?

Edwina Hart: I thank Leanne for drawing our attention to this report, and I assume that most Members have had the opportunity to look at the information that it contains. The increase among the groups of people across Wales becoming addicted to crack cocaine is worrying. I will look at the treatment services available across the board. We have done well in providing treatment with the budget increases over the past few years, and I will ask my officials to look at what further work we need to undertake.

Jonathan Morgan: In Rhondda Cynon Taf, 12 people overdose on heroin each week. This is a growing problem that has been described by some professionals as an epidemic. What measures do you think ought to be taken in this part of the region that I represent in order to stem what is a growing problem and one that affects many lives and many families?

Edwina Hart: You have raised an issue that is of major concern to everyone across Wales. Heroin addiction, particularly among young people, blights many families and societies. With budget increases, we can deal with the issue, but there are also issues about what more can be done to get drugs off the street. I would be happy to take up these points with the police, in terms of how they deal with the criminality issues, and report back to committee on what further work we

Leanne Wood: Mae adroddiad yn ddiweddar gan Turning Point Cymru yn ein rhybuddio am gynnydd syfrdanol yn y nifer sy'n defnyddio crac cocên yng Nghymru. Ymddengys fod mwy yn defnyddio crac cocên na heroin ymhlith rhai grwpiau ifanc penodol sy'n agored i niwed. Mae'r arfer o gymryd crac ar gyfartaledd yn costio £500 yr wythnos, ac mae cysylltiadau amlwg â'r fasnach rhyw a throseddau'n gysylltiedig â drylliau. Triniaeth yw'r arf mwyaf pwerus yn erbyn achosion problematig o gamddefnyddio cyffuriau. A ddywedwch wrthym beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i asesu lefel y broblem o ran pobl sy'n gaeth i grac cocên yng Nghymru, a pha wasanaethau trin yr ydych yn bwriadu eu datblygu?

Edwina Hart: Diolch i Leanne am dynnu ein sylw at yr adroddiad hwn. Cymeraf fod y rhan fwyaf o Aelodau wedi cael cyfle i edrych ar y wybodaeth sydd ynddo. Mae'r cynnydd yn y grwpiau o bobl ledled Cymru sy'n mynd yn gaeth i grac cocên yn peri gofid. Bwriadaf edrych ar y gwasanaethau trin sydd ar gael yn gyffredinol. Buom yn llwyddiannus yn darparu triniaeth, diolch i'r cynnydd yn y gyllideb yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, a gofynnaf i'm swyddogion ystyried pa waith pellach y mae angen inni ei wneud.

Jonathan Morgan: Yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, mae 12 o bobl yn cymryd gorddos o heroin bob wythnos. Mae'r broblem hon ar gynnydd, ac fe'i disgrifiwyd gan rai gweithwyr proffesiynol fel epidemig. Pa gamau y credwch y dylid eu cymryd yn y rhan hon o'r rhanbarth yr wyf yn ei chynrychioli er mwyn atal problem sydd ar gynnydd, ac un sy'n effeithio ar lawer o fywydau a llawer o deuluoedd?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydych wedi codi mater sydd o bryder mawr i bawb ledled Cymru. Mae bod yn gaeth i heroin, yn enwedig ymhlith pobl ifanc, yn difetha llawer o deuluoedd a chymdeithasau. Gyda chynnydd yn y gyllideb, gallwn ymdrin â'r mater, ond mae yna broblemau hefyd o ran beth yn rhagor y gellir ei wneud i gael gwared ar gyffuriau oddi ar y strydoedd. Byddwn yn fodlon trafod y pwyntiau hyn gyda'r heddlu, o ran sut y maent yn ymdrin â materion

can do. Even though we put in additional funds, we must ensure that they work and that sufficient treatment centres are provided. We must engage with people at an earlier stage, rather than when they realise that they have a problem and when they get into bad habits. I will report back to committee on that.

Laura Anne Jones: I welcome any progress to increase and improve facilities for the treatment of substance misuse. We are in desperate need of more facilities. Would you agree that substance misuse is often an underlying cause of homelessness? Have you listened to the Salvation Army to ensure that initiatives to prevent homelessness link with temporary housing services and projects aimed at curing substance misuse?

Edwina Hart: You can sometimes, among the homeless community, see those who are victims of substance misuse, whether that is drugs or alcohol. The Salvation Army has a noble record, over decades, of trying to deal with these issues. We have a good relationship with the Salvation Army in terms of the work that we are prepared to undertake with it. It is important that we assist people who have drug and alcohol problems to access proper facilities when they become homeless, where they can be cared for, can learn new life skills and regain their confidence. As a Government, we will continue, through increases in funding, to support such initiatives.

troseddolrwydd, ac adrodd yn ôl i'r pwyllgor ar ba waith pellach y gallwn ei wneud. Er ein bod wedi cynyddu'r cyllid, rhaid inni sicrhau bod y cyllid hwnnw'n gweithio ac y darperir canolfannau triniaeth digonol. Rhaid inni ymgysylltu â phobl yn cynharach, yn hytrach na phan fyddant yn sylweddoli bod problem ganddynt a phan fyddant yn magu arferion gwael. Dof yn ôl at y pwyllgor ar hynny.

Laura Anne Jones: Croesawaf unrhyw ddatblygiadau i gynyddu a gwella cyfleusterau i drin pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau. Mae angen dybryd am fwy o gyfleusterau. A gytunech fod camddefnyddio sylweddau yn aml yn un o'r ffactorau sy'n arwain at ddigartrefedd? A ydych wedi gwranddo ar Fyddin yr Iachawdwriaeth i sicrhau bod mentrau i atal digartrefedd yn cysylltu â gwasanaethau tai dros dro, a phrosiectau sy'n anelu at wella pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau?

Edwina Hart: Weithiau, ymhlith y gymuned ddigartref, fe welwch bobl sy'n dioddef oherwydd camddefnyddio sylweddau, boed yn gyffuriau neu'n alcohol. Mae gan Fyddin yr Iachawdwriaeth hanes clodwiw o geisio mynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn ers blynnyddoedd. Mae gennym berthynas dda â Byddin yr Iachawdwriaeth o ran y gwaith yr ydym yn barod i'w wneud ar y cyd. Mae'n bwysig inni helpu pobl sydd â phroblemau cyffuriau ac alcohol i allu cael cyfleusterau priodol pan fyddant yn mynd yn ddigartref, lle y gallant gael gofal, dysgu sgiliau bywyd newydd ac adennill eu hyder. Fel Llywodraeth, byddwn yn parhau i gefnogi mentrau felly, drwy gynyddu'r cyllid a ddarperir iddynt.

Adfywio Trefi Arfordir y Gogledd The Regeneration of North Wales Coastal Towns

Q2 Brynle Williams: Will the Minister make a statement on the regeneration of north Wales coastal towns? OAQ0521(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Significant resources are being focused on regenerating the coastal towns. They include £6.25 million committed from the physical regeneration fund to projects, including Rhyl and Denbigh townscape heritage initiatives, the Colwyn Bay regeneration plan and the Scala cinema

C2 Brynle Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am adfywio trefi arfordir y gogledd? OAQ0521(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Mae adnoddau sylweddol yn cael eu clustnodi i adfywio trefi'r arfordir. Maent yn cynnwys £6.25 miliwn a roddwyd i brosiectau gan y gronfa adfywio ffisegol, gan gynnwys mentrau treftadaeth treflun y Rhyl a Dinbych, cynllun adfywio Bae Colwyn a sinema'r Scala a'r ganolfan gelfyddydau ym

and arts centre in Prestatyn. Communities First and Objective 1 funding is also being used.

Brynle Williams: In Colwyn Bay, in particular, there seems to be a serious problem with houses of multiple occupation. Regrettably, some landlords are unscrupulously exploiting the housing benefit system, allowing buildings to fall into disrepair, while they are paid rents directly by the council. What will the Welsh Assembly Government do to resolve this situation and promote the creation of good quality, affordable housing that will improve the general quality of life of people in Colwyn Bay?

Edwina Hart: It is important to recognise that, even though there will always be some unscrupulous landlords with houses in multiple occupation, some landlords are scrupulous. Some landlord associations and so on are working together to ensure good quality HMOs. The issue of licensing is also on the agenda, which I believe will help with the issues that you raise.

In terms of affordable housing, we must recognise that we not only need affordable housing to buy, but also to let. We must encourage more people into the private rental sector, and consider the responsibilities of registered social landlords in encouraging more rental properties among their developments. This is quite a complex issue, which we have discussed at length in the Assembly in terms of the housing debate. We will continue to discuss this issue in committee.

Eleanor Burnham: Conwy County Borough Council's regeneration strategy for 2005 notes that people seeking to develop their careers will do so outside the county, as they cannot find affordable housing within the county. This has had a marked impact on the cohesiveness of the town of Conwy, as it has on many other coastal towns in north Wales. What discussions have you had with Conwy council, and what backing, in terms of finance, are you making available to it to allow it to develop its regeneration strategy?

Mhrestatyn. Mae arian Amcan Un a Chymunedau yn Gyntaf yn cael ei ddefnyddio hefyd.

Brynle Williams: Ym Mae Colwyn, yn benodol, ymddengys fod problem ddifrifol gyda thai amlfeddiant. Yn anffodus, mae rhai landlordiaid yn ymelwa o'r system budd-daliadau tai mewn ffordd gwbl ddiogwyddor, gan adael i adeiladau ddadfeilio, tra mae'r cyngor yn talu rhent iddynt yn uniongyrchol. Beth a wnaiff Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ddatrys y sefyllfa hon a hyrwyddo'r gwaith o greu tai fforddiadwy o safon a fydd yn gwella ansawdd cyffredinol bywydau pobl ym Mae Colwyn?

Edwina Hart: Mae'n bwysig sylweddoli bod rhai landlordiaid gofalgwr i'w cael, er y bydd yna bob amser rai landlordiaid diegwyddor sydd â thai amlfeddiant. Mae rhai cymdeithasau landlordiaid ac ati yn cydweithio i sicrhau tai amlfeddiant o safon. Mae trwyddedu ar yr agenda hefyd, a chredaf y bydd hynny'n helpu gyda'r materion yr ydych yn eu codi.

O ran tai fforddiadwy, rhaid inni gydnabod nid yn unig bod angen tai fforddiadwy arnom i'w prynu, ond i'w rhentu hefyd. Rhaid inni annog mwy o bobl i mewn i'r sector rhentu preifat, ac ystyried cyfrifoldebau landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig wrth eu hannog i gynnwys mwy o eiddo i'w rentu ymhlith eu datblygiadau. Mae hyn yn fater eithaf cymhleth, ac yr ydym wedi ei drafod yn fanwl yn y Cynulliad wrth drafod tai. Byddwn yn parhau i drafod y mater hwn yn y pwyllgor.

Eleanor Burnham: Mae strategaeth adfywio Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy ar gyfer 2005 yn dweud bod pobl sy'n ceisio datblygu eu gyrfa yn gwneud hynny y tu allan i'r sir, am na allant gael tai fforddiadwy yn y sir. Mae hyn wedi cael effaith amlwg ar gydlyniant tref Conwy, ac felly hefyd nifer o drefi eraill ar arfordir y gogledd. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda chynghor Conwy, a pha gefnogaeth, a hynny'n gefnogaeth ariannol, yr ydych yn ei rhoi i ganiatáu i'r cyngor ddatblygu ei strategaeth adfywio?

Edwina Hart: It is important to recognise that local authorities are elected by the local electorate, on the same pattern as us, every four years. It is up to them to ensure that they include the necessary priorities in their budgets. Local authorities have had very good settlements over the last few years. The Finance Minister has been more than generous with me in terms of issues on the housing agenda, and it is important that local authorities decide how to prioritise what they have. They cannot always come begging to the National Assembly for additional resources; they must make up their own minds within their own resources.

Edwina Hart: Mae'n bwysig cydnabod y caiff awdurdodau lleol eu hethol gan y pleidleiswyr leol bob pedair blynedd, sef yr un patrwm â ni. Eu cyfrifoldeb hwy yw sicrhau cynnwys y blaenoriaethau angenrheidiol yn eu cyllidebau. Mae awdurdodau lleol wedi cael setliadau da iawn yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Bu'r Gweinidog Cyllid yn fwy na hael gyda mi ar faterion ar yr agenda tai, ac mae'n bwysig i awdurdodau lleol benderfynu sut i flaenoriaethu'r hyn sydd ganddynt. Ni allant ddod ar ofyn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol am adnoddau ychwanegol byth a beunydd; rhaid iddynt benderfynu eu hunain o fewn eu hadnoddau eu hunain.

Gorddyled Overindebtedness

C3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â gorddyled? OAQ0539(SJR)

Q3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to tackle overindebtedness? OAQ0539(SJR)

Edwina Hart: I am concerned about levels of personal overindebtedness, particularly in our poorest communities. My Deputy Minister's review of overindebtedness was published in July last year, and all 10 of its recommendations were accepted.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn pryderu ynghylch lefelau gorddyled personol, yn enwedig yn ein cymunedau tlotaf. Cyhoeddwyd adolygiad fy Nirprwy Weinidog ar orddyled ym mis Gorffennaf y llynedd, a derbyniwyd pob un o'r 10 argymhelliad.

2.10 p.m.

Specific work has been taken forward, such as to develop further financial literacy education in our schools.

Gwnaed gwaith penodol, fel y gwaith i ddatblygu addysg llythrennedd ariannol bellach yn ein hysgolion.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Weinidog, a ydych yn rhannu fy mhryder ynghylch y bobl hynny sydd wedi mynd i ddyled oherwydd credydau treth? Maent ymysg y bobl dlotaf yn ein cymdeithas, ac maent bellach yn cael eu herlyn er mwyn dychwelyd yr arian a ordalwyd iddynt. Oni chytunwch mai cyfrifoldeb y Llywodraeth sydd wedi gordalu yw hwn yn hytrach na chyfrifoldeb y bobl sydd wedi derbyn y credydau heb sylweddoli eu bod wedi cael gormod?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Minister, do you share my concern about those people who have found themselves in debt because of tax credits? They are among the poorest people in society, and they are now being prosecuted in order to recoup the money that was overpaid to them. Do you not agree that it is the responsibility of the Government that overpaid them, rather than the responsibility of those who received the credits without realising that they had been given too much?

Edwina Hart: This is not a devolved matter, as it deals with issues that are dealt with in another place. However, I have made representations about my concerns over what has happened to individuals who have had to

Edwina Hart: Nid yw hwn yn fater datganoledig, gan ei fod yn ymdrin â materion y delir â hwy mewn man arall. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi cyflwyno fy mhryderon am yr hyn a ddigwyddodd i unigolion sydd

repay a substantial amount of money, and the difficulty that that poses them.

Irene James: Measures such as the Department of Trade and Industry's new £45 million face-to-face debt advice fund are a welcome boost for that sector. How are you working with debt advice organisations in Wales to ensure that we get the most from the new fund, and what action can be taken in Wales to discourage a debt culture and to increase awareness of alternative finance solutions, such as credit unions?

Edwina Hart: Thank you for referring to that initiative and the substantial amount of funds put into it by the UK Government. We are working hard with organisations to ensure that we can deliver on this agenda. It is particularly important when people get into debt that they talk these issues through properly and look for alternative arrangements, rather than getting further into debt. I think that there is sometimes an issue with advertising, particularly with advertisements that advise people to consolidate all their loans into one, or to take an additional mortgage on their house. We need to look seriously at these issues, and I would be more than happy to take them up further.

Mark Isherwood: Debt poverty is on the increase. HSBC bank has singled out the UK as its most difficult credit market, and Citizens Advice reports that the number of debt inquiries is rising faster in Wales than anywhere else in the UK, with clients owing an average of 16 times their monthly income. Meanwhile, the basic skills strategy for Wales has shown that 780,000 children, young people and adults have literacy and numeracy problems, and the Basic Skills Agency evidences a clear link between poor basic skills and financial exclusion and debt poverty. It is a ticking time-bomb. What urgent action is the Welsh Assembly Government proposing to deal with it?

wedi gorfod iddynt ad-dalu swm sylweddol o arian, a'r anhawster y mae hynny'n ei achosi iddynt.

Irene James: Mae mesurau fel y gronfa newydd gan yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant gwerth £45 miliwn i roi cyngor am ddyledion wyneb yn wyneb yn hwb i'r sector hwnnw, a chroesawn hynny. Sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda sefydliadau cynghori am ddyledion yng Nghymru i sicrhau ein bod yn manteisio i'r eithaf ar y gronfa newydd, a pha gamau y gellir eu cymryd yng Nghymru i gael gwared ar ddiwylliant dyledion a chynyddu ymwbyddiaeth o atebion ariannol eraill, fel undebau credyd?

Edwina Hart: Diolch am gyfeirio at y fenter honno a'r swm sylweddol sydd wedi ei fuddsoddi ynnddi gan Lywodraeth y DU. Yr ydym yn gweithio'n galed gyda sefydliadau i sicrhau y gallwn gyflawni'r agenda hon. Mae'n bwysig iawn i bobl drafod y materion hyn yn iawn pan fyddant mewn dyled, gan chwilio am drefniadau amgen, yn hytrach na mynd ymhellach i ddyled. Weithiau, credaf fod bai ar hysbysebion, yn enwedig hysbysebion sy'n cynghori pobl i gyfuno'u dyledion yn un ddyled, neu drefnu morgais ychwanegol ar eu tŷ. Mae angen inni edrych o ddifrif ar y materion hyn, a byddwn yn fwy na pharod i'w trafod ymhellach.

Mark Isherwood: Mae tlodi dyledion ar gynydd. Mae banc HSBC wedi dweud mai'r DU yw ei farchnad greddy anoddaf, ac mae Cyngor ar Bopeth yn dweud bod nifer yr ymholiadau ynghylch dyledion yn cynyddu'n gyflymach yng Nghymru nag unman arall yn y DU, ac mae gan gleientiaid ddyledion o 16 gwaith eu hincwm misol ar gyfartaledd. Yn y cyfamser, mae'r strategaeth sgiliau sylfaenol i Gymru wedi dangos bod gan 780,000 o blant, pobl ifanc ac oedolion broblemau llythrennedd a rhifedd, ac mae'r Asiantaeth Sgiliau Sylfaenol yn dangos cyswllt clir rhwng sgiliau sylfaenol gwan ac allgáu ariannol a thlodi oherwydd dyledion. Mae'n fom sydd ar fin ffrwydro. Pa gamau gweithredu brys y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cynnig i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem?

Edwina Hart: I alluded to the work that I undertake within my portfolio when I responded to Rhodri Glyn Thomas's question on financial literacy issues in Wales.

Edwina Hart: Cyfeiriais at y gwaith yr wyf yn ei wneud o fewn fy mhortffolio pan ymatebais i gwestiwn Rhodri Glyn Thomas ar faterion llythrennedd ariannol yng Nghymru.

Lorraine Barrett: I just want to reinforce Irene James's point and ask you, Minister, to continue to support credit unions, as they help people to manage their money more sensibly, as well as to stop getting into debt in the first place.

Lorraine Barrett: Hoffwn atgyfnerthu pwynt Irene James a gofyn ichi, Weinidog, barhau i gefnogi undebau credyd, gan eu bod yn helpu pobl i reoli eu harian yn fwy doeth, yn ogystal â'u rhwystro rhag mynd i ddyled yn y lle cyntaf.

Edwina Hart: Credit unions are very good in helping people to manage their money successfully. In Llanelli, the credit union has been particularly successful in linking up with schools, and I know that others have done the same. That gets pupils into good habits such as saving early on. That is important and they take that role very seriously. A credit union is also a good method of financial discipline, and I would encourage anyone thinking about signing up to do so.

Edwina Hart: Mae undebau credyd yn effeithiol iawn wrth helpu pobl i reoli eu harian yn llwyddiannus. Yn Llanelli, mae'r undeb credyd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn yn cysylltu ag ysgolion, a gwn fod eraill wedi gwneud yr un fath. Mae hynny'n sicrhau bod disgyblion yn magu arferion da, fel cynilo yn ifanc. Mae hynny'n bwysig, ac maent yn cymryd y rôl honno o ddirif. Mae undeb credyd yn ddull da i sicrhau disgyblaeth ariannol hefyd, a byddwn yn annog unrhyw un sy'n ystyried ymuno i wneud hynny.

Codi Llais Get Heard

Q4 William Graham: Will the Minister make a statement on the Get Heard programme on social inclusion? OAQ0564(SJR)

C4 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am raglen Codi Llais ar gynhwysiant cymdeithasol? OAQ0564(SJR)

Edwina Hart: The Get Heard project was set up by the social policy taskforce and the Department for Work and Pensions. It is a participatory process designed to feed grass-roots views on anti-poverty initiatives into the UK national action plan on social inclusion. The Assembly Government and the Anti-poverty Network Cymru have participated at regional and national events.

Edwina Hart: Sefydlwyd y prosiect Codi Llais gan y tasglu polisi cymdeithasol a'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau. Mae'n broses gyfranogol a gynlluniwyd i ymgorffori barn llawr gwlad am fentrau yn erbyn tlodi yng nghynllun gweithredu cenedlaethol y DU ar gynhwysiant cymdeithasol. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a Rhwydwaith yn erbyn Tlodi Cymru wedi cymryd rhan mewn digwyddiadau rhanbarthol a chenedlaethol.

William Graham: Participants in Get Heard workshops across Wales have made it clear that gaining secure employment is one of the surest ways of climbing out of poverty. However, recent studies have persistently shown that Wales is desperately lacking in job and skills training, especially for young people. What is being done to improve the condition of job training in Wales, so that young people currently living in deprivation

William Graham: Mae'r rhieni sydd wedi cymryd rhan mewn gweithdai Codi Llais ledled Cymru wedi gwneud yn glir mai sicrhau cyflogaeth ddiogel yw un o'r ffyrdd gorau i drechu tlodi. Fodd bynnag, mae astudiaethau'n ddiweddar wedi dangos dro ar ôl tro fod Cymru yn brin o hyfforddiant swyddi a sgiliau, yn enwedig i bobl ifanc. Beth sy'n cael ei wneud i wella ansawdd hyfforddiant swyddi yng Nghymru, fel y gall

may develop the skills necessary to find stable employment?

Edwina Hart: I concur that secure employment is the way to help with a number of key issues. The Government is putting tremendous amounts of resources into the education and training agenda, which will benefit communities in Wales in the long run. Within my portfolio, I also look at issues regarding secure employment, particularly for those from poor parts of our community. That is why I was delighted to learn that, when we had the stock transfer in Bridgend, the housing association had set up a skills training centre to train young people from the area to be carpenters, electricians and so on. That is positive example of how, working together, we can change things in Wales.

Helen Mary Jones: Minister, I am sure that you would agree that, in addition to the important British-level initiatives, we have many important initiatives in Wales to ensure that those at risk of social exclusion can get access to decision making. In that context, would you join me in congratulating Mencap Cymru, which has heard today that it has secured £300,000-worth of funding to work with young people with learning disabilities in schools in order to ensure that they can gain access to decision-making processes when they leave? Would you and, hopefully, your Cabinet colleagues look forward to meeting those young people as the project develops, to ensure that those young people, although at risk from social exclusion, do not suffer from it?

Edwina Hart: I was not aware of that announcement today. I agree that it is excellent news that those funds have become available. As a Minister, I would be delighted to meet anyone involved in that project.

pobl ifanc sy'n byw mewn amddifadedd ar hyn o bryd ddatblygu'r sgiliau angenrheidiol i allu cael cyflogaeth sefydlog?

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf mai cyflogaeth ddiogel yw'r ffordd i helpu gyda nifer o faterion allweddol. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn buddsoddi llawer iawn o adnoddau yn yr agenda addysg a hyfforddiant, a fydd o fudd i gymunedau yng Nghymru yn y tymor hir. Yn fy mhortffolio yr wyf yn edrych ar faterion sy'n gysylltiedig â chyflogaeth ddiogel hefyd, yn enwedig i'r rheini o rannau tlawd ein cymuned. Dyna pam yr oeddwn yn falch clywed, pan drosglwyddwyd stoc ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, fod y gymdeithas tai wedi sefydlu canolfan hyfforddi sgiliau i hyfforddi pobl ifanc o'r ardal i fod yn seiri coed, trydanwyr, ac ati. Mae hynny'n enghraifft gadarnhaol o'r ffordd y gallwn newid pethau yng Nghymru, drwy gydweithio.

Helen Mary Jones: Weinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno, yn ogystal â'r mentrau pwysig ym Mhrydain gyfan, fod gennym lawer menter bwysig yng Nghymru sy'n sicrhau bod y rhai sydd mewn perygl o gael eu hallgáu'n gymdeithasol yn gallu chwarae rhan yn y broses o wneud penderfyniadau. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, a ymunwch â mi i longyfarch Mencap Cymru, a glywodd heddiw ei fod wedi sicrhau £300,000 i weithio gyda phobl ifanc ag anableddau dysgu mewn ysgolion, er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn cael chwarae rhan yn y broses o wneud penderfyniadau pan fyddant yn gadael? A fyddech chi, a'ch cyd-aelodau yn y Cabinet, gobeithio, yn edrych ymlaen at gyfarfod â'r bobl ifanc hynny wrth i'r prosiect ddatblygu, er mwyn sicrhau nad yw'r bobl ifanc hynny, er eu bod mewn perygl o gael eu hallgáu'n gymdeithasol, yn dioddef o'r herwydd?

Edwina Hart: Nid oeddwn yn gwybod am y cyhoeddiad hwnnw heddiw. Cytunaf fod sicrhau'r arian hwnnw yn newyddion ardderchog. Fel Gweinidog, byddwn wrth fy modd yn cyfarfod ag unrhyw un sy'n ymwneud â'r prosiect hwnnw.

Cynlluniau i Hyrwyddo Cynhwysiant Cymdeithasol Plans to Promote Social Inclusion

Q5 Kirsty Williams: Will the Minister make

C5 Kirsty Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog

a statement on her plans to promote social inclusion? OAQ0560(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Promoting social justice lies at the heart of the Assembly Government's agenda. Our social justice annual report 2005 sets out how we are improving access to jobs, skills, training, healthcare, housing, the safety of people in our communities, and the regeneration of our communities in all parts of Wales.

Kirsty Williams: One aspect of people's lives that you did not mention was social activities. Do you accept that many disabled people like a night down the pub as much as anyone else? I had a recent meeting with Brecknock access group, which is concerned that Powys County Council is not using the new licensing laws to help improve access for disabled people to pubs and clubs in Powys. Will you look at this problem to see what could be done to use these new licensing laws to ensure that all those who want a night out can enjoy one?

Edwina Hart: Licensing laws are not a devolved matter, but I would be delighted to take up any points that you might wish to raise in correspondence on this issue.

Christine Chapman: The Welsh Assembly Government has rightly placed considerable emphasis on serving the interests of some of our most vulnerable and isolated people, who, at times, can be left on the fringes of society—for example, children and older people are often underrepresented. How is this reflected in the Communities First programme and how are we ensuring that projects and initiatives are targeted at the full diversity of our communities, and include such people as fully in society as possible?

Edwina Hart: How you manage to get people who feel marginalised even within Communities First communities involved is a difficult question. We are trying to engage young people and to ensure that Communities First partnerships engage them

ddatganiad am ei chynlluniau i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol? OAQ0560(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Mae hyrwyddo cyfiawnder cymdeithasol wrth wraidd agenda Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Dywed ein hadroddiad blynyddol ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol ar gyfer 2005 sut yr ydym yn gwella mynediad i swyddi, sgiliau, hyfforddiant, gofal iechyd, tai, diogelwch pobl yn ein cymunedau, ac adfywio ein cymunedau ymhob rhan o Gymru.

Kirsty Williams: Un agwedd ar fywydau pobl nad oeddech yn ei chrybwyll oedd gweithgareddau cymdeithasol. A dderbyniwch fod llawer i berson anabl yn mwynhau treulio noson yn y dafarn gymaint ag unrhyw un arall? Cyfarfûm yn ddiweddar â grŵp mynediad Brycheiniog, sy'n pryderu am nad yw Cyngor Sir Powys yn defnyddio'r cyfreithiau trwyddedu newydd i helpu gwella mynediad i bobl anabl i dafarn dai a chlybiau ym Mhowys. A wnewch chi edrych ar y broblem hon i weld beth y gellid ei wneud i ddefnyddio'r cyfreithiau trwyddedu newydd hyn i sicrhau bod pawb sydd am gael noson allan yn gallu mwynhau gwneud hynny?

Edwina Hart: Nid yw cyfreithiau trwyddedu'n fater sydd wedi ei ddatganoli, ond byddwn yn facl mynd i'r afael ag unrhyw bwyntiau yr hoffech eu codi efallai mewn gohebiaeth ar y mater hwn.

Christine Chapman: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, yn gwbl gyfiawn, wedi rhoi cryn bwyslais ar wasanaethu buddiannau rhai o'n pobl fwyaf diamddiffyn ac ynysig sydd, weithiau, gallu cael eu gadael ar gyrion cymdeithas—er enghraifft, nid yw plant a phobl hŷn yn aml yn cael eu cynrychioli'n llawn. Sut yr adlewyrchir hyn yn rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, a sut yr ydym yn sicrhau bod prosiectau a mentrau'n anelu at yr holl amrywiaeth yn ein cymunedau, ac yn cynnwys pobl felly mewn cymdeithas mor llawn â phosibl?

Edwina Hart: Mae sut y llwyddwch gynnwys pobl sy'n teimlo ar y cyrion, hyd yn oed mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yn gwestiwn anodd. Yr ydym yn ceisio ymgysylltu â phobl ifanc a sicrhau bod partneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn

actively and have young people involved in them. This is not about just the usual suspects—young people active in school councils, for example—as we have to get at those outside that group. I also know that a real effort is being made within some partnerships to engage older and disabled people and to see what they want from their communities.

It is working quite well in some areas, but we must recognise that tremendous effort has to be put in if we are to engage all of those people who are currently not socially engaged.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai'r Gweinidog yn cytuno bod digartrefedd yn cael effaith ddifrifol ar gynhwysiant cymdeithasol. Yng nghyd-destun y strategaeth sydd wedi'i datblygu, a'r pwysau sydd yn cael ei roi ar leihau'r nifer sydd yn gorfod aros mewn llety gwely a brechwast, mae'r Gweinidog yn ymwybodol bod sawl asiantaeth sydd yn gweithio yn y maes yn poeni am gapasiti cyrff lleol i ddelio gyda'r broblem hon oherwydd diffyg adnoddau. A yw'r Gweinidog yn rhannu'r pryderon hynny?

Edwina Hart: We have put in a lot of additional money to deal with homelessness. I think that there will always be issues about capacity, however much money I put in. I am looking forward to the debate about the use of bed-and-breakfast accommodation next week, and the legislation that will be coming in, which I think will assist matters.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I bwysio arnoch ychydig ymhellach, yr wyf yn ymwybodol nad oes rhaid i'r Llywodraeth yma ddilyn yr hyn sydd yn digwydd yn Lloegr a'r Alban bob tro. Fodd bynnag, yn Lloegr a'r Alban mae arian penodol yn cael ei roi i awdurdodau lleol i ddelio gyda'r mater o bobl sy'n gorfod aros mewn llety gwely a brechwast, gan fod hynny'n cael effaith fawr ar deuluoedd â phlant. A yw'r Gweinidog yn derbyn, hyd yn oed os nad ydym yn dilyn y patrwm hwnnw yn union, y gallwn wneud mwy? Mae hon yn broblem wirioneddol yn Ynys Môn. Gwn eich bod yn mynd i Gaergybi yr wythnos

ymgysylltu â hwy a sicrhau bod pobl ifanc yn rhan ohonynt. Nid yw hyn yn ymwneud â'r bobl ifanc arferol yn unig—y rheini sy'n chwarae rhan weithgar mewn cynghorau ysgol, er enghraifft—oherwydd rhaid inni gyrraedd y rhai sydd y tu allan i'r grŵp hwnnw. Gwn hefyd fod ymdrech wirioneddol mewn rhai partneriaethau i ymgysylltu â phobl hŷn a phobl anabl ac i weld beth y maent am ei gael gan eu cymunedau.

Mae'n gweithio'n ddigon da mewn rhai ardaloedd, ond rhaid inni gydnabod bod rhaid gwneud ymdrech aruthrol i ymgysylltu â'r holl bobl ifanc nad ydynt, ar hyn o bryd, yn ymgysylltu'n gymdeithasol.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I am sure the Minister would agree that homelessness has a serious impact on social inclusion. In the context of the strategy that has been developed, and the emphasis that is being placed on reducing the numbers who have to stay in bed-and-breakfast accommodation, the Minister knows that several agencies working in the field are concerned about the capacity of local organisations to deal with this problem because of a lack of resources. Does the Minister share those concerns?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym wedi buddsoddi llawer o arian ychwanegol er mwyn ymdrin â digartrefedd. Credaf y bydd yna broblemau'n ymwneud ag adnoddau bob amser, waeth faint o arian a fuddsoddwn. Yr wyf yn edrych ymlaen at y ddatl ar ddefnyddio llety gwely a brechwast yr wythnos nesaf, a'r ddeddfwriaeth a gyflwynir. Bydd honno, yn fy marn i, o gymorth.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: To press you a little further, I am aware that the Government here does not always have to follow what is happening in England and Scotland. However, in England and Scotland specific funding is given to local authorities to deal with the issue of people who have to stay in bed-and-breakfast accommodation, since that has a massive effect on families with children. Does the Minister accept that, even if we do not follow that pattern exactly, we can do more? This is a real problem in Anglesey. I know you will be visiting Holyhead this week, Minister, as will I. This

hon, Weinidog, fel y byddaf innau. Mae'r broblem hon yn fater mawr yn y dref honno.

problem is a huge issue in that town.

2.20 p.m.

Edwina Hart: We always have to recognise that there are issues and problems, and more resources are always welcome. We also have to recognise that not all local authorities have dealt satisfactorily with the issue of bed-and-breakfast accommodation over the years by being much more innovative in their use of resources to deal with such issues.

Edwina Hart: Rhaid inni bob amser gydnabod bod yna faterion a phroblemau, a chroesewir rhagor o adnoddau bob amser. Rhaid inni hefyd gydnabod nad yw pob awdurdod lleol wedi ymdrin yn foddhaol â mater llety gwely a brecwast dros y blynyddoedd drwy fod lawer yn fwy arloesol wrth ddefnyddio adnoddau i ymdrin â materion o'r fath.

Ymgyrch 'Mynd i'r Afael â Chyffuriau; Newid Bywydau' 'Tackling Drugs; Changing Lives' Campaign

Q6 William Graham: Will the Minister make a statement on the 'Tackling Drugs; Changing Lives' campaign? OAQ0565(SJR)

C6 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr ymgyrch 'Mynd i'r Afael â Chyffuriau; Newid Bywydau'? OAQ0565(SJR)

Edwina Hart: 'Tackling Drugs; Changing Lives' sets out progress made in delivering the UK Government's 1998 drug strategy. The associated campaign, which includes an awards scheme, covers both England and Wales and recognises excellence on the part of individuals and teams that make a difference in the drug treatment field.

Edwina Hart: Mae 'Mynd i'r Afael â Chyffuriau; Newid Bywydau' yn gosod allan y cynnydd wrth gyflwyno strategaeth gyffuriau 1998 Llywodraeth y DU. Mae'r ymgyrch gysylltiedig, sy'n cynnwys cynllun gwobrwyo, yn cwmpasu Cymru a Lloegr ac yn cydnabod rhagoriaeth unigolion a thimau sy'n gwneud gwahaniaeth ym maes trin cyffuriau.

William Graham: I am sure that you will agree that work done by Kaleidoscope in Newport is illustrative of your answer. I also know that you are well aware that substance abuse is particularly prevalent among the most deprived and socially isolated in society. What extra action can you take to ensure that drug treatment reaches those elements of society who may not even be aware that such programmes exist?

William Graham: Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod y gwaith a wnaed gan Kaleidoscope yng Nghasnewydd yn enghraifft o'ch ateb. Gwn hefyd eich bod yn gwybod yn iawn fod camddefnyddio sylweddau yn broblem arbennig ymhlith y bobl fwyaf difreintiedig mewn cymdeithas sydd wedi'u hallgáu'n gymdeithasol. Pa gamau ychwanegol y gallwch eu cymryd i sicrhau bod triniaeth gyffuriau ar gael i'r elfennau hynny mewn cymdeithas na fyddant efallai hyd yn oed yn ymwybodol bod rhaglenni o'r fath yn bodoli?

Edwina Hart: I join you in congratulating Kaleidoscope, William. It has been an excellent project, and it has been wonderful to see how people, particularly in Newport, have supported this project, with it being based in the church and everything. There has been no nimbyism in that area in dealing with the project, and that is to be commended.

Edwina Hart: Hoffwn ymuno â chi i longyfarch Kaleidoscope, William. Mae wedi bod yn brosiect ardderchog, ac yr oedd yn hyfryd gweld sut y mae pobl, yn enwedig yng Nghasnewydd, wedi cefnogi'r prosiect hwn, o ystyried ei fod yn cael ei gynnal yn yr eglwys ac ati. Ni fu unrhyw wrthwynebiad yn yr ardal honno i gynnal y prosiect, a dylid cymeradwyo hynny.

We have increased the substance misuse action fund from £3.3 million in 2002-03 to nearly £20 million in 2008-09. These increases have brought about some 4,400 additional places. The money is there, and it is important that we carry on by keeping the pressure on and getting cash in so that we have additional treatment places to really start tackling the problem.

Alun Ffred Jones: Y cyffur peryglaf yw alcohol, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn ymuno â mi i longyfarch disgyblion Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle sydd wedi llunio DVD i rybuddio am beryglon camddefnyddio alcohol. Rhannwyd y DVD ag ysgolion Gwynedd eisoes. Llongyfarchaf y disgyblion hefyd ar eu cyflwyniad ichi yn y Cynulliad yr wythnos diwethaf.

Edwina Hart: That was one of the best presentations that I have seen in the Assembly. The DVD was produced by extraordinary, gifted young people who managed to deal with anti-social behaviour and other issues as well as the issue of alcohol abuse. I was so impressed by the DVD that I have suggested that those in other Welsh-medium schools might like to view it. Also, I noticed that many Members were interested in that presentation, and it would be well worth the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee and the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee viewing the DVD.

Jenny Randerson: Minister, this Home Office initiative quite rightly states that treatment works and is cost effective. For every £1 that you spend on treatment, you save £9.50 in crime and health costs. Do you, therefore, share my concern that, when the Inroads Drugs Project, based in Cardiff, tried to draw attention to the big increase in the number of crack users in Wales, it met with a complacent response from your Government spokeswoman, who basically said, 'Things are worse in England'? Inroads had a list of 160 crack users among its clients at the time when it lost its funding last April for that service. Its staff reckon that that is between a half and a third of the total number of crack users in Cardiff. Will you undertake that,

Yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r gronfa gweithredu ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau o £3.3 miliwn yn 2002-03 i bron £20 miliwn yn 2008-09. Mae'r cynnydd hwn wedi sicrhau tua 4,400 o leoedd ychwanegol. Mae'r arian ar gael, ac mae'n bwysig inni barhau i roi pwysau a chael yr arian fel y bydd gennym leoedd ychwanegol ar gyfer triniaeth, er mwyn dechrau mynd i'r afael â'r broblem yn wirioneddol.

Alun Ffred Jones: Alcohol is the most dangerous drug, and I am sure you will join me in congratulating the pupils of Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle who put together a DVD to warn about the dangers of alcohol misuse. The DVD has been distributed to Gwynedd schools already. I also congratulate the pupils on their presentation to you in the Assembly last week.

Edwina Hart: Dyna oedd un o'r cyflwyniadau gorau yr wyf wedi eu gweld yn y Cynulliad. Cynhyrchwyd y DVD gan bobl ifanc hynod ddawnus a lwyddodd i ymdrin ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a materion eraill yn ogystal â chamddefnyddio alcohol. Gwnaeth y DVD argraff mor dda arnaf fel yr wyf wedi awgrymu efallai yr hoffai disgyblion mewn ysgolion Cymraeg eraill ei weld. Sylwais hefyd fod gan lawer Aelod ddiddordeb yn y cyflwyniad hwnnw, a byddai'n werth i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio a'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes weld y DVD.

Jenny Randerson: Weinidog, mae'r fenter hon gan y Swyddfa Gartref yn llygad ei lle pan ddywed fod triniaeth yn gweithio ac yn effeithiol o ran cost. Am bob £1 a wariwch ar driniaeth, yr ydych yn arbed £9.50 mewn costau troseddu ac iechyd. A ydych chi, felly, fel finnau, yn pryderu, pan geisiodd Prosiect Cyffuriau Inroads, yng Nghaerdydd, dynnu sylw at y cynnydd mawr yn nifer y bobl sy'n defnyddio crac yng Nghymru, fod llefarydd ar ran eich Llywodraeth wedi ymateb yn hunanfodlon gan ddweud, fwy neu lai, fod 'Pethau'n waeth yn Lloegr'? Mae gan Inroads restr o 160 o bobl sy'n defnyddio crac ac a oedd yn gleientiaid pan gollodd yr arian a roddwyd iddo fis Ebrill diwethaf ar gyfer y gwasanaeth hwnnw. Cred y staff fod

next year, funding will be available to tackle this important, new and worrying development in the use of drugs in our country?

Edwina Hart: I made it clear in my answers to Leanne Wood how seriously I regard the issue of crack cocaine. There are issues of funding as to who does the commissioning and so on, but the important thing is that it is an issue that we take seriously in Government.

hynny rhwng hanner a thraean cyfanswm y rhai sy'n defnyddio crac yng Nghaerdydd. A wnewch addewid y bydd arian ar gael, y flwyddyn nesaf, i ymdrin â'r datblygiad pwysig, newydd a gofidus hwn wrth ddefnyddio cyffuriau yn ein gwlad?

Edwina Hart: Gwneuthum yn glir yn fy atebion i Leanne Wood mor ddifrifol yr ystyriaf yr problem crac cocên. Mae yna broblemau'n ymwneud ag arian o ran pwy sy'n gyfrifol am y gwaith comisiynu, ac ati, ond y peth pwysig yw ei bod yn broblem yr ydym yn ei chymryd o ddifrif yn y Llywodraeth.

Cynhwysiant Cymdeithasol yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorrlewin Social Inclusion in Mid and West Wales

Q7 The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): Will the Minister outline her policies for promoting social inclusion in mid and west Wales? OAQ0562(SJR)

C7 Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei pholisïau ar gyfer hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin? OAQ0562(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Our social justice annual report 2005 sets out how we are improving access to jobs, skills, training, healthcare, housing, the safety of people in our communities and the regeneration of our communities.

Edwina Hart: Dywed ein hadroddiad blynyddol ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol ar gyfer 2005 sut yr ydym yn gwella mynediad i swyddi, sgiliau, hyfforddiant, gofal iechyd, tai, diogelwch pobl yn ein cymunedau ac adfywio ein cymunedau.

Nick Bourne: The Minister will be aware of the many voluntary groups in the towns and communities of Wales, particularly in mid and west Wales, which help with problems of homelessness, and drug and alcohol abuse. What is the Minister doing to help those voluntary organisations in terms of the social enterprise agenda, by making it easier for them to operate?

Nick Bourne: Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwybod am y grwpiau gwirfoddol niferus yn nhrefi a chymunedau Cymru, yn enwedig yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin, sy'n helpu gyda phroblemau digartrefedd a chamddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol. Beth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i helpu'r sefydliadau gwirfoddol hynny o ran yr agenda menter gymdeithasol, drwy ei gwneud yn haws iddynt weithredu?

Edwina Hart: There are many excellent groups across Wales, and in mid Wales, doing much good work on this particular agenda. I am not sure what you are getting at in terms of your question on the social enterprise agenda—can you clarify it for me?

Edwina Hart: Mae yna lawer grŵp ardderchog ledled Cymru, ac yn y canolbarth, sy'n gwneud llawer o waith da ar yr agenda benodol hon. Nid wyf yn siŵr beth a olygwch yn eich cwestiwn am yr agenda menter gymdeithasol—a allwch ei egluro imi?

Nick Bourne: Certainly. The Minister will be aware that voluntary organisations often have problems in relation to cutting through red tape, in terms of funding from the Assembly Government or elsewhere—that funding may only be provided on a limited

Nick Bourne: Wrth gwrs. Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol fod sefydliadau gwirfoddol yn aml yn wynebu problemau mewn perthynas â lleihau biwrocratiaeth, o ran cael arian gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad neu ffynhonnell arall—mai dim ond am gylch o

cycle of two years, for example, when they need the money on a much longer continuing basis. That is the issue to which I was referring. Have any studies been done, and is the Minister trying to facilitate the funding and other arrangements for those organisations?

Edwina Hart: One of the points made to me by voluntary organisations in general is the continuity of funding. There are also issues for some organisations in terms of whether they can survive without funding or find other sources of funding, and whether there are other ways of dealing with it. We regularly discuss these issues with the voluntary sector, but I would be happy to take up your specific points and do some further work on them.

Catherine Thomas: I am sure that you agree that key to promoting social inclusion and ensuring diverse and active communities is having good local amenities for residents, such as access to a post office, which is often a lifeline for many citizens, especially older ones. Do you, therefore, share my concern and the concern of the many sub-postmasters and sub-postmistresses who have been in touch with me from the Llanelli constituency, on hearing the news of the discontinuation of the Post Office card account, and the way in which this will affect the future viability of many post offices, including those which have received funding from the Assembly? This will also impact on many citizens who do not have a bank account.

Edwina Hart: As the First Minister indicated when he answered questions yesterday, we have written about the issue of the Post Office account. People were aware that that particular contract would come to an end, but it raises wider issues, including that of the Post Office development fund. I am currently coming towards the end of a review of the Post Office development fund, which I hope to be in a position to share with the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee in the March meeting. By then, I hope that there will be greater clarity in the answers about other issues surrounding this agenda.

ddwy flynedd y gall arian gael ei ddarparu, er enghraifft, pan fydd angen yr arian arnynt am gyfnod parhaus llawer yn hwy. Dyna'r broblem yr oeddwn yn cyfeirio ati. A oes unrhyw astudiaethau wedi'u gwneud, ac a yw'r Gweinidog yn ceisio hwyluso'r arian a threfniadau eraill ar gyfer y sefydliadau hynny?

Edwina Hart: Un o'r pwyntiau y mae sefydliadau gwirfoddol wedi eu codi gyda mi yw parhau i ariannu. Hefyd, mae rhai sefydliadau yn wynebu problemau o ran a allant weithredu heb arian neu ddod o hyd i ffynonellau arall o arian, ac a oes ffyrdd eraill i ymdrin ag ef. Byddwn yn trafod y problemau hyn gyda'r sector gwirfoddol yn rheolaidd, ond byddwn yn fodlon cymryd eich pwyntiau penodol a gwneud rhagor o waith arnynt.

Catherine Thomas: Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch mai un o'r pethau sy'n allweddol i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol a sicrhau cymunedau amrywiol a gweithgar yw darparu amwynderau lleol da i drigolion, fel gallu cael swyddfa bost, sy'n aml yn hollbwysig i nifer o ddinasyddion, yn enwedig rhai hŷn. A ydych, felly, yn rhannu fy mhryder a phryder llawer i is-bostfeistr ac is-bostfeistres sydd wedi cysylltu â mi o etholaeth Llanelli, ar ôl clywed bod cyfrif cerdyn Swyddfa'r Post yn dod i ben, a'r ffordd y bydd hyn yn effeithio ar ddichonoldeb sawl swyddfa bost yn y dyfodol, gan gynnwys y rheini sydd wedi cael arian gan y Cynulliad? Bydd hyn hefyd yn effeithio ar lawer o ddinasyddion nad oes ganddynt gyfrif banc.

Edwina Hart: Fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog wrth ateb cwestiynau ddoe, yr ydym wedi ysgrifennu am fater cyfrif Swyddfa'r Post. Yr oedd pobl yn gwybod y byddai'r contract penodol hwnnw'n dod i ben, ond mae'n codi materion ehangach, gan gynnwys cronfa ddatblygu Swyddfa'r Post. Yr wyf, ar hyn o bryd, yn tynnu at ddiwedd adolygiad o gronfa ddatblygu Swyddfa'r Post, a gobeithiaf ei rannu gyda'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yng nghyfarfod mis Mawrth. Erbyn hynny, gobeithio y bydd mwy o eglurder yn yr atebion ynghylch materion eraill sy'n ymwneud â'r agenda hon.

Post offices are vital in some communities, and when I look at some of the post offices to which the Assembly has given money and resources, they have improved their business, they are generating more trade, and they are even more at the heart of the community. We must be mindful that decisions cannot always be made on the basis of pounds and pence.

Mae swyddfeydd post yn hanfodol mewn rhai cymunedau, a phan edrychaf ar rai o'r swyddfeydd post y mae'r Cynulliad wedi rhoi arian ac adnoddau iddynt, maent wedi gwella eu busnes, maent yn creu mwy o fasnach, ac maent wrth galon y gymuned hyd yn oed yn fwy. Rhaid inni gadw mewn cof na ellir bob amser wneud penderfyniadau ar sail arian.

Strategaeth Cam-drin yn y Cartref Domestic Abuse Strategy

Q8 Sandy Mewies: Will the Minister provide an update on the domestic abuse strategy? OAQ0524(SJR)

C8 Sandy Mewies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y strategaeth cam-drin yn y cartref? OAQ0524(SJR)

Edwina Hart: I provided a full update on the strategy at the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee meeting on 12 January 2006. The record of that meeting can be found on the intranet.

Edwina Hart: Rhoddais yr holl wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y strategaeth yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 12 Ionawr 2006. Mae cofnod o'r cyfarfod hwnnw ar y fewnwyd.

Sandy Mewies: A good deal of work has been done in my Flintshire constituency of Delyn on domestic abuse, and helping those victims. However, there is some concern that funding for domestic abuse co-ordinators, who are so important in carrying out this work, has not yet been confirmed past March of this year. When can we expect an announcement on this issue?

Sandy Mewies: Gwnaed cryn dipyn o waith yn fy etholaeth yn Delyn yn sir y Fflint ar gam-drin yn y cartref, a helpu'r dioddefwyr hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae yna bryder nad yw arian ar gyfer cydgysylltwyr cam-drin yn y cartref, sydd mor bwysig wrth gyflawni'r gwaith hwn, wedi'i gadarnhau ar ôl mis Mawrth eleni. Pryd y gallwn ddisgwyl cyhoeddiad ar y mater hwn?

Edwina Hart: A few areas of Wales still do not have any domestic abuse co-ordinators, and we have tried to distribute existing funding as equitably as possible. However, I am aware that some problems remain. The consultation on future funding has now finished, and officials are analysing the responses. I hope to make an announcement by the middle of March.

Edwina Hart: Mae rhai ardaloedd yng Nghymru yn dal heb gydgysylltydd cam-drin yn y cartref, ac yr ydym wedi ceisio dyrannu'r arian sydd ar gael mor deg â phosibl. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn ymwybodol fod yna rai problemau o hyd. Mae'r ymgynghori ar arian yn y dyfodol wedi dod i ben bellach, ac mae swyddogion wrthi'n dadansoddi'r ymatebion. Gobeithiaf wneud cyhoeddiad erbyn canol mis Mawrth.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats Group (Michael German): In my short debate before Christmas, I raised the issue of preventative care as a step towards a long-term solution to domestic abuse. That particularly relates to education. Have you held any meetings with Jane Davidson, particularly in respect of the personal and social education areas of the

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Yn fy nadl fer cyn y Nadolig, codais fater gofal ataliol fel cam tuag at ateb hirdymor i gam-drin yn y cartref. Mae hynny'n ymwneud yn benodol ag addysg. A ydych wedi cael unrhyw gyfarfodydd gyda Jane Davidson, yn enwedig o ran meysydd addysg bersonol a chymdeithasol yn y cwricwlwm, i

curriculum, to see whether these matters can be brought into the curriculum as part of the education process, which is so necessary to eradicate this problem?

Edwina Hart: I agree that we need to tackle these issues in schools. Jane and I have regular discussions on a wide range of issues, but we will specifically discuss this issue at our next bi-lateral meeting.

Michael German: Thank you for that assurance. Perhaps I can turn to the £800,000 which remains in your budget after Christmas. How do you intend to spend that on domestic abuse services? Does it have any scope for a public education campaign that might target young people, to educate them about the problems that might be caused by this issue not being brought out into the open?

2.30 p.m.

Edwina Hart: I will obviously be making decisions about funding and other issues during the next few weeks, and I will return to that issue at the appropriate time.

weld a ellir cynnwys y materion hyn yn y cwricwlwm fel rhan o'r broses addysg, sydd mor angenrheidiol er mwyn cael gwared ar y broblem hon?

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf fod angen inni fynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn mewn ysgolion. Yr wyf fi a Jane yn cael trafodaethau rheolaidd am ystod eang o faterion, ond byddwn yn trafod y mater hwn yn benodol yn ein cyfarfod dwyochrog nesaf.

Michael German: Diolch am y sicrwydd hwnnw. Efallai y gallaf droi at yr £800,000 sydd ar ôl yn eich cyllideb ar ôl y Nadolig. Sut yr ydych yn bwriadu gwario hwnnw ar wasanaethau cam-drin yn y cartref? A oes lle i gynnal ymgyrch addysg gyhoeddus a allai dargedu pobl ifanc, i'w haddysgu ynghylch y problemau a allai godi am na chaiff y mater hwn ei drafod yn agored?

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth Questions to the Minister for Economic Development and Transport

Piblinell Nwy Naturiol Hylifol Liquefied Natural Gas Pipeline

C1 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud o fanteision economaidd y biblinell nwy naturiol hylifol newydd i sir Gaerfyrddin? OAQ0624(EDT)

Q1 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: What assessment has the Minister made of the economic benefits to Carmarthenshire of the new liquefied natural gas pipeline? OAQ0624(EDT)

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): The liquefied natural gas pipeline has huge potential for west Wales and the Welsh economy. I am the lead Minister for the Wales spatial plan area that includes west Wales, and we have already done a great deal of work in looking at the impact of the LNG terminal. It has huge potential to bring a mains gas supply to areas of Carmarthenshire where it was previously unavailable, bringing with it great potential benefits for businesses

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Andrew Davies): Mae potensial enfawr i'r biblinell nwy naturiol hylifol ar gyfer y gorllewin ac economi Cymru. Fi yw'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am yr ardal cynllun gofodol yng Nghymru sy'n cynnwys y gorllewin, ac yr ydym eisoes wedi gwneud llawer o waith i edrych ar effaith y derfynell nwy naturiol hylifol. Mae potensial anferthol iddo ddod â nwy o'r prif gyflenwad i rannau o sir Gaerfyrddin lle nad oedd ar gael o'r blaen, gan ddod â nifer o fanteision

and domestic users.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnewch chi ymgymryd i edrych yn fanwl ar y posibiliadau o sicrhau bod gwaith gweithgynhyrchu yn gallu datblygu yn sir Gaerfyrddin o ganlyniad i ddyfodiad y biblinell nwy newydd? Yr ydym wedi colli nifer o swyddi yn sir Gaerfyrddin, yng Ngheredigion ac yn sir Benfro yn ddiweddar oherwydd y toriadau a fu. Gobeithiaf eich bod yn ystyried y bydd y biblinell nwy hon yn rhoi cyfle i gwmnïau mawr symud i gefn gwlad Cymru.

Andrew Davies: This has to be one of our major priorities as it involves potentially £2 billion of investment, including the terminal, the pipelines and two gas-fired power stations. The Wales spatial plan area group has commissioned work to look at maximising its economic impact. Working with Bob Palmer of Source Baglan, we are extending that work to look at what we can do to maximise the benefit of that investment for the Welsh economy, particularly for manufacturers or the suppliers of goods and services.

posibl i fusnesau a defnyddwyr domestig.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will you undertake to look carefully at the possibility of ensuring that manufacturing can develop in Carmarthenshire as a result of the new gas pipeline? We have lost many jobs in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire recently because of cuts. I hope you consider that this new gas pipeline will be an opportunity for large companies to move to rural Wales.

Andrew Davies: Rhaid i hyn fod yn un o'n prif flaenoriaethau gan ei fod yn golygu posibilrwydd buddsoddi £2 biliwn, gan gynnwys y derfynell, y piblinellau a dau bwerdy nwy. Mae grŵp ardal cynllun gofodol Cymru wedi comisiynu gwaith i edrych ar fanteisio i'r eithaf ar ei heffaith economaidd. Gan weithio gyda Bob Palmer o Source Baglan, yr ydym yn ymestyn y gwaith hwnnw i edrych ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y buddsoddiad hwnnw ar gyfer economi Cymru, yn arbennig i weithgynhyrchwyr neu gyflenwyr nwyddau a gwasanaethau.

Datblygu Economi'r Gogledd-orllewin The Economic Development of North-west Wales

Q2 Brynle Williams: Will the Minister make a statement on future plans for the economic development of north-west Wales? OAQ0622(EDT)

Andrew Davies: The Assembly Government's future plans for economic development in the region, and Wales, are to build on the successes, as laid out in 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy'. North-west Wales has seen an increase in employment of 6.7 per cent since 2001 and has lower economic inactivity than Wales as a whole.

Brynle Williams: There is currently a great deal of uncertainty surrounding the economic future of Anglesey. The closure of Wylfa, combined with the possible closure of Anglesey Aluminium Metal Ltd, could mean the loss of some 1,500 jobs and £42 million to the island's economy. Minister, what is the

C2 Brynle Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gynlluniau ar gyfer datblygu economi'r gogledd-orllewin yn y dyfodol? OAQ0622(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Bwriad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yn y rhanbarth, ac yng Nghymru, yn y dyfodol yw adeiladu ar y llwyddiannau, fel y nodir yn 'Cymru: Economi yn Ffynnu'. Bu cynnydd o 6.7 y cant mewn cyflogaeth yn y gogledd-orllewin er 2001, ac mae lefelau anweithgarwch economaidd yno yn is nag ar gyfer Cymru gyfan.

Brynle Williams: Ar hyn o bryd mae llawer o ansicrwydd ynghylch dyfodol economaidd Ynys Môn. Gallai cau Wylfa, ynghyd â'r posibilrwydd o gau Alwminiwm Môn Cyf, olygu colli rhyw 1,500 o swyddi a £42 miliwn i economi'r ynys. Weinidog, beth yw cynllun hirdymor Llywodraeth Cynulliad

Welsh Assembly Government's long-term plan for Anglesey's economy and how do you plan to retain the skilled workforce in Anglesey once Wylfa is decommissioned?

Andrew Davies: We are concerned about the situation and, as the Minister, I have been concerned about it for some time. I have been in negotiations with the local authority and Chris Farrow, the executive director of the north Wales division of the Welsh Development Agency, who has been taking the lead. It is partly as a result of that we have jointly commissioned the study into the impact of the closure of Wylfa, especially its impact on Anglesey Aluminium. A significant amount of investment is being made in Anglesey and much of it is associated with the Assembly Government and involves European money and the work of the WDA, including the creation of the business park at Tŷ Mawr just outside Holyhead and the Bryncegin site just outside Bangor. There is a huge amount of investment, but we have not underestimated the impact of decommissioning of Wylfa and the impact that that would have on Anglesey Aluminium. We have been making strong representations to the UK Government about that position.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am grateful to Brynle Williams for raising this issue. Minister, you will know that there is considerable concern in Ynys Môn about the correlation between the end of Anglesey Aluminium's electricity contract in 2009 and the closure of Wylfa in 2010. The problem is that unless Anglesey Aluminium can secure a new favourable contract, the danger is that it will close at the same time as Wylfa. The Minister is aware that the local authority and others have been pressing the UK Government to extend the life of Wylfa to enable Anglesey Aluminium to put another contract into place. Will he confirm that that the Assembly Government is pressing the Department of Trade and Industry for that extension?

Andrew Davies: Yes, and I said that in committee this morning. I had a meeting with Anglesey Aluminium last year, and the First Minister met the company on Monday. At the meeting that I had with Malcolm Wicks, the UK energy Minister, towards the

Cymru ar gyfer economi Ynys Môn, a sut y bwriadwch gadw'r gweithlu medrus yn Ynys Môn ar ôl datgomisiynu Wylfa?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym yn bryderus ynghylch y sefyllfa, ac fel y Gweinidog yr wyf wedi bod yn pryderu yn ei chylch ers cryn amser. Bûm yn trafod gyda'r awdurdod lleol a Chris Farrow, cyfarwyddwr gweithredol Adran Gogledd Cymru o Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, a fu'n arwain ar hyn. Oherwydd hyn yn rhannol yr ydym wedi cyd-gomisiynu'r astudiaeth o effaith cau Wylfa, yn arbennig yr effaith ar Alwminiwm Môn. Mae arian sylweddol yn cael ei fuddsoddi yn Ynys Môn, lawer ohono'n gysylltiedig â Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac yn ymwneud ag arian Ewropeaidd a gwaith WDA, gan gynnwys creu'r parc busnes yn Nhŷ Mawr y tu allan i Gaergybi a safle Bryncegin y tu allan i Fangor. Mae symiau mawr yn cael eu buddsoddi, ond yr ydym yn gwerthfawrogi'n llwyr effaith datgomisiynu Wylfa a'r effaith y byddai hynny'n ei chael ar Alwminiwm Môn. Yr ydym wedi bod yn cyflwyno sylwadau cadarn i Lywodraeth y DU ynghylch y sefyllfa honno.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Brynle Williams am godi'r mater hwn. Weinidog, gwyddoch fod cryn bryder yn Ynys Môn ynghylch y berthynas rhwng diwedd contract trydan Alwminiwm Môn yn 2009 a chau Wylfa yn 2010. Y broblem yw bod perygl y bydd Alwminiwm Môn yn cau yr un pryd â Wylfa oni all sicrhau contract ffafriol newydd. Gŵyr y Gweinidog fod yr awdurdod lleol ac eraill wedi bod yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth y DU i ymestyn oes weithredol Wylfa fel y gall Alwminiwm Môn roi contract arall ar waith. A all gadarnhau fod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn pwysu ar yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant i gael yr estyniad hwnnw?

Andrew Davies: Gallaf, a dywedais hynny yn y pwyllgor y bore yma. Cefais gyfarfod gydag Alwminiwm Môn y llynedd, a chyfarfu'r Prif Weinidog â'r cwmni ddydd Llun. Yn y cyfarfod a gefais i gyda Malcolm Wicks, Gweinidog ynni y DU, tua diwedd y

end of last year, I made the case for the extension of Wylfa's life for the reasons that you and Brynle have outlined. We will continue to make that case. However, it is not a matter for us; there are important safety, regulatory, economic and financial issues to be addressed. Nevertheless, we have made the case strongly, as has the local Member of Parliament, for the continuation or the extension of Wylfa's life until an alternative power source for Anglesey Aluminium is identified.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I think that the Minister is aware that one of the matters being pursued by Anglesey Aluminium and the local community, the local authority, the WDA and so on is the potential for a gas-fired power station, which would enable Anglesey Aluminium to have a secure supply. The remainder of the electricity generated could be sold on to the national grid. That is an enormous investment for the island, and, therefore, this breathing space is crucial. The Minister will be aware, as will the First Minister following his meeting with Anglesey Aluminium, that time is extremely short. Things must happen in the next few weeks because of the situation regarding the closure of Wylfa and decommissioning. Will the Minister ensure that his representations are urgent and that the DTI in London fully understands what the impact on Anglesey would be were this request not favourably met?

Andrew Davies: As I said in my response to your earlier question, I do not think that the UK Government can be in any doubt about how strongly we feel about this and about the importance of the issue. I pressed the energy Minister on this, and we will continue to make the case forcefully for Wylfa, Anglesey Aluminium, and Anglesey as a community.

llynedd, cyflwynais yr achos dros ymestyn oes weithredol Wylfa am y rhesymau a nodwyd gennych chi a Brynle. Byddwn yn parhau i gyflwyno'r achos hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, nid mater i ni mohono; mae materion diogelwch, rheoliadol, economaidd ac ariannol pwysig i'w hystyried. Serch hynny, yr ydym wedi cyflwyno'r achos yn gryf, fel y gwnaeth yr Aelod Seneddol lleol, dros barhau neu ymestyn oes weithredol Wylfa nes gallwn ddod o hyd i ffynhonnell ynni arall i Alwminiwm Môn.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Credaf fod y Gweinidog yn gwybod mai un o'r materion y mae Alwminiwm Môn a'r gymuned leol, yr awdurdod lleol, WDA ac ati yn ymchwilio iddo yw'r posibilrwydd o gael pwerdy nwy, a fyddai'n darparu cyflenwad sicr i Alwminiwm Môn. Gellid gwerthu gweddill y trydan a gynhyrchid i'r grid cenedlaethol. Mae hynny'n fuddsoddiad anferthol i'r ynys, ac mae'r cyfnod paratoi hwn, felly, yn hanfodol. Gŵyr y Gweinidog, fel y gŵyr y Prif Weinidog yn dilyn ei gyfarfod ag Alwminiwm Môn, fod yr amser yn brin iawn. Rhaid i bethau ddigwydd yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf oherwydd y sefyllfa o ran cau Wylfa a datgomiynu. A fydd y Gweinidog yn sicrhau bod ei sylwadau yn rhai brys, a bod yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant yn Llundain yn llawn ddeall yr effaith ar Ynys Môn pe na bai'r cais hwn yn cael ateb cadarnhaol?

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais yn fy ateb i'ch cwestiwn cynharach, credaf fod Llywodraeth y DU yn gwybod yn iawn ein bod yn teimlo'n gryf am y mater hwn a'i bwysigrwydd. Pwysais ar y Gweinidog ynni ar y mater hwn, a byddwn yn parhau i gyflwyno achos grymus ar ran Wylfa, Alwminiwm Môn, a chymuned Ynys Môn.

Dyfodol Safle Nippon Electric Glass The Future of the Nippon Electric Glass Site

Q3 Lorraine Barrett: Will the Minister make a statement on the future of the former Nippon Electric Glass site in Cardiff bay? OAQ0670(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Senior officials are in discussion with NEG regarding the future of

C3 Lorraine Barrett: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol safle Nippon Electric Glass ym mae Caerdydd? OAQ0670(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Mae uwch-swyddogion yn trafod dyfodol ei safle rhyddfrait gydag

its freehold site, the disposal of which is a matter entirely for it to decide. However, I understand that the company has been talking to a number of parties interested in the site.

Lorraine Barrett: I understand from the potential buyer that it is grateful for the Government's support and backing, which will be important in terms of the company taking up its place on the site. However, I am keen for the former workforce and its skills to be utilised in any new development. Will you speak to the potential buyer and the trade unions to ensure that those jobs can be offered to the former workforce?

Andrew Davies: When any redundancies or closures are announced, we, as Team Wales, respond proactively. We work with employees, trade unions and the company involved to help those employees who are affected. Where there is a transfer of ownership, which might be the case in terms of NEG, I am sure that the employer will be only too aware of the skills of the former workers.

Owen John Thomas: I have been given to understand that an undisclosed UK company has put in a bid to purchase the NEG site and all the equipment located there, that detailed discussions are ongoing and that an announcement is anticipated shortly. This may include retaining some of the NEG workforce. Can you confirm that? I also back Lorraine Barrett's request that you try to ensure that as many NEG staff as possible are re-employed on the site.

Andrew Davies: I cannot comment on the current negotiations; those are commercial decisions between any potential purchaser and NEG. However, I am aware that there has been a significant amount of interest, not least in the skilled workforce, but also because the NEG facility has a huge electricity capacity, which is a unique selling point. We will continue to work with any potential purchaser to maximise the benefits for Cardiff and the Welsh economy.

NEG, a chyfrifoldeb y cwmni'n llwyr fydd penderfynu sut i'w waredu. Fodd bynnag, deallaf fod y cwmni wedi bod yn siarad â nifer o bartïon sydd â diddordeb yn y safle.

Lorraine Barrett: Deallaf gan y darpar brynwr ei fod yn ddiolchgar am gymorth a chefnogaeth y Llywodraeth, a fydd yn bwysig o ran penderfyniad y cwmni i brynu'r safle. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf am weld y gweithlu blaenorol a'i sgiliau yn cael eu defnyddio mewn unrhyw ddatblygiad newydd. A siaradwch â'r darpar brynwr a'r undebau llafur i sicrhau y gellir cynnig y swyddi hynny i'r gweithlu blaenorol?

Andrew Davies: Pan gyhoeddir unrhyw achosion o ddiswyddo neu gau gweithleoedd yr ydym ni, fel Tîm Cymru, yn ymateb yn rhagweithiol. Gweithiwn gyda gweithwyr, undebau llafur a'r cwmni perthnasol i helpu'r gweithwyr yr effeithir arnynt. Lle y caiff perchnogaeth ei throsglwyddo, sy'n bosibl yn achos NEG, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y cyflogwr yn ddigon ymwybodol o sgiliau'r gweithlu blaenorol.

Owen John Thomas: Yr wyf wedi cael ar ddeall fod cwmni o'r DU sydd heb ei enwi wedi gwneud cais i brynu safle NEG a'r holl gyfarpar sydd yno, bod trafodaethau manwl yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd, a bod disgwyl cyhoeddiad yn fuan. Gallai hyn gynnwys cadw rhai o weithwyr NEG. A allwch gadarnhau hynny? Cefnogaf gais Lorraine Barrett hefyd i chi geisio sicrhau bod cynifer â phosibl o staff NEG yn cael eu hailgyflogi ar y safle.

Andrew Davies: Ni allaf wneud sylw ar y negodiadau presennol; penderfyniadau masnachol yw'r rheini rhwng unrhyw ddarpar brynwr ac NEG. Fodd bynnag, gwn fod llawer o ddiddordeb wedi bod, nid yn y gweithlu medrus yn unig, ond hefyd gan fod gan gyfleuster NEG capasiti trydan enfawr, sy'n bwynt gwerthu unigryw. Byddwn yn parhau i weithio gydag unrhyw ddarpar brynwr i sicrhau'r manteision gorau posibl i Gaerdydd ac i economi Cymru.

Hyrwyddo Cymru fel Cyrchfan i Dwristiaid Promoting Wales as A Tourism Destination

Q4 Val Lloyd: Will the Minister make a **C4 Val Lloyd:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog

statement on promoting Wales as a tourism destination? OAQ0690(EDT)

Andrew Davies: The current Big Country campaign, run by the Wales Tourist Board, is continuing to promote the awareness of Wales as a tourism destination in our priority UK markets. In our overseas markets, new working arrangements with VisitBritain are providing more direct opportunities to promote Wales's distinct brands and products, especially in our short-haul, developed markets.

2.40 p.m.

Val Lloyd: Thank you, Minister; that gives the macro picture. Swansea's newest museum has only been open since October but is already a huge success, as I am sure you know. It is well on target to attract 250,000 visitors to the city this year, bringing with it £18 million to the economy. In view of that boost to the economy—and I know that you join me in welcoming that—can you tell me how the Welsh Assembly Government works with local councils and other local organisations to promote such tourist attractions in their areas?

Andrew Davies: You are right about the importance of the new waterfront museum, and I pay tribute to the work of Rosemary Butler, who was chair of the company that took that forward and delivered it. It is a tremendous achievement for Rosemary and everyone concerned, not least the local authority. It is a huge asset not just for Swansea and the south-west, but for the whole of Wales.

On working with local authorities, our major focus is working through the regional tourism partnerships, ensuring that they get the adequate resources to be able to market attractions, whether those are museums or wider fields. Clearly, for that part of Wales, tourism is a huge industry and wealth-earner, and, in employment terms, is very significant. That has to be one of our major priorities, as reflected in the Wales spatial plan.

ddatganiad am hyrwyddo Cymru fel cyrchfan i dwristiaid? OAQ0690(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Mae'r ymgyrch Mawredd Mawr bresennol, a gaiff ei redeg gan Fwrdd Croeso Cymru, yn parhau i hybu ymwybyddiaeth o Gymru fel cyrchfan i dwristiaid yn y marchnadoedd sy'n cael y flaenoriaeth uchaf gennym yn y DU. Yn ein marchnadoedd tramor, mae trefniadau gwaith newydd gyda VisitBritain yn rhoi mwy o gyfleoedd uniongyrchol i hyrwyddo brandiau a chynnyrch arbennig Cymru, yn enwedig yn ein marchnadoedd agos, datblygedig.

Val Lloyd: Diolch, Weinidog; mae hynny'n rhoi'r darlun eang. Dim ond ers mis Hydref y mae amgueddfa fwyaf newydd Abertawe wedi bod ar agor ond mae'n llwyddiant ysgubol eisoes, fel y gwyddoch, yr wyf yn siŵr. Mae o fewn cyrraedd i'r targed o ddenu 250,000 o ymwelwyr i'r ddinas eleni, sy'n cyfateb i gyfanswm o £18 miliwn i'r economi. O ystyried yr hwb hwnnw i'r economi—a gwn eich bod yn croesawu hynny, fel finnau—a allwch ddweud wrthyf sut y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gweithio gyda chynghorau lleol a sefydliadau lleol eraill i hybu atyniadau o'r fath i dwristiaid yn eu hardaloedd?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle wrth sôn am bwysigrwydd amgueddfa newydd y glannau, a chlodforaf waith Rosemary Butler, a oedd yn gadeirydd y cwmni a fu'n ymwneud â'r gwaith hwnnw a'i gwblhau. Mae hynny'n gamp aruthrol gan Rosemary a phawb a oedd yn gysylltiedig â'r prosiect, a'r awdurdod lleol yn arbennig. Mae'n ased enfawr nid yn unig i Abertawe a'r de-orllewin, ond i Gymru gyfan.

O ran gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol, canolbwyntiwn yn bennaf ar weithio drwy'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol, gan sicrhau eu bod yn cael adnoddau digonol i allu marchnata atyniadau, boed yn amgueddfeydd neu'n feysydd ehangach. Yn sicr, ar gyfer y rhan honno o Gymru, mae twristiaeth yn ddiwydiant enfawr sy'n creu llawer o gyfoeth, ac o ran cyflogaeth mae'n arwyddocaol iawn. Rhaid i hynny fod yn un o'n prif flaenoriaethau, fel y dywed cynllun

gofodol Cymru.

Lisa Francis: Minister, you will know that I wrote to you recently concerning the wild water championships at Tryweryn, their cancellation this year and the marvellous opportunity that the championships would be for driving the tourism economy, not least because of the television coverage that they get.

I know that your Government has invested money in this and that there is a commitment to providing further help, but I urge you to work closely with your colleague, Alun Pugh, on this. Can you assure me that you will do that? In your response, you say that Alun Pugh is moving ahead with further meetings, but this is a cross-cutting issue that involves your portfolio. You need to grasp the nettle here and work closely with him to move this along.

Andrew Davies: Sporting activities, tourism and holidays are a major and growing part of the tourism economy. Joint working between Alun and myself is of huge importance, and I give you my commitment that I will follow this up with him.

Lisa Francis: Weinidog, gwyddoch imi ysgrifennu atoch yn ddiweddar parthed y pencampwriaethau dŵr gwyllt yn Nhryweryn, y ffaith eu bod wedi eu canslo eleni, a'r cyfle gwydych a gyflwynid gan y pencampwriaethau i roi hwb i'r economi dwristiaeth, yn rhannol oherwydd y sylw a gânt ar y teledu.

Gwn fod eich Llywodraeth wedi buddsoddi arian yn hyn a bod ymrwymiad i roi mwy o help, ond erfyniaf amoch i weithio'n agos gyda'ch cyd-Weinidog, Alun Pugh, ar hyn. A allwch fy sicrhau y gwnewch hynny? Yn eich ymateb, dywedwch fod Alun Pugh yn bwrw ati gyda chyfarfodydd pellach, ond mae hwn yn fater trawsbynciol ac mae'n berthnasol i'ch portffolio chi. Mae angen ichi fod yn ddewr yma a chydweithio'n agos ag ef er mwyn gweithredu ar y mater.

Andrew Davies: Mae gweithgareddau chwaraeon, twristiaeth a gwyliau yn rhan fawr a chynyddol o'r economi dwristiaeth. Mae cydweithio rhyngof i ac Alun yn bwysig iawn, a gallaf eich sicrhau y byddaf yn trafod y mater ymhellach gydag ef.

Datblygu Economi Sir y Fflint Economic Development in Flintshire

Q5 Sandy Mewies: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to encourage economic development in Flintshire? OAQ0686(EDT)

Andrew Davies: 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy' sets out the Welsh Assembly Government's strategic framework for economic development, including our objective to create more and better jobs. In pursuit of those objectives, I recently announced a £5.2 million offer of regional selective assistance to Airbus Broughton to create 650 jobs.

Sandy Mewies: You may not be aware that Mold, which is in my Delyn constituency, is hoping to add to its many attractions by becoming a food town. I am attending a meeting tomorrow night with a 100 other people to promote this campaign. I understand that the WDA and Cadwyn

C5 Sandy Mewies: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i hybu datblygu economaidd yn sir y Fflint? OAQ0686(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Mae 'Cymru: Economi yn Ffynnu' yn gosod allan fframwaith strategol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer datblygu economaidd, gan gynnwys ein hamcan o greu mwy o swyddi a swyddi gwell. Er geisio gweithio tuag at yr amcanion hynny, cyhoeddais gynnig yn ddiweddar o £5.2 miliwn o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol i Airbus Broughton i greu 650 o swyddi.

Sandy Mewies: Efallai na wyddoch fod yr Wyddgrug, sydd yn fy etholaeth i n Nelyn, yn gobeithio ychwanegu at y llu atyniadau sydd yno drwy ddod yn dref fwyd. Byddaf yn mynd i'r cyfarfod nos yfory gyda 100 o bobl eraill i hybu'r ymgyrch hon. Deallaf y bydd cynrychiolwyr WDA a Cadwyn Clwyd

Clwyd will also be represented and that they can give funding for such projects. Will you and your Cabinet colleagues look at this exciting campaign to see what support can be given to it financially and publicly?

Andrew Davies: I am happy to take that up with Carwyn Jones and discuss the opportunities. It is important to each town to be able to market its own distinctiveness. We have seen that succeed in Hay-on-Wye as a book town, and I hope that Blaenafon in Torfaen will have a similar opportunity. If Mold has identified an opportunity, we will work with the town to see what we can do to help with that.

Eleanor Burnham: At this morning's meeting of the Economic Development and Transport Committee, I noted that an enormous amount of people are moving out of Flintshire in the mornings, according to the statistics. I also note that 22 per cent of the workforce are graduates, compared with 26 per cent in the rest of Wales, and that 16 per cent are in low-skilled occupations, compared with 14 per cent in the rest of Wales. What are you doing to address the serious skills and opportunity shortages in Flintshire that compound the issue of people having to commute out of Flintshire every morning?

Andrew Davies: The reason so many people travel into, as well as out of, Flintshire is because that part of north-east Wales, along with the north-west of England, is extremely buoyant economically. However, as I said in committee this morning, there is, to some extent, a labour shortage. A significant numbers of migrant workers is coming in from the European Union accession countries, particularly from Poland and Portugal, which shows a significant demand for labour. One of our priorities, and something on which I work closely with Jane Davidson, is making sure that our people have the right skills, particularly those who have been economically inactive for some time. I am delighted that Flintshire has, I believe, the lowest economic inactivity rate for the whole of Wales.

yno yn ogystal, ac y gallant roi cyllid i brosiectau o'r fath. A edrychwch chi a'ch cyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet ar yr ymgyrch gyffrous hon i weld pa gefnogaeth y gellir ei rhoi iddi yn ariannol ac yn gyhoeddus?

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn fodlon codi'r mater hwnnw gyda Carwyn Jones a thrafod y cyfleoedd. Mae'n bwysig i bob tref allu marchnata'r hyn sy'n ei gwneud yn nodedig. Yr ydym wedi gweld hynny'n llwyddo yn y Gelli Gandryll fel tref lyfrau, a gobethio y bydd cyfle tebyg i Flaenafon yn Nhor-faen. Os yw'r Wyddgrug wedi nodi cyfle, fe weithiwn gyda'r dref i weld beth y gallwn ei wneud i helpu gyda hynny.

Eleanor Burnham: Yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth y bore yma, sylwais fod nifer fawr iawn o bobl yn symud allan o sir y Fflint yn y boreau, yn ôl yr ystadegau. Sylwaf hefyd mai 22 y cant o'r gweithlu sy'n raddedigion, o'u cymharu â 26 y cant yng ngweddill Cymru, a bod 16 y cant mewn swyddi sgiliau isel, o'u cymharu â 14 y cant yng ngweddill Cymru. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r diffyg difrifol o ran sgiliau a chyfleoedd yn sir y Fflint sy'n cymhlethu'r ffaith bod pobl yn gorfod cymudo allan o sir y Fflint bob bore?

Andrew Davies: Y rheswm pam mae cynifer o bobl yn teithio i mewn ac allan o sir y Fflint yw oherwydd bod y rhan honno o ogledd-ddwyrain Cymru, ynghyd â gogledd-orllewin Lloegr, yn hynod ffyniannus yn economaidd. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais yn y pwyllgor y bore yma, mae prinder gweithwyr i ryw raddau. Mae nifer sylweddol o weithwyr mudol yn dod i mewn o'r gwledydd sydd wedi'u derbyn i'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, yn enwedig o Wlad Pwyl a Phortiwgal, sy'n dangos bod galw sylweddol am weithwyr. Un o'n blaenoriaethau, a rhywbeth yr wyf yn cydweithio'n agos â Jane Davidson arno, yw sicrhau bod gan ein pobl y sgiliau cywir, yn enwedig y rhai sydd wedi bod yn anweithgar yn economaidd ers cryn amser. Yr wyf yn falch fod gan sir y Fflint, mi gredaf, y gyfradd isaf o anweithgarwch economaidd yng Nghymru gyfan.

Carl Sargeant: As the directly elected Member for Alyn and Deeside, I welcome the £3.1 million investment in Flintshire that the Minister announced this morning.

Carl Sargeant: Fel yr Aelod a etholwyd yn uniongyrchol ar gyfer Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy, croesawaf y buddsoddiad o £3.1 miliwn yn sir y Fflint a gyhoeddwyd gan y Gweinidog y bore yma.

The Presiding Officer: Order. As I mentioned in a previous discussion in another place, these matters are under discussion both in committee and elsewhere. Can we get on with it?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Fel y soniais mewn trafodaeth flaenorol mewn man arall, mae'r materion hyn yn cael eu trafod yn y pwyllgor ac mewn manau eraill. A gawn ni fwrw ymlaen?

Carl Sargeant: I welcome that announcement, Minister, and thank you both for creating economic stability and for your confidence in Flintshire. Could you also consider the matter of Safe Routes to School, which is important to my constituency and that of Sandy Mewies, and the allocation of funding to that initiative? Could you revisit that with your officials to see whether funding could be given to Flintshire?

Carl Sargeant: Croesawaf y cyhoeddiad hwnnw, Weinidog, a diolch ichi am greu sefydlogrwydd economaidd ac am eich hyder yn sir y Fflint. A allech hefyd ystyried mater Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol, sy'n bwysig i'm hetholaeth i ac etholaeth Sandy Mewies, a'r broses o ddyrannu arian i'r fenter honno? A allech ailystyried hynny gyda'ch swyddogion i weld a ellir rhoi arian i sir y Fflint?

Andrew Davies: The Safe Routes to School initiative has been both popular and hugely successful in its aim of reducing accidents and allowing pupils and children to travel to school safely. The transport grant announcement that I made this morning gives support for a range of transport initiatives, particularly Safe Routes to School, and I e-mailed all Members this morning about that. I will look at the particular issues to do with Flintshire and Safe Routes to School. I will discuss it with officials and come back to you.

Andrew Davies: Mae'r fenter Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol wedi bod yn boblogaidd ac yn llwyddiannus iawn yn ei nod o leihau damweiniau a galluogi disgyblion a phlant i deithio i'r ysgol yn ddiogel. Mae'r cyhoeddiad a wneuthum ynglŷn â'r grant trafndiaeth y bore yma yn rhoi cymorth i ystod o fentrau trafndiaeth, yn enwedig Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol, ac anfonais e-bost at bob Aelod y bore yma ynglŷn â hynny. Byddaf yn edrych ar y materion penodol sy'n ymwneud â sir y Fflint a Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol. Trafodaf hynny gyda swyddogion a dof yn ôl atoch.

Cludiant Cyhoeddus Public Transport

Q6 Janice Gregory: What action is the Minister taking to promote and increase the usage of public transport in Wales? OAQ0663(EDT)

C6 Janice Gregory: Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cymryd i hyrwyddo a chynyddu defnyddio cludiant cyhoeddus yng Nghymru? OAQ0663(EDT)

Andrew Davies: In 2004, I announced the outcome of my transport review with measures to boost the use of public transport. Our fantastically successful scheme for free bus travel by elderly and disabled people has reversed the long-term decline in bus journeys. We are working to develop a half-fare scheme for 16 to 18-year-olds.

Andrew Davies: Yn 2004, cyhoeddais ganlyniad fy adolygiad cludiant gyda mesurau i hybu defnyddio cludiant cyhoeddus. Mae ein cynllun hynod lwyddiannus, sy'n golygu y gall yr henoed a phobl anabl deithio am ddim ar fysiau, wedi gwrthdroi'r gostyngiad hirdymor yn nifer y bobl sy'n teithio ar fysiau. Yr ydym wrthi'n datblygu cynllun teithio hanner pris ar gyfer

pobl ifanc 16 i 18 oed.

Janice Gregory: Thank you for that response, Minister, and thank you for today's funding announcement for Bridgend county borough. Linked to the increased use of public transport is the issue of safety. I have received information only today that the operation of the rail level crossing in Pencoed is to be transferred to Port Talbot in the near future. That level crossing is currently operated from a staff box adjacent to the main Swansea-to-Paddington line, so it is an extremely busy level crossing. Will you examine the plans and seek assurances that all the safety issues have been addressed and that the off-site operation will have no adverse impact on the operation of the crossing and the safety of those people who use it?

Andrew Davies: I will certainly give that undertaking. I believe that the work that has been done at Pencoed is part of the £400 million investment by Network Rail to improve the signalling and the infrastructure along the south Wales line. We have an improving relationship with Network Rail, and I am due to meet the western route director, Robbie Burns, shortly. I will raise that with him. In the meantime, I will ask officials to follow that up.

Janet Davies: Minister, in this morning's committee meeting, you responded to questions about the Arriva Trains services in the Valleys, particularly with regard to the overcrowding on those services following its being a victim of its own success, as I said at the time. You have been made aware of severe problems. We know that some four-car trains are running, but the overcrowding is still so severe that some people are ill when they travel, particularly on the southern part of the line. Have you any further information that you can give us in this wider arena than that which you gave us this morning regarding what you are doing to try to address that?

2.50 p.m.

Andrew Davies: As you kindly acknowledge, many of the problems that we

Janice Gregory: Diolch ichi am yr ymateb hwnnw, Weinidog, a diolch ichi am y cyhoeddiad heddiw am arian i fwrdeistref sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Yn gysylltiedig â'r defnyddio cludiant cyhoeddus yn gynyddol mae mater diogelwch. Cefais wybod heddiw y bydd y broses o weithredu'r groesfan reilffordd ym Mhencoed yn cael ei throsglwyddo i Bort Talbot yn y dyfodol agos. Ar hyn o bryd, caiff y groesfan honno ei gweithredu o flwch staff gerllaw'r brif linell o Abertawe i Paddington, felly mae'n groesfan brysur iawn. A wnewch chi archwilio'r cynlluniau a sicrhau delio â'r holl faterion diogelwch, ac na fydd y broses o weithredu oddi ar y safle yn cael unrhyw effaith niweidiol ar weithredu'r groesfan a diogelwch y bobl hynny sy'n ei defnyddio?

Andrew Davies: Gwnaf hynny yn sicr. Credaf fod y gwaith a wnaed ym Mhencoed yn rhan o fuddsoddiad gwerth £400 miliwn gan Network Rail i wella'r signalau a'r seilwaith ar hyd rheilffordd de Cymru. Mae ein perthynas â Network Rail yn gwella, ac yr wyf yn bwriadu cyfarfod â chyfarwyddwr y llwybr gorllewinol, Robbie Burns, yn fuan. Codaf y mater hwnnw gydag ef. Yn y cyfamser, byddaf yn gofyn i swyddogion ymchwilio iddo.

Janet Davies: Weinidog, yng nghyfarfod y pywllgor y bore yma, yr oeddech yn ymateb i gwestiynau ynglŷn â gwasanaethau Trenau Arriva yn y Cymoedd, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â gorlenwi ar y gwasanaethau hynny sy'n dioddef oherwydd ei lwyddiant ei hun, fel y dywedais ar y pryd. Cawsoch wybod am broblemau difrifol. Gwyddom fod rhai trenau pedwar cerbyd yn rhedeg, ond mae'r gorlenwi'n dal mor ddifrifol nes bydd rhai pobl yn mynd yn sâl wrth deithio, yn enwedig ar ran ddeheuol y rheilffordd. A oes gennych unrhyw wybodaeth bellach y gallwch ei rhoi i ni yn yr arena ehangach hon nag a gawsom gennych y bore yma am yr hyn yr ydych yn ei wneud i geisio mynd i'r afael â hynny?

Andrew Davies: Fel yr oeddech yn cydnabod yn garedig, mae llawer o'r

are having, particularly on the Valley lines, are because it is very much a victim of its own success, as more and more people are attracted to train travel. We have increased capacity; I announced £50 million of additional investment on the Valley lines last year for a wide range of improvements, including extra rolling stock and improvements to stations to lengthen them to allow four-car trains as well as two cars. I made a further announcement today with my transport grant settlement, which is to improve lines by, for example, increasing capacity on the Rhymney valley line, and looking at other schemes, including lengthening platforms on other lines. Colleagues will be aware, if you have seen the e-mail and statement, of the detail of the particular announcements, and colleagues should have that information to hand.

problemau yr ydym yn eu hwynebu, yn enwedig ar linellau'r Cymoedd, yn deillio i raddau helaeth o'u llwyddiant ei hun, wrth i fwy a mwy o bobl gael eu denu i deithio ar drenau. Yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r capasiti; cyhoeddais werth £50 miliwn o fuddsoddiad ychwanegol ar gyfer llinellau'r Cymoedd y llynedd ar gyfer ystod eang o welliannau, gan gynnwys cerbydau ychwanegol a gwella gorsafoedd i'w hymestyn i ganiatáu trenau pedwar cerbyd yn ogystal â dau gerbyd. Gwneuthum gyhoeddiad pellach heddiw gyda setliad y grant trafndiaeth, a fydd yn gwella llinellau, er enghraifft, drwy gynyddu capasiti ar reilffordd cwm Rhymni, ac edrych ar gynlluniau eraill, gan gynnwys ymestyn platfformau ar linellau eraill. Bydd fy nghyd-Aelodau yn gwybod, os gwelsoch yr e-bost a'r datganiad, fanylion y cyhoeddiadau penodol, a dylai'r wybodaeth honno fod gan fy nghyd-Aelodau.

DARA Sain Tathan DARA St Athan

Q7 Leanne Wood: Will the Minister make a statement on the correspondence that he has sent to UK Government Ministers with regard to the Defence Aviation Repair Agency at St Athan? OAQ0650(EDT)

Andrew Davies: I refer to my Plenary statement of 24 January. Given the strategic importance of this issue, the First Minister and I worked very closely. The First Minister wrote to the Ministry of Defence's armed forces Minister, Adam Ingram, and had several telephone calls with him. Senior officials from the Welsh Assembly Government and the Welsh Development Agency continue to be in close contact with their Ministry of Defence counterparts.

Leanne Wood: On 24 January, you claimed that you had been in constant touch with Government Ministers and that you had had many meetings, conversations and correspondence about the job losses at DARA. However, when I wrote to you to ask for copies of all correspondence between you and Government Ministers, it came to light that you had not sent a single letter to a single Government Minister. Which of these contradictory statements is correct, and

C7 Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr ohebiaeth a anfonodd at Weinidogion Llywodraeth y DU ynghylch yr Asiantaeth Atgyweirio Awyrennau Amddiffyn yn Sain Tathan? OAQ0650(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Cyfeiriaf at fy natganiad yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 24 Ionawr. Oherwydd pwysigrwydd strategol y mater hwn, mae'r Prif Weinidog a minnau wedi cydweithio'n agos iawn. Ysgrifennodd y Prif Weinidog at Weinidog lluoedd arfog y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn, Adam Ingram, a chafodd lawer sgwrs gydag ef ar y ffôn. Mae uwch swyddogion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru yn dal i gadw cysylltiad agos â'u cymheiriaid yn y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn.

Leanne Wood: Ar 24 Ionawr, yr oeddech yn honni eich bod wedi bod mewn cysylltiad cyson â Gweinidogion y Llywodraeth ac wedi cael nifer o gyfarfodydd, trafodaethau a gohebiaeth ynglŷn â'r swyddi a fyddai'n cael eu colli yn DARA. Fodd bynnag, pan ysgrifennais atoch i ofyn am gopiâu o'r holl ohebiaeth rhyngoch chi a Gweinidogion y Llywodraeth, daeth i'r amlwg nad oeddech wedi anfon yr un llythyr at yr un o Weinidogion y Llywodraeth. Pa un o'r

would you be prepared to apologise for misleading the Assembly?

Andrew Davies: If you have any question in terms of my lobbying on behalf of DARA, you need only read the statements of union leaders in Wales, such as Cath Speight and others, to see that they have paid tribute to the support that they have had. I can also refer you to the statement of Adam Ingram who said, when asked why the MOD had gone ahead with this investment, that it was down to pressure from the Welsh Assembly Government.

Leanne Wood: Where are the letters?

The Presiding Officer: Order. Only one supplementary question is allowed. I will not allow the kind of shouting that took place next door, in the former Chamber, to continue in here—including by me. [*Laughter.*]

Andrew Davies: I find Leanne Wood's capacity for nit-picking quite amazing. I suspect that this question has more to do with her own political future than with the future of DARA workers.

David Melding: However much lobbying you did do at the MOD, it was unsuccessful, unfortunately. I have some sympathy with you, and I am not just making a trite political point, but it is important that we now live life looking forwards and ensure that the DARA facility is used to maximum effect. We are on our own here, and we need to market hard and show the people in London who have made this awful decision that we can worst them.

Andrew Davies: The lobbying that we did with the MOD to go ahead with project Red Dragon led to an £80 million investment in a state-of-the-art hangar, which has already attracted the attention of many companies in the private sector and aerospace sector. The fact that we have attracted 300 jobs there with ATC Lasham and TES Aviation Group shows that it was a good investment. People often forget that we also own the airfield.

datganiadau croes hyn sy'n gywir, ac a fyddech yn barod i ymddiheuro am gamarwain y Cynulliad?

Andrew Davies: Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiwn ynglŷn â'r lobïo a wneuthum ar ran DARA, nid oes ond rhaid ichi ddarllen y datganiadau gan arweinwyr undebau yng Nghymru, fel Cath Speight ac eraill, i weld eu bod wedi rhoi teyrnged i'r cymorth a gawsant. Gallaf hefyd eich cyfeirio at ddatganiad Adam Ingram a ddywedodd, pan ofynnwyd iddo pam yr oedd y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn wedi parhau â'r buddsoddiad hwn, mai pwysau gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru oedd y rheswm dros hynny.

Leanne Wood: Ble mae'r llythyrau?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Dim ond un cwestiwn atodol a ganiateir. Ni fyddaf yn caniatáu i'r math o weiddi a fyddai'n digwydd y drws nesaf yn yr hen Siambr barhau yma—gan gynnwys gennyf fi. [*Chwerthin*]

Andrew Davies: Credaf fod gallu Leanne Wood i bigo beiau yn rhyfeddol. Yr wyf yn amau bod y cwestiwn hwn yn fwy perthnasol i'w dyfodol gwleidyddol ei hun na dyfodol gweithwyr DARA.

David Melding: Ni waeth faint o lobïo a wnaethoch yn y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn, yr oedd yn aflwyddiannus, yn anffodus. Mae gennyf ryw faint o gydymdeimlad â chi, ac nid gwneud pwynt gwleidyddol dibwys yn unig yw hyn, ond mae'n bwysig yn awr inni edrych i'r dyfodol ac sicrhau manteisio i'r eithaf ar gyfleuster DARA. Yr ydym ar ein pen ein hunain yma, ac mae angen inni farchnata'n ddiwyd a dangos i'r bobl yn Llundain a wnaeth y penderfyniad gwael hwn y gallwn eu trechu.

Andrew Davies: O ganlyniad i'r lobïo a wnaethom gyda'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn i fwrw ati gyda phrosiect y Ddraig Goch, gwnaed buddsoddiad gwerth £80 miliwn mewn awyrendy modern, sydd eisoes wedi denu sylw sawl cwmni yn y sector preifat a'r sector awyrofod. Mae'r ffaith ein bod wedi denu 300 o swyddi yno gydag ATC Lasham a TES Aviation Group yn dangos bod hwn yn fuddsoddiad da. Mae pobl yn aml yn

Therefore, we have a huge facility. If we had not lobbied, we would not have that investment which, to be fair, was largely from the MOD, and we would be in a far worse position today with the announcement over DARA than if we had not gone ahead with that investment.

anghofio mai ni biau'r maes glanio hefyd. Felly, mae gennym gyfleuster enfawr. Pe na baem wedi llobio, ni fyddem wedi denu'r buddsoddiad hwnnw a wnaed yn bennaf, a bod yn deg, gan y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn. Byddem mewn sefyllfa lawer gwaeth heddiw gyda'r cyhoeddiad am DARA na phe baem heb fwrw ati gyda'r buddsoddiad hwnnw.

Prisiau Ynni Energy Prices

Q8 Mick Bates: What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to ensure that energy prices for Welsh consumers are fair and competitive? OAQ0674(EDT)

C8 Mick Bates: Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i sicrhau bod prisiau ynni i ddefnyddwyr yng Nghymru yn deg ac yn gystadleuol? OAQ0674(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Increases in energy prices are the result of market forces and have risen throughout the European Union. The situation in the UK is expected to ease when new infrastructure projects, including liquefied natural gas facilities in Pembrokeshire, as I said earlier, come on-stream. Our energy route map sets out our proposals for secure, affordable and sustainable energy generation in Wales.

Andrew Davies: Mae'r cynnydd ym mhrisiau ynni yn deillio o rymoedd y farchnad ac maent wedi codi ar draws yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Disgwylir i'r sefyllfa yn y DU wella pan fydd prosiectau seilwaith newydd, gan gynnwys cyfleusterau nwy naturiol hylif yn sir Benfro, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, yn gweithio. Mae ein map llwybr ynni yn nodi ein cynigion ar gyfer cynhyrchu ynni diogel, fforddiadwy a chynaliadwy yng Nghymru.

Mick Bates: I have no doubt that the energy route map will assist in providing fair and competitive prices. However, can you also assist Welsh consumers in using less energy, thereby saving money? The European Parliament has recently debated a directive to install smart metering. Do you agree with Energywatch, which says that smart meters are good for the environment and can lead to lower bills?

Mick Bates: Nid oes amheuaeth gennyf na fydd y map llwybr ynni o gymorth i ddarparu prisiau teg a chystadleuol. Fodd bynnag, a allech hefyd gynorthwyo defnyddwyr yng Nghymru i ddefnyddio llai o ynni, ac felly arbed arian? Bu Senedd Ewrop yn ddiweddar yn trafod cyfarwyddeb i osod mesuryddion cell. A ydych yn cytuno gyda Golwg ar Ynni, sy'n dweud bod mesuryddion call yn beth da i'r amgylchedd ac y gallant arwain at filiau is?

Andrew Davies: Without doubt. There has been a lot of research into this and it has led to a 10 per cent reduction in energy use in most cases, I believe. If people can see their meters working, rather than the meter being in the cellar, attic or under the stairs, they can observe the amount of power that they are using, so there are clear benefits. However, there are technological issues. Technological changes can be introduced, but, broadly, we are talking about a cultural and behavioural change, which will inevitably make a difference. People need to be aware of their

Andrew Davies: Yn sicr. Gwnaethpwyd llawer o ymchwil i hyn ac y mae wedi arwain at ostyngiad o 10 y cant yn y defnydd o ynni yn y rhan fwyaf o achosion, credaf. Os gall pobl weld eu mesuryddion yn gweithio, yn hytrach na bod y mesurydd yn y seler, yn yr atig neu o dan y grisiau, gallant weld faint o bŵer y maent yn ei ddefnyddio, felly, yna mae fanteision amlwg. Fodd bynnag, mae yna faterion technolegol. Gellir cyflwyno newidiadau technolegol, ond yn fras yr ydym yn sôn am newid mewn diwylliant ac ymddygiad a fydd yn anochel yn gwneud

energy use and to see the benefits of cutting it.

Jocelyn Davies: Energy companies are sometimes in a very good position to know which of their customers are struggling to pay their energy bills. They can therefore assist in spotting households in need of welfare benefit advice. Will you open a dialogue with energy companies to see whether they will assist us in getting people to take up their welfare benefits?

Andrew Davies: Yes. Last week, I held a surgery in my constituency with the Egar Partnership and Age Concern to discuss how to encourage older people to take up the home energy efficiency scheme. Energy efficiency is at the heart of that. One of the key issues is that a person must be in receipt of benefits to qualify for the HEES scheme. One issue that was raised was how to help several of the people who attended the surgery to access benefits. I agree with you; it is a worthwhile thing to do. I am sure that my colleague, Edwina Hart, is doing a huge amount in this area, but I give a commitment to follow that up with her.

gwahaniaeth. Mae angen i bobl fod yn ymwybodol o'r ynni a ddefnyddiant a gweld y buddiannau a ddaw o ddefnyddio llai.

Jocelyn Davies: Weithiau mae cwmnïau ynni mewn sefyllfa dda iawn i wybod pa gwsmeriaid sy'n ei chael hi'n anodd i dalu eu biliau ynni. Felly, gallant helpu nodi'r cartrefi lle mae angen cyngor budd-daliadau lles. A wnewch chi gychwyn trafodaethau gyda chwmnïau ynni i weld a allant ein cynorthwyo i sicrhau bod pobl yn hawlio eu budd-daliadau lles?

Andrew Davies: Gwnaf. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cefais gymhorthfa yn fy etholaeth gydag Egar Partnership ac Age Concern i drafod sut i annog pobl hŷn i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref. Mae effeithlonrwydd ynni wrth wraidd hynny. Un o'r prif broblemau yw bod yn rhaid i rywun fod yn cael budd-daliadau i fod yn gymwys ar gyfer y cynllun HEES. Un o'r materion a godwyd oedd sut i helpu nifer o'r rheini a ddaeth i'r gymhorthfa i allu cael budd-daliadau. Cytunaf â chi; mae'n beth gwerth chweil i'w wneud. Yr wyf yn siŵr fod fy nghyd-Aelod, Edwina Hart, yn gwneud gwaith da yn y maes hwn, ond yr wyf yn addo trafod y mater gyda hi.

Y Strategaeth Diwydiannau Diwylliannol The Cultural Industries Strategy

Q9 Denise Idris Jones: Will the Minister make a statement about the cultural industries strategy? OAQ0693(EDT)

Andrew Davies: The creative industry sectoral support system that has been created will deliver clear economic benefits for Wales. The other elements of the strategy are the introduction of a £7 million intellectual property fund, better strategic investment and the provision of focused training.

Denise Idris Jones: As you are aware, a Welsh economy research paper published in 1998 showed that the cultural industries in Wales employed 28,585 people. Do you agree that the sector has boomed since devolution, with flagship and landmark developments such as the Wales Millennium Centre next door and, in my constituency, the

C9 Denise Idris Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y strategaeth diwydiannau diwylliannol? OAQ0693(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Bydd y system cymorth sectoraidd a grëwyd ar gyfer y diwydiant creadigol yn dod â buddiannau economaidd amlwg i Gymru. Mae elfennau eraill y strategaeth yn cynnwys cyflwyno cronfa eiddo deallusol gwerth £7 miliwn, buddsoddi strategol gwell a darparu hyfforddiant penodol.

Denise Idris Jones: Fel y gwyddoch, dangosodd papur ymchwil ar economi Cymru a gyhoeddwyd yn 1998 fod y diwydiannau diwylliannol yng Nghymru yn cyflogi 28,585 o bobl. A ydych yn cytuno bod y sector wedi ffynnu ers datganoli, gyda datblygiadau blaenllaw a nodedig fel Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru y drws nesaf, a

continued development of Oriol Mostyn?

datblygiad parhaus Oriol Mostyn yn fy etholaeth i?

Andrew Davies: Without doubt, cultural activities are a huge attraction in Wales. That appeal is one of Wales's strengths. However, we need to distinguish between the strength of cultural industries and that of creative industries on the other hand, such as television and film, where the wealth-generating capacity is through intellectual property. That is why I have come forward with the creative industries strategy. Nevertheless, cultural industries are very important, particularly in the areas that you represent.

Andrew Davies: Yn sicr, mae gweithgareddau diwylliannol yn atyniad mawr yng Nghymru. Yr apêl honno yw un o gryfderau Cymru. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni wahaniaethu rhwng cryfder diwydiannau diwylliannol ar y naill llaw a diwydiannau creadigol ar y llaw arall, fel teledu a ffilm, lle daw'r gallu i gynhyrchu arian drwy eiddo deallusol. Dyna pam yr wyf wedi cyflwyno'r strategaeth diwydiannau creadigol. Serch hynny, mae diwydiannau diwylliannol yn bwysig iawn, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd a gynrychiolir gennych.

Alun Ffred Jones: Wrth drafod diwydiannau creadigol, ni ddylem anghofio ein celfyddydau cynhenid. Mae tipyn o siarad wedi bod yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf am dwristiaeth ddiwylliannol. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i briodi'r strategaeth diwydiannau creadigol â'r diwydiant ymwelwyr er mwyn rhoi profiad mwy Cymreig i'r sawl sy'n ymweld â ni?

Alun Ffred Jones: In discussing the creative industries, we should not forget our indigenous arts. There have been many discussions over recent years about cultural tourism. What plans do you have to marry the creative industries strategy and the tourism industry in order to give a more Welsh flavour to the experience of visitors?

Andrew Davies: As I said in reply to Denise, we must distinguish between cultural activities and cultural tourism on one hand, and the creative industries on the other. They are different, each with very different economic drivers. Creative industries are essentially about the capture and exploitation of intellectual property, whether that be music, animation, film or television; those are the main drivers. Cultural activities are of huge importance to Wales. Those activities are the major drivers of our tourism offer, and I work very closely with Alun Pugh on maximising their economic benefit to Wales.

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais yn fy ymateb i Denise, mae'n rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng gweithgareddau diwylliannol a thwristiaeth ddiwylliannol ar y naill llaw, a'r diwydiannau creadigol ar y llaw arall. Maent yn wahanol, a chanddynt ysgogwyr economaidd gwahanol iawn. Mae diwydiannau creadigol yn ymwneud yn sylfaenol â chreu a defnyddio eiddo deallusol, boed yn gerddoriaeth, animeiddio, ffilm neu deledu; dyna'r prif ysgogwyr. Mae gweithgareddau diwylliannol yn bwysig iawn i Gymru. Y gweithgareddau hynny yw prif ysgogwyr ein harlwy dtwristiaeth, ac yr wyf yn cydweithio'n agos iawn ag Alun Pugh i wneud y mwyaf o'u budd economaidd i Gymru.

3.00 p.m.

Lisa Francis: It is just over a year since we debated the creative industries strategy. In that strategy, you said that your Government was establishing ways of obtaining expert knowledge through a high-quality panel of industry advisers with a high level of experience. Can you give us a progress report as to how this is being done, who the

Lisa Francis: Mae ychydig dros flwyddyn ers inni drafod strategaeth y diwydiannau creadigol. Yn y strategaeth honno, yr oeddech yn dweud bod eich Llywodraeth yn sefydlu ffyrdd i gael gwybodaeth arbenigol drwy banel o safon o gynghorwyr o fyd diwydiant gyda phrofiad helaeth. A allwch roi adroddiad inni am y ffordd mae hyn yn

advisers are, and what their recommendations are?

Andrew Davies: I will write to you with that information. On outcomes, it has already been successful, the investment by the panel is bearing fruit, and there have been some high-profile investments in television and animation activities. However, I will write to you on the detail of the panel and the structure of the creative industries hub; I will also make that available to all other Members.

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 10 i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig.

digwydd, pwy yw'r cynghorwyr, a beth yw eu hargymhellion?

Andrew Davies: Ysgrifennaf atoch i roi'r wybodaeth honno. O ran canlyniadau, mae eisoes wedi bod yn llwyddiannus, mae buddsoddiad y panel yn dwyn ffrwyth, a gwnaed rhai buddsoddiadau amlwg mewn gweithgareddau teledu ac animeiddio. Fodd bynnag, ysgrifennaf atoch i roi manylion am y panel a strwythur y canolbwynt diwydiannau creadigol; byddaf hefyd yn darparu copi i bob Aelod arall.

The Presiding Officer: Question 10 was transferred for written answer.

Cwestiynau i'r Trefnydd am ei Chyfrifoldebau heblaw am Fusnes Questions to the Business Minister on her Responsibilities other than for Business

Confensiwn ar Hawliau'r Plentyn Convention on the Rights of the Child

Q1 Gwenda Thomas: What is to be the role of the Minister for Children in the development of the UK Government's formal report to the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, due in 2007?
OAQ0192(BM)

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I am pleased to announce that the Assembly Government will be publishing its own report on progress towards meeting our obligations under the convention. I will personally oversee its preparation. The report, along with reports from the other UK nations, will form the basis of the overall UK report.

Gwenda Thomas: Do you therefore agree that the time is now opportune to call a meeting of all UK Ministers for Children—yourself, the Right Honourable Beverley Hughes, MP, Peter Peacock MSP, and Lord Rooker in Northern Ireland—to agree a joint report for consideration by the United Nations on cross-border issues, while retaining the opportunity for all the separate legislatures to make responses in relation to their own responsibilities?

Jane Hutt: I am meeting Beverley Hughes,

C1 Gwenda Thomas: Beth yw swyddogaeth y Gweinidog Plant o ran datblygu adroddiad ffurfiol Llywodraeth y DU i'r Cenhedloedd Unedig am weithredu'r Confensiwn ar Hawliau'r Plentyn, a ddisgwyllir yn 2007?
OAQ0192(BM)

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Mae'n bleser gennyf gyhoeddi y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cyhoeddi ei hadroddiad ei hun am y cynnydd a wnaed i gyflawni ein rhwymedigaethau o dan y confensiwn. Byddaf yn goruchwyllo'r broses o'i baratoi fy hun. Bydd yr adroddiad, ynghyd ag adroddiadau o wledydd eraill y DU, yn sail i adroddiad y DU gyfan.

Gwenda Thomas: A gytunwch, felly, ei bod yn amser da i alw cyfarfod o holl Weinidogion Plant y DU—y Gwir Anrhydeddus Beverley Hughes AS, Peter Peacock ASA, a'r Arglwydd Rooker yng Ngogledd Iwerddon a chithau—i gytuno ar adroddiad ar y cyd i'w ystyried gan y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar faterion trawsffiniol, ond gan gadw'r cyfle i bob un o'r deddfwrfeydd ar wahân ymateb mewn perthynas â'u cyfrifoldebau eu hunain?

Jane Hutt: Byddaf yn cyfarfod â Beverley

the UK Government Minister for Children, tomorrow. It was with her agreement that we went forward with the preparation of our own report in Wales, and now is the time to bring all the UK Government Ministers for Children together. I will follow up that suggestion.

Hughes, Gweinidog Plant Llywodraeth y DU yfory. Gyda'i chytundeb hi yr aethom ati i baratoi ein hadroddiad ein hunain yng Nghymru, ac mae'n bryd inni dynnu ynghyd bob un o Weinidogion Llywodraeth y DU bellach. Byddaf yn gweithredu ar yr awgrym hwnnw.

Blaenoriaethau'r Gweinidog Plant Priorities of the Minister for Children

Q2 Catherine Thomas: What are the Minister's substantive priorities for her work as Minister with responsibility for children over the next 12 months? OAQ0194(BM)

C2 Catherine Thomas: Beth yw blaenoriaethau presennol y Gweinidog ar gyfer ei gwaith fel Gweinidog sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros blant am y 12 mis nesaf? OAQ0194(BM)

Jane Hutt: My priorities remain the co-ordination and promotion of a coherent Government strategy aimed at meeting the needs of children, which is rights-based and responsive to the priorities set by children and young people.

Jane Hutt: Fy mlaenoriaethau o hyd yw cydgysylltu a hyrwyddo strategaeth ystyrlon gan y Llywodraeth gyda'r bwriad o ddiwallu anghenion plant, a hynny ar sail hawliau a thrwy ymateb i'r blaenoriaethau a osodir gan blant a phobl ifanc.

Catherine Thomas: Following the deep concern recently expressed by the Children's Commissioner for Wales on the figures that show that suicide rates among 11 to 17-year-olds in Wales are five times higher than in England, what steps is the Assembly Government taking to gather information and to co-ordinate a response to these worrying statistics?

Catherine Thomas: Ar ôl i Gomisiynydd Plant Cymru fynegi pryder mawr ynglŷn â'r ffigurau sy'n dangos bod cyfraddau hunanladdiad ymhlith pobl ifanc 11-17 oed yng Nghymru bum gwaith yn uwch na'r gyfradd yn Lloegr, pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cymryd i gasglu gwybodaeth a pharatoi ymateb i'r ystadegau brawychus hyn?

Jane Hutt: These figures are worrying. We are taking action across several areas. However, we also need to understand that information and look to see whether there are common themes in terms of those tragic outcomes. Two elements in terms of action are the parenting action plan, which we are taking forward now, and the Assembly Government's anti-bullying strategy. Both of those are key to tackling this worrying announcement and trend.

Jane Hutt: Mae'r ffigurau hyn yn achos pryder. Yr ydym yn cymryd camau mewn llawer maes. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni hefyd ddeall y wybodaeth honno ac edrych i weld a oes themâu sy'n gyffredin yn y digwyddiadau trist hynny. Dau gam sy'n cael eu cymryd yw'r cynllun gweithredu rhianta, yr ydym yn ei baratoi ar hyn o bryd, a strategaeth gwrthfwlio Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Mae'r naill a'r llall yn allweddol i fynd i'r afael â'r cyhoeddiad a'r duedd frawychus hon.

Leanne Wood: Section 9 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 2004 provides for the removal into care of the children of asylum-seeking parents who have been made destitute by the Government. How many children in Wales have been affected by section 9, do you believe that section 9 should be repealed, and how much of a

Leanne Wood: Mae adran 9 o Ddeddf Lloches a Mewnffudo 2004 yn darparu ar gyfer chymryd plant rhieni sy'n ceisio lloches, ac sydd wedi eu gwneud yn ddigartref gan y Llywodraeth, oddi arnynt a'u rhoi mewn gofal. Ar faint o blant yng Nghymru y mae adran 9 wedi effeithio, a ydych yn credu y dylid diddymu adran 9, a

priority is your Government giving to preventing the break-up of such families?

Jane Hutt: We are concerned about affording protection and access to services to the children of asylum seekers, particularly those of failed asylum seekers. We have made representations to the Westminster Government, saying that these children should receive the fullest protection of the Children Act 2004. I can get you the figures under section 9 of children affected in Wales, but this is key, as it is article 22 of the UN convention, and we would want to offer the fullest protection possible in Wales.

faint o flaenoriaeth y mae eich Llywodraeth yn ei rhoi i atal teuluoedd felly rhag cael eu chwalu?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n bwysig inni ein bod yn diogelu plant ceiswyr lloches ac yn rhoi cyfle iddynt gael gwasanaethau, yn enwedig plant ceiswyr lloches sydd wedi methu cael lloches. Yr ydym wedi apelio at Lywodraeth San Steffan, gan ddweud y dylai'r plant hyn gael eu diogelu hyd eithaf Deddf Plant 2004. Gallaf gael y ffigurau ichi o dan adran 9 am blant yng Nghymru yr effeithiwyd arnynt. Ond mae hyn yn allweddol, gan mai hyn yw erthygl 22 yng nghonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig, a byddem am ddiogelu plant yng Nghymru cymaint â phosibl.

Llywodraeth Agored Open Government

Q3 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister make a statement on open government? OAQ0184(BM)

C3 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am lywodraeth agored? OAQ0184(BM)

Q10 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister outline her priorities for promoting open government in Wales? OAQ0191(BM)

C10 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei blaenoriaethau ar gyfer hyrwyddo llywodraeth agored yng Nghymru? OAQ0191(BM)

Jane Hutt: The policy reflected in our code of practice on public access to information describes how we go beyond the legal requirements for openness. I am pleased that we have continued to demonstrate our ability to meet these high standards while responding to large numbers of requests during the last year.

Jane Hutt: Mae'r polisi sydd wedi'i adlewyrchu yn ein cod ymarfer ar ganiatáu i'r cyhoedd weld gwybodaeth sy'n disgrifio sut yr ydym yn mynd y tu hwnt i'r gofynion cyfreithiol i fod yn agored. Yr wyf yn falch ein bod wedi parhau i ddangos ein gallu i gyrraedd y safonau uchel hyn gan ymateb i nifer fawr o geisiadau yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

Lisa Francis: In relation to open government, your government increased its spending on advertising by 63 per cent, from £679,800 in 2001-02, to just over £1 million in 2002-03, which was during the run-up to the last Assembly elections. That supports the view that money was spent to woo voters for election purposes. In the interests of open government, will you confirm that your Government's advertising spend will not incur such a sharp increase between this year and the next, which will be during the run-up to the next Assembly elections?

Lisa Francis: O ran llywodraeth agored, cynyddodd eich llywodraeth ei gwariant ar hysbysebu 63 y cant, o £679,800 yn 2001-02, i ychydig dros £1 filiwn yn 2002-03, sef y cyfnod cyn etholiadau diwethaf y Cynulliad. Mae hynny'n ategu'r farn fod arian wedi'i wario i geisio ennill pleidleisiau etholwyr. Er lles llywodraeth agored, a wnewch chi gadarnhau na fydd gwariant eich Llywodraeth ar hysbysebu yn cynyddu mor sydyn rhwng eleni a'r flwyddyn nesaf, sef y cyfnod yn arwain at etholiadau nesaf y Cynulliad?

Jane Hutt: In the context of open government, we have been completely open

Jane Hutt: Yng nghyd-destun llywodraeth agored, yr ydym wedi bod yn holl agored

about the importance of the spend on promoting information, particularly, for example, that which goes out on public health matters, which is included in our spending on public information campaigns. In the interests of open government—and of the health and safety of children, as I am the Minister with responsibility for children—the money that we spend on road safety campaigns is also key. In terms of recruitment and retention, and in recognising the importance of our equality of opportunity report last week, which said that we must improve in that respect, the advertising spend on targeting ethnic minorities is also key, and we should be spending money to secure the wider diversity of our workforce.

Nick Bourne: I have heard the Minister talk before about her commitment to open government, which I greatly welcome. I tabled questions to the Minister for Economic Development and Transport on nuclear energy and what his discussions had been with the Minister at Westminster. I was told that that information could not be disclosed because it was sensitive. That indicates two things: first, that there had been such a discussion, and, secondly, that it was obviously deeply embarrassing to your Assembly Government—or is there some other reason?

Jane Hutt: Your Government was never prepared to bring forward a freedom of information Act in the way that we have done. Clearly, you just seek to use the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to score cheap political points, Nick. In terms of the obvious importance of these energy debates, we held an energy debate here not so long ago at your party's request and we are, of course, open about the importance of these issues. They are not embarrassing—they are key to the Assembly Government.

Nick Bourne: If you are so keen on open government, why did I not get a clear response to my question? It is true that we did not pass a freedom of information Act and that you did, but there is little point in it if you cannot get information. Can you give some other reason, other than it is deeply

ynglŷn â phwysigrwydd y gwario ar hyrwyddo gwybodaeth, yn enwedig, er enghraifft, yr hyn a werir ar faterion iechyd y cyhoedd, sydd wedi'i gynnwys yn ein gwariant ar ymgyrchoedd gwybodaeth i'r cyhoedd. Er lles llywodraeth agored—ac er mwyn iechyd a diogelwch plant, gan mai fi yw'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am blant—mae'r arian a wariwn ar ymgyrchoedd diogelwch ffyrdd hefyd yn allweddol. O ran recriwtio a chadw staff, a chydabod pwysigrwydd ein hadroddiad ar gyfle cyfartal a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf, ac a oedd yn dweud bod yn rhaid inni wella yn hynny, mae'r gwario ar hysbysebu i dargedu lleiafrifoedd ethnig hefyd yn allweddol, a dylem wario arian i sicrhau mwy o amrywiaeth ein gweithlu.

Nick Bourne: Yr wyf wedi clywed y Gweinidog yn sôn o'r blaen am ei hymrwymiad i lywodraeth agored, rhywbeth yr wyf yn ei groesawu'n fawr. Cyflwynais gwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ar ynni niwclear ac ar fyrdd ei drafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog yn San Steffan. Dywedwyd wrthyf na ellid datgelu'r wybodaeth honno am ei bod yn sensitif. Mae hynny'n awgrymau dau beth: yn gyntaf, fod trafodaeth felly wedi digwydd, ac yn ail ei bod yn amlwg yn achosi embaras mawr i'ch Llywodraeth yn y Cynulliad—neu a oes rhyw reswm arall?

Jane Hutt: Nid oedd eich Llywodraeth chi byth yn barod i gyflwyno Deddf rhyddid gwybodaeth fel y gwnaethom ni. Yn amlwg, yr ydych yn ceisio defnyddio Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000 i gael mantais wleidyddol, Nick. O ran pwysigrwydd amlwg y dadleuon hyn ar ynni, cawsom ddadl ar ynni ychydig amser yn ôl ar gais eich plaid chi, ac yr ydym, wrth gwrs, yn agored ynglŷn â phwysigrwydd y materion hyn. Nid ydynt yn achosi embaras—maent yn allweddol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Nick Bourne: Os ydych mor frwd dros lywodraeth agored, pam na chefais ateb clir i'm cwestiwn? Mae'n wir na phasiwyd Deddf rhyddid gwybodaeth gennym ni, rhywbeth a wnaed gennych chi, ond nid oes fawr o ddiben gwneud hynny os na allwch gael gwybodaeth. A allwch roi rhyw reswm

embarrassing to you, as to why I have been unable to see the correspondence, which indicates—I see you looking at the Minister, but I am asking you—that there have been discussions between this Government and that Government about nuclear energy?

Jane Hutt: I am sure that the people of Wales also want to know what your policies are on nuclear energy, and I am sure that we will have the opportunity to debate this. I also hope that there will not be too much finger-pointing, Llywydd, in this new Assembly building.

Nick Bourne: There would not be any finger-pointing if you answered the question. I am not pointing the finger; I was just asking a question. I look forward to the time when you can ask me questions, Minister, when you are no longer the Minister, and I am First Minister. We will have some straight answers then. We will not have the Aberystwyth touch—[*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. There is no point in Members shouting because I have the priority button on, so none of you can be heard. I repeat my request, which obviously fell on ears that choose not to hear, that this be a non-shouting Chamber; that is why we are here.

Nick Bourne: Let me ask the question again. If there is no reason for not disclosing this correspondence other than the fact that it is deeply embarrassing to your Government—the First Minister may well laugh, but I have not heard any other suggestions yet—will you undertake to publish that correspondence?

Jane Hutt: You are trying very hard, Nick, to avoid my response to you, which was to talk about the opportunities for us to debate our energy policy here in the Assembly. We have had 930 freedom of information requests since January 2005 that have been dealt with, and we are speeding up the response. In addition, as you know, because we have a further level of openness in Wales, as a result of our original policy, you have

arall, ar wahân i'r ffaith ei bod yn achosi embaras mawr ichi, pam na lwyddais i weld yr ohebiaeth, sy'n dweud—fe'ch gwelaf yn edrych ar y Gweinidog, ond yr wyf yn gofyn y cwestiwn i chi—fod trafodaethau wedi eu cynnal rhwng y Llywodraeth hon a'r Llywodraeth yn San Steffan ar ynni niwclear?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n siŵr gennyf y bydd pobl Cymru hefyd am wybod beth yw eich polisiau ar ynni niwclear, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y cawn gyfle i drafod hyn. Gobeithio hefyd na fydd gormod o bwyntio bys, Lywydd, yn yr adeilad newydd hwn.

Nick Bourne: Ni fyddai angen pwyntio bys pe baech wedi ateb y cwestiwn. Nid pwyntio bys yr wyf; dim ond gofyn cwestiwn. Edrychaf ymlaen at yr adeg pan gewch ofyn cwestiynau i mi, Weinidog, pan na fyddwch yn Weinidog mwyach, a minnau'n Brif Weinidog. Yna cawn atebion gonest. Nid cyffyrddiad Aberystwyth fydd yma—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid oes diben i'r Aelodau weiddi gan fod y botwm blaenoriaeth ymlaen gennyf. Felly, nid oes neb yn gallu eich clywed. Gofynnaf eto, gan ei bod yn amlwg na wrandawyd ar fy nghais blaenorol, am beidio â gweiddi yn y Siambr hon; dyna pam yr ydym yma.

Nick Bourne: Gadewch imi ofyn y cwestiwn eto. Os nad oes rheswm dros beidio â datgelu'r ohebiaeth hon, ar wahân i'r ffaith ei bod yn achosi embaras mawr i'ch Llywodraeth—digon hawdd i'r Prif Weinidog chwerthin, ond nid wyf wedi clywed unrhyw awgrymiadau eraill eto—a wnewch chi gytuno i gyhoeddi'r ohebiaeth honno?

Jane Hutt: Yr ydych yn ymdrechu'n galed, Nick, i osgoi fy ateb ichi, a oedd yn sôn am y cyfleoedd inni drafod ein polisi ynni yma yn y Cynulliad. Ymdriniwyd â 930 o'r ceisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth sydd wedi dod i law er mis Ionawr 2005, ac yr ydym yn cyflymu'r broses. Yn ogystal â hynny, fel y gwyddoch, oherwydd ein bod hyd yn oed yn fwy agored yng Nghymru, o ganlyniad i'n polisi gwreiddiol, caniateir ichi weld mwy o

access to more information here than you would in any other part of the UK.

wybodaeth yma nag a welech mewn unrhyw ran arall o'r DU.

3.10 p.m.

Jenny Randerson: A voluntary organisation recently made an identical freedom of information request to Cardiff council and to your Government: it received Cardiff council's response a month ago and is still waiting for yours. I have had the same experience, because I made a freedom of information request on EU funding to you and to the Welsh Development Agency. The WDA replied well within the timeframe; your Government came back with a number of points of clarification, which I could suggest were designed to extend the timeframe, and also gave me much less information in the end. Do you understand that this undermines your Government's supposed commitment to freedom of information? It also undermines your decision to bring the WDA in-house, because it suggests that we will get far less information once it comes in-house. Will you also give us a commitment here today that you will review your Government's attitude to freedom of information requests?

Jenny Randerson: Yn ddiweddar gwnaeth mudiad gwirfoddol yr un cais yn union i gyngor Caerdydd ac i'ch Llywodraeth chi: cafodd ateb gan gyngor Caerdydd fis yn ôl ac mae'n dal i ddisgwyl ateb gennyh chi. Cefais innau brofiad tebyg, oherwydd gwneuthum gais rhyddid gwybodaeth i chi ac i Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru ynglŷn ag ariannu'r UE. Atebodd WDA ymhell cyn i'r terfyn amser ddod i ben; gofynnodd eich Llywodraeth chi imi egluro nifer o bwyntiau, gyda'r bwriad, os caf awgrymu, o estyn y terfynau amser, a rhoddwyd llawer llai o wybodaeth imi yn y pen draw. A ydych yn deall bod hyn yn tanseilio ymrwymiad honedig eich Llywodraeth i ryddid gwybodaeth? Mae hefyd yn tanseilio'ch penderfyniad i ddod â WDA o dan adain y Cynulliad, am ei bod yn awgrymu y byddwn yn cael llawer llai o wybodaeth ar ôl iddo ddod yn adran fewnol. A wnewch chi hefyd ymrwymo yma heddiw i adolygu agwedd eich Llywodraeth at geisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth?

Jane Hutt: As I said, the Assembly Government has received nearly 930 requests since 1 January 2005; that is stabilising now at a rate of around 10 a week. A greater proportion is now coming from individuals, as opposed to journalists and politicians—which is good—but there are large and complex requests. We are closely monitoring these issues, Jenny, and I am sure that you are well-intentioned towards getting the freedom of information that we are committed to in the Assembly Government. I am sure that it will be forthcoming.

Jane Hutt: Fel y dywedais, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cael bron 930 o geisiadau er 1 Ionawr 2005; mae hynny wedi ymsefydlogi erbyn hyn ar gyfradd o ryw 10 yr wythnos. Mae canran fwy yn dod oddi wrth unigolion erbyn hyn, yn hytrach na newyddiadurwyr a gwleidyddion—sy'n beth da—ond cawn geisiadau mawr a chymhleth. Yr ydym yn monitro'r materion hyn yn fanwl, Jenny, ac mae'n siŵr gennyf eich bod yn cefnogi'r rhyddid gwybodaeth yr ydym wedi ymrwymo iddo yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hynny'n digwydd.

Gwella Mynediad ar gyfer Pobl Anabl Improving Access for Disabled People

Q4 Peter Black: How is the Minister working with business to improve access for disabled people? OAQ0189(BM)

C4 Peter Black: Sut y mae'r Gweinidog yn gweithio gyda busnesau i wella mynediad ar gyfer pobl anabl? OAQ0189(BM)

Jane Hutt: I will give you one example: the Potentia project, supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, provides pre-start

Jane Hutt: Rhoddaf un enghraifft ichi: mae prosiect Potentia, a gefnogir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, yn rhoi cymorth cyn

business support assistance to under-represented groups, including disabled people. It has helped increase the number of disabled people establishing their own businesses and accessing mainstream business support.

Peter Black: Thank you for that answer, Minister; the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 was, of course, an important breakthrough in terms of access to properties and to a whole range of other areas of public life. However, one of the issues with that is how well it is enforced. I have a constituent who is disabled who tries to go to a local café, but has difficulty accessing it, because of a step at the front. Despite my constituent's representations to the owner to have a ramp put in, the owner has, so far, resisted that. It seems that the only person who can enforce the DDA is the disabled person himself, not the local authority nor any other statutory body. Will you talk to Westminster about this and about whether or not we can ensure that private businesses make themselves accessible to disabled people, and that bodies that are able to enforce this, such as a local council, are compelled and given a duty to carry out that enforcement?

Jane Hutt: That is an experience that, unfortunately, many Members will have also heard about from their constituents. We have the Disability Rights Commission, as you know, Peter, which provides advice and information and backs up the disabled people who come forward with those issues. In terms of business, it is not going to do the customer base any good whatsoever if a business does not comply with the Disability Discrimination Act nor recognise that this is about business, as well as social justice. I will certainly discuss it with the Minister for disabled policies in the UK Government.

Christine Chapman: An important mechanism that is in place, which is aimed at increasing access to employment for disabled people, is the access to work programme that is run by Jobcentre Plus. This programme offers support to businesses that employ people with disabilities, for example, in grants towards meeting any extra employment costs that arise. How is the

cychwyn busnes i grwpiau sydd wedi'u tangynrychioli, gan gynnwys pobl anabl. Mae wedi helpu cynyddu nifer y bobl anabl sy'n cychwyn eu busnesau eu hunain ac sy'n cael cymorth busnes prif ffrwd.

Peter Black: Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog; yr oedd Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 2005 yn ddatblygiad pwysig, wrth gwrs, o ran mynediad i adeiladau ac amrywiaeth helaeth o feysydd eraill mewn bywyd cyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, un o'r problemau sy'n codi yw pa mor dda mae'n cael ei gorfodi. Mae un o'm hetholwyr sy'n anabl yn ceisio mynd i gaffi lleol, ond yn cael anhawster i fynd i mewn am fod gris o flaen y caffi. Er i'm hetholwr apelio ar y perchennog i osod ramp, hyd yma mae'r perchennog wedi gwrthod gwneud hynny. Mae'n debyg mai'r unig un a all orfodi'r Ddeddf yw'r unigolyn anabl ei hun, nid yr awdurdod lleol nac unrhyw gorff statudol arall. A wnewch chi godi hyn yn San Steffan, a'r cwestiwn a allwn sicrhau neu beidio fod busnesau preifat yn gwneud eu hunain yn gyfleus i bobl anabl, a bod dyletswydd yn cael ei gosod ar gyrff sy'n gallu gorfodi hyn, megis cyngor lleol, i sicrhau ei bod wedi'i gorfodi?

Jane Hutt: Mae hynny'n brofiad y bydd nifer o Aelodau wedi'i glywed hefyd gan eu hetholwyr, gwaetha'r modd. Sefydlwyd y Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd, fel y gwyddoch, Peter, sy'n rhoi cyngor a gwybodaeth ac yn cefnogi'r bobl anabl sy'n codi'r materion hynny. O ran busnesau, ni fydd o ddim lles i'w sail cwsmeriaid os na fydd busnes yn cydymffurfio â'r Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd, neu'n cydnabod bod a wnelo hyn â busnes yn ogystal â chyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Byddaf yn sicr yn ei drafod gyda'r Gweinidog dros bolisiau'r anabl yn Llywodraeth y DU.

Christine Chapman: Mae un peth pwysig ar waith, sydd wedi'i anelu at sicrhau gwell mynediad i gyflogaeth i bobl anabl, sef gallu cael rhaglen waith sy'n cael ei rhedeg gan y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith. Mae'r rhaglen hon yn cynnig cymorth i fusnesau sy'n cyflogi pobl ag anableddau, er enghraifft, drwy roi grantiau tuag at dalu unrhyw gostau cyflogaeth ychwanegol sy'n codi. Sut y mae

Welsh Assembly Government working with the business sector to increase its awareness and take-up of the programme, so that we tap into the underused and massive potential of disabled people?

Jane Hutt: We are working very closely on this initiative, and, indeed, we have other important schemes—I have mentioned Potentia, but there is also Business Eye, as an information signposting service—that are key to disabled access issues. There is also the WDA-led small and medium-sized enterprises equality project. We must recognise that the Disability Discrimination Act has applied to employers with fewer than 15 members of staff since October 2004. They have to comply and we have to support them in getting advice and delivering that.

The Presiding Officer: Question 5 OAQ0186(BM) has been withdrawn.

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gweithio gyda'r sector busnes i godi ymwybyddiaeth o'r rhaglen a chynyddu nifer y busnesau sy'n cymryd rhan ynddi, fel y gallwn fanteisio ar botensial mawr pobl anabl na fanteisir arno'n ddigonol ar hyn o bryd.

Jane Hutt: Yr ydym yn gweithio'n agos iawn ar y fenter hon, ac, yn wir, mae gennym gynlluniau pwysig eraill—soniais am Potentia, ond mae Llygad Busnes hefyd, fel gwasanaeth sy'n cyfeirio pobl at wybodaeth—sy'n allweddol i faterion mynediad i'r anabl. Mae yna hefyd brosiect cydraddoldeb i fusnesau bach a chanolig o dan arweiniad WDA. Rhaid inni gydnabod bod y Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd wedi bod yn gymwys i gyflogwyr gyda lai na 15 o staff ers mis Hydref 2004. Rhaid iddynt gydymffurfio, a rhaid inni eu helpu i gael cyngor a gweithredu arno.

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiwn 5 OAQ0186(BM) yn ôl.

Portffolio Gweinidogol Ministerial Portfolios

Q6 Sandy Mewies: What arrangements are being made to ensure that policies for children are co-ordinated across ministerial portfolios? OAQ0195(BM)

C8 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae'n cydlynu gweithredu strategaethau'r Llywodraeth sy'n effeithio ar blant? OAQ0182(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Cabinet sub-committee on children and young people, which I chair, enables joint ministerial consideration and co-ordination of all policies affecting children and young people.

Sandy Mewies: Ensuring that the policy is holistic is difficult, as each portfolio has different responsibilities towards children, so I am pleased that the Children Act 2004 incorporates an important new duty, which requires Governments and external partners to co-operate in delivering improved services for children. I understand that this guidance is currently in draft, but how will such co-operation be formally monitored and

C6 Sandy Mewies: Pa drefniadau sy'n cael eu gwneud i sicrhau bod polisiau ar gyfer plant yn cael eu cydlynu rhwng pob portffolio gweinidogol? OAQ0195(BM)

Q8 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on how she is co-ordinating the implementation of Government strategies affecting children? OAQ0182(BM)

Jane Hutt: Mae is-bwyllgor y Cabinet ar blant a phobl ifanc, a gadeirir gennyf fi, yn caniatáu ystyried a chydlynu ar y cyd yr holl bolisiau sy'n effeithio ar blant a phobl ifanc.

Sandy Mewies: Mae'n anodd sicrhau bod y polisi yn gyfannol gan fod gan bob portffolio gyfrifoldebau gwahanol dros blant. Felly, yr wyf yn falch fod Deddf Plant 2004 yn ymgorffori dyletswydd bwysig newydd sy'n gofyn bod Llywodraethau a phartneriaid allanol yn cydweithio i ddarparu gwasanaethau gwell i blant. Deallaf mai ar ffurf drafft y mae'r canllawiau hyn, ond sut y caiff cydweithio o'r fath ei fonitro a'i

inspected to ensure that this important clause is delivered?

Jane Hutt: The Children Act 2004 is key to providing that statutory duty for partnership through obligation; it will not just be a matter of goodwill. The Children Act 2004 strengthens the current partnership arrangements and provides that statutory basis for co-operation between local authorities and key partner agencies. Guidance and regulations will be coming forward from March 2006.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Pan ofynnais i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, mewn cwestiwn ysgrifenedig yn 2005, am y ddarpariaeth ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc sydd ag anhwylderau bwyta, dywedodd fod cynllun busnes yn cael ei baratoi ar gyfer 14 gwely yn Ysbyty Glanrhyd, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Beth yw'r sefyllfa o ran y ddarpariaeth honno? Fel y gwyddoch, mae mawr angen y ddarpariaeth hon yng Nghymru.

Jane Hutt: That is an important point and it links in with many of the issues that were raised earlier. Health Commission Wales is working on this and we are now moving towards extending that provision because we need to ensure that we have the services on our doorstep.

Catherine Thomas: The Government strategy to tackle bullying in school is of huge importance, as you stated in your reply to my earlier question. With that in mind, will you join me in congratulating pupils at Glan-y-môr School in Burry Port who I met before Christmas when I presented them with a Princess Diana memorial award against bullying? This is a group of young people who help other pupils who feel isolated and lonely, and who are sometimes at risk of bullying. Will you meet these young people when they visit the Assembly in the next few weeks and hear from them, at first hand, how this approach has benefited fellow pupils and how it could be encouraged in other schools?

Jane Hutt: As I said earlier, we can learn so

arolygu'n ffurfiol i sicrhau gwireddu'r cymal pwysig hwn?

Jane Hutt: Mae Deddf Plant 2004 yn allweddol i ddarparu'r ddyletswydd statudol honno ar gyfer partneriaeth drwy rwymedigaeth; nid mater o ewylls da yn unig ydyw. Mae Deddf Plant 2004 yn cryfhau'r trefniadau partneriaeth presennol ac yn darparu'r sail statudol honno ar gyfer cydweithio rhwng awdurdodau lleol ac asiantaethau partner allweddol. Cyflwynir canllawiau a rheoliadau o fis Mawrth 2006 ymlaen.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: When I asked the Minister for Health and Social Services, in a written question in 2005, about provision for children and young people with eating disorders, he said that a business case was being prepared for 14 beds at Bridgend's Glan-rhyd Hospital. What is the situation with that provision? As you know, there is a great need for this provision in Wales.

Jane Hutt: Mae hwnnw'n bwynt pwysig ac mae'n cysylltu â nifer o'r materion a godwyd yn gynharach. Mae Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn gweithio ar hyn, ac yr ydym yn awr yn symud tuag at ymestyn y ddarpariaeth honno oherwydd bod angen inni sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau hyn ar garreg ein drws.

Catherine Thomas: Mae strategaeth y Llywodraeth i fynd i'r afael â bwlio mewn ysgolion yn hynod bwysig, fel yr oeddech yn ei ddweud yn eich ymateb i'm cwestiwn yn gynharach. Gan gadw hynny mewn cof, a ymunwch â mi i longyfarch disgyblion yn Ysgol Glan-y-môr, Porth Tywyn. Cyfarfûm â hwy cyn y Nadolig i gyflwyno iddynt wobr goffa'r Dywysoges Diana yn erbyn bwlio? Dyma griw o bobl ifanc sy'n helpu disgyblion eraill sy'n teimlo'n ynysig ac yn unig ac sydd weithiau mewn perygl o gael eu bwlio. A wnewch chi gwrdd â'r bobl ifanc hyn pan fyddant yn ymweld â'r Cynulliad yn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf, er mwyn clywed ganddynt eich hun sut y mae'r dull hwn wedi bod o fudd i gyd-ddisgyblion, a sut y gellid ei annog mewn ysgolion eraill?

Jane Hutt: Fel y dywedais yn gynharach,

much from children and young people and we know, in terms of our anti-bullying policy, 'Respecting Others', that it is about children influencing other children and standing up for other children against the bully in the playground. I will look forward to meeting the pupils of Glan-y-môr School, Burry Port to hear, at first hand, about their experiences.

Brynle Williams: People moving into Wales are three times more active in entrepreneurship than adults born within Wales. What discussions have you had with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning and the Minister for Economic Development and Transport about co-ordinating initiatives to promote entrepreneurship among schoolchildren?

Jane Hutt: We saw recently, in the Welsh woman of the year awards, a young entrepreneur, who I was able to welcome. She is a young woman from Blackwood Comprehensive School, who, along with many others who were shortlisted for the winning prize, showed how young people, as part of the curriculum, are taking forward, particularly with the support of the Prince's Trust, the whole role of the young entrepreneur. I can raise this with my colleagues in the Cabinet sub-committee for children and young people. It is a key policy point.

William Graham: You will be aware that there is a shortage of school psychologists. A headmistress recently told me that she was making appointments in 2007 for her children to see psychologists. What is being done to increase the availability of counselling for children who may be at risk of suffering from psychological disorders?

Jane Hutt: This forms part of the child and adolescent mental health strategy but it is also connected to the responses to the Clywch report in terms of looking at pilot schemes for a school counselling scheme, which is one of the recommendations.

3.20 p.m.

I believe that the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee heard a report from the

gallwn ddysgu cymaint gan blant a phobl ifanc, a gwyddom o safbwynt ein polisi gwrthfwlio, 'Parchu Eraill', ei bod yn ymwneud â phlant yn dylanwadu ar blant eraill ac yn cefnogi plant eraill yn erbyn y bwli ar yr iard chwarae. Edrychaf ymlaen at gwrdd â disgyblion Ysgol Glan-y-môr, Porth Tywyn i glywed fy hun am eu profiadau.

Brynle Williams: Mae pobl sy'n symud i Gymru dair gwaith yn fwy gweithgar ym maes entrepreneuriaeth nag oedolion a aned yng Nghymru. Pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi eu cael gyda'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes a'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ynghylch cydlynu mentrau i hyrwyddo entrepreneuriaeth ymhlith plant ysgol?

Jane Hutt: Gwelsom yn ddiweddar, yng ngwobrau Cymraes y flwyddyn, entrepreneur ifanc y cefais y pleser o'i chroesawu. Merch ifanc o Ysgol Gyfun y Coed Duon yw hi. Ymhlith nifer o bobl eraill, yr oedd wedi'i rhoi ar y rhestr fer ar gyfer y wobr i ddangos sut y mae pobl ifanc, fel rhan o'r cwricwlwm, yn datblygu rôl yr entrepreneur ifanc, yn enwedig gyda chymorth y Prince's Trust. Gallaf godi'r mater gyda'm cyd-Aelodau yn is-bwyllgor y Cabinet ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc. Mae'n bwynt polisi allweddol.

William Graham: Gwyddoch fod yna brinder seicolegwyr ysgol. Dywedodd prifathrawes wrthyf yn ddiweddar ei bod yn gwneud trefniadau yn 2007 i'w phlant weld seicolegwyr. Beth sy'n cael ei wneud i gynyddu'r cyfleoedd cynghori i blant a all fod mewn perygl o ddioddef anhwylderau seicolegol?

Jane Hutt: Mae hyn yn rhan o'r strategaeth ar iechyd meddwl plant a'r glasoed, ond mae hefyd yn gysylltiedig â'r ymatebion i adroddiad Clywch o ran edrych ar gynlluniau peilot ar gyfer cynllun cynghori ysgolion sy'n rhan o'r argymhellion.

Credaf fod y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes wedi clywed adroddiad gan y

Minister this morning about this matter. This is key, and you know that £200,000 has been made available to take this forward.

Gweinidog y bore yma am y mater hwn. Mae hyn yn allweddol, a gwyddoch fod £200,000 wedi ei ryddhau i ddatblygu hyn.

Plant Diymgeledd Sy'n Agored i Niwed Vulnerable Children

Q7 Kirsty Williams: How is the Welsh Assembly Government, in a joined-up and cross-cutting way, improving conditions for the most vulnerable children in Wales? OAQ0181(BM)

C7 Kirsty Williams: Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn mynd ati mewn ffordd gydgysylltiedig a thrawsbynciol i wella amodau'r plant sydd fwyaf agored i ddioddef yng Nghymru? OAQ0181(BM)

Jane Hutt: Matters considered recently by the child and young people's committee include child poverty, specialist placements for children, children's advocacy services and the needs of asylum-seeking children.

Jane Hutt: Ymhlith y materion a ystyriwyd yn ddiweddar gan y pwyllgor plant a phobl ifanc mae tlodi plant, lleoliadau arbenigol i blant, gwasanaethau eiriolaeth i blant ac anghenion plant sy'n ceisio lloches.

Kirsty Williams: Can you outline your work with colleagues in local government to ensure that front-line services for children are not cut? Also, will you undertake to write to Powys County Council, which, in its wisdom, has decided to cut the universal Bookrunner service, which visits all primary schools in the county, and also the Gurnos youth centre, which provides youth service facilities for people in the Ystradgynlais area?

Kirsty Williams: A allwch amlinellu eich gwaith gyda llywodraeth leol i sicrhau na chaiff gwasanaethau rheng flaen i blant eu cwtdogi? Hefyd, a wnewch chi ymrwymo i ysgrifennu at Gyngor Sir Powys sydd, yn ei ddoethineb, wedi penderfynu torri'r gwasanaeth Bookrunner cyffredinol, sy'n ymweld â phob ysgol gynradd yn y sir, a hefyd ganolfan ieuencid y Gurnos sy'n darparu cyfleusterau gwasanaethau ieuencid i bobl yn ardal Ystradgynlais?

Jane Hutt: I have already mentioned the importance of Children Act 2004, which is driving forward the statutory obligation for co-operation between local authorities, the health service and the voluntary sector. It sounds disappointing that those two services are now threatened, and I will certainly look into those matters with my officials.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf eisoes wedi crybwyll pwysigrwydd Deddf Plant 2004 sy'n hybu'r rhwymedigaeth statudol i gydweithio rhwng awdurdodau lleol, y gwasanaeth iechyd a'r sector gwirfoddol. Mae'n drueni bod y ddau wasanaeth hwnnw bellach o dan fygythiad, a byddaf yn sicr yn ymchwilio i'r materion hynny gyda'm swyddogion.

Glyn Davies: Many of the most vulnerable children in Powys have been badly let down by failures in the county's social services department over recent years. A consequence of putting this right is serious cuts right across the council's budget. What steps are you taking to ensure that the historic problems in social services are put right for the sake of the vulnerable children and for other council services?

Glyn Davies: Mae nifer o'r plant sydd fwyaf agored i ddioddef ym Mhowys wedi'u siomi'n arw gan fethiannau yn adran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol y sir dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Canlyniad unioni hyn yw toriadau difrifol drwy gyllideb y cyngor benbaladr. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i sicrhau unioni'r problemau hanesyddol mewn gwasanaethau cymdeithasol er lles y plant sy'n agored i ddioddef ac i wasanaethau eraill y cyngor?

Jane Hutt: Local authorities got a good settlement this year in the form of the 5.1 per cent increase in local government revenue support and, indeed, in terms of the extra,

Jane Hutt: Caiff awdurdodau lleol setliad da eleni ar ffurf cynnydd o 5.1 y cant yng nghymorth refeniw llywodraeth leol, ac yn wir, o ran yr arian ychwanegol wedi'i

ring-fenced, hypothecated funding in special grants under Children First, Cymorth and Sure Start—all of which are important initiatives. Authorities should be looking to protect and safeguard the most vulnerable children in their communities. Also, the social services inspector's report is due, to which the Minister for Health and Social Services will respond. We know that, through inspection and regulation, we can see weaknesses and we must address them as a result with action plans.

neilltuo, mewn grantiau arbennig o dan Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf, Cymorth a Chychwyn Cadarn—sydd oll yn fentrau pwysig. Dylai'r awdurdodau anelu at amddiffyn a diogelu'r plant sydd fwyaf agored i ddioddef yn eu cymunedau. Hefyd, mae adroddiad arolygydd y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ar fin cael ei ryddhau, a bydd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn ymateb iddo. Gwyddom, drwy arolygu a rheoleiddio, y gallwn weld gwendidau, ac o ganlyniad rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â hwy gyda chynlluniau gweithredu.

Cyfle Cyfartal yng Ngheredigion Equal Opportunities in Ceredigion

Q9 Lisa Francis: Would the Minister make a statement on how she is promoting equal opportunities in Ceredigion? OAQ0187(BM)

C9 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ffordd y mae'n hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal yng Ngheredigion? OAQ0187(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Disability Discrimination Act 2005 places a duty on all public bodies, including the Welsh Assembly Government and local authorities, to produce a disability equality scheme by the end of 2006 to promote equality of opportunity for all disabled people in Wales, and that includes those in Ceredigion.

Jane Hutt: Mae Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005 yn gosod dyletswydd ar bob corff cyhoeddus, gan gynnwys Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol, i gynhyrchu cynllun cydraddoldeb i'r anabl erbyn diwedd 2006 er mwyn hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal i bob person anabl yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys yng Ngheredigion.

Lisa Francis: You may remember my question to the First Minister yesterday in which I indicated that there is a problem in Ceredigion with the Communities First partnership and its work with the 'Reaching Higher, Reaching Wider' strategy. You will be extremely shocked and concerned, as was the First Minister, that inequalities occur in Communities First areas where electoral divisions are classed as pockets of deprivation but are not included in the 100 most deprived wards. These are areas such as Penparcau in Aberystwyth. While such wards are left out of the 'Reaching Higher, Reaching Wider' target, learners from Ceredigion will continue to be turned away from higher education schemes in their own areas. Can you assure me that you will look into this serious inequality?

Lisa Francis: Efallai y cofiwch fy nghwestiwn i'r Prif Weinidog ddoe pan ddywedais fod problem yng Ngheredigion gyda'r bartneriaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf a'i gwaith gyda'r strategaeth 'Ymgeisio'n Uwch, Ymgeisio'n Ehangach'. Byddwch yn pryderu'n fawr iawn o glywed, fel yr oedd y Prif Weinidog, fod anghydraddoldeb yn bodoli mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf pan gaiff rhanbarthau etholiadol eu galw'n ardaloedd o amddifadedd, ond na chânt eu cynnwys yn y 100 ward mwyaf difreintiedig. Yn eu plith mae ardaloedd fel Penparcau yn Aberystwyth. Er nad yw wardiau o'r fath wedi'u cynnwys yn y targed 'Ymgeisio'n Uwch, Ymgeisio'n Ehangach', bydd dysgwyr o Geredigion yn parhau i gael eu gwrthod o gynlluniau addysg uwch yn eu hardaloedd eu hunain. A allwch fy sicrhau y byddwch yn ymchwilio i'r anghydraddoldeb difrifol hwn?

Jane Hutt: The First Minister responded to this matter yesterday, and, indeed, it crosses more than one ministerial boundary. As the

Jane Hutt: Ymatebodd y Prif Weinidog i'r mater hwn ddoe, ac yn wir, mae'n croesi mwy nag un ffin weinidogol. Fel y

Minister with responsibility for children, I will follow this through with my colleagues. Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am blant, byddaf yn mynd ar drywydd hwn gyda'm cyd-Aelodau.

Cyfle Cyfartal Equal Opportunities

Q11 Mark Isherwood: Will the Minister make a statement on how she is promoting equal opportunities for children born in Wales whose parents are failed asylum seekers? OAQ0198(BM)

Jane Hutt: In Wales, we are affording protection and access to services to the children of asylum seekers under the provisions of the Children Act 2004, subject to immigration provisions.

Mark Isherwood: A heartbreaking case was referred to me recently in which the HIV-positive mother of a three-year-old girl born in Wales faces deportation back to Mugabe's Zimbabwe, where her father, a UK national, faces a possible prison sentence and where the family would be homeless. What action can you take to ensure equal opportunities in such tragic cases?

Jane Hutt: This a matter in which the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration is taking the lead in terms of the all-Wales refugee inclusion policy that we are developing and the all-Wales refugee policy forum, which has explored ways of supporting the particular humanitarian needs, as you described, of what could be destitute asylum seekers. The legislation tells us that only the children of failed asylum seekers may receive accommodation, but there is also a refugee inclusion housing action plan, and we will address these issues on an all-Wales basis.

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 12, OAQ0188(BM), i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig.

C11 Mark Isherwood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ffordd y mae'n hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal i blant sy'n cael eu geni yng Nghymru a'u rhieni'n geiswyr lloches sydd wedi eu gwrthod? OAQ0198(BM)

Jane Hutt: Yng Nghymru, yr ydym yn darparu diogelwch a gwasanaethau i blant ceiswyr lloches o dan ddarpariaethau Deddf Plant 2004, yn amodol a ddarpariaethau mewnffudo.

Mark Isherwood: Cyfeiriwyd achos torcalonnus ataf yn ddiweddar pan oedd mam, sy'n HIV-positif, i ferch deirblwydd oed a aned yng Nghymru yn wynebu cael ei hanfon yn ôl i Zimbabwe dan Robert Mugabe, lle mae ei thad, dinesydd o'r DU, yn wynebu dedfryd bosibl o garchar, a fyddai'n golygu gwneud y teulu'n ddigartref. Pa gamau y gallwch eu cymryd i sicrhau cyfle cyfartal mewn achosion trasig o'r fath?

Jane Hutt: Mae'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yn arwain ar y mater hwn o ran polisi cynhwysedd Cymru gyfan yr ydym yn ei ddatblygu ar gyfer ffoaduriaid, a'r fforwm polisi Cymru gyfan ar gyfer ffoaduriaid sydd wedi ymchwilio i ffyrdd o gefnogi anghenion dyngarol penodol ceiswyr lloches anghenus, fel y disgrifir gennych. Dywed y ddeddfwriaeth wrthym mai dim ond plant ceiswyr lloches sydd wedi eu gwrthod a all gael llety. Ond mae yna hefyd gynllun gweithredu ar ddarparu tai i gynnwys ffoaduriaid, a byddwn yn mynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn ar lefel Cymru gyfan.

The Presiding Officer: Question 12, OAQ0188(BM), is transferred for written answer.

Hawliau Pobl Anabl The Rights of Disabled People

Q13 Mark Isherwood: Would the Minister make a statement on the rights of disabled

C13 Mark Isherwood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar hawliau pobl

people? OAQ0197(BM)

Jane Hutt: On Monday, I was pleased to announce the Welsh Assembly Government commitment of £1.6 million in funding for British Sign Language futures. The BSL apprentice interpreter scheme for Wales is the first scheme of its size in the UK, and it will benefit 3,000 people who use British Sign Language as their first or preferred language.

Mark Isherwood: I welcome that news. On a related matter in terms of disabled people, I am frequently approached by disabled people complaining that cars are parked on drop kerbs and in disabled parking spaces. Now that local authorities are responsible for parking, what good practice do you propose to roll-out in Denbighshire's warden scheme to ensure that wardens check disabled blue badges, given that convincing fakes can be downloaded from the internet?

Jane Hutt: That is an area to be addressed by disability equality schemes, which local authorities must deliver by the end of the year.

anabl? OAQ0197(BM)

Jane Hutt: Ddydd Llun, yr oedd yn bleser gennyf gyhoeddi ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o £1.6 miliwn ar gyfer dyfodol Iaith Arwyddion Prydain. Cynllun prentisiaid dehongli BSL ar gyfer Cymru yw'r cyntaf o'i faint yn y DU, a bydd o fudd i 3,000 o bobl sy'n defnyddio Iaith Arwyddion Prydain fel eu hiaith gyntaf neu eu dewis iaith.

Mark Isherwood: Yr wyf yn croesawu'r newyddion hynny. Ar fater cysylltiedig yng nghyd-destun pobl anabl, daw pobl anabl ataf yn aml i gwyno bod ceir yn cael eu parcio ar balmentydd isel a manau parcio i'r anabl. Gan mai awdurdodau lleol yn awr sy'n gyfrifol am barcio, pa arfer da a fwriadwch ei gyflwyno yng nghynllun wardeniaid Sir Ddinbych i sicrhau bod wardeniaid yn archwilio bathodynnau anabledd glas, o gofio y gall bathodynnau ffug sy'n ymddangos yn rhai iawn gael eu llwytho i lawr o'r rhyngwyd?

Jane Hutt: Mae hwnnw'n faes yr eir i'r afael ag ef gan gynlluniau cydraddoldeb anabledd. Rhaid i awdurdodau lleol gyflwyno'r rheini erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn.

Hyrwyddo Cyfle Cyfartal Promoting Equality of Opportunity

Q14 William Graham: Will the Minister outline discussions she has held with other UK Parliaments and Assemblies on promoting equality of opportunity? OAQ0190(BM)

Jane Hutt: I have held meetings with my UK Government counterparts, including Meg Munn MP, the Minister for Women, Ann McGuire MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary with responsibility for disabled people, and Malcolm Chisholm, Member of the Scottish Parliament, in the Scottish Executive.

William Graham: The Equal Opportunities Commission found that the pay gap between men and women is 12 per cent in hourly earnings, and 31 per cent for part-time work. Furthermore, the commission recently reported that young girls are often denied

C14 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu trafodaethau a gafodd gyda Seneddau a Chynulliadau eraill y DU ynglŷn â hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal? OAQ0190(BM)

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf wedi cael cyfarfodydd gyda'm cyd-aelodau yn Llywodraeth y DU, gan gynnwys Meg Munn AS, y Gweinidog dros Ferched, Ann McGuire AS, yr Isysgrifennydd Seneddol sy'n gyfrifol am bobl anabl, a Malcolm Chisholm, Aelod o Senedd yr Alban, yng Ngweithrediaeth yr Alban.

William Graham: Gwelodd y Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal fod y bwloch cyflog rhwng dynion a menywod yn 12 y cant mewn enillion yr awr a 31 y cant am waith rhan amser. At hynny, cafwyd adroddiad yn ddiweddar gan y comisiwn a oedd yn dweud

better job prospects because they lack sufficient all-round career advice. What is being done to ensure that training for non-traditional jobs is made available to broaden opportunities for young women in Wales?

Jane Hutt: I am very glad that we are addressing the pay gap with the close the pay gap campaign, which Edwina Hart pioneered and on which we held a summit before Christmas which involved the public sector taking the issue forward as the key to the next stage. We also recognise, through Chwarae Teg and other initiatives, that we must tackle the issue of training in terms of gender stereotyping in order to address the pay gap for young women.

nad yw merched ifanc yn aml yn gallu manteisio ar well rhagolygon gwaith oherwydd nad ydynt yn cael cyngor digonol ar yrfaeodd cyffredinol. Beth sy'n cael ei wneud i sicrhau bod hyfforddiant ar gael ar gyfer swyddi nad ydynt yn rhai traddodiadol i ehangu cyfleoedd i fenywod ifanc yng Nghymru?

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn falch ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â'r bwlch cyflog gyda'r ymgyrch i gau'r bwlch cyflog a arloeswyd gan Edwina Hart. Cawsom uwchgynhadledd ar hyn cyn y Nadolig a oedd yn golygu cynnwys y sector cyhoeddus i ddatblygu'r mater fel yr allwedd i'r cam nesaf. Yr ydym hefyd yn cydnabod, drwy Chwarae Teg a mentrau eraill, fod yn rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â hyfforddiant o ran ystrydebu rhyw er mwyn delio â'r bwlch cyflog i fenywod ifanc.

Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005 The Disability Discrimination Act 2005

Q15 Helen Mary Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the implementation of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 in Wales? OAQ0183(BM)

Jane Hutt: Responsibility for the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and its subsequent implementation lies with the Department for Work and Pensions. However, through good practice and raising awareness, the Assembly Government and our agencies encourage compliance with the legislation.

Helen Mary Jones: The Minister is right to say that the responsibility lies with the Department for Work and Pensions, but the funding for the necessary adaptations to many public buildings in Wales must at least be partly met by the Welsh Assembly Government. What assurances can the Minister give that she is working with her colleagues to ensure that all public buildings in Wales are able to comply with the Act in a timely manner?

Jane Hutt: We are part-funding two posts with the Disability Rights Commission for a three-year period to promote guidance to public bodies. I will shortly meet with the Disability Rights Commission and Disability Wales, which are bringing together public

C15 Helen Mary Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am weithredu Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005 yng Nghymru? OAQ0183(BM)

Jane Hutt: Yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau sy'n gyfrifol am Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005 a'i gweithredu. Fodd bynnag, drwy arfer da a chynyddu ymwybyddiaeth, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'n hasiantaethau yn annog gydymffurfio â'r ddeddfwriaeth.

Helen Mary Jones: Mae'r Gweinidog yn iawn i ddweud mai'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau sy'n gyfrifol amdani, ond dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fod yn rhannol gyfrifol, o leiaf, am ariannu'r addasiadau sy'n angenrheidiol mewn nifer o adeiladau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Pa sicrwydd y gall y Gweinidog ei roi ei bod yn gweithio gyda'i chyd-Aelodau i sicrhau y gall pob adeilad cyhoeddus yng Nghymru gydymffurfio â'r Ddeddf yn brydlon?

Jane Hutt: Yr ydym yn ariannu'n rhannol ddwy swydd gyda'r Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd am gyfnod o dair blynedd i hyrwyddo canllawiau i gyrrff cyhoeddus. Maes o law byddaf yn cyfarfod â'r Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd ac Anabledd Cymru, sy'n

bodies to guide and advise them on the way in which they can meet their obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. I will report back on that.

dod â chyrrff cyhoeddus ynghyd i'w harwain a'u cynghori am y modd y gallant gyflawni'u dyletswyddau o dan Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005. Byddaf yn adrodd yn ôl ar hynny.

Datganiad am Ddiwygio'r Heddlu Statement on Police Reform

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I am grateful for the opportunity to make a further statement on the review of police force structures, following the written statement made by the Home Secretary on Monday. Things have moved on rapidly since my last statement. I have remained actively engaged in these developments, both by correspondence and through ministerial discussions.

In December, options for future structures were put forward by police forces. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary has since considered each option against a range of criteria. The first stage of this work, assessing the level of protective services provided by each option, is now complete. As a result of HMIC's assessment, the Home Secretary has announced that, in Wales and in three English regions, only certain options have been assessed as being suitable for further consideration.

3.30 p.m.

For Wales, only the one-force option has met the HMIC's protective services criteria. The Home Secretary's statement on Monday made it clear that HMIC will still needs to test the one-force option against organisational resilience, affordability, precepting and the impact on the wider criminal justice system. The remaining assessments will be completed soon.

The Home Secretary called a meeting with the chief constables and the chairs of police authorities in Wales on Monday to discuss the way forward. I understand that, pending the remaining assessments, he has asked

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i wneud datganiad pellach ar adolygu strwythurau'r heddluoedd, yn dilyn y datganiad ysgrifenedig a wnaed gan yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref ddydd Llun. Mae pethau wedi datblygu'n gyflym ers fy natganiad diwethaf. Yr wyf wedi parhau'n gysylltiedig â'r datblygiadau hyn, drwy ohebu a thrwy drafodaethau rhwng gweinidogion.

Fis Rhagfyr, cyflwynwyd dewisiadau gan yr heddluoedd ar gyfer strwythurau'r dyfodol. Ers hynny, mae Arolygiaeth Cwnstabiliaeth Ei Mawrhydi wedi ystyried pob dewis yn erbyn ystod o feini prawf. Bellach cwblhawyd cam cyntaf y gwaith hwn, sef asesu lefel y gwasanaethau diogelu a ddarperir gan bob dewis. O ganlyniad i asesiad yr Arolygiaeth, mae'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi cyhoeddi mai dim ond rhai dewisiadau a aseswyd yng Nghymru, ac mewn tri rhanbarth yn Lloegr, fel rhai sy'n addas i'w hystyried ymhellach.

Ar gyfer Cymru, dim ond y dewis o gael un heddlu sydd wedi bodloni meini prawf gwasanaethau diogelu'r Arolygiaeth. Yr oedd datganiad yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref ddydd Llun yn gwneud yn glir y bydd angen o hyd i'r Arolygiaeth brofi'r dewis o gael un heddlu ar sail gwytnwch sefydliadol, fforddiadwyedd, praeseptio a'r effaith ar y system cyfiawnder troseddol ehangach. Caiff yr asesiadau sy'n weddill eu cwblhau maes o law.

Trefnodd yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref gyfarfod gyda'r prif gwnstabiliaid a chadeiryddion awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru ddydd Llun i drafod y ffordd ymlaen. Deallaf, nes daw'r asesiadau sy'n weddill, ei fod wedi

them to work with his officials over the next few weeks to address the key finance and organisational issues, and any other issues, involved in successfully implementing a strategic force. He has also asked them to indicate, by 24 February, whether they are prepared to sign up to a voluntary merger.

I know that Members share some important concerns about the future of police service structures in Wales. I need to put on record again the central fact that this is not a devolved matter and that it is for the Home Secretary to take decisions, based on the professional assessments that are laid before him. Within that framework, nevertheless, legitimate concerns have been expressed by the Assembly about the important, related issues of finance and democratic accountability. I am pleased to be able to report some progress on these matters.

Earlier this week, I received a letter from Hazel Blears responding to each of the points that I have raised with the Home Office over the past two months, by correspondence and in discussion. That letter confirms that the Home Office now fully appreciates the particular democratic circumstances that we have in Wales, and the need to ensure sufficient democratic representation on any new strategic police authority. Future arrangements for Wales will now allow for all local authorities to be represented, and the Home Office will work with the Assembly on the selection of the independent members of a strategic police authority.

On the democratic structures that will underpin a new strategic police authority, the Home Office has listened to our views about the need for a sub-regional level of accountability in Wales. In my view, it is not necessary for these arrangements to be based in statute; it is more important that we have robust working arrangements that operate effectively. As a result of these discussions, the Assembly now has a further opportunity to agree a view as to how such a regional structure would operate and to contribute that thinking to the Home Office. In this area of democratic structures and accountability, the

gofyn iddynt weithio gyda'i swyddogion yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf i fynd i'r afael â materion cyllid a threfniadaeth allweddol, ac unrhyw faterion eraill, sy'n gysylltiedig â gweithredu heddlu strategol yn llwyddiannus. Mae hefyd wedi gofyn iddynt ddweud, erbyn 24 Chwefror, a ydynt yn barod i uno'n wirfoddol.

Gwn fod Aelodau hefyd yn pryderu'n fawr am ddyfodol strwythurau'r gwasanaeth heddlu yng Nghymru. Mae angen imi gofnodi eto y ffaith ganolog nad yw hwn yn fater datganoledig, ac mai cyfrifoldeb yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref yw gwneud penderfyniadau, ar sail ar yr asesiadau proffesiynol ger ei fron. O fewn y fframwaith hwnnw, serch hynny, mynegwyd pryderon dilys gan y Cynulliad am y materion cyllid ac atebolrwydd democrataidd cysylltiedig a phwysig. Mae'n bleser gennyf allu dweud bod rhywfaint o gynnydd yn y materion hyn.

Yn gynharach yr wythnos hon, cefais lythyr gan Hazel Blears yn ateb pob un o'r pwyntiau yr wyf wedi eu codi gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref yn ystod y deufis diwethaf, drwy ohebiaeth a thrafodaethau. Mae'r llythyr hwnnw'n cadarnhau bod y Swyddfa Gartref bellach yn sylweddoli'n iawn yr amgylchiadau democrataidd penodol sydd gennym yng Nghymru, a bod angen sicrhau cynrychiolaeth ddemocrataidd ddigonol ar unrhyw awdurdod heddlu strategol newydd. Bydd trefniadau ar gyfer Cymru yn y dyfodol yn galluogi pob awdurdod lleol i gael ei gynrychioli, a bydd y Swyddfa Gartref yn gweithio gyda'r Cynulliad ar y broses o ddewis yr aelodau annibynnol ar awdurdod heddlu strategol.

O ran y strwythurau democrataidd a fydd yn ategu awdurdod heddlu strategol newydd, mae'r Swyddfa Gartref wedi gwrandao ar ein safbwyntiau fod angen lefel is-ranbarthol o atebolrwydd yng Nghymru. Yn fy marn i, nid oes angen i'r trefniadau hyn fod yn seiliedig ar statud; mae'n bwysicach fod gennym drefniadau gwaith cadarn sy'n gweithredu'n effeithiol. O ganlyniad i'r trafodaethau hyn, mae gan y Cynulliad gyfle arall yn awr i lunio barn am y ffordd y byddai strwythur rhanbarthol o'r fath yn gyfleu'r farn honno i'r Swyddfa Gartref. Yn y maes hwn o strwythurau democrataidd ac atebolrwydd,

Home Office has also agreed two further important arrangements that I want to pass on to Members. First, senior members of any Welsh SPA will have specific geographical responsibilities, with a parallel arrangement in any strategic police force, to ensure that each area has a strong and distinct voice at a strategic level. Secondly, accountability at a local level will be determined in Wales, and the Police and Justice Bill provides us with flexibility on that point.

Given the legislative constraints, I have agreed with Hazel Blears that we would reach a view on our plans for regional and local accountability quickly. The timetable for the Police and Justice Bill is very tight. I have, therefore, already written to the Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee to ask if the committee would—building on the excellent report that it prepared last year—reach a view on these matters on behalf of the Assembly over the next few weeks.

In relation to financing the costs of restructuring, I have made the Minister of State well aware of our concerns and the potential impact on Welsh council tax payers. I reinforced the importance of the restructuring and level 2 costs being met by Whitehall, and I shall continue to do that. Work on examining the detailed costings continues, and the Home Office wishes to wait until that work is complete before taking any final decisions on how the costs will be met or resources allocated. In my view, it is essential that this work is completed in time to inform the police authorities' decisions on voluntary mergers.

Finally, I have been in dialogue with the Home Office about the arrangements that will need to be put in place to determine future policing priorities in Wales, should a single force be agreed. I am pleased to report that the Assembly Government will, in future, be more fully involved in the development of the national community safety plan. I intend to continue to develop our discussions about this matter in the

mae'r Swyddfa Gartref hefyd wedi cytuno ar ddau drefniant pwysig arall yr wyf am eu trosglwyddo i Aelodau. Yn gyntaf, bydd gan uwch aelodau o unrhyw awdurdod heddlu strategol yng Nghymru gyfrifoldebau daearyddol penodol, gyda threfniant cyfochrog mewn unrhyw heddlu strategol, i sicrhau bod gan bob ardal lais cryf ac amlwg ar lefel strategol. Yn ail, caiff atebolrwydd lleol ei bennu yng Nghymru, ac mae Mesur yr Heddlu a Chyfiawnder yn rhoi hyblygrwydd inni yn hynny.

O gofio'r cyfyngiadau deddfwriaethol, yr wyf wedi cytuno â Hazel Blears y byddem yn llunio barn ar ein cynlluniau ar gyfer atebolrwydd rhanbarthol a lleol yn gyflym. Mae'r amserlen ar gyfer Mesur yr Heddlu a Chyfiawnder yn dynn iawn. Yr wyf, felly, eisoes wedi ysgrifennu at Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i ofyn a fyddai'r pwyllgor—gan adeiladu ar yr adroddiad rhagorol a baratowyd ganddo y llynedd—yn llunio barn am y materion hyn ar ran y Cynulliad yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf.

O ran ariannu'r costau ailstrwythuro, yr wyf wedi mynegi ein pryderon yn glir wrth y Gweinidog Gwladol a'r effaith bosibl ar bobl sy'n talu treth gyngor yng Nghymru. Atgyfnerthais bwysigrwydd y broses ailstrwythuro a thalu costau lefel 2 gan Whitehall, ac yr wyf am barhau i wneud hynny. Mae'r gwaith o archwilio'r prisiadau manwl yn parhau, ac mae'r Swyddfa Gartref yn awyddus i aros nes bydd y gwaith hwnnw wedi'i gwblhau cyn gwneud unrhyw benderfyniadau terfynol ar y ffordd y caiff y costau eu talu neu adnoddau eu neilltuo. Yn fy marn i, mae'n hanfodol i'r gwaith hwn gael ei gwblhau mewn da bryd i lywio penderfyniadau awdurdodau'r heddlu ar uno gwirfoddol.

Yn olaf, bûm yn trafod gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref y trefniadau y bydd angen eu rhoi ar waith i bennu blaenoriaethau plismona yn y dyfodol yng Nghymru, pe cytunid ar gael un heddlu. Mae'n bleser gennyf adrodd y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn y dyfodol, yn cymryd mwy o ran yn y broses o ddatblygu'r cynllun diogelwch cymunedol cenedlaethol. Bwriadaf barhau i ddatblygu ein trafodaethau ar y mater hwn yn y dyfodol.

future.

My aim in all of this has been to ensure that the Home Office is fully aware of the particular context within which its responsibilities are exercised in Wales. I have been concerned to convey the points that have been made by Members and to sensitise decision making in key areas, such as finance and democratic accountability. This is an ongoing process, in which the Assembly will now continue to be engaged and on which I will report further in due course.

Leanne Wood: We have debated the reorganisation of the police on numerous occasions in the Assembly. I welcome the agreements that you have made with Hazel Blears regarding local accountability, and I support the idea of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee examining the issues further.

Despite numerous questions being asked here and in Westminster, it is disappointing to note that we have received no firm assurances regarding finances. I understand that the Home Office is reluctant to tie itself down until actual costs are known. However, we in Plaid Cymru feel that this is an important issue of principle. As you pointed out in your statement, Minister, police services are not devolved, and the decision will be made by the Home Secretary. While we might not be able to prevent being dictated to in this way, we can demand that any costs that arise out of decisions made by the Home Office are borne by it.

In England, the Government plans to cap police tax rises at 5 per cent. I am given to understand that the Welsh police authorities plan to increase the police precept by 7 per cent in order to fund these changes. When will we receive the reassurances that we need on funding? The police reorganisation is not something that Wales wants. We do not want it and we certainly do not want to have to pay for it.

Edwina Hart: Thank you for those comments, Leanne. As you rightly said, this is not a devolved matter. In terms of the discussions and so on, it is a matter for MPs

Fy nod yn hyn oll oedd sicrhau bod y Swyddfa Gartref yn gwbl ymwybodol o'r cyd-destun penodol ar gyfer gweithredu ei chyfrifoldebau yng Nghymru. Yr wyf wedi bod yn ofalus i gyfleu'r pwyntiau a wnaed gan Aelodau, a sensiteiddio gwneud penderfyniadau mewn meysydd allweddol, megis cyllid ac atebolrwydd democrataidd. Mae'r broses hon yn un barhaus, a bydd y Cynulliad yn awr yn dal i fod yn rhan ohoni. Byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad pellach ar hyn maes o law.

Leanne Wood: Yr ydym wedi trafod y broses o ad-drefnu'r heddlu droeon yn y Cynulliad. Croesawaf y cytundebau yr ydych wedi eu gwneud gyda Hazel Blears ar atebolrwydd lleol, a chefnogaf y syniad o gael y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i archwilio'r materion ymhellach.

Er bod nifer o gwestiynau wedi eu gofyn yma yn San Steffan, siom yw sylwi nad ydym wedi cael unrhyw sicrwydd cadarn am gyllid. Deallaf fod y Swyddfa Gartref yn amharod i ymrwymo nes bydd costau gwirioneddol yn hysbys. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym ni ym Mhlaid Cymru o'r farn fod hwn yn fater pwysig o egwyddor. Fel yr oeddech yn dweud yn eich datganiad, Weinidog, nid yw gwasanaethau heddlu wedi eu datganoli, a'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref fydd gwneud y penderfyniad. Er na allwn atal pobl rhag gorchymyn inni wneud pethau fel hyn, gallwn fynnu bod y Swyddfa Gartref yn gyfrifol am dalu unrhyw gostau sy'n deillio o benderfyniadau a wneir ganddi.

Yn Lloegr, mae'r Llywodraeth yn bwriadu pennu terfyn o 5 y cant o gynnydd yn nhreth yr heddlu. Yr wyf ar ddeall bod awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru yn bwriadu cynyddu praesept yr heddlu o 7 y cant i ariannu'r newidiadau hyn. Pryd y byddwn yn cael y sicrwydd angenrheidiol am ariannu? Nid yw Cymru'n awyddus i ad-drefnu'r heddlu. Nid ydym am i hynny ddigwydd, ac yn sicr nid ydym am orfod talu amdano.

Edwina Hart: Diolch am y sylwadau hynny, Leanne. Fel y dywedech, yn gywir, nid yw hwn yn fater sydd wedi ei ddatganoli. O ran y drafodaeth ac ati, mater i ASau ei godi yn

to raise in Westminster, along with their constituents' concerns. They must focus in particular on the issues of democratic accountability and finance. However, there is also a role for us in that regard.

I have made it quite clear that I do not expect the burden to fall on the Welsh taxpayer. I am hopeful that when work is completed in the near future—and officials will be attending a meeting on Friday to discuss the whole issue of the costs—there will be something clearer for police authorities to work with. It is important that they have clear knowledge when they are discussing whether they want to go into a voluntary one-force arrangement and what the impact on them will be in terms of the precept and what is generally going on in those areas. My colleague, Sue Essex, and I also feel that if the decision were taken that the police had to be directly funded, we could understand that as the police is not devolved in any way. However, these discussions must take place. I know that it is not satisfactory, and I would love to give Members the answers today, but I am afraid I am not able to. However, my officials and I continue to press on this, and we have a constructive engagement, as I think Members will acknowledge, not so much in terms of the concessions, but in terms of the understanding that Hazel Blears has shown in her correspondence to me on other matters.

Mark Isherwood: The Home Secretary is trying to force through the biggest reorganisation in 30 years, despite the fact that the Prime Minister said just the other week that it was not a question of forcing amalgamations through. He added that 'many different things could happen, including forces coming together for certain strategic tasks that they are better able to fulfil on a common, rather than singular, basis'.

However, the Home Secretary seems to have dismissed out of hand the cheaper and less-destructive option of sharing services, despite the fact that this has been supported by the Association of Police Authorities. I cite, for example, the joint firearms unit between North Wales Police and Cheshire

San Steffan ydyw, ynghyd â phryderon eu hetholwyr. Rhaid iddynt ganolbwyntio'n benodol ar atebolrwydd democrataidd a chyllid. Fodd bynnag, mae yna rôl i ni yn y cyswllt hwnnw.

Yr wyf wedi gwneud yn hollol glir nad wyf yn disgwyl i'r baich syrthio ar y trethdalwr yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn obeithiol, pan gwblheir gwaith yn y dyfodol agos—a bydd swyddogion yn mynychu cyfarfod ddydd Gwener i drafod y costau—y bydd y sefyllfa'n gliriach ar gyfer awdurdodau'r heddlu. Mae'n bwysig iddynt gael gwybodaeth glir pan fyddant yn trafod a ydynt am ymrwymo i drefniant un heddlu gwirfoddol a beth fydd yr effaith arnynt hwy o ran y praesept, a beth sy'n digwydd yn y meysydd hynny'n gyffredinol. Yr wyf i a'm cyd-Aelod, Sue Essex, o'r farn, pe penderfynid bod yn rhaid ariannu'r heddlu yn uniongyrchol, y gallem ddeall hynny gan nad yw'r heddlu wedi'i ddatganoli mewn unrhyw ffordd. Fodd bynnag, rhaid cael y trafodaethau hyn. Gwn nad yw'n foddhaol, a byddwn wrth fy modd yn rhoi atebion i Aelodau heddiw, ond yn anffodus, ni allaf wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf fi a'm swyddogion yn dal i bwysu yn hyn, ac mae gennym gysylltiad adeiladol, a chredaf y bydd Aelodau'n cydnabod hynny, nid yn gymaint o ran y consesiynau, ond o ran y ddealltwriaeth y mae Hazel Blears wedi ei dangos yn ei gohebiaeth ataf ar faterion eraill.

Mark Isherwood: Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref yn ceisio gorfodi'r broses ad-drefnu fwyaf ers 30 mlynedd, er i'r Prif Weinidog ddweud yr wythnos diwethaf nad oedd hyn mor syml â gorfodi'r uniadau. Ychwanegodd

gallai sawl peth gwahanol ddigwydd, gan gynnwys heddluoedd yn uno ar gyfer tasgau strategol penodol y maent mewn sefyllfa well i'w cyflawni ar y cyd, yn hytrach nag ar eu pen eu hunain.

Fodd bynnag, ymddengys fod yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi gwrthod yn llwyr y dewis rhataf a llai dinistriol o rannu gwasanaethau, er bod Cymdeithas Awdurdodau'r Heddlu wedi cefnogi hyn. Dyfynnaf, er enghraifft, yr uned arfau tân ar y cyd rhwng Heddlu Gogledd Cymru a

Police.

I welcome many points in your report. However, I contest the reference to the voluntary merger of police forces. It is a merger whereby a political pistol is being pointed to their heads. It would be interesting to know what would happen were they to say 'no'.

I welcome your statement that the future arrangements for Wales will now allow for all local authorities to be represented. That was a clear concern for all agencies on both sides of the argument. I also welcome the recognition of the need for a sub-regional level of accountability in Wales, and look forward to hopefully participating in agreeing on a view on that matter in the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. I hope that it will include the consideration of co-operation with the fire and rescue service and the ambulance service at regional level and accountability at basic command unit and superintendent level, but also consideration of some strengthened formal accountability to local communities.

Under the Home Secretary's plans, I understand that we have been told that operational co-operation will continue to grow across the border. We also know that the Welsh forces were already collaborating on proposals to share corporate services. In these circumstances, I struggle to understand what the purpose of this enforced merger is. We have the operational co-operation and the shared services, and yet we have to go through a hugely costly reorganisation.

3.40 p.m.

The issue of civilian jobs was raised many times in previous contributions. It has not been referred to here, so I hope that you can shed some light on that, particularly in recognition of the fact that the police reform agenda should also be about changing working practices and cutting down on paper work that would give rise to opportunities for civilian jobs that might otherwise be threatened by these proposals.

Heddlu Swydd Gaer.

Croesawaf lawer pwynt yn eich adroddiad. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn gwrthwynebu'r cyfeiriad at y broses o uno heddluoedd yn wirfoddol. Mae'n broses uno lle mae dryll gwleidyddol yn cael ei anelu at eu pennau. Byddai'n ddi-ddorol gwybod beth fyddai'n digwydd pe baent yn dweud 'na'.

Croesawaf eich datganiad y bydd y trefniadau ar gyfer Cymru yn y dyfodol bellach yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i gael eu cynrychioli. Yr oedd hwnnw'n bryder amlwg i bob asiantaeth ar ddwy ochr y ddadl. Croesawaf hefyd y gydnabyddiaeth fod angen lefel isranbarthol o atebolrwydd yng Nghymru, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gymryd rhan yn y broses o gytuno ar farn am y mater hwnnw yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Gobeithio y bydd yn cynnwys ystyried cydweithredu â'r gwasanaeth tân ac achub a'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans ar lefel ranbarthol, ac atebolrwydd ar lefel uned gorchymyn sylfaenol ac ar lefel uwch-arolygydd, ond hefyd yn ystyried rhywfaint o atebolrwydd ffurfiol wedi ei atgyfnerthu i gymunedau lleol.

O dan gynlluniau'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref, deallaf ein bod wedi cael gwybod y bydd cydweithredu gweithredol yn parhau i dyfu ar draws y ffin. Gwyddom hefyd fod yr heddluoedd yng Nghymru eisoes yn cydweithio ar gynigion i rannu gwasanaethau corfforaethol. Yn yr amgylchiadau hyn, mae'n anodd gennyf ddeall diben y broses uno hon sy'n cael ei gorfodi. Mae gennym y cydweithrediad gweithredol a'r gwasanaethau cyffredin, ac eto, rhaid inni wynebu proses ad-drefnu gostus iawn.

Codwyd mater swyddi sifil droeon mewn cyfraniadau blaenorol. Ni soniwyd amdano yma, felly, gobeithio y gallwch roi ychydig oleuni ar hynny, yn arbennig i gydnabod y ffaith y dylai agenda diwygio'r heddlu ymwneud â newid arferion gwaith a lleihau gwaith papur i arwain at gyfleoedd ar gyfer swyddi sifil a fyddai fel arall yn cael eu bygwth gan y cynigion hyn.

You report that, in relation to the costs of restructuring and the impact on council tax payers, you have made the Minister of State aware of your concerns, but it is my understanding that when Charles Clarke made the announcement—

The Presiding Officer: Order. This is turning into a speech, Mark.

Mark Isherwood: Charles Clarke stated that the extra money needed to be found locally. Is that the case? He stated that extra sums added to council tax for policing would need to be equalised. Is that the case and has the decision already been made? What will be the difference in precept between the different authorities and how will they be harmonised in Wales? How will we account for the five to 10-year timespan on savings, which we have been told about, and how will we deal with the matter such as the integration of computer systems, which will involve a massive infrastructure cost according to North Wales Police? I will not go on, but I will conclude by stating that—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Minister, will you respond?

Edwina Hart: As I have indicated, I will reinforce the need for early announcements about the funding situation. The Home Secretary and Hazel Blears have indicated that there is some money available for forces that progress with the mergers in the first wave. Hazel Blears reported figures of around £50 million this year and £75 million next year to help. Discussions are continuing on how the variations in council tax levels across the newly merged forces will be handled. Our officials are part of these discussions, and it is of prime concern to myself and to the Finance Minister that we successfully resolve these issues so that the police authorities have a good basis for making any future decisions.

On police reorganisation, Charles Clarke made his decisions on the back of a HMIC report. I cannot go into that because this matter is not devolved to me, but it is

Dywedwch, mewn perthynas â chostau'r broses ailstrwythuro a'r effaith ar bobl sy'n talu treth gyngor, eich bod wedi dweud wrth y Gweinidog Gwladol am eich pryderon, ond yr wyf ar ddeall, pan wnaeth Charles Clarke wneud y cyhoeddiad—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae hyn yn troi'n araith, Mark.

Mark Isherwood: Dywedodd Charles Clarke fod angen dod o hyd i'r arian ychwanegol yn lleol. A yw hyn yn wir? Dywedodd y byddai angen cydraddoli symiau ychwanegol a gaiff eu hychwanegu at y dreth gyngor ar gyfer plismona. A yw hyn yn wir, ac a oes penderfyniad eisoes wedi ei wneud? Beth fydd y gwahaniaeth yn y praesept rhwng y gwahanol awdurdodau a'r ffordd y cânt eu cysoni yng Nghymru? Sut y byddwn yn cyfrif am y cyfnod o bump i ddeg mlynedd ar gynilion, fel y soniwyd wrthym, a sut y byddwn yn ymdrin â materion megis integreiddio systemau cyfrifiadurol, a fydd yn golygu cost seilwaith anferthol yn ôl Heddlu Gogledd Cymru? Nid wyf am barhau, ond byddaf yn cloi drwy nodi—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Weinidog, a ydych am ymateb?

Edwina Hart: Fel y dywedais, byddaf yn atgyfnerthu'r angen am gyhoeddiadau'n gynnar am y sefyllfa ariannu. Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref a Hazel Blears wedi dweud bod rhywfaint o arian ar gael ar gyfer heddluoedd a fydd yn symud ymlaen â'r broses uno yn y cyfnod cyntaf. Soniodd Hazel Blears am ffigurau o ryw £50 miliwn eleni a £75 miliwn y flwyddyn nesaf i helpu. Mae trafodaethau'n parhau ar y ffordd i ymdrin â'r amrywiadau yn lefelau'r dreth gyngor ar draws yr heddluoedd a fydd newydd uno. Mae ein swyddogion yn rhan o'r trafodaethau hyn, ac mae'n bryder o'r mwyaf i mi ac i'r Gweinidog Cyllid ein bod yn llwyddo i ddatrys y materion hyn, er mwyn i awdurdodau'r heddlu gael sail dda ar gyfer gwneud unrhyw benderfyniadau yn y dyfodol.

O ran ad-drefnu'r heddlu, gwnaeth Charles Clarke ei benderfyniadau ar sail adroddiad gan yr Arolygiaeth. Ni allaf drafod hynny gan nad yw'r mater hwn wedi ei ddatganoli i

important to recognise that the forces have always traditionally worked together on a range of issues. It is also important to recognise that we have been well ahead of the game in Wales in terms of our relationships with the other emergency services. From my experience as the Minister responsible for the fire authorities, I know of the close working relationship between the police and the fire services. The most important factor to recognise is that, whatever happens with structures and with any changes in policing, we must keep our minds focused on the basic issue. If Mr Jones from a certain street and Mrs Thomas from another street phone the police, they want the same service as they have now, or a better one. Therefore, this is not just about structure, but about neighbourhood policing and the service offered, and we must keep our eye on that ball. We must always focus on that.

On the civilian jobs, Unison has been to see me. Obviously, it is concerned, and, if one force comes about, it will be open to further discussions. Something like a staff commission might be the answer to resolving some of those issues.

Mick Bates: Thank you for coming forward with this statement to keep us up-to-date. It all sounds plausible, but there is still a great deal of confusion and scepticism out there among the police, general public and many of us as to the real reason why this is occurring. In your reply, I would like you to answer this question: is this about cutting crime or is it about cutting costs? Previous debates have highlighted the fact that our four current police forces are extremely effective, have good relationships with their neighbourhoods and perform extremely well. The report highlighted the level of drugs trafficking and terrorism that had to be dealt with. You have now admitted that there is a good level of co-operation among our existing forces, therefore why cannot that co-operation be encouraged within the existing structures? We need some clarity on that issue.

mi. Ond mae'n bwysig cydnabod bod yr heddluoedd bob amser wedi gweithio gyda'i gilydd, yn draddodiadol, ar amrywiaeth o faterion. Mae hefyd yn bwysig cydnabod bod Cymru wedi bod ar y blaen o ran ein perthynas â'r gwasanaethau brys eraill. O'm profiad innau fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am yr awdurdodau tân, gwn am y berthynas weithio agos rhwng yr heddlu a'r gwasanaethau tân. Y ffactor pwysicaf i'w gydnabod yw bod yn rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar y mater sylfaenol, waeth beth a ddigwydd gyda strwythurau ac unrhyw newidiadau mewn plismona. Os bydd Mr Jones o stryd benodol a Mrs Thomas o stryd arall yn ffonio'r heddlu, maent am gael yr un gwasanaeth ag a gânt yn awr, neu well. Felly, nid mater o strwythur yn unig yw hwn, ond mater o blismona yn y gymdogaeth a'r gwasanaeth a gynigir, a rhaid inni gadw ein llygad ar hynny. Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar hynny bob amser.

O ran y swyddi sifil, mae Unsain wedi ymweld â mi. Yn amlwg, mae'n bryderus, ac os sefydlir un heddlu bydd yn agored i ragor o drafodaethau. Hwyrach y gallai rhywbeth tebyg i gomisiwn staff ddatrys rhai o'r materion hynny.

Mick Bates: Diolch am gyflwyno'r datganiad hwn i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni. Mae'n swnio'n gredadwy iawn, ond mae cryn ddryswch ac amheuaeth ymysg yr heddlu, y cyhoedd a nifer ohonom ni o hyd am y rheswm gwirioneddol dros hyn. Yn eich ymateb, hoffwn ichi ateb y cwestiwn hwn: a oes a wnelo hyn â lleihau troseddu neu â lleihau costau? Mae dadleuon blaenorol wedi tynnu sylw at y ffaith fod ein pedwar heddlu presennol yn hynod effeithiol, bod ganddynt berthynas dda â'u cymdogaethau, a'u bod yn perfformio'n dda iawn. Yr oedd yr adroddiad yn tynnu sylw at lefel y masnachu mewn cyffuriau a therfysgaeth y mae'n rhaid delio â hwy. Yr ydych wedi cyfaddef yn awr fod lefel dda o gydweithredu rhwng ein heddluoedd presennol. Felly, pam na ellir annog y cydweithredu hwnnw o fewn y strwythurau sy'n bodoli? Mae angen rhywfaint o eglurdeb arnom ar y mater hwnnw.

Furthermore, you say that you cannot mention the HMIC report. However, one of the statistics in that report was an arbitrary figure of 4,000 force members, and yet we are not privy to the logic behind the process that led to this decision. Is it possible for you to provide us with the correspondence or details of the discussions that took place in order to arrive at this diktat—as it appears to be—from the Home Office? Furthermore, we highlighted the speed of the previous decision-making process. It appears that there is now a further deadline of 24 February for the four forces to agree on a voluntary process. I consider this to be too hasty again. It appears that we are being forced by the Home Office to make decisions with wide repercussions for Wales. Why has that date been chosen, Minister?

I am grateful that you have underlined the correspondence and the question about the democratic deficit that would have occurred had the strategic policy authority and its representative structures not been retained. We are all grateful that that is the case. However, an air of mystery remains around the costs. We took evidence that suggested that it was £57 million. Can you now give us a little more clarity on this? I realise, from your statement, that there is no clarity about the cost to us in Wales. Is it possible to say that there will be no increase to the Welsh council tax payer because of this reorganisation?

Finally, I was pleased to hear your comforting remarks about a staff commission that would assist those people whose jobs may be threatened by this reorganisation. I hope that that staff commission will take note of the current difficulties faced by a great many workers who have been made redundant to secure their full pension. I hope that some thought is already being given to that process, so that representations may be made to give a comfort zone to those workers.

Edwina Hart: In relation to the staff commission, it was my suggestion that that might need to be looked at. I am not in a position to answer some of Mick's questions, because I am not the Home Secretary, and I

At hynny, dywedwch na allwch sôn am adroddiad yr Arolygiaeth. Fodd bynnag, un o'r ystadegau yn yr adroddiad hwnnw oedd ffigur mympwyol o 4,000 o aelodau'r heddlu, ac eto, ni wyddom y rhesymeg sy'n sail i'r broses a arweiniodd at y penderfyniad hwn. A oes modd ichi roi inni yr ohebiaeth neu fanylion y drafodaeth a fu er mwyn llunio'r dictad hwn—oherwydd mae'n ymddangos mai dyna ydyw—gan y Swyddfa Gartref? At hynny, tynnwyd sylw gennym at gyflymder y broses flaenorol o wneud penderfyniadau. Ymddengys fod dyddiad cau pellach o 24 Chwefror er mwyn i'r pedwar heddlu gytuno ar broses wirfoddol. Mae hyn eto yn rhy gynnar yn fy marn i. Ymddengys ein bod yn cael ein gorfodi gan y Swyddfa Gartref i wneud penderfyniadau a fydd yn effeithio'n sylweddol ar Gymru. Pam y dewiswyd y dyddiad hwnnw, Weinidog?

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar eich bod wedi tanlinellu'r ohebiaeth a'r cwestiwn ynghylch y diffyg democrataidd a fyddai wedi codi pe na bai'r awdurdod heddlu strategol a'i strwythurau cynrychioli wedi eu cadw. Mae pob un ohonom yn ddiolchgar mai dyna a ddigwyddodd. Fodd bynnag, mae'r costau'n ddirgelwch o hyd. Cawsom dystiolaeth a awgrymodd eu bod yn £57 miliwn. A allwch egluro hyn ychydig yn fanylach yn awr? Sylweddolaf, o'ch datganiad, nad oes eglurder am y gost i ni yng Nghymru. A ellir dweud na fydd unrhyw gynnydd i bobl sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru oherwydd yr ad-drefnu hwn?

Yn olaf, yr oeddwn yn falch clywed eich sylwadau calonogol ynghylch comisiwn staff a fyddai'n cynorthwyo'r bobl hynny y gallai'r ad-drefnu hwn fygwth dyfodol eu swyddi. Gobeithio y bydd y comisiwn staff hwnnw yn cymryd sylw o'r anawsterau presennol sy'n wynebu nifer fawr o weithwyr a ddiswyddwyd er mwyn sicrhau eu pensiwn llawn. Gobeithio bod rhywfaint o ystyriaeth eisoes yn cael ei rhoi i'r broses honno, fel y gellir cyflwyno sylwadau i roi rhywfaint o dawelwch meddwl i'r gweithwyr hynny.

Edwina Hart: O ran y comisiwn staff, fi a awgrymodd efallai y dylid edrych ar hynny. Nid wyf mewn sefyllfa i ateb rhai o gwestiynau Mick, gan nad fi yw'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref, ac nid fi a wnaeth y

did not make the decision on this in terms of the period of consultation and so on. I do not want Members to think that I am hiding behind the Home Secretary, because I am not. However, I can answer only questions relating to Wales, or our relationship with the Home Office. I am trying to deal matters in a way that is, hopefully, in the best interest of the taxpayers of Wales.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary advised the Home Secretary, and I have no more information than you do regarding how numbers were calculated. I am happy to have a go at finding more information for you. I have made great play of the good co-operation that has existed in Wales. I do not know why that cannot be allowed to continue, because HMIC has made these recommendations to the Home Secretary, and he has decided to go ahead with it. One thing that I can say is that never in any discussions has cutting costs been an issue. Using money differently and putting more into front-line services has perhaps been an issue, but it has never been about cutting costs. There have been no indications in that area. It is important that we recognise that, if this reorganisation comes about, we have to ensure, as I said before, that we keep our eye on the ball and make sure that the front-line services are maintained.

I have not moved on very far on the figures, but my officials are up again this week. I can assure you that, when I have more definitive figures, whether relating to how it will deal with the precepts or stacking up how much it will cost to the forces, I will give them to the National Assembly, though I do not want to give you figures that will be revised the following week and which are likely to change. I need to be in a position to say, 'These are the figures that have been agreed by all parties as the costs'.

The important thing that I have to stress once more in this debate is that we can only engage at the level at which we are able to engage, namely where our other responsibilities fit into policing or where we

penderfyniad ar hyn o ran y cyfnod ymgynghori ac ati. Nid wyf am i Aelodau feddwl fy mod yn cuddio y tu ôl i'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref, oherwydd nid yw hynny'n wir. Fodd bynnag, dim ond cwestiynau sy'n ymwneud â Chymru, neu ein perthynas â'r Swyddfa Gartref, y gallaf fi eu hateb. Yr wyf yn ceisio ymdrin â materion mewn modd sydd, gobeithio, er lles trethdalwyr Cymru.

Cafodd yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref ei gynghori gan Arolygiaeth Cwnstabiliaeth Ei Mawrhydi, ac nid oes gennyf fwy o wybodaeth na chi am y ffordd y cyfrifwyd y niferoedd. Yr wyf yn fodlon ceisio dod o hyd i rywfaint o wybodaeth ichi. Yr wyf wedi tynnu sylw'n helaeth at y cydweithredu da sydd wedi bodoli yng Nghymru. Ni wn pam na ellir gadael i hynny barhau, oherwydd mae Arolygiaeth Cwnstabiliaeth Ei Mawrhydi wedi cyflwyno'r argymhellion hyn i'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref, ac mae wedi penderfynu bwrw ymlaen ag ef. Un peth y gallaf ei ddweud yw na chodwyd mater lleihau costau erioed mewn unrhyw drafodaeth. Efallai fod mater defnyddio arian mewn modd gwahanol a buddsoddi mwy mewn gwasanaethau rheng flaen wedi eu codi, ond ni thrafodwyd lleihau costau erioed. Mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod, os bydd yr ad-drefnu hwn yn mynd rhagddo, y bydd yn rhaid inni sicrhau, fel y dywedais o'r blaen, ein bod yn cadw llygad ar y sefyllfa ac yn sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau rheng flaen yn cael eu cynnal.

Nid wyf wedi gwneud llawer o gynnydd gyda'r ffigurau, ond bydd fy swyddogion yn mynd yno eto'r wythnos hon. Gallaf eich sicrhau, pan fydd gennyf ffigurau mwy pendant, boed am y ffordd y bydd yn delio â phraeseptau neu gyfrifo faint fydd y gost i'r heddluoedd, y byddaf yn eu rhoi i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, er nad wyf am roi ffigurau a gaiff eu hadolygu'r wythnos ganlynol ac sy'n debygol o newid. Mae angen imi allu dweud, 'Dyma'r ffigurau y cytunwyd arnynt gan bob plaid fel y costau'.

Y peth pwysig y mae'n rhaid imi ei bwysleisio eto yn y ddadl hon yw na allwn weithredu ond ar y lefel y gallwn weithredu arni, sef lle mae ein cyfrifoldebau eraill yn ymwneud â phlisma neu lle y mae gennym

have concerns about constituents. Policing is strictly a parliamentary matter, given that it is not devolved.

Jeff Cuthbert: Minister, in my experience, relatively few members of the general public are concerned about the form and structure of the police. What they are concerned about, as you correctly pointed out, is that they get a prompt and effective service when they pick up the telephone if there is some unacceptable activity going on near them. Do you believe, as I do, that what we mean when we say that we will keep our eye on the ball is that we must ensure, along with the police authority in whatever form it takes, that local service is delivered through local knowledge, with as much decentralisation as is appropriate, so that we can ensure that there is good-quality local delivery for local people?

Edwina Hart: The issue for the electorate and council tax payers is the quality of the delivery of the service at a local level. It is important that we keep up the good work on community policing. We now have police officers, community support officers and the Government has indicated that those numbers will be increasing and it is important that we ensure that the finance is in place to maintain them.

3.50 p.m.

People really welcome the police teams that are now developing, particularly around communities, as they see a presence on the street, they have someone to talk to and the police are so visible. It is important that we remember that this is the key issue for us. This is how it aligns with all of the other activities of the National Assembly.

I have been pleased with how the police have dealt with issues in some Communities First areas. They have shown a real spirit and understanding of what policing is about, linking into our policies. Like you, I say that we should not take our eye off the ball, but we must remember that the ball is what the public wants in terms of policing. Ultimately, if it comes down to having one police authority for Wales, there will be only 43

bryderon ynghylch etholwyr. Mater seneddol yn llwyr yw plismona, gan nad yw wedi ei ddatganoli.

Jeff Cuthbert: Weinidog, o'm profiad i, nifer gymharol fach o'r cyhoedd sy'n pryderu am ffurf a strwythur yr heddlu. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig iddynt hwy, fel yr oeddech yn dweud yn gywir ddigon, yw eu bod yn cael gwasanaeth prydlon ac effeithiol pan fyddant yn codi'r ffôn os bydd rhywbeth annerbyniol yn digwydd gerllaw. A ydych chi, fel finnau, yn credu mai'r hyn a olygwn wrth ddweud y byddwn yn cadw llygad ar y sefyllfa yw ei bod yn rhaid inni sicrhau, ynghyd ag awdurdod yr heddlu beth bynnag bydd ei ffurf, fod gwasanaeth lleol yn cael ei ddarparu drwy wybodaeth leol, gyda chymaint o ddatganoli ag sy'n briodol, fel y gallwn sicrhau bod yna ddarpariaeth leol o safon i bobl leol?

Edwina Hart: Yr hyn sy'n bwysig i'r etholwyr a thalwyr treth gyngor yw safon y gwasanaeth a ddarperir yn lleol. Mae'n bwysig inni barhau'r gwaith da a wneir mewn plismona cymunedol. Mae gennym swyddogion heddlu a swyddogion cymorth cymunedol bellach, ac mae'r Llywodraeth wedi dweud y bydd y niferoedd hyn yn cynyddu, ac mae'n bwysig inni sicrhau bod arian ar gael i'w cynnal.

Mae pobl o ddifrif yn croesawu'r timau heddlu sy'n datblygu ar hyn o bryd, yn arbennig o amgylch cymunedau, gan eu bod yn gweld heddlu ar y stryd, mae ganddynt rywun i siarad â hwy, ac mae'r heddlu'n amlwg iawn. Mae'n bwysig inni gofio bod hwn yn fater pwysig inni. Dyma sut mae'n cyd-fynd â holl weithgareddau eraill y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

Yr wyf wedi bod yn fodlon â'r ffordd y mae'r heddlu wedi ymdrin â materion mewn rhai ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Maent wedi dangos ysbryd a dealltwriaeth wirioneddol o'r hyn y mae plismona'n ei olygu, gan gysylltu â'n polisïau. Cytunaf na ddylem golli golwg ar hyn, ond rhaid inni gofio mai'r sefyllfa sy'n bwysig i'r cyhoedd o ran plismona. Yn y pen draw, os bydd rhaid cael un awdurdod heddlu i Gymru, dim

people sitting on that authority, and there are nearly 3 million people in Wales who are concerned about policing.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn eich llongyfarch am eich gwaith yn dilyn y pryderon a fynegwyd yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ac ar lawr y Siambr ynghylch y broses o ddwyn yr heddluoedd at ei gilydd. Mae llawer o'r pryderon yn parhau, yn sicr o ran ariannu. A fydd costau ychwanegol oherwydd yr uno hwn, a phwy fydd yn gorfod eu talu? Mae pryderon hefyd y bydd gwaith yr heddlu mewn cymunedau yn cael ei effeithio gan yr ad-drefnu hwn. O gael ein gorfodi i mewn i'r sefyllfa hon, a gytunwch, Weinidog, mai un peth a all ddatblygu o hyn yw y gellid prysuro'r broses o drosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb gwleidyddol am yr heddlu i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru? A fydddech chi'n croesawu symudiad o'r fath?

Edwina Hart: It is important for us to recognise that the key issues that you have raised are to do with funding, and we remain concerned about that across the parties. I also thank all four parties for the constructive way in which we have engaged on this discussion on the police, particularly in committee. We have taken the view that we wanted to ensure best value for the Welsh taxpayer, and we want to clear up all of these issues. I have welcomed the Assembly's support for the line that I have taken on democratic structures and any underlying new structures that may emerge.

I do not think that this is the time or the place to talk about the devolution of the police because I want to get the finance issues sorted out in real terms—how a merger will impact on the Welsh council tax payer, what will happen with the precept and what other issues there are. However, my position is well known.

The Presiding Officer: I will now call upon a number of Members. However, Members will have noticed that I am much taken by my new clocks and I therefore intend to conclude this statement bang on time.

ond 43 o bobl a fydd yn aelodau o'r awdurdod hwnnw, ac mae bron 3 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru sy'n pryderu ynghylch plismona.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I congratulate you on the work you have done to pursue the concerns that were expressed at the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee and on the floor of the Chamber regarding the process of merging the police forces. Many concerns remain, certainly in terms of funding. Will there be additional costs because of this merger, and who will have to pay them? There are also concerns that police work in communities will be affected by this re-organisation. By being forced into this situation, do you agree, Minister, that one thing that could develop from this is that the process of transferring political responsibility for the police to the National Assembly for Wales could be expedited? Would you welcome such a move?

Edwina Hart: Mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod bod y materion allweddol a godwyd gennych yn ymwneud ag ariannu, ac mae'r holl bleidiau'n dal yn bryderus am hyn. Hoffwn ddiolch hefyd i'r pedair plaid am y modd adeiladol yr ydym wedi cydweithio yn y drafodaeth hon ar yr heddlu, yn enwedig yn y pwyllgor. Yr ydym wedi arddel y farn ein bod am sicrhau'r gwerth gorau i'r trethdalwr yng Nghymru, ac yr ydym am ddatrys yr holl broblemau hyn. Yr wyf wedi croesawu cefnogaeth y Cynulliad i'r farn sydd gennyf am strwythurau democrataidd ac unrhyw strwythurau newydd sylfaenol a allai ddod i'r amlwg.

Ni chredaf mai dyma'r amser na'r lle i drafod datganoli'r heddlu, oherwydd yr wyf am ddatrys y materion ariannol gwirioneddol—sut y bydd uno'r heddluoedd yn effeithio ar bobl sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru, beth fydd yn digwydd gyda'r praesept, a pha faterion eraill sydd yna. Fodd bynnag, mae pawb yn ymwybodol o'm barn.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf yn awr ar nifer o Aelodau. Fodd bynnag, bydd Aelodau wedi sylwi fy mod wrth fy modd gyda'm clociau newydd, ac felly bwriadaf ddod â'r datganiad hwn i ben yn brydlon.

Nick Bourne: The Minister is right to say that this is not a devolved area. She is also right to say that we have legitimate concerns about consultation, accountability, and finance. On the consultation, the Prime Minister said two weeks ago today that it is not a question of forcing mergers through, although I think that it looks very much like that from where I am standing. I think that that is what has happened and if this is such a good idea, why could we not have had longer consultation?

Secondly, on the accountability, I welcome what the Minister has said as it moves us forward in terms of accountability.

Thirdly, and probably crucially, is the finance situation. I know that we have done the circuit on this but this is important. If it is helpful to the Minister, I am sure that the spokespersons of other parties would willingly agree with her—I would hope—that a joint approach may well convince the Home Secretary that we are united on this, and that there is a strong case for saying, ‘Here is something on which the Home Office should really pick up the tab’. I hope that the Minister accepts that in the spirit in which it is put forward.

Edwina Hart: I concur with your comments about the consultation period, as I have indicated before. Sometimes, it is better to have a longer consultation in order to take people with you, to go through all of the issues, and to have all the necessary work undertaken during that period without feeling rushed. I know that some of the police authorities felt particularly rushed to get their work in, as you recall, in December. They also feel that they now have only a limited amount of time if they are to volunteer to become one force.

In terms of accountability, we have moved the agenda forwards, which was important. I thank you for your offer, Nick, and I am now looking at the Finance Minister. Perhaps we could get the views of the four parties on some of the finance issues and then have a meeting to draft a suitable letter to the Home Secretary together, indicating that there is unity across the Chamber on these financial

Nick Bourne: Mae'r Gweinidog yn iawn i ddweud nad yw hwn yn faes sydd wedi ei ddatganoli. Mae hefyd yn iawn i ddweud bod gennym bryderon dilys ynghylch ymgynghori, atebolrwydd, a chyllid. O ran ymgynghori, dywedodd Prif Weinidog y DU bythefnos i heddiw nad mater o orfodi proses uno ydyw, er ei bod yn ymddangos i mi mai dyna sy'n digwydd. Credaf mai dyna sydd wedi digwydd, ac os yw hyn yn syniad mor dda, pam na allem fod wedi cael cyfnod ymgynghori hwy?

Yn ail, o ran yr atebolrwydd, croesawaf yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog gan fod hyn yn golygu ein bod yn gwneud cynnydd o ran atebolrwydd.

Yn drydydd, ac yn hollbwysig hwyrach, mae'r sefyllfa ariannol. Gwn ein bod wedi trafod hyn eisoes, ond mae'n bwysig. Os yw o fudd i'r Gweinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai llefarwyr y pleidiau eraill yn barod i gytuno â hi—gobeithio—y gall ymagwedd ar y cyd yn hawdd argyhoeddi'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref ein bod yn gytûn ar y mater hwn, a bod achos cryf dros ddweud, ‘Mae hwn yn fater y dylai'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref gymryd cyfrifoldeb amdano’. Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn derbyn hynny yn yr ysbryd y mae'n cael ei gyflwyno.

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf â'ch sylwadau am y cyfnod ymgynghori, fel y dywedais eisoes. Weithiau mae'n well cael cyfnod ymgynghori hwy er mwyn cynnwys pobl, i fynd drwy'r holl faterion a gwneud yr holl waith sy'n angenrheidiol yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw heb deimlo eich bod yn cael eich gwthio. Gwn fod rhai awdurdodau'r heddlu wedi teimlo dan bwysau arbennig i wneud eu gwaith, fel y cofiwch, ym mis Rhagfyr. Teimlant hefyd mai dim ond ychydig amser sydd ganddynt erbyn hyn os ydynt i wirfoddoli i ddod yn un heddlu.

O ran atebolrwydd, yr ydym wedi gwneud cynnydd, ac yr oedd hynny'n bwysig. Hoffwn ddiolch am eich cynnig, Nick, ac yr wyf yn edrych ar y Gweinidog Cyllid yn awr. Efallai y gallem gael barn y pedair plaid ar rai o'r materion ariannol, ac yna gynnal cyfarfod i ddrafftio llythyr addas at yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref gyda'n gilydd, gan nodi bod undod ar draws y Siambr ar y

matters.

Sandy Mewies: I will be brief because the Minister has picked up most of the points that I wanted to make. I am glad to see that she has raised the issues of local accountability and community policing, and made the point that none of these costs should fall on the Welsh taxpayer. You have addressed all the other issues, Edwina, but could you also keep us informed of any progress? You have been kind enough to keep us well informed until now, and I am sure that that will continue.

Edwina Hart: Provided that I have the permission of the Business Minister, I will ensure that statements are made to the Assembly whenever there are big developments. I will notify Members of any small developments in written statements.

Michael German: I notice that, in the Minister's statement, the big black hole is the black hole of the figures, which she readily admits that she does not have the answers for. However, has she done any investigation into the gap between the figure of £57 million, which the police authorities estimate will be the cost of restructuring into one police force for Wales, and that of £125 million, which the Home Secretary has announced will be made available to fund the mergers for the whole of England and Wales? If we expect to get a slice of that cake, there is a bit of difference in the figures. Does she feel that the Government is making an inadequate sum of money available and will we end up funding this out of our own pocket?

Edwina Hart: I understand that Home Office consultants have been working with the police forces to refine the costs associated with the single-force option. That work is nearly complete, and, when we have agreed figures, we will have a much clearer picture. The figures for Wales refer to level 2 policing and the immediate concerns here, and I have had to make it absolutely clear that level 2 policing—anti-terrorism work and so on—must be funded at national level. That will have an impact across the board. However, there is now some scope for spreading costs by taking a phased approach

materion ariannol hyn.

Sandy Mewies: Byddaf yn gryno gan fod y Gweinidog wedi crybwyll y rhan fwyaf o'r pwyntiau yr oeddwn am eu codi. Yr wyf yn falch gweld ei bod wedi codi materion atebolrwydd lleol a phlismaona cymunedol, ac wedi pwysleisio na ddylai trethdalwyr yng Nghymru orfod talu dim o'r costau hyn. Yr ydych wedi ymdrin â'r holl faterion eraill, Edwina, ond a allech hefyd roi gwybod inni am unrhyw gynnydd? Buoch yn ddigon caredig i roi gwybod inni hyd yma, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hynny'n parhau.

Edwina Hart: Os caf ganiatâd y Trefnydd, hoffwn sicrhau bod datganiadau'n cael eu cyflwyno i'r Cynulliad pan fydd datblygiadau mawr. Byddaf yn rhoi gwybod i'r Aelodau am unrhyw fân ddatblygiadau mewn datganiadau ysgrifenedig.

Michael German: Yr wyf yn sylwi, yn natganiad y Gweinidog, mai'r ansicrwydd mawr yw ansicrwydd y ffigurau, ac mae'n barod iawn i gyfaddef nad oes ganddi'r atebion ar gyfer hynny. Fodd bynnag, a yw wedi gwneud unrhyw ymchwiliad i'r bwlch rhwng y ffigur o £57 miliwn, sef amcangyfrif awdurdodau'r heddlu o gost ad-drefnu'r heddluoedd yn un heddlu ar gyfer Cymru, a £125 miliwn, sef y swm y mae'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi cyhoeddi a fydd ar gael i ariannu'r broses o uno ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr i gyd? Os ydym yn disgwyl cael rhywfaint o'r arian hwn, mae ychydig wahaniaeth yn y ffigurau. A yw'n teimlo bod y Llywodraeth yn sicrhau bod swm digonol o arian ar gael, ac a fyddwn yn gorfod ariannu hyn ein hunain yn y pen draw?

Edwina Hart: Deallaf fod ymgynghorwyr y Swyddfa Gartref wedi bod yn gweithio gyda'r heddluoedd i fireinio'r costau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r dewis o gael un heddlu. Mae'r gwaith hwnnw bron wedi'i gwblhau, a phan fyddwn wedi cytuno ar ffigurau bydd gennym ddarlun llawer cliriach. Mae'r ffigurau ar gyfer Cymru yn cyfeirio at blismaona lefel 2 a'r pryderon uniongyrchol yma, a bu'n rhaid imi wneud yn hollol glir ei bod yn rhaid ariannu plismaona lefel 2—gwaith atal terfysgaeth, ac ati—yn genedlaethol. Caiff hynny effaith gyffredinol. Fodd bynnag, mae rhywfaint o gyfle yn awr i

to restructuring. Therefore, even the figures that have allegedly been given by the Home Secretary and Hazel Blears might change, and final figures might emerge. I will keep the Assembly totally up to date on any whispers about anything that would have an impact on us.

Ann Jones: Edwina, many people across north Wales will be disappointed that North Wales Police is being asked to go into a voluntary merger, because, as you know, north Wales has one of the best basic command units in the western division side. That is down to the high police precept that was set by the North Wales Police Authority some years back. Like you, I believe that local accountability is the key to this. I am pleased to see that you have secured a greater role for the Assembly in the community safety aspect of the work. I ask you to continue your discussions with the Home Secretary to ensure that the people of north Wales will not be disadvantaged by any merger, whether voluntary or forced, so that we can continue to help and support people in north Wales through the community safety angle.

Edwina Hart: I am very aware of the concerns of people in north Wales. I am pleased that you and other north Wales Members have kept me apprised of the concerns in that part of Wales. It is important that no-one should be disadvantaged by any of the proposals. I know that there are concerns over an all-Wales police force, such as in case somewhere like Beaumaris is policed in a certain way, and that all police are rushed to bigger urban areas. We must have guarantees that the same standards of neighbourhood policing are maintained, regardless of what happens in structural terms. I assure you that I will continue to press home the points that you have made today.

Janice Gregory: Minister, you will know the concerns of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. I thank you for your statement today, and for taking forward the concerns of the committee to the Home Office and to Hazel Blears. In the debate in January, I said that the committee would

rannu costau drwy gael dull ailstrwythuro fesul cam. Felly, efallai y bydd hyd yn oed y ffigurau yr honnwyd eu bod wedi eu rhoi i'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref a Hazel Blears yn newid, a gall ffigurau terfynol ddod i'r golwg. Byddaf yn hysbysu'r Cynulliad yn rheolaidd o unrhyw sibrydion am unrhyw beth a fyddai'n effeithio arnom ni.

Ann Jones: Edwina, bydd nifer o bobl ar draws y gogledd yn siomedig bod gofyn i Heddlu Gogledd Cymru fod yn rhan o uno gwirfoddol oherwydd, fel y gwyddoch, y gogledd sydd ag un o'r unedau gorchymyn sylfaenol gorau yn is-adran Gorllewin y DU. Y praesept heddlu uchel a sefydlwyd gan Awdurdod Heddlu Gogledd Cymru rai blynyddoedd yn ôl sy'n gyfrifol am hyn. Fel chithau, yr wyf yn cytuno mai atebolrwydd lleol yw'r allwedd i hyn. Yr wyf yn falch o weld eich bod wedi sicrhau rôl fwy sylweddol i'r Cynulliad yn yr agwedd ar y gwaith sy'n ymwneud â diogelwch cymunedol. Gofynnaf ichi barhau eich trafodaethau gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref i sicrhau na fydd unrhyw uno, boed yn wirfoddol neu'n orfodol, yn peri anfantaes i bobl y gogledd, fel y gallwn barhau i helpu a chynorthwyo pobl yn y gogledd drwy'r safbwynt diogelwch cymunedol.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o bryderon pobl yn y gogledd. Yr wyf yn falch eich bod chi ac Aelodau eraill o'r gogledd wedi rhoi gwybod imi am y pryderon yn y rhan honno o Gymru. Mae'n bwysig na ddylai neb fod dan anfantaes oherwydd unrhyw rai o'r cynigion hyn. Gwn fod pryderon ynghylch heddlu i Gymru gyfan, er enghraifft, rhag ofn i rywle fel Biwmares gael ei blismona mewn modd penodol, a bod yr holl swyddogion heddlu'n cael eu hanfon i ardaloedd trefol mwy. Rhaid inni gael sicrwydd y bydd yr un safonau o blismona cymdogaethau'n cael eu cynnal, waeth beth fydd yn digwydd yn strwythurol. Gallaf eich sicrhau y byddaf yn parhau i bwysleisio'r pwyntiau a godwyd gennych heddiw.

Janice Gregory: Weinidog, fe wyddoch am bryderon y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Hoffwn ddiolch ichi am eich datganiad heddiw, ac am gyflwyno pryderon y pwyllgor i'r Swyddog Cartref ac i Hazel Blears. Yn y ddadl ym mis Ionawr, dywedais y byddai'r pwyllgor yn

stand ready to take forward any further work on the issue. I reiterate that and thank Leanne for agreeing with that today. I am not sure about the other committee members. I did listen carefully; I did not hear any dissent, but I did not hear them agree. I will put it to the committee tomorrow. It is timely that we have a meeting tomorrow. I will circulate your letter to me to committee members.

You will know that the main concern of the people of Wales is not so much regarding having one force, but that local policing is strengthened. That has been said by other Members today, and it cannot be emphasised enough. People are worried about local policing, not so much the strategic overview of policing in Wales.

4.00 p.m.

Edwina Hart: I feel guilty, once again, having to write to the Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee to ask whether the committee is prepared to do some work within such short timescales again. I am grateful for the early indication from Members around the Chamber that they are happy to help on this occasion. It is important that we consider the issues about democratic accountability across party, because we all have views, and we want to try to get a consensus on it.

Everything that has been said about community policing is key to this agenda, and we must always remember that our duty is to ensure good-quality policing at a local level, which the public needs and requires.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you for the statement, Minister, and particularly for the way in which you are involving the Assembly in these policy matters.

barod i wneud unrhyw waith pellach ar y mater. Hoffwn ailadrodd hynny a diolch i Leanne am gytuno ar hynny heddiw. Nid wyf yn siŵr am aelodau eraill y pwyllgor. Bŵm yn gwrando'n astud; ni chlywais neb yn anghytuno, ond ni chlywais hwy'n cytuno chwaith. Cyflwynaf hyn i'r pwyllgor yfory. Mae'n briodol fod gennym gyfarfod yfory. Byddaf yn dosbarthu eich llythyr ataf i aelodau'r pwyllgor.

Gwyddoch nad cael un heddlu sy'n bwysig i bobl Cymru, ond bod plismona lleol yn cael ei gryfhau. Dywedwyd hyn gan Aelodau eraill heddiw, ac ni ellir pwysleisio hyn yn ddigonol. Mae pobl yn pryderu am blismona lleol, yn hytrach na'r trosolwg strategol o blismona yng Nghymru.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn teimlo'n euog, unwaith eto, o orfod ysgrifennu at Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i ofyn a yw'r pwyllgor yn barod i wneud gwaith o fewn terfynau amser mor gaeth eto. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am yr arwyddion cynnar gan Aelodau o amgylch y Siambr eu bod yn fodlon helpu yn yr achos hwn. Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried y materion sy'n ymwneud ag atebolrwydd democrataidd ar draws y pleidiau, gan fod gan bob un ohonom ein barn, ac yr ydym yn awyddus i geisio cael consensws arno.

Mae popeth a ddywedwyd am blismona cymunedol yn allweddol i'r agenda hon, a rhaid inni gofio bob amser mai ein dyletswydd ni yw sicrhau plismona o safon uchel ar lefel leol, sef yr hyn y mae ar y cyhoedd ei angen ac sy'n ofynnol ganddynt.

Y Llywydd: Diolch am y datganiad, Weinidog, ac yn arbennig am y ffordd yr ydych yn cynnwys y Cynulliad yn y materion polisi hyn.

Cymeradwyo Adroddiad Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Rhif 2) 2006-07 (Setliad Terfynol—Awdurdodau Heddlu), Adroddiad Diwygio Adroddiad Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Awdurdodau Heddlu) (Cymru) 2004-05, ac Adroddiad Diwygio Adroddiad Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Awdurdodau Heddlu) (Cymru) 2005-06

Approval of the Local Government Finance Report (No. 2) 2006-07 (Final Settlement—Police Authorities), the Local Government Finance Report (Police Authorities) (Wales) 2004-05 Amending Report, and the Local Government Finance Report (Police Authorities) (Wales) 2005-06 Amending Report

Y Llywydd: Cynigir trafod y tri eitem nesaf gyda'i gilydd, oni bai fod Aelod yn gwrthwynebu. Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad.

The Presiding Officer: It is proposed that the next three items be debated together, unless any Member objects. I see that there is no objection.

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): I propose that

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Cynigiau fod

National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 21.11:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 21.11:

approves the Local Government Finance Report (No. 2) 2006-07 (Final Settlement—Police Authorities), which was laid in the Table Office on 31 January 2006 by the Finance Minister. (NDM2832)

yn cymeradwyo Adroddiad Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Rhif 2) 2006-07 (Setliad Terfynol—Awdurdodau Heddlu), a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 31 Ionawr 2006 gan y Gweinidog Cyllid. (NDM2832)

I propose that

Cynigiau fod

National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 21.11:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 21.11:

approves the Local Government Finance Report (Police Authorities) (Wales) 2005-06 Amending Report, which was laid in the Table Office on 31 January 2006 by the Finance Minister. (NDM2833)

yn cymeradwyo Adroddiad Diwygio Adroddiad Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Awdurdodau Heddlu) (Cymru) 2005-06, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 31 Ionawr 2006 gan y Gweinidog Cyllid. (NDM2833)

I propose that

Cynigiau fod

National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 21.11:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 21.11:

approves the Local Government Finance Report (Police Authorities) (Wales) 2004-05 Amending Report, which was laid in the Table Office on 31 January 2006 by the Finance Minister. (NDM2834)

yn cymeradwyo Adroddiad Diwygio Adroddiad Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Awdurdodau Heddlu) (Cymru) 2004-05, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 31 Ionawr 2006 gan y Gweinidog Cyllid. (NDM2834)

I draw Members' attention to the fact that there are, as you said, Presiding Officer,

Hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Aelodau at y ffaith fod tri adroddiad i'w hystyried heddiw, fel yr

three reports to consider today. These are being debated together but voted on separately. There are two amending reports, one for 2004-05, and one for 2005-06. These reflect the revision of population data, using up-to-date information from the Office for National Statistics. You may recall that we did exactly the same with the local government settlement a few weeks ago.

The third item deals with the police settlement for 2006-07. I am announcing today that police authorities in Wales will receive an increase of 3.2 per cent on last year's revenue settlement. The funding arrangements for police authorities are, unfortunately, complex. It is therefore important that I explain in some detail how these arrangements operate.

The settlement is funded in part through revenue support grant and non-domestic rates provided by the Assembly, and in part through the police grant provided by the Home Office. For 2006-07, Assembly support directly to police authorities amounts to nearly £149 million. That is an increase of just under £5 million on the amount provided for the current financial year. In addition, the Assembly is paying over £21 million to the Home Office as its contribution to funding specific grants in the area of policing, and Welsh authorities will benefit through the additional funding distributed via these specific grants.

The Home Office is providing £217 million through the police grant to police authorities in Wales. The distribution of the Assembly support and the police grant will follow the needs-based formula agreed between the Home Office, the Welsh Assembly Government, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, and the police authorities in England and Wales. As with the distribution formula for local authorities, the settlement reflects the factors that drive the need to spend—factors such as population, measures of deprivation and measures of density and sparsity. It also takes account of future police pension commitments, and certain security-related expenditure commitments. In addition

oeddech yn dweud, Lywydd. Cynhelir dadl ar y tri gyda'i gilydd, ond bydd pleidleisio ar wahân arnynt. Mae yma ddau adroddiad diwygio, y naill ar gyfer 2004-05 a'r llall ar gyfer 2005-06. Mae'r rhain yn adlewyrchu'r broses o ddiwygio data'r boblogaeth, gan ddefnyddio'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf gan y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol. Efallai y cofiwch inni wneud yn union yr un fath gyda'r setliad llywodraeth leol ychydig wythnosau'n ôl.

Mae'r drydedd eitem yn ymwneud â setliad yr heddlu ar gyfer 2006-07. Yr wyf yn cyhoeddi heddiw y bydd awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru yn cael cynnydd o 3.2 y cant ar setliad refeniw y llynedd. Yn anffodus, mae'r trefniadau ariannu ar gyfer awdurdodau'r heddlu yn gymhleth. Felly, mae'n bwysig imi egluro'n fanwl sut y mae'r trefniadau hyn yn gweithio.

Ariannir y setliad yn rhannol drwy'r grant cynnal refeniw ac ardrethi annomestig a ddarperir gan y Cynulliad, ac yn rhannol drwy grant yr heddlu a ddarperir gan y Swyddfa Gartref. Ar gyfer 2006-07, mae'r Cynulliad yn darparu cymorth uniongyrchol o bron i £149 miliwn i awdurdodau'r heddlu. Mae hynny'n gynydd o ychydig llai na £5 miliwn o'i gymharu â'r swm a ddarparwyd am y flwyddyn ariannol gyfredol. Yn ogystal, mae'r Cynulliad yn talu dros £21 miliwn i'r Swyddfa Gartref fel ei gyfraniad at ariannu grantiau penodol ym maes plismona, a bydd awdurdodau yng Nghymru yn elwa drwy'r arian ychwanegol a ddosberthir drwy'r grantiau penodol hyn.

Mae'r Swyddfa Gartref yn darparu £217 miliwn drwy grant yr heddlu i awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru. Bydd y broses o ddosbarthu cymorth y Cynulliad a grant yr heddlu yn dilyn y fformiwla ar sail anghenion a gytunwyd rhwng y Swyddfa Gartref, Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, ac awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Fel gyda'r fformiwla ddosbarthu ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol, mae'r setliad yn adlewyrchu'r ffactorau sy'n llywio'r angen am wario—ffactorau megis poblogaeth, mesurau amddifadedd a mesurau dwysedd a theneurwydd poblogaeth. Mae hefyd yn ystyried ymrwymadau pensiwn yr heddlu yn

to the formula, the Home Office, as in previous years, set a floor that no authority increase will be below.

For the next financial year, the Home Office has made available additional funding that will effectively set the floor at 3.1 per cent. Achieving this floor for Welsh police authorities required additional Home Office funding of £9 million to the Welsh authorities over the initial formula allocations. This above-inflation increase builds on the substantial investment in the police service over recent years.

In addition to funding received through the settlement, police authorities in Wales will also benefit from a range of specific grants available to police authorities in England and Wales. I am sure by now that Members will understand why I said that this is a complex financial arrangement.

In approving this settlement today, the Assembly will allow police authorities to set their council tax precepts for next year. As with the unitary authorities, I expect the police authorities to act reasonably in setting their budgets and associated council tax precepts for next year. I must also bear in mind that policing is not a devolved responsibility—a point that was clearly made by Edwina—and it is important that Welsh police authorities are treated on a consistent basis to their fellow authorities in England. Police authorities, like councils, have a duty to manage their budgets efficiently and effectively. There is an expectation that, in line with police authorities in England, police authorities in Wales should not increase their precepts by more than 5 per cent. In conclusion, I ask the Assembly to support these three motions in order that the police authorities can proceed to prepare their budgets for next year.

David Lloyd: Fel yr ydym wedi clywed, mae'r mater hwn o ariannu'r heddlu yn

y dyfodol, a rhai ymrwymadau gwariant yn gysylltiedig â diogelwch. Yn ogystal â'r fformiwla, mae'r Swyddfa Gartref, fel yn y gorffennol, yn pennu isafswm na fydd unrhyw gynnydd i awdurdodau yn is nag ef.

Ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf, mae'r Swyddfa Gartref wedi rhyddhau arian ychwanegol a fydd, mewn gwirionedd, yn pennu'r isafswm ar 3.1 y cant. Er mwyn cyrraedd yr isafswm hwn i awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru, bu'n rhaid i'r Swyddfa Gartref roi cyllid ychwanegol o £9 miliwn uwchben y dyraniadau fformiwla cychwynnol i'r awdurdodau yng Nghymru. Mae'r cynnydd hwn, sy'n uwch na chwyddiant, yn ychwanegu at y buddsoddiad sylweddol a wnaed yn y gwasanaeth heddlu yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf.

Yn ogystal â'r cyllid a geir drwy'r setliad, bydd awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru hefyd yn elwa o amrywiaeth o grantiau penodol a fydd ar gael i awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yr Aelodau yn deall erbyn hyn pam y dywedais fod hwn yn drefniant ariannol cymhleth.

Wrth gymeradwyo'r setliad hwn heddiw, bydd y Cynulliad yn caniatáu i awdurdodau'r heddlu bennu eu praeseptau treth gyngor am y flwyddyn nesaf. Fel gyda'r awdurdodau unedol, disgwyliaf i awdurdodau'r heddlu weithredu mewn ffordd resymol wrth bennu eu cyllidebau a'u praeseptau treth gyngor cysylltiedig am y flwyddyn nesaf. Rhaid imi gofio hefyd nad yw plismona yn gyfrifoldeb sydd wedi ei ddatganoli—fel y dywedwyd yn glir gan Edwina—ac mae'n bwysig i awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru gael eu trin yn gyson o'u cymharu ag awdurdodau cyffelyb yn Lloegr. Mae'n ddyletswydd ar awdurdodau'r heddlu, fel cynghorau, i reoli eu cyllidebau yn effeithlon ac effeithiol. Yn unol ag awdurdodau'r heddlu yn Lloegr, disgwylir na ddylai awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru gynyddu eu praeseptau fwy na 5 y cant. I gloi, gofynnaf i'r Cynulliad gefnogi'r tri chynnig hyn er mwyn i awdurdodau'r heddlu allu bwrw ati i baratoi eu cyllidebau am y flwyddyn nesaf.

David Lloyd: As we have heard, this issue of funding the police is very complex. Half

gymhleth iawn. Daw hanner yr arian o'r Swyddfa Gartref, rhan arall o'r Cynulliad, a rhan eithaf helaeth o'r trethdalwyr drwy braeseptau'r heddlu. Fel yr ydym i gyd yn ymwybodol, mae'r heddlu dan bwysau cynyddol i ddarparu gwasanaeth effeithiol gyda'r arian y maent yn ei dderbyn, yn enwedig gyda'r galw cyson am fwy o heddweision ar ein strydoedd, yr holl strategaethau cymunedol i ddelio gyda thorcyfraith ac yn y blaen, a'r sialens diweddar gydag ymestyn oriau agor tafarndai. Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, mae'r cynnig gerbron heddiw yn rhoi 3.2 y cant o gynnydd yng nghyllideb yr heddlu. Mae gwahanol awdurdodau'r heddlu yn dweud wrthym bod angen mwy o godiad na hynny i ariannu'r gwasanaethau presennol, ac y byddai angen rhywbeth fel 7 y cant o gynnydd yn y praesept i ariannu'r heddlu'n ddigonol ar y raddfa bresennol. Felly, mae'r trethdalwr yn wynebu codiad ar ben y dreth gyngor bondigrybwyll.

Yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf hyn, mae'r bwlch yng nghyllid yr heddlu, rhwng yr arian sy'n dod o'r Swyddfa Gartref a'r Cynulliad â'r hyn sydd ei angen i blismona, yn gynyddol yn cael ei lenwi gan y trethdalwyr, yn uniongyrchol drwy braesept yr heddlu. Ers 1999, mae grantiau o'r Llywodraeth I ariannu'r heddlu wedi codi 31 y cant, tra bod arian o'r trethdalwyr, ar ben eu treth cyngor, wedi codi 132 y cant. Felly, erys her sylweddol i'r gwasanaeth heddlu, yn wyneb yr hyn y mae'n ystyried yn grant annigonol o'r Swyddfa Gartref, y bygythiad i gapio codiad y praesept yn Lloegr i 5 y cant, a'r disgwyliad i ryw gynnydd tebyg, neu gyfyngiad i gynnydd tebyg, yma yng Nghymru, yn ôl geiriau'r Gweinidog.

Mae'n deg gofyn, fel y gwnaeth Rhodri Glyn Thomas yn gynharach, gyda threthdalwyr yng Nghymru yn gynyddol yn talu mwy am yr heddlu, i bwerau dros yr heddlu gael eu datganoli i'r Cynulliad, fel sydd wedi digwydd eisoes gyda'r gwasanaeth tân. Mae'r setliad hwn i'r heddlu yn dynn ac yn annigonol, ac mae hyn cyn inni ddechrau sôn am gostau'r ailstrwythuro a'r diwygio—pwnce datganiad Edwina Hart—a gyhoeddwyd gan Charles Clarke yr wythnos hon. Mae pryderon am y costau newydd hyn.

of the funding comes from the Home Office, another part from the Assembly, and a substantial part from taxpayers through the police precept. As we are all aware, the police are under increasing pressure to provide an effective service with the funding that they receive, particularly with the increased demand for more police officers on our streets, all the community strategies to deal with crime and so on, and the recent challenge with the extension of pub opening hours. As the Minister has said, this motion before us today gives an increase of 3.2 per cent in the police budget. Various police authorities tell us that they require a larger increase than that to fund current services, and that they would require an increase of around a 7 per cent in the precept to fund the police sufficiently at the current level. Therefore, the taxpayer faces an increase on top of the not-to-be-mentioned council tax.

During these last few years, the gap in police funding, between the funding provided by the Home Office and the Assembly and what is actually required for policing, is increasingly being filled by the taxpayers directly through the police precept. Since 1999, grants from the Government to fund the police have increased by 31 per cent, while funding from taxpayers, on top of their council tax, has increased by 132 per cent. Therefore, the police service is still faced with a substantial challenge, given what it considers to be an inadequate grant from the Home Office, the threat to cap the precept increase at 5 per cent in England, and the expectation of a similar increase, or a restriction to a similar increase here in Wales, in the words of the Minister.

It is fair to ask, as Rhodri Glyn Thomas did earlier, with taxpayers in Wales increasingly paying more for the police, that powers over the police be devolved to the Assembly, as has already happened with the fire service. This settlement for the police is tight and insufficient, and this before we even begin to discuss the costs of the restructuring and reforming—the subject of Edwina Hart's statement—announced by Charles Clarke this week. There are concerns about these new costs. I am more than willing, as has

Yr wyf yn fodlon iawn, fel sydd wedi cael ei grybwyll eisoes, i fod yn rhan o'r drafodaeth ynglŷn â sicrhau bod unrhyw arian ychwanegol gogyfer costau'r diwygio hwn yn dod yn uniongyrchol o Lundain, ac na ddylai'r baich gwympto arnom ni yng Nghymru. Mae angen sicrwydd bydd yr arian hynny'n dod o Lundain; ni fyddai'n ddeg inni orfod ariannu rhan o'r ailstrwythuro hwn yng Nghymru.

Gyda heddlu Cymru yn un corff, bydd heddlu Cymru o'r newydd yn un o heddluoedd mwyaf gwledig Prydain. Mae angen sicrwydd hefyd bod ariannu yn y dyfodol yn adlewyrchu'r ffaith bod Cymru'n ardal wledig iawn yn nhermau plismona. I ddirwyn i ben, yn wyneb y cyfyngiad amser, cyfeiriai at y cynigion gerbron. Nid oes digon o arian ar gael; arian annigonol o'r Swyddfa Gartref sydd bennaf gyfrifol am hyn, ond gyda'r trethdalwr yn gynyddol yn talu fwy am yr heddlu, ni allwn gefnogi'r adroddiad ariannol sydd ger ein bron. Fodd bynnag, o gofio'r cytundeb diweddar ar y gyllideb derfynol, bydd Plaid Cymru yn ymatal ei bleidlais heddiw.

David Melding: We are happy to support these measures. The whole issue of restructuring is a separate issue, but one that will impinge on the settlement in future years and will need to be scrutinised. The success that we are seeing in some parts of Wales, in terms of the leadership role of local communities, fits very much in with the law and order agenda, gated communities and various such measures that really can improve quality of life. It is important that, when we are looking at that aspect of policing, we concentrate on the positive developments, but the whole issue of the possibility of an all-Wales police force needs to be scrutinised. I suspect that much of that decision will be scrutinised in another place. However, we are content to support the settlement this afternoon and we encourage the most effective and efficient use of these sums.

4.10 p.m.

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): There are just a couple of points that I wanted to

already been mentioned, to be part of the discussion to ensure that any additional funding for the costs of this merger should come directly from London, and that the burden should not fall upon us here in Wales. We need an assurance that that funding will come from London; it would not be fair for us to have to fund part of this restructuring here in Wales.

With the police in Wales being one body, the new police force in Wales will be one of the most rural in the whole of Britain. We also need assurance that future funding will reflect the fact that Wales is very rural in policing terms. To close, given the time constraint, I will refer to the motions before us. Sufficient funding is not available; that is mainly due to the lack of funding from the Home Office, but with the taxpayer increasingly paying more towards the police, we cannot support the financial report before us. However, bearing in mind the recent agreement on the final budget, Plaid Cymru will abstain in the vote today.

David Melding: Yr ydym yn fwy na pharod i gefnogi'r mesurau hyn. Mae holl fater inni ailstrwythuro yn fater ar wahân, ond yn fater a fydd yn effeithio ar y setliad yn y dyfodol ac y bydd angen craffu arno. Mae llwyddiant yr hyn yr ydym yn ei weld mewn rhai rhannau o Gymru, o ran rôl arweinyddiaeth cymunedau lleol, yn berthnasol iawn i'r agenda cyfraith a threfn, cymunedau adwyog a mesurau amrywiol o'r fath a all wella ansawdd bywyd yn sylweddol. Mae'n bwysig, wrth edrych ar yr agwedd honno ar blismona, inni ganolbwyntio ar y datblygiadau cadarnhaol, ond mae angen archwilio holl fater y posibilrwydd o gael un heddlu i Gymru gyfan. Yr wyf yn amau mai yn rhywle arall y caiff y rhan fwyaf o'r penderfyniad hwnnw ei drafod. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn fwy na pharod i gefnogi'r setliad y prynhawn yma, ac anogwn ddefnyddio'r symiau hyn yn y ffordd fwyaf effeithiol ac effeithlon.

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Mae un neu ddau bwynt yr hoffwn ymateb iddynt, yn

pick up, mainly relating to what Dai said. There has been a great variation in precept levels across Wales. What I said is that I expect that police authorities will settle at 5 per cent as their maximum. I met representatives of the police authorities this morning; it was a friendly discussion. I understand the pressures and they understand the reality of not passing too much of the burden on to council tax payers, and I appreciate that kind of understanding on both sides.

I endorse exactly what Edwina Hart, as the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, said. As I indicated in my opening speech, I feel that the current financing arrangements are complex and that this would be easier to understand if it were directly funded. It certainly would take away the issue of the precept. One other thing that I want to say is that, as Edwina Hart made everyone aware in her statement, and she encouraged people to join with her on this, there is still a long way to go before these reorganisations happen, if they do. There are lots of discussions to take place. I would urge police authorities not to include within the precepts an anticipation of raising extra money for that time, because those debates, as Edwina said, are still to be had.

Lastly, I thank you, David, for your support; I appreciate that. We all know that things are tight and, certainly, we are expecting all public sector organisations, including the police, to respond to the efficiency agenda. As I said, there is a degree of understanding between the authorities and us: they understand the limitations on our budget and I hope that setting this today will give them the clarity that they need to go ahead and set the precepts.

ymwneud yn bennaf â'r hyn a ddywedodd Dai. Cafwyd amrywiadau mawr mewn lefelau praesept ledled Cymru. Yr hyn a ddywedais oedd fy mod yn disgwyl y bydd awdurdodau'r heddlu yn pennu 5 y cant fel eu uchafswm. Cyfarfûm â chynrychiolwyr awdurdodau'r heddlu y bore yma; cawsom drafodaeth gyfeillgar. Yr wyf yn deall y pwysau, ac maent hwy'n deall realiti peidio â throsglwyddo gormod o'r baich i bobl sy'n talu treth gyngor, ac yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi'r math hwnnw o ddealltwriaeth ar y ddwy ochr.

Cymeradwyaf union eiriau Edwina Hart, fel y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Fel y dywedais yn fy araith agoriadol, teimlaf fod y trefniadau ariannu presennol yn gymhleth ac y byddai hyn yn haws eu deall pe byddai'n cael ei ariannu'n uniongyrchol. Yn sicr, ni fyddai'n rhaid ystyried praeseptau. Un peth arall yr oeddwn am ei ddweud, fel y dywedodd Edwina Hart yn glir yn ei datganiad, gan annog pobl i ymuno â hi, mae llawer i'w wneud o hyd cyn i'r ad-drefnu hyn ddigwydd, os digwydd hynny. Mae nifer o drafodaethau i'w cynnal. Byddwn yn erfyn ar awdurdodau'r heddlu wrth bennu eu praeseptau i beidio â cheisio codi arian ychwanegol yn barod ar gyfer y cyfnod hwnnw, gan fod y dadleuon hynny, fel y dywedodd Edwina, i'w cynnal o hyd.

Yn olaf, diolchaf ichi, David, am eich cefnogaeth; yr wyf ggwerthfawrogi hynny. Gŵyr pob un ohonom fod pethau'n dynn, ac yn sicr yr ydym yn disgwyl i holl sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus, gan gynnwys yr heddlu, ymateb i'r agenda effeithlonrwydd. Fel y dywedais, mae rhywfaint o ddealltwriaeth rhyngom ni a'r awdurdodau: maent yn deall y cyfyngiadau ar ein cyllideb, a gobeithio y bydd ein trafodaeth heddiw yn rhoi'r eglurder y maed ei angen arnynt i fwrw ati â phennu eu praeseptau.

*Cynnig (NDM2832): O blaid 41, Ymatal 13, Yn erbyn 1.
Motion (NDM2832): For 41, Abstain 13, Against 1.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick

Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
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
Williams, Brynle

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Janet
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM2834): O blaid 41, Ymatal 15, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2834): For 41, Abstain 15, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
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
Williams, Brynle

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Cynnig (NDM2833): O blaid 38, Ymatal 17, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion (NDM2833): For 38, Abstain 17, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
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
Isherwood, Mark
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
Williams, Brynle

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

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

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

**Dadl o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31
Debate under Standing Order No. 31**

Motion (NDM2736): to propose that	Cynnig (NDM2736): cynnig bod
<i>the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 31.2:</i>	<i>Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31.2:</i>
<i>supports in principle legislation to:</i>	<i>yn cefnogi mewn egwyddor ddeddfwriaeth i:</i>
<i>a) require the submission of a precautionary statement as to the potential and real health effects of all developments for electronic communications apparatus;</i>	<i>a) mynnu bod datganiad rhagofalus yn cael ei gyflwyno ynghylch effeithiau posibl ac effeithiau gwirioneddol pob datblygiad ar gyfer offer cyfathrebu electronig ar ieched;</i>
<i>b) remove permitted development rights for all developments by electronic communications code systems operators;</i>	<i>b) dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiatawyd i weithredwyr systemau codau cyfathrebu electronig ar gyfer pob datblygiad;</i>
<i>c) remove permitted development rights for rail undertakers for developments for electronic communications apparatus.</i>	<i>c) dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiatawyd i ymgymerwyr rheilffyrdd ar gyfer datblygiadau o ran offer cyfathrebu electronig.</i>
Amendment 1 in the name of Janet Davies: In point (b), insert after 'operators':	Gwelliant 1 yn enw Janet Davies: Ym mhwynt (b), cynnwys ar ôl 'electronig':
<i>who fall within the provisions set out in Part 24 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2002.</i>	<i>sy'n dod o fewn y darpariaethau a nodir yn Rhan 24 o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002.</i>
Amendment 2 in the name of Janet Davies: In point (c), insert after 'apparatus':	Gwelliant 2 yn enw Janet Davies: Ym mhwynt (b), cynnwys ar ôl 'electronig':
<i>where proposals are for purposes other than assisting the safe movement of rail traffic.</i>	<i>lle bo'r cynigion at ddibenion nad oes a wnelont â chynorthwyo traffig y rheilffyrdd i symud yn ddiogel.</i>
The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1 and 2 in the name of Janet Davies.	Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1 a 2 yn enw Janet Davies.
Janet Davies: I propose that	Janet Davies: Cynigiaf fod
<i>the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 31.2:</i>	<i>Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31.2:</i>
<i>supports in principle legislation to:</i>	<i>yn cefnogi mewn egwyddor ddeddfwriaeth i:</i>
<i>a) require the submission of a precautionary statement as to the potential and real health</i>	<i>a) mynnu bod datganiad rhagofalus yn cael ei gyflwyno ynghylch effeithiau posibl ac</i>

effects of all developments for electronic communications apparatus;

b) remove permitted development rights for all developments by electronic communications code systems operators;

c) remove permitted development rights for rail undertakers for developments for electronic communications apparatus. (NDM2736)

I propose the following amendments in my name. Amendment 1: in point (b), insert after 'operators':

who fall within the provisions set out in Part 24 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2002.

I propose amendment 2: in point (b), insert after 'apparatus':

where proposals are for purposes other than assisting the safe movement of rail traffic.

I do not think there is a single member of this Assembly who has not received numerous complaints about mobile phone masts, whether they are about visual intrusion or fears about their health impact. We live in an age of fast communication and feel aggrieved at any delay to the instant gratification of speaking to another person, but there has to be a balance between the needs of electronic communication and the effects of the apparatus on local communities. Most objectors will also use mobile phones. However, it is clear that there is a lack of democratic processes to resolve disagreements. The question that we should be considering today is whether the present provision for consultation and consideration is adequate to meet those concerns and, if not, what we can do under our secondary legislative powers to put processes in place that meet the needs of people in local areas, mobile phone users and mobile phone operators.

This motion attempts to use the normal planning process, as it is used for most other developments, to reach a decision that has

effeithiau gwirioneddol pob datblygiad ar gyfer offer cyfathrebu electronig ar iechyd;

b) dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiatawyd i weithredwyr systemau codau cyfathrebu electronig ar gyfer pob datblygiad;

c) dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiatawyd i ymgymerwyr rheilffyrdd ar gyfer datblygiadau o ran offer cyfathrebu electronig. (NDM2736)

Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn fy enw i. Gwelliant 1: ym mhwynt (b), cynnwys ar ôl 'electronig':

sy'n dod o fewn y darpariaethau a nodir yn Rhan 24 o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002,

Cynigiau welliant 2: ym mhwynt (b), cynnwys ar ôl 'electronig':

lle bo'r cynigion at ddibenion nad oes a wnelont â chynorthwyo traffig rheilffyrdd i symud yn ddiogel.

Ni chredaf fod un aelod o'r Cynulliad hwn heb gael cwynion am fastiau ffonau symudol, boed yw'n ymwneud ag amhariad gweledol neu ofnau am eu hiechyd. Yr ydym yn byw mewn oes o gyfathrebu cyflym a theimlwn yn ddig os bydd unrhyw oedi yn y boddhad parod o siarad â pherson arall. Ond rhaid sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng anghenion cyfathrebu electronig ac effeithiau'r offer ar gymunedau lleol. Bydd y rhan fwyaf o wrthwynebwyr hefyd yn defnyddio ffonau symudol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg fod yna ddiffyg prosesau democrataidd i ddatrys anghytundebau. Y cwestiwn y dylem fod yn ei ystyried heddiw yw a yw'r ddarpariaeth bresennol ar gyfer ymgynghori ac ystyried yn ddigonol i ateb y pryderon hynny, ac os nad ydynt, beth y gallwn ei wneud o dan ein pwerau is-ddeddfwriaethol i roi prosesau ar waith sy'n diwallu anghenion pobl mewn ardaloedd lleol, defnyddwyr ffonau symudol a gweithredwyr ffonau symudol.

Mae'r cynnig hwn yn ceisio defnyddio'r broses gynllunio arferol, fel y'i defnyddir ar gyfer y rhan fwyaf o ddatblygiadau eraill, er

had full democratic consideration. At present, developers are given almost a free rein to bypass the full planning system and we are, therefore, seeing an explosion of masts in our communities. The public is losing confidence in decisions made in relation to these types of developments, and, unable to see means of influencing decisions, can only demonstrate and hold public meetings late in the procedure. Such actions are totally acceptable in a democratic society—in other areas, I have been involved in plenty myself—but when they are as widespread as we now see, it is up to legislators to make decisions that address the deficit.

These proposals will help to increase democracy in the decision-making process and ensure that health concerns are taken into account in a meaningful way. That does not mean that, because an individual raises concerns on health, an application should be refused; it means that the operator must set out the potential dangers and make the procedure much more transparent. It is important to note that this proposal is not meant to be anti-technology but pro-safety and transparency.

*Daeth Rhodri Glyn Thomas i'r Gadair am 4.18 p.m.
Rhodri Glyn Thomas took the Chair at 4.18 p.m.*

'Planning Policy Wales' states that the planning system is intended to help protect the amenity and environment of towns, cities and countryside in the public interest, while promoting high-quality, sustainable development. However, mobile phone masts up to 15m high have permitted development rights and the usual planning permission and process is not needed.

In practice, three processes exist under which mobile phone masts may be erected. If they are over 15m in height, they require full planning permission. For others, there are two possibilities. First, the operator needs to make a prior approval application to the local planning authority, which is allowed 50 days to consider its siting and design. If it has more than one antenna, this will also require

mwyn dod i benderfyniad wedi ei ystyried yn llawn yn ddemocrataidd. Ar hyn o bryd, caiff datblygwyr rwydd hynt bron i anwybyddu'r system gynllunio lawn ac yr ydym, felly, yn gweld cynnydd mawr yn nifer y mastiau yn ein cymunedau. Mae'r cyhoedd yn colli hyder mewn penderfyniadau a wneir am y mathau hyn o ddatblygiadau, a heb allu gweld ffordd o ddylanwadu ar benderfyniadau, ni allant ond gwrthdystio a chynnal cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus yn hwyr yn y broses. Mae gweithredoedd o'r fath yn hollol dderbyniol mewn cymdeithas ddemocrataidd—mewn meysydd eraill, yr wyf wedi bod yn rhan o ddigon fy hun—ond pan fyddant mor eang â'r hyn a welwn yn awr, mater i'r deddfwyr yw gwneud penderfyniadau sy'n mynd i'r afael â'r diffyg hwnnw.

Bydd y cynigion hyn yn helpu cynyddu democratiaeth yn y broses o wneud penderfyniadau ac yn sicrhau y caiff pryderon iechyd eu hystyried mewn ffordd ystyrllon. Nid yw hynny'n golygu, oherwydd bod unigolyn yn codi pryderon am iechyd, y dylid gwrthod cais; golyga fod rhaid i'r gweithredwr osod allan y peryglon posibl a gwneud y drefn lawer yn fwy eglur. Mae'n bwysig dweud na fwriedir i'r cynnig hwn fod yn wrth-dechnoleg, ond yn hytrach o blaid diogelwch a thryloywder.

Mae 'Polisi Cynllunio Cymru' yn dweud y bwriedir i'r system gynllunio helpu diogelu amwynder ac amgylchedd trefi, dinasoedd a chefn gwlad er lles y cyhoedd, gan hyrwyddo datblygiadau cynaliadwy o safon uchel. Fodd bynnag, mae gan fastiau ffonau symudol hyd at 15m o uchder hawliau datblygu a ganiateir, ac nid oes angen y caniatâd cynllunio a'r broses arferol.

Yn ymarferol, gellir codi mastiau ffonau symudol o dan dair proses. Os ydynt dros 15m o uchder, mae angen caniatâd cynllunio llawn ar eu cyfer. Ar gyfer rhai eraill, mae dau bosibilrwydd. Yn gyntaf, mae angen i'r gweithredwr gyflwyno cais i'r awdurdod cynllunio lleol am gymeradwyaeth ymlaen llaw, a chaiff hwnnw 50 diwrnod i ystyried ei leoliad a'i gynllun. Os oes iddo fwy nag un

a written declaration that it will operate in full compliance with the radio frequency guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection. However, I have been given evidence from one source alone of 30 instances where development has taken place because the 50 days was overrun by one or two days. At other times, permission has been rushed, decisions botched and refusals notified too late. Maladministration has been found by the ombudsman and claims under human rights legislation could be valid. Local planning authorities are left in an impossible position.

4.20 p.m.

The third possibility, giving the least scrutiny of all, is that of prior notification, whereby the operator is only required to notify the local planning authority 28 days before installation takes place. There is no public involvement in this process, even though operators are required to hold pre-roll-out discussions with the local planning authority. They are then permitted to install these applications without local consent. It is evident that the system is discredited.

The motion is in three parts, two of which are in the form of amendments. The first part of the motion deals with a precautionary health statement. While it is often pointed out that health concerns from the use of mobile phones are much greater than from the masts, normal use of phones is for a short period of time, unlike exposure to masts. The statement that I am proposing should set out the potential and real health effects of all developments for electronic communications apparatus that fall within the provisions set out. It is crucial to gain public confidence that they are able to raise concerns about health, and know that their concerns will be taken into account. This does not mean that, if someone raises concerns on health, an application must inevitably be refused, but that the operator must set out potential hazards on which the public can comment for decision-makers to consider.

At present, developers submit a statement on

antena, bydd hefyd angen cyflwyno datganiad ysgrifenedig y bydd yn gweithredu gan gydymffurfio'n llawn â chanllawiau amledd radio y Comisiwn Rhyngwladol ar Ddiogelu rhag Pelydredd nad yw'n Ïoneiddio. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi cael tystiolaeth o un ffynhonnell am 30 o achosion pan ganiatawyd y datblygiad am fod y 50 diwrnod wedi mynd heibio o ddiwrnod neu ddau. Ar adegau eraill, rhuthrwyd caniatâd, gwnaed y penderfyniad anghywir a dywedwyd wrth ddatblygwyr yn rhy hwyr am wrthodiad. Cafwyd achosion o gamweinyddu gan yr ombwdsmon a gallai hawliadau o dan ddeddfwriaeth hawliau dynol fod yn ddilys. Mae awdurdodau cynllunio lleol mewn sefyllfa amhosibl.

Y trydydd posibilrwydd, sy'n gofyn am y craffu lleiaf, yw hysbysiad ymlaen llaw, lle mae angen i'r gweithredwr roi gwybod i'r awdurdod cynllunio dim ond 28 diwrnod cyn gosod mast. Ni chaiff y cyhoedd eu cynnwys yn y broses o gwbl, er ei bod yn ofynnol i weithredwyr gael trafodaethau gyda'r awdurdod cynllunio lleol cyn gosod mast. Yna, caniateir iddynt osod y mastiau hyn heb gael caniatâd lleol. Mae'n amlwg bod y system mewn anfri.

Rhennir y cynnig yn dair rhan, dwy ohonynt ar ffurf gwelliannau. Mae rhan gyntaf y cynnig yn ymdrin â datganiad iechyd rhagofalus. Er yr eglurir yn aml fod pryderon iechyd ynglŷn â defnyddio ffonau symudol lawer yn fwy nag am y mastiau, defnyddir ffonau am gyfnod byr fel arfer, yn wahanol i effaith mastiau. Dylai'r datganiad yr wyf yn ei gynnig osod allan effeithiau iechyd posibl a gwirioneddol pob datblygiad ar gyfer offer cyfathrebu electronig sy'n berthnasol i'r darpariaethau a nodir. Mae'n hanfodol cael hyder y cyhoedd y gallant fynegi pryderon am iechyd, gan wybod y caiff eu pryderon eu hystyried. Nid yw hyn yn golygu, os bydd rhywun yn mynegi pryderon am iechyd, ei bod yn rhaid gwrthod cais yn anochel, ond yn hytrach ei bod yn rhaid i'r gweithredwr osod allan peryglon posibl y gall y cyhoedd roi sylwadau arnynt fel y gall y rhai sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau eu hystyried.

Ar hyn o bryd, bydd datblygwyr yn cyflwyno

the effects of the proposed development. The public and various statutory bodies are entitled to comment on it, and decision-makers have to take that into account. However, this motion proposes to go further, by concentrating on the issues of a specific area relating to the level of emissions and health consequences, so that the operator will set out on a case-by-case basis the level of emissions that exist at the time the application is submitted from all sources—natural and man-made—throughout the zone of influence.

Most of that information will already have been compiled through existing procedures. Therefore, a second appraisal will set out the projected increase in emissions to enable the local planning authority to assess the real emission consequences of an installation and assess the projected health effects of the installation, including those on vulnerable groups such as children.

In a considerable number of cases, these considerations will not prevent approval. However, in others, the additional weight of the statement will be sufficient to enable planners to refuse the application and recommend that a more appropriate location be sought. The present precautionary approach is failing.

The second part of the motion defines the apparatus, and the third part refers to permitted development rights for rail undertakers. While the motion would remove permitted development rights, the amendment confines this only for the addition of mobile phone apparatus for general use to that for exclusive rail safety use. The signals for rail use alone will be directed as far as possible along the track and will improve rail safety. However, Members should be aware that a programme for many installations is already under way along rail tracks, and in some places they may well be as close as 500m.

Our present powers arise from the fact that, in 2002, we agreed the present status of permitted development for mobile phone apparatus. At the time, it was understood that further statutory measures could be taken in

datganiad am effeithiau'r datblygiad arfaethedig. Gall y cyhoedd a'r amrywiol gyrff statudol roi sylwadau arno, a rhaid i'r rhai sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau ystyried hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'r cynnig hwn am fynd ymhellach, drwy ganolbwyntio ar y materion sy'n berthnasol i ardal benodol o ran lefel yr allyriadau a'r canlyniadau iechyd, fel y gall y gweithredwr, bob yn achos, osod allan lefel yr allyriadau sy'n bodoli pan gyflwynir y cais o bob ffynhonnell—naturiol ac wedi eu hachosi gan ddyn—drwy'r parth dylanwad.

Bydd y rhan fwyaf o'r wybodaeth honno wedi ei chasglu eisoes drwy weithdrefnau presennol. Felly, bydd ail arfarniad yn gosod allan y cynnydd amcangyfrifedig mewn allyriadau er mwyn galluogi'r awdurdod cynllunio lleol i asesu canlyniadau gwirioneddol allyriadau o osod mast ac asesu'r effeithiau iechyd rhagdybiedig, gan gynnwys yr effeithiau ar grwpiau diamddiffyn, fel plant.

Mewn nifer sylweddol o achosion, ni fydd yr ystyriaethau hyn yn atal cymeradwyaeth. Fodd bynnag, mewn achosion eraill bydd pwys ychwanegol y datganiad yn ddigon i alluogi cynllunwyr i wrthod y cais ac argymhell chwilio am leoliad mwy priodol. Mae'r ymagwedd ragofalus bresennol yn methu.

Mae ail ran y cynnig yn diffinio'r offer, a'r drydedd ran yn cyfeirio at hawliau datblygu a ganiateir ar gyfer ymgwymerwyr rheilffyrdd. Tra byddai'r cynnig yn dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiateir, mae'r gwelliant yn cyfyngu hyn i ychwanegu offer ffonau symudol at ddefnydd cyffredinol yn unig, yn hytrach nag er mwyn diogelu rheilffyrdd. Bydd y signalau ar gyfer rheilffyrdd yn unig yn cael eu gosod mor bell â phosibl ar hyd y trac ac yn gwella diogelwch rheilffyrdd. Fodd bynnag, dylai Aelodau fod yn ymwybodol fod rhaglen ar gyfer gosod nifer o signalau ar waith eisoes ar hyd traciau rheilffyrdd, ac mewn rhai manau gallant fod mor agos â 500m.

Mae ein pwerau presennol yn deillio o'r ffaith ein bod wedi cytuno, yn 2002, ar statws presennol datblygiadau a ganiateir ar gyfer offer ffonau symudol. Ar y pryd, yr oedd dealltwriaeth y gellid cymryd camau

light of experience. That is what I am proposing. In a 2001 report, Sir William Stewart, the chair of the National Radiological Protection Board, which is now the Health Protection Agency, recommended a number of precautionary measures, some of which have not been put in place. By January 2005, he called for a review of the planning process for mobile transmission masts and said that recent research made him more concerned about possible health hazards than he was five years ago. Following Nick Bourne's short debate on masts in June 2005, the Minister, Carwyn Jones, said that he would continue to monitor the existing planning arrangements for telecommunications masts and, if necessary, amend the policy. It is now time to go forward on this principle.

Elin Jones: Yr wyf yn llongyfarch Janet Davies am gynnig sy'n cyflwyno newidiadau i ddeddfwriaeth ar hawliau cynllunio, ac sy'n gwneud iawn am un o'r bylchau mawr yn y gyfundrefn bresennol.

Sut y gall fod yn iawn i drigolion yn Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, fynd i'r gwely un noson i ddihuno'r bore canlynol i weld fod mast ffôn symudol wedi ei godi ar waelod eu gerddi dros nos? Dyna ddigwyddodd yn Llanbadarn Fawr—nid oedd unrhyw ymgynghori, ni roddwyd unrhyw wybodaeth i drigolion lleol, nac ychwaith i'r dair ysgol leol. Cyflwynodd y cwmni ffôn gais am ganiatâd cynllunio ôl-weithredol, ond diolch i'r ymgyrchydd gwrth-fastiau lleol yn Llanbadarn, y Cyngorydd Paul James, gwrthododd y cyngor y cais. Fodd bynnag, nid oedd yn gallu gwrthod cais mast Tetra o fewn cyrraedd i Ysgol Pen-glais—cais arall a wnaethpwyd heb ymgynghoriad o unrhyw fath â'r ysgol—ac nid oedd ychwaith yn gallu gwrthod codi mast o dan 15m ar do Ysbyty Bron-glais. Honnodd y cwmni 3, a oedd yn gyfrifol am y mast hwnnw, mewn llythyr i mi ei fod wedi ymgynghori yn eang am y mast, a chymerodd yr ymddiriedolaeth iechyd lleol, sy'n rhedeg yr ysbyty, y cwmni ar ei air, ond nid oedd gan y trigolion lleol na'r ysgol gynradd leol, Ysgol Padarn Sant, unrhyw wybodaeth am godi'r mast yn eu

statudol pellach yn gyda phrofiad. Dyna yr wyf yn ei gynnig. Mewn adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd yn 2001, argymhellodd Syr William Stewart, cadeirydd y Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol, sef yr Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd bellach, nifer o fesurau rhagofalus ac nid yw rhai ohonynt wedi eu gweithredu. Erbyn mis Ionawr 2005, galwodd am adolygu'r broses gynllunio ar gyfer mastiau trawsyrru symudol, a dywedodd fod ymchwil yn ddiweddar yn ei wneud yn fwy pryderus ynghylch peryglon iechyd posibl nag yr oedd bum mlynedd yn ôl. Yn dilyn dadl fer Nick Bourne ar fastiau ym mis Mehefin 2005, dywedodd y Gweinidog, Carwyn Jones, y byddai'n parhau i fonitro'r trefniadau cynllunio presennol ar gyfer mastiau telathrebu, ac y byddai'n diwygio'r polisi pe bae angen. Bellach mae'n bryd symud ymlaen ar sail yr egwyddor hon.

Elin Jones: I congratulate Janet Davies for a motion which amends legislation on planning rights, and which closes one of the big loopholes in the current system.

How can it be right for residents in Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, to go to bed one evening only to wake up the following morning to find that a mobile phone mast had been erected at the bottom of their gardens overnight? That is what happened to people in Llanbadarn Fawr—there was no consultation, no information was provided to local residents, nor to the three local schools. The phone company submitted a retrospective planning application, but thanks to the local anti-mast campaigner, Councillor Paul James, the council rejected the application. However, it could not object to an application for a Tetra mast near Ysgol Pen-glais—another application where there was no consultation of any kind with the school—and it could not object to the erecting of a mast of less than 15m on the roof of Ysbyty Bron-glais. The 3 company, which was responsible for that mast, claimed in a letter to me that it had consulted widely about the mast, and the local health trust, which runs the hospital, took it at its word. But local residents knew nothing about the mast which was to be erected in their community, nor did Ysgol Padarn Sant, the

cymuned. O dan y cod presennol, rhaid i gwmnïau ymgynghori ag ysgolion ynghylch y donfedd o ddwystr eithaf.

Dim ond enghreifftiau yw'r rhain o un dref mewn un sir yng Nghymru, lle mae'r broses gynllunio wedi eithrio barn trigolion ac ysgolion lleol.

Fel eraill yn y Siambr, yr wyf yn ymwybodol fy mod yn agored i gyhuddiad o ragrith gan fy mod yn defnyddio ffôn symudol llais a thestun. Ond, gallaf ddewis taflu'r ffôn i'r afon yfory a pheidio â'i ddefnyddio byth eto. Fodd bynnag, os bydd rhywun yn codi mast ffôn ar waelod yr ardd neu ger ysgol lle mae plant yn treulio bron i wyth awr bob dydd, nid oes dewis, yn enwedig os yw'r mast o dan 15m. Mae hawl yr unigolyn i gyflwyno barn ar leoliad mast wedi ei wadu yn llwyr gan y gyfundrefn bresennol.

Y cyfan y gofynnir amdano yn y cynnig yw fod trigolion lleol, mannau gwaith ac ysgolion yn cael gwybod am bob cais cynllunio am fast telathrebu yn eu hardal, a bod ganddynt hawl i fynegi barn er mwyn i'r cyngor sir lleol allu gwrandao ar farn pawb cyn dod i benderfyniad.

Yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd cwmnïau ffôn yn derbyn y bydd hyn yn fodd iddynt gynyddu hyder y gymuned leol yn y broses o chwilio am safleoedd addas ar gyfer mastiau ffôn, ac y bydd yn rhoi sicrwydd i gymunedau ar hyd a lled Cymru y bydd cyfle i bawb leisio barn ar ddatblygiadau mastiau ffôn sy'n lleol iddynt hwy.

Leighton Andrews: I will speak briefly about a mast situation on behalf of my constituents in Ynys-hir, and I also thank Janet for bringing this debate forward.

For the last 18 months or so, I have worked with residents in Ynys-hir on a series of mast applications by Vodafone. The mast was initially planned to be virtually next door to the school, and there have been subsequent plans after that planning application was rejected. It seems that the developers are often their own worst enemies. Some of the things which Elin said in relation to alleged consultation in her constituency chime with

local primary school. Under the current code, companies must consult schools about the beam of greatest intensity.

These are just examples from one town in one county in Wales, where the planning process has neglected to consult with local residents and schools.

Like others in this Chamber, I am aware that I am open to charges of hypocrisy as I use a mobile phone for voice and text messages. But I could choose to throw my phone into the river tomorrow and never use it again. However, if someone erected a phone mast at the bottom of the garden or near a school where children spend up to eight hours each day, there is no choice, particularly if the mast is less than 15m high. The right of the individual to express an opinion on the location of a mast is utterly denied under the current system.

All that is requested in the motion is that local residents, workplaces and schools be informed of every planning application for a telecommunication mast in their area, and have a right to express an opinion so that the local county council can listen to everyone's opinion before coming to a decision.

I hope mobile phone companies will accept that this will be a means for them to improve local confidence in the process of identifying suitable sites for phone masts, and that it will give an assurance to communities across Wales that everyone will have an opportunity to express an opinion on phone mast developments which are local to them.

Leighton Andrews: Siaradaf yn fyr am sefyllfa mast ar ran fy etholwyr yn Ynys-hir, a hoffwn ddiolch i Janet hefyd am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon.

Am y 18 mis diwethaf, yr wyf wedi bod yn gweithio gyda thrigolion yn Ynys-hir ar gyfres o geisiadau mast gan Vodafone. Bwriadwyd i'r mast ar y cychwyn fod y drws nesaf i'r ysgol fwy neu lai, a chafwyd cynlluniau eraill ar ôl i'r cais cynllunio hwnnw gael ei wrthod. Ymddengys mai'r datblygwyr yw eu gelyn pennaf yn aml. Mae rhai o'r pethau a ddywedodd Elin am ymgynghori honedig yn ei hetholaeth hi yn

some of the issues that I will raise.

For example, the particular developer in this case is Vodafone; it had a two-week consultation period which began about five days before Christmas and, therefore, ended during the Christmas break. That is not a very sensible approach for community consultation. Secondly, it sent out a letter to some of my constituents in January, trying to reassure you them about the process that was to be followed in relation to its current application for a mast.

4.30 p.m.

It said in that letter that,

‘Prior to any site being selected for an installation there are a number of steps that must be taken in order to accord with government directives. This includes investigating the use of existing structures and masts (site sharing) and liaising with the local planning authority in order to gain comments about any potential locations that have been identified. In this case Newport City Council planning authority, local Ward councillors and residents have been consulted’.

I have pointed out to it that Ynys-hir is not in Newport City Council’s area, it is in the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council area. I also offered to send it an atlas to clarify the situation. That letter illustrates the cut-and-paste approach that is taken by developers.

Owen John Thomas: Will you give way?

Leighton Andrews: No, I will not.

That letter had clearly been adapted from a letter that had been sent out to residents of Newport, and it does not build confidence in the notion that developers are serious about community consultation. If we have to deal with that kind of idiocy on the part of developers, it is no wonder that communities get worked up about these masts.

Nick Bourne: I thank Janet for bringing forward this matter, which is one that has

cyd-fynd â rhai o’r materion y byddaf fi’n eu codi.

Er enghraifft, Vodafone yw’r datblygwr yn yr achos hwn; cynhaliodd gyfnod ymgynghori o bythefnos a ddechreuodd tua phum diwrnod cyn y Nadolig, ac felly daeth y cyfnod i ben yn ystod gwyliau’r Nadolig. Nid yw hynny’n ffordd synhwyrol iawn i ymgynghori â’r gymuned. Yn ail, anfonodd llythyr at rai o’r hetholwyr ym mis Ionawr, i geisio eu sicrhau am y broses y byddai’n ei dilyn mewn cysylltiad â’i gais cyfredol am fast.

Dywedwyd yn y llythyr hwnnw,

Cyn dewis unrhyw safle i osod mast, mae nifer o gamau y mae’n rhaid eu cymryd er mwyn cydymffurfio â chyfarwydddebau’r llywodraeth. Mae hyn yn cynnwys ymchwilio i ddefnyddio strwythurau a mastiau presennol (rhannu safleoedd) a chysylltu â’r awdurdod cynllunio lleol er mwyn cael sylwadau am unrhyw leoliadau posibl sydd wedi eu nodi. Yn yr achos hwn, ymgynghorwyd ag awdurdod cynllunio Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd, Cynghorwyr Ward lleol, a thrigolion.

Yr wyf wedi dweud wrtho nad yw Ynys-hir yn ardal Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd; mae yn ardal Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf. Cynigiais anfon atlas ato hefyd i egluro’r sefyllfa. Mae’r llythyr hwnnw’n dangos y ffordd torri-a-gludo a ddefnyddir gan ddatblygwyr.

Owen John Thomas: A wnewch ildio?

Leighton Andrews: Na wnaif.

Yr oedd y llythyr hwnnw’n amlwg wedi’i addasu o lythyr a anfonwyd at drigolion Casnewydd, ac nid yw’n rhoi llawer o hyder i bobl yn y syniad bod datblygwyr o ddifrif ynghylch ymgynghori cymunedol. Os ydym yn gorfod delio â’r math hwnnw o dwpdra ar ran datblygwyr, nid yw’n syndod bod cymunedau’n cynhyrfu ynglŷn â’r mastiau hyn.

Nick Bourne: Diolch i Janet am gyflwyno’r mater hwn, sydd wedi peri pryder i mi hefyd.

also concerned me.

Yr wyf yn cefnogi'r cynnig i fonitro effeithiau mastiau ffonau symudol yng Nghymru. Mae'r mater hwn yn peri pryder i gymunedau cefn gwlad yn y canolbarth ac yng ngorllewin Cymru. Felly, yr wyf yn credu bod angen asesiad llawn o geisiadau cynllunio ym mhob achos.

It is crucial that every case is looked at independently. As Elin said, we risk the charge of hypocrisy, as I too have a mobile phone, as do we all. The important point is that there needs to be a balance between the various aspects of the legitimate needs of everyday life. We all use mobile phones, and that tendency is probably irreversible. The same applies to Tetra masts and the advantages to the police, but there needs to be a balance. We need to get that balance right and put planning law on such a footing that local communities are considered and that the genuine health risks that exist for young schoolchildren take centre stage in all considerations.

We know that one of main recommendations of the Stewart report was to adopt a more precautionary approach until more detailed and scientifically robust information on health effects becomes available. I welcome moves made by the telecommunications industry to take those recommendations on board. The industry does not always do the right thing, but sometimes it does and I think that we should recognise that. It is as well that we recognise that there have been moves in the right direction.

We are not looking to stifle the telecommunications industry—and I do not believe that Janet Davies is doing so either—or the economic development opportunities that better communication links across Wales will bring. I reiterate what I and others have said, in that there needs to be a genuine balance between the needs of the police, the development of the telecommunications industry and the natural concerns of local people and communities about the unknown potential effects of this new technology,

I support the motion to monitor the effects of mobile phone masts in Wales. This matter causes concern to rural communities in mid and west Wales. Therefore, I believe full assessments need to be made of all planning applications.

Mae'n hanfodol i bob cais gael ei ystyried yn annibynnol. Fel y dywedodd Elin, yr ydym yn wynebu'r risg o gael ein cyhuddo o fod yn rhagrithwyr, am fod gennyf fi hefyd ffôn symudol, fel pawb arall. Y pwynt pwysig yw bod angen sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng yr amrywiol agweddau ar anghenion cyfreithlon bywyd bob dydd. Yr ydym i gyd yn defnyddio ffonau symudol, ac mae'n debyg na ellir gwrthdroi'r duedd honno. Mae'r un peth yn wir am fastiau Tetra a'r manteision i'r heddlu, ond mae angen cael cydbwysedd. Mae angen inni gael y cydbwysedd hwnnw'n iawn a threfnu cyfraith gynllunio yn y fath fodd fel y bydd cymunedau lleol yn cael eu hystyried ac y rhoddir sylw priodol i'r risgiau iechyd gwirioneddol sy'n wynebu plant ysgol ifanc ym mhob ystyriaeth.

Gwyddom mai un o brif argymhellion adroddiad Stewart oedd mabwysiadu ymagwedd fwy rhagofalus nes bydd gwybodaeth fanylach ar gael sy'n gadarnach yn wyddonol am effeithiau ar iechyd. Croesawaf y camau a gymerwyd gan y diwydiant telathrebu i ystyried yr argymhellion hynny. Nid yw'r diwydiant bob amser yn gwneud y peth cywir, ond mae'n gwneud hynny weithiau a chredaf y dylem gydnabod hynny. Dylem gydnabod hefyd bod camau wedi eu cymryd i'r cyfeiriad cywir.

Nid ydym yn bwriadu rhwystro'r diwydiant telathrebu—ac ni chredaf fod Janet Davies yn gwneud hynny ychwaith—na'r cyfleoedd datblygu economaidd a fydd yn deillio o well cysylltiadau cyfathrebu ledled Cymru. Ailadroddaf yr hyn a ddywedais i ac eraill, sef bod angen sicrhau cydbwysedd gwirioneddol rhwng anghenion yr heddlu, datblygiad y diwydiant telathrebu a phryderon naturiol pobl leol a chymunedau ynglŷn ag effeithiau posibl anhysbys y dechnoleg newydd hon, yn enwedig ar blant

particularly on children and where schools are concerned. I hope that the Minister will move forward on this matter because of the genuine concerns that have been raised across the Chamber, and will continue to be raised, about telecommunications masts.

Lynne Neagle: Today, in the UK, there are more mobile phones than there are people. It is a technology that we have come to rely on. Each one of us in the Chamber today will have a mobile phone, and maybe even a BlackBerry, in our pockets or bags. Yet, we will also instantly be able to think of any number of locations in our constituencies where we would not want a mobile phone mast sited. That is the tension that exists regarding this issue and it is a tension that is very real in my constituency, where public interest has been fired by the issue. I thank Janet for raising such an important matter today.

The local issues that I have mentioned are familiar to the Minister, and I am grateful for his input and for agreeing to meet a delegation made up of local authority representatives and local residents this morning. I am sure that he will agree that the issues that were raised will form an important part of the debate.

In terms of potential health risks, there is real concern among residents regarding the health impact of siting masts in close proximity to their homes, schools, playgrounds and so on. These concerns must be taken seriously. However, the current planning system already takes a precautionary approach, and the first part of Janet's motion does not contribute anything new. I am not confident that the local planning system is the right procedure within which to carry out a proper health analysis. The specialised health knowledge is not there at the local level, and a scientific matter of such fundamental importance should be dealt with at a national level.

Gaps in scientific knowledge should be addressed by further ongoing scientific research. Our frameworks for assessing health impact must be rigorous and evidence-based. These issues are relevant to other parts of the UK, and I hope that the Assembly Government will be able to work with

ac ysgolion. Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn gweithredu ar y mater hwn oherwydd y pryderon gwirioneddol a godwyd ar draws y Siambr, ac a fydd yn parhau i gael eu codi ynglŷn â mastiau telathrebu.

Lynne Neagle: Yn y DU heddiw, mae mwy o ffonau symudol nag o bobl. Mae'n dechnoleg yr ydym wedi dod i ddibynnu arni. Bydd gan bob un ohonom yn y Siambr heddiw ffôn symudol, a hyd yn oed BlackBerry, efallai, yn ein pocedi neu ein bagiau. Eto, byddem yn gallu meddwl ar unwaith am nifer o leoliadau yn ein hetholaethau lle na fyddem am weld mast ffonau symudol yn cael ei osod. Dyna'r tensiwn sy'n bodoli yn y mater hwn, ac mae'n densiwn sy'n real iawn yn fy etholaeth i, lle mae'r mater wedi tanio diddordeb y cyhoedd. Diolch i Janet am godi mater mor bwysig heddiw.

Mae'r materion lleol a grybwyllwyd gennyf yn gyfarwydd i'r Gweinidog, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am ei gyfraniad ac am gytuno i wrdd â dirprwyaeth yn cynnwys cynrychiolwyr awdurdodau lleol a thrigolion lleol y bore yma. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn cytuno bod y materion a godwyd yn rhan bwysig o'r ddadl.

O ran risgiau posibl i iechyd, mae pryder gwirioneddol ymhlith trigolion am yr effeithiau ar iechyd o osod mastiau yn agos i'w cartrefi, ysgolion, meysydd chwarae ac ati. Rhaid ystyried y pryderon hyn o ddifrif. Fodd bynnag, mae'r system gynllunio bresennol eisoes yn mabwysiadu ymagwedd ragofalus, ac nid yw rhan gyntaf cynnig Janet yn cyfrannu unrhyw beth newydd. Nid wyf yn hyderus mai'r system gynllunio leol yw'r drefn gywir i'w defnyddio i wneud dadansoddiad iechyd digonol. Nid oes gwybodaeth iechyd arbenigol ar gael yn lleol, a dylid ymdrin â mater gwyddonol mor hanfodol bwysig ar lefel genedlaethol.

Dylid gwneud gwaith ymchwil gwyddonol parhaus pellach i fynd i'r afael â'r bylchau mewn gwybodaeth wyddonol. Rhaid i'n fframweithiau ar gyfer asesu effeithiau iechyd fod yn gadarn ac yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth. Mae'r materion hyn yn berthnasol i rannau eraill o'r DU, a gobeithio

colleagues in other administrations on this.

Furthermore, local authorities need to be supported in seeking expertise to assess the technical issues that come before them. That advice is currently lacking. There is no independent consultative body for local authorities to turn to. I would therefore urge the Assembly Government to explore the possibility of establishing an independent advisory body to work with local authorities to provide them with the expert advice that is needed to discharge these functions.

We should also explore whether other countries take a more precautionary approach by setting limits on the proximity of masts in relation to homes and schools. I would welcome a review of this in order to provide answers.

One of the greatest complaints of local residents in Torfaen has been about the lack of consultation by mobile phone operators. Operators are currently advised to follow a voluntary code of practice that advises on consultation with local communities. In my experience, and that of many of my constituents, the voluntary code is not working for local communities. It should be urgently reviewed and made statutory.

Finally, I wish to refer to part (b) of the motion before us. The motion, as currently worded, would subject a whole range of proposed developments that local communities have no concern about to the full planning process. This would mean a hugely increased burden on local people and local planning authorities. However, I think that there is a strong case for reviewing permitted development rights, in order to consider how we could change the present system to give local people a fuller and fairer say on the siting of mobile phone masts.

Mick Bates: I declare an interest as there is a Vodafone mast on land that is owned by my family business. Therefore, I can speak with some experience about the process.

y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gallu gweithio gyda chyd-Aelodau mewn gweinyddiaethau eraill ar y mater hwn.

At hynny, mae angen i awdurdodau lleol gael eu cynorthwyo i gael arbenigedd i asesu'r materion technegol sy'n eu hwynebu. Prin yw'r cyngor hwnnw ar hyn o bryd. Nid oes yr un corff ymgynghorol annibynnol y gall awdurdodau lleol gysylltu ag ef. Byddwn yn annog Llywodraeth y Cynulliad felly i ymchwilio i bosibilrwydd sefydlu corff cynghori annibynnol i weithio gydag awdurdodau lleol i roi'r cyngor arbenigol y mae arnynt ei angen i gyflawni'r swyddogaethau hyn.

Dylem ymchwilio hefyd i'r cwestiwn a yw gwledydd eraill yn defnyddio dull mwy rhagofalus drwy bennu terfynau ar agosrwydd mastiau at gartrefi ac ysgolion. Byddwn yn croesawu adolygiad o hyn er mwyn darparu atebion.

Un o brif gwynion trigolion lleol yn Nhorfaen fu'r diffyg ymgynghori gan weithredwyr ffonau symudol. Ar hyn o bryd, caiff gweithredwyr eu cynghori i ddilyn cod ymarfer gwirfoddol sy'n rhoi cyngor ar ymgynghori â chymunedau lleol. Yn fy mhrofiad i, a phrofiad nifer o'm hetholwyr, nid yw'r cod gwirfoddol yn gweithio ar gyfer cymunedau lleol. Dylid ei adolygu ar unwaith a'i wneud yn statudol.

Yn olaf, hoffwn gyfeirio at ran (b) yn y cynnig sydd ger ein bron. Byddai'r cynnig, fel y mae wedi ei eirio ar hyn o bryd, yn golygu y byddai nifer fawr o ddatblygiadau arfaethedig, nad ydynt yn peri pryder o gwbl i gymunedau lleol, yn gorfod mynd drwy'r broses gynllunio lawn. Byddai hyn yn golygu baich cynyddol enfawr ar bobl leol ac awdurdodau cynllunio lleol. Fodd bynnag, credaf fod achos cryf dros adolygu hawliau datblygu a ganiateir, er mwyn ystyried sut y gallem newid y system bresennol i roi llais cryfach a thecach i bobl leol ar leoliad mastiau ffonau symudol.

Mick Bates: Datganaf fuddiant gan fod mast Vodafone ar dir y mae fy musnes teuluol yn berchen arno. Felly, gallaf siarad o brofiad am y broses.

On behalf of the Welsh Liberal Democrats, I fully support this piece of legislation. Speakers have already referred to the good reasons why this is necessary. The developers have possibly been their own worst enemy as they have not followed the voluntary code of practice to the letter. This has given rise to suspicion, and the Stewart report's recommendations, the local authority and the whole process is viewed with suspicion. This is also undermined by the lack of transparency. This legislation will clarify the issue and bring a greater level of responsibility to the planning process.

We have reached an interesting point at which we have all modern technology at our fingertips, including mobile phones. We must decide how we propose to ensure that such telephones are used safely. We need more research on the health issues that have been raised. I welcome any work that is done on that, and I believe that it is the Government's responsibility to give clear advice and to point out all the sites that are available so that communities can consider them and form an opinion.

Recently, it seems to me that the siting of Tetra masts has provided us with the biggest problem. While we all realise that emergency services need to have clear and good communication at all times without lines getting blocked, the mobile phone company O2 has not followed the voluntary code in a way that has assured local communities that their views will be represented. That is the crucial issue within this process.

I welcome this debate. Like many others, I have seen the effects on towns, including Caersws and Llanidloes, where residents are extremely unhappy when, overnight, it appears that they will have a Tetra mast sited in the middle of their community. Location is an important feature. Obviously, we would wish to see—

4.40 p.m.

John Marek: I accept what you are saying, and I agree with you. I will vote in favour of the amendments to the motion, but can you

Ar ran Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, yr wyf yn cefnogi'r darn hwn o ddeddfwriaeth yn llawn. Cyfeiriodd siaradwyr eisoes at y rhesymau dros wneud hyn yn angenrheidiol. Hwy eu hunain yw gelyn pennaf y datblygwyr, hwyrach, am nad ydynt wedi dilyn y cod ymarfer gwirfoddol gair am air. Mae hyn wedi creu drwgdybiaeth, ac mae drwgdybiaeth ynghylch argymhellion adroddiad Stewart, yr awdurdod lleol a'r holl broses. Caiff hyn ei danseilio hefyd gan y diffyg eglurder. Bydd y ddeddfwriaeth hon yn egluro'r mater ac yn rhoi mwy o gyfrifoldeb i'r broses gynllunio.

Yr ydym wedi cyrraedd cyfnod diddorol lle mae'r holl dechnoleg fodern ar gael yn hawdd i ni, gan gynnwys ffonau symudol. Rhaid inni benderfynu sut y bwriadwn sicrhau defnyddio ffonau o'r fath yn ddiogel. Mae arnom angen mwy o waith ymchwil ar y materion iechyd a godwyd. Croesawaf unrhyw waith a wneir ar hynny, a chredaf mai cyfrifoldeb y Llywodraeth yw rhoi cyngor clir a nodi'r holl safleoedd sydd ar gael, fel y gall cymunedau eu hystyried a llunio barn.

Yn ddiweddar, ymddengys i mi mai lleoliad mastiau Tetra sydd wedi peri'r broblem fwyaf inni. Er ein bod yn sylweddoli bod angen i wasanaethau brys gael system gyfathrebu glir a da ar bob adeg heb i linellau gael eu rhwystro, nid yw'r cwmni ffonau symudol O2 wedi dilyn y cod gwirfoddol mewn ffordd sydd wedi sicrhau cymunedau lleol y bydd eu sylwadau'n cael eu cynrychioli. Dyna'r mater hanfodol yn y broses hon.

Yr wyf yn croesawu'r ddadl hon. Fel nifer o bobl eraill, yr wyf wedi gweld yr effeithiau ar drefi, gan gynnwys Caersŵs a Llanidloes, lle mae trigolion yn anhapus iawn pan fydd mast Tetra, mae'n ymddangos, yn cael ein osod dros nos yng nghanol eu cymuned. Mae lleoliad yn nodwedd bwysig. Yn amlwg, byddem yn dymuno gweld—

John Marek: Derbynïaf yr hyn a ddywedwch, a chytunaf â chi. Byddaf yn pleidleisio o blaid y gwelliannau i'r cynnig,

say something to Lynne Neagle who has been arguing about the review, stating that it is not quite right. I am sure that she will vote against this because she wants delay, procrastination and to support the telephone companies. Can you tell her something that will change her mind about how she should vote?

Mick Bates: What a fine intervention, John. However, I would have thought that someone of your calibre would have taken care of that issue and have lobbied someone you thought might vote against this. I hope that Members who feel that this is poor legislation will reconsider that and see that the points that have been highlighted about transparency and giving confidence to communities in the whole process are the underlying features of Janet's motion and, as such, are worthy of everyone's support.

In conclusion, it is important that the impact of such legislation is monitored. We need, perhaps through the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee, to report on this so that we can see if any of the doubts cast on this legislation are founded. So, I would like to see monitoring and reports presented to the committee regularly.

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): I thank Janet for bringing forward this debate, which has certainly given me a lot of thought in terms of how to take this forward. This subject has been a cause of debate in the Chamber, and it is a shame that more people are not here to listen to this discussion.

It is a fact of modern life that people want advantages without the disadvantages that come with them; everyone wants a mobile phone, but they do not want the mast next to them. So, the job of any planning guidance is to try to find a way of ensuring that there is a roll-out of mobile communications without people having a veto on the siting of a mast next to them. Masts need to be close to people. That is why, of course, we have communications.

In wrestling with this issue, I came to the conclusion that the amendments can be

and a allwch ddweud rhywbeth wrth Lynne Neagle, sydd wedi bod yn dadlau ynghylch yr adolygiad, gan ddweud nad yw'n hollol gywir. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn pleidleisio yn erbyn hyn oherwydd ei bod am oedi, gohirio a chefnogi'r cwmnïau ffôn. A allwch ddweud rhywbeth wrthi a fydd yn newid ei meddwl ynglŷn â sut y dylai bleidleisio?

Mick Bates: Ymyriad da iawn, John. Fodd bynnag, byddwn wedi disgwyl y byddai rhywun o'ch safon chi wedi ymdrin â'r mater hwnnw ac wedi lobio rhywun yr ydych yn credu allai bleidleisio yn erbyn hyn. Gobeithio y bydd Aelodau sy'n teimlo bod hon yn ddeddfwriaeth wael yn ailystyried hynny ac yn gweld mai'r pwyntiau y tynnwyd sylw atynt ynglŷn â thryloywder a rhoi hyder i gymunedau yw'r nodweddion sydd wrth wraidd cynnig Janet, ac fel y cyfryw maent yn haeddu cefnogaeth pawb.

I gloi, mae'n bwysig i effaith deddfwriaeth o'r fath gael ei monitro. Mae angen inni gyflwyno adroddiad ar hyn, drwy Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad efallai, i weld a oes sail i unrhyw rai o'r amheuan a godwyd am y ddeddfwriaeth hon. Felly, hoffwn weld dulliau monitro ac adroddiadau yn cael eu cyflwyno i'r pwyllgor yn rheolaidd.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Diolch i Janet am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon, sydd yn bendant wedi gwneud imi feddwl llawer ynglŷn â sut i weithredu ar hyn. Mae'r pwnc hwn wedi bod yn destun dadl yn y Siambr, ac mae'n drueni nad oes mwy o bobl yma i wrando ar y drafodaeth hon.

Un o ffeithiau bywyd modern yw fod pobl am gael manteision heb yr anfanteision sydd ynghlwm wrthynt; mae pawb am gael ffôn symudol, ond nid ydynt am gael mast y drws nesaf. Felly, nod unrhyw ganllaw cynllunio yw ceisio dod o hyd i ffordd i sicrhau bod modd cael dulliau cyfathrebu symudol heb i bobl allu gwrthwynebu lleoli mast y drws nesaf. Mae angen i fastiau fod yn agos at bobl. Dyna pam, wrth gwrs, y mae gennym ddulliau cyfathrebu.

Wrth geisio mynd i'r afael â hyn, deuthum i'r casgliad y gellir cefnogi'r gwelliannau.

supported. They improve on the original proposal that was put forward. However, I am unconvinced that that proposal provides the right way forward as regards dealing with this issue, therefore, I will not be able to support this in principle. I have another suggestion, because I am aware of the arithmetic in the Chamber.

The situation is that there are strong economic development grounds for ensuring that we roll out mobile technology as quickly as possible. If people want to invest in rural Wales in particular, they want to ensure that they can communicate. Therefore, there are strong economic development grounds for ensuring that that happens as quickly as possible. The problem with the current proposal is that it could hamper that process. It could also hamper the roll out of things such as Tetra masts, which are essential in terms of improving police and fire service responses. There is no point saying, 'The police did not get to me as quickly enough, if that is down to the communications system not being good enough. The same applies to the fire services.

It is also right to say that if there is an extra obstacle in Wales that the telephone operating companies have to overcome, they will be reluctant to come here to invest in the first place. In urban Wales, that is offset by the fact that there are people there to generate the custom to create the investment. However, in rural Wales, you will have a situation where something that has been put forward essentially to protect urban areas will cause people in rural Wales to lose out, because the choice for companies will be to either go to rural England where community development rights exist, or to go to rural Wales, where they will need planning permission and a health statement. They will ask, 'Why should we bother to invest there?'. That is simple economics.

Alun Cairns: I sympathise with what you have said and I have grappled with this motion in trying to decide which way to vote. If you look closely at the motion, it states clearly that it supports legislation in principle, and that will allow the opportunity to develop the detail that will hopefully overcome your concerns and mine. On that

Maent yn gwella'r cynnig gwreiddiol a gyflwynwyd. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf yn argyhoeddedig mai'r cynnig yw'r ffordd gywir ymlaen i ddelio â'r mater hwn. Felly, ni fyddaf yn gallu cefnogi hyn mewn egwyddor. Mae gennyf awgrym arall, oherwydd yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r rhifydddeg yn y Siambr.

Y sefyllfa yw bod seiliau datblygu economaidd cadarn dros sicrhau ein bod yn cyflwyno technoleg symudol cyn gynted â phosibl. Os yw pobl am fuddsoddi yng Nghymru wledig yn arbennig, maent am sicrhau y gallant gyfathrebu. Felly, mae seiliau datblygu economaidd cadarn dros sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd cyn gynted â phosibl. Y broblem gyda'r cynnig presennol yw y gallai rwystro'r broses honno. Gallai hefyd rwystro'r broses o gyflwyno pethau fel mastiau Tetra, sy'n hanfodol i wella ymatebion yr heddlu a'r gwasanaeth tân. Nid oes diben dweud 'Ni chyraeddodd yr heddlu yn ddigon cyflym' os yw hynny oherwydd nad yw'r system gyfathrebu yn ddigon da. Mae'r un peth yn wir am y gwasanaethau tân.

Mae hefyd yn gywir dweud, os bydd rhwystr arall yng Nghymru y mae'n rhaid i'r cwmnïau ffôn ei oresgyn, yddant yn amharod i ddod yma i fuddsoddi yn y lle cyntaf. Yng Nghymru drefol, caiff hynny ei wrthbwysog gan y ffaith fod yno bobl i gynhyrchu'r galw i greu'r buddsoddiad. Fodd bynnag, yng Nghymru wledig, bydd gennych sefyllfa lle bydd rhywbeth a gyflwynwyd yn y bôn i ddiogelu ardaloedd trefol yn peri i bobl yng Nghymru wledig fod ar eu colled, oherwydd y dewis i gwmnïau fydd naill ai mynd i Loegr wledig, lle mae hawliau datblygu cymunedol, neu fynd i Gymru wledig, lle bydd angen caniatâd cynllunio arnynt a datganiad iechyd. Byddant yn gofyn, 'Pam y dylem drafferthu buddsoddi yno?'. Economeg syml yw hynny.

Alun Cairns: Yr wyf yn cymdeimlo â'r hyn a ddywedwch, ac yr wyf wedi ymgodymu â'r cynnig hwn wrth geisio penderfynu sut i bleidleisio. Os edrychwch yn agos ar y cynnig, mae'n dweud yn glir ei fod yn cefnogi deddfwriaeth mewn egwyddor, ac y bydd yn rhoi'r cyfle i ddatblygu'r manylion a fydd, gobeithio, yn lleddfu eich pryderon chi

basis, is there not every reason for you to support the motion so that this Assembly can move forward in a united way, recognising that we do not want to detract from any potential private investment?

Carwyn Jones: No, it is difficult, and I will explain why. There is an alternative that can be looked at. I know that time is moving on, so I will be quick.

At the moment, each mast in Wales requires what is known as an 'ICNERP certificate', which certifies that radiation is below the figure specified in the guidelines. We have the Stewart group, which produced the Stewart report, and, given that we have an independent scientific group, we must follow its recommendations. There is a lot of science out there; we know that a lot of it is sound, but some of it is crank, frankly. Some scientists will say anything, and I have seen evidence of that with my own eyes. That is why it is important that we have an independent group able to give independent advice based on the weight of scientific evidence. That is what the Stewart group is there to do, and it has said that there is no general risk to health from mobile phone masts. That is the reality of the situation and, until that changes or the Stewart report is reviewed, that will remain the case. It is a fact based upon independent scientific advice that there is no general risk to health.

The National Radiological Protection Board reviewed the Stewart group's report in 2004 and saw no reason to change it. We also have the Health Protection Agency, which, if it had concerns about masts, would have conveyed them to my colleague, Brian Gibbons. Therefore, that is the situation with regard to health, and it is important to note that because of the first point of the motion.

On removing permitted development rights, amendment 2 clarifies the situation, and I am grateful to Janet for doing that. However, as it stands, it would also catch telegraph poles, telephone kiosks, and, in fact, all apparatus licensed by Ofcom. I know that that is not Janet's intention, but that is what this would

a'm pryderon innau. Ar y sail honno, onid oes rheswm da gennych dros gefnogi'r cynnig, fel y gall y Cynulliad hwn symud ymlaen mewn ffordd unedig, gan gydnabod nad ydym am leihau unrhyw fuddsoddi preifat posibl?

Carwyn Jones: Na, mae'n anodd, ac egluraf pam. Mae yna ddewis arall y gellir ei ystyried. Gwn fod amser yn mynd yn ei flaen, felly byddaf yn gryno.

Ar hyn o bryd, mae angen yr hyn a elwir yn 'dystysgrif ICNERP' ar gyfer pob mast yng Nghymru, i dystio bod ymbelydredd yn llai na'r ffigur a bennir yn y canllawiau. Mae grŵp Stewart ar gael, a gynhyrchodd adroddiad Stewart, ac o gofio bod gennym grŵp gwyddonol annibynnol, rhaid inni ddilyn ei argymhellion. Mae llawer o wyddoniaeth o'n cwmpas; gwyddom fod llawer ohono'n gadarn, ond mae peth ohono, a dweud y gwir, yn rhyfedd. Mae rhai gwyddonwyr yn barod i ddweud unrhyw beth, ac yr wyf wedi gweld tystiolaeth o hynny â'm llygaid fy hun. Dyna pam mae'n bwysig inni gael grŵp annibynnol sy'n gallu rhoi cyngor annibynnol yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth wyddonol. Dyna yw diben y grŵp Stewart, ac mae wedi dweud nad yw mastiau ffôn symudol yn achosi perygl cyffredinol i iechyd. Dyna realiti'r sefyllfa, a nes y bydd hynny'n newid, neu nes y caiff adroddiad Stewart ei adolygu, felly y bydd. Mae'n ffaith sy'n seiliedig ar gyngor gwyddonol annibynnol nad oes unrhyw berygl cyffredinol i iechyd.

Adolygodd y Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol adroddiad y grŵp Stewart yn 2004 ac ni welwyd unrhyw reswm dros ei newid. Mae'r Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd ar gael hefyd, a phe bai'n pryderu am fastiau byddai wedi eu cyfleu i'm cyd-Weinidog, Brian Gibbons. Felly, dyna'r sefyllfa o ran iechyd, ac mae'n bwysig nodi hynny oherwydd pwynt cyntaf y cynnig.

O ran dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiateir, mae gwelliant 2 yn egluro'r sefyllfa, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Janet am wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, fel y mae ar hyn o bryd, byddai hefyd yn cynnwys polion telegraff, cabanau ffôn, ac yn wir yr holl gyfarpar a drwyddedir gan Ofcom. Gwn nad hynny yw bwriad

do, and so that is why we have a problem with supporting it.

The health statement is not what it appears to be. Submitting a statement could only be based on what the Stewart group, the NRPB, and the HPA have said, which is that there is no general risk to health. Beyond that, it is difficult to see what a statement could say, so it does not take us further forwards. A statement cannot contain potential dangers if those dangers are not known. All that it can do is contain advice based on the present state of knowledge, which must be based on the Stewart report.

What would happen is a developer would submit a statement based on the existing science, the local authority, and any statutory body as is called for in the proposal, would examine that statement, but, given the fact that statutory bodies are likely to be bodies such as the HPA, which we know does not have concerns about health and which does not want to look at issues locally, but in a global UK sense, even if it was decided on a case-by case-basis, the HPA's advice would always be the same, namely that this is something that is better dealt with at a UK level and not at a local level. It is the same with the NRPB, which would not go beyond the advice that it has already given. Therefore, even though there would have to be statements for each and every planning application, the advice provided would, in fact, always be the same. It does not take us very far in terms of what a statement can contain.

Local authorities are not in a position to evaluate health assessments in that way in any event; they would have to be provided with the resources to do that, even given the fact that we know that all of the independent evidence presented by the Stewart group, the HPA and the NRPB all says that there is no general risk to health. Until there is evidence that contradicts that, it is difficult to see how a health statement can help.

Janet, ond dyna beth fyddai hyn yn ei wneud, a dyna pam mae'n anodd inni ei gefnogi.

Nid yw'r datganiad iechyd fel y mae'n ymddangos. Byddai cyflwyno datganiad yn gallu cael ei seilio dim ond ar yr hyn y mae'r grŵp Stewart, y Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol a'r Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd wedi ei ddweud, sef nad oes unrhyw berygl cyffredinol i iechyd. Ar wahân i hynny, mae'n anodd gweld beth y gallai datganiad ei ddweud, felly, nid yw'n mynd â ni yr un cam ymhellach. Ni all datganiad gynnwys peryglon posibl os nad yw'r peryglon hynny'n hysbys. Y cyfan y gall ei wneud yw cynnwys cyngor yn seiliedig ar y wybodaeth sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd, a rhaid i honno fod yn seiliedig ar adroddiad Stewart.

Yr hyn a fyddai'n digwydd yw y byddai datblygwr yn cyflwyno datganiad yn seiliedig ar y wyddoniaeth bresennol, byddai'r awdurdod lleol, ac unrhyw gorff statudol fel y mae galw amdano yn y cynnig, yn archwilio'r datganiad hwnnw. Ond o gofio bod cyrff statudol yn debygol o fod yn gyrrff megis yr Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd – a gwyddom nad oes ganddi hi bryderon am iechyd ac nid yw am ystyried materion yn lleol ond yng nghyd-destun y DU - hyd yn oed pe bai'n penderfynu ar sail achosion unigol, byddai cyngor yr Asiantaeth yr un fath bob tro, sef bod hyn yn rhywbeth yr ymdrinnir yn well ag ef ar lefel y DU, nid ar lefel leol. Mae'r un peth yn wir gyda'r Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol, na fyddai'n mynd y tu hwnt i'r cyngor y mae eisoes wedi ei roi. Felly, er y byddai'n rhaid cael datganiadau ar gyfer pob cais cynllunio unigol, byddai'r cyngor a ddarperid, mewn gwirionedd, yr un fath bob tro. Nid yw hyn yn fawr o ddatblygiad o ran yr hyn y gall datganiad ei gynnwys.

Nid yw awdurdodau lleol mewn sefyllfa i werthuso asesiadau iechyd fel hynny beth bynnag; byddai'n rhaid rhoi'r adnoddau iddynt wneud hynny, hyd yn oed o gofio ein bod yn gwybod mai'r cyfan y mae'r holl dystiolaeth annibynnol a gyflwynwyd gan y grŵp Stewart, yr Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd a'r Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol yn ei ddweud yw nad oes risg gyffredinol i iechyd. Nes ceir tystiolaeth sy'n gwrth-

ddweud hynny, mae'n anodd gweld sut y gall datganiad iechyd helpu.

The other problem we have is that, as the motion is worded at the moment, it would catch all electronic apparatus. I am sure that that is not the intention. That would mean that if you put up a broadband antenna on your house, you would have to submit a health statement. If you put a satellite dish on your house, and you intended to communicate through that using broadband, you would need a health statement. That cannot possibly be correct. It would make this legislation extremely unpopular in a short space of time. I am sure that it is not, but I would be grateful for clarification from Janet that that is not her intention if this has to be taken forward under her proposal.

Y broblem arall sydd gennym yw y byddai'r cynnig, fel y mae wedi ei eirio ar hyn o bryd, yn cynnwys pob cyfarpar electronig. Yr wyf yn siŵr nad dyna'r bwriad. Byddai hynny'n golygu, pe baech yn gosod antena band eang ar eich tŷ, y byddai'n rhaid ichi gyflwyno datganiad iechyd. Pe baech yn rhoi dysgl lloeren ar eich tŷ, a chithau'n bwriadu cyfathrebu drwy gyfrwng honno gan ddefnyddio band eang, byddai arnoch angen datganiad iechyd. Ni all hynny fod yn iawn. Byddai'n gwneud y ddeddfwriaeth hon yn eithriadol o amhoblogaidd ymhen dim o dro. Yr wyf yn siŵr nad ydyw, ond byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai Janet yn cadarnhau nad dyna yw ei bwriad os yw'n rhaid datblygu hyn o dan ei chynnig hi.

In my view, a better way of dealing with this—and I am aware of the time—would be to strengthen the code of practice, given that so many Members have said that telephone companies are not following the code of practice properly. We need to review the code of practice, strengthen it possibly, and maybe even put it on a statutory basis. That is the way to deal with it, by ensuring that it has teeth. I take on board what Members and others have said on that, and I want to review the code of practice and strengthen it where there is evidence to do so.

Yn fy marn i, ffordd well o ddelio â hyn—ac yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r amser—fyddai cryfhau'r cod ymarfer, o gofio bod cynifer o Aelodau wedi dweud nad yw cwmnïau teleffon yn dilyn y cod ymarfer yn gywir. Mae angen inni adolygu'r cod ymarfer, ei gryfhau o bosibl, ac efallai ei osod ar sail statudol hyd yn oed. Dyna'r ffordd i ddelio ag ef, drwy sicrhau fod iddo ddannedd. Cytunaf â'r hyn y mae Aelodau ac eraill wedi ei ddweud am hynny, ac yr wyf am adolygu'r cod ymarfer a'i gryfhau lle mae tystiolaeth i wneud hynny.

4.50 p.m.

The second reason why I cannot support this in its present form is that, if this is voted through, I would have only three months to produce a feasibility study. In that time, I would need to consult the committee, and that is not enough time to do that on such an important issue. I have discussed this with Glyn Davies, the Chair of the committee, and I would prefer for the committee to look at this as an in-depth policy review to examine, for example, whether it will be possible to single out communications masts for removing permitted development rights, whether that is practical at all, and what the effect would be on the economy, rural Wales and health. All these issues are complex and they are all issues that need time to be examined properly. That would be my

Yr ail reswm pam na allaf gefnogi hyn yn ei ffurf bresennol, os caiff ei dderbyn, yw na fyddai gennyf ond tri mis i gynhyrchu astudiaeth dichonoldeb. Yn ystod yr amser hwnnw, byddai angen imi ymgynghori â'r pwyllgor, ac nid yw hynny'n ddigon o amser i wneud hynny ar fater mor bwysig. Yr wyf wedi trafod hyn gyda Glyn Davies, Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, a byddai'n well gennyf pe bai'r pwyllgor yn ystyried hyn fel adolygiad polisi trylwyr i archwilio, er enghraifft, a fyddai'n bosibl dewis mastiau cyfathrebu yn unig ar gyfer dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiateir, a yw hynny'n ymarferol o gwbl, a beth fyddai'r effaith ar yr economi, ar Gymru wledig ac ar iechyd. Mae'r holl faterion hyn yn gymhleth ac yn faterion y mae angen amser i'w harchwilio'n briodol.

preferred way forward.

I did listen to Janet, but I think that this is such an important issue that it needs greater and, in my view, longer examination than is provided for under Standing Order No. 31. For those reasons, I would not recommend that the Assembly supports this particular way forward, but that it finds a way forward that allows for the proper consideration of the issues in order to come up with a more equitable solution.

*Daeth y Llywydd i'r Gadair am 4.51 p.m.
The Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.51 p.m.*

Janet Davies: I was interested to hear what the Minister and Lynne Neagle had to say. Although the Minister spoke more fully, having more time, they both said basically the same thing.

I always like things to be considered fully but we have already been waiting a significant time for this to be looked at. It was said after the short debate last summer that it would be considered, but nothing has happened. I do not have an awful lot of confidence that anything will happen if this is voted down today.

To address the issue about the description of the apparatus, it is described in that way to make sure that it includes mobile phone apparatus on buildings. If you just say 'masts' they will not be included. It is perfectly easy—and there is room for this to be done—for local authorities to allow any equipment for which you would not particularly want a long planning process to be fast-tracked through the procedures or to make the whole procedure simpler. Therefore, I do not think that these are particularly valid arguments.

On the precautionary statement, I thought that I had made it clear, but what we have at present is a precautionary statement on the apparatus itself. It does not take into consideration what may already be in existence. We need to see a complete picture of what is already in existence and what is coming in taken together and added up.

I began to get slightly confused at one point,

Dyna fyddai fy newis i.

Gwrandewais ar Janet, ond credaf fod hwn yn fater mor bwysig fel y bydd angen ei archwilio'n fwy trylwyr, ac angen mwy o amser i'w archwilio, yn fy marn i, nag a ddarperir o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31. Am y rhesymau hynny, ni fyddwn yn argymhell bod y Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r dull penodol hwn weithredu, ond cael hyd i ffordd sy'n caniatáu i'r materion gael eu hystyried yn briodol er mwyn cael ateb mwy cyfiawn.

Janet Davies: Yr oedd gennyf ddiddordeb yn yr hyn a oedd gan y Gweinidog a Lynne Neagle i'w ddweud. Er i'r Gweinidog siarad yn llawnach, gan fod ganddo fwy o amser, yr oedd y ddau'n dweud yr un peth yn y bôn.

Yr wyf bob amser yn hoffi i bethau gael eu hystyried yn llawn, ond yr ydym eisoes wedi bod yn aros ers amser maith i hyn gael ei ystyried. Dywedwyd ar ôl y ddadl fer yr haf diwethaf y byddai'n cael ei ystyried, ond nid oes dim wedi digwydd. Nid wyf yn hyderus iawn y bydd dim yn digwydd os caiff ei wrthod heddiw.

I ddelio â mater y disgrifiad o'r cyfarpar, fe'i disgrifir fel hynny er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn cynnwys cyfarpar ffonau symudol ar adeiladau. Os dywedwch 'mastiau' yn unig, ni chânt eu cynnwys. Mae'n ddigon hawdd—ac mae'n bosibl i hyn gael ei wneud—i awdurdodau lleol ganiatáu i unrhyw offer, lle na fyddech am gael proses gynllunio faith, gael ei gyflwyno drwy ddull carlam neu wneud yr holl weithdrefn yn symlach. Felly, ni chredaf fod y rhain yn ddadleuon arbennig o ddilys.

O ran y datganiad rhagofalus, yr oeddwn yn credu imi wneud hynny'n eglur, ond yr hyn sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd yw datganiad rhagofalus am y cyfarpar ei hun. Nid yw'n ystyried yr hyn a all fod mewn bodolaeth eisoes. Mae angen inni weld darlun cyflawn o'r hyn sydd eisoes yn bod a'r hyn sydd ar y gweill a rhoi'r ddau beth at ei gilydd.

Yr oeddwn yn dechrau drysu ychydig ar un

because the Sir William Stewart who chaired the commission was also chair of what was the National Radiological Protection Board and is now the chair of the Health Protection Agency. Therefore, we have been talking a bit around this, but it actually involves the same person. In January 2005, Sir William Stewart went on record calling for reviews of this legislation because he had concerns that he did not have five years earlier. Scotland has gone much of the way that we are proposing, and it has not had problems with roll-out or with the significant increase in planning appeals.

When Nick Raynsford MP, as planning Minister, introduced this system in 2001, he said in a letter to all chief planning officers that applications should be approved in all but name as full planning applications, but that happens in very few planning authorities in practice. A survey of all planning authorities in England and Wales in 2002 asked a number of questions about the present telecom planning regime. A total of 37.7 per cent replied as follows: 95 per cent thought telecoms equipment an important planning issue; 73 per cent thought them an important health issue; 98 per cent said that proposals produced a strong public reaction; 77 per cent thought current legislation unsatisfactory; and 84 per cent thought that the planning regime did not deal adequately with community concern.

The telecommunications industry has approached us all and said that planning authorities do not have the resources to address complex representation made to them on health or safety grounds. I disagree with that. They either have in-house resources or they are able to gain expert opinion from outside. The ability of local government in Wales should never be underestimated or used as an argument in that way.

Finally, in 2002, Sue Essex, the then-Minister with responsibility for planning, said that she would monitor how well the

adeg, oherwydd yr oedd Syr William Stewart a gadeiriodd y comisiwn hefyd yn gadeirydd y Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol ar y pryd, ac mae bellach yn gadeirydd yr Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd. Felly, yr ydym wedi bod yn cyffredinol ychydig am hyn, ond mewn gwirionedd mae'n ymwneud â'r un person. Ym mis Ionawr 2005, cofnodwyd bod Syr William Stewart wedi galw am adolygiadau o'r ddeddfwriaeth hon am ei fod yn pryderu am bethau nad oedd yn pryderu amdanynt bum mlynedd yn gynharach. Mae'r Alban wedi gwneud llawer o'r hyn yr ydym ni yn ei gynnig, ac ni chafodd broblemau wrth gyflwyno hyn na chyda'r cynnydd sylweddol mewn apeliadau cynllunio.

Pan gyflwynodd Nick Raynsford AS y system hon yn 2001 fel Gweinidog cynllunio, dywedodd mewn llythyr at bob prif swyddog cynllunio y dylid cymeradwyo ceisiadau fel ceisiadau cynllunio llawn, er na ddylid eu galw felly, ond prin iawn yw'r awdurdodau cynllunio sy'n gwneud hynny. Mewn arolwg o'r holl awdurdodau cynllunio yng Nghymru a Lloegr yn 2002, gofynnwyd nifer o gwestiynau am y drefn gynllunio bresennol ar gyfer telathrebu. Atebodd cyfanswm o 37.7 y cant fel a ganlyn: yr oedd 95 y cant yn credu bod cyfarpar cyfathrebu yn fater cynllunio pwysig; yr oedd 73 y cant yn credu ei fod yn fater iechyd pwysig; dywedodd 98 y cant fod y cynigion yn ennyn ymateb cryf gan y cyhoedd; yr oedd 77 y cant yn credu bod y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol yn anfoddfaol; ac yr oedd 84 y cant yn credu nad oedd y drefn gynllunio yn ymdrin yn ddigonol â phryderon cymunedol.

Mae'r diwydiant telathrebu wedi cysylltu â phob un ohonom ac wedi dweud nad oes gan awdurdodau cynllunio yr adnoddau i fynd i'r afael â sylwadau cymhleth a gyflwynir iddynt ar sail iechyd neu ddiogelwch. Anghytunaf â hynny. Mae ganddynt naill ai adnoddau mewnol neu gallant gael barn arbenigol o'r tu allan. Ni ddylid byth tanbrisiu gallu llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru na defnyddio hynny fel dadl fel hynny.

Yn olaf, yn 2002 dywedodd Sue Essex, y Gweinidog ar y pryd a oedd yn gyfrifol am gynllunio, y byddai'n monitro pa mor dda yr

new system worked, and that she would look at further statutory measures that could be taken, if necessary. In my view—and, more importantly, in the view of many others, from the public to planning officers and, I think, really in the view of this Government—it is time for legislative change.

Lisa Francis: Galwaf am i'r gloch gael ei chanu.

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21, rhaid i o leiaf dri Aelod gefnogi'r cais. A oes tri Aelod sy'n cefnogi'r cais? Gwelaf fod. Glerc, cenwch y gloch, os gwelwch yn dda.

5.00 p.m.

William Graham: I raise a point of order. Was the bell rung in both buildings? [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh.']

The Presiding Officer: Order. My understanding is that there is currently no way in which total electronic communication in terms of ringing the bell pertains between both buildings. However, I am advised that a manual means of ringing the bell in the other building has been designed, and I assume that that happened in this case. It is confirmed by those who advise me that the bell was rung, and rung, I would assume, some seconds after it was rung here, but at least within four minutes. Does that satisfy you, William Graham?

William Graham: Most certainly, thank you.

The Presiding Officer: May I move to a vote now? [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Yes.']

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 57, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 1: 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

oedd y system newydd yn gweithio, ac y byddai'n edrych ar fesurau statudol eraill y gellid eu cymryd, os byddai angen. Yn fy marn i—ac yn bwysicach, ym marn nifer o bobl eraill, o'r cyhoedd i swyddogion cynllunio, ac ym marn y Llywodraeth hon mewn gwirionedd, mi gredaf—mae'n bryd cael newid deddfwriaethol.

Lisa Francis: I request that the bell be rung.

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 6.21, at least three Members must support the request. Do three Members support the request? I see that they do. Clerk, please ring the bell.

William Graham: Codaf bwynt o drefn. A ganwyd y gloch yn y ddau adeilad? [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O.']

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Deallaf nad oes unrhyw fodd ar hyn o bryd i gael cysylltiadau electronig llwyr i ganu'r gloch rhwng y ddau adeilad. Fodd bynnag, fe'm cynghorir bod dull wedi ei gynllunio o ganu'r gloch â llaw yn yr adeilad arall, a chymeraf fod hynny wedi digwydd yn yr achos hwn. Cadarnheir hynny gan y rhai sy'n dweud wrthyf fod y gloch wedi ei chanu, a'i chanu, fe dybiwn, rai eiliadau ar ôl ei chanu yma, ond o leiaf cyn pen pedair munud. A yw hynny'n foddhaol ichi, William Graham?

William Graham: Ydyw, diolch.

Y Llywydd: A gaf fi symud at bleidlais yn awr? [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'Cewch']

Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
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, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
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 2: O blaid 56, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 2: For 56, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick

Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 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
 Marek, John
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 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.*

Motion (NDM2736) as amended:

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 31.2:

supports in principle legislation to:

a) require the submission of a precautionary statement as to the potential and real health

Cynnig (NDM2736) fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31.2:

yn cefnogi mewn egwyddor ddeddfwriaeth i:

a) mynnu bod datganiad rhagofalus yn cael ei gyflwyno ynghylch effeithiau posibl ac

effects of all developments for electronic communications apparatus;

b) remove permitted development rights for all developments by electronic communications code systems operators who fall within the provisions set out in Part 24 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2002;

c) remove permitted development rights for rail undertakers for developments for electronic communications apparatus where proposals are for purposes other than assisting the safe movement of rail traffic.

effeithiau gwirioneddol pob datblygiad ar gyfer offer cyfathrebu electronig ar iechyd;

b) dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiatawyd i weithredwyr systemau codau cyfathrebu electronig sy'n dod o fewn y darpariaethau a nodir yn Rhan 24 o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002 ar gyfer pob datblygiad;

c) dileu hawliau datblygu a ganiatawyd i ymgymerwyr rheilffyrdd ar gyfer datblygiadau o ran offer cyfathrebu electronig lle bo'r cynigion at ddibenion nad oes a wnelont â chynorthwyo traffig y rheilffyrdd i symud yn ddiogel.

*Cynnig fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 27, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.
Amended motion: 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, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Marek, John
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 cynnig fel y'i diwygiwyd.
Amended motion defeated.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 5.03 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 5.03 p.m.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Hepatitis C—Y Salwch Anghofiedig Hepatitis C—The Forgotten Illness

Jenny Randerson: I am pleased that Helen Mary Jones and Jonathan Morgan have asked for the opportunity to contribute, and I will allow them time to do so.

I could have been much more emotive—
[*Interruption.*]

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Let us wait until Members have finished leaving the Chamber and I will then start the clock again. It is noisy here—you can probably hear more in this building than in the previous one.

Jenny Randerson: Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. I could have been much more emotive in the title of this debate, and called hepatitis C the hidden killer, as the report of the all-party group on hepatology in the House of Commons did.

Hepatitis C is a blood-borne disease, which can be contracted through intravenous drugs use, tattoo needles, acupuncture, electrolysis and body piercing. It can even be contracted by sharing shaving blades or a toothbrush. These are, to some extent or another, everyday risks that we take. There is another important group of people with the illness—those who received transfusions of unscreened blood in this country prior to 1991. I will return to that group later. So, the group of people at risk is very wide indeed, yet we hear little about this illness from the Government, and many in the medical profession remain woefully ill-informed. It is a hidden illness for another reason, and that is because people infected with hepatitis C often have no initial symptoms—symptoms may not appear for up to 30 years after infection. The eventual outcome is severe liver disease, such as cirrhosis, which will affect 20 to 50 per cent of those infected, and a further 8 to 40 per cent will develop liver cancer. There is currently no vaccine against it, so prevention is particularly important, and public awareness is crucial. However, although there is no cure, effective treatment

Jenny Randerson: Yr wyf yn falch fod Helen Mary Jones a Jonathan Morgan wedi gofyn am y cyfle i gyfrannu, a byddaf yn rhoi amser iddynt wneud hynny.

Gallwn fod wedi defnyddio llawer mwy o emosiwn—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Gadewch inni aros i'r Aelodau orffen gadael y Siambr ac yna fe ailgychwynnaf y cloc. Mae'n swnllyd yma—mae'n debyg y gallwch glywed mwy yn yr adeilad hwn nag yn yr un blaenorol.

Jenny Randerson: Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Gallwn fod wedi bod defnyddio llawer mwy o emosiwn gyda theitl y ddadl hon, a galw hepatitis C yn lladdwr cudd, fel y gwnaeth adroddiad y grŵp hollbleidiol ar hepatoleg yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin.

Mae hepatitis C yn glefyd sy'n cael ei gludo yn y gwaed, a gall pobl gael eu heintio drwy chwistrellu cyffuriau i mewn i'r gwythiennau, drwy nodwyddau tatŵ, aciwbigo, electrolysis a thyllu'r corff. Gellir ei ddal hyd yn oed drwy rannu llafnau eillio neu frws dannedd. Mae'r rhain, i ryw raddau neu ei gilydd, yn beryglon a wynebwn bob dydd. Mae grŵp pwysig arall o bobl sydd â'r clefyd-y rheini a gafodd drallwysiad gwaed heb ei sgrinio yn y wlad hon cyn 1991. Byddaf yn dychwelyd at y grŵp hwn yn ddiweddarach. Felly, mae'r grŵp o bobl sydd mewn perygl yn eang iawn. Ac eto ychydig a glywn am y clefyd hwn gan y Llywodraeth, ac mae nifer yn y proffesiwn meddygol yn dal yn druenus o anwybodus yn ei gylch. Mae'n glefyd cudd am reswm arall, a hynny am nad oes gan bobl sydd â hepatitis C unrhyw symptomau cychwynnol yn amlhwyrach na fydd symptomau'n ymddangos am hyd at 30 mlynedd ar ôl heintio. Y canlyniad terfynol yw clefyd difrifol ar yr iau, megis sirosis, a fydd yn effeithio ar 20 i 50 y cant o'r rhai sy'n cael yr haint, a bydd 8 i 40 y cant arall yn cael canser yr iau. Ar hyn o bryd nid oes brechlyn rhagddo, ac felly,

is available, with drugs used in combination therapy. These drugs deal with between 40 and 80 per cent of those with moderate to severe hepatitis C, and provide a considerable relief from symptoms.

The very nature of hepatitis C means that some groups are more at risk, yet those are the very groups least likely to report symptoms or visit their doctors regularly. Even those who visit their GPs may be less than frank about their previous or current lifestyles. So what are the numbers involved? Throughout the UK, it is estimated that over 450,000 people are infected with the disease. Only one in seven of those have been diagnosed, so there are well over 350,000 people walking around with hepatitis C who do not know it, and are, therefore, putting themselves and others at risk. In Wales, the situation is particularly bad. It is estimated that seven per cent of hepatitis C sufferers live in Wales—that is over 30,000 people and is a higher incidence of the disease than in the rest of the UK. It gets worse, as only 1 to 2 per cent of those who are infected with hepatitis C have been treated. Why is the situation so bad? Hepatitis C is not a disease that easily captures public sympathy, to put it bluntly. [*Interruption.*]

Rosemary Butler: Point of order. I am finding it very difficult to hear what Jenny is saying because I can hear what you are saying, Deputy Presiding Officer.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I know; this is the trouble. We are discussing a problem with the voting.

Rosemary Butler: Whatever, but I want to hear what Jenny is saying; I do not want to hear what you are saying.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: We are whispering. Can we turn the microphones up

mae atal y clefyd yn arbennig o bwysig, ac mae gwneud y cyhoedd ymwybodol yn hanfodol. Fodd bynnag, er nad oes gwellhad, mae triniaeth effeithiol ar gael, drwy ddefnyddio cyffuriau ar y cyd â therapi. Mae'r cyffuriau hyn yn trin rhwng 40 ac 80 y cant o bobl sydd â hepatitis C lled ddifrifol i ddifrifol, a gall roi rhyddhad sylweddol o'r symptomau.

Mae natur hepatitis C yn golygu bod rhai grwpiau mewn mwy o berygl, ac eto dyma'r union grwpiau sydd leiaf tebygol o ddweud wrth rywun am eu symptomau neu fynd at y meddyg yn rheolaidd. Mae hyd yn oed y rheini sy'n ymweld â'u meddygon yn llai nag agored am eu ffordd o fyw yn y gorffennol neu ar hyn o bryd. Felly, faint yw'r niferoedd dan sylw? Drwy'r DU i gyd, amcangyfrifir bod dros 450,000 o bobl wedi'u heintio â'r clefyd. Un o bob saith yn unig o'r rheini sydd wedi cael diagnosis, felly, mae ymhell dros 350,000 o bobl yn cerdded o gwmpas â hepatitis C heb sylweddoli hynny, ac efallai'n peryglu eu hunain ac eraill. Yng Nghymru, mae'r sefyllfa'n arbennig o wael. Amcangyfrifir bod saith y cant o'r rheini sy'n dioddef gan hepatitis C yn byw yng Nghymru—mae hynny'n golygu dros 30,000 o bobl ac mae nifer fwy o achosion o'r clefyd nag yng ngweddill y DU. Mae'r sefyllfa'n gwaethygu, gan mai 1 i 2 y cant yn unig o'r rheini sydd â hepatitis C sydd wedi cael triniaeth. Pam y mae'r sefyllfa mor wael? Nid yw hepatitis C yn glefyd sy'n ennyn cydymdeimlad y cyhoedd yn hawdd, i fod yn hollol ddi-flewyn-ar-dafod. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Rosemary Butler: Pwynt o drefn. Yr wyf yn ei chael yn anodd iawn clywed yr hyn y mae Jenny yn ei ddweud oherwydd fy mod yn clywed yr hyn yr ydych chi'n ei ddweud, Ddirprwy Lywydd.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gwn; dyna'r drafferth. Yr ydym yn trafod problem gyda'r pleidleisio.

Rosemary Butler: O'r gorau, ond yr wyf am glywed yr hyn sydd gan Jenny i'w ddweud; nid wyf am glywed yr hyn yr ydych chi yn ei ddweud.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr ydym yn sibrwd. A allwn droi'r microffonau i fyny ychydig?

a bit?

Rosemary Butler: No, we have tried all afternoon; it is not possible.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: They cannot be turned up any more?

Rosemary Butler: No.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Well, we will have to struggle on as best we can.

Jenny Randerson: I asked why the situation was so bad. It is because hepatitis C is not a disease that easily captures public sympathy. There are literally dozens of charities working to raise awareness and funds for cancer, but there is only one UK charity dedicated to hepatitis C. Although others are interested in the disease, only the Hepatitis C Trust is dedicated to it. The disease does not yet have a high public profile, but I predict that it will in future. The latest research suggests that seven out of 20 people with hepatitis C will develop severe liver disease and many will die without a liver transplant. That is over 300,000 people in the UK who will need a transplant, yet the number of livers available for transplant is around 700 a year. If those infected are not treated in the earlier stages of the disease, it will cost the NHS a massive amount of money: estimates are between £1.8 billion over the next 20 years to between £4 billion and £8 billion over the next 30 years. However, it does not need to be this bad. The UK does not compare well with other countries. Let us take France, for instance, where 56 per cent of those infected know that they have the disease. In the UK, that figure is only 14 per cent, remember. In France, 13 per cent of those infected are receiving treatment, compared with less than 2 per cent here. France has rapidly raised awareness through high-profile publicity campaigns, anonymous testing, dedicated funding and so on. Within the UK, the best-advanced area is Scotland—we say this quite frequently in relation to health matters. It is doing much better on diagnosis in comparison with England and Wales.

Rosemary Butler: Na allwn, yr ydym wedi ceisio gwneud hynny drwy'r prynhawn; nid yw'n bosibl.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Ni allwch eu troi i fyny ymhellach?

Rosemary Butler: Na allwn.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Wel, bydd yn rhaid inni barhau orau y gallwn.

Jenny Randerson: Gofynnais pam mae'r sefyllfa mor wael. Mae hynny oherwydd nad yw hepatitis C yn glefyd sy'n ennyn cydymdeimlad y cyhoedd yn hawdd. Yn llythrennol, mae dwsinau o elusennau yn gweithio i godi ymwybyddiaeth ac arian ar gyfer canser, ond dim ond un elusen yn y DU ar gyfer hepatitis C. Er bod gan eraill ddiddordeb yn y clefyd, dim ond yr Ymddiriedolaeth Hepatitis C sy'n ymdrin yn benodol ag ef. Nid oes gan y clefyd broffil uchel eto ymhlith y cyhoedd, ond rhagwelaf y bydd hynny'n digwydd yn y dyfodol. Mae'r ymchwil ddiweddaraf yn awgrymu y bydd saith person o bob 20 sydd â hepatitis C yn cael clefyd difrifol ar yr iau, a nifer yn marw heb drawsblaniad iau. Mae hynny'n golygu y bydd angen trawsblaniad iau ar fwy na 300,000 o bobl yn y DU, er mai tua 700 iau yn unig sydd ar gael bob blwyddyn i'w trawsblannu. Os na thrinnir pobl sydd wedi'u heintio yn ystod cyfnodau cynnar y clefyd, bydd yn costio swm enfawr o arian i'r GIG: mae amcangyfrifon rhwng £1.8 biliwn dros yr 20 mlynedd nesaf i rhwng £4 biliwn ac £8 biliwn dros y 30 mlynedd nesaf. Fodd bynnag, nid oes angen i bethau fod cynddrwg. Nid yw'r DU yn cymharu'n dda â gwledydd eraill. Gadewch inni edrych ar Ffrainc, er enghraifft, lle mae 56 y cant o'r bobl sydd wedi'u heintio yn gwybod bod y clefyd arnynt. Yn y DU, dim ond 14 y cant yw'r ffigur hwnnw, cofiwch. Yn Ffrainc, mae 13 y cant o bobl sydd wedi'u heintio yn cael triniaeth, o'u cymharu â llai na 2 y cant yma. Mae Ffrainc wedi codi ymwybyddiaeth yn gyflym drwy ymgyrchoedd cyhoeddusrwydd amlwg, profi anhysbys, neilltuo arian, ac ati. Yn y DU, yr ardal fwyaf blaengar yw'r Alban—yr ydym yn dweud hynny'n eithaf aml mewn cysylltiad â

materion iechyd. Mae'n llwyddo'n well o ran diagnosis o'i chymharu â Chymru a Lloegr.

5.10 p.m.

What can we do about this time bomb? For a start, I hope that all Assembly Members will sign the statement of opinion that I put down jointly with Helen Mary Jones, to make a clear statement to the Minister that we need swift, firm action. However, there is a lot more, obviously, that we need to do.

The hepatitis C action plan for England was published in June 2004, following a strategy that was announced in 2002. In Wales, we lag far behind both Scotland and England on this issue, because our Minister for Health and Social Services announced only last year that he was commissioning a strategy for hepatitis C in Wales. At that time, he said that it would be published this spring, and I would welcome the assurance of the Deputy Minister that that timetable will be met. However, we must ensure that what we do is much better than the inadequate English strategy and action plan, which were heavily criticised by the Westminster all-party group.

The publicity campaign needs to be much more high profile than it has been in England. It has to be much better funded, because raising awareness both prevents new infections and helps the identification of existing sufferers. High-profile work needs to be undertaken in our prisons, and we need to note that the responsibility for health in prisons in Wales goes to local health boards in the near future. At-risk individuals should be proactively screened, and there needs to be significant funding, specifically set aside for this and for the treatment of those affected. This will not be cheap, but it is a lot less expensive than the long-term costs of allowing the disease to develop. We need to borrow best practice from abroad. The medical and allied professions need to be made much more aware of the prevalence of symptoms of the disease and of the availability of effective treatment.

Beth allwn ni ei wneud am y broblem hon? I ddechrau, gobeithio y bydd holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn llofnodi'r datganiad barn a gyflwynais ar y cyd â Helen Mary Jones, i wneud datganiad clir i'r Gweinidog fod angen gweithredu'n gyflym ac yn gadarn. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer mwy, yn amlwg, y mae angen inni ei wneud.

Cyhoeddwyd cynllun gweithredu hepatitis C ar gyfer Lloegr ym mis Mehefin 2004, yn dilyn strategaeth a gyhoeddwyd yn 2002. Yng Nghymru yr ydym ymhell ar ei hôl hi o'n cymharu â'r Alban a Lloegr yn y mater hwn, oherwydd i'n Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol gyhoeddi y llynedd ei fod yn comisiynu strategaeth ar gyfer hepatitis C yng Nghymru. Ar y pryd, dywedodd y byddai'n cael ei chyhoeddi y gwanwyn hwn, a byddwn yn croesawu sicrwydd y Dirprwy Weinidog y bydd hynny'n digwydd. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni sicrhau bod yr hyn a wnawn lawer gwell na'r strategaeth â'r cynllun gweithredu annigonol yn Lloegr, sydd wedi ei feirniadu'n llym gan y grŵp hollbleidiol yn San Steffan.

Mae angen i'r ymgyrch gyhoeddusrwydd fod lawer yn fwy amlwg nag ydoedd yn Lloegr. Rhaid iddi gael ei hariannu lawer yn well, oherwydd mae codi ymwybyddiaeth yn atal heintiadau newydd yn ogystal â helpu adnabod y dioddefwyr presennol. Mae angen gwneud gwaith amlwg yn ein carchardai, ac mae angen inni gydnabod y bydd y cyfrifoldeb am iechyd mewn carchardai yng Nghymru yn disgyn ar ysgwyddau byrddau iechyd lleol yn y dyfodol agos. Dylid mynd ati i sgrinio unigolion sydd mewn perygl, ac mae angen arian digonol, wedi'i neilltuo'n benodol ar gyfer hyn ac ar gyfer trin y rheini sydd wedi'u heintio. Ni fydd hyn yn rhad, ond bydd yn rhatach o lawer na'r costau hirdymor os gadewir i'r clefyd ddatblygu. Mae angen inni efelychu arferion gorau o wledydd tramor. Mae angen i'r proffesiynau meddygol a pherthynol fod lawer yn fwy ymwybodol o amllder symptomau'r clefyd ac o'r driniaeth effeithiol sydd ar gael.

I now turn to a special group of hepatitis C sufferers—those who have received infected blood products. Many of those, but not all, are haemophiliacs, infected by HIV and hepatitis C, as well as other diseases. One of my constituents, Haydn Lewis, is a case in point, and I am pleased that he is here today to listen to this. Not only is he infected, his wife, as a consequence, has also been infected by both diseases. Although they were infected when young, the progression of their diseases has meant that neither is able to work. My constituent received infected blood products from donors abroad via the NHS in the late 1980s, even though as early as 1975, the then Minister, Dr David Owen, now Lord Owen, says that he was aware of the problem of infected blood products. He set aside money for the NHS to ensure that Britain became self-sufficient in blood products; that money was never used for that purpose.

It was not until 1991 that the Government offered haemophiliacs who had contracted HIV and hepatitis C a sympathy payment. Please note that that offer specifically excluded any admission of Government responsibility. The payment was very small. A cynic might say that it was based on the belief held at that time that people with HIV were not going to live very long; recent advances, however, have meant that they live much longer. The effects of hepatitis C on them is intensifying, as time goes on. Ironically, those effects are exacerbated by the medication for HIV.

In Ireland, the Government has been much more generous, and provided compensation to this group in 2002—proper compensation. In an age when some people receive millions of pounds in compensation, it is indecent that this relatively small group of people should be given such poor treatment.

There needs to be a public inquiry as to why the NHS continued to supply infected blood products for 10 years after heat treatment to counter these infections became available and for at least five years after it knew of the link. Why did the Government not inform

Trof yn awr at grŵp arbennig o ddiodefwyd hepatitis C-y rheini a gafodd gynnyrch gwaed wedi'u heintio. Mae nifer ohonynt, ond nid pob un, yn hemoffilig, wedi'u heintio ag HIV a hepatitis C, yn ogystal â chlefydau eraill. Mae un o'm hetholwyr i, Haydn Lewis, yn un ohonynt, ac yr wyf yn falch o ddweud ei fod yma heddiw i wrando ar hyn. Nid ef yn unig sydd wedi'i heintio; mae ei wraig, o ganlyniad, hefyd wedi'i heintio â'r ddau glefyd. Er iddynt gael eu heintio pan oeddent yn ifanc, mae datblygiad y clefydau yn golygu na allant weithio. Cafodd fy etholwr gynnyrch gwaed wedi'i heintio gan roddwyr dramor drwy'r GIG ar ddiwedd yr 1980au, er bod Dr David Owen, y Gweinidog ar y pryd, yr Arglwydd Owen erbyn hyn, wedi dweud mor gynnar â 1975 ei fod yn ymwybodol o'r broblem gyda chynnyrch gwaed wedi'i heintio. Neilltuodd arian i'r GIG sicrhau y byddai Prydain yn dod yn hunangynhaliol o ran cynnyrch gwaed; ni ddefnyddiwyd yr arian hwnnw at y diben hwnnw.

Yr oedd yn rhaid aros tan 1991 i'r Llywodraeth gynnig taliad cydymdeimlad i bobl hemoffilig a oedd wedi'u heintio â HIV a hepatitis C. Sylwch fod y cynnig yn benodol yn hepgor unrhyw gyfaddefiad penodol o gyfrifoldeb y Llywodraeth. Yr oedd y taliad yn fach iawn. Gallai sinig ddweud iddo gael ei seilio ar y gred ar y pryd nad oedd pobl â HIV yn mynd i fyw yn hir iawn; mae datblygiadau diweddar, fodd bynnag, wedi golygu eu bod yn byw lawer yn hwy. Mae effeithiau hepatitis C arnynt yn dwysau gydag amser. Yn eironig, mae'r effeithiau hynny'n dwysau drwy gymryd y feddyginiaeth ar gyfer HIV.

Yn Iwerddon, yr oedd y Llywodraeth lawer yn fwy hael, a rhoddodd iawndal i'r grŵp hwn yn 2002—iawndal go iawn. Mewn cyfnod pan fydd rhai pobl yn cael miliynau o bunnoedd o iawndal, mae'n warthus fod y grŵp cymharol fach hwn o bobl yn cael ei drin mor wael.

Mae angen ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i'r rhesymau pam y parhaodd y GIG i ddarparu cynnyrch gwaed wedi'i heintio am 10 mlynedd wedi i driniaeth gwres i drin yr heintiau hyn fod ar gael, ac am o leiaf bum mlynedd wedi i'r GIG fod yn ymwybodol o'r

patients immediately it knew that haemophiliacs were likely to have contracted hepatitis C as well as HIV? There has been a Government conspiracy and cover-up and there is an overwhelming need for a public inquiry.

Haemophilia Wales Support Group has campaigned for many years on this. To its credit, the Government gave some ground in 2003 when Jane Hutt, the then Minister for Health and Social Services, brought Wales into line with England in announcing a further funding package. However, that was strictly not compensation. Not only did this money take 18 months to arrive, but it was only £20,000 for ruined health. It will rise to £25,000 for my constituent if he develops cancer.

What about those who have died? What about those who, like my constituent's wife, have been infected by haemophiliacs? What about their widows and what about basic justice? The numbers have never been massive. Over 1,000 have died so far as a result of this and there are now only a few dozen left alive in Wales who are the victims of this tragedy. I look forward to the Deputy Minister's response on hepatitis C in general and on the specific issue of the haemophiliacs who have been treated so badly by successive Governments in this country.

Helen Mary Jones: I associate myself with all that Jenny Randerson has said. We must ensure, Deputy Minister, that when the strategy comes forward, it is timely, that the timescale does not slip—that it comes forward in the spring—and that we take an opportunity to ensure that we learn from best practice and ensure that this time bomb is dealt with before we are left with a huge health legacy. I also associate myself with all that Jenny Randerson said about the haemophiliacs who were infected by this blood.

Jonathan Morgan: I thank Jenny for bringing this debate to the Assembly this afternoon. It is frightening when you consider the large numbers of patients who

cysylltiad. Pam na ddywedodd y Llywodraeth wrth y cleifion ar unwaith pan ddaeth yn ymwybodol fod hemoffiliaid yn debygol o fod wedi dal hepatitis C yn ogystal â HIV? Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi cynllwynio ac wedi celu ffeithiau, ac mae angen dirfawr am ymchwiliad cyhoeddus.

Mae Grŵp Cymorth Haemoffilia Cymru wedi ymgyrchu dros hyn ers blynyddoedd lawer. Er clod i'r Llywodraeth, ildiodd ychydig yn 2003 pan gyhoeddodd Jane Hutt, y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar y pryd, becyn ariannol ychwanegol gan wneud Cymru yn gyfartal â Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, nid iawndal oedd hwnnw mewn gwirionedd. Yn ogystal â chymryd 18 mis i gyrraedd, dim ond £20,000 oedd y swm am iechyd a oedd wedi torri. Bydd yn codi i £25,000 i'm hetholwr os bydd yn cael canser.

Beth am y rhai a fu farw? Beth am y rhai sydd, fel gwraig fy etholwr, wedi eu heintio gan hemoffiliaid? Beth am eu gweddwon, a beth am gyfiawnder sylfaenol? Ni fu'r niferoedd erioed yn sylweddol. Mae dros 1,000 wedi marw hyd yn hyn o ganlyniad i hyn, a bellach dim ond ychydig ddwsinau sy'n dal yn fyw yng Nghymru ac sydd wedi dioddef y drasiedi hon. Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed ymateb y Dirprwy Weinidog ar hepatitis C yn gyffredinol, ac yn benodol ar fater hemoffiliaid sydd wedi eu trin mor wael gan y naill Lywodraeth ar ôl y llall yn y wlad hon.

Helen Mary Jones: Cefnogaf y cyfan a ddywedodd Jenny Randerson. Rhaid inni sicrhau, Ddirprwy Weinidog, pan gyflwynir y strategaeth, ei bod yn amserol, na fydd yr amserlen yn llithro-y caiff ei chyflwyno yn y gwanwyna'n bod yn manteisio ar y cyfle i sicrhau dysgu o arfer gorau, a sicrhau y byddwn yn ymdrin â'r broblem hon yn awr cyn inni gael problemau iechyd dybryd yn y dyfodol. Cefnogaf hefyd y cyfan a ddywedodd Jenny Randerson am yr hemoffiliaid a gafodd eu heintio gan y gwaed hwn.

Jonathan Morgan: Diolch i Jenny am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon yn y Cynulliad y prynhawn yma. Mae'n arswydus pan ystyriwch y nifer fawr o gleifion nad ydynt

do not know that they have hepatitis C. Given that somewhere between 1 and 2 per cent of those people with hepatitis C are treated, it must be one of the few diseases, if not the only disease, in Britain for which such a low percentage of people get treatment. The Government has to explain why it is that Italy, Spain and Germany are better at diagnosing and treating people with hepatitis C and why, given the potential cure rate of up to 80 per cent of those treated, more is not being done to identify sufferers. We need to see that strategy, the money and a public information campaign as soon as possible.

yn ymwybodol fod hepatitis C arnynt. O gofio bod rhwng 1 a 2 y cant o bobl sydd â hepatitis C yn cael eu trin, rhaid bod hwn yn un o'r ychydig heintiau, os nad yr unig un, ym Mhrydain lle mae canran mor fach o bobl yn cael eu trin ar ei gyfer. Rhaid i'r Llywodraeth egluro pam mae'r Eidal, Sbaen a'r Almaen yn well o ran nodi a thrin pobl sydd â hepatitis C a pham, o gofio'r gyfradd wella bosibl o hyd at 80 y cant o'r rheini sy'n cael eu trin, nad oes mwy yn cael ei wneud i nodi'r rhai sy'n dioddef. Mae angen inni weld y strategaeth honno, yr arian a'r ymgyrch wybodaeth i'r cyhoedd cyn gynted â phosibl.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Pwynt o drefn. Nid oeddwn am darfu ar y ddadl fer, felly yr wyf yn codi'r pwynt o drefn hwn cyn i'r Dirprwy Weinidog ymateb. Wrth bleidleisio ar y ddadl olaf, ni ddaeth golau ar fy mheiriant i ganiatáu imi bleidleisio ac, felly, nid yw fy mhleidlais wedi'i chofnodi. Pe bawn wedi pleidleisio, byddwn wedi pleidleisio o blaid y cynnig. A fyddai modd ichi edrych ar y system i sicrhau na fydd hyn yn digwydd yr wythnos nesaf?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Point of order. I did not want to interrupt the short debate, and I am therefore raising this point of order before the Deputy Minister replies. When we voted on the last debate, the light on my machine did not come on to allow me to vote, and my vote, therefore, was not recorded. If I had voted, I would have voted in favour of the motion. Would you look at the system to ensure that this does not happen next week?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Thank you for that point of order. We cannot change the vote, but what you have said will be on the Record. I have asked for a full investigation and we will certainly look into the matter carefully.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolch ichi am y pwynt o drefn hwnnw. Ni allwn newid y bleidlais, ond bydd yr hyn a ddywedasochn wedi'i nodi yn y Cofnod. Yr wyf wedi gofyn am ymchwiliad llawn, a byddwn yn sicrhau yn edrych ar y mater yn ofalus.

The Deputy Minister with Responsibility for Older People (John Griffiths): I thank Jenny for highlighting an important public health problem in Wales, the UK and the world. I know that Jenny has long campaigned on these issues and specifically on some of the points that she highlighted in her speech today. I know that this is important to Jenny's constituents and to many people across Wales.

Y Dirprwy Weinidog â Chyfrifoldeb dros Bobl Hŷn (John Griffiths): Diolch i Jenny am dynnu sylw at broblem bwysig o ran iechyd y cyhoedd yng Nghymru, y DU a'r byd. Gwn fod Jenny wedi ymgyrchu'n hir ar y materion hyn, ac yn benodol ar rai o'r pwyntiau a amlinellodd yn ei haraith heddiw. Gwn fod hyn yn bwysig i etholwyr Jenny ac i lawer o bobl ar draws Cymru.

The World Health Organisation estimates that some 170 million people are chronically infected with hepatitis C, compared with some 40 million people who are infected with HIV. That puts it into some sort of

Mae Sefydliad Iechyd y Byd yn amcangyfrif bod tua 170 miliwn o bobl wedi eu heintio'n gronig â hepatitis C, o'u cymharu â thua 40 miliwn sydd wedi eu heintio â HIV. Mae hynny'n ei osod mewn rhyw fath o gyd-

context in terms of its seriousness and impact.

5.20 p.m.

Studies show that about one person in five recovers from the infection, but that the majority of those infected eventually become chronically infected. This condition, as Jenny said, can lead to serious liver disease and liver cancer. Because of the illness' nature, in that symptoms rarely present at the time of the initial infection, it could be called a hidden illness, as it often is.

It is mainly spread, as we know, by drug users who inject themselves and who share blood-contaminated equipment, but, as Jenny mentioned, there are other, less common routes to infection, including sexual intercourse, blood transfusion, skin piercing or tattooing for which sterile equipment is not used. Most of the people infected are not aware of the fact at the time, and that is germane to the issues that Jenny raised and all the associated problems. Many of the infected people have no symptoms, whereas some complain of feeling unwell, with mild fatigue, weight loss, depression and pain or discomfort in the liver.

I am not sure that our figures entirely accord with those that you mentioned, Jenny, but I am sure that, as is often the case, it is a matter of interpretation. In 2004, a study of the epidemiology of hepatitis C was conducted by the National Public Health Service for Wales, and its conclusions showed an estimate of overall prevalence of hepatitis C being comparable with rates elsewhere in the United Kingdom. That suggested that 0.5 per cent of the population of Wales, approximately 14,000 people, are infected with the illness. That contrasts starkly with the number of people who are actually treated for the illness, which, in the past year, was some 69 cases. Again, that reinforces the points made by Jenny and others.

Jenny Randerson: I simply want to point out that you have one set of figures and I

destun o ran ei ddifrifoldeb a'i effaith.

Dengys astudiaethau fod tuag un o bob pump yn gwella o'r haint, ond bod y mwyafrif o'r rheini sydd wedi eu heintio yn cael yr haint cronig yn y pen draw. Gall y cyflwr hwn, fel y dywedodd Jenny, arwain at afiechyd difrifol ar yr iau a chanser ar yr iau. Oherwydd natur y salwch, gan mai anaml y bydd symptomau'n bresennol pan fydd yr haint yn dechrau, gallai gael ei alw'n salwch cudd, gan mai dyna ydyw yn aml.

Caiff ei ledaenu'n bennaf, fel y gwyddom, gan ddefnyddwyr cyffuriau sy'n defnyddio nodwyddau ac yn rhannu offer â gwaed halogedig arno. Ond fel y soniodd Jenny, mae yna ffyrdd eraill llai cyffredin o gael yr haint, gan gynnwys cyfathrach rywiol, trallwysiad gwaed, tyllu'r croen a thatwio pan na ddefnyddir offer wedi ei ddiheintio. Nid yw'r rhan fwyaf o bobl sy'n cael eu heintio yn ymwybodol o hynny ar y pryd, ac mae hynny'n berthnasol i'r materion a gododd Jenny ynghyd â'r holl broblemau cysylltiedig. Nid oes gan nifer o'r bobl sydd wedi eu heintio unrhyw symptomau, er y bydd rhai'n cwyno eu bod yn teimlo'n sâl, gyda symptomau megis blinder, colli pwysau, iselder ysbryd neu boen yn yr iau.

Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw ein ffigurau yn cytuno'n llwyr â'r rhai yr oeddech chi'n sôn amdanynt, Jenny, ond yr wyf yn siŵr, fel sy'n aml yn digwydd, mai mater o ddadansoddiad ydyw. Yn 2004, gwnaeth Gwasanaeth Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cenedlaethol Cymru astudiaeth o epidemioleg hepatitis C, a dangosodd ei gasgliadau amcangyfrif fod cyfraddau hepatitis C yn debyg i'r hyn ydynt mewn mannau eraill yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Awgrymai hynny fod 0.5 y cant o boblogaeth Cymru, tua 14,000 o bobl, wedi eu heintio â'r salwch. Mae hynny'n hollol wahanol i nifer y bobl sy'n cael eu trin mewn gwirionedd ar gyfer y salwch, sef tua 69 o achosion yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Eto, mae hynny'n atgyfnerthu'r pwyntiau a wnaed gan Jenny ac eraill.

Jenny Randerson: Y cyfan yr wyf am ei wneud yw nodi bod gennyh chi un gyfres o

have another, based on the all-party parliamentary group's work and the work of the Hepatitis C Trust. That underlines the whole issue with this problem: it is so hidden that we cannot possibly be sure but, even on your conservative estimates, it is a very big problem.

John Griffiths: It is, and I would not want to suggest in any way that we are not treating it as such. That is why we have to bring this strategy action plan and framework forward, which I will come on to later. It is a serious problem indeed, with all the implications that you outlined earlier.

I was going to say that just 69 cases were treated in the past year, which reinforces your points. This points clearly to the fact that one of the main difficulties of treating this illness is that of identifying the hepatitis-C-positive individuals who may have acquired the disease in the past when they were, perhaps, engaging in some of the risk behaviours associated with the condition, whereas now, they may well have left those risk-creating behaviours behind and be living what people would consider to be productive lives in their communities. That makes it difficult to get at what people call 'hidden patients'. In that light, we see the importance of a public information campaign, which needs to be considered, and which is something that, again, you mentioned, Jenny.

Certainly, early treatment, as with much else, is vital, and the medical profession acknowledges that treating patients prior to the development of cirrhosis or hepatic carcinoma has significant advantages. This has been detailed by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence in its assessments of the management of hepatitis C. In recent years, thankfully, we have seen increasingly effective treatment, which you also mentioned, for chronic hepatitis C, and, in January 2004, NICE recommended a combination of pegylated interferon alfa and rebavirin for the treatment of patients with moderate-to-severe hepatitis C. The good news is that, overall—I think that our figures

ffigurau a bod gennyf fi gyfres arall, yn seiliedig ar waith y grŵp seneddol hollbleidiol a gwaith yr Ymddiriedolaeth Hepatitis C. Mae hynny'n mynd at wraidd y broblem hon: mae mor gudd fel na allwn fyth fod yn siŵr. Ond hyd yn oed ar sail eich amcangyfrifon ceidwadol chi, mae'n broblem fawr iawn.

John Griffiths: Mae hynny'n wir, ac ni fyddwn am awgrymu o gwbl nad ydym yn trin y broblem fel un ddifrifol. Dyna pam mae angen inni gyflwyno'r cynllun gweithredu strategol a'r fframwaith yn fuan, a chyfeirïaf at hynny yn ddiweddarach. Mae hon yn broblem ddifrifol iawn, gyda'r holl oblygiadau a amlinellwyd gennych yn gynharach.

Yr oeddwn am ddweud mai dim ond 69 o achosion a gafodd eu trin y llynedd, sy'n atgyfnerthu eich pwyntiau. Mae hyn yn atgyfnerthu'r ffaith mai un o'r prif anawsterau wrth drin y salwech hwn yw dod o hyd i'r unigolion hynny sy'n dioddef gan hepatitis C ac a allai fod wedi dal yr afiechyd yn y gorffennol pan oeddent, efallai, yn ymddwyn mewn ffordd lle'r oedd risg sy'n gysylltiedig â'r haint, er eu bod bellach yn ymddwyn yn wahanol ac yn byw bywydau y byddai pobl yn eu hystyried yn fywydau cynhyrchiol yn eu cymunedau. Mae hyn yn ei gwneud yn anodd cyrraedd yr hyn a elwir yn 'gleifion cudd'. Oherwydd hynny, gwelwn bwysigrwydd ymgyrch wybodaeth i'r cyhoedd. Mae angen ystyried hyn, ac mae'n rhywbeth eto yr oeddech chi, Jenny, yn sôn amdano.

Yn sicr, mae triniaeth gynnar, fel gyda llawer o bethau eraill, yn hanfodol, ac mae'r proffesiwn meddygol yn cydnabod ei bod o fantais sylweddol trin cleifion cyn iddynt ddatblygu sirosis neu garsinoma hepatig. Mae hyn wedi ei nodi gan y Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Ragoriaeth Glinigol yn ei asesiadau o reoli hepatitis C. Yn ddiweddar, diolch byth, yr ydym wedi gweld triniaeth gynyddol effeithiol, y soniwyd amdani eto, ar gyfer hepatitis C cronig, ac ym mis Ionawr 2004 argymhellodd NICE gyfuniad o alffa interfferon pegyldedig a rebavirin ar gyfer trin cleifion sydd â hepatitis C lled ddifrifol i ddifrifol. Y newyddion da yw bod y driniaeth hon ar y cyfan—credaf fod ein ffigurau ni

might be slightly different to yours, Jenny—this treatment is successful in clearing infection in up to 55 per cent of patients who have no detectable virus in their blood six months after the treatment has ceased. However, if chronic infection is left untreated, most people will eventually develop symptoms, and one in five go on to develop cirrhosis of the liver after 20 years or more.

A great deal has already been done to control hepatitis C. For example, prospective blood donors who may have been at risk of infection have been asked not to donate blood, and all blood, tissue and organ donors are screened for hepatitis C. Blood products have also been treated to inactivate blood-borne viruses since 1985, and the screening of all blood donations began in 1991 with regard to hepatitis C. More recently, in 2002, the Welsh Assembly Government provided guidance to the national health service trusts regarding hepatitis-C-infected healthcare workers, and the arrangements that should be put in place to prevent transmission to patients.

On sexual transmission, the Welsh Assembly Government recognised the need to improve sexual health services in Wales, and consequently undertook a review of services during 2004. In December 2004, the Government published the review's recommendations, which were followed in 2005 by the introduction of a HIV and sexual health services modernisation programme to develop a more integrated and modernised sexual health and family planning service in Wales.

To spearhead those improvements, we have seconded Dr Marion Lyons, a consultant on communicable disease control, from the national public health service to the Assembly, as director of the HIV and sexual health services modernisation project. Dr Lyons has already played a central role in taking the review forward and will lead the modernisation agenda. Under her direction, the Assembly has developed a service specification to underpin local health board commissioning considerations and to consider ways in which to deliver the

ychydig yn wahanol i'ch rhai chi, Jenny—yn cael gwared o'r haint mewn hyd at 55 y cant o gleifion na ellir dod o hyd i'r firws yn eu gwaed chwe mis ar ôl i'r driniaeth ddod i ben. Fodd bynnag, os caiff haint cronig ei adael heb ei drin, bydd pobl yn datblygu symptomau yn y pen draw, a bydd un o bob pump yn cael sirosis ar yr iau ar ôl 20 mlynedd neu fwy.

Mae llawer wedi ei wneud eisoes i reoli hepatitis C. Er enghraifft, gofynnir i ddarpar roddwyr gwaed a all fod wedi bod mewn perygl o gael eu heintio beidio â rhoi gwaed, a chaiff pob rhoddwr gwaed, meinwe ac organau eu sgrinio rhag hepatitis C. Mae cynnyrch gwaed hefyd wedi cael ei drin ers 1985 i lonyddu heintiau sy'n cael eu cludo yn y gwaed, a dechreuwyd sgrinio pob rhodd gwaed yn 1991 mewn cysylltiad â hepatitis C. Yn fwy diweddar, yn 2002 gosododd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru ganllawiau ar gyfer ymddiriedolaethau'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol ynglŷn â gofalywyr iechyd sydd wedi eu heintio â hepatitis C, a'r trefniadau y dylid eu rhoi ar waith i atal ei drosglwyddo i gleifion.

O ran cael ei drosglwyddo'n rhywiol, cydnabu Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fod angen gwella gwasanaethau iechyd rhyw yng Nghymru, a gwnaeth adolygiad o'r gwasanaethau yn 2004 o ganlyniad i hyn. Ym mis Rhagfyr 2004, cyhoeddodd y Llywodraeth argymhellion yr adolygiad, ac wedyn yn 2005 cyflwynwyd rhaglen i foderneiddio gwasanaethau HIV ac iechyd rhyw i ddatblygu gwasanaeth iechyd rhyw a chynllunio teulu mwy integredig a modern yng Nghymru.

I arwain y gwelliannau hynny yr ydym wedi secondio Dr Marian Lyons, meddyg ymgynghorol ar reoli clefydau trosglwyddadwy, o'r gwasanaeth iechyd cyhoeddus cenedlaethol i'r Cynulliad, fel cyfarwyddwr y prosiect moderneiddio gwasanaethau HIV ac iechyd rhyw. Mae Dr Lyons eisoes wedi chwarae rhan ganolog wrth gyflwyno'r adolygiad, a bydd yn arwain yr agenda foderneiddio. O dan ei harweiniad, mae'r Cynulliad wedi datblygu manyleb gwasanaeth i fod yn sail i ystyriaethau comisiynu gan fyrddau iechyd lleol ac i

appropriate training for nurses across Wales. A multi-disciplinary advisory group on sexual health is supporting Dr Lyons with that work.

Jenny is rightly concerned about transmission through blood transfusion. Blood transfusions and treatments with blood products can never be made completely free from risk. However, equally, we have to consider the benefit—

Jocelyn Davies: Will you give way?

John Griffiths: Yes. I just wish to finish the sentence. The benefits to patients from that treatment are considerable, and it involves the saving of lives in some circumstances.

Jocelyn Davies: I am glad that you finished your sentence, because you mentioned that, although there are dangers that are linked with blood transfusions, if your life will be saved it is worth taking the risk. Going back to the haemophiliacs who received blood products when the Government knew that they might be contaminated with HIV and hepatitis C, they should have been given the opportunity to make that choice. Would you now support a public inquiry so that that scandal is unearthed?

John Griffiths: I was going to come on to the public inquiry, but I will deal with that now. The Welsh Assembly Government's position has been quite clear on this: it remains our view that there is no need for a public inquiry. All the relevant information on Wales is already in the public domain and has been the subject of reports to the Health and Social Services Committee by the former Minister for Health and Social Services, and ministerial replies to correspondence. The Welsh Assembly Government's view is that there is nothing to be gained from a public inquiry given that all that information is already in the public domain.

In terms of these matters, we are constantly assessing the risks and putting in place a raft of measures to minimise them, which is the most important thing that can be done, to

ystyried ffyrdd i ddarparu'r hyfforddiant priodol ar gyfer nyrsys ar draws Cymru. Mae grŵp cyngori amlddisgyblaeth ar iechyd rhyw yn cynorthwyo Dr Lyons yn y gwaith hwnnw.

Mae Jenny yn iawn i bryderu am drosglwyddo'r haint drwy drallwysiad gwaed. Ni ellir fyth wneud trallwysladau gwaed a thriniaethau gyda chynnyrch gwaed yn hollol rydd o risg. Fodd bynnag, yn yr un modd rhaid inni ystyried bod y manteision—

Jocelyn Davies: A ildiwch?

John Griffiths: Gwnaf. Yr wyf am orffen y frawddeg. Mae manteision y driniaeth honno i gleifion yn sylweddol, ac y mae'n golygu achub bywydau mewn rhai amgylchiadau.

Jocelyn Davies: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi gorffen eich brawddeg, gan ichi ddweud, er bod peryglon yn gysylltiedig â thrallwysladau gwaed, os caiff eich bywyd ei achub mae'n werth cymryd y risg. I fynd yn ôl at yr hemoffiliaid a gafodd gynnyrch gwaed pan wyddai'r Llywodraeth y gallai fod wedi ei heintio â HIV a hepatitis C, dylent fod wedi cael y cyfle i wneud y dewis hwnnw. A wnewch chi gefnogi ymchwiliad cyhoeddus yn awr er mwyn datgelu'r sgandal honno?

John Griffiths: Yr oeddwn am drafod yr ymchwiliad cyhoeddus yn ddiweddarach, ond deliaf â hynny yn awr. Mae barn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi bod yn glir ar hyn: ein barn o hyd yw nad oes angen ymchwiliad cyhoeddus. Mae'r holl wybodaeth berthnasol am Gymru eisoes yn gyhoeddus ac wedi bod yn destun adroddiadau i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol gan y Gweinidog blaenorol dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ac ymatebion gan weinidogion i ohebiaeth. Barn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yw nad oes unrhyw ddiben cael ymchwiliad cyhoeddus o gofio bod yr holl wybodaeth honno eisoes yn gyhoeddus.

O ran y materion hyn, yr ydym yn asesu'r risgiau drwy'r amser ac yn rhoi cyfres o fesurau ar waith i'w lleihau, sef y peth pwysicaf y gellir ei wneud, i sicrhau bod

ensure that transfusions are as safe as possible given that we cannot completely eliminate risk. We currently have a major programme in place in Wales that is aimed at ensuring that patients only receive blood when the benefits significantly outweigh the risks and the blood is administered safely.

5.30 p.m.

The UK Blood Service introduced screening for hepatitis C in September 1991, which was further strengthened in February 1999 with the introduction of nucleic acid testing on cellular products, which further reduces the window period of infectivity.

On the fund, which is one of Jenny's prime concerns, we know that hepatitis C has been inadvertently transmitted via blood or blood products before these strict measures were introduced. In recognition of this, in August 2003, the Welsh Assembly Government, along with other UK health administrations, announced a financial assistance scheme, the Skipton fund, to help those people infected with hepatitis C by NHS blood or blood products.

On the amounts involved, my information is that, to date, over 198 applicants from Wales have benefited from this scheme and Wales has received a total of around £4.6 million. As you say, these are ex-gratia payments and there never has been an acceptance of liability in this regard. This scheme has sought to achieve a balance in helping people who have to live with this condition and who have contracted it in this way, and, at the same time, ensuring that the services available for these people and in general are all that they have every right to expect and are driving forward the sort of improvements that will come with the action plan and framework alongside it.

Jocelyn Davies: That all sounds very reasonable, I am sure, but you have to accept that this is a scandal. These blood products were imported from America and it was known that the source of the blood was prisons; that is where the blood was being bought. You would not have offered the public blood transfusions from that source.

trallwysiadau mor ddiogel â phosibl o gofio na allwn ddileu risg yn gyfan gwbl. Mae rhaglen fawr ar waith yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd sy'n anelu at sicrhau mai dim ond pan fydd y manteision yn sylweddol uwch na'r risg y bydd cleifion yn cael gwaed, a'r gwaed yn cael ei roi'n ddiogel.

Cyflwynodd Gwasanaeth Gwaed y DU raglen sgrinio am hepatitis C ym mis Medi 1991, a atgyfnerthwyd ymhellach ym mis Chwefror 1999 pan gyflwynwyd profion asid niwclëig ar gynnyrch cellol, sy'n lleihau'r cyfnod heintio ymhellach.

O ran y gronfa, sef un o brif bryderon Jenny, gwyddom fod hepatitis C wedi ei drosglwyddo'n anfwriadol drwy waed neu gynnyrch gwaed cyn i'r mesurau llym hyn gael eu cyflwyno. I gydnabod hyn, ym mis Awst 2003 cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, ynghyd â gweinyddiaethau ieuchyd eraill y DU, gynllun cymorth ariannol, sef cronfa Skipton, i helpu'r bobl hynny a oedd wedi eu heintio â hepatitis C gan waed neu gynnyrch gwaed y GiG.

O ran y symiau sy'n gysylltiedig â hyn, deallaf fod dros 198 o bobl o Gymru hyd yn hyn wedi cael cymorth o dan y cynllun hwn, a bod Cymru wedi cael cyfanswm o tua £4.6 miliwn. Fel y dywedwch, taliadau ex gratia yw'r rhain ac ni dderbyniwyd unrhyw gyfrifoldeb yn y cyswllt hwn. Mae'r cynllun hwn wedi ceisio cael cydbwysedd rhwng helpu pobl sy'n gorfod byw gyda'r cyflwr hwn ac sydd wedi ei ddal fel hyn, a sicrhau ar yr un pryd fod y gwasanaethau sydd ar gael i'r bobl hyn ac yn gyffredinol yn bodloni eu disgwyliadau ym mhob ffordd ac yn ysgogi'r math o welliannau a ddaw gyda'r cynllun gweithredu a'r fframwaith gyda'i gilydd.

Jocelyn Davies: Yr wyf yn siŵr fod hynny'n swnio'n rhesymol iawn, ond rhaid ichi dderbyn bod hyn yn warth. Mewnforiwyd y cynhyrchion gwaed hyn o America, ac yr oedd yn hysbys mai carchardai oedd ffynhonnell y gwaed; o leoedd o'r fath y prynwyd y gwaed. Ni fydddech chi wedi cynnig trallwysiadau gwaed i'r cyhoedd o'r ffynhonnell honno.

John Griffiths: All I can do is reiterate what I said, which is that there has not been an acceptance of liability. There have been legal actions in the UK, but none in Wales, as far as I am aware. There never has been an acceptance of liability with regard to these matters. Obviously you have your views, which I am sure are shared by many others, but that is the legal position as far as the Welsh Assembly Government and the other UK health administrations are concerned.

It is important to ensure that we move forward on the strategy so that services are improved and that we are more effective in addressing the issues that Jenny raised. You talked about the timing of the launch of the strategy, the framework and the action plan, which it will take the form of, and that will be launched this summer. If I could—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You only have 50 seconds left.

John Griffiths: There will be surveillance of injecting-drug use across Wales, an estimation of prevalence, a needs assessment, a qualitative study of harm reduction services, an audit of services at all levels, a patient questionnaire, and a conference in mid Wales on 14 February, which will specifically focus on the gaps in awareness for service providers. There are a number of other things that will accompany this strategy. Needle exchange is important, and the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration is involved with the substance misuse treatment framework and needle exchange.

As you mentioned, Jenny, in April, the NHS will move to being responsible for prison inmates, where there will be ‘well man’ clinics to talk about—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I am sorry, but, sadly, time has run out. That concludes this afternoon’s meeting.

John Griffiths: Y cyfan y gallaf ei wneud yw ailadrodd yr hyn a ddywedais, sef na dderbyniwyd cyfrifoldeb. Dygwyd achosion llys yn y DU, ond ni chafwyd yr un yng Nghymru, hyd y gwn i. Ni dderbyniwyd cyfrifoldeb o gwbl o ran y materion hyn. Mae gennych eich barn eich hun yn amlwg, ac mae’n siŵr y bydd nifer o bobl eraill yn cytuno â chi, Ond dyna’r sefyllfa gyfreithiol o ran Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a’r gweinyddiaethau ieuchyd eraill yn y DU.

Mae’n bwysig sicrhau ein bod yn bwrw ymlaen gyda’r strategaeth er mwyn gwella gwasanaethau, ac er mwyn inni fod yn fwy effeithiol wrth fynd i’r afael â’r materion a gododd Jenny. Yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at amseriad lansio’r strategaeth, y fframwaith a’r cynllun gweithredu, a fydd yn rhoi’r strategaeth ar waith, a chaiff hynny ei lansio yr haf hwn. Os gallaf—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Dim ond 50 eiliad sydd gennych ar ôl.

John Griffiths: Byddwn yn cadw llygad ar ddefnyddio cyffuriau drwy eu chwistrellu yng Nghymru, yn amcangyfrif pa mor gyffredin ydyw, yn asesu anghenion, yn gwneud astudiaeth ansoddol o wasanaethau lleihau niwed, yn archwilio gwasanaethau ar bob lefel, yn anfon holiadur at gleifion, ac yn cynnal cynhadledd yn y canolbarth ar 14 Chwefror, a fydd yn canolbwyntio’n benodol ar y bylchau mewn ymwybyddiaeth i ddarparwyr gwasanaethau. Bydd nifer o bethau eraill hefyd gyda’r strategaeth. Mae cyfnewid nodwyddau yn fater pwysig, ac mae’r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yn cymryd rhan yn y fframwaith ar gyfer triniaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau a chyfnewid nodwyddau.

Fel yr oeddech yn dweud, Jenny, bydd y GIG yn dod yn gyfrifol am garcharorion ym mis Ebrill, a chynhelir clinigau ‘dyn iach’ i sôn am—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae’n ddrwg gennyf, ond yn anffodus daeth yr amser i ben. Daw hynny â chyfarfod y prynhawn yma i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.34 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.34 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)

