



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Cofnod y Trafodion**

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

**Dydd Mercher, 7 Mehefin 2006  
Wednesday, 7 June 2006**

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

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

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

## **Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration**

### **Blaenoriaethau Cyllideb Budget Priorities**

**Q1 Alun Cairns:** How does the Minister assess the priorities within her departmental budget? OAQ0731(SJR)

**C1 Alun Cairns:** Sut mae'r Gweinidog yn asesu'r blaenoriaethau o fewn cyllideb ei hadran? OAQ0731(SJR)

**The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart):** I regularly keep my priorities under review and seek to maximise the value for money out of my budgets.

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart):** Byddaf yn adolygu fy mlaenoriaethau'n rheolaidd ac yn ceisio cael y gwerth gorau posibl am yr arian o'm cyllidebau.

**Alun Cairns:** There is no doubt that there are many calls on her budget, particularly for community support projects, but does the Minister recognise the importance of the forces' outreach programme to many disaffected individuals who will have had little discipline, for whatever reason, in their lives? The programme also gives many young people the discipline and motivation that the armed forces in general provide. It does so for a very short period to help them to focus on the other goals in life.

**Alun Cairns:** Nid oes amheuaeth nad oes nifer o alwadau ar ei chyllideb, yn enwedig ar gyfer prosiectau cefnogi cymunedau, ond a yw'r Gweinidog yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd rhaglen allgymorth y lluoedd arfog i nifer o unigolion sydd wedi dadrithio ac nad ydynt, am ba reswm bynnag, wedi cael llawer iawn o ddisgyblaeth yn eu bywydau? Mae'r rhaglen hefyd yn rhoi i bobl ifanc y ddisgyblaeth a'r cymhelliant y mae'r lluoedd arfog yn gyffredinol yn eu darparu. Mae'n gwneud hynny am gyfnod byr iawn i'w helpu i ganolbwyntio ar amcanion eraill bywyd.

**Edwina Hart:** Thank you for that question; I know that you have the same interest as I do in the involvement of the military. I know that you have had the opportunity, as have I, to witness the outreach programme at first hand. I was impressed, when I visited some of the young individuals involved in the programme some years ago, with the sense of spirit and community that they had at the end of the week. They wanted to change their lives following their return to their families. It is a commendable programme, and we do what we can to assist the armed forces with it.

**Edwina Hart:** Diolch am y cwestiwn hwnnw; gwn fod yr un diddordeb gennych ag sydd gennyf i yng nghyfraniad y lluoedd arfog. Gwn eich bod wedi cael cyfle, fel finnau, i weld y rhaglen allgymorth eich hun. Pan ymwelais â rhai o'r bobl ifanc a oedd yn rhan o'r rhaglen rai blynyddoedd yn ôl, gwnaeth eu hafiaith a'u hymdeimlad o gymuned erbyn diwedd yr wythnos argraff arnaf. Yr oeddent am newid eu bywydau ar ôl dychwelyd at eu teuluoedd. Mae'n rhaglen glodwiw, ac yr ydym yn gwneud ein gorau i gynorthwyo'r lluoedd arfog gyda hi.

**Leanne Wood:** One of the budget priorities that you will be considering in the near future is the Communities First programme, which has been allocated £130 million over 10 years. You have just issued a 130-page draft

**Leanne Wood:** Un o'r blaenoriaethau cyllideb y byddwch yn eu hystyried yn y dyfodol agos yw'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae £130 miliwn wedi ei ddyrannu iddi dros gyfnod o 10 mlynedd. Yr ydych

guidance document to Communities First partnerships and others. In paragraph 2.6 of that document you restate the original key aims of the programme, which includes the aim to increase the incomes of local people and to create jobs. Can you tell me by how much the scheme, so far, has increased the incomes of local people and how many jobs have been created?

**Edwina Hart:** Obviously, I cannot tell you off the cuff how many jobs have been created or what the income levels are. I can look at the information around that, but you only have to look at the economic picture in Wales to see that more jobs are coming into communities, and we are tackling some issues around children in poverty. Therefore, the aims of Communities First, as first set out, are equally just now.

**Leanne Wood:** I am grateful for that about-turn, if you are prepared to provide me with figures, because in a written answer to me on 23 March 2006 you refused to provide those figures. In fact, in that answer you told me that it is not a programme to fund job creation. Will you now confirm that you were wrong to refuse to provide those figures? Do the people of Wales not deserve to know what impact their £130 million will have?

**Edwina Hart:** Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales's lack of understanding of the whole ethos of Communities First is lamentable. It has been a very successful programme across Wales. It is a very aspirational programme, which allows us to put money into Wales's poorest communities in order for them to decide what they wish to do within their own communities, which projects they wish to run, what capacity building they need and what they require from us. The other arms of Government for which my colleagues Andrew Davies and Jane Davidson are responsible, in terms of economic development and education, also add to that programme. It is a holistic approach. It is difficult to quantify in terms of numbers and so on, but when you look at the general situation in some of these communities, you

newydd gyhoeddi drafft o ddogfen gyfarwyddyd 130-tudalen i bartneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ac eraill. Ym mharagraff 2.6 y ddogfen honno yr ydych yn ailadrodd amcanion allweddol gwreiddiol y rhaglen, sy'n cynnwys y nod o gynyddu incwm pobl leol a chreu swyddi. A allwch ddweud wrthyf i ba raddau, hyd yma, y mae'r cynllun wedi cynyddu incwm pobl leol a sawl swydd sydd wedi ei chreu?

**Edwina Hart:** Yn amlwg, ni allaf ddweud wrthyfych ar unwaith faint o swyddi sydd wedi eu creu na beth yw'r lefelau incwm. Gallaf edrych ar y wybodaeth yn ymwneud â hynny, ond nid oes angen ichi ond edrych ar y darlun economaidd yng Nghymru i weld bod mwy o swyddi'n dod i gymunedau, a'n bod yn mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion sy'n ymwneud â thlodi plant. Felly, mae amcanion Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, fel y'u gosodwyd allan yn wreiddiol, yr un mor gyfiawn yn awr.

**Leanne Wood:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y tro pedol hwnnw, os ydych yn fodlon rhoi ffigurau imi, oherwydd mewn ateb ysgrifenedig ataf ar 23 Mawrth 2006 yr oeddech yn gwrthod rhoi'r ffigurau hynny. Yn wir, yn yr ateb hwnnw, yr oeddech yn dweud nad rhaglen i roi arian i greu swyddi ydyw. A gadarnhewch yn awr eich bod ar fai yn gwrthod rhoi'r ffigurau hynny? Onid yw pobl Cymru yn haeddu gwybod pa effaith y bydd eu £130 miliwn yn ei chael?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae diffyg dealltwriaeth Plaid Cymru o holl natur Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn druenus. Mae wedi bod yn rhaglen lwyddiannus iawn ledled Cymru. Mae'n rhaglen uchelgeisiol iawn, sy'n caniatáu inni roi arian i gymunedau tlotaf Cymru er mwyn iddynt benderfynu beth y maent am ei wneud yn eu cymunedau eu hunain, pa brosiectau y maent am eu rhedeg, pa alluoedd ac adnoddau y mae angen iddynt eu datblygu, a beth y maent am ei gael gennym ni. Mae canghennau eraill y Llywodraeth y mae fy nghyd-Weinidogion Andrew Davies a Jane Davidson yn gyfrifol amdanynt, o ran datblygu economaidd ac addysg, hefyd yn ychwanegu at y rhaglen honno. Mae'n ymagwedd gyfannol. Mae'n anodd ei mesur o ran niferoedd ac ati, ond pan edrychwch ar y sefyllfa gyffredinol yn rhai o'r cymunedau

see that there have been substantial improvements. When you speak to people from some of these communities, you hear some unhappy voices, but the majority say that Communities First is working. We will have an opportunity in committee to look in detail at the review and evaluation of the Communities First programme in July.

**Mick Bates:** What assessment have you undertaken of your requirement, should there be one police force in Wales, for council tax equalisation?

**Edwina Hart:** Matters relating to the financial arrangements for the council tax are for my colleague, Sue Essex, as that money is not in my portfolio.

**Mick Bates:** However, given that we have discussed the possible reorganisation of the police force many times, your word with the Home Office will have a direct impact on your budget priorities. From the information that I have been given, it seems that there will be a shortfall of some £51 million should there be a single force for Wales, just because of the reorganisation alone. Where in your budget will you find the money to deal with that?

**Edwina Hart:** These are matters for the Home Office, as it has primary responsibility for the police. The financial arrangements for the police are complicated, given the police settlement and other issues, and my officials are keeping those under review. When we get a clear picture of what the agreed costs may or may not be, of the way forward and of what we are doing on the equalisation of council tax, I will give that consideration in terms of the knock-on effect that it may have on my budget priorities.

### **Cynlluniau Adsefydlu (Canol De Cymru) Rehabilitation Initiatives (South Wales Central)**

**C2 Owen John Thomas:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gynlluniau adsefydlu i bobl a fu'n gaeth i gyffuriau yng Nghanol De Cymru? OAQ0698(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** There is a whole range of

hyn, fe welwch bod gwelliannau sylweddol wedi bod. Pan siaradwch â phobl o rai o'r cymunedau hyn, fe glywch rai lleisiau anfodlon, ond dywed y rhan fwyaf fod Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn gweithio. Bydd gennym gyfle yn y pwyllgor i edrych yn fanwl ar yr adolygiad a'r gwerthusiad o raglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ym mis Gorffennaf.

**Mick Bates:** Pa asesiad yr ydych wedi ei wneud o'r hyn a fyddai'n ofynnol gennych, pe byddai un heddlu yng Nghymru, o ran cyfartalu'r dreth gyngor?

**Edwina Hart:** Materion i'm cyd-Weinidog, Sue Essex, yw materion yn ymwneud â'r trefniadau ariannol ar gyfer y dreth gyngor, gan nad yw'r arian hwnnw yn fy mhortffolio i.

**Mick Bates:** Fodd bynnag, o gofio ein bod wedi trafod posibilrwydd ad-drefnu'r heddlu droeon, bydd eich trafodaeth gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref yn cael effaith uniongyrchol ar eich blaenoriaethau cyllideb. O'r wybodaeth a roddwyd i mi, ymddengys y bydd diffyg o ryw £51 miliwn os bydd un heddlu yng Nghymru, oherwydd yr ad-drefnu'n unig. Ble yn eich cyllideb y byddwch yn cael hyd i'r arian i ddelio â hynny?

**Edwina Hart:** Materion i'r Swyddfa Gartref yw'r rhain, gan mai hi sy'n bennaf gyfrifol am yr heddlu. Mae'r trefniadau ariannol ar gyfer yr heddlu yn gymhleth, o gofio setliad yr heddlu a materion eraill, ac mae fy swyddogion yn parhau i adolygu'r rheini. Pan gawn ddarlun clir o'r hyn a allai'r costau cytûn fod neu beidio â bod, o'r ffordd ymlaen a'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud o ran cyfartalu'r dreth gyngor, byddaf yn ystyried hynny yng nghyd-destun y sgîl effaith y gall ei chael ar fy mlaenoriaethau cyllidebol.

**Q2 Owen John Thomas:** Will the Minister make a statement on drug rehabilitation initiatives in South Wales Central? OAQ0698(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Mae ystod eang o gynlluniau

drug rehabilitation initiatives in South Wales Central, including 67 places for residential rehabilitation and 13 places for in-patient detox in the South Wales Central area.

**Owen John Thomas:** There is a crime reduction unit near the centre of town, which treats people who are the subject of a drug rehabilitation requirement. Unfortunately, the unit is based in a house, which is also occupied by a family—a mother and her children—and people come there, smoke on the premises and in the back garden, and use abusive language. Do you think that that is a suitable place for such a unit?

**Edwina Hart:** Thank you for drawing that to my attention. I will discuss the issue with officials and the appropriate authorities and get back to you.

**Christine Chapman:** Minister, you may be aware of funding concerns over the continuation of the south Wales probation partnership service. One of the organisations in the partnership is called Taff Ely Drug Support, which works with offenders in my constituency to try to address their substance misuse problems, as such problems are a considerable factor in reoffending rates. Although the probation service is part of the Home Office, and so its budgetary matters are not devolved, I understand that your officials are in dialogue with the service to explore other sources of funding for it. Could you give us an update on any developments?

**Edwina Hart:** The Home Office is the primary funder, as responsibility for the probation service is not devolved to us. I am aware of my officials' discussions, but I have had no recent update to indicate how far forward they have been taken. I would be happy to keep the Member informed when I am updated by my officials.

**David Melding:** Inevitably, a lot of these services are used by people who are in contact with the criminal justice system.

adsefydlu i bobl a fu'n gaeth i gyffuriau yng Nghanol De Cymru, gan gynnwys 67 o leoedd ar gyfer adsefydlu cleifion mewn cyfleusterau preswyl, a 13 o leoedd ar gyfer dadwenwyno cleifion mewn ysbyty yn ardal Canol De Cymru.

**Owen John Thomas:** Mae uned lleihau troseddau yn agos i ganol y dref, sy'n trin pobl sy'n gaeth i gyffuriau ac sydd ag angen gwasanaeth adsefydlu. Yn anffodus, mae'r uned mewn tŷ sydd hefyd yn gartref i deulu—mam a'i phlant—ac mae pobl yn dod yno, yn ysmygu yn yr adeilad ac yn yr ardd gefn, ac yn defnyddio iaith ymosodol. A ydych yn credu bod hwnnw'n lle addas ar gyfer uned o'r fath?

**Edwina Hart:** Diolch am dynnu fy sylw at hynny. Trafodaf y mater gyda'm swyddogion a'r awdurdodau priodol a chysylltaf â chi eto.

**Christine Chapman:** Weinidog, efallai eich bod yn gwybod bod yna bryderon ariannol ynglŷn â pharhad gwasanaeth partneriaeth prawf y de. Enw un o'r sefydliadau yn y bartneriaeth yw grŵp Cymorth Cyffuriau Taf Elái, sy'n gweithio gyda throseddwr yn fy etholaeth i geisio mynd i'r afael â'u problemau camddefnyddio cyffuriau, gan fod problemau o'r fath yn ffactor sylweddol mewn cyfraddau aildroseddau. Er bod y gwasanaeth prawf yn rhan o'r Swyddfa Gartref, ac er nad yw ei faterion cyllidebol wedi eu datganoli o'r herwydd, deallaf fod eich swyddogion wrthi'n trafod gyda'r gwasanaeth i chwilio am ffynonellau eraill o arian ar ei gyfer. A allech roi'r manylion diweddaraf inni am unrhyw ddatblygiadau?

**Edwina Hart:** Y Swyddfa Gartref yw'r prif gyllidwr, gan nad yw'r cyfrifoldeb am y gwasanaeth prawf wedi ei ddatganoli inni. Gwn am drafodaethau fy swyddogion, ond nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw wybodaeth ddiweddar i awgrymu pa mor bell mae'r trafodaethau wedi mynd. Byddwn yn fodlon sicrhau bod yr Aelod yn cael gwybod pan gaf y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf gan fy swyddogion.

**David Melding:** Yn anochel, defnyddir nifer o'r gwasanaethau hyn gan bobl sydd â chysylltiad â'r system cyfiawnder troseddol.

However, many people out there have committed no crimes, but they feel that they have a problem, they have asked for a service, yet they are still on long waiting lists. That seems to be a cruel position to be in when you have faced a problem and admitted that you have it. At the moment, the people in that category, unless they are very posh and can afford to go to the Priory clinic, often cannot have a service that is within a reasonable time limit.

**Edwina Hart:** It is fair to say that treatment capacity has been a big challenge, David. We have seen significant improvements in the reduction of waiting times, and we have allocated a lot of money to this area. In fact, I recently made a one-off payment of £53,000 to the Cardiff Community Addictions Unit to help it. However, I acknowledge that there are pressures, and I share your view that, in an ideal world, when someone makes up their mind that they want treatment on a Monday, they should be seen on the Monday evening or perhaps the Tuesday morning. That is the only way in which we will get to grips with these issues. I acknowledge that there have been difficulties. It is challenging, but we are improving this, slowly but surely.

**Jenny Randerson:** I am interested in what you say about the one-off payment to the Cardiff drug and rehabilitation unit. The February figures show that some people in Cardiff are waiting more than nine months for drug treatment and, as David has said, those who wait the longest are those who have not been in contact with the probation or prison service. If you compare the figures for Cardiff with those for Newport, where everyone is seen within four weeks, you will see the shocking contrast. Will you look at the long-term situation, please, for drug treatment in Cardiff, as there is clearly a problem with the equity of funding?

**Edwina Hart:** As both you and David have raised issues specific to Cardiff with me, I will ask my officials to look into them carefully. I am always concerned to see equity of treatment and of access to treatment across Wales, and I will come back to

Fodd bynnag, mae nifer o bobl nad ydynt wedi cyflawni unrhyw drosedd ond sy'n teimlo bod ganddynt broblem ac wedi gofyn am wasanaeth. Ond maent yn dal ar restrau aros hir. Ymddengys fod honno'n sefyllfa greulon i fod ynddi pan fyddwch wedi wynebu problem ac wedi cyfaddef bod y broblem gennych. Ar hyn o bryd, oni bai eu bod yn bobl ariannog sy'n gallu fforddio mynd i glinig Priory, mae'r bobl yn y categori hwnnw'n aml iawn yn methu â chael gwasanaeth o fewn amser rhesymol.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'n deg dweud bod yr adnoddau sydd ar gael i roi triniaeth wedi bod yn her fawr, David. Gaelsom welliannau sylweddol wrth leihau amseroedd aros, ac yr ydym wedi rhoi llawer o arian i'r maes hwn. Yn wir, rhoddais daliad untro o £53,000 i Uned Caethiwed Gymunedol Caerdydd yn ddiweddar i'w helpu. Fodd bynnag, cydnabyddaf fod pwysau, ac yr wyf o'r un farn â chi, mewn byd delfrydol, y dylai rhywun sy'n penderfynu ar ddydd Llun ei fod am gael triniaeth gael gweld rhywun nos Lun neu efallai fore dydd Mawrth. Dyna'r unig ffordd y gallwn fynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn. Cydnabyddaf fod anawsterau wedi bod. Mae'n heriol, ond yr ydym yn gwella hyn, yn araf ond yn sicr.

**Jenny Randerson:** Mae'r hyn a ddywedwch am y taliad untro i'r uned gyffuriau ac adsefydlu yng Nghaerdydd yn ddi-ddorol. Dengys ffigurau mis Chwefror fod rhai pobl yng Nghaerdydd yn aros dros naw mis am driniaeth cyffuriau, ac fel y dywedodd David, y rhai sy'n aros hiraf yw'r rheini nad ydynt wedi bod mewn cysylltiad â'r gwasanaeth prawf neu'r gwasanaeth carchardai. Os cymharwch ffigurau Caerdydd â ffigurau Casnewydd, lle gwelir pawb cyn pen pedair wythnos, fe welwch y gwrthgyferbyniad syfrdanol. A wnewch chi edrych ar y sefyllfa hirdymor ar gyfer triniaeth cyffuriau yng Nghaerdydd, os gwelwch yn dda, oherwydd mae'n amlwg fod yna broblem o ran tegwch ariannu?

**Edwina Hart:** Gan eich bod chi a David wedi codi pwyntiau gyda mi yn ymwneud yn benodol â Chaerdydd, gofynnaf i'm swyddogion edrych arnynt yn ofalus. Yr wyf bob amser yn awyddus i weld tegwch o ran triniaeth a gallu cael triniaeth ledled Cymru, a

Members on this issue.

chysylltaf eto ag Aelodau ar y mater hwn.

### **Ad-drefnu'r Heddluoedd (Caerdydd) Police Restructuring (Cardiff)**

**Q3 Jonathan Morgan:** What discussions has the Minister had with the Home Office on the impact of police restructuring on Cardiff? OAQ0738(SJR)

**C3 Jonathan Morgan:** Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref ynghylch effaith ad-drefnu'r heddluoedd ar Gaerdydd? OAQ0738(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** I had no discussions with the Home Office about the impact of police restructuring on any specific area of Wales.

**Edwina Hart:** Ni chefais unrhyw drafodaethau gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref ynghylch effaith ad-drefnu'r heddluoedd ar unrhyw ran benodol o Gymru.

**Jonathan Morgan:** I know that, further to your statement yesterday, you take a great deal of interest in this matter and share many of the concerns held on all sides of the Chamber. A lot of effort has been expended in the past few weeks and months on discussing this huge change to the police forces in Wales, but little has been said about some of the more pressing needs and the challenges faced in certain areas of Wales. Cardiff, as the capital city, faces particular challenges, not least the lack of neighbourhood and community policing, which I understand will be improved in the next few months. When you next speak with a member of the Home Office, will you raise the issue of neighbourhood and community policing, and, in particular, what level of resources will be allocated to ensure that all parts of the capital city get a fair crack of the whip?

**Jonathan Morgan:** Yn dilyn eich datganiad ddoe, gwn fod gennych lawer o ddiddordeb yn y mater hwn a'ch bod yn rhannu llawer o'r pryderon a glywir ar bob ochr i'r Siambr. Gwnaed ymdrech fawr yn yr wythnosau a'r misoedd diwethaf i drafod y newid enfawr hwn yn yr heddluoedd yng Nghymru, ond ychydig a ddywedwyd am rai o'r anghenion pwysicaf a'r heriau sy'n wynebu rhai ardaloedd yng Nghymru. Mae Caerdydd, fel y brifddinas, yn wynebu heriau penodol, ac yn arbennig y diffyg plismona cymdogaeth a chymunedol, rhywbeth a fydd yn cael ei wella yn ystod yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf. Pan fyddwch siarad nesaf ag aelod o'r Swyddfa Gartref, a wnewch chi godi'r mater plismona cymdogaeth a chymunedol, ac yn arbennig pa lefel o adnoddau a ddyrennir i sicrhau bod pob rhan o'r brifddinas yn cael tegwch?

**Edwina Hart:** We must focus on neighbourhood and community policing, because that is what people require from policing. I appreciate that there are the big issues of drugs and murder and so on, but the citizen expects to see good quality policing on the ground, and there should be equity of treatment across Wales, and everyone should aspire to the highest standards. It is very important that the necessary financial resources are made available so that we can enjoy that level of policing.

**Edwina Hart:** Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar blismona cymdogaeth a chymunedol, oherwydd dyna y mae pobl am ei gael mewn plismona. Yr wyf yn sylweddoli bod yna broblemau mawr gyda chyffuriau a llofruddiaethau, ac ati, ond mae'r dinesydd yn disgwyl gweld plismona da ar lawr gwlad, a dylai fod tegwch o ran triniaeth ledled Cymru, a dylai pawb ymgyrraedd at y safonau uchaf. Mae'n bwysig iawn i'r adnoddau ariannol angenrheidiol fod ar gael fel y gallwn sicrhau'r lefel honno o blismona.

**The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** Could the Minister expand a little further on the impact of these changes on Cardiff and other areas in Wales by giving us an indication of the impact on community

**Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** A allai'r Gweinidog ymhelaethu ychydig ar effaith y newidiadau hyn ar Gaerdydd ac ardaloedd eraill yng Nghymru, drwy roi awgrym inni o'r effaith ar dâl



charge and council tax were the Home Office not to agree to the financing of the restructuring in Wales?

**Edwina Hart:** I have always made it clear that this is a matter for the Home Office. It is a matter for it to fund any reforms that it intends to make. The police authorities are particularly concerned that they cannot get the money in, and the chiefs are concerned that they will not be able to deliver on their operational requirements if we do not get the necessary finance. There are also wider issues here. If Wales becomes a one-force area, what happens in terms of what it is classed as? Is it classed as urban or rural? Rural forces have long complained that they do not get a fair share of the cake, given the way in which the formula allocates. A lot of issues roll out of this that we will have to carefully consider, and I am giving some initial consideration to them now.

cymunedol a'r dreth gyngor pe na byddai'r Swyddfa Gartref yn cytuno i ariannu'r ad-drefnu yng Nghymru?

**Edwina Hart:** Yr wyf bob amser wedi egluro mai mater i'r Swyddfa Gartref yw hwn. Mater i'r swyddfa honno yw ariannu unrhyw ddiwygiadau y mae'n bwriadu eu gwneud. Mae'r awdurdodau heddlu yn arbennig o bryderus na allant gael yr arian, ac mae'r prif swyddogion yn bryderus na fydd modd iddynt fodloni eu gofynion gweithredol os na chawn yr arian angenrheidiol. Mae yma faterion ehangach hefyd. Os gwneir Cymru'n ardal un heddlu, beth fydd yn digwydd o ran ei dosbarthu? Ai fel ardal drefol neu ardal wledig y caiff ei dosbarthu? Mae heddluoedd gwledig wedi cwyno ers tro nad ydynt yn cael eu cyfran deg, o gofio'r ffordd y mae'r fformiwla'n dyrannu. Mae nifer o faterion yn deillio o hyn a bydd rhaid inni eu hystyried yn ofalus. Yr wyf yn rhoi rhywfaint o ystyriaeth gychwynol iddynt ar hyn o bryd.

### **Adfywio Trefi Glan y Môr Regenerating Seaside Towns**

**Q4 Lisa Francis:** Will the Minister make a statement on regeneration in seaside towns in Wales? OAQ0704(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** The Welsh Assembly Government is implementing a wide range of complementary regeneration initiatives in seaside towns. These are targeted at the provision of housing, renovating redundant buildings, preparing sites for development, raising the quality of premises and townscapes and tackling social exclusion in communities.

**Lisa Francis:** I was wondering whether you had received any representation from tourism organisations, which are concerned about people being placed in bed-and-breakfast accommodation. This has become a feature of many seaside towns in Wales. Unscrupulous landlords of many letting establishments have often preyed on people's unfortunate circumstances by offering down-at-heel accommodation to those who may be too desperate to care about quality and safety issues. What steps are you taking to curtail this activity, which has led to the degeneration of many of our prime resorts in

**C4 Lisa Francis:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am adfywio trefi glan y môr yng Nghymru? OAQ0704(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gweithredu ystod eang o fentrau adfywio cydategol mewn trefi glan-môr. Mae'r rhain yn anelu at ddarparu tai, adnewyddu adeiladau gwag, paratoi safleoedd i'w datblygu, gwella safon adeiladau a threfweddau a mynd i'r afael ag allgáu cymdeithasol mewn cymunedau.

**Lisa Francis:** Yr oeddwn yn meddwl tybed a ydych wedi cael unrhyw sylwadau gan sefydliadau twristiaeth, sy'n bryderus am fod pobl yn cael eu rhoi mewn llety gwely a brechwast? Mae hyn yn digwydd mewn nifer o drefi glan-môr yng Nghymru erbyn hyn. Mae landlordiaid diegwyddor mewn nider o sefydliadau gosod yn aml wedi ymelwa ar sefyllfaoedd anffodus pobl drwy gynnig llety tloadaid i'r rheini sydd hwyrach yn rhy anobeithiol i boeni am faterion safon a diogelwch. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i roi diwedd ar y gweithgaredd hwn, sydd wedi arwain at ddirywiad nifer o'n prif

Wales?

**Edwina Hart:** I am aware of this issue, as it does get raised with me when I go out and about in Wales. People have been very concerned about families, almost in isolation from the rest of their family, turning up in Wales and going into private accommodation. It looks very nice when the sun is shining in June and July, but it is quite a different picture by the time that you get to the winter. These issues concern us very much, and we think that there is a lot that we can do in terms of our relationship with private landlords and the work that we can do with them. I will be more than happy to take this matter up, and it will probably prove to be a very useful to discuss this in committee to take some of the issues forward, because I know that there is widespread concern among Assembly Members with regard to this issue.

I am particularly concerned about the nomadic existence of the children involved in this. They are not settled anywhere and perhaps they are going from one place to another and from one school to another. Our debate today is focusing on children, and we have to put them at the heart of this discussion on housing.

**Denise Idris Jones:** I am sure that you agree, Minister, that keeping seaside towns looking attractive is one way to encouraging people to visit them. Older people regularly visit Llandudno, which is in my constituency, and they thoroughly enjoy themselves. Last week, the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks reopened the St George's Hotel, which has been refurbished. Many of my constituents now live in flats, and are able to use swimming pools, which are free of charge, and all kinds of other activities are also going on.

**Edwina Hart:** It is important that we take an integrated approach to how we deal with seaside towns. As I said in my initial answer, this is a cross-portfolio issue. Andrew is responsible for tourism issues, I am responsible for some of the regeneration issues, and Lisa, in her question, also touched upon quite a difficult housing issue.

**Elin Jones:** Mewn tref glan y môr fel

gyrchfannau gwyliau yng Nghymru?

**Edwina Hart:** Gwn am y mater hwn, oherwydd bydd pobl yn ei godi gyda mi pan fyddaf yn mynd o gwmpas yng Nghymru. Mae pobl wedi bod yn bryderus iawn ynghylch teuluoedd, sydd bron wedi eu hynysu oddi wrth weddill eu teulu, sy'n dod i Gymru ac yn mynd i fyw mewn lletyau preifat. Mae'n edrych yn hyfryd pan fydd yr haul yn gwenu ym mis Mehefin neu fos Gorffennaf, ond mae'n stori wahanol iawn erbyn y gaeaf. Mae'r materion hyn yn bryder gwirioneddol inni, a chredwn fod llawer y gallwn ei wneud o ran ein perthynas â landlordiaid preifat a'r gwaith y gallwn ei wneud gyda hwy. Byddwn yn barod iawn i edrych ar y mater hwn, a byddai trafod hyn yn y pwyllgor yn sicr yn fuddiol iawn er mwyn gweithredu ar rai o'r materion, oherwydd gwn fod pryder cyffredinol ymysg Aelodau'r Cynulliad am y mater hwn.

Yr wyf yn arbennig o bryderus ynghylch bywyd crwydrol y plant sy'n rhan o hyn. Nid ydynt wedi setlo yn unman, ac efallai eu bod yn mynd o le i le ac o ysgol i ysgol. Mae ein dadl heddiw yn canolbwyntio ar blant, a rhaid inni eu rhoi wrth wraidd y drafodaeth hon am dai.

**Denise Idris Jones:** Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch, Weinidog, fod cadw trefi glan-môr i edrych yn ddeniadol yn un ffordd i annog pobl i ymweld â hwy. Bydd pobl hŷn yn ymweld â Llandudno, yn fy etholaeth i, yn rheolaidd ac yn cael amser wrth eu bodd. Yr wythnos diwethaf, bu'r Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau yn ailagor Gwesty St George, sydd wedi'i ailwampio. Mae nifer o'm hetholwyr yn byw mewn fflatiau yn awr, ac yn gallu defnyddio pyllau noffio, sy'n rhad ac am ddim, a chymryd rhan mewn pob math o weithgareddau eraill.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'n bwysig inni fabwysiadu ymagwedd integredig yn y ffordd yr ydym yn delio â threfi glan-môr. Fel y dywedais yn fy ateb cyntaf, mae hwn yn fater ar draws portffolios Andrew sy'n gyfrifol am faterion twristiaeth, fi sy'n gyfrifol am rai o'r materion adfywio, a soniodd Lisa hefyd yn ei chwestiwn am dai, sy'n fater digon anodd.

**Elin Jones:** In a seaside town such as

Aberystwyth mae llawer o dai amlfeddiannaeth. Mae'r *Cambrian News* heddiw yn llawn o gyfeiriadau at rai o'r problemau a all fod yn gysylltiedig â thai o'r fath. A gytunwch fod angen gwybodaeth ar drigolion lleol ynghylch pwy sy'n rhedeg tai unigol neu sy'n berchen arnynt? Efallai y gellid gwneud hynny drwy osod sticer yn ffenestr pob tŷ o'r fath sy'n rhoi'r wybodaeth i drigolion lleol ynghylch pwy y gellid cysylltu â hwy os oes problemau penodol gydag unrhyw dŷ amlfeddiannaeth penodol.

**Edwina Hart:** There are a lot of problems for citizens sometimes, particularly when you do not have well-run establishments. Let me make it quite clear that many people who run houses in multiple occupation do an excellent job and there are good standards. However, there are some problems in certain areas. I will consider how we can make information about how citizens can complain about these mechanisms more available, and perhaps I will have discussions with my colleagues in Welsh local government.

Aberystwyth there are many houses in multiple occupation. Today's *Cambrian News* is full of references to some of the problems that can be associated with such houses. Do you agree that local people need information about who runs or owns individual houses? Perhaps this could be achieved by placing a sticker in the window of each HMO that provides information to local people about who they should contact should there be specific problems with any specific HMO.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae dinasyddion weithiau'n wynebu nifer o broblemau, yn enwedig pan fydd yna sefydliadau nad ydynt yn cael eu rhedeg yn dda. Gadewch imi ei gwneud yn hollol glir fod nifer o bobl sy'n rhedeg tai amlfeddiannaeth yn gwneud gwaith ardderchog ac yn cynnal safonau da. Fodd bynnag, mae yna rai problemau mewn ardaloedd penodol. Byddaf yn ystyried sut y gallwn sicrhau bod gwybodaeth am y ffordd y gall dinasyddion gwyno am y systemau hyn ar gael yn ehangach, ac efallai y trafodaf hyn gyda'm cydweithwyr llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru.

### Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Communities First

**Q5 Leighton Andrews:** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's Communities First programme? OAQ0748(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** A total of 137 Communities First partnerships have been established. The programme evaluation will report soon and I will shortly be issuing a proposal on how the revised Welsh index of multiple deprivation should impact on Communities First eligibility.

**Leighton Andrews:** I look forward to reading the report on the evaluation. I have made the case in the past that there may have been sub-wards that might be worthy of consideration as Communities First areas in their own right in the future, but which were excluded when the Communities First programme was drawn up. I hope that you will give attention to that.

**Edwina Hart:** That is a strong point, which

**C5 Leighton Andrews:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am raglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ0748(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Mae cyfanswm o 137 o bartneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf wedi'u sefydlu. Cyflwynir gwerthusiad o'r rhaglen yn fuan a byddaf yn cyflwyno cynnig yn fuan ar sut y dylai mynegai amddifadedd lluosog diwygiedig Cymru effeithio ar gymhwyster ar gyfer Cymunedau yn Gyntaf.

**Leighton Andrews:** Edrychaf ymlaen at ddarllen yr adroddiad gwerthuso. Yr wyf wedi dadlau yn y gorffennol y gallai rhai is-wardiau haeddu eu hystyried yn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn eu rhinwedd eu hunain yn y dyfodol, ond eu bod wedi eu heithrio pan luniwyd y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Gobeithio y rhowch sylw i hynny.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae hwnnw'n bwynt cryf,

has been made across the piece to me, about small units or sub-wards that perhaps should have been included in the original programme. However, we invited local authorities in the first instance, if they could identify sub-wards, to make representations for them to be included in the programme. It is important that we use the opportunity with the new index and the review of Communities First to make the programme even better.

**Laura Anne Jones:** An Oxfam review recently found that, within communities, there is little knowledge about their representatives on the local partnership groups and how they operate. How are you looking to improve the participation of local people by providing more information about who their representatives are in local communities?

**Edwina Hart:** This is a big issue, which is not just about communities and Communities First areas. A lot of people do not know who represent them anywhere. This is a big issue of encouraging participation. Communities First partnerships try to do as much as they can to publicise what they are doing and who is involved. However, I am more than happy to have another look at this with officials, because it is important that people know who is involved in their communities and how they can participate and engage, which is important if we are genuinely to regenerate communities.

**Laura Anne Jones:** You are right; it is important that people know whom to contact and who are on those partnership groups. Some women in my constituency have recently contacted me to say that want to attend the meetings but there is a lack of childcare facilities for them. How are you looking to address that?

**Edwina Hart:** The individual Communities First partnerships should be considering these issues to encourage the maximisation of participation. If there are any specific problems with the partnerships in your areas,

sydd wedi ei fynegi'n gyffredinol, ynglŷn ag unedau bach neu is-wardiau a ddylai, efallai, fod wedi'u cynnwys yn y rhaglen wreiddiol. Fodd bynnag, gwahoddwyd awdurdodau lleol yn y lle cyntaf, os gallent nodi is-wardiau, i wneud sylwadau ynglŷn â'u cynnwys yn y rhaglen. Mae'n bwysig inni achub ar y cyfle gyda'r mynegai newydd a'r broses o adolygu Cymunedau yn Gyntaf i wneud y rhaglen yn well fyth.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Dangosodd adolygiad gan Oxfam yn ddiweddar mai ychydig iawn o wybodaeth sydd gan gymunedau am eu cynrychiolwyr ar grwpiau partneriaeth lleol a'r ffordd y maent yn gweithredu. Sut yr ydych yn bwriadu gwella cyfranogiad pobl lleol drwy ddarparu mwy o wybodaeth am y rhai sy'n eu cynrychioli mewn cymunedau lleol?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae hwn yn fater pwysig sy'n ymwneud nid yn unig â chymunedau ac ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae nifer o bobl nad ydynt yn gwybod pwy sy'n eu cynrychioli yn unman. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig o ran annog cyfranogiad. Mae partneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn ceisio gwneud cymaint ag a allant i roi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r hyn y maent yn ei wneud a phwy sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i edrych ar hyn unwaith eto gyda swyddogion, gan ei bod yn bwysig i bobl wybod pwy sy'n ymwneud â'u cymunedau a sut y gallant gyfranogi ac ymgysylltu. Mae hynny'n bwysig os ydym am adfywio cymunedau o ddifrif.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle; mae'n bwysig i bobl wybod pwy i gysylltu â hwy a phwy sy'n rhan o'r grwpiau partneriaeth hynny. Yn ddiweddar, mae rhai merched yn fy etholaeth wedi cysylltu â mi i ddweud yr hoffent fynychu'r cyfarfodydd ond nad oes cyfleusterau gofal plant ar eu cyfer. Sut yr ydych yn bwriadu mynd i'r afael â hynny?

**Edwina Hart:** Dylai'r partneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf unigol fod yn ystyried y materion hyn er mwyn annog cynifer â phosibl o bobl i gymryd rhan. Os oes unrhyw broblemau penodol gyda'r partneriaethau yn

I would be delighted if you would write to me with the details. I am concerned about ensuring that people, particularly young mothers with children, are actively involved in these communities, because it gives them the opportunity to develop their skills, to get involved and perhaps to think about employment if they are unemployed. It is important that we ensure maximum participation.

2.20 p.m.

### **Tai Cymdeithasol (Sir Ddinbych) Social Housing (Denbighshire)**

**Q6 Ann Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on the development of extra social housing in Denbighshire? OAQ0740(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** I am delighted to say that work is scheduled to start this year on the 59-unit Extracare scheme on West Parade, Rhyl. I am aware that Extracare schemes in the Prestatyn area and in the south of the county are also being considered for development in future years.

**Ann Jones:** Extra social housing is important for our regeneration and I am delighted that the scheme in the west end of Rhyl is now progressing well. There are problems with identifying sites for extra social housing, and I wonder whether you are in a position to give us some guidance as to whether we should be looking at the types of sites that we use. How should we link the extra social housing in Denbighshire with the communities from which we expect those people to come?

**Edwina Hart:** It is very interesting that you have raised the point of sites, as it is an issue that Carwyn Jones and I are both interested in, in terms of which sites are available for social housing and their suitability. Sometimes, the difficulty of getting planning permission on sites also raises its head. Therefore, these issues are currently under discussion. On planning, I know that Carwyn is considering that planning officials should use the full extent of their powers in local government to ensure that we can include

eich ardaloedd, mae croeso i chi ysgrifennu ataf gyda'r manylion. Yr wyf am sicrhau bod pobl, yn enwedig mamau ifanc sydd â phlant, yn cymryd rhan yn y cymunedau hyn, am ei fod yn gyfle iddynt ddatblygu eu sgiliau, cymryd rhan ac efallai ystyried gweithio, os ydynt yn ddi-waith. Mae'n bwysig inni sicrhau'r cyfranogiad mwyaf posibl.

**C6 Ann Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddatblygu tai cymdeithasol ychwanegol yn sir Ddinbych? OAQ0740(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud y bwriedir dechrau ar y gwaith eleni ar y cynllun Extracare o 59 uned ar Rodfa'r Gorllewin, y Rhyl. Gwn fod ystyriaeth yn cael ei rhoi hefyd i ddatblygu cynlluniau Extracare yn ardal Prestatyn ac yn ne'r sir yn y dyfodol.

**Ann Jones:** Mae tai cymdeithasol ychwanegol yn bwysig ar gyfer ein proses adfywio, ac yr wyf yn falch fod y cynllun yng ngorllewin y Rhyl yn mynd rhagddo'n dda. Mae yna broblemau o ran nodi safleoedd ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol ychwanegol, a thybed a ydych mewn sefyllfa i roi rhywfaint o arweiniad inni ar y cwestiwn a ddylem fod yn ystyried y mathau o safleoedd a ddefnyddiwn? Sut y dylem gysylltu'r tai cymdeithasol ychwanegol yn sir Ddinbych â'r cymunedau y disgwyliwn i'r bobl hynny ddod ohonynt?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'r pwynt a godwyd gennych ynglŷn â safleoedd yn un diddorol iawn, ac mae'n fater sydd o ddiddordeb i Carwyn Jones a minnau, o ran y safleoedd sydd ar gael ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol a'u haddasrwydd. Weithiau, bydd anhawster yn codi hefyd o ran sicrhau caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer safleoedd. Felly, mae'r materion hyn yn cael eu trafod ar hyn o bryd. O ran cynllunio, gwn fod Carwyn yn ystyried y dylai swyddogion cynllunio ddefnyddio'u holl bwerau o ran llywodraeth leol i sicrhau y

social housing in areas where perhaps we would not traditionally have done so, with more imaginative uses of section 106.

**Janet Ryder:** Minister, that sometimes causes a problem for counties, whether it is through planning permission or a delay in a scheme that they have planned. It means that they cannot use their full quota of the social housing grant and have to have a fall-back position for other schemes, or leave the social housing grant unused. Is there any way in which we can consider aiding all counties—perhaps in some form of roll-over—if they have designated schemes that they want to put in place but a problem occurs in the process of developing the scheme, whether to do with planning or with an issue regarding the site? It would enable the county to have the security of knowing that the scheme is progressing while also retaining the social housing grant.

**Edwina Hart:** These are points that are made to me quite regularly by local government, when it has had problems, normally to do with planning processes. I am happy to take that up for further discussion with Welsh local government to see how we can be of any assistance.

**Brynle Williams:** I am sure that the Minister is aware that Denbighshire, like all predominantly rural local authorities in Wales, has some of the lowest proportions of social housing stock among its stock. Does the Minister agree that there should be greater priority on investing and expanding rural local authorities' social housing stock to reduce dependency on stop-gap measures, such as bed-and-breakfast accommodation and hotels?

**Edwina Hart:** A correct balance has to be struck in local government on these issues, and it is important for us to recognise that bed-and-breakfast accommodation is not an alternative to housing. We now have the necessary legislation going through on this, because bed-and-breakfast accommodation has not been found to be satisfactory in a number of areas. I think that you are right to say that local authorities should think about their priorities, Brynle, in terms of how they

gallwn gynnwys tai cymdeithasol mewn ardaloedd lle na fyddem efallai wedi'u cynnwys yn draddodiadol, gan ddefnyddio adran 106 mewn ffordd fwy creadigol.

**Janet Ryder:** Weinidog, mae hynny weithiau'n achosi problem i siroedd, boed drwy ganiatâd cynllunio neu oedi wrth weithredu cynllun arfaethedig. Mae'n golygu na allant ddefnyddio'u cwota llawn o'r grant tai cymdeithasol, a rhaid iddynt gael trefniadau wrth gefn ar gyfer cynlluniau eraill, neu adael y grant tai cymdeithasol heb ei ddefnyddio. A oes unrhyw ffordd inni allu ystyried cynorthwyo pob sir—efallai drwy ryw fath o gynllun treigl—os oes ganddynt gynlluniau dynodedig y maent am eu rhoi ar waith ond bod problem yn codi yn y broses o ddatblygu'r cynllun, boed yn ymwneud â chynllunio neu â mater ynglŷn â'r safle? Byddai'n rhoi sicrwydd i'r sir fod y cynllun yn mynd yn ei flaen a'i bod hefyd yn cadw'r grant tai cymdeithasol.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'r rhain yn bwyntiau a fynegir wrthyf yn ddigon rheolaidd gan lywodraeth leol, pan fydd problemau wedi codi, fel rheol gyda phrosesau cynllunio. Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i drafod hynny ymhellach gyda llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru i weld sut y gallwn fod o gymorth.

**Brynle Williams:** Yr wyf yn siŵr fod y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol fod gan sir Ddinbych, fel pob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru sy'n wledig yn bennaf, rai o'r cyfrannau isaf o stoc tai cymdeithasol ymhlith ei stoc. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno y dylid rhoi mwy o flaenoriaeth i fuddsoddi a chynyddu stoc tai cymdeithasol awdurdodau lleol gwledig er mwyn lleihau'r ddibyniaeth ar fesurau dros dro, fel llety gwely a brechwast a gwestai?

**Edwina Hart:** Rhaid i lywodraeth leol sicrhau'r cydbwysedd cywir yn y materion hyn, ac mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod nad yw llety gwely a brechwast yn ddewis yn lle tai. Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth angenrheidiol ar y gweill, oherwydd gwelwyd nad yw llety gwely a brechwast yn ddewis boddhaol mewn nifer o ardaloedd. Credaf eich bod yn gywir, Brynle, i ddweud y dylai awdurdodau lleol ystyried eu blaenoriaethau o ran sut y maent yn delio â'u cyllidebau a'r arian y maent am

deal with their budgets and what money they want to put in. In the centre, we have allocated more money to the social housing grant, but it is up to them to consider imaginative schemes in their areas, to see what finance they can bring to bear as well. We have to try to sort out this problem in certain areas.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Would it not be better to suspend the right to buy in rural areas so that local authorities could do something far more productive in this area, in which you are so terribly interested? I thoroughly agree that you are showing a keen interest and I commend you for that. I have already asked would it not be better—[*Interruption.*] Should I repeat myself, Llywydd?

**The Presiding Officer:** No, as long as the Record got it. I call the Minister.

**Edwina Hart:** Obviously, my position on the right to buy is well stated in the Chamber. I have asked the UK Government whether I can have the necessary powers to suspend it in parts of Wales. I will continue to do so and, hopefully, we can have the powers ourselves. [*Interruption.*]

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. What is all the excitement about? I do not think that it is the presence of the Leader of the House of Commons that is causing this excitement, but he is very welcome nonetheless.

ei ddyrannu. Yn y canol, yr ydym wedi dyrannu mwy o arian i'r grant tai cymdeithasol, ond eu cyfrifoldeb hwy yw ystyried cynlluniau creadigol yn eu hardaloedd, i weld pa gyllid y gallant hwy ei ddarparu hefyd. Rhaid inni geisio datrys y broblem hon mewn rhai ardaloedd.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Oni fyddai'n well atal yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd gwledig, fel y gallai awdurdodau lleol wneud rhywbeth llawer mwy cynhyrchiol yn y maes hwn y mae gennych gymaint o ddiddordeb ynddo? Cytunaf yn llwyr eich bod yn dangos diddordeb mawr, a hoffwn eich canmol am hynny. Yr wyf eisoes wedi gofyn oni fyddai'n well—[*Torri ar draws.*] A oes angen imi ailadrodd y cwestiwn, Lywydd?

**Y Llywydd:** Nac oes, cyn belled â'i fod wedi'i gofnodi. Galwaf ar y Gweinidog.

**Edwina Hart:** Yn amlwg, mae fy marn am yr hawl i brynu wedi ei mynegi droeon yn y Siambr. Yr wyf wedi gofyn i Lywodraeth y DU am y pwerau angenrheidiol i'w hatal mewn rhannau o Gymru. Byddaf yn parhau i wneud hynny, a gobeithio y gallwn arfer y pwerau ein hunain. [*Torri ar draws.*]

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Beth yw'r holl gyffro? Nid wyf yn credu mai presenoldeb Arweinydd Tŷ'r Cyffredin yw achos y cyffro hwn, ond mae croeso mawr iddo er hynny.

### **Rhaglenni Cefnogi Cymunedau Community Support Programmes**

**Q7 Alun Cairns:** Will the Minister make a statement on the funding available for community support programmes?  
OAQ0730(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** The Communities First programme has a budget of just over £39 million in 2006-07 to support the capacity-building activities and staffing costs of Communities First partnerships. The communities facilities and activities programme has a budget of just under £11 million in 2006-07 to provide facilities or activities for community groups that will promote community regeneration.

**C7 Alun Cairns:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr arian sydd ar gael ar gyfer rhaglenni cefnogi cymunedau?  
OAQ0730(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Mae gan y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf gyllideb o ychydig dros £39 miliwn yn 2006-07 i gefnogi gweithgareddau meithrin gallu a chostau staffio partneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae gan y rhaglen cyfleusterau a gweithgareddau cymunedol gyllideb o ychydig llai nag £11 miliwn yn 2006-07 i ddarparu cyfleusterau neu weithgareddau ar gyfer grwpiau cymunedol a fydd yn

hyrwyddo adfywio cymunedol.

**Alun Cairns:** Do you agree that few community support programmes are more effective than the right to buy scheme, because it effectively gives people the right to invest, to take responsibility and to support the community? Do you also agree that withdrawing the right to buy is withdrawing an important legacy of Margaret Thatcher's, from a time when people in the most vulnerable communities had the opportunity to own something and to leave something for future generations?

**Alun Cairns:** A gytunwch mai'r cynllun hawl i brynu yw un o'r rhaglenni cymorth cymunedol mwyaf effeithiol, am ei fod yn rhoi'r hawl i bobl fuddsoddi, i gymryd cyfrifoldeb ac i gefnogi'r gymuned? A gytunwch hefyd fod dileu'r hawl i brynu yn golygu dileu un o'r pethau pwysig a gyflawnwyd gan Margaret Thatcher, o adeg pan oedd gan bobl yn y cymunedau mwyaf diamddiffyn y cyfle i fod yn berchen ar rywbeth ac i adael rhywbeth ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol?

**Edwina Hart:** I am afraid, Alun, that I do not agree with you. The right to buy has caused enormous problems in parts of Wales with the stock that is now available for letting in those communities. However, the important point is that we need a great deal of economic development in these communities. We must get people into work and increase economic activity, because that is how to improve the level of your income, improve where you are in society and improve where you are going. So, we agree on some issues, but not on the right to buy.

**Edwina Hart:** Yn anffodus, Alun, nid wyf yn cytuno â chi. Mae'r cynllun hawl i brynu wedi achosi problemau enfawr mewn rhannau o Gymru gyda'r stoc sydd ar gael i'w rhentu yn awr yn y cymunedau hynny. Fodd bynnag, y pwynt pwysig yw bod angen llawer iawn o ddatblygu economaidd yn y cymunedau hyn. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod gan bobl waith a chynyddu gweithgarwch economaidd, gan mai dyna'r ffordd i wella lefel eich incwm, gwella'ch safle mewn cymdeithas a gwella'ch cyfleoedd. Felly, yr ydym yn cytuno ar rai pethau, ond nid ar yr hawl i brynu.

**David Lloyd:** A fydddech chi'n fodlon edrych ar ffyrdd o ariannu sefydlog, hirdymor ar gyfer y gwasanaeth cynghori New Pathways, sy'n gweithio ym Merthyr ac yn Abertawe?

**David Lloyd:** Would you be prepared to look at ways of providing stable, long-term funding for the New Pathways counselling service that works in Merthyr and Swansea?

**Edwina Hart:** The funding of this service is raised quite a lot with me, and I recognise that there are problems. If I had a big pot of money, I would not be reluctant to answer your question positively, but I do not. However, I promise you that this issue is on my desk and I am discussing it with officials, because I think that there are merits in the programme.

**Edwina Hart:** Byddaf yn cael sylwadau am y broses o ariannu'r gwasanaeth hwn yn eithaf aml, ac yr wyf yn cydnabod bod yna broblemau. Pe bai gennyf gronfa fawr o arian, byddwn yn fwy na pharod i roi ateb cadarnhaol i'ch cwestiwn, ond nid oes gennyf gronfa felly. Fodd bynnag, addawaf ichi fy mod yn ymdrin â'r mater hwn ac yn ei drafod gyda swyddogion, oherwydd credaf fod gan y rhaglen ei rhinweddau.

### Hyrwyddo Cynhwysiant Cymdeithasol (Dwyrain De Cymru) Promoting Social Inclusion (South Wales East)

**Q8 The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German):** Will the Minister make a statement on her plans to promote social inclusion in South Wales East? OAQ0743(SJR)

**C8 Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei chynlluniau i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol yn Nwyrain De Cymru? OAQ0743(SJR)



**Edwina Hart:** We are committed to improving the lives of people in Wales with Assembly policies and programmes aimed at combating poverty. My social justice annual report 2005 sets out how the wider social, educational and economic barriers that contribute to social exclusion are being tackled across Wales. My 2006 report will be published shortly.

**Michael German:** One way in which people feel more socially included is when they feel safe in their own communities. Yesterday you heard from Irene James about the problems with the fire service in the Islwyn constituency, and there are more cases, wider than that, of full-time fire stations being turned into retained stations. The retained service itself is also under threat. What is your attitude towards these changes and will you make any representations or seek any changes in how this is being approached?

**Edwina Hart:** These issues are operational matters for the fire and rescue authorities across the three authorities in Wales. They make their judgments about their locality. We set out key guidance for certain areas from the Assembly Government, and I always look at what plans come from the fire and rescue authorities to ensure that they are living up to my expectations. If there are any specific examples that Members wish to raise with me within individual fire authority areas, I would be happy to take them up with the respective fire authority.

**Edwina Hart:** Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i wella bywydau pobl yng Nghymru gyda pholisiau a rhaglenni'r Cynulliad sy'n anelu at atal tlodi. Mae fy adroddiad blynyddol ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol 2005 yn gosod allan sut yr ydym yn mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau cymdeithasol, addysgol ac economaidd ehangach sy'n cyfrannu at allgáu cymdeithasol ledled Cymru. Caiff adroddiad 2006 ei gyhoeddi'n fuan.

**Michael German:** Un ffordd y mae pobl yn teimlo'n fwy o ran o gymdeithas yw pan fyddant yn teimlo'n ddiogel yn eu cymunedau eu hunain. Ddoe clywsoch Irene James yn sôn am y problemau gyda'r gwasanaeth tân yn etholaeth Islwyn, ac mae mwy o achosion, rhai ehangach na hynny, o orsafoedd tân llawn amser yn cael eu troi'n orsafoedd yn ôl y galw. Beth yw eich barn am y newidiadau hyn, ac a fyddwch yn gwneud unrhyw sylwadau neu'n ceisio gwneud unrhyw newidiadau yn y ffordd yr eir i'r afael â hyn?

**Edwina Hart:** Materion gweithredol i'r awdurdodau tân ac achub ar draws y tri awdurdod yng Nghymru yw'r rhain. Hwyl sy'n gwneud y penderfyniadau ynglŷn â'u hardal. Yr ydym yn gosod allan ganllawiau allweddol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer ardaloedd penodol, a byddaf bob amser yn ystyried y cynlluniau a gyflwynir gan yr awdurdodau tân ac achub i sicrhau eu bod yn bodloni fy nisgwyliaid. Os oes unrhyw enghreifftiau penodol yr hoffai Aelodau eu trafod gyda mi o fewn ardaloedd awdurdodau tân unigol, byddwn yn fwy na pharod i'w trafod gyda'r awdurdod tân priodol.

### **Cwpan Pêl-droed y Byd (Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol) The Football World Cup (Anti-social Behaviour)**

**Q9 William Graham:** Will the Minister outline guidance issued to tackle incidents of anti-social behaviours in Wales during the period of the football world cup? OAQ0696(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Thank you for this question, because the Association of Chief Police Officers has led a nationwide operation based on its previous experience of policing major football tournaments and dealing with the

**C9 William Graham:** A wnaiff y gweinidog amlinellu canllawiau a gyhoeddwyd i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yng Nghymru yn ystod cyfnod cwpan pêl-droed y byd? OAQ0698(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Diolch am ofyn y cwestiwn hwn, gan fod Cymdeithas Prif Swyddogion yr Heddlu wedi arwain ymgyrch genedlaethol ar sail ei phrofiad blaenorol o blismona cystadlaethau pêl-droed mawr a delio â'r trais

violence that is often associated with such events. The main objectives of the operation, which involves all forces in England and Wales, are to support the German police during the FIFA World Cup between 9 June and 9 July, and to implement local policing operations during the build-up to the tournament and throughout England's participation. Sadly, past experience has shown that, during previous international championships, the incidence of serious disorder throughout the country increased following England's matches, particularly when a large number of persons left pubs and clubs that showed the matches live. Each force has developed its own local response to policing events, which involve high-visibility patrols, working closely with licensees and community safety partnerships, and effective intelligence gathering.

**William Graham:** Would you undertake to do what you can to raise the profile of efforts that the police are making on selling drink, particularly to underage persons, and those who promote special offers during the World Cup?

2.30 p.m.

**Edwina Hart:** Selling to the underage is a very serious issue, and one I discuss regularly. Special offers, and encouraging people to drink more in situations that can already be difficult enough sometimes when World Cup matches are going on, is also a very serious issue. You have highlighted the wider issue of offers, and I am particularly concerned about advertisements to drink as much as you like for a certain amount and so on. There is common ground across the Chamber on this: we do not like or want these offers in Wales.

**The Presiding Officer:** Question 10, OAQ0695(SJR), is withdrawn.

a gysylltir yn aml â digwyddiadau o'r fath. Prif amcanion yr ymgyrch, sy'n cynnwys pob heddlu yn Lloegr a Chymru, yw cefnogi heddlu'r Almaen yn ystod Cwpan y Byd FIFA rhwng 9 Mehefin a 9 Gorffennaf, ac i weithredu gwasanaeth plismona lleol yn ystod y cyfnod cyn dechrau'r gystadleuaeth a thrwy gydol yr amser pan fydd Lloegr yn cystadlu. Yn anffodus, dengys profiad yn y gorffennol, yn ystod pencampwriaethau rhyngwladol blaenorol, fod nifer yr achosion o anhrefn ddifrifol ledled y wlad wedi cynyddu yn dilyn gemau Lloegr, yn enwedig wrth i nifer fawr o bobl adael tafarndai a chlybiau a oedd yn dangos y gemau'n fyw. Mae pob heddlu wedi datblygu ei ymateb lleol ei hun o ran plismona digwyddiadau, sy'n cynnwys patrolau amlwg, cydweithio'n agos â deiliaid trwyddedau a phartneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol, a gweithredu proses effeithiol i gasglu cudd-wybodaeth.

**William Graham:** A fydddech yn ymrwymo i wneud yr hyn a allwch i godi proffil yr ymdrechion gan yr heddlu o ran gwerthu diodydd, yn enwedig i bobl dan oed, a'r rheini sy'n hyrwyddo cynigion arbennig yn ystod Cwpan y Byd?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae gwerthu alcohol i bobl dan oed yn fater difrifol iawn, ac mae'n fater y byddaf yn ei drafod yn aml. Mae cynigion arbennig, ac annog pobl i yfed mwy mewn sefyllfaoedd a all fod yn ddigon anodd eisoes pan gynhelir gemau Cwpan y Byd, hefyd yn fater difrifol iawn. Yr ydych wedi tynnu sylw at fater ehangach cynigion, ac yr wyf yn arbennig o bryderus ynghylch hysbysebion i yfed cymaint ag a fyynnwch am bris penodol, ac ati. Mae'r Siambr yn unfrydol ar hyn: nid ydym yn hoffi'r cynigion hyn ac nid ydym am eu cael yng Nghymru.

**Y Llywydd:** Tynnwyd cwestiwn 10, OAQ0695(SJR), yn ôl.

### Digartrefedd Homelessness

**Q11 Mick Bates:** Will the Minister make a statement on what action she has taken to solve the problem of homelessness in Wales?  
OAQ0706(SJR)

**C11 Mick Bates:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau a gymerwyd ganddi i ddatrys problem digartrefedd yng Nghymru?  
OAQ0706(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** We have set out our agenda to tackle this problem in our revised national homelessness strategy. We are supporting the strategy with increased investment, legislation to ensure that people are housed in appropriate temporary accommodation, guidance on the implementation of statutory homelessness responsibilities, and the promotion of good practice.

**Mick Bates:** Were we able to suspend the right to buy, that would also help decrease homelessness in Wales. Statistics from Shelter Cymru—*[Interruption.]* If you would listen to this, please, you will see the point—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. It is not helpful to try to whisper in the Chamber, especially in your case, Mick Bates.

**Mick Bates:** I am grateful for your guidance, Presiding Officer. Statistics from Shelter Cymru suggest that homelessness has increased by 57 per cent in the last three years. Are you satisfied that all local authorities are dealing with their duty to resolve homelessness effectively?

**Edwina Hart:** The latest statistics indicate a fall of 35 per cent in the number of households accepted as homeless over the previous 12 months, and a 22 per cent reduction in the numbers in bed-and-breakfast accommodation. There are statistical issues here and I am very pleased with the statistics on which I can report to you today. However, I am concerned about local authorities and their approach to homelessness. How they deal with some of the issues varies, and it is very important to get some consistency of approach in these particular areas. We review the homelessness strategy all the time, and I will review the response of local government in these particular areas. We are talking about the most vulnerable people in society and a lot of effort must be put in to deal with them, to find them suitable accommodation and to help them with their other needs. Sometimes families have simply fallen out, and it is very important that there is an element of mediation and assistance, and many other

**Edwina Hart:** Yr ydym wedi cyflwyno'n hagenda i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon yn ein strategaeth genedlaethol ddiwygiedig ar ddigartrefedd. Yr ydym yn cefnogi'r strategaeth gyda mwy o fuddsoddi, deddfwriaeth i sicrhau bod pobl yn cael eu rhoi mewn llety priodol dros dro, canllawiau ar weithredu cyfrifoldebau statudol ar digartrefedd a hyrwyddo arferion da.

**Mick Bates:** Pe gallem atal yr hawl i brynu, byddai hynny hefyd yn helpu lleihau digartrefedd yng Nghymru. Mae ystadegau gan Shelter Cymru—*[Torri ar draws.]* Os gwrandewch ar hyn, os gwelwch yn dda, fe welwch fy mhwynt—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid yw'n ddefnyddiol ceisio sibrwd yn y Siambr, yn enwedig yn eich achos chi, Mick Bates.

**Mick Bates:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am eich cyfarwyddyd, Lywydd. Mae ystadegau gan Shelter Cymru yn awgrymu bod digartrefedd wedi cynyddu 57 y cant yn y tair blynedd diwethaf. A ydych yn fodlon bod pob awdurdod lleol yn ymdrin â'i ddyletswydd i ddatrys problem digartrefedd yn effeithiol?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'r ystadegau diweddaraf yn dangos gostyngiad o 35 y cant yn nifer y teuluoedd a dderbyniwyd fel rhai digartref yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf, a gostyngiad o 22 y cant yn y nifer mewn llety gwely a brecwast. Mae yma faterion ystadegol, ac yr wyf yn fodlon iawn ar yr ystadegau y gallaf eu rhoi ichi heddiw. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn pryderu ynghylch awdurdodau lleol a'u dull o ddelio â digartrefedd. Mae'r ffordd y maent yn mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion yn amrywio, ac mae'n bwysig iawn sicrhau rhywfaint o gysondeb dull yn y meysydd penodol hyn. Yr ydym yn adolygu'r strategaeth ar ddigartrefedd drwy'r amser, a byddaf yn adolygu ymateb llywodraeth leol yn y meysydd penodol hyn. Yr ydym yn sôn am y bobl mewn cymdeithas sydd fwyaf agored i niwed, a rhaid ymdrechu'n galed i ddelio â hwy, dod o hyd i lety addas iddynt a helpu diwallu eu hanghenion eraill. Weithiau bydd teuluoedd wedi cweryla, ac mae'n bwysig iawn bod elfen o gyfryngu a chymorth ar gael, a nifer o fesurau eraill cyn i

measures before the dreadful position of homelessness arises. The sooner we can intervene, the better.

**Denise Idris Jones:** I am sure that you agree that homelessness is a huge problem. As a former teacher of older pupils, I know that proper provision for young people who have fallen into neglect is important. However, I am sure that you would also agree that where hostels are situated is a delicate issue. Residents in the area around a hostel for the homeless should be consulted thoroughly before the hostel is located there in order to encourage a good relationship between the residents in the hostel and the local people. This would encourage young people and help them to be better integrated into the local community.

**Edwina Hart:** It is important that when we are locating any type of establishment, whether it be a hostel or a drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre, that the issues are discussed with the local population. However, it is also very important that we as politicians stand up against the 'not in my backyard' response, as it is important for these people to be housed and for people who suffer from drug or alcohol problems to be treated.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Yr wyf wedi codi'r cwestiwn hwn gyd chi yn y gorffennol, sef y broblem o ddigartrefedd cudd yng nghefn gwlad Cymru, lle, yn aml iawn, mae tair, ac weithiau pedair, cenhedlaeth o un teulu yn byw mewn un tŷ sydd wedi ei adeiladu ar gyfer dwy genhedlaeth. Mae pwysau ar awdurdodau i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd—a rhaid iddynt wneud hynny—ond yn aml iawn mae pobl yn symud i fewn i'r ardaloedd ac weithiau'n gwneud eu hunain yn ddigartref ac nid yw'r awdurdodau felly yn medru mynd i'r afael â'r problemau gwirioneddol o fewn eu cymunedau eu hunain. A ydych yn trafod gydag awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru sut y gallant sicrhau bod yr elfennau hyn o ddigartrefedd cudd yn cael eu hwynebu?

**Edwina Hart:** I have regular discussions about housing and homelessness with the Welsh Local Government Association. However, bearing in mind that this is the second time that you have raised this matter

sefyllfa erchyll digartrefedd ddigwydd. Gorau po gyntaf y gallwn ymyrryd.

**Denise Idris Jones:** Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn cytuno bod digartrefedd yn broblem anferth. Fel cyn-athrawes disgyblion hŷn, gwn fod darpariaeth briodol ar gyfer pobl ifanc sydd wedi eu hesgeuluso yn bwysig. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno hefyd bod lleoliad hostelau yn fater anodd. Dylid ymgynghori'n drylwyr â phreswylwyr yr ardal o amgylch hostel i'r digartref cyn i'r hostel gael ei lleoli yno er mwyn annog perthynas dda rhwng preswylwyr yr hostel a'r bobl leol. Byddai hyn yn annog pobl ifanc ac yn eu helpu i integreiddio'n well yn y gymuned leol.

**Edwina Hart:** Wrth leoli unrhyw fath o sefydliad, boed yn hostel neu'n ganolfan adsefydlu cyffuriau ac alcohol, mae'n bwysig i'r materion gael eu trafod gyda'r boblogaeth leol. Fodd bynnag, mae hefyd yn bwysig iawn inni fel gwleidyddion wneud safiad yn erbyn yr ymateb 'nid yn fy milltir sgwâr i', oherwydd mae'n bwysig i'r bobl hyn gael eu cartrefu ac i bobl sydd â phroblemau cyffuriau neu alcohol gael eu trin.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** I have raised this question with you in the past, that is, the problem of hidden homelessness in rural Wales, where very often three, and sometimes four, generations of one family live in a house built to accommodate two generations. There is pressure on authorities to tackle homelessness—and they have to do that—but very often people move into areas and make themselves homeless and the authorities cannot then tackle the genuine problems that exist within their own communities. Are you discussing with local authorities in Wales how they can ensure that these elements of hidden homelessness are addressed?

**Edwina Hart:** Byddaf yn cael trafodaethau rheolaidd am dai a digartrefedd gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Fodd bynnag, o gofio mai dyma'r ail dro ichi godi'r mater hwn gyda mi, byddwn yn fwy

with me, I would be more than happy to arrange a specific meeting with representatives of rural authorities to discuss those issues.

**The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne):** I, too, have looked at the Shelter Cymru report; it indicates that, on average, over the last four or five years at least 50,000 people a year experienced homelessness in Wales. Given that sort of statistic, I am sure that you would agree that we must look to build more houses, and more appropriate houses. What are you doing with Cabinet colleagues to facilitate and encourage that happening?

**Edwina Hart:** It is important that we build more premises. Andrew Davies, Carwyn Jones and I are looking at land issues, and what public land would be available. We are also looking at what type of housing we could get put up and we are having discussions with the private sector on those issues. I will be reporting back on some of those issues in due course to committee, and I will advise Members, when that report is available, about the extent of our discussions. It is also important that we get the right sort of houses onto the market.

na pharod i drefnu cyfarfod penodol gyda chynrychiolwyr awdurdodau gwledig er mwyn trafod y materion hynny.

**Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne):** Yr wyf fi, hefyd, wedi darllen adroddiad Shelter Cymru; mae'n dangos bod o leiaf 50,000 o bobl y flwyddyn, ar gyfartaledd, yn ystod y pedair neu bum mlynedd diwethaf wedi bod yn ddi-gartref yng Nghymru. Gyda'r math hwnnw o ystadegau, yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunech fod yn rhaid inni geisio adeiladu mwy o dai, a thai mwy priodol. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud gyda chyd-Weinidogion i hwyluso a hyrwyddo hynny?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'n bwysig inni adeiladu mwy o gartrefi. Mae Andrew Davies, Carwyn Jones a minnau yn ymchwilio i faterion yn ymwneud â thir, a pha dir cyhoeddus fyddai ar gael. Yr ydym hefyd yn ymchwilio i'r math o dai y gallem eu codi, ac yr ydym yn cael trafodaethau gyda'r sector preifat ar y materion hynny. Byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar rai o'r materion hynny i'r pwyllgor maes o law, a chaiff Aelodau wybodam ein trafodaethau pan fydd yr adroddiad hwnnw ar gael. Mae hefyd yn bwysig inni roi'r math cywir o dai ar y farchnad.

## **Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau Questions to the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks**

### **Adfywiad Economaidd yng Ngheredigion Economic Regeneration in Ceredigion**

**C1 Elin Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am adfywiad economaidd yng Ngheredigion? OAQ0860(EIN)

**The Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks (Andrew Davies):** Communities throughout Ceredigion have benefited from Assembly Government investment in regeneration. Key local strategies supporting this include the successful Cardigan and south Ceredigion regeneration plan, and, in the north of the county, the Aberystwyth master plan will look at a range of issues, including regeneration in and around the town.

**Q1 Elin Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on economic regeneration in Ceredigion? OAQ0860(EIN)

**Y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau (Andrew Davies):** Mae cymunedau ledled Ceredigion wedi cael budd o fuddsoddiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad mewn adfywio. Ymhlith y strategaethau lleol allweddol sy'n ategu hyn mae cynllun adfywio llwyddiannus Aberteifi a de Ceredigion, ac yng ngogledd y sir bydd prif gynllun Aberystwyth yn edrych ar amrywiaeth o faterion, gan gynnwys adfywio yn y dref ac o gwmpas.

**Elin Jones:** Yn Nyffryn Aeron, mae ffatri fawr braf, sydd bron yn newydd, a adeiladwyd gan arian cyhoeddus ond a gafodd ei gwerthu'n rhatach na'r gost o'i hadeiladu i Dairygold yn Iwerddon. Heddiw, mae'r ffatri honno yn wag ac yn dal ym mherchnogaeth Dairygold. Gwn fod Carwyn Jones a'i adran wedi bod yn trafod gyda Dairygold y pwysigrwydd o werthu'r ffatri honno ymlaen at fusnes arall. Fodd bynnag, pe bai'r ffatri honno yn dal mewn perchnogaeth gyhoeddus, byddai ar gael heddiw ar gyfer busnesau eraill yn yr ardal. A ydych yn cytuno, mewn ardaloedd gwledig, y dylid cadw mwy o ffatrioedd mewn perchnogaeth gyhoeddus yn hytrach nag i ni ildio i'r pwysau i'w gwerthu ymlaen am bris o dan y gost o'i hadeiladu? Byddai hynny'n rhoi llawer yn fwy o hyblygrwydd pan fo busnesau'n tynnu allan o ardaloedd gwledig.

**Andrew Davies:** It is about horses for courses and what is appropriate for the locality. In this case, at the time, it was felt that that was the best way to work with Dairygold and to invest in that community. Clearly, there are issues about having a lot of resource tied up in the public ownership of assets. You cannot then realise that capital in other ways. On the specifics of the factory in the Aeron valley, we are working with Carwyn Jones to see what we can do to get an alternative business in there and to provide employment locally. However, as I said, there are no hard and fast rules on this.

**Lisa Francis:** Your First Minister has trumpeted the fact that 501 new civil service jobs are coming to Aberystwyth in the next two years, when the new Assembly offices are opened there, and has said that this will improve the town's economy. Can you confirm today, however, that out of those 501 jobs, 322 are existing civil service posts at long-established offices in Aberystwyth, Aberaeron and Machynlleth? Staff at these offices will simply be moving to a new building in Aberystwyth. The jobs that will be coming to Aberystwyth that will, in fact, be new, will be restricted to just 179, which will be jobs that will have been relocated from Cardiff. That is the truth of the matter, is it not?

**Elin Jones:** In the Aeron valley there is a large, well-built factory, which is almost new and which was built using public money. But it was sold for less than the cost of building it to Dairygold in Ireland. Today, that factory is empty and still in the hands of Dairygold. I know that Carwyn Jones and his department have been discussing with Dairygold the importance of selling that site on to another business. However, were that factory still in public ownership, then it would be available today for other businesses in the area. Do you agree that in rural areas more factories should be kept in public ownership rather than for us to give in to the pressure to sell them on for a price less than the cost of construction? That would provide much more flexibility when businesses pull out from rural areas.

**Andrew Davies:** Mae a wnelo ag addasu yn ôl y sefyllfa a'r hyn sy'n briodol i'r ardal. Yn yr achos hwn, ar y pryd teimlid mai dyna oedd y ffordd orau i weithio gyda Dairygold a buddsoddi yn y gymuned honno. Yn amlwg, mae yna broblemau o ran clymu llawer o adnoddau mewn asedau cyhoeddus. Ni allwch ddefnyddio'r cyfalaf hwnnw wedyn mewn ffyrdd eraill. O ran manylion y ffatri yn nyffryn Aeron, yr ydym yn gweithio gyda Carwyn Jones i weld beth y gallwn ei wneud i gael busnes gwahanol yno a chreu swyddi'n lleol. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais, nid oes rheolau pendant ynghylch hyn.

**Lisa Francis:** Mae eich Prif Weinidog wedi rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r ffaith fod 501 o swyddi gwasanaeth sifil newydd yn dod i Aberystwyth yn ystod y ddwy flynedd nesaf, pan agorir swyddfeydd newydd y Cynulliad yno. Ac mae wedi dweud y bydd hyn yn gwella economi'r dref. Fodd bynnag, a allwch gadarnhau heddiw fod 322 o'r 501 o swyddi hynny yn swyddi gwasanaeth sifil sy'n bodoli eisoes mewn swyddfeydd sefydledig yn Aberystwyth, Aberaeron a Machynlleth? Bydd staff y swyddfeydd hyn yn symud i adeilad newydd yn Aberystwyth. Mewn gwirionedd, dim ond 179 o swyddi newydd a gaiff eu creu yn Aberystwyth, sef swyddi a gaiff eu symud o Gaerdydd. Dyna yr gwirionedd y sefyllfa, onide?

**Andrew Davies:** I am not sure where you were when the First Minister and the Finance Minister were dealing with the whole issue of location. It has always been the case, whether in relation to Merthyr, Aberystwyth or Llandudno, that we are not talking about new jobs. It is, to a large extent, about the relocation of existing Assembly Government staff and former members of the staff of the Assembly sponsored public bodies. Some are based in Aberystwyth, and some will be relocating from Machynlleth. For example, staff of the Welsh European Funding Office, in my own department, are based there. While I cannot comment on the precise numbers, your assumption that, somehow, all these would be new jobs has never been the case. Clearly, you have not paid attention to the previous announcements by my colleagues.

**Andrew Davies:** Nid wyf yn siŵr ble yr oeddech pan oedd y Prif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog Cyllid yn ymdrin â'r holl fater o leoli. Mae'n wir erioed, boed yn ymwneud â Merthyr, Aberystwyth neu Landudno, nad ydym yn sôn am swyddi newydd. I raddau helaeth, mae a wnelo â symud staff presennol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a chyn-aelodau o staff cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad. Mae rhai ohonynt wedi'u lleoli yn Aberystwyth, a bydd rhai ohonynt yn symud o Fachynlleth. Er enghraifft, mae staff Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru, yn fy adran i, wedi'u lleoli yno. Er na allaf wneud sylw am yr union niferoedd, nid yw eich rhagdybiaeth y byddai'r rhain, rywsut, i gyd yn swyddi newydd erioed wedi bod yn gywir. Mae'n amlwg nad ydych wedi rhoi sylw i'r cyhoeddiadau blaenorol gan fy nghyd-Aelodau.

2.40 p.m.

### **Hyrwyddo'r Arferion Gorau yn Niwydiannau Cymru Promoting Best Practice in Welsh Industries**

**Q2 William Graham:** Will the Minister outline how the Welsh Assembly Government promotes best practice in Welsh industries? OAQ0868(EIN)

**C2 William Graham:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu sut y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn hyrwyddo arfer gorau yn niwydiannau Cymru? OAQ0868(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** The Welsh Assembly Government and its partners promote best practice in and with Welsh industry through numerous means and at various levels, from management development through to workforce skills, and from innovation and technology through to sustainable development. It also helps industry to trade internationally.

**Andrew Davies:** Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'i phartneriaid yn hyrwyddo arferion gorau yn niwydiannau Cymru mewn llawer ffordd ac ar lawer lefel, o ddatblygu ym maes rheoli i sgiliau'r gweithlu, ac o arloesedd a thechnoleg i ddatblygu cynaliadwy. Mae hefyd yn helpu diwydiannau i fasnachu'n rhyngwladol.

**William Graham:** I am sure that you will be aware, Minister, of the success of the Newport-based clothing company JoJo Maman Bébé, and that you will salute its impressive growth: it is now a thriving catalogue business with 10 stores. What schemes do you have to ensure that we see many more innovative businesses, such as those suggested by Sir Terry Matthews, so that the Celtic tiger becomes a reality?

**William Graham:** Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn gwybod, Weinidog, am lwyddiant y cwmni dillad yng Nghasnewydd, JoJo Maman Bébé, ac y byddwch yn llongyfarch ei dwf nodedig: erbyn hyn, mae'n fusnes catalog ffyniannus gyda 10 siop. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i sicrhau y gwelwn lawer mwy o fusnesau arloesol, fel y rhai a awgrymwyd gan Syr Terry Matthews, i sicrhau bod y teigr Celtaidd yn dod i fodolaeth?

**Andrew Davies:** The whole thrust of the merger was to have a department, and the

**Andrew Davies:** Holl fyrdwn y broses uno oedd cael adran, a'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus

public services that it provides, focused on the needs of the customer—in this case, an individual business. It will require first-class account management to identify the needs of the company. The whole thrust of the merger has been to simplify and streamline what was a complex public sector offer. In the case of that company, I would not be able to say what it needs until the account manager has dealt with it. However, if the company wanted, it could access help to trade internationally and, on the innovation side, it would have access to a whole suite of services. We can also help it to be aware of the services that are provided by the private sector, as well as the public sector.

y mae'n eu darparu, sy'n canolbwyntio ar anghenion y cwsmer—yn yr achos hwn, busnes unigol. Bydd yn ofynnol iddo gael rheolwr cyfrifon o'r radd flaenaf er mwyn nodi anghenion y cwmni. Holl fyrdwn y broses uno oedd symleiddio a rhesymoli yr hyn a oedd yn gynnig cymhleth ar gyfer y sector cyhoeddus. Yn achos y cwmni hwnnw, ni allwn ddweud beth sydd ei angen arno nes bydd y rheolwr cyfrifon wedi ymdrin ag ef. Fodd bynnag, gallai'r cwmni gael cymorth i fasnachu'n rhyngwladol pe bai'n dymuno gwneud hynny. Ac o ran arloesedd, byddai'n gallu manteisio ar lu o wasanaethau. Gallwn hefyd ei helpu i fod yn ymwybodol o'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir gan y sector preifat, yn ogystal â'r sector cyhoeddus.

### **Torri Swyddi (Gorllewin De Cymru) Job Cuts (South Wales West)**

**C3 David Lloyd:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am dorri swyddi yng Ngorllewin De Cymru? OAQ0849(EIN)

**Q3 David Lloyd:** Will the Minister make a statement on job cuts in South Wales West? OAQ0849(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** We offer a range of support to safeguard jobs in South Wales West and we work with employers who are making redundancies or considering them. We are also pleased that new jobs continue to be created in the region by employers such as the Admiral insurance group, Steinhoff UK Furniture Ltd, and many others.

**Andrew Davies:** Yr ydym yn cynnig amrywiaeth o gymorth i ddiogelu swyddi yng Ngorllewin De Cymru ac yn gweithio gyda chyflogwyr sy'n dileu swyddi neu'n ystyried gwneud hynny. Yr ydym hefyd yn falch fod swyddi newydd yn parhau i gael eu creu yn y rhanbarth gan gyflogwyr fel grŵp yswiriant Admiral, Steinhoff UK Furniture Cyf, a nifer o rai eraill.

**David Lloyd:** A allaf eich gwthio ychydig ymhellach ar un agwedd o'ch ateb? Pa fecanwaith rhagweithiol sydd gennych i helpu cwmnïau cyn i'r ffatri gau, yn lle derbyn ergyd y cau ac yna Tîm Cymru yn cael ei yrru i mewn?

**David Lloyd:** May I press you a little further on one aspect of your response? What proactive mechanism do you have to help companies before a factory closes, instead of receiving the blow of the closure and then Team Wales being sent in?

**Andrew Davies:** We are able to obtain information about companies from a wide range of sources. The first source is our account management system, but we have a range of other sources: the management team can tell us directly about its problems, or we can learn about them from the trade unions or other support mechanisms, which may include banks or companies such as PricewaterhouseCoopers. We are able to find out from a range of sources that a company may be experiencing difficulties.

**Andrew Davies:** Gallwn gael gwybodaeth am gwmnïau o amrywiaeth eang o ffynonellau. Y ffynhonnell gyntaf yw ein system rheoli cyfrifon, ond mae gennym amrywiaeth o ffynonellau eraill: gall y tîm rheoli ddweud wrthym yn uniongyrchol am ei broblemau, neu gallwn glywed amdanynt gan yr undebau llafur neu drwy ddulliau cymorth eraill, a all gynnwys banciau neu gwmnïau fel PricewaterhouseCoopers. Gallwn gael gwybod o amrywiaeth o ffynonellau fod cwmni efallai'n wynebu anawsterau.



Whatever the source of the information, we can offer a range of support to companies. If, for example, it wants to invest to stay in Wales, and we are able to persuade it to stay in Wales, we are able to offer financial assistance, particularly if the company is based in an assisted area. We can also offer a suite of other business support mechanisms that will, hopefully, help companies to improve their operations. For example, if a company is in the automotive industry, through the Accelerate Wales programme we can help it to identify a wider range of customers and to improve its operation through productivity gains and more efficient manufacturing processes, such as lean manufacturing.

**Alun Cairns:** The South Wales West economy is predominantly dependent on manufacturing. If you look at the manufacturing index, and manufacturing productivity and output in Wales and England, Wales has been doing much worse than England recently. Does this tell you that your policies are not working?

**Andrew Davies:** No. I have said on many occasions that Wales is not the only part of the global economy that is experiencing difficulties in manufacturing. If you look at the performance of Wales over many years, particularly since 1999, the manufacturing sector in Wales has done better, certainly in terms of maintaining jobs in manufacturing, than other parts of the UK. If you compare the number of manufacturing jobs lost in Wales and in the rest of the UK, you will see that the loss has been less than in other parts of the UK. Through the Accelerate Wales programme, we have helped the automotive industry to weather some of the storms that it has experienced, most recently the storm caused by the demise of MG Rover.

**Peter Black:** Minister, do you share my concern at the projected losses and outsourcing of Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency jobs? What work are you doing with the DVLA and the relevant Westminster Ministers to try to mitigate the effect of these job losses on the local economy?

Beth bynnag fo ffynhonnell y wybodaeth, gallwn gynnig amrywiaeth o gymorth i gwmnïau. Er enghraifft, os bydd cwmni am fuddsoddi i aros yng Nghymru, ac os gallwn ei ddarbwylllo i aros yng Nghymru, gallwn gynnig cymorth ariannol, yn enwedig os yw'r cwmni mewn ardal a gynorthwyir. Gallwn hefyd gynnig lluo o ddulliau cymorth busnes eraill a fydd, gobeithio, yn helpu cwmnïau i wella eu gweithrediadau. Er enghraifft, os yw cwmni yn y diwydiant modurol, drwy raglen Accelerate Cymru gallwn ei helpu i nodi ystod ehangach o gwsmeriaid a gwella'i weithrediadau drwy wella cynhyrchiant a phrosesau gweithgynhyrchu mwy effeithlon, fel gweithgynhyrchu darbodus.

**Alun Cairns:** Mae economi Gorllewin De Cymru yn ddibynnol ar weithgynhyrchu yn bennaf. Os edrychwch ar y mynegai gweithgynhyrchu, a chynhyrchiant a chynnyrch gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru a Lloegr, mae Cymru wedi gwneud lawer yn waeth na Lloegr yn ddiweddar. A yw hyn yn dweud wrthyfch nad yw eich polisiau'n gweithio?

**Andrew Davies:** Nac ydyw. Dywedais lawer gwaith nad Cymru yw'r unig ran o'r economi fyd-eang sy'n cael anawsterau mewn gweithgynhyrchu. Os edrychwch ar berfformiad Cymru dros nifer o flynyddoedd, yn enwedig er 1999, mae'r sector gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru wedi gwneud lawer yn well, yn enwedig o ran cadw swyddi ym maes gweithgynhyrchu, na rhannau eraill o'r DU. Os cymharwch nifer y swyddi gweithgynhyrchu a gollwyd yng Nghymru ac yng ngweddill y DU, fe welwch fod y golled yn llai nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU. Drwy raglen Accelerate Cymru, yr ydym wedi helpu'r diwydiant modurol i oresgyn rhai o'r sefyllfaoedd anodd a wynebodd, yn fwyaf diweddar y cyfnod anodd a achoswyd pan gaewyd MG Rover.

**Peter Black:** Weinidog, a ydych chi fel finnau yn pryderu ynghylch y colledion a ragwelir a gosod swyddi'r Asiantaeth Trwyddedu Gyrwyr a Cherbydau allan ar gontract? Pa waith yr ydych yn ei wneud gyda DVLA a'r Gweinidogion perthnasol yn San Steffan i geisio lliniaru effaith colli'r swyddi hyn ar yr economi leol?

**Andrew Davies:** I recently met with Clive Bennett, the DVLA's chief executive, and I also met representatives of the Public and Commercial Services union when its members were concerned by the decision made by the Department for Transport—now the DVLA—in terms of job losses. However, the chief executive pointed out that the proposed reduction by 500 people in its current total head count of 6,500 is part of a wider civil service efficiency drive. He told me that it is very much expected that, given the DVLA's annual workforce turnover, this reduction can be achieved through natural wastage. However, we are working with the DVLA in looking at other services that can be provided, and we have been successful in attracting the new Department for Transport shared service centre, which is expected to create at least 150 new jobs by 2008 in Swansea.

**Janice Gregory:** You will be aware that Vitafoam in Maesteg recently announced its closure, with the loss of 88 jobs. I know that, as always, you will do all that you can in helping the employees of this factory with retraining in their search for alternative employment. However, it is vital that we also concentrate on the future of the site. Will you give an assurance that you and your officials will do all that you can to find an alternative company or companies to utilise this large site in Maesteg, so that it can once again provide a source of income for that community?

**Andrew Davies:** Certainly, Janice; I give that assurance. I believe that that process has already started, but if it has not, I will ensure that my officials and other officials in the Assembly Government, as well as the local authority, follow this matter up straight away.

**Andrew Davies:** Cefais gyfarfod gyda Clive Bennett, prif weithredwr DVLA, yn ddiweddar a chefais gyfarfod hefyd â chynrychiolwyr yr Undeb Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus a Masnachol pan oedd ei aelodau'n pryderu am y penderfyniad a wnaed gan yr Adran Drafnidiaeth—DVLA bellach—yn glŷn â cholli swyddi. Fodd bynnag, pwysleisiodd y prif weithredwr fod y gostyngiad arfaethedig o 500 yn nifer y gweithlu presennol o 6,500 yn rhan o ymgyrch ehangach i sicrhau effeithlonrwydd yn y gwasanaeth sifil. Oherwydd trosiant blynyddol yng ngweithlu DVLA, dywedodd wrthyf y disgwylir y gellir cyflawni'r gostyngiad hwn drwy golledion naturiol. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn gweithio gyda DVLA ac yn edrych ar wasanaethau eraill y gellir eu darparu. Buom yn llwyddiannus wrth ddenu'r ganolfan wasanaeth newydd a rennir gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth, a disgwylir y bydd y ganolfan hon yn creu o leiaf 150 o swyddi newydd yn Abertawe erbyn 2008.

**Janice Gregory:** Byddwch yn ymwybodol fod Vitafoam ym Maesteg yn ddiweddar wedi cyhoeddi y bydd yn cau, ac y bydd 88 o swyddi'n cael eu colli. Gwn y byddwch, yn ôl eich arfer, yn gwneud popeth a fedrwch i helpu gweithwyr y ffatri hon gydag ailhyfforddi wrth iddynt chwilio am waith arall. Fodd bynnag, mae'n hanfodol inni hefyd ganolbwyntio ar ddyfodol y safle. A roddwch sicrwydd y byddwch chi a'ch swyddogion yn gwneud popeth a fedrwch i ddod o hyd i gwmni arall neu gwmnïau eraill i ddefnyddio'r safle mawr hwn ym Maesteg, er mwyn iddo allu dod yn ffynhonnell incwm i'r gymuned honno unwaith yn rhagor?

**Andrew Davies:** Yn sicr, Janice; rhoddaf y sicrwydd hwnnw. Credaf fod y broses honno wedi dechrau eisoes, ond os nad yw wedi dechrau, sicrhaf fod fy swyddogion a swyddogion eraill yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn ogystal â'r awdurdod lleol, yn mynd ar drywydd y mater hwn ar unwaith.

### **Annog Arloesi yn Economi Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru Encouraging Innovation in the Economy of Mid and West Wales**

**Q4 Nick Bourne:** Will the Minister outline his policies for encouraging innovation in the economy of Mid and West Wales?

**C4 Nick Bourne:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei bolisiau ar gyfer annog arloesi yn economi Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru?

OAQ876(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** The Assembly Government's innovation action plan sets out in greater detail how support for this important area is delivered by and for business. We have a range of programmes that provide direct support to businesses, and our successful technium network is providing incubator support for high-technology companies, particularly those with high growth potential.

**Nick Bourne:** As the Minister is aware, I wrote to him recently, regarding the potential implications of the changes with the Welsh Development Agency's coming in-house for the funding of the town co-ordinators and, specifically, in Llandrindod Wells. I have been approached by the town's council and others about changes in the terms of trade, as they see it. They are now on a three-monthly contract and are concerned about the funding. Can you give an assurance that the terms of trade have not altered, and that funding will continue as it was under the WDA?

**Andrew Davies:** I will certainly give a commitment to look at that matter. In my formal response to your letter, I will address those issues.

OAQ876(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Mae cynllun gweithredu arloesi Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gosod allan yn fanylach sut y rhoddir cymorth ar gyfer y maes pwysig hwn gan fusnesau ac i fusnesau. Mae gennym amrywiaeth o raglenni sy'n rhoi cymorth uniongyrchol i fusnesau, ac mae ein rhwydwaith Technium llwyddiannus yn rhoi cymorth hybu i gwmnïau uwchdechnoleg, yn arbennig i'r rheini sydd â'r potensial i dyfu'n sylweddol.

**Nick Bourne:** Fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, ysgrifennais ato'n ddiweddar ynghylch goblygiadau posibl dod ag Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru o dan adain y Cynulliad o ran cyllido'r cydgysylltwyr tref, ac yn benodol yn Llandrindod. Mae cyngor y dref a phobl eraill wedi siara â mi am newidiadau yn y telerau masnachu, yn eu tyb hwy. Maent bellach ar gontract tri mis ac maent yn pryderu am y cyllid. A allwch roi sicrwydd i mi nad yw'r telerau masnachu wedi newid, ac y bydd cyllid yn parhau fel yr oedd o dan drefn WDA?

**Andrew Davies:** Yn sicr, gwnaf ymrwymiad i edrych ar y mater hwnnw. Yn fy ymateb ffurfiol i'ch llythyr, deliaf â'r materion hynny.

### **Busnesau Bach a Chanolig Small and Medium-sized Enterprises**

**Q5 Catherine Thomas:** What support is the Welsh Assembly Government giving to small and medium-sized enterprises in Wales?  
OAQ0833(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** A range of support is available to small and medium-sized enterprises, including general advice, specialist support, mentoring activity, support for information and communications technology and research and development, help with brokering supply and procurement opportunities, access to finance, and help with industry networking. Underpinning this is our signposting service, Business Eye, which offers a free impartial information and signposting service.

**Catherine Thomas:** I am pleased that, in my constituency, a number of SMEs offer

**C5 Catherine Thomas:** Pa gymorth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei roi i fusnesau bach a chanolig yng Nghymru?  
OAQ0833(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Mae amrywiaeth o gymorth ar gael i fusnesau bach a chanolig, gan gynnwys cyngor cyffredinol, cymorth arbenigol, gweithgarwch mentora, cymorth ar gyfer technoleg gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu ac ymchwil a datblygu, helpu gyda threfn cyfleoedd cyflenwi a chaffael, gallu cael cyllid, a help gyda rhwydweithio diwydiant. Yn sail i hyn mae Llygad busnes, ein gwasanaeth cyfeirio, sy'n cynnig gwasanaeth gwybodaeth a chyfeirio diduedd am ddim.

**Catherine Thomas:** Yr wyf yn falch fod nifer o fusnesau bach a chanolig yn fy

environmentally friendly solutions to energy and housing needs. These include Filsol Solar Ltd, in Ponthenri in the Llanelli constituency, which manufactures solar panels and provides other solar heating products to help homeowners and businesses run their properties on clean energy. What support is the Welsh Assembly Government giving to enable small businesses that have an environmental focus to set up and develop?

2.50 p.m.

**Andrew Davies:** We see microgeneration as being crucially important. In fact, this is clearly referred to in our energy route-map, which is our energy policy for the future. As the Minister responsible for energy, I see it as a key priority. In April, we launched a consultation on a microgeneration strategy which ends at the end of June, and I will come forward with an action plan to look at ways in which we can help the industry to develop this crucially important capacity, not just in terms of wealth generation but also in terms of reducing our energy consumption, and improving or increasing our use of renewables. That is a crucially important area for us. More generally, the environmental goods service sector is an area where we have much expertise and resource in Wales, which I would like to develop. I have worked for many years with Sue Essex, as the former Minister for the environment, on how we might take forward that crucially important sector and also fund it appropriately.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Un o'r cynlluniau mwyaf llwyddiannus yn rhaglen Amcan 1 Gwynedd oedd y cynllun i gefnogi busnesau bach, a gyflwynwyd gan bwylgor datblygu economaidd Gwynedd, i ddenu arian preifat a chreu swyddi. A ydych yn fodlon ystyried cynllun o'r fath ar draws ardal y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd o fewn rhaglen y cronfeydd cydgyfeirio?

**Andrew Davies:** We are willing to do that, particularly as we now have the opportunity of a second round of European funding through the convergence programme. A large amount of work has already been done on identifying successful programmes and

etholaeth yn cynnig atebion ynni ac anghenion tai sy'n garedig i ecoleg. Ymhlith y rhain mae Filsol Solar Cyf, ym Mhont-henri yn etholaeth Llanelli, sy'n cynhyrchu paneli solar ac yn darparu cynnyrch gwresogi solar arall i helpu perchnogion tai a busnesau i ddefnyddio ynni glân. Pa gymorth y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei roi i alluogi busnesau bach sydd â ffocws amgylcheddol i sefydlu a datblygu?

**Andrew Davies:** Credwn fod microgynhyrchu yn hanfodol bwysig. Mewn gwirionedd, cyfeirir at hyn yn glir yn ein map llwybr ynni, sef ein polisi ynni ar gyfer y dyfodol. Fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am ynni, ystyriaif ei fod yn flaenoriaeth allweddol. Ym mis Ebrill, lanswyd ymgynghoriad ar strategaeth microgynhyrchu a fydd yn dod i ben ddiwedd mis Mehefin. Byddaf yn cyflwyno cynllun gweithredu i edrych ar ffordd y gallwn helpu'r diwydiant i ddatblygu'r gallu hanfodol bwysig hwn, nid yn unig o ran cynhyrchu cyfoeth, ond hefyd o ran defnyddio llai o ynni a gwella neu gynyddu defnyddio ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae hwnnw'n faes hanfodol bwysig inni. Yn fwy cyffredinol, mae'r sector gwasanaeth nwyddau amgylcheddol yn faes lle mae gennym lawer o arbenigedd ac adnoddau yng Nghymru, a hoffwn ei ddatblygu. Yr wyf wedi gweithio ers blyneddau gyda Sue Essex, y cyn-Weinidog dros yr amgylchedd, ar y ffordd i ddatblygu'r sector hanfodol bwysig hwnnw a hefyd ei ariannu'n briodol.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** One of the most successful schemes in the Objective 1 programme in Gwynedd has been the small businesses support scheme, introduced by Gwynedd economic development committee, to attract private funding and generate employment. Are you prepared to consider such a scheme across west Wales and the Valleys within the convergence funds programme?

**Andrew Davies:** Yr ydym yn barod i wneud hynny, yn arbennig gan fod gennym y cyfle'n awr am ail gylch o gyllid Ewropeaidd drwy'r rhaglen gydgyfeirio. Gwnaed llawer iawn o waith eisoes ar nodi rhaglenni a phrosiectau llwyddiannus. Lle maent yn ychwanegu

projects. Where they add value and fit in with our strategic priorities as a Government, we would want to identify successful projects and, if appropriate, take them forward under the next funding round.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Diolch am eich ateb. Yr oedd hwnnw yn enghraifft o gynllun a ddechreuodd gyda phwyllgor lleol. Wrth edrych ymlaen at y cyfnod nesaf, pa fecanwaith lleol yr ydych yn ei ragweld i gynnig cynlluniau o'r fath, ac, yn bwysicach, i'w gweithredu ar lefel leol?

**Andrew Davies:** As I said in my previous responses, we need to fully evaluate this particular scheme, to see whether it is consistent with being rolled out across the wider area of west Wales and the Valleys. If it has been successful, it will be at the front of the queue for wider dissemination across west Wales and the Valleys.

**Alun Cairns:** You seem to offer warm words in terms of business support for small businesses, particularly within some of the most vulnerable communities. How do you reconcile those warm words with the reality where you are cutting the contracts and the funding made available to enterprise agencies to support some of those small businesses?

**Andrew Davies:** As I have reported to the Enterprise, Innovation and Networks Committee on several occasions—including this morning—we have refocused support for business, which is what business told us needed to be done. What I learned from the nearly 100 meetings that I had as part of the merger process—similar results have been found in other parts of the UK, most recently in the National Audit Office report on the small business service in England—was that small businesses were fed up with the duplication and confusion in public sector business support. We said that we would streamline and make more effective use of resources; that is what we are doing. I think that you are referring to a reduction in the funding that has been made available to some enterprise agencies, but what we have said is that we need to target those resources more effectively. My officials have been in discussion with many of the enterprise agencies affected by the reduction in funding,

gwerth ac yn cyd-fynd â'n blaenoriaethau strategol fel Llywodraeth, byddem yn dymuno nodi prosiectau llwyddiannus, ac os yw'n briodol eu datblygu o dan y cylch cyllido nesaf.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Thank you for your reply. That was an example of a scheme which began with a local committee. Looking forward to the next funding round, what local mechanism do you anticipate to offer such schemes and, more importantly, to implement them at a local level?

**Andrew Davies:** Fel y dywedais yn fy atebion blaenorol, mae angen inni werthuso'r cynllun penodol hwn yn llawn, i weld a allwn ei gyflwyno ar draws ardal ehangach y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd yn yr un modd. Os yw wedi bod yn llwyddiannus, bydd ar ben y rhestr ar gyfer ei gyflwyno'n ehangach ar draws y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd.

**Alun Cairns:** Ymddengys eich bod yn cynnig geiriau caredig am gymorth busnes i fusnesau bach, yn arbennig yn rhai o'r cymunedau mwyaf diamddiffyn. Sut yr ydych yn cysoni'r geiriau caredig hynny â'r realiti a chithau'n torri'r contractau a'r cyllid sydd ar gael i asiantaethau menter i gefnogi rhai o'r busnes bach hynny?

**Andrew Davies:** Fel yr wyf wedi ei adrodd wrth y Pwyllgor Menter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau droeon—gan gynnwys y bore yma—yr ydym wedi ail-ganolbwyntio cymorth i fusnesau, sef yr hyn y dywedodd busnesau wrthym yr oedd angen ei wneud. Yr hyn a ddysgais mewn bron i 100 o gyfarfodydd a gefais fel rhan o'r broses uno—cafwyd canlyniadau tebyg mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU, ac yn fwyaf diweddar yn adroddiad y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol ar y gwasanaeth i fusnesau bach yn Lloegr—oedd bod busnesau bach wedi syrffedu ar y dyblygu a'r dryswch gyda chymorth i fusnesau yn y sector cyhoeddus. Dywedasom y byddem yn symleiddio ac yn defnyddio adnoddau'm fwy effeithiol; dyna yr ydym yn ei wneud. Credaf eich bod yn cyfeirio at leihad yn y cyllid a ddarparwyd i rai asiantaethau menter, ond yr hyn a ddywedwyd yw bod yn rhaid inni dargedu'r adnoddau hynny'n fwy effeithiol. Mae fy swyddogion wedi bod yn trafod gyda nifer

to manage the process in a way that would not impact on their business. However, if you were to look at my budget, £20 million is being put into enterprise support activities, which is four or five times more than what most regional development agencies in England are spending.

**Alun Cairns:** Again, you use warm words about streamlining, but, in reality, that is not what you are doing. Effectively, you are cutting the contracts of the same number of enterprise agencies. Therefore, the same number of organisations exists there, it is just that they are serving and supporting fewer businesses. Therefore, we are in the ludicrous situation where we are spending money on primetime television and radio advertising for Business Eye but it does not have anyone to point businesses to because when it does that, the enterprise agency says, 'My contract has been slashed. Last year I supported 1,300 businesses; I have only been contracted to support 300 businesses. Sorry, I cannot serve you.'

**Andrew Davies:** I remember only a few years ago being lectured to by Alun Cairns and other members of the Conservative Party about how the public sector needed to get off the private sector's back. They said that there were too many public sector support programmes. I seem to remember its being a bit of a mantra from Alun. It was said that the WDA alone was offering up 19 support programmes and that there needed to be streamlining and a much more effective use of resources. I agreed with him at the time; I agree with him now. That is what we are doing and it is a much more effective use of public resources. As the Federation of Small Businesses review said, when its members are looking for business support, 75 per cent of them look to the private sector in the first place, whether that is their bank, their accountant or their lawyer. The public sector is not a major focus of support and we need to learn to complement what other providers are providing and not believe that the public sector has the monopoly.

o'r asiantaethau menter y mae'r lleihad mewn cyllid yn effeithio arnynt, er mwyn rheoli'r broses mewn ffordd na fyddai'n effeithio ar eu busnes. Fodd bynnag, pe baech yn edrych ar fy nghyllideb, rhoddir £20 miliwn i weithgarwch cymorth menter, sydd bedair neu bum gwaith yn fwy nag y mae'r rhan fwyaf o asiantaethau datblygu rhanbarthol yn Lloegr yn ei wario.

**Alun Cairns:** Unwaith eto, defnyddiwyd eiriau teg am symleiddio, ond mewn gwirionedd nid dyna yr ydych yn ei wneud. I bob pwrpas, yr ydych yn cwtdogi contractau yr un nifer o asiantaethau menter. Felly, mae yno'r un nifer o sefydliadau, ond maent yn gwasanaethu ac yn cynorthwyo llai o fusnesau. Felly, yr ydym yn y sefyllfa chwerthinllyd lle yr ydym yn gwario arian ar hysbysebu Llygad Busnes ar y teledu a'r radio yn ystod oriau brig, ond nid oes ganddo neb i gyfeirio busnesau ato, oherwydd pan fydd yn gwneud hynny mae'r asiantaeth fenter yn dweud, 'Mae fy nghontract wedi ei gwtogi. Y llynedd cynorthwyais 1,300 o fusnesau; yr wyf wedi cael contract i gynorthwyo dim ond 300 o fusnesau. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ni allaf eich gwasanaethu.'

**Andrew Davies:** Gallaf gofio ychydig flynyddoedd yn unig yn ôl imi gael pregeth gan Alun Cairns ac aelodau eraill o'r Blaid Geidwadol am y ffordd y dylai'r sector cyhoeddus adael llonydd i'r sector preifat. Dywedwyd bod gormod o raglenni cymorth yn y sector cyhoeddus. Cofiaf fod Alun yn tueddu i ailadrodd hynny drosodd a throsodd. Dywedwyd bod WDA yn unig yn cynnig hyd at 19 o raglenni cymorth, a bod angen symleiddio a defnyddio adnoddau lawer yn fwy effeithiol. Cytunais ag ef ar y pryd; Cytunaf ag ef yn awr. Dyna'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud, ac mae'n defnyddio adnoddau cyhoeddus lawer yn fwy effeithiol. Fel y dywedodd adolygiad y Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach, pan fydd ei aelodau'n chwilio am gymorth busnes bydd 75 y cant ohonynt yn troi at y sector preifat yn y lle cyntaf, boed eu banc, eu cyfrifydd neu eu cyfreithiwr. Nid yw'r sector cyhoeddus yn brif ffocws cymorth, ac mae angen inni ddysgu sut i ategu'r hyn y mae darparwyr eraill yn ei ddarparu a pheidio â chredu bod y monopoli yn nwylo'r sector cyhoeddus.

**Cynnal a Chadw Cefnffyrdd**  
**The Maintenance of Trunk Roads**

**Q6 Brynle Williams:** Will the Minister make a statement on the maintenance of trunk roads in north Wales? OAQ0904(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Trunk roads in north Wales are maintained for the Assembly Government by the North Wales Trunk Road Agency, in accordance with the trunk road maintenance manual. The network plays a vital role in the local economy, in particular in the tourism trade, and planned works are carried out to avoid peak holiday periods wherever possible.

**Brynle Williams:** I think that you will agree that there has been considerable mismanagement over the closure of the A5. You need to explain that. Why did contingency planning for opening the old route not begin at least six months ago? The lights have been there for over 14 months. Why did an Assembly Minister mislead the public last Saturday morning in the press, stating that three of the four landowners involved in the opening of the old A5 route—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I think that I heard Brynle Williams allege that a Minister had misled the public. I would be grateful if he could find another form of words. I know that there is deep concern about this matter—I am especially concerned myself—but it is important that we treat it in a reasonable manner.

**Brynle Williams:** I will rephrase that. It has been implied that three of the landowners will not sign. On Monday morning, I was told by one of your Assembly highways officials that no-one had signed, Minister. What are you going to do resolve this situation and what timetable can you provide for the businesses suffering in the meantime?

**Andrew Davies:** I refute any allegation that there has been a mismanagement of this issue. I gave a full report on the situation, regrettable as it is, in Plenary a couple of weeks ago. However, as I said then, my

**C6 Brynle Williams:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gynnal a chadw cefnffyrdd yn y Gogledd? OAQ0904(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Caiff cefnffyrdd yn y gogledd eu cynnal a'u cadw gan Asiantaeth Cefnffyrdd Gogledd Cymru, ar ran Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn unol â'r llawlyfr cynnal a chadw cefnffyrdd. Mae'r rhwydwaith yn rhan hanfodol o'r economi leol, yn arbennig ym maes twristiaeth, a chaif gwaith wedi'i gynllunio ei wneud er mwyn osgoi cyfnodau prysur yn ystod y gwyliau, ble bynnag y bydd yn bosibl.

**Brynle Williams:** Credaf y byddwch yn cytuno bod camreoli sylweddol wedi digwydd ynghylch cau'r A5. Mae angen ichi esbonio hynny. Pam nad oedd y cynlluniau wrth gefn ar gyfer agor yr hen ffordd wedi dechrau o leiaf chwe mis yn ôl? Mae'r goleuadau wedi bod yno ers dros 14 mis. Pam yr oedd Gweinidog y Cynulliad yn camarwain y cyhoedd yn y wasg ddydd Sadwrn diwethaf, gan ddweud bod tri o'r pedwar tiffeddiannwr sy'n ymwneud ag agor hen ffordd yr A5—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Credaf imi glywed Brynle Williams yn honni bod Gweinidog wedi camarwain y cyhoedd. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai ddefnyddio geiriau eraill. Gwn fod pryder mawr am y mater hwn—yr wyf yn pryderu'n fawr fy hun—ond mae'n bwysig inni ei drin mewn ffordd resymol.

**Brynle Williams:** Aralleirïaf hynny. Awgrymwyd na fydd tri o'r tiffeddiannwyr yn llofnodi. Fore dydd Llun, dywedwyd wrthyf gan un o swyddogion priffyrdd y Cynulliad nad oedd neb wedi llofnodi, Weiniog. Beth yr ydych yn mynd i'w wneud i ddatrys y sefyllfa hon, a pha amserlen y gallwch ei darparu i'r busnesau sy'n dioddef yn y cyfamser?

**Andrew Davies:** Gwrthodaf unrhyw honiad fod y mater hwn wedi'i gamreoli. Cyflwynais adroddiad llawn ar y sefyllfa, er mor anffodus ydyw, yn y Cyfarfod Llawn rai wythnosau'n ôl. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais

primary aim is to ensure the public's safety, namely those using the new A5. I stand by that and I refute any allegation of mismanagement.

I will give the same update on the situation as I gave committee this morning. On the issue of the old A5, I do not know where Brynle got his information from but I have never said that three of the four landowners have refused to give permission. As I said to committee this morning—*[Interruption.]*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I have already made an appeal for this matter to be treated reasonably. Our constituents are interested in this matter and they expect to hear us deal with it in a courteous manner.

**Andrew Davies:** It was identified early on in the process, when it was necessary to close the new stretch of the A5, that there was the possibility of using the old A5, the so-called Telford road. Negotiations with the landowners are conducted by my officials and agents and three of the four landowners involved have given their agreement for the use of the A5. However, I understand that negotiations with one, namely Mr Evans, remain stalled.

The district valuer has been involved in giving his assessment of the value of the land on the A5. There is another land issue with regard to the new road, which I will come on to in a minute. My understanding is that, prior to 2 p.m. yesterday, Mr Evans had not communicated his response to the district valuer's final offer for the use of the road. All preparatory works have now been completed on the sections of the old A5 that are accessible to the Government; only the works on Mr Evans's land remain. It is estimated that this work, which consists in the main of clearing vegetation and cutting back trees, will take up to three days. If we can get a resolution in the negotiation with the one remaining landowner, we will seek to reopen the A5 for traffic-light-controlled passage as soon as possible.

The risk assessment on the new road was conducted very late. As I said in my response two weeks ago, there was a very high risk of

bryd hynny, fy mhrif nod yw sicrhau diogelwch y cyhoedd, sef y bobl sy'n defnyddio'r A5 newydd. Yr wyf yn cadw at hynny, a gwrthodaf unrhyw honiad o gamreoli.

Rhoddaf yr un wybodaeth am y sefyllfa ag a roddais i'r pwyllgor y bore yma. Ar fater yr hen A5, ni wn o ble y cafodd Brynle y wybodaeth hon, ond ni ddywedais erioed fod tri o'r pedwar tîrfeiddiannwr wedi gwrthod rhoi caniatâd. Fel y dywedais yn y pwyllgor y bore yma—*[Torri ar draws.]*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Yr wyf eisoes wedi apelio am i'r mater hwn gael ei drin yn rhesymol. Mae gan ein hetholwyr ddiddordeb yn y mater hwn, ac maent yn disgwyl ein clywed yn ymdrin ag ef yn gwrtais.

**Andrew Davies:** Yn gynnar yn y broses, pan oedd yn angenrheidiol cau'r darn newydd o'r A5, nodwyd y posibilrwydd o ddefnyddio'r hen A5, sef ffordd Telford, fel y'i gelwir. Mae fy swyddogion a'm hasiantwyr yn trafod gyda'r tîrfeiddiannwyr, ac mae tri o'r pedwar tîrfeiddiannwr dan sylw wedi rhoi sêl eu bendith ar gyfer defnyddio'r A5. Fodd bynnag, deallaf fod trafodaethau gydag un, sef Mr Evans, wedi methu hyd yma.

Mae'r prisiwr dosbarth wedi cyflwyno ei asesiad o werth y tir ar yr A5. Mae mater arall yn ymwneud â thir ar y ffordd newydd, a dof at hwnnw mewn munud. O'r hyn a ddeallaf, erbyn 2 p.m. ddoe nid oedd Mr Evans wedi ymateb i gynnig terfynol y prisiwr dosbarth ar gyfer defnyddio'r ffordd. Mae'r holl waith paratoadol wedi'i gwblhau bellach ar y rhannau o'r hen A5 sydd ar gael i'r Llywodraeth; dim ond y gwaith ar dir Mr Evans sy'n weddill. Amcangyfrifir y bydd y gwaith hwn, sy'n cynnwys clirio llystyfiant a thorri coed yn bennaf, yn cymryd hyd at dri diwrnod. Os gallwn ddod i gytundeb gyda'r un tîrfeiddiannwr sy'n weddill, byddwn yn ceisio ailagor yr A5 gan ddefnyddio goleuadau traffig cyn gynted â phosibl.

Gwnaed yr asesiad risg o'r ffordd newydd yn hwyr iawn. Fel y dywedais yn fy ymateb bythefnos yn ôl, yr oedd risg fawr iawn y



catastrophic rock failure—a one in 63 chance of that happening—with the possible result of death or serious injury to anyone using the trunk road. I am not prepared to take that risk, especially when I have been given strong advice by my officials. The remedial works on the rock face will be undertaken as soon as possible, and negotiations with Mr Evans will continue in order to try to get access to his land so that the rock can be removed and the gradient on the rock face can be reduced.

**Karen Sinclair:** As you know, Alun Pugh and I have been in almost constant dialogue with you regarding the closure of the A5. My recall of the sequence of events is not the same as Brynle's and, as you know, I have been dealing with this since February—

**Brynle Williams:** If you have been dealing with it since February, why has it not been dealt with yet?

**Karen Sinclair:** Presiding Officer, do you want me to respond to that?

**The Presiding Officer:** No. I want this exchange to be treated in such a way that the people who have substantial concerns will feel that they have been properly represented. That is not helped by people barracking and interrupting. All the Members who have indicated that they wish to be called on this matter will be called. I am extending the time available for this question; it will be the major question in this section today. I intend to call everyone who has indicated that they would like to contribute.

**Karen Sinclair:** I would like to focus on the intransigence of the landowner who, as you know, is holding out for totally disproportionate compensation for his land. The opening of the old Telford Road is the best worst option—if that is the best expression—for diverting the traffic while minimising the economic damage for local traders. Can you assure me that you will use all of your powers to secure a compulsory purchase order for the land if the landowner continues to resist? I sincerely hope that he reconsiders his position for the benefit of

gallai creigiau syrthio a fyddai'n drychinebus—gydag un siawns mewn 63 y gallai hynny'n digwydd—gan achosi marwolaeth neu anaf difrifol i unrhyw un a fyddai'n defnyddio'r gefnffordd honno. Nid wyf yn barod i gymryd y risg honno, yn enwedig gan fod fy swyddogion wedi fy nghynghori'n gryf. Caiff y gwaith adfer ar wyneb y graig ei wneud cyn gynted â phosibl, a bydd trafodaethau gyda Mr Evans yn parhau er mwyn ceisio mynd ar ei dir i symud y graig a lleihau'r graddiant ar wyneb y graig.

**Karen Sinclair:** Fel y gwyddoch, mae Alun Pugh a minnau wedi bod yn trafod gyda chi yn gyson bron ynghylch cau'r A5. Nid yw'r hyn a gofiai am drefn y digwyddiadau yr un fath â'r hyn y mae Brynle yn ei gofio, ac fel y gwyddoch yr wyf wedi bod yn delio â hyn ers mis Chwefror—

**Brynle Williams:** Os ydych wedi bod yn delio ag ef ers mis Chwefror, pam nad yw wedi'i ddatrys eto?

**Karen Sinclair:** Lywydd, a ydych am i mi ymateb i hynny?

**Y Llywydd:** Nac ydwyf. Yr wyf am i'r drafodaeth hon gael ei chynnal mewn ffordd a fydd yn gwneud i'r bobl sy'n â pryderu'n wirioneddol deimlo'u bod wedi eu cynrychioli'n briodol. Nid yw clywed pobl yn heclo ac yn torri ar draws yn helpu hynny. Bydd yr holl Aelodau sydd wedi dangos eu bod am gael eu galw ar y mater hwn yn cael eu galw. Yr wyf am ymestyn yr amser sydd ar gael i'r cwestiwn hwn; dyma fydd y prif gwestiwn yn y rhan hon heddiw. Bwriadaf alw pawb sydd wedi dangos eu bod am gyfrannu.

**Karen Sinclair:** Hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar anhyblygrwydd y tîrfeddiannwr sydd, fel y gwyddoch, yn gofyn am iawndal hollol anghymesur am ei dir. Agor hen Ffordd Telford yw'r dewis gwaethaf gorau—os dyna'r ffordd orau i'w fynegi—ar gyfer gwyro'r traffig gan sicrhau'r niwed economaidd lleiaf posibl i fasnachwyr lleol. A allwch fy sicrhau y byddwch yn defnyddio eich holl bwerau i gael gorchymyn prynu gorfodol ar gyfer y tir os bydd y tîrfeddiannwr yn parhau i wrthod? Yr wyf yn wir yn gobeithio y bydd yn ailystyried er lles

everyone in the area.

**Andrew Davies:** I agree. As a Government, we have tried to do everything possible to minimise the disruption to the local community and, in particular, local businesses. Therefore, we have looked at all options. When it comes down to negotiation with any of the landowners, we are dependent on their response. However, the opportunity provided by a compulsory purchase order is one that is open to us.

This is a serious issue and, as a Government, we have to deal with it responsibly. To have irresponsible comments suggesting that this has been mismanaged or comments undermining the concerns of local communities is irresponsible in the extreme. As a Government, we are trying to deal with the situation and to minimise the risk to the public as well as any impact on local businesses.

**Janet Ryder:** Can you confirm that, in your negotiations with the owners of the land on the old A5, you are negotiating a double package so that access to the old A5 comes first and foremost above access to land that might be needed for remedial work to the new A5? Will you also give your agreement for officers of the North Wales Trunk Road Agency to meet representatives of all of the local community councils to discuss the problems that they are now experiencing because of the diversions that have been put in place and the signage—or lack of signage—that has gone up? Those communities are concerned, and they want to pass on first-hand accounts to your officers. We cannot go ahead. We have been trying to organise that meeting this week. We need your approval to allow those officers to attend that meeting. Will you now give that approval, Minister?

**Andrew Davies:** On the first issue about the use of the old A5—the old Telford Road—it has been a priority because we need to minimise the disruption to local communities and businesses. I would have hoped that we would have been able to have opened it up by now. Unfortunately, for the reasons that I have already outlined, we have not been able

pawb yn yr ardal.

**Andrew Davies:** Cytunaf. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym wedi ceisio gwneud popeth posibl i sicrhau tarfu cyn lleied â phosibl ar y gymuned leol, ac yn arbennig ar fusnesau lleol. Felly, yr ydym wedi edrych ar yr holl ddewisiadau. Pan ddaw'n fater o drafod gydag unrhyw rai o'r tirfeddianwyr, yr ydym yn ddibynnol ar eu hymateb. Fodd bynnag, mae'r cyfle a ddarperir gan orchymyn prynu gorfodol yn un sydd ar gael i ni.

Mae hwn yn fater difrifol, ac fel Llywodraeth rhaid inni ddelio ag ef yn gyfrifol. Mae gwneud sylwadau anghyfrifol sy'n awgrymu nad yw'r sefyllfa wedi'i rheoli'n gywir, neu sylwadau sy'n tanseilio pryderon cymunedau lleol, yn gwbl anghyfrifol. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym yn ceisio delio â'r sefyllfa a sicrhau bod y cyhoedd yn wynebu'r risg lleiaf posibl a bod unrhyw effaith ar fusnesau lleol mor fach â phosibl.

**Janet Ryder:** A allwch gadarnhau, yn dilyn eich trafodaethau gyda pherchenogion y tir ar yr hen A5, eich bod yn trafod pecyn dwbl er mwyn i fynediad i'r hen A5 gael y brif flaenoriaeth dros fynediad i dir y gallai fod ei angen i wneud gwaith adfer ar yr A5 newydd? A gytunwch hefyd y gall swyddogion Asiantaeth Cefnffyrdd Gogledd Cymru gyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr yr holl gynghorau cymuned lleol i drafod y problemau sy'n eu hwynebu'n awr oherwydd y gwyradau sydd ar waith a'r arwyddion—neu brinder arwyddion—sydd wedi eu gosod? Mae'r cymunedau hynny'n pryderu, ac maent am ddweud wrth eich swyddogion am eu profiadau uniongyrchol. Ni allwn fwrw ymlaen. Yr ydym wedi bod yn ceisio trefnu'r cyfarfod hwnnw yr wythnos hon. Mae angen eich cymeradwyaeth arnom i ganiatáu i'r swyddogion hynny fynychu'r cyfarfod hwnnw. A rowch chi'r gymeradwyaeth honno'n awr, Weinidog?

**Andrew Davies:** O ran y mater cyntaf ynghylch defnyddio'r hen A5—hen Ffordd Telford—mae wedi bod yn flaenoriaeth oherwydd mae angen inni sicrhau tarfu cyn lleied â phosibl ar fusnesau a chymunedau lleol. Byddwn wedi gobeithio y byddem wedi gallu ei hagor erbyn hyn. Yn anffodus, am y rhesymau yr wyf eisoes wedi'u hamlinellu,

to do so.

In terms of minimising the impact, the diversionary routes that we have established have been broadly successful. My officials and our agents are continuing to monitor that. We are in constant contact with local businesses. One of the advantages of the merger of my new department is that Jonathan Jones, the director of VisitWales—the old tourist board—is now working closely with my transport officials; that would not have happened in the same way prior to the merger. Therefore, we are looking at ways in which, if necessary, we can modify the diversion signs or we can have special signs for specific businesses erected.

In terms of a briefing or a meeting, we are in contact with all the public sector bodies as well as local businesses, and I am discussing with my officials and my senior director, Robin Shaw, ways in which we might take it forward or have a meeting, as you suggest.

**Eleanor Burnham:** As I said to you in committee this morning, I hope that you can see that mistakes have been made, as alluded to by my colleague, Brynle, and that perhaps you will continue to listen to the local people, as Janet Ryder has requested. This could have been avoided because the local people did urge the highways department to keep that part of the road open in case of such an emergency. Having said that, I think that one of our main concerns is the cafe, as it is now on a road going nowhere instead of being on a major tourist route. The cafe will not be able to survive longer than a couple of months of closure, if that. I hope that you will seriously consider giving compensation and listening to the local people.

**Andrew Davies:** I suppose that one of the luxuries of being an opposition party is that you are allowed to be irresponsible because you do not have to take action. It is also a luxury of this particular Member that she never has to listen to what she is being told. I went through all of this during this morning's committee meeting and I gave Eleanor Burnham a full briefing, as did Robin Shaw, the director of the transport division, about

nid ydym wedi gallu gwneud hynny.

O ran sicrhau'r effaith leiaf posibl, mae'r gwyriadau a sefydlwyd gennym wedi bod yn llwyddiannus ar y cyfan. Mae fy swyddogion a'n hasiantwyr yn parhau i fonitro hynny. Yr ydym yn cysylltu'n barhaus â busnesau lleol. Un o fanteision uno fy adran newydd yw bod Jonathan Jones, cyfarwyddwr Croeso Cymru—yr hen fwrdd croeso—bellach yn gweithio'n agos gyda'm swyddogion trafniadaeth; ni fyddai hynny wedi digwydd yn yr un modd cyn yr uno. Felly, yr ydym yn edrych ar ffyrdd inni allu addasu'r arwyddion gwyr, os oes angen, neu gallwn godi arwyddion arbennig ar gyfer busnesau penodol.

O ran briff neu gyfarfod, yr ydym yn cysylltu â holl gyrff y sector cyhoeddus yn ogystal â busnesau lleol, ac yr wyf yn trafod gyda'm swyddogion a'm uwch gyfarwyddwr, Robin Shaw, sut i fwrw ati neu gael cyfarfod, fel yr awgrymwch.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Fel y dywedais wrthyhych yng nghyfarfod y pwyllgor y bore yma, gobeithio y gallwch weld bod camgymeriadau wedi'u gwneud, fel yr oedd fy cyd-Aelod, Brynle, yn ei grybwyll, ac y byddwch efallai yn gwrando ar y bobl leol, fel y mae Janet Ryder wedi gofyn ichi ei wneud. Gellid bod wedi osgoi hyn, oherwydd anogodd y bobl leol yr adran priffyrdd i gadw'r rhan honno o'r ffordd ar agor rhag ofn y byddai argyfwng o'r fath. Wedi dweud hynny, credaf mai un o'n prif bryderon yw'r caffï, gan ei fod bellach ar ffordd nad yw'n arwain i'r unlle, yn hytrach nag ar brif ffordd dwristiaeth. Ni fydd y caffï yn gallu dal ar agor yn hirach na rhai misoedd, os hynny. Gobeithio y byddwch yn ystyried o ddirifroi iawndal ac yn gwrando ar bobl leol.

**Andrew Davies:** Tybiaf mai un o fanteision bod yn wrthblaid yw y gallwch fod yn anghyfrifol am nad oes rhaid ichi weithredu. Mae'r Aelod penodol hwn hefyd yn gallu manteisio ar y ffaith nad oes raid iddi byth wrando ar yr hyn a ddywedir wrthi. Soniais sôn am hyn i gyd yng nghyfarfod y pwyllgor y bore yma, a rhoddais friff llawn i Eleanor Burnham, fel y gwnaeth Robin Shaw, cyfarwyddwr yr isadran drafniadaeth, am yr

what we have done in terms of dealing with this situation. I would not accept that any mistakes have been made. Eleanor and other committee members—as the Chair will confirm—were given a detailed description this morning of what the process of events has been over the last year. Public safety has always been at the top of my agenda and that of my officials. It was only when we received the risk assessment on the rock face, which showed that there was a significant risk of a catastrophic rock-fall, that the decision to close the new road was taken.

As was explained to Eleanor this morning, and I will say this again, but slowly, so that she may understand this time—*[Interruption.]*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. Robust comments have been made by the opposition parties about the Minister's behaviour and that of his officials. He is entitled to respond in similar terms.

**Andrew Davies:** Thank you. Across the whole of Wales, there are new road-widening and road-straightening schemes, which mean that the old routes of roads are abandoned. In most cases, the roads are no longer used. If they were to be used, it would entail considerable public expenditure to keep them up to a satisfactory standard so that they can be used. It was explained to Eleanor that the situation was exactly the same in this case. It was never envisaged that there would be this failure of the work done on the rock face. As was explained to Eleanor this morning, this only came to light through the monitoring that has been undertaken over the last 12 months, when it was realised that the anchors installed into the rock face by the contractors had failed on many occasions and that, therefore, there was a serious risk of a rock-fall. I will not say that this is unprecedented, but it is almost unprecedented, certainly in the experience of Robin Shaw and my officials, that such work has proved to be faulty. This is a common engineering technique across the world, not just in Wales or the UK. It is unusual for this to happen, and therefore there was never any thought that the old road would be needed.

hyn yr ydym wedi ei wneud i ddelio â'r sefyllfa. Nid wyf yn derbyn bod unrhyw gamgymeriadau wedi'u gwneud. Cafodd Eleanor ac aelodau eraill o'r pwyllgor—fel y bydd y Cadeirydd yn ei gadarnhau—ddisgrifiad manwl y bore yma o ddigwyddiadau dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Mae diogelwch y cyhoedd bob amser wedi bod ar frig fy agenda i ac agenda fy swyddogion. Dim ond pan gawsom yr asesiad risg ar wyneb y graig, a oedd yn dangos bod risg sylweddol y gallai creigiau syrthio gan achosi trychineb, y gwnaed y penderfyniad i gau'r ffordd newydd.

Fel yr eglurwyd wrth Eleanor y bore yma, a dywedaf hyn eto, ond yn araf, er mwyn iddi ddeall y tro hwn—*[Torri ar draws.]*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Gwnaed sylwadau cryf gan y gwrthbleidiau ynghylch ymddygiad y Gweinidog a'i swyddogion. Mae ganddo'r hawl i ymateb mewn ffordd debyg.

**Andrew Davies:** Diolch. Ar draws Cymru gyfan, mae yna gynlluniau newydd ar gyfer lledaenu a sythu ffyrdd, sy'n golygu rhoi'r gorau i hen ffyrdd. Yn y rhan fwyaf o achosion, ni ddefnyddir y ffyrdd mwyach. Pe byddent yn cael eu defnyddio, byddai angen gwario swm sylweddol o arian cyhoeddus i sicrhau eu bod yn cyrraedd safon foddhaol er mwyn eu defnyddio. Eglurwyd wrth Eleanor fod y sefyllf'n union yr un fath yn yr achos hwn. Ni ragwelwyd erioed na fyddai'n bosibl gwneud y gwaith hwn ar wyneb y graig. Fel yr eglurwyd wrth Eleanor y bore yma, dim ond yn sgîl y gwaith monitro a wnaed dros y 12 mis diwethaf y daethpwyd i wybod am hyn, sef bod yr angorion a osodwyd yn wyneb y graig gan y contractwyr wedi methu droeon, ac felly bod risg ddifrifol y gallai creigiau syrthio. Ni ddywedaf mai dyma'r achos cyntaf o'r fath, ond mae bron â bod yn wir, yn sicr ym mhrofiad Robin Shaw a'm swyddogion i, fod gwaith o'r fath wedi ei gael yn ddiffygiol. Mae hon yn dechneg beirianeg gyffredin ledled y byd, nid yng Nghymru na'r DU yn unig. Mae'n anghyffredin i hyn ddigwydd, ac felly ni feddylwyd erioed y byddai angen yr hen ffordd o gwbl.

**Alun Pugh:** You have named one of my constituents this afternoon. His action has made life difficult for hundreds of my constituents, and a nightmare for the small business community. If he is not prepared to be reasonable, can I have an assurance from you this afternoon that you will take every legal step that is available to you to get this road opened?

**Andrew Davies:** I can give an assurance that I instructed my officials, when this was first brought to my attention, that we would examine all options within our jurisdiction as a Government to ensure that we would minimise the impact on road users, local communities and local business. That is what my officials are doing. However, as a responsible Government, we must act within the law, and therefore every action that we have taken has always been on the advice of our senior legal officers.

**Carl Sargeant:** The A55 and A494 form another part of the trunk road, and the maintenance and new provision of roads are important to the north Wales economy. My constituents from Alyn and Deeside, as well as constituents from neighbouring Delyn, came down this morning to the Chamber, and I am sure that you will welcome them along the A55. However, Old Aston Hill on the A494 and the Alltami bypass are not wanted by residents in Alyn and Deeside, and in Flintshire. I hope that you are listening to their comments, and will act accordingly, as and when the inquiry comes about.

**Andrew Davies:** That is one reason why, as part of the statutory procedures, there is provision for a public inquiry and getting the feedback of local communities. That will be taken into account in making any final decision.

**The Presiding Officer:** Before I call the Business Minister to answer questions, I wish to indicate clearly on a matter of order that it is my intention, as long as I remain in this chair, to call Ministers as constituency representatives whenever they feel a need to contribute. It has been alleged outside the Chamber by some people that those of us who hold office, whether as Cabinet

**Alun Pugh:** Yr ydych wedi enwi un o'm hetholwyr y prynhawn yma. Mae'r hyn y mae wedi ei wneud wedi gwneud bywyd yn anodd i gannoedd o'm hetholwyr, ac wedi creu hunllef i fusnesau bach. Os nad yw'n barod i fod yn rhesymol, a allech fy sicrhau y prynhawn yma y byddwch yn cymryd pob cam cyfreithiol sydd ar gael i chi i agor y ffordd hon?

**Andrew Davies:** Gallaf eich sicrhau fy mod wedi cyfarwyddo fy swyddogion, pan dynnwyd fy sylw at hyn gyntaf, y byddem yn archwilio'r holl ddewisiadau o fewn ein hawdurdodaeth fel Llywodraeth i sicrhau y byddem yn effeithio ar ddefnyddwyr y ffordd, cymunedau lleol a busnesau lleol i'r graddau lleiaf posibl. Dyna y mae fy swyddogion yn ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, fel Llywodraeth gyfrifol, rhaid inni weithredu o fewn y gyfraith, ac felly mae pob cam yr ydym wedi ei gymryd bob amser wedi dilyn cyngor ein huwch swyddogion cyfreithiol.

**Carl Sargeant:** Mae'r A55 a'r A494 yn rhan arall o'r gefnffordd, ac mae cynnal a chadw ffyrdd a darparu ffyrdd newydd yn bwysig i economi'r gogledd. Daeth fy etholwyr o Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy, yn ogystal ag etholwyr o Delyn gerllaw, i'r Siambr y bore yma, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn eu croesawu ar hyd yr A55. Fodd bynnag, nid oes angen Old Aston Hill ar yr A494 na ffordd osgoi Alltami ar drigolion Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy na thrigolion sir y Fflint. Gobeithio eich bod yn gwrandao ar eu sylwadau, ac y byddwch yn gweithredu'n unol â hynny pan fydd gynhelir yr ymchwiliad.

**Andrew Davies:** Dyna un o'r rhesymau, fel rhan o'r gweithdrefnau statudol, pam mae darpariaeth ar gyfer ymchwiliad cyhoeddus a chael adborth cymunedau lleol. Caiff hynny ei ystyried wrth wneud unrhyw benderfyniad terfynol.

**Y Llywydd:** Cyn imi alw'r Trefnydd i ateb cwestiynau, hoffwn nodi'n glir fy mod, tra byddaf yn y gadair hon, yn bwriadu galw ar Weinidogion fel cynrychiolwyr etholaethau pryd bynnag y maent yn teimlo bod angen iddynt gyfrannu. Mae rhai pobl y tu allan i'r Siambr wedi honni na all y rheini ohonom sy'n dal swydd, boed fel Gweinidogion Cabinet neu fel Llywyddion, gynrychioli ein

Ministers or as Presiding Officers, are unable to represent our constituents. I intend to ensure that such allegations are seen as baseless, and that all of us here are able to participate as full representatives of our constituents.

hetholwyr. Bwriadaf sicrhau nad oes sail i honiadau felly, ac y gall pob un ohonom yma gymryd rhan fel cynrychiolwyr llawn i'n hetholwyr.

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

### **Hyrwyddo Cyfle Cyfartal Promoting Equality of Opportunity**

**Q1 David Melding:** Will the Minister make a statement on measures that have been taken to promote equality of opportunity in Wales? OAQ238(BM)

**C1 David Melding:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau a gymerwyd i hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal yng Nghymru? OAQ238(BM)

**Q7 David Melding:** Will the Minister make a statement on the measures that have been taken by the Welsh Assembly Government to promote equality of opportunity in South Wales Central? OAQ239(BM)

**C7 David Melding:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau a gymerwyd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal yng Nghanol De Cymru? OAQ239(BM)

**The Business Minister (Jane Hutt):** We are committed to promoting and mainstreaming equality through the Assembly Government, including implementing an equality strategy and an independent equality audit. We are delivering new disability and gender equality schemes alongside the implementation of the race equality scheme.

**Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt):** Yr ydym wedi ymrwmo i hyrwyddo a phrif-ffrdio cydraddoldeb drwy Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, gan gynnwys gweithredu strategaeth cydraddoldeb ac archwiliad cydraddoldeb annibynnol. Yr ydym yn cyflwyno cynlluniau newydd ar gydraddoldeb anabled a rhyw ochr yn ochr â gweithredu'r cynllun cydraddoldeb hiliol.

**David Melding:** Will you acknowledge the leading role that the voluntary sector has played in this area—it has been groundbreaking, and has greatly changed social attitudes and sensitivity to the need to use the equal opportunities agenda—and that we need to co-operate more with the voluntary sector in promoting this work? Will you congratulate the Scout movement in Wales on the opening of the first Muslim Scout group, in Cathays, Cardiff?

**David Melding:** A wnewch gydnabod rôl flaenllaw y sector gwirfoddol yn y maes hwn—mae wedi bod yn arloesol, ac wedi newid yn sylweddol agweddau cymdeithasol a sensitifrwydd i'r angen am ddefnyddio'r agenda cyfle cyfartal—a bod angen inni gydweithredu'n fwy â'r sector gwirfoddol i hyrwyddo'r gwaith hwn? A wnewch longyfarch y Sgowtiaid yng Nghymru ar agor y grŵp Sgowtiaid cyntaf i Foslemiaid yn Cathays, Caerdydd?

**Jane Hutt:** As Minister with responsibility for equalities and for children, I am delighted to hear that news, and I recognise the pioneering, far-reaching and far-sighted vision of the Scout movement. On the voluntary sector's role, I met today with the coalition for equalities and human rights,

**Jane Hutt:** Fel Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am gydraddoldeb a phlant, yr wyf yn falch iawn o glywed y newyddion hynny, a chydabyddaf weledigaeth arloesol, pellgyrhaeddol ac uchelgeisiol y Sgowtiaid. O ran rôl y sector gwirfoddol, cefais gyfarfod heddiw â'r glymblaid dros gydraddoldeb a

which brings together voluntary sector interests in the equalities field.

**The Presiding Officer:** You have a right to ask a supplementary question to your question 7, David.

**David Melding:** I am so satisfied with the answer that I shall not exercise the right.

**Catherine Thomas:** This week has been designated Down's syndrome awareness week. What is this Government doing to empower and enable individuals with the syndrome to integrate fully into society? What is being done to ensure that businesses, as well as organisations and groups who provide activities in the community, are encouraged and enabled to offer opportunities to children and adults with Down's syndrome?

**Jane Hutt:** I am pleased to have been asked that question, as it is Down's syndrome awareness week. Colleagues will know that Hijinx, the pioneering community theatre group, has a play on at present. I am going tonight to see *Seize the Day*, which features Sarah Gordy, an actress with Down's syndrome. It will be a pioneering event, which I am sure many colleagues would also want to participate in. However, as an Assembly Government, we clearly have to deliver in relation to the needs of children and adults. I think that our disability equalities duty will mean that we ensure that that is taken forward, as well as our pioneering learning disability scheme, 'Fulfilling the Promises'. I recently met with the parents' federation across Wales, with parents and carers to discuss these issues.

### **Effaith Rhaglenni Cyllido The Impact of Funding Programmes**

**Q2 Lynne Neagle:** Will the Minister provide an update on the impact of funding programmes across Government that benefit children in deprived areas of Wales? OAQ233(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The Cymorth fund, the Flying Start initiative, integrated children's centres

hawliau dynol, sy'n dod â buddiannau'r sector gwirfoddol ym maes cydraddoldeb ynghyd.

**Y Llywydd:** Mae gennych hawl i ofyn cwestiwn atodol i'ch cwestiwn 7, David.

**David Melding:** Yr wyf mor fodlon â'r ateb fel nad wyf am wneud hynny.

**Catherine Thomas:** Dynodwyd yr wythnos hon yn wythnos ymwybyddiaeth syndrom Down. Beth mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn ei wneud i alluogi unigolion sydd â'r syndrom i integreiddio'n llawn mewn cymdeithas? Beth sy'n cael ei wneud i sicrhau bod busnesau, yn ogystal â sefydliadau a grwpiau sy'n darparu gweithgareddau yn y gymuned, yn cael eu hannog a'u galluogi i roi cyfleoedd i blant ac oedolion sydd â syndrom Down?

**Jane Hutt:** Yr wyf yn falch fod y cwestiwn hwnnw wedi ei ofyn imi, gan ei bod yn wythnos ymwybyddiaeth syndrom Down. Gŵyr fy nghyd-Aelodau fod Hijinx, y grŵp theatr cymuned arloesol, yn perfformio drama ar hyn o bryd. Byddaf yn mynd heno i weld *Seize the Day*, gyda Sarah Gordy, actores sydd â syndrom Down. Bydd yn ddigwyddiad arloesol, ac yr wyf yn siŵr yr hoffai llawer o gyd-aelodau gymryd rhan ynddo hefyd. Fodd bynnag, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, mae'n amlwg bod yn rhaid inni ddarparu ar gyfer anghenion plant ac oedolion. Credaf fod ein dyletswydd ar gydraddoldeb i bobl anabl yn golygu ein bod yn sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd, yn ogystal â'n cynllun anableded dysgu arloesol, 'Gwireddu'r Addewidion'. Cefais gyfarfod yn ddiweddar â'r ffederasiwn rhieni ledled Cymru, gyda rhieni a gofalwyr i drafod y materion hyn.

**C2 Lynne Neagle:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am effaith rhaglenni cyllido ar draws y Llywodraeth sy'n dod â budd i blant mewn ardaloedd o amddifadedd yng Nghymru? OAQ233(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Mae cronfa Cymorth, menter Dechrau'n Deg, canolfannau integredig i

and RAISE—raising attainment and individual standards in education in Wales—are all examples of funding programmes that are especially focused on children in deprived areas with an evaluation of our programmes to deliver improved outcomes.

**Lynne Neagle:** As you have highlighted, Cymorth is one of the most important funding mechanisms that we have in improving the lives of hard-to-reach children, with the money being used to impact on a number of important areas, and in particular, Sure Start. Will the Minister update us on the evaluation work that is being done regarding the future of the Cymorth grant scheme? Can the Assembly Government guarantee that tackling deprivation will remain key to any new Cymorth formula and the associated plans required of local government?

**Jane Hutt:** As you say, Sure Start has been pioneering and evaluation is key in order to test the indicators of what has worked well. We carried out an initial evaluation of the children and young people's partnership and the Cymorth grant. This evaluation report is now being considered in partnership with the co-ordinators across Wales and, in fact, a seminar was held earlier this week to discuss the report. We will increase the impact of Cymorth through a fuller national evaluation to ensure that we have the right measures in place to take this forward, with considerable additional investment in Cymorth.

**William Graham:** You are aware that computing skills are required more and more in securing adequate employment, particularly for people in deprived areas. Would you consider making specific grants available for computing?

**Jane Hutt:** Initiatives in the voluntary sector and the further education sector, have taken this forward in many ways. Computing in Communities is one such initiative, and I know that many people have benefited from it in many constituencies, particularly in Communities First areas. In addition, we would mainstream that in our role not just in

blant a Rhagori—codi cyrhaeddiad a safonau addysgol unigolion yng Nghymru—i gyd yn enghreifftiau o raglenni cyllido sydd wedi canolbwyntio'n arbennig ar blant mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig gyda gwerthusiad o'n rhaglenni i sicrhau gwell canlyniadau.

**Lynne Neagle:** Fel yr ydych wedi tynnu sylw, Cymorth yw un o'r dulliau ariannu pwysicaf sydd gennym i wella bywydau plant sy'n anodd eu cyrraedd, gan ddefnyddio'r arian i effeithio ar nifer o feysydd pwysig, yn arbennig Cychwyn Cadarn. A all y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y gwaith gwerthuso a wneir ar ddyfodol y cynllun grant Cymorth? A all Llywodraeth y Cynulliad warantu y bydd mynd i'r afael ag amddifadedd yn parhau'n allweddol i unrhyw fformiwla Cymorth newydd, a'r cynlluniau cysylltiedig y mae'n ofynnol i lywodraeth leol eu paratoi?

**Jane Hutt:** Fel y dywedwch, mae Cychwyn Cadarn wedi bod yn arloesol, ac mae gwerthusiad yn allweddol i brofi dangosyddion yr hyn sydd wedi llwyddo. Gwnaed gwerthusiad cychwynol gennym o'r bartneriaeth plant a phobl ifanc a'r grant Cymorth. Mae'r adroddiad gwerthuso hwn wrthi'n cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd mewn partneriaeth â'r cydlynwyr ledled Cymru, ac yn wir cynhaliwyd seminar yn gynharach yr wythnos hon i drafod yr adroddiad. Byddwn yn cynyddu effaith Cymorth drwy werthusiad cenedlaethol llawnach i sicrhau bod y mesurau cywir ar waith i ddatblygu hyn, gyda buddsoddiad ychwanegol sylweddol yn y rhaglen Cymorth.

**William Graham:** Gwyddoch fod angen sgiliau cyfrifiadurol yn gynyddol er mwyn sicrhau cyflogaeth ddigonol, yn arbennig i bobl mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig. A fydech yn ystyried sicrhau bod grantiau penodol ar gael ar gyfer cyfrifiadura?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae mentrau yn y sector gwirfoddol a'r sector addysg bellach wedi datblygu hyn mewn sawl ffordd. Un fenter o'r fath yw Cyfrifiadura mewn Cymunedau, a gwn fod nifer o bobl wedi cael budd ohoni mewn nifer o etholaethau, yn arbennig mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yn ogystal, byddem yn prif-ffrydio hynny yn ein



e-government but also in promoting opportunities for information technology learning and skills for children as well as adults. I will certainly explore, alongside my colleagues, any opportunities that you suggest.

**Leanne Wood:** Minister, you mentioned Communities First. Could you tell us whether you think that closing a school in a Communities First area will impact positively or negatively on child poverty?

**Jane Hutt:** You are clearly taking the opportunity to raise something that is a matter for local authorities; they have the criteria to make those difficult decisions. That is not a matter that relates to my questions today.

rôl, nid yn unig ym maes e-lywodraeth ond hefyd wrth hybu cyfleoedd ar gyfer dysgu a sgiliau technoleg gwybodaeth i blant yn ogystal ag oedolion. Byddaf fi, a'm cyd-Weinidogion, yn sicr yn archwilio unrhyw gyfleoedd yr hoffech eu hawgrymu.

**Leanne Wood:** Weinidog, yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. A allech ddweud wrthym a fydd cau ysgol mewn ardal Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yn eich barn chi, yn cael effaith gadarnhaol ynteu negyddol ar dlodi plant?

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydych yn amlwg yn manteisio ar y cyfle i godi rhywbeth sy'n fater i awdurdodau lleol; hwy sydd â'r meini prawf i wneud y penderfyniadau anodd hynny. Nid yw hynny'n fater sy'n berthnasol i'm cwestiynau i heddiw.

### **Y Bwlch Cyflog The Pay Gap**

**Q3 Jonathan Morgan:** What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to address the pay gap between men and women in Wales? OAQ236(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Through our Close the Pay Gap campaign, the Assembly Government is currently engaging with all public sector organisations and unions in identifying ways of progressing the equal pay agenda. A cross-party group is also monitoring progress.

**Jonathan Morgan:** I am grateful for that reply. However, the sad fact is that women working in Wales, in a full-time capacity, will earn almost 19 per cent less on average than men. While I accept what you said about the Close the Pay Gap agenda and the work that you are doing, it is still quite a stark figure when you consider the differences between what a male and a female worker earns. What else could you do to ensure not only that the Assembly Government takes the lead on this issue but also that it gains some real measurable achievements in the next five to 10 years?

**C3 Jonathan Morgan:** Pa gamau mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r bwlch cyflog rhwng dynion a menywod yng Nghymru? OAQ236(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Drwy ein hymgyrch Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymgysylltu â holl sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus a'r undebau ar hyn o bryd i nodi ffyrdd i symud yr agenda cyflog cyfartal yn ei blaen. Mae grŵp trawsbleidiol hefyd yn monitro cynnydd.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am yr ymateb hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, y gwir amdani yw y bydd menywod sydd mewn gwaith llawn amser yng Nghymru yn ennill 19 y cant yn is ar gyfartaledd na dynion. Er fy mod yn derbyn yr hyn a ddywedech am yr agenda Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog, a'r gwaith a gaiff ei wneud gennych, mae'n dal yn ffigur echrydus o ystyried y gwahaniaethau rhwng yr hyn y mae dyn sy'n gweithio a menywod sy'n gweithio yn ei ennill. Beth arall y gallech fod yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad nid yn unig yn arwain ar y mater hwn, ond hefyd yn cyflawni mewn ffordd y gellir ei mesur y pum i 10 mlynedd nesaf?

**Jane Hutt:** That is why we held a summit last year, which I chaired, focusing particularly on the public sector workforce, because, as you know, Jonathan, the principal focus is on the public sector, given that nearly 70 per cent of that workforce is female. Therefore, by focusing on what can be done across the board, through local government, the health service, the fire and police services and higher education, we are now asking for measurable milestones on delivery.

**Jane Hutt:** Dyna pam y cynhaliwyd uwchgynhadledd y llynedd, o dan fy nghadeiryddiaeth i, i ganolbwyntio'n benodol ar weithlu'r sector cyhoeddus, oherwydd fel y gwyddoch, Jonathan, mae'r prif ffocws ar y sector cyhoeddus, o gofio bod yn agos i 70 y cant o'r gweithlu hwnnw yn fenywod. Felly, drwy ganolbwyntio ar yr hyn y gellir ei wneud yn gyffredinol, drwy lywodraeth leol, y gwasanaeth iechyd, y gwasanaethau tân a'r heddlu ac addysg uwch, yr ydym yn awr yn galw am gerrig milltir mesuradwy ar gyfer darpariaeth.

3.20 p.m.

As incentives to enable them to take this forward, we have put £54 million into the revenue support grant over three years and provided an additional 4.5 per cent to the non-teaching element of the local government pay bill. This is a statutory duty on employers that they must deliver, and we must encourage them.

Fel cymhellion i'w galluogi i ddatblygu hyn, yr ydym wedi rhoi £54 miliwn yn y grant cynnal refeniw dros dair blynedd ac wedi darparu 4.5 y cant yn ychwanegol i'r elfen bil tâl llywodraeth leol nad yw'n ymwneud ag addysgu. Mae hyn yn ddyletswydd statudol ar gyflogwyr y mae'n rhaid iddynt ei chyflawni, a rhaid inni eu hannog.

**Helen Mary Jones:** Further to your reply to Jonathan Morgan, you mentioned the amounts of money that you have put aside to help to meet this agenda. Of course those are welcome, but how confident are you—and I put it to you that you should not be very confident—that that money is sufficient to meet the whole of the increased bill? What discussions are you having with your colleague, the Finance Minister, to ensure that additional resources will be available to enable public bodies to meet the equal pay challenge if the amount that you have put aside does not prove to be adequate?

**Helen Mary Jones:** Yn ychwanegol at eich ymateb i Jonathan Morgan, yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at y symiau arian yr ydych wedi eu rhoi o'r neilltu i helpu cyflawni'r agenda hon. Mae croeso iddynt, wrth gwrs, ond pa mor hyderus ydych chi—ac awgrymaf na ddylech fod yn hyderus iawn—fod yr arian yn ddigonol i dalu'r bil cynyddol yn llawn? Pa drafodaethau sy'n mynd ymlaen rhyngoch chi a'ch cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Cyllid, i sicrhau y bydd adnoddau ychwanegol ar gael i alluogi cyrff cyhoeddus i ateb yr her cyflog cyfartal, os na fydd yr arian a roddwyd o'r neilltu gennych yn ddigonol?

**Janet Hutt:** The key thing is to move the agenda forward to ensure that local authorities—indeed, the public sector, on which we are focusing—have the tools to take this forward. The resources must come with that, but they must have the tools and be able to move forward with job evaluations. We are working with the Welsh Local Government Association on a series of awareness-raising events, and with Public Sector Management Wales to take this forward in collaboration and to help them to deliver on their responsibility. It is unprecedented for Government to provide

**Jane Hutt:** Y peth allweddol yw symud yr agenda ymlaen er mwyn sicrhau bod gan yr awdurdodau lleol—yn wir, y sector cyhoeddus yr ydym yn canolbwyntio arno—y moddion i symud hyn ymlaen. Rhaid cael yr adnoddau gyda hynny, ond rhaid iddynt gael y moddion a gallu symud ymlaen gyda gwerthuso swyddi. Yr ydym yn gweithio gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ar gyfres o ddigwyddiadau i gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth, a chyda'r mudiad Rheoli yng Ngwasanaeth Cyhoeddus Cymru i symud hyn ymlaen ar y cyd a'u helpu i gyflawni eu cyfrifoldebau. Mae'n beth hollol newydd i

this extra money in the revenue support grant to help them to meet a statutory duty.

Lywodraeth ddarparu'r arian ychwanegol hwn yn y grant cynnal refeniw er mwyn eu helpu i gyflawni dyletswydd statudol.

**The Presiding Officer:** Question 4, OAQ235(BM), is withdrawn.

**Y Llywydd:** Tynnwyd cwestiwn 4, OAQ235 (BM), yn ôl.

### **Gwella'r Mynediad at Gyfleusterau Hamdden i Bobl Anabl Improving Access to Leisure Facilities for Disabled People**

**Q5 Jenny Randerson:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to improve access to leisure facilities for disabled people? OAQ240(BM)

**C5 Jenny Randerson:** Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i wella mynediad i gyfleusterau hamdden i bobl anabl? OAQ240(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The provision of many of our public leisure facilities, including leisure centres, is the responsibility of local authorities. They are required to ensure that their facilities comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 2005.

**Jane Hutt:** Cyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol yw darparu llawer o'n cyfleusterau hamdden cyhoeddus, gan gynnwys canolfannau hamdden. Mae'n ofynnol iddynt sicrhau bod eu cyfleusterau'n cydymffurfio â Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005.

**Jenny Randerson:** Will you give consideration to the provision of improved funding for play schemes for disabled children? Many summer holiday play schemes are not open to them. The reasons given are that the facilities are inappropriate and staff are not appropriately trained. Insurance issues are even raised. Not only does that exclude the disabled children themselves, but it often excludes their siblings as well, because parents cannot separate their children. Barnardo's did a report on this a couple of years ago, called 'Postcards from Home', which raised the need for further training for staff and for improved funding. Has your Government had any discussions with Barnardo's Cymru on the issues raised, and are you planning to take any action?

**Jenny Randerson:** A wnewch ystyried darparu mwy o gyllid ar gyfer cynlluniau chwarae i blant anabl? Mae nifer o gynlluniau chwarae gwyliau haf yn methu â darparu ar eu cyfer. Y rhesymau a roddir yw nad yw'r cyfleusterau'n addas ac nad yw'r staff wedi cael hyfforddiant priodol. Cyfeirir at faterion yswiriant, hyd yn oed. Mae hyn nid yn unig yn allgáu'r plant anabl eu hunain, ond mae'n aml iawn yn allgáu eu brodyr a'u chwiorydd hefyd, gan na all rhieni wahanu eu plant. Cyflwynodd Barnardo's adroddiad ar hyn tua dwy flynedd yn ôl, dan y teitl 'Postcards from Home'. Yr oedd yn codi'r angen am hyfforddiant pellach ar gyfer staff a'r angen am fwy o gyllid. A yw eich Llywodraeth wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau gyda Barnardo's Cymru ar y materion a godwyd, ac a yw'n fwriad gennych gymryd unrhyw gamau gweithredu?

**Jane Hutt:** This is a key point to bear in mind as we implement and expand our play policy, and there are various routes by which we can take this forward. For example, the Federation of Disability Sport Wales employs a disability sports development officer in each of the 22 local authorities in Wales, and the officers' role is to promote and provide opportunities for people with a disability to use leisure facilities, for example, and to engage in play scheme opportunities. This will also be a matter for delivery under the

**Jane Hutt:** Mae hynny yn bwynt allweddol i'w ystyried wrth inni weithredu ac ehangu ein polisi chwarae, a gallwn wneud hyn mewn sawl ffordd. Er enghraifft, mae Ffederasiwn Chwaraeon Anabledd Cymru yn cyflogi swyddog datblygu chwaraeon anabledd ym mhob un o'r awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru, a rôl y swyddogion yw hybu a darparu cyfleoedd i bobl ag anableddau ddefnyddio cyfleusterau hamdden, er enghraifft, a manteisio ar gyfleoedd cynlluniau chwarae. Bydd hyn hefyd yn fater

disability equality duties that now fall upon local authorities, but we need to work with them to ensure that, for example, the £65 million that they spend on sports and leisure services in Wales, which includes the play arena, also takes account of the needs of disabled children. I will certainly take this matter back and look again at the Barnardo's report.

**Alun Cairns:** Sadly, too many children with special educational needs have to fight for the education that they deserve in terms of facilities. An important part of education for pupils with special needs is leisure and sporting activities. Many parents are prepared to fight for the academic education and support that they need, but not that many fight for the sporting and leisure facilities needed in order to ensure a completely rounded education. What particular support are you looking to provide in this area, when, to be frank, the response from the education Minister to special educational needs education is lacking?

**Jane Hutt:** As I said in my reply to Jenny, this is crucial to the delivery of the disability equality duties that are incumbent on every public authority. The Welsh Assembly Government hopes to be the exemplar, as we are with the race equality scheme. I recently met with Welsh local government to discuss leisure policy and education across the board, and to look at how they could integrate disability into planning policy delivery. However, if you look at the figures for 2005-06 for example, you will see that more than 12,000 people in Wales took part in sporting activities for the disabled, 38 new clubs were established, and 227 new coaches and 151 new volunteers were recruited. That is key to the work of the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport and his aspirations.

i'w ddarparu dan y dyletswyddau i sicrhau cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl sydd bellach yn rhan o gyfrifoldebau'r awdurdodau lleol. Ond rhaid inni weithio gyda hwy i sicrhau, er enghraifft, fod y £65 miliwn y maent yn ei wario ar wasanaethau chwaraeon a hamdden yng Nghymru, sy'n cynnwys chwarae, hefyd yn ystyried anghenion plant anabl. Byddaf yn siŵr o ystyried y mater hwn ac edrych eto ar adroddiad Barnardo's.

**Alun Cairns:** Yn anffodus, rhaid i lawer gormod o blant sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig frwydro i gael yr addysg y maent yn ei haeddu o ran cyfleusterau. Rhan bwysig o addysg disgyblion sydd ag anghenion arbennig yw gweithgareddau hamdden a chwaraeon. Mae llawer o rieni'n fodlon brwydro dros yr addysg academaidd a'r cymorth sydd ei angen arnynt, ond nid oes llawer yn brwydro dros y cyfleusterau chwaraeon a hamdden sydd eu hangen er mwyn sicrhau darpariaeth addysgol lawn. Pa gymorth penodol y bwriadwch ei ddarparu yn y maes hwn, pan fydd ymateb y Gweinidog addysg i addysg anghenion addysgol arbennig, a bod yn onest, yn annigonol?

**Jane Hutt:** Fel y dywedais yn fy ymateb i Jenny, mae hyn yn hanfodol wrth gyflawni'r dyletswyddau i sicrhau cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl, sy'n ddyletswydd ar bob awdurdod cyhoeddus. Gobaith Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yw bod yn esiampl i eraill, fel yr ydym gyda'r cynllun cydraddoldeb hiliol. Cefais gyfarfod yn ddiweddar gyda llywodraeth leol Cymru i drafod polisi hamdden ac iechyd yn gyffredinol, ac i edrych ar y modd y byddai'n bosibl integreiddio anabledd mewn darpariaeth polisiau cynllunio. Fodd bynnag, os edrychwch ar y ffigurau am 2005-06, er enghraifft, fe welwch fod dros 12,000 o bobl yng Nghymru wedi cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau chwaraeon i'r anabl, bod 38 o glybiau newydd wedi eu sefydlu, a bod 227 o hyfforddwyr newydd a gwirfoddolwyr newydd wedi eu recriwtio. Mae hynny'n allweddol i waith y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon a'i ddyheadau.

## **Gwella Cyfathrebu Improving Communications**

**Q6 Nick Bourne:** Will the Minister make a statement on her policies for improving communications between Assembly Government departments? OAQ230(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** We have put in place, and continue to develop, opportunities to improve communications across the Assembly Government. We do this via the Cabinet, the Cabinet sub-committees on cross-cutting issues and the spatial plan, to establish coherent cross-departmental work on an area basis.

**Nick Bourne:** I thank the Minister for that response. Given that you have been in the Cabinet right from the start, can you explain how you were able to say in the 2005 annual report that you were on course to deliver the policy of providing free homecare for the disabled when you must have known by August 2004 at the latest that it was not deliverable? Is this incompetence, giving misleading statements, or a combination of both? Does it not illustrate why the Cardiff and Vale Coalition of Disabled People—whom you represent—is able to say on the front cover of its circular that disabled people were betrayed by Welsh Labour? There on the front is a picture of half of the dirty dozen, Minister—a positive rogue's gallery, of which you are a part.

**Jane Hutt:** You thought that you had found such a big story yesterday as a result of an instance of appropriate freedom of information data coming through under the excellent Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was initiated by the Labour Government. This is not such a big story, but I would like to enlighten you on our transparency and on how we give information to you. It was in a Cabinet written statement on 21 March 2005 that Brian Gibbons, the Minister for Health and Social Services, gave an update on 'Free Home Care for Disabled People'. I will quote just one sentence from it, because it makes clear that local authorities, in updating on progress over the years, have sought to

**C6 Nick Bourne:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei pholisïau ar gyfer gwella cyfathrebu rhwng adrannau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad? OAQ230(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydym wedi rhoi ar waith gyfleoedd i wella cyfathrebu ar draws Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ac yn parhau i ddatblygu hynny. Gwnawn hyn drwy'r Cabinet, is-bwyllgorau'r Cabinet ar faterion trawsbynciol a'r cynllun gofodol, i sefydlu gwaith cydlynol ar draws yr adrannau ar sail maes.

**Nick Bourne:** Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. O gofio eich bod yn y Cabinet o'r cychwyn cyntaf, a allwch egluro sut yr oedd yn bosibl ichi ddweud yn adroddiad blynyddol 2005 eich bod ar y trywydd iawn i gyflwyno'r polisi o ddarparu gofal yn y cartref am ddim i'r anabl, a chwithau'n gwybod erbyn mis Awst 2004 fan pellaf, mae'n siŵr, nad oedd yn bosibl ei ddarparu. Ai methiant ar eich rhan chi yw hyn, rhoi datganiadau camarweiniol, ynteu cyfuniad o'r ddau? Onid yw'n dangos pam y gall Cynghair Pobl Anabl Caerdydd a'r Fro—a gynrychiolir gennych—ddweud ar dudalen flaen eu cylchlythyr fod pobl anabl wedi eu bradychu gan Lafur Cymru? Ar y dudalen flaen honno, mae llun o hanner y rhai euog, Weinidog—oriel ddihirod sicr, a chithau yn eu plith.

**Jane Hutt:** Yr oeddech yn meddwl eich bod wedi cael hyd i stori mor fawr ddoe drwy gael data rhyddid gwybodaeth yn briodol o dan y ddeddf ardderchog honno, Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Lafur. Nid yw hon yn stori mor fawr â hynny, ond hoffwn eich goleuo ynglŷn â'n tryloywder a'r modd y cyflwynwn wybodaeth ichi. Mewn datganiad ysgrifenedig i'r Cabinet ar 21 Mawrth 2005 y cyflwynodd Brian Gibbons, y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am 'Ofal Cartref am ddim ar gyfer Pobl Anabl'. Fe ddyfynnaf un frawddeg yn unig ohono, gan ei fod yn gwneud yn glir fod awdurdodau lleol, wrth roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynnydd

implement better policies for disabled people.

'Local authorities have discretion to charge for non-residential care services for adults under section 17 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983. Under current legislation, the National Assembly does not have powers to remove that discretion except for the first six weeks.'

You know that we have pioneered a free six-week homecare service in Wales. I continue.

'It is, however, lawful for the Assembly to institute a grant scheme under which local authorities would be funded for the costs associated with not charging specified groups of people for specified services and on the basis that grant can be withdrawn if a local authority should subsequently re-introduce a charge.'

I am grateful to you, Presiding Officer, for allowing me to quote from that important written statement, which was issued last year and which clarified the work in progress.

dros y blynyddoedd, wedi ceisio gweithredu polisiau gwell ar gyfer pobl anabl.

'Gall awdurdodau lleol godi tâl yn ôl eu disgrisiwn am wasanaethau gofal amhreswyl ar gyfer oedolion o dan adran 17 o Ddeddf Dyfarniadau Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Nawdd Cymdeithasol 1983. O dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol nid oes gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol bwerau i waredu'r disgrisiwn hwn, ac eithrio ar gyfer y chwe wythnos cyntaf.'

Fe wyddoch ein bod wedi arloesi wrth gynnig gwasanaeth gofal cartref am ddim am chwe wythnos yng Nghymru. Af ymlaen.

'Fodd bynnag, mae'n gyfreithlon i'r Cynulliad sefydlu cynllun grantiau a fyddai'n golygu bod awdurdodau lleol yn derbyn cyllid ar gyfer y costau sydd ynghlwm â pheidio â chodi tâl ar grwpiau penodol o bobl am wasanaethau arbennig. Byddai'r grant hwn yn cael ei dynnu yn ôl os byddai awdurdod lleol yn ailgyflwyno taliad.'

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi, Lywydd, am ganiatáu imi ddyfynnu o'r datganiad ysgrifenedig pwysig hwnnw, a gyhoeddwyd y llynedd, ac sy'n rhoi eglurhad o'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud.

### **Modelau Cadarnhaol ar gyfer Menywod Positive Models of the Role of Women**

**Q8 Ann Jones:** What steps is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to provide positive models of the role of women in Welsh society? OAQ234(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** We are committed to promoting the role of women across Welsh society. For example, we funded a number of events to celebrate International Women's Day in March. The theme for 2006 was promoting women and diversity in public life, and events took place across Wales.

**Ann Jones:** Our Cabinet had a majority of women in it; we should have celebrated that and we should continue to celebrate it. There are many ways in which we can recognise the

**C8 Ann Jones:** Pa gamau mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i ddarparu modelau cadarnhaol ar gyfer rôl menywod mewn cymdeithas yng Nghymru? OAQ234(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i hybu rôl menywod ym mhob agwedd ar gymdeithas yng Nghymru. Er enghraifft, yr ydym wedi ariannu nifer o ddigwyddiadau i ddathlu Diwrnod Rhyngwladol Menywod ym mis Mawrth. Y thema ar gyfer 2006 oedd hyrwyddo menywod ac amrywiaeth mewn bywyd cyhoeddus, a chynhaliwyd digwyddiadau ar draws Cymru.

**Ann Jones:** Yr oedd gan ein Cabinet ni fwyafrif o fenywod ynddo; fe ddylem fod wedi dathlu hynny a dylem barhau i'w ddathlu. Gallwn gydnabod cyfraniad

excellent contributions of many women from all walks of life. Would the Assembly Government consider promoting this in a positive way by depositing all its materials on it in an archive that can be sent around all schools, so that there are positive role models for women in Welsh society, but also, more importantly, so that we tell the children who are coming up behind us that it does not matter what their background is, they can still achieve?

**Jane Hutt:** Thank you for that innovative suggestion and proposal, Ann. In fact, a Welsh women's archive is in existence, which is deposited at the National Library of Wales. The pioneers of that are people like Professor Deirdre Beddoe, who has developed that women's archive. Indeed, she has written extensively promoting the role of women in Welsh public life. I will certainly discuss this matter with my officials.

ardderchog nifer o fenywod ym mhob agwedd ar fywyd mewn nifer o ffyrdd. A fyddai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ystyried hybu hyn mewn ffordd gadarnhaol drwy gasglu ynghyd yr holl ddeunyddiau sydd ganddi ar hyn mewn archif y gellir ei hanfon i bob ysgol, er mwyn cael modelau rôl cadarnhaol ar gyfer menywod yng nghymdeithas Cymru, ond hefyd, yn bwysicach na hynny, er mwyn dweud wrth y genhedlaeth nesaf ei bod yn bosibl iddynt lwyddo, waeth beth fo'u cefndir?

**Jane Hutt:** Diolch ichi am yr awgrym a'r cynnig arloesol hwnnw, Ann. A dweud y gwir, mae archif menywod Cymru eisoes yn bodoli, yn Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru. Arloeswyr hynny yw pobl fel yr Athro Deirdre Beddoe, a ddatblygodd yr archif hwnnw am fenywod. Yn wir, mae wedi ysgrifennu'n helaeth yn hybu rôl menywod mewn bywyd cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Byddaf yn sicr yn trafod y mater hwn gyda'm swyddogion.

3.30 p.m.

**Y Llywydd:** Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 9, OAQ246(BM), i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig gan y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio.

**The Presiding Officer:** Question 9, OAQ246(BM), has been transferred for written answer by the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration.

### Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Rhyw Gender Discrimination

**Q10 Michael German:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to tackle gender discrimination? OAQ243(BM)

**C10 Michael German:** Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ar sail rhyw? OAQ243(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The Assembly Government is playing a major role in tackling gender discrimination. We are currently holding engagement events around Wales on the forthcoming gender equality duty. We are also addressing gender pay inequalities through our 'Close the Pay Gap' campaign.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ran flaenllaw yn y gwaith o fynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ar sail rhyw. Yr ydym wrthi'n cynnal digwyddiadau i ennyn diddordeb ledled Cymru ar y ddyletswydd arfaethedig ynglŷn â chydarddoldeb rhwng y ddau ryw. Yr ydym hefyd yn mynd i'r afael â'r bwch cyflog rhwng y ddau ryw drwy ein hymgyrch 'Cau'r Blwch Cyflog'.

**Michael German:** Minister, you will have heard yesterday about the anxiety of postmasters that they have to be called 'postmaster', regardless of their gender. Would you undertake to write to your

**Michael German:** Weinidog, byddwch wedi clywed ddoe am y pryder ymhlith postfeistri fod yn rhaid iddynt gael eu galw yn 'bostfeistr', boed yn ddynion neu'n fenywod. A addawch i ysgrifennu at eich cyd-aelodau

colleagues in London and say to them that less gender-specific language might be useful?

**Jane Hutt:** It is another attribute of this esteemed institution that we use gender-neutral language. The Leader of the House of Commons was with us earlier today and I am sure that he took note of how we work in an inclusive way in terms of gender-neutral language. I am sure that this is the kind of issue that we would want to share with him and his colleagues in Westminster.

yn Llundain i ddweud wrthynt y gallai iaith lai penodol o ran rhyw fod yn fuddiol?

**Jane Hutt:** Nodwedd arall o'r sefydliad parchus hwn yw ein bod yn defnyddio iaith niwtral o ran y ddau ryw. Yr oedd Arweinydd Tŷ'r Cyffredin gyda ni yn gynharach heddiw, ac yr wyf yn siŵr iddo sylwi ein bod yn gweithio mewn ffordd gynhwysol o ran iaith niwtral o ran y ddau ryw. Yr wyf yn siŵr mai dyma'r math o fater y byddem am ei rannu gydag ef a'i gyd-aelodau yn San Steffan.

### Hyrwyddo Cydraddoldeb i Fenywod Promoting Equality for Women

**Q11 Lisa Francis:** What is the Minister doing to promote equality for women in Mid and West Wales? OAQ228(BM)

**C11 Lisa Francis:** Beth mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb i fenywod yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin? OAQ228(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The Assembly Government is committed to ensuring that the interests of all women in Wales are fully represented. Regional events are currently being held throughout Wales to promote initiatives such as the forthcoming gender duty and also our 'Close the Pay Gap' campaign.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwmo i sicrhau bod buddiannau holl fenywod Cymru yn cael eu cynrychioli'n llawn. Cynhelir digwyddiadau rhanbarthol ar hyn o bryd ledled Cymru i hyrwyddo mentrau fel y ddyletswydd arfaethedig ynglŷn â chydaddoldeb rhwng y ddau ryw, a hefyd ein hymgyrch 'Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog'.

**Lisa Francis:** Has the Minister had any representations made to her in respect of introducing crèche or nursery facilities at the new Assembly Government building in Aberystwyth? Recent data show that 68 per cent of mothers and 55 per cent of mothers of under-fives are in full-time employment.

**Lisa Francis:** A yw'r Gweinidog wedi cael unrhyw sylwadau ynglŷn â chyflwyno cyfleusterau crèche neu feithrinfa yn adeilad newydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn Aberystwyth? Mae data yn ddiweddar yn dangos bod 68% o famau a 55% o famau i blant o dan bump oed yn gweithio amser llawn.

**Jane Hutt:** The Welsh Assembly Government, across the board, seeks to be an exemplar employer in promoting work and family balance and in promoting opportunities with regard to childcare support, options and vouchers. We would consider this across the board, wherever people are located, and I am sure that I could report back to you on discussions on that front.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gyffredinol yn ceisio rhoi esiampl dda fel cyflogwr i eraill wrth hyrwyddo cydbwysedd rhwng gwaith a'r teulu, ac wrth hyrwyddo cyfleoedd o ran cymorth, dewisiadau a thalebau gofal plant. Byddem yn ystyried hyn ym mhob achos, ble bynnag y bydd pobl yn gweithio, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y gallwn roi adroddiad ichi am drafodaethau ar y mater hwnnw.

### Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Oedran Age Discrimination

**Q12 Jenny Randerson:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to tackle age

**C12 Jenny Randerson:** Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i



discrimination? OAQ241(BM)

fynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran?  
OAQ241(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The Assembly Government was commended last December on tackling age discrimination at work, when it achieved age positive champion status in recognition of actions taken, as an employer, to demonstrate its commitment to age positive practice.

**Jane Hutt:** Canmolwyd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fis Rhagfyr diwethaf am fynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran yn y gwaith, pan ddyfarnwyd iddi statws hyrwyddwr sy'n gadarn o blaid oedran, i gydnabod camau a gymerwyd ganddi, fel cyflogwr, i ddangos ei hymrwymiad i arfer sy'n gadarn o blaid oedran.

**Jenny Randerson:** Age discrimination is often subtle and manifests itself in the way in which services are offered and the type of access that we have to services. One service that older people rely on considerably is the post office. Yesterday, I was pleased to see that your Government showed its concern about the withdrawal of the post office card account. Will you now go one step further and reintroduce the post office development fund so that we can maintain access to a network of post offices that will be useful to older people?

**Jane Randerson:** Mae gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran yn aml yn guddiedig ac yn amlygu ei hun yn y gwasanaethau a gynigir a'r ffordd y mae gwasanaethau ar gael inni. Un gwasanaeth y mae pobl hŷn yn dibynnu arno'n sylweddol yw swyddfa'r post. Ddoe yr oeddwn yn falch o weld eich Llywodraeth yn dangos ei phryder ynglŷn â'r penderfyniad i dynnu cyfrif cerdyn swyddfa'r post yn ôl. A wnewch chi fynd gam ymhellach ac ailgyflwyno'r gronfa datblygu swyddfeydd post, a fydd yn ddefnyddiol i bobl hŷn?

**Jane Hutt:** We had an excellent debate yesterday, to which the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration responded. The objectives were well supported by the whole Assembly and I am sure that these issues will be taken forward in the process of following up that debate.

**Jane Hutt:** Cawsom ddadl ardderchog ddoe, ac ymatebodd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio iddi. Yr oedd y Cynulliad yn gyfan yn cefnogi'r amcanion, ac yr wyf yn siŵr yr ystyrir y materion hyn wrth weithredu ar y ddadl honno.

### **Gwella Cydraddoldeb yn y Gweithle Improving Equality in the Workplace**

**Q13 Huw Lewis:** Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to improve equality in the workplace? OAQ248(BM)

**C13 Huw Lewis:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i wella cydraddoldeb yn y gweithle? OAQ248(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The Assembly Government strives to be an exemplar employer in promoting equality in the workplace and to support the promotion of equality in the public and private sectors via the 'Close the Pay Gap' campaign and the small and medium-sized enterprise equality project.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymdrechu i fod yn gyflogwr sy'n esiampl i eraill wrth hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb yn y gweithle a helpu hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb yn y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat trwy'r ymgyrch 'Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog' a'r prosiect cydraddoldeb i fusnesau bach a chanolig.

**Huw Lewis:** You will agree, I am sure, that ensuring access to childcare is one of the most important ways in which the Assembly can help to achieve equal access to work. In your cross-cutting role, will you agree to

**Huw Lewis:** Fe gytunwch, mae'n siŵr, fod sicrhau bod gofal plant ar gael yn un o'r ffyrdd pwysicaf y gall y Cynulliad helpu sicrhau mynediad cyfartal i waith. Yn eich rôl ar draws pynciau, a gytunwch i ymchwilio i

investigate obstacles being encountered by childminders and would-be childminders in my constituency as a result of planning regulations?

**Jane Hutt:** I am not aware of those particular issues, and I would want to follow those up with you. Childminding is an important source of childcare and an important source of employment for the many women who are engaged in it, therefore I will follow that up with you.

**Y Llywydd:** Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 14, OAQ247(BM), i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig.

rwystrau sy'n wynebu gwarchodwyr plant a darpar warchodwyr plant yn fy etholaeth i o ganlyniad i reoliadau cynllunio?

**Jane Hutt:** Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o'r problemau penodol hynny, a hoffwn drafod y rheini ymhellach gyda chi. Mae gwarchod plant yn ffynhonnell bwysig o ofal plant, ac mae'n ffynhonnell gyflogaeth bwysig i lawer o fenywod sy'n ymgymryd ag ef, felly trafodaf hynny gyda chi eto.

**The Presiding Officer:** Question 14, OAQ247(BM), has been transferred for written answer.

### Llywodraeth Agored Open Government

**Q15 Lisa Francis:** Will the Minister make a statement on open government?  
OAQ227(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Our code of practice on public access to information establishes our policy for maximising openness in the most appropriate ways. The policy has been extensively tested during the course of responding to over 1,000 requests for information since 1 January 2005.

**Lisa Francis:** Can you confirm that, in relation to the Members' research service, it is not appropriate for staff to release information unless it has been sanctioned by a Minister? Is that the case, and, if so, is that in the interests of open government?

**Jane Hutt:** In terms of the working relationship between the Members' research service and Welsh Assembly Government officials in Cathays Park, it is important that there is openness and transparency in the exchange of information. I certainly seek to ensure that information is provided readily to the Members' research service.

**C15 Lisa Francis:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am lywodraeth agored?  
OAQ227(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Mae ein cod ymarfer ar hawl y cyhoedd i weld gwybodaeth yn sefydlu ein polisi i fod mor agored â phosibl yn y ffyrdd mwyaf priodol. Cafodd y polisi ei brofi'n helaeth yn ystod y broses o ymateb i fwy na 1,000 o geisiadau am wybodaeth er 1 Ionawr 2005.

**Lisa Francis:** O ran gwasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau, a allwch gadarnhau nad yw'n briodol i staff ryddhau gwybodaeth oni fydd Gweinidog yn cymeradwyo hynny? Os felly, a yw hynny'n llesol i lywodraeth agored?

**Jane Hutt:** O ran y berthynas waith rhwng gwasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau a swyddogion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ym Mharc Cathays, mae'n bwysig cyfnewid gwybodaeth mewn ffordd agored ac eglur. Yn bendant, ceisiaf sicrhau bod gwybodaeth yn cael ei darparu'n rhwydd i wasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau.

### Atal Rheolau Sefydlog Suspension of Standing Orders

**The Business Minister (Jane Hutt):** I propose that

**Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt):** Cynigiaf fod

*the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 37.5 and 37.6:*

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 37.5 a 37.6:*

*1. suspends Standing Order No. 6.13, and that part of Standing Order No. 5.4 that requires the weekly business statement to constitute the agreed timetable for Assembly business, to allow NNDM3075 tabled on 6 June 2006—relating to the Shadow Commission—to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 7 June 2006; and*

*1. yn gohirio Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.13, a'r rhan honno o Reol Sefydlog Rhif 5.4 sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol mai'r datganiad busnes wythnosol yw'r amserlen gytûn ar gyfer busnes y Cynulliad, i ganiatáu i NNDM3075 a gyflwynwyd ar 6 Mehefin 2006—sy'n ymwneud â'r Comisiwn Cysgodol—gael ei ystyried yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ddydd Mercher 7 Mehefin 2006; a*

*2. suspends Standing Order No. 6.14 to allow any amendments in relation to NNDM3075, tabled before 11 a.m. on Wednesday 7 June, to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 7 June 2006. (NDM3076)*

*2. yn gohirio Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.14 i ganiatáu i unrhyw welliannau mewn perthynas ag NNDM3075, a gyflwynwyd cyn 11 a.m. ddydd Mercher 7 Mehefin, gael eu hystyried yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ddydd Mercher 7 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3076)*

*Cynnig (NDM3076): O blaid 32, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM3076): For 32, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Chapman, Christine  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.*

*Motion carried.*

**Newid Rheolau Sefydlog mewn Perthynas â'r Comisiwn Cysgodol  
Amending of Standing Orders in relation to the Shadow Commission**

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

*the National Assembly, acting under section 46(6) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and Standing Order No. 37:*

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, gan weithredu'n unol ag adran 46(6) Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 a Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 37:*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><i>1. considers the report of the Business Committee e-mailed to Members and laid in the Table Office on 6 June; and</i></p> <p><i>2. approves the amendments to Standing Orders set out in the report of the Business Committee. (NNDM3075)</i></p> | <p><i>1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes a e-bostiwyd at Aelodau ac a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mehefin; a</i></p> <p><i>2. yn cymeradwyo'r gwelliannau i'r Rheolau Sefydlog a amlinellir yn adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes. (NNDM3075)</i></p> |
|---|---|

*Cynnig (NNDM3075): O blaid 40, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.*

*Motion (NNDM3075): For 40, 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  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet

Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

### **Cyflwyno Rheol Sefydlog Newydd ar gyfer y Pwyllgor ar y Rheolau Sefydlog Introduction of a New Standing Order for the Committee on Standing Orders**

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

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting under section 46(6) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and Standing Order No. 37:* *Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol ag adran 46(6) Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 a Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 37:*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. <i>considers the report of the Business Committee e-mailed to Members and laid in the Table Office on 31 May; and</i></p> <p>2. <i>approves the amendments to Standing Orders set out in the report of the Business Committee.</i> (NDM3074)</p> | <p>1. <i>yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes a e-bostiwyd at Aelodau ac a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 31 Mai; a</i></p> <p>2. <i>yn cymeradwyo'r gwelliannau i'r Rheolau Sefydlog a amlinellir yn adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes.</i> (NDM3074)</p> |
|--|---|

*Cynnig (NDM3074): O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
 Motion (NDM3074): For 38, 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  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Cuthbert, Jeff  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Dunwoody, Tamsin  
 Essex, Sue  
 Francis, Lisa  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Graham, William  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Idris Jones, Denise  
 James, Irene  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Melding, David

Mewies, Sandy  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

### **Adroddiad yr Adolygiad o Ddiogelu Plant sy'n Agored i Niwed The Report of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Children Review**

Motion (NDM3071): to propose that

*the National Assembly for Wales:*

*1. welcomes 'Keeping Us Safe: Report of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Children Review'; and*

*2. looks forward to the Welsh Assembly Government response to the report, to be published in the autumn of this year.*

Amendment 1 in the name of Lisa Francis.  
 Add a new point at the end of the motion:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to address the need for multi-agency working so that children's services may be delivered in an even, sustainable, consistent and planned way.*

Amendment 2 in the name of Lisa Francis.  
 Add a new point at the end of the motion:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to meet the needs of children entering the youth criminal justice system and those in specialist facilities far from their families.*

Amendment 3 in the name of Lisa Francis.  
 Add a new point at the end of the motion:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to provide real independence in advocacy services so that the concerns for children will be heard.*

Amendment 4 in the name of Lisa Francis.

Cynnig (NDM3071): cynnig bod

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru*

*1. yn croesawu 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel: Adroddiad yr Adolygiad o Ddiogelu Plant sy'n Agored i Niwed'; a*

*2. yn edrych ymlaen at ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i'r adroddiad a gyhoeddir yn yr hydref eleni.*

Gwelliant 1 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ystyried yr angen am gydweithio rhwng asiantaethau er mwyn i wasanaethau plant allu cael eu darparu mewn ffordd gyfartal, gynaliadwy, gyson a chynlluniedig.*

Gwelliant 2 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gwrdd ag anghenion plant sy'n mynd drwy'r system cyfiawnder troseddol ieuencid a'r rhai sydd mewn cyfleusterau arbenigol ymhell oddi wrth eu teuluoedd.*

Gwelliant 3 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau gwir annibyniaeth mewn gwasanaethau eiriolaeth, fel bo pryderon ynghylch plant yn cael eu clywed.*

Gwelliant 4 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu

Add a new point at the end of the motion:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to meet the need for information programmes that provide children and young people with education on the safe use of technologies.*

Amendment 5 in the name of Lisa Francis. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure that local authorities are properly resourced to meet their obligations to looked-after children.*

**The Presiding Officer:** I have selected amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of Lisa Francis.

**The Business Minister (Jane Hutt):** I propose that

*the National Assembly for Wales:*

*1. welcomes 'Keeping Us Safe, the Report of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Children Review'; and*

*2. looks forward to the Welsh Assembly Government response to the report, to be published in the autumn of this year. (NDM3071)*

I welcome this report, as I did when it was initially launched. It is the outcome of two years of work by the review group, which has gone through a wide range of submissions from various individuals and agencies, and which has held oral evidence sessions in order to supplement the written evidence that it received. I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the review and all those who submitted evidence and contributed to the work of the review. I express particular thanks to Gwenda Thomas for agreeing to chair the review and for guiding it over the past months. It was a task that, at times, must have seemed never-ending, as the review opened the doors to further important areas of inquiry.

The terms of reference for the review were wide, as we had no desire to fetter the review team in its consideration of the range of

pwyt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gwrdd â'r angen am raglenni gwybodaeth sy'n addysgu plant a phobl ifanc ynghylch defnyddio technoleg mewn ffordd ddiogel.*

Gwelliant 5 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwyt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn cael digon o adnoddau i gyflawni'u cyfrifoldebau o ran plant sy'n derbyn gofal.*

**Y Llywydd:** Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw Lisa Francis.

**Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt):** Cynigiau fod

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:*

*1. yn croesawu 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel: Adroddiad yr Adolygiad o Ddiogelu Plant sy'n Agored i Niwed'; a*

*2. yn edrych ymlaen at ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i'r adroddiad a gyhoeddir yn yr hydref eleni. (NDM3071)*

Yr wyf yn croesawu'r adroddiad hwn, fel y gwneuthum pan gafodd ei lansio'n wreiddiol. Mae'n ffrwyth dwy flynedd o waith gan y grŵp adolygu, sydd wedi ystyried nifer fawr o gyflwyniadau gan amryw asiantaethau ac unigolion ac wedi cynnal sesiynau tystiolaeth lafar er mwyn ategu'r dystiolaeth ysgrifenedig a ddaeth i law. Hoffwn achub ar y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i bob aelod o'r adolygiad a phawb a gyflwynodd dystiolaeth ac a gyfrannodd at waith yr adolygiad. Hoffwch ddiolch yn arbennig i Gwenda Thomas am gytuno i gadeirio'r adolygiad ac am ei dywys dros y misoedd diwethaf. Yr oedd yn dasg a oedd yn ymddangos yn ddi-ben-draw ar adegau, mae'n siŵr, wrth i'r adolygiad esgor ar feysydd pwysig eraill i ymchwilio iddynt.

Yr oedd i'r adolygiad gylch gorchwyl eang, gan nad oeddem yn dymuno llyffetheirio'r tîm adolygu wrth iddo ystyried yr holl

safeguarding issues. 'Keeping Us Safe' is the product of that wide-ranging review, and the Welsh Assembly Government is now giving it serious consideration in advance of issuing our formal response.

One of the key ways in which the Assembly Government has worked to keep children safe is through our clear commitment to children's rights—their right to be protected from abuse and exploitation and their right to have their voices heard on matters which affect them, in particular. It is by our listening to the lived experience of children and by responding to them in ways that meet their needs that children and young people will have the confidence to tell us when things go wrong, and the confidence that the adult world will respond appropriately.

In my initial response, I stated that a number of the recommendations reflect the commitments that the Assembly Government has made to children as rights holders and as citizens. In some areas, we have already taken significant action. In particular, we are currently taking forward proposals on advocacy, and, later this year, we will be consulting on proposals to reform the future of advocacy for children and young people. Having someone to speak for you if you are not able to speak up for yourself is essential to protecting children, especially from those who want to exploit children's relative powerlessness and lack of a collective voice. The review team decided at an early stage that the perspective of children and young people should be at the heart of the review process. This reflects our approach.

3.40 p.m.

We have undertaken a great deal of work in developing a common framework for children's participation. This includes the establishment within the Assembly of a participation project to advise departments on good practice in involving children and young people in issues that affect their lives, including policy development, consultations, child-and-young-person friendly documentation, which is reflected in 'Keeping us Safe', and methodologies, staff recruitment, public appointments

faterion diogelu. 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel' yw ffrwyth yr adolygiad eang hwnnw, ac mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn awr yn ei ystyried yn ddwys cyn cyhoeddi ein hymateb ffurfiol.

Un ffordd allweddol y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi gweithio i gadw plant yn ddiogel yw drwy ein hymrwymiad clir i hawliau plant—eu hawl i gael eu diogelu rhag camdriniaeth a chamfanteisio a'u hawl i'w lleisiau gael eu clywed am faterion sy'n effeithio arnynt, yn arbennig. Dim ond drwy wrando ar brofiad gwirioneddol plant a thrwy ymateb iddynt mewn ffyrdd sy'n diwallu eu hanghenion y bydd gan blant a phobl ifanc yr hyder i ddweud wrthym pan fydd pethau'n mynd o chwith, a'r hyder y bydd oedolion yn ymateb yn briodol.

Yn fy ymateb cychwynnol, dywedais fod nifer o'r argymhellion yn adlewyrchu ymrwymadau a wnaed gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i blant fel pobl sydd â hawliau ac fel dinasyddion. Mewn rhai meysydd, yr ydym eisoes wedi cymryd camau pwysig. Yn benodol, yr ydym wrthi'n gweithredu cynigion ynglŷn ag eiriolaeth, ac yn ddiweddarach eleni byddwn yn ymgynghori ynglŷn â chynigion i ddiwygio dyfodol eiriolaeth i blant a phobl ifanc. Mae cael rhywun i siarad drosoch os na allwch siarad drosoch eich hun yn hanfodol i amddiffyn plant, yn enwedig rhag y bobl hynny sydd am fanteisio ar y ffaith bod plant yn gymharol ddi-rym ac nad oes ganddynt lais ar y cyd. Penderfynodd y tîm adolygu yn gynnar y dylai safbwynt plant a phobl ifanc fod wrth wraidd y broses adolygu. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu ein dull o weithredu.

Yr ydym wedi gwneud llawer iawn o waith i ddatblygu fframwaith cyffredin ar gyfer cyfranogiad plant. Mae hyn yn cynnwys sefydlu prosiect cyfranogiad yn y Cynulliad i gynghori adrannau am arferion da yn ymwneud â phlant a phobl ifanc ar faterion sy'n effeithio ar eu bywydau, gan gynnwys datblygu polisïau, ymgynghori, dogfennau sy'n hawdd i blant a phobl ifanc eu deall ac sy'n cael eu hadlewyrchu yn 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel', a methodolegau, recriwtio staff, penodiadau cyhoeddus, caffael ac



procurement and service audits. There are many other areas where the Assembly Government is already actively involved in this regard, including the establishment of the new planning arrangements under the Children Act 2004, the establishment of local safeguarding children boards and support for work in tackling the sexual exploitation of children.

We are taking action to protect some of the most vulnerable children in our communities, including those who are looked after away from home and those in custody. These children might not always be highest on the list of those who should have our time and attention in the minds of some. However, that is what it means to have a clear commitment to protecting children and young people. It means all of our children, in whatever circumstances. It means setting standards that apply across the board and not accepting the idea that some children do not merit our protection. It means raising expectations about what we can achieve for Wales's children and young people. It means making demands on the professionalism and expertise of all of those who work with children, and it means supporting the development of the children's workforce with the kind of status, clout and support that it needs.

One of the greatest barriers to making children safe is the attitudes that prevail in some quarters towards children, particularly those in some sections of the media. This is an issue that was of considerable concern to Gwenda Thomas and her team. Exaggerated accounts of the wrongdoings of some children obscure the very positive contribution that young people make to the vitality of modern Wales. In my role as Minister with responsibility for children and equality, I am constantly reminded of the energy, creativity, sensitivity and positive ambition of children and young people. It is of immense concern to me that none of this potential should be lost. For that to happen, children must be, feel and keep safe.

I want to take particular note of the debate today so that I can ensure that Members' views are fed into Cabinet discussions on the report and can be taken into account in

archwiliadau o wasanaethau. Mae yna nifer o feysydd eraill lle y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad eisoes yn weithgar yn hyn, gan gynnwys sefydlu trefniadau cynllunio newydd o dan Ddeddf Plant 2004, sefydlu byrddau lleol ar ddiogelu plant, a chefnogaeth i waith ar fynd i'r afael â chamfanteisio'n rhywiol ar blant.

Yr ydym yn cymryd camau i amddiffyn rhai o'r plant sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymunedau, gan gynnwys y rheini sy'n cael gofal oddi cartref a'r rheini sydd dan warchodaeth. Efallai nad yw'r plant hyn bob amser ar frig y rhestr o'r rheini a ddylai hawlio ein hamser a'n sylw yn nhyb rhai pobl. Fodd bynnag, dyna mae ymrwymiad clir i amddiffyn plant a phobl ifanc yn ei olygu. Mae'n golygu pob un o'n plant, waeth beth fo'u hamgylchiadau. Mae'n golygu gosod safonau sy'n gymwys i bawb, a pheidio â derbyn y syniad nad yw rhai plant yn haeddu eu hamddiffyn gennym. Mae'n golygu codi disgwyliadau ynglŷn â'r hyn y gallwn ei gyflawni dros blant a phobl ifanc Cymru. Mae'n golygu pwysu ar broffesiynoldeb ac arbenigedd pawb sy'n gweithio gyda phlant, ac mae'n golygu helpu datblygu'r gweithlu i blant sydd â'r statws, y dylanwad a'r gefnogaeth angenrheidiol.

Un o'r rhwystrau mwyaf rhag diogelu plant yw'r agweddau at blant sy'n gyffredin mewn rhai rhannau o gymdeithas, yn enwedig ymhlith rhai yn y cyfryngau. Mae hwn yn fater sy'n achosi pryder mawr i Gwenda Thomas a'i thîm. Mae adroddiadau wedi'u gorliwio o ymddygiad gwael gan rai plant yn cuddio'r cyfraniad cadarnhaol iawn gan blant ifanc i ffyniant y Gymru gyfoes. Yn fy rôl fel Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifod am blant a chydaddoldeb, caf fy atgoffa o hyd o egni, creadigrwydd, sensitifrwydd ac uchelgais gadarnhaol plant a phobl ifanc. Mae'n hynod bwysig imi na ddylid colli dim gronyn o'r potensial hwn. Er mwyn i hynny ddigwydd, rhaid i blant fod yn ddiogel, teimlo'n ddiogel a chael eu cadw'n ddiogel.

Yr wyf am sylwi'n arbennig i'r ddadl heddiw fel y gallaf sicrhau bod safbwyntiau Aelodau'n cael eu codi yn ystod trafodaethau'r Cabinet ar yr adroddiad, a bod

formulating our formal response.

modd eu hystyried wrth lunio ein hymateb ffurfiol.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.42 p.m.  
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.42 p.m.*

I am happy to support the amendments tabled by Lisa Francis. The issues that she has raised in the amendments reflect the key issues that need to be addressed, and accord with the recommendations in the review.

Mae'n bleser gennyf gefnogi'r gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd gan Lisa Francis. Mae'r materion a godwyd ganddi yn y gwelliannau yn adlewyrchu'r materion allweddol y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hwy, ac maent yn gyson â'r argymhellion yn yr adolygiad.

We look forward to this debate to promote what I believe will be an important and robust contribution to the full formulation of the Government's response, which I am co-ordinating as the Minister with responsibility for children.

Edrychwn ymlaen at y ddadl hon i hyrwyddo'r hyn a fydd, mi gredaf, yn gyfraniad pwysig a chadarn i lunio ymateb y Llywodraeth yn llawn, ymateb yr wyf yn ei gydlynu fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am blant.

**William Graham:** I propose the following amendments in the name of Lisa Francis. Amendment 1: add a new point at the end of the motion:

**William Graham:** Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Lisa Francis. Gwelliant 1: Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to address the need for multi-agency working so that children's services may be delivered in an even, sustainable, consistent and planned way.*

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ystyried yr angen am gydweithio rhwng asiantaethau er mwyn i wasanaethau plant allu cael eu darparu mewn ffordd gyfartal, gynaliadwy, gyson a chynlluniedig.*

I propose amendment 2. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 2. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to meet the needs of children entering the youth criminal justice system and those in specialist facilities far from their families.*

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gwrdd ag anghenion plant sy'n mynd drwy'r system cyfiawnder troseddol ieuencid a'r rhai sydd mewn cyfleusterau arbenigol ymhell oddi wrth eu teuluoedd.*

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

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

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to provide real independence in advocacy services so that the concerns for children will be heard.*

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau gwir annibyniaeth mewn gwasanaethau eiriolaeth, fel bo pryderon ynghylch plant yn cael eu clywed.*

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

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

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to meet the need for information programmes that provide children and young people with education on the safe use of technologies.*

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gwrdd â'r angen am raglenni gwybodaeth sy'n addysgu plant a phobl ifanc ynghylch defnyddio technoleg mewn ffordd ddiogel.*

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

*urges the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure that local authorities are properly resourced to meet their obligations to looked-after children.*

I thank the Business Minister for expressing her support for the amendments in the name of Lisa Francis. The Welsh Conservative group welcomes the report, and thanks Gwenda Thomas and her team for their hard work in drawing up the recommendations.

Wales needs more clear and robust policies and practices for safeguarding children in Wales. This will require effective multi-agency working and a systematic appreciation of the risks and opportunities involved. When the First Minister announced the review he stated that he wanted the review team to see the extent to which services on the frontline match up to the policies and guidance set out and the investment made. Now that the report has been published, it is clear that although many initiatives deserve praise, better national and local co-ordination is required. As it states, many children's services were sound but delivered in an uneven and unsustainable way, and there was evidence of inconsistency and of inadequate planning and delivery. The Assembly Government now needs to tell us what action it plans to address this. For example, how will it protect children in penal custody from violence and provide safe, secure accommodation for them in or close to their home region of Wales?

The children's commissioner highlighted concern about the lack of safeguards in place for children and young people in specialist facilities far from their families. What action is proposed to address this? What action is proposed to review whistleblowing policies to ensure that the concerns of children are heard?

What action is proposed to ensure real independence in the advocacy services

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

*yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn cael digon o adnoddau i gyflawni'u cyfrifoldebau o ran plant sy'n derbyn gofal.*

Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Trefnydd am fynegi ei chefnogaeth i'r gwelliannau yn enw Lisa Francis. Mae grŵp Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn croesawu'r adroddiad ac yn diolch i Gwenda Thomas a'i thîm am eu gwaith caled wrth lunio'r argymhellion.

Mae angen i Gymru gael polisiâu ac arferion clir a chadarn i ddiogelu plant yng Nghymru. Bydd hyn yn gofyn am weithio'n effeithiol gan nifer o asiantaethau a gwerthfawrogiad systematig o'r risgiau a'r cyfleoedd dan sylw. Pan gyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog y bwriad i gynnal yr adolygiad, dywedodd ei fod am i'r tîm adolygu weld i ba raddau y mae gwasanaethau yn y rheng flaen yn cyfateb i'r polisiâu a'r canllawiau sydd wedi eu gosod allan a'r buddsoddiad a wnaed. Gan fod yr adroddiad wedi'i gyhoeddi bellach, mae'n amlwg, er bod nifer o fentrau'n haeddu canmoliaeth, fod angen gwell cydlyn yn genedlaethol ac yn lleol. Fel y mae'n dweud, yr oedd llawer o wasanaethau plant yn gadarn, ond yr oeddent yn cael eu darparu mewn ffordd anwastad ac anghynaliadwy, a chafwyd tystiolaeth eu bod yn cael eu cynllunio a'u darparu mewn ffordd anghyson ac annigonol. Yr hyn y mae angen i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ei wneud yn awr yw dweud wrthym pa gamau y mae'n bwriadu eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â hyn. Er enghraifft, sut y bydd yn amddiffyn plant mewn sefydliadau cosbi rhag trais a darparu lle diogel iddynt yn eu cynefin yng Nghymru neu gerllaw.

Yr oedd y comisiynydd plant yn tynnu sylw at bryder ynglŷn â'r diffyg camau diogelwch i blant a phobl ifanc mewn cyfleusterau arbenigol ymhell oddi wrth eu teuluoedd. Pa gamau y bwriedir eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â hyn? Pa gamau y bwriedir eu cymryd i adolygu polisiâu chwythu'r chwiban er mwyn sicrhau gwrand ar bryderon plant?

Pa gamau y bwriedir eu cymryd i sicrhau annibyniaeth wirioneddol yn y gwasanaeth

available to children and young people? The children's commissioner expressed particular concern about the degree of real independence when providers of advocacy are beholden directly to the local authorities, and when not one of the young people contacting his office about their leaving care plans felt that their personal advisers had represented their views. What action has been proposed to address concern expressed by the children's commissioner about the level of funding required to deliver the national service framework for children and young people?

With regard to concern about internet safety and the misuse of new technology for bullying and the grooming of children by abusive adults, what information programmes are proposed to provide children and young people with education on the safe use of new technologies and the risks arising from internet use and abuse? Teachers, social workers, health professionals and the police are all professionals in regular contact, working together for the good of children. What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to ensure that its training courses reflect the important role that it plays in safeguarding and protecting some of the most vulnerable people in our society? What action will be taken to address the mental health and additional learning needs of so many people entering the youth criminal justice system?

I am told that the Welsh Assembly Government is passing obligation to local authorities but is not providing the resources required. I would be grateful for the Minister's confirmation that adequate resources will be made available.

**Janet Ryder:** I will take the opportunity to raise some of the issues that I have raised before. We are looking at a joined-up approach to children's services and at ensuring that there is co-ordination and yet we are still in a situation where recommendations are made. I accept what is said in this report. It has, thankfully, not come about because of a major incident. It is

eiriolaeth sydd ar gael i blant a phobl ifanc? Mynegodd y comisiynydd plant bryder arbennig ynglŷn â pha mor annibynnol yw darparwyr eiriolaeth mewn gwirionedd, a hwythau'n uniongyrchol ddibynnol ar yr awdurdodau lleol, a phan nad oedd dim un o'r plant ifanc a gysylltodd â'i swyddfa ynglŷn â chynlluniau gadael gofal yn teimlo bod eu cynrychiolwyr personol wedi cynrychioli eu safbwyntiau. Pa gamau y bwriedir eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r pryder a fynegwyd gan y comisiynydd plant ynghylch lefel yr ariannu angenrheidiol i wireddu'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol i blant a phobl ifanc?

O ran pryder ynghylch diogelwch y rhyngwyd a chamdefnyddio'r dechnoleg newydd er mwyn bwlio ac er mwyn i oedolion sy'n cam-drin plant baratoi plant, pa raglenni gwybodaeth a gynigir i addysgu plant a phobl ifanc i ddefnyddio'r technolegau newydd yn ddiogel a'u haddysgu am y risgiau o ddefnyddio a chamdefnyddio'r rhyngwyd? Mae athrawon, gweithwyr cymdeithasol, gweithwyr proffesiynol ym maes iechyd a'r heddlu i gyd yn bobl broffesiynol sydd mewn cyswllt rheolaidd ac sy'n gweithio ynghyd er lles plant. Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod ei chyrisiau hyfforddi yn adlewyrchu ei rôl bwysig wrth ddiogelu ac amddiffyn rhai o'r bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn yn ein cymdeithas? Pa gamau a gymerir i fynd i'r afael ag anghenion iechyd meddwl a dysgu ychwanegol cynifer o'r bobl a ddaw gerbron y system cyfiawnder troseddol ieuencid?

Yr wyf ar ddeall bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn trosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb i awdurdodau lleol ond nad yw'n darparu'r adnoddau angenrheidiol. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe byddai'r Gweinidog yn cadarnhau y bydd adnoddau digonol ar gael.

**Janet Ryder:** Achubaf ar y cyfle i godi rhai o'r materion yr wyf wedi'u codi o'r blaen. Yr ydym yn edrych ar ddull cydgysylltiedig o drin gwasanaethau plant a sicrhau cydlyniaeth, ac eto yr ydym yn dal mewn sefyllfa lle mae argymhellion yn cael eu gwneud. Yr wyf yn derbyn yr hyn a ddywedir yn yr adroddiad hwn. Yn ffodus, nid yw'n deillio o ddigwyddiad o bwys. Mae i'w

to be welcomed, and looks at how we can co-ordinate services for children. However, several other reviews and recommendations have come forward because of issues that have been raised on specific things. In that case, it has to be asked what this will achieve to ensure that the recommendations made in previous reports, such as the Waterhouse, Clywch and Bichard reports, are implemented. That is the big question that the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is asking. It wants to know whether you can come forward with a programme that shows what each of those recommendations have been and what progress has been made on them. It would like to see that.

It is interesting that only today the guidelines on whistleblowing procedures for schools were issued in the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee meeting. In a report completed in March, Estyn said that it was not satisfied that all local education authorities were telling their school governing bodies and the schools that they maintained what their whistleblowing process is. You say in this report that you are satisfied that all the procedures are in place. They may be in place but it is not happening. How are you going to ensure that those things happen?

In committee today, the Minister said that, because it was not her statutory responsibility to deliver those whistleblowing procedures, her department did not have the capacity to do it. That is slightly concerning. She seemed to imply that that was what caused the delay. That is extremely worrying, especially as we had a briefing by Welsh Local Government Association officials at lunchtime who said that they wanted central Government guidance on this. They want clear action from the Government. If the WLGA is supportive of a central response, why are we waiting to issue guidelines that are only going out for consultation? When will these guidelines, which have been called for by at least three major reports, be in place? Will we be given a full review of all the recommendations that have been put in place that many different groups have called for?

groesawu ac mae'n edrych ar y modd y gallwn gydlyn gwasanaethau i blant. Fodd bynnag, mae sawl adolygiad ac argymhelliaid arall wedi'u cyflwyno yn sgîl materion a godwyd am bethau penodol. Felly, rhaid gofyn beth fydd hyn yn ei gyflawni i sicrhau gweithredu'r argymhellion a wnaed mewn adroddiadau blaenorol, fel adroddiadau Waterhouse, Clywch a Bichard. Dyna'r cwestiwn mawr a ofynnir gan y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol er Atal Creulondeb i Blant. Mae am wybod a allwch gyflwyno rhaglen sy'n dangos beth oedd pob un o'r argymhellion hynny a pha gynnydd a wnaed arnynt. Byddai'n dymuno gweld hynny.

Mae'n ffaith ddiddorol mai dim ond heddiw y cyhoeddwyd y canllawiau ar weithdrefnau chwythu'r chwiban ar gyfer ysgolion, yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau. Mewn adroddiad a gwblhawyd ym mis Mawrth, dywedodd Estyn nad oedd yn fodlon bod pob awdurdod addysg lleol yn dweud wrth eu cyrff llywodraethu ysgolion a'u hysgolion beth oedd eu prosesau chwythu'r chwiban. Dywedwch yn yr adroddiad hwn eich bod yn fodlon bod yr holl weithdrefnau yn eu lle. Hwyrach eu bod yn eu lle, ond nid ydynt ar waith. Sut y byddwch yn sicrhau bod y pethau hynny'n digwydd?

Yn y pwyllgor heddiw, dywedodd y Gweinidog, gan nad ei chyfrifoldeb statudol hi oedd gweithredu'r gweithdrefnau hynny ar gyfer chwythu chwiban, nad oedd gan ei hadran y gallu i wneud hynny. Mae hynny'n achosi ychydig bryder. Ymddengys iddi awgrymu mai dyna oedd yn achosi'r oedi. Mae hynny'n achosi pryder mawr, yn enwedig o gofio inni gael cyfarfod briffio gyda swyddogion Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru amser cinio, a ddywedodd eu bod yn dymuno cael arweiniad gan Lywodraeth ganolog ar hyn. Maent am weld gweithredu clir ar ran y Llywodraeth. Os yw CLILC yn cefnogi ymateb canolog, pam yr ydym yn aros i gyhoeddi canllawiau i ymgynghori arnynt? Pryd bydd y canllawiau hyn y mae o leiaf dri adroddiad o bwys wedi galw amdanynt ar waith? A gawn adolygiad llawn o'r holl argymhellion sydd wedi eu rhoi ar waith, argymhellion y mae cynifer o wahanol grwpiau wedi galw amdanynt?

You talk about establishing local safeguarding children boards and, again, the WLGA today said that it is supportive of that and that it believes that that is a good way to go forward. But, the work that those local safeguarding children boards will have to do is so broad and comprehensive that the WLGA does not know whether it is going to have the physical resources to do it. What are we going to be doing to support those local things? 'Challenge 6: The Finance' is interesting. The third point says the Welsh Assembly Government is

'to review whether core funding of services is based upon realistic assessment and placed upon a substantial basis.'

3.50 p.m.

It also says that the Welsh Assembly Government is

'to develop a strategic financial plan for all services for children in Wales to underpin the plans developed under Challenge 5 above.'

That is a major undertaking. Children's services are phenomenally underfunded, and we all look forward to the review of the assessment of need that is required to deliver adequate children's services in Wales and how the resources for that will be found.

Finally, I will pick up on the point raised in challenge 2 about the public perception of young children. Plaid Cymru would certainly agree with what the Government is trying to do on this because, very often, young people have a low public image that is not deserved. So, the steps towards developing a public information strategy designed to promote a better-informed public image of children are to be encouraged. We look forward to seeing how you will develop that as a Government and how you will promote a strategy to engage the media in reflecting upon the impact on children of various reports. That media perception of young people gives them a negative public image, and that certainly needs to be countered.

Yr ydych yn sôn am sefydlu byrddau lleol i ddiogelu plant, ac eto dywedodd CLILC heddiw ei fod yn gefnogol i hynny a'i fod o'r farn mai dyna'r ffordd ymlaen. Ond mae'r gwaith y bydd angen i'r byrddau lleol hynny ar ddiogelu plant ei wneud mor gynhwysfawr ac eang ei gwmpas fel na wŷr CLIC a fydd ganddo'r adnoddau corfforol i wneud hynny. Beth ydym ni'n ei wneud i gefnogi'r pethau lleol hynny? Mae 'Her 6: Yr Arian' yn ddi-ddorol. Mae'r trydydd pwynt yn dweud y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru

yn adolygu a yw ariannu craidd y gwasanaethau'n seiliedig ar asesiad realistig ac wedi'i osod ar sail gadarn.

Dywed hefyd y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru

yn datblygu cynllun ariannol strategol ar gyfer yr holl wasanaethau plant yng Nghymru i ategu'r cynlluniau a ddatblygir o dan Her 5 uchod.

Mae hwnnw'n ymrwymiad mawr. Mae gwasanaethau plant ymhell o fod wedi'u hariannu'n ddigonol, ac edrychwn ymlaen i gyd at yr adolygiad o'r asesiad o anghenion sy'n ofynnol i ddarparu gwasanaethau plant digonol yng Nghymru a sut y deuir o hyd i'r adnoddau ar gyfer hynny.

Yn olaf, hoffwn gyfeirio at y pwynt a godwyd yn her 2 ynghylch canfyddiad y cyhoedd o blant ifanc. Byddai Plaid Cymru yn sicr yn cytuno â'r hyn y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ceisio'i wneud yn y cyd-destun hwn, oherwydd mae gan bobl ifanc yn aml ddelwedd gyhoeddus anffafriol nad ydynt yn ei haeddu. Felly, dylid croesawu'r camau tuag at ddatblygu strategaeth gwybodaeth gyhoeddus gyda'r nod o hyrwyddo delwedd gyhoeddus fwy hyddysg o blant. Edrychwn ymlaen at weld sut y byddwch yn datblygu hynny fel Llywodraeth a sut y byddwch yn hyrwyddo strategaeth i ysgogi'r cyfryngau i bwysu a mesur effaith amrywiol adroddiadau ar blant. Mae canfyddiad y cyfryngau o bobl ifanc yn rhoi delwedd gyhoeddus negyddol iddynt, ac yn

sicr mae angen atal hynny.

Therefore, Plaid Cymru is looking for a clarification on all of the recommendations from previous reports, and information with regard to how they are progressing, and an answer as to why we have had to wait so long for the whistleblowing consultation to be set out. We certainly look forward to the financial review and to the review that you will set in place to look at how to address the issue of the public image of young people.

**Gwenda Thomas:** First, I think that we should all recognise that commissioning the report was a bold step by the First Minister and the Minister for children, and a genuine attempt to assess reality compared with objectives. It is important to remember that the review found many positive aspects with regard to the safeguarding of vulnerable children.

I stress once again that this report was independent. All members acted as individuals and not in a representative capacity. The report used the expertise of the group members. The report is also unusual in that it is proactive—as we have heard this afternoon—and not a reaction to any tragedy or event. The review was interested in outcomes rather than investment. The most significant contribution to the review was that of children and young people. It is a view of the experience of vulnerable children and young people. I welcome the commitment in the motion by the Welsh Assembly Government to publish a response to the report in the autumn, and I hope—and I am sure that this will be the case—that there will be a Plenary debate on this response in due course.

I have given some thought to the five amendments tabled in the name of Lisa Francis. The substance of each and every one of these is dealt with in the report and they can, therefore, be considered to be supportive of the findings of the review. Their aims are included, in the strongest terms, in the challenges, but, not least because the review is based on evidence, discussion is to be welcomed. I am glad that the Welsh Assembly Government is taking time to consider its response, as the report is

Felly, mae Plaid Cymru yn edrych am eglurhad o bob un o'r argymhellion o adroddiadau blaenorol, a gwybodaeth am y cynnydd arnynt, ac ateb i'r cwestiwn pam yr ydym wedi gorfod aros cyhyd cyn gosod allan yr ymgynghori ar chwythu'r chwiban. Yr ydym, yn sicr, yn edrych ymlaen at yr adolygiad ariannol ac at yr adolygiad y byddwch yn ei sefydlu i edrych ar y ffordd i fynd i'r afael â delwedd gyhoeddus pobl ifanc.

**Gwenda Thomas:** Yn gyntaf, credaf y dylem i gyd gydnabod mai cam mentrus gan y Prif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros blant oedd comisiynu'r adroddiad, ac ymgais wirioneddol i asesu realaeth ochr yn ochr ag amcanion. Mae'n bwysig cofio bod yr adolygiad wedi cael bod nifer o agweddau cadarnhaol o ran diogelu plant diamddiffyn.

Pwysleisiaf unwaith eto bod yr adroddiad hwn yn un annibynnol. Gweithredai pob aelod fel unigolyn, nid fel cynrychiolydd. Defnyddiodd yr adroddiad arbenigedd aelodau'r grŵp. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn anghyffredin yn yr ystyr ei fod yn adroddiad rhagweithiol—fel y clywsom y prynhawn yma—nid yn adwaith i drasiedi neu ddigwyddiad. Canlyniadau yn hytrach na buddsoddiad oedd byrdwn yr adolygiad. Gan blant a phobl ifanc y cafwyd y cyfraniad mwyaf arwyddocaol i'r adolygiad. Mae'n rhoi golwg ar brofiad plant a phobl ifanc ddiamddiffyn. Croesawaf yr ymrwymiad yn y cynnig gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyhoeddi ymateb i'r adroddiad yn yr hydref, ac yr wyf yn gobeithio—ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hyn yn wir—y ceir dadl mewn Cyfarfod Llawn ar yr ymateb hwn maes o law.

Yr wyf wedi ystyried y pum gwelliant a gyflwynwyd yn enw Lisa Francis. Ymdrinnir â sylwedd pob un ohonynt yn yr adroddiad, ac felly gellir ystyried eu bod yn ategu darganfyddiadau'r adolygiad. Cynhwysir eu nodau, yn gwbl ddiawys, yn yr heriau, ond yn anad dim, am fod yr adolygiad yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth, rhaid croesawu trafodaeth. Yr wyf yn falch bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ystyried ei ymateb yn bwyllog, gan fod yr adroddiad yn gymhleth ac mae angen ei ystyried yn fanwl ar bob

complex and needs detailed consideration at all levels. To make a basic, but very important, point—and I think that this answers some of the points that Janet Ryder has raised—the challenges have been constructed as a package; they interrelate, and they deal with both strategic and practice issues. There cannot, and should not, be any quick fixes, but some issues are about management and rationalisation and can be addressed quickly; others will require more time and careful planning, and some will involve the Westminster Government.

Of one thing I am certain: we need a long-term vision and programme which has as much political consensus as possible. I would have welcomed a cross-party commitment to try to achieve this today. This is needed because the necessary planning and action will stretch beyond the lifetime of any one Government. More than anything, vulnerable children need and deserve stability and continuity. If we are to learn anything from history, it is that vulnerable children are most at risk at times of organisational and workforce change. The review group will await the response of the Welsh Assembly Government with interest.

**Peter Black:** I do not see any reason why there should not be cross-party consensus on this report. There are many good things in this report and many proposals that need careful consideration. I am sure that the Assembly Government will consider them and come back with a response. I think that there is a broad consensus in the Chamber, as always, about putting the interests of children first, about ensuring that they are properly protected, and making sure that the necessary measures are put in place across Wales to bring that into effect.

The concern, expressed earlier by Janet, which I share, to an extent, is that we have had a number of reports which have made quite a large number of recommendations. However, not all of those recommendations have been carried through, and certainly not in the sort of timescale in which it was envisaged that they should be carried through.

I wneud pwynt sylfaenol ond pwysig iawn—a chredaf fod hyn yn ateb rhai o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gan Janet Ryder—lluniwyd yr heriau fel pecyn; maent wedi eu rhyng-gysylltu ac maent yn ymdrin â materion strategol ac ymarferol. Nid oes yma atebion parod, ac ni ddylai fod atebion parod, ond gellir mynd i'r afael â rhai materion yn ymwneud â rheoli a rhesymoli ar unwaith. Bydd angen mwy o amser a chynllunio gofalus ar faterion eraill, a bydd rhai yn ymwneud â Llywodraeth San Steffan.

Yr wyf yn siŵr o un peth: mae angen gweledigaeth a rhaglen hirdymor gyda chymaint o gonsensws gwleidyddol â phosibl. Byddwn wedi croesawu ymrwymiad ar draws y pleidiau i geisio cyflawni hyn heddiw. Mae angen hyn, oherwydd bydd y cynllunio a'r gweithredu angenrheidiol yn ymestyn y tu hwnt i oes unrhyw un Llywodraeth. Yn anad dim, mae angen sefydlogrwydd a pharhad ar blant diamddiffyn, ac maent yn haeddu hynny. Mae hanes yn ein dysgu mai ar adegau o newid sefydliadol a newid mewn gweithlu y mae'r risg fwyaf i blant diamddiffyn. Bydd y grŵp adolygu yn disgwyl yn eiddgar am ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

**Peter Black:** Ni welaf pam na ellir cael consensws trawsbleidiol ar yr adroddiad hwn. Mae nifer o bethau da yn yr adroddiad hwn a nifer o gynigion y mae angen eu hystyried yn ddwys. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu hystyried ac yn ymateb iddynt. Credaf fod consensws cyffredinol yn y Siambr, fel sy'n wir ym mhob achos, am roi buddiannau plant yn gyntaf, am sicrhau eu bod yn cael eu hamddiffyn yn iawn ac am wneud yn siŵr fod y mesurau angenrheidiol ar waith ledled Cymru i weithredu hynny.

Y pryder, a fynegwyd ynghynt gan Janet, ac yr wyf innau yn ei rannu i raddau, yw'r ffaith ein bod wedi cael nifer o adroddiadau sydd wedi gwneud cryn dipyn o argymhellion. Fodd bynnag, nid yw pob un o'r argymhellion hynny wedi'u datblygu, ac yn sicr nid ydynt wedi'u datblygu yn ôl y math o amserlen a ragwelwyd ar gyfer eu datblygu.



I also have a concern that a number of measures on which we have consensus in the Assembly, to which the Assembly Government is totally committed, are not being delivered properly. A good example is schools' criminal record checks. The Estyn survey, which was discussed at the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee meeting this morning, was commissioned, admittedly, by the Minister, and sent representatives to talk to 28 schools in the 22 Welsh local education authorities. Only 11 of those LEAs confirmed that they vet adults who have access to children. Most schools reported that visitors, including parent helpers, were not left on their own with children but that they do not carry out the vetting process that should be carried out. They do not vet contractors who come into contact with children. There is consensus on that sort of issue, but it is not happening out on the ground. The challenge facing us is how to implement the measures on which we all agree, making sure that they are implemented consistently at local education authority and school level, and at every other level of civic government across Wales. That is the challenge facing the Assembly Government and all Members.

To be fair, the review group highlights these issues in the report. It talks about evidence of inconsistency in the application of policy and resources, and of inadequate planning and delivery. There is a concerning lack of coherence across children's services, which has a detrimental effect upon children and those who work with them. Sometimes, we have to question whether partnership—which is the buzzword of the Assembly since 1999—is really working out there at local authority level and at other levels. The WLGA response to this report talks about the burden being put on social services in some instances to commission particular services in relation to looked-after children, for example, without the support that they need from the local health board and other statutory agencies. You see local health boards acting independently of social services departments even though they were specifically set up to work with social services departments in partnership, to deliver jointly, and to share resources.

Yr wyf fi'n pryderu hefyd nad yw nifer o fesurau y mae gennym gonsensws arnynt yn y Cynulliad, ac y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo iddynt yn llwyr, yn cael eu gweithredu'n iawn. Enghraifft dda o hyn yw gwiriadau o gofnodion troseddol ysgolion. Cafodd arolwg Estyn, a drafodwyd yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau y bore yma, ei gomisiynu, rhaid dweud, gan y Gweinidog, ac anfonwyd cynrychiolwyr i siarad â 28 o ysgolion yn y 22 awdurdod addysg lleol yng Nghymru. Un ar ddeg yn unig o'r awdurdodau addysg lleol hynny a gadarnhaodd eu bod yn gwirio oedolion sydd â chyswllt â phlant. Soniodd y rhan fwyaf o ysgolion na chaiff ymwelwyr, gan gynnwys rhieni sy'n cynorthwyo, eu gadael ar eu pen eu hunain gyda phlant, ond nad ydynt yn cynnal y broses wirio y dylid ei chynnal. Nid ydynt yn gwirio contractwyr a ddaw i gysylltiad â phlant. Mae consensws ar y math hwn o fater, ond nid yw'n digwydd ar lawr gwlad. Yr her sy'n ein hwynebu yw sut i weithredu'r mesurau yr ydym i gyd yn gytûn arnynt, gan sicrhau eu gweithredu'n gyson ar lefel awdurdod addysg ac ysgol, ac ar bob lefel arall o lywodraeth ddinesig ledled Cymru. Dyna'r her sy'n wynebu Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a phob Aelod.

I fod yn deg, mae'r grŵp adolygiad yn tynnu sylw at y materion hyn yn yr adroddiad. Mae'n cyfeirio at dystiolaeth o anghysondeb wrth weithredu polisi ac adnoddau, ac o gynllunio a gweithredu annigonol. Mae prinder cydlyniaeth ar draws gwasanaethau plant sy'n achosi pryder, a chaiff hyn effaith andwyol ar blant a'r rheini sy'n gweithio gyda hwy. Weithiau, rhaid inni amau a yw partneriaeth—gair hud y Cynulliad er 1999—yn gweithio mewn gwirionedd ar lefel awdurdod lleol ac ar lefelau eraill. Mae ymateb CLILC i'r adroddiad hwn yn trafod y pwysau sydd ar wasanaethau cymdeithasol mewn rhai achosion i gomisiynu gwasanaethau penodol yng nghyd-destun plant sy'n cael gofal, er enghraifft, heb y cymorth y mae ei angen arnynt gan y bwrdd iechyd lleol ac asiantaethau statudol eraill. Fe welwch fyrddau iechyd lleol yn gweithredu'n annibynnol ar adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol er eu bod wedi'u sefydlu'n benodol i weithio gydag adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol mewn partneriaeth, i gyflawni pethau ar y cyd ac i

rannu adnoddau.

**Janet Ryder:** That completely underlines the problem. The Waterhouse and Clywch reports made recommendations on whistleblowing. If Waterhouse made those recommendations, why were they not transmitted out of the social services department, out of the children's services department, and into education? If this review stops that from happening, makes sure that local government departments work together, and that that true joint-commissioning of children's services at local government level goes ahead, it is to be supported. I think that it has all-party support but, as Peter said, we all have concerns about what is happening.

**Peter Black:** We should not automatically say that every recommendation is sacrosanct, and that we will sign up to every one. There are issues, which was the case with the Clywch report, on which there was discussion and agreement about how they should change. However, where we have that consensus, we must ensure that what we agree on is implemented, which means ensuring that everyone is working together much better. Again, the report raises concerns about short-term and uncertain funding.

Funding is a key issue here. Social services departments will tell you—which ever ones you talk to—that there are funding problems in terms of children's services and the range of services that they have to deliver. The fact that their funding is either uncertain or inadequate undermines confidence in continuity, as the report states. The report also states that that requires attention; it is important, if we are to maintain morale among workers and staff, that we pay attention to it.

I have found another example in the *Western Mail*—which I hate to quote, after what the First Minister said about it earlier on. It carried an article about a report written by Dr Heaven Crawley, who is based in Swansea University, called 'Child First, Migrant Second: Ensuring that Every Child Matters', which was written for the Immigration Law

**Janet Ryder:** Mae hyn yn tanlinellu'r broblem yn llwyr. Gwnaeth adroddiadau Waterhouse a Clywch argymhellion ar chwythu'r chwiban. Os gwnaeth Waterhouse yr argymhellion hynny, pam na chawsant eu trosglwyddo o'r adran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, o'r adran gwasanaethau plant ac i fyd addysg? Os bydd yr adolygiad hwn yn atal hynny rhag digwydd, yn sicrhau bod adrannau llywodraeth leol yn cydweithio, a bod cyd-gomisiynu gwasanaethau plant ar lefel llywodraeth leol yn digwydd, rhaid ei gefnogi. Credaf fod cefnogaeth iddo ar draws y pleidiau, ond fel y dywedodd Peter, yr ydym i gyd yn pryderu ynghylch yr hyn sy'n digwydd.

**Peter Black:** Ni ddylem ddweud beth bynnag fod pob argymhelliad yn gysegredig, ac y byddwn yn arddel pob un. Mae yna faterion, a oedd yn wir yn achos adroddiad Clywch, a fu'n destun trafodaeth a chytundeb am y ffordd y dylent newid. Fodd bynnag, lle mae gennym y consensws hwnnw, rhaid inni sicrhau gweithredu ar yr hyn y byddwn yn cytuno arno, sy'n golygu sicrhau bod pawb yn cydweithio lawer yn well. Unwaith eto, mae'r adroddiad yn mynegi pryderon ynglŷn ag ariannu tymor byr ac ansicr.

Mae ariann'n fater allweddol yn y cyd-destun hwn. Bydd adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn dweud wrthyfych—pa bynnag rai y siaradwch â hwy—fod problemau ariannu o ran gwasanaethau plant a'r ystod o wasanaethau sydd ganddynt i'w cyflwyno. Mae'r ffaith fod eu harian naill ai'n ansicr neu'n annigonol yn tanseilio hyder mewn dilyniant, fel y dywed yr adroddiad. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn dweud bod angen ystyried hynny; mae'n bwysig, os ydym am gynnal morâl ymhlith gweithwyr a staff, inni roi sylw iddo.

Yr wyf wedi dod o hyd i enghraifft arall yn y *Western Mail*—sy'n gas gennyf ei ddyfynnu, ar ôl yr hyn a ddywedodd y Prif Weinidog amdano'n gynharach. Yr oedd erthygl ynddo ynglŷn ag adroddiad gan Dr Heaven Crawley, ym Mhrifysgol Abertawe, dan y teitl 'Child First, Migrant Second: Ensuring that Every Child Matters', a ysgrifennwyd ar

Practitioners' Association. She talks about private fostering arrangements, which are still often invisible to local councils. She says that not enough money is being given to local authorities to implement the recommendations for improvements that Lord Laming of Tewin demanded at his inquiry into Victoria Climbié's death. She added that this evidence can be seen in the current treatment of children in the asylum determination process, in the increasing number of disputes over the age and entitlements of children, in the use of detention and child poverty as tools of immigration control, in a lack of proper support for children in private fostering arrangements, and in the failure to identify and protect those who have been trafficked. That is a lack of joined-up thinking with central UK Government as well.

What we have in this report is worthy. We need to get a consensus behind it, but we must also ensure that it is implemented, that we get everyone to sign up to it, and that we give them the funding and ensure that they work together to deliver it.

**The Business Minister (Jane Hutt):** This debate has made a good contribution to the full Government response. I will mention how we will take this forward to deliver that full Government response. We have a Cabinet paper scheduled for 3 July, and there will be a written statement before the end of this session. However, Gwenda, I want to bring this back for a full debate in the autumn. This requires a full debate, when we have published our full, detailed response, which will give Members an opportunity to discuss that response.

It is clear from this report, and from today's debate, that this requires leadership and the kind of challenge and questioning that we have had, which is right as part of the debate. It requires commitment, and we have the beginnings of a cross-party commitment to deliver on 'Keeping us Safe'. That is what I need to take forward in my co-ordinating role.

Some of the points that have been made are relevant and important. William, you talked

gyfer y Gymdeithas Ymarferwyr Cyfraith Mewnffudo. Mae'n siarad am drefniadau maeth, sy'n aml yn gudd i gynghorau lleol o hyd. Dywed nad oes digon o arian yn cael ei roi i awdurdodau lleoli i weithredu'r argymhellion ar gyfer gwelliannau a fynnydd gan yr Arglwydd Laming o Dewin yn ei ymchwiliad i farwolaeth Victoria Climbié. Ychwanegodd y gellir gweld y dystiolaeth hon yn nhriniaeth bresennol plant yn y broses pennu lloches, yn y nifer cynyddol o anghydfodau dros oedran a hawliau plant, wrth ddefnyddio mesurau cadw a thlodi plant fel arfau rheolaeth fewnfudo, yn y diffyg cymorth priodol i blant mewn trefniadau maeth preifat, ac yn y methiant i nodi a diogelu'r rheini sydd wedi eu masnachu. Mae hynny'n ddiffyg meddwl cydgysylltiedig gyda Llywodraeth ganolog y DU hefyd.

Mae'r hyn sydd gennym yn yr adroddiad hwn yn glodwiw. Mae angen inni gael consensws yn gefn iddo, ond mae angen hefyd inni sicrhau y caiff ei weithredu, y cawn bawb i'w arddel, ac y byddwn yn rhoi'r arian iddynt a sicrhau eu bod yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i'w wireddu.

**Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt):** Mae'r ddadl hon wedi gwneud cyfraniad da i ymateb llawn y Llywodraeth. Byddaf yn sôn am y modd y byddwn yn datblygu hyn i gyflwyno ymateb llawn y Llywodraeth. Mae gennym bapur Cabinet wedi'i drefnu ar gyfer 3 Gorffennaf, a chaiff datganiad byr ei ysgrifennu cyn diwedd y sesiwn hon. Fodd bynnag, Gwenda, hoffwn gael dadl lawn ar hwn yn yr hydref. Mae angen dadl lawn arno, pan fyddwn wedi cyhoeddi ein hymateb llawn, manwl, a fydd yn gyfle i Aelodau drafod yr ymateb hwnnw.

Mae'n amlwg o'r adroddiad hwn, ac o'r ddadl heddiw, fod angen arweinyddiaeth a'r math o her a chwestiynu a gawsom, sy'n iawn fel rhan o'r ddadl. Mae angen ymrwymiad, ac mae gennym gychwyn ymrwymiad trawsbleidiol i wireddu 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel'. Dyna y mae angen imi ei ddwyn ymlaen yn fy swyddogaeth gydgysylltu.

Mae rhai o'r pwyntiau a godwyd yn berthnasol ac yn bwysig. William, yr oeddech

particularly about special circumstances for children where they are most vulnerable, where they are away from home, where they are looked after, and where they are in custody. That is where we must recognise that 'Keeping us Safe' has to be our statutory duty. That is at national UK Government and local authority level.

The independence of advocacy services has also come through in contributions. As well as our consultation on the review of advocacy services, which I mentioned in my opening remarks, we will consider the further recommendations coming from the review. You also mentioned the safe use of technologies, William. Again, work in progress must be acknowledged, and it will be acknowledged in our response. For example, online safety is being taken into account—and I am sure that Janet would be interested in this, as well as William—in the review of the national curriculum. That is about our recognising those key issues—the resource packs covering e-safety, developing whole-school policies, supporting effective practice, and guidance to local safeguarding boards on how they address issues relating to the internet.

What is key about local safeguarding boards is that they are about co-ordination. If we want that multi-agency response and proactive relationship in terms of safeguarding children, they have to co-ordinate. We are not going to take over what the bodies do, but the local safeguarding boards will have the statutory underpinning that the old area child protection committees did not have, and they will use their status and clout to deliver that multi-disciplinary approach.

In terms of the consultation on the local safeguarding boards, there were no major concerns about the cost, which was mentioned in the regulatory assessment. It is key that we take on board that co-ordinating, comprehensive approach. We are working through issues relating to the children's workforce and mental health issues, which were mentioned, in the children and adolescent mental health review.

yn siarad yn benodol am amgylchiadau arbennig i blant lle y maent fwyaf agored i niwed, lle maent oddi cartref, lle maent yn cael gofal a lle y maent yn y ddalfa. Dyna pryd y mae'n rhaid inni gydnabod bod 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel' yn ddyletswydd statudol arnom. Mae hynny ar lefel Llywodraeth y DU ac ar lefel awdurdod lleol.

Mae annibyniaeth y gwasanaethau eiriolaeth hefyd wedi dod yn sgîl y cyfraniadau. Yn ogystal â'n hymgyngori am yr adolygiad o wasanaethau eiriolaeth y soniais amdano yn fy sylwadau agoriadol, byddwn yn ystyried yr argymhellion pellach sy'n codi o'r adolygiad. Yr oeddech yn sôn hefyd am ddefnyddio technolegau'n ddiogel, William. Unwaith eto, rhaid cydnabod gwaith sydd ar y gweill, a chaiff ei gydnabod yn ein hymateb. Er enghraifft, ystyrir diogelwch ar-lein—yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai gan Janet ddiddordeb yn hwn, yn ogystal â William—yn yr adolygiad o'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol. Mae hynny'n ymwneud â'n cydnabyddiaeth o'r materion allweddol hynny—y pecynnau adnoddau sy'n cwmpasu e-ddiogelwch, datblygu polisiau ysgol gyfan, cefnogi arfer effeithiol, a chanllawiau i fyrddau lleol diogelu plant ynglŷn â sut i fynd i'r afael â materion yn ymwneud â'r rhyngwyd.

Yr hyn sy'n allweddol am fyrddau lleol diogelu plant yw eu bod yn ymwneud â chydgyssylltu. Os ydym am gael ymateb aml-asiantaeth a pherthynas ragweithiol o ran diogelu plant, rhaid iddynt gydgysylltu. Nid ydym yn mynd i gymryd yr awenau yn y gwaith y mae'r cyrff yn ei wneud, ond bydd gan y byrddau lleol diogelu plant ategwaith statudol nad oedd gan yr hen bwyllgorau ardal amddiffyn plant, a byddant yn defnyddio'u statws a'u dylanwad i ddarparu'r dull amllddisgyblaethol hwnnw.

O ran yr ymgynghori am y byrddau lleol diogelu plant, nid oedd pryderon mawr ynglŷn â'r gost y soniwyd amdano yn yr asesiad rheoleiddiol. Mae'n allweddol inni dderbyn y dull cydgysylltiol cynhwysfawr hwnnw. Yr ydym yn gweithio drwy faterion sy'n ymwneud â'r gweithlu plant a materion iechyd meddwl y soniwyd amdanynt yn yr adolygiad o iechyd meddwl plant a'r glasoed.

Janet and Peter referred to discussion in the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee this morning, and, as Peter said, the Minister commissioned that report from Estyn, and that is the kind of important response that Government must give. When things come to the fore, we know that we must move fast. For example, we asked Estyn to do a report, which it did. The review looked at the whole issue of vetting and barring in terms of the UK Government and the responsibility of the Department for Education and Skills. It is very important that that review was undertaken. It is clear that the guidance is there, but it has not always been implemented. That is the crucial issue. We discussed this in the Cabinet committee on Monday, and we recognised again that it is about training, raising awareness and raising the stakes in terms of 'Keeping Us Safe'. I am glad that you have mentioned it because we must move forward and implement those very issues.

Finally, on resources, £151 million has been provided to our Children First programme over the last seven years, to assess and evaluate what works and what safeguards children. We have successfully come together on Health Challenge Wales, and perhaps, as this is coming through strongly in this debate, we should have a cross-party approach on the 'Keeping Us Safe' campaign. Perhaps that is something that can be fed through to the Government's response.

**Janet Ryder:** When you review the funding of services for children, will you review the three-year, short-term funding, which creates major problems for many children's projects in particular? You know about that from your experience prior to the establishment of the National Assembly, and not a lot has changed since then. Many projects get three-year funding and halfway through they have to start scrabbling around. Will you review that as part of your review of long-term funding?

**Jane Hutt:** What we inherited as a Government was one-year funding. We have moved on, not just in terms of three-year funding, but in terms of Children First and Cymorth, which had seven-year funding, and

Cyfeiriodd Janet a Peter at drafodaeth yn y Pwyllgor Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau y bore yma, ac fel y dywedodd Peter, comisynodd y Gweinidog yr adroddiad hwnnw gan Estyn, a dyna'r math o ymateb pwysig y mae'n rhaid i'r Llywodraeth ei roi. Pan ddaw pethau i'r amlwg, gwyddom fod rhaid gweithredu'n gyflym. Er enghraifft, bu inni ofyn i Estyn lunio adroddiad, a dyna a wnaeth. Edrychai'r adolygiad ar archwilio cefndir a gwahardd o ran Llywodraeth y DU a chyfrifoldeb yr Adran Addysg a Sgiliau. Mae'n bwysig iawn i'r adolygiad hwnnw gael ei wneud. Mae'n amlwg fod yr arweiniad ar gael ond nad yw bob amser wedi ei weithredu. Dyna yw'r mater hollbwysig. Buom yn trafod hyn yn y pwyllgor Cabinet ddydd Llun, a chydabuom eto mai hyfforddi, cynyddu ymwybyddiaeth a rhoi mwy o bwys ar 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel' sy'n bwysig. Yr wyf yn falch ichi sôn amdano oherwydd bod rhaid inni ddatblygu a gweithredu'r union faterion hynny.

Yn olaf, o ran adnoddau, darparwyd £151 miliwn i'n rhaglen Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf dros y saith mlynedd diwethaf, i asesu a gwerthuso'r hyn sy'n gweithio a'r hyn sy'n diogelu plant. Daethom ynghyd yn llwyddiannus ar gyfer Her Iechyd Cymru, ac efallai, gan fod hyn yn cael ei fynegi'n glir yn y ddadl hon, y dylem fabwysiadu dull trawsbleidiol yn yr ymgyrch 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel'. Efallai fod hynny'n rhywbeth y gellir ei fwydo i ymateb y Llywodraeth.

**Janet Ryder:** Pan fyddwch yn adolygu'r broses o ariannu gwasanaethau plant, a fyddwch yn adolygu'r arian tymor byr, tair blynedd, sy'n creu problemau mawr i nifer o brosiectau plant yn arbennig? Gwyddoch am hynny o'ch profiad blaenorol i sefydlu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, ac nid oes llawer wedi newid ers hynny. Mae nifer o brosiectau'n cael arian am dair blynedd, a hanner ffordd drwy'r cyfnod rhaid iddynt ddechrau ymbalfalu am arian. A fyddwch yn adolygu hynny fel rhan o'ch adolygiad o ariannu hir dymor?

**Jane Hutt:** Yr hyn a etifeddwyd gennym fel Llywodraeth oedd ariannu blwyddyn. Yr ydym wedi datblygu, nid yn unig drwy ariannu am dair blynedd, ond o ran Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf a Cymorth, a gâi ei ariannu

which was instituted when the Assembly came into being. We know that the issue is not so much the one-year, three-year or five-year funding; we have had seven-year funding in terms of Children First and Cymorth. We must evaluate and decide when is the right time for it to go into the revenue support grant or whether to keep it as a special grant, as it is at the moment, and consider the outcomes of that.

I will finish on the points that Gwenda made in her contribution. She said that these challenges inter-relate, which is why it is so important that we have a co-ordinated approach, and that is part of my role as Minister for Children. There are no quick fixes, and the challenges require a long-term vision. We need as much political consensus as possible, and we should be able to muster that—I said this when I responded to the report in the first instance. Important planning is needed to take this forward, but the Assembly is up to this. In terms of our next full debate in the autumn, I hope that it will be as robust and constructive as this one has been.

fesul saith mlynedd ac a sefydlwyd pan ddaeth y Cynulliad i fodolaeth. Gwyddom nad mater o ariannu blwyddyn, tair blynedd neu bum mlynedd yw hyn; yr ydym wedi cael ariannu saith mlynedd ar gyfer Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf a Cymorth. Mae'n rhaid inni werthuso a phenderfynu pryd mae'r amser cywir iddo fynd i'r grant cynnal refeniw, neu a ddylid ei gadw fel grant arbennig, fel y mae ar hyn o bryd, ac ystyried canlyniadau hynny.

Gorffennaf gyda'r pwyntiau a wnaeth Gwenda yn ei chyfraniad. Dywedodd fod yr heriau hyn yn gydgysylltiedig, a dyna pam y mae mor bwysig fod gennym ddull cydgysylltiol, ac mae hynny'n rhan o fy rôl fel Gweinidog dros Blant. Nid oes atebion cyflym, ac mae'r heriau'n gofyn am weledigaeth hirdymor. Mae arnom angen cymaint â phosibl o gonsensws gwleidyddol, a dylem fod yn gallu cynnull hynny—dywedais hynny wrth ymateb i'r adroddiad yn y lle cyntaf. Mae angen cynllunio pwysig i ddatblygu hyn, ond mae'r gallu gan y Cynulliad i wneud hynny. O ran ein dadl lawr nesaf yn yr hydref, gobeithio y bydd mor gadarn ac adeiladol ag y mae hon wedi bod.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amendment 1: For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Helen Mary

Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 43, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amendment 2: For 43, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet

Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.*

*Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.*

*Amendment 3: For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.*

*Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.*



*Amendment 4: For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amendment 5: For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine

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

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
 Amendment carried.*

Motion (NDM3071) as amended:

*The National Assembly for Wales:*

*1. welcomes 'Keeping Us Safe: Report of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Children Review';*

*2. looks forward to the Welsh Assembly Government response to the report, to be published in the autumn of this year;*

*3. urges the Welsh Assembly Government to address the need for multi-agency working so that children's services may be delivered in an even, sustainable, consistent and planned way;*

*4. urges the Welsh Assembly Government to meet the needs of children entering the youth*

Cynnig (NDM3071) fel y'i diwygiwyd:

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru*

*1. yn croesawu 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel: Adroddiad yr Adolygiad o Ddiogelu Plant sy'n Agored i Niwed';*

*2. yn edrych ymlaen at ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i'r adroddiad a gyhoeddir yn yr hydref eleni;*

*3. yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ystyried yr angen am gydweithio rhwng asiantaethau er mwyn i wasanaethau plant allu cael eu darparu mewn ffordd gyfartal, gynaliadwy, gyson a chynlluniedig;*

*4. yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gwrdd ag anghenion plant sy'n mynd*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>criminal justice system and those in specialist facilities far from their families;</i>   | <i>drwy'r system cyfiawnder troseddol ieuentid a'r rhai sydd mewn cyfleusterau arbenigol ymhell oddi wrth eu teuluoedd;</i>  |
| <i>5. urges the Welsh Assembly Government to provide real independence in advocacy services so that the concerns for children will be heard;</i>                                     | <i>5. yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau gwir annibyniaeth mewn gwasanaethau eiriolaeth, fel bo pryderon ynghylch plant yn cael eu clywed;</i>                   |
| <i>6. urges the Welsh Assembly Government to meet the need for information programmes that provide children and young people with education on the safe use of technologies; and</i> | <i>6. yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gwrdd â'r angen am raglenni gwybodaeth sy'n addysgu plant a phobl ifanc ynghylch defnyddio technoleg mewn ffordd ddiogel; a</i> |
| <i>7. urges the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure that local authorities are properly resourced to meet their obligations to looked-after children.</i>                            | <i>7. yn pwysu ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn cael digon o adnoddau i gyflawni'u cyfrifoldebau o ran plant sy'n derbyn gofal.</i>             |

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amended motion: For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny

Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.  
 Amended motion carried.*

### **Ail Ddadl ar Gynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31 gan Huw Lewis Second Debate on a Standing Order No. 31 Proposal by Huw Lewis**

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Before I call on the Minister to propose the motion, I call Rhodri Glyn Thomas on a point of order.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Pwynt o drefn. Yn ôl y drefn arferol, dylai'r cynnig hwn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31 fod wedi dod gerbron y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i'w drafod cyn inni bleidleisio arno yn y Siambr. Er nad yw hynny wedi digwydd—ac, wrth reswm, yr wyf yn siomedig ynghylch hynny—ni fwriadaf atal y broses, ac yr wyf yn ddigon hapus inni gael y drafodaeth hon, oherwydd daw cyfle yn y dyfodol inni drafod hyn yn y pwyllgor iechyd.

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Are there any further points of order? I see that there are not. I thank the Member for giving advance notice of this. Standing Order No. 31.5 is clear in requiring a Minister to consult with any relevant Assembly committee in preparing a report on the feasibility of the proposal for legislation, which he or she is obliged to lay at this stage of the process. It appears that there may have been some sort of misunderstanding in this case; I do not know the details. I therefore suggest that, in future, if there has been a misunderstanding on the part of Ministers, they ensure that the consultation, as required by Standing Orders, is channelled through the clerk of the appropriate committee. That is always the safest way of doing things to avoid any such difficulties as those that we have before us. However, I am clear in my mind that the debate can proceed, and I am sure that any appropriate consultation can take place as the process continues of formulating any legislation as a result of the debate.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Cyn imi alw ar y Gweinidog i gynnig y cynnig, galwaf Rhodri Glyn Thomas ar bwyt o drefn.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Point of order. According to usual practice, this Standing Order No. 31 proposal should have come to the Health and Social Services Committee for discussion before we voted upon it in the Chamber. Although that has not happened—and, obviously, I am disappointed about that—it is not my intention to prevent the process, and I am quite happy for us to proceed with this debate, since there will be an opportunity for us to discuss this in the health committee in the future.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** A oes unrhyw bwyntiau pellach o drefn? Gwelaf nad oes. Diolch i'r Aelod am roi rhybudd ymlaen llaw am hyn. Mae Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31.5 yn glir am yr angen i Weinidog ymgynghori ag unrhyw bwyllgor Cynulliad perthnasol wrth baratoi adroddiad ar ddichonoldeb y cynnig am ddeddfwriaeth, y mae'n rhaid iddo ei osod ar yr adeg hon yn y broses. Ymddengys y gallai fod rhyw fath o gamddealltwriaeth yn yr achos hwn; nid wyf yn gwybod y manylion. Felly awgrymaf, yn y dyfodol, os bydd camddealltwriaeth ar ran Gweinidogion, y dylent sicrhau y caiff yr ymgynghori, fel sy'n ofynnol gan Reolau Sefydlog, ei sianeli drwy glerc y pwyllgor priodol. Dyna'r ffordd fwyaf diogel i wneud pethau bob amser er mwyn osgoi unrhyw anawsterau fel sydd gennym o'n blaenau. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn glir fy meddwl y gall y ddadl fynd yn ei blaen, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y gall unrhyw ymgynghori priodol ddigwydd wrth i'r broses barhau o lunio unrhyw ddeddfwriaeth o ganlyniad i'r ddadl.

I call on the Minister to propose the motion.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog i gynnig y cynnig.

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

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

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 31:*

*Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31:*

*1. welcomes the proposal set out in the motion tabled by Huw Lewis (NDM2837), debated and amended in Plenary on 15 March 2006;*

*1. yn croesawu'r argymhelliad yn y cynnig a gyflwynwyd gan Huw Lewis (NDM2837) ac a drafodwyd ac a ddiwygiwyd yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 15 Mawrth 2006;*

*2. notes the approach recommended in the feasibility report laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 31 May 2006, and the intention to develop secondary legislation and statutory guidance to give effect to it; and*

*2. yn nodi'r dull a argymhellwyd yn yr adroddiad dichonoldeb a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a e-bostiwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 31 Mai 2006, a'r bwriad i ddatblygu is-ddeddfwriaeth a chanllawiau statudol i'w roi ar waith; a*

*3. recommends that the National Assembly for Wales proceeds with the proposal. (NDM3072)*

*3. yn argymhell bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn bwrw ymlaen â'r argymhelliad. (NDM3072)*

Thank you for your ruling, Deputy Presiding Officer, and for the—

Diolch ichi am eich dyfarniad, Ddirprwy Lywydd, ac am y—

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Order. I think that it is just a formal proposal at this time, and then the Minister will reply to the debate. No, I am advised that you may speak if you wish.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Trefn. Credaf mai dim ond cynnig ffurfiol ydyw ar hyn o bryd, ac yna bydd y Gweinidog yn ymateb i'r ddadl. Na, fe'm cynghorir y cewch siarad os dymunwch wneud.

**Brian Gibbons:** I owe you a double debt of gratitude, Deputy Presiding Officer. I also thank the Chair of the Health and Social Services Committee. I must apologise for the fact that the Health and Social Services Committee was not adequately consulted on this matter. We have consulted extensively and widely on the issue, but, due to an oversight, we were not in a position to send the appropriate documentation to the committee. However, the fact that we have agreed to proceed with this matter is very appropriate in the light of what we heard following the report by Gwenda Thomas, 'Keeping Us Safe', and our votes under the last item.

**Brian Gibbons:** Yr wyf yn ddyledus ichi ddwywaith, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Diolch hefyd i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Rhaid imi ymddiheuro nad ymgynghorwyd â'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn ddigonol ar y mater hwn. Yr ydym wedi ymgynghori'n helaeth ac yn eang ar y mater, ond oherwydd diofalwch nid ydym mewn sefyllfa i anfon y dogfennau priodol at y pwyllgor. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ffaith ein bod wedi cytuno i barhau â'r mater hon yn briodol iawn yng ngolueni'r hyn a glywsom yn dilyn adroddiad gan Gwenda Thomas, 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel', a'n pleidleisiau o dan yr eitem ddiwethaf.

There is no doubt that the Assembly takes this issue extremely seriously. The support

Nid oes amheuaeth nad yw'r Cynulliad yn cymryd y mater hwn o ddifrif calon. Mae'r

that we had for the Government's amendment to Huw Lewis's original motion was clear evidence of that. As I said in that March Plenary, we want to bring forward a broader range of measures to strengthen and supplement what Huw proposed in his original motion.

The feasibility report, which was tabled on 31 March, sets out the framework for the changes that we intend to make through regulation and statutory guidance. In developing these proposals, we have listened to the concerns of individual Members and engaged in extensive consultation; unfortunately, that consultation was not with the Health and Social Services Committee, but with other people, including the Welsh Local Government Association and the Children's Commissioner for Wales. I think that everybody who has responded to the motion has done so in positive terms, though there have been a number of practical suggestions for ways in which the arrangements could be improved.

There have been strong representations to ensure that looked-after children have timely access to specialist secondary care service and that a greater role should be provided for local health boards, particularly in resourcing specialist services. I know that there have been particular concerns about the child and adolescent mental health service, where early intervention is vital to prevent the onset of physical and mental problems that are all too common in looked-after children. Often, it is the failure to take early action that leads to further deterioration in the child's prospects of getting a better start in life. It also creates a false economy given the subsequent requirements for remedial action.

The changes that we propose place greater responsibility on local health boards for health service provision. Too often, treatment for children placed outside their local authority area is delayed or refused because of conflicts between local health boards as to who should fund the care. To stop this practice, we will issue guidance later this summer to require local health boards in the

gefnogaeth a gawsom ar gyfer gwelliant y Llywodraeth i gynnig gwreiddiol Huw Lewis yn dystiolaeth amlwg o hynny. Fel y dywedais yn y Cyfarfod Llawn hwnnw ym mis Mawrth, yr ydym am gyflwyno ystod ehangach o fesurau i atgyfnerthu ac ategu'r hyn a gynigiwyd gan Huw yn ei gynnig gwreiddiol.

Mae'r adroddiad dichonoldeb, a gyflwynwyd ar 31 Mawrth, yn gosod allan y fframwaith ar gyfer y newidiadau y bwriadwn eu gwneud drwy reoleiddio a chanllawiau statudol. Wrth ddatblygu'r cynigion hyn, yr ydym wedi gwrandao ar bryderon Aelodau unigol ac wedi ymgynghori'n helaeth; yn anffodus, nid â'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol y bu'r ymgynghori hwnnw, ond â phobl eraill, gan gynnwys Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a Chomisiynydd Plant Cymru. Credaf fod pawb sydd wedi ymateb i'r cynnig wedi gwneud hynny'n gadarnhaol, er bod nifer o awgrymiadau ymarferol wedi'u cyflwyno am ffyrdd y gellid gwella'r trefniadau.

Cafwyd sylwadau cryf i sicrhau bod plant sy'n cael gofal yn gallu manteisio ar wasanaeth gofal eilaidd arbenigol yn amserol, ac y dylai byrddau iechyd lleol gael rhan fwy blaenllaw, yn arbennig wrth ddarparu adnoddau ar gyfer gwasanaethau arbenigol. Gwn fod pryderon penodol wedi bod ynghylch gwasanaeth iechyd meddwl plant a'r glasoed, lle mae ymyrryd yn gynnwys yn hanfodol i atal problemau corfforol a phroblemau meddyliol, sydd lawer yn rhy gyffredin ymhlith plant sy'n cael gofal. Yn aml, y methiant i weithredu'n gynnwys sy'n arwain at ddirywiad pellach yn rhagolygon y plentyn o gael dechrau gwell mewn bywyd. Mae hefyd yn creu syniad o arbedion ffug o gofio'r gofynion dilynol am gamau gweithredu adferol.

Mae'r newidiadau a gynigiwn yn rhoi mwy o gyfrifoldeb i fyrddau iechyd lleol ddarparu gwasanaethau iechyd. Yn rhy aml, caiff triniaeth ar gyfer plant sydd wedi eu lleoli y tu allan i hardal eu hawdurdod lleol ei hoedi neu ei gwrthod oherwydd gwrthdaro rhwng byrddau iechyd lleol ynglŷn â phwy ddylai ariannu'r gofal. I atal yr arfer hwnnw, byddwn yn cyhoeddi canllawiau yn

placing authority to fund secondary care services for children who are placed outside their area. In the longer term, the proposed change will form part of the regional reconfiguration of secondary care and the new framework for commissioning, which, hopefully, we will be able to bring forward in April 2007. The changes are also in line with parallel developments that are taking place, consistent with the principles of 'Designed for Life'. We are keen that these requirements will not end up just being a paper exercise.

We will require robust monitoring to ensure that health and educational inequalities are tackled and that comprehensive health assessments and service arrangements are put in place before a child is placed out of area. Robust systems will need to be developed to ensure that children are registered with general medical practitioners and that their medical records follow them promptly. Local health boards will be required to hold information on all the looked-after children for whom they are responsible, including those placed out of area and those who come to settle in their areas.

We will also make parallel changes to strengthen education provision for looked-after children. Similarly, we will seek to secure improvements across a range of services for care leavers. The quality of service is reliant upon a skilled workforce and that is essential, particularly for children placed in residential accommodation. We are therefore disappointed at the pace of progress in some children's homes, which has recently been highlighted in the regulator's report. We hope that these changes will spur on developments and drive up the quality of care that is available in children's homes. To that end, the social care workforce development programme will prioritise training for staff working in children's homes, to ensure compliance with these national occupational standards. We know that Members wish to see timely changes and believe that, in many instances, these are overdue. I hope that, by moving forward today and supporting this resolution, we will be able to achieve that.

ddiweddarach yn yr haf eleni i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i fyrddau iechyd lleol yn yr awdurdod lleol ariannu gwasanaethau gofal eilaidd ar gyfer plant sydd wedi eu lleoli y tu allan i'w hardal. Yn y tymor hwy, bydd y newid arfaethedig yn rhan o'r broses o ailgyflunio gofal eilaidd yn rhanbarthol, a'r fframwaith newydd ar gyfer comisiynu y byddwn, gobeithio, yn gallu ei gyflwyno ym mis Ebrill 2007. Mae'r newidiadau hefyd yn unol â datblygiadau cyfochrog sy'n mynd rhagddynt, yn gyson ag egwyddorion 'Cynllun Oes'. Yr ydym yn awyddus i'r gofynion hyn fod yn fwy na ymarfer papur yn unig.

Bydd arnom angen systemau monitro cadarn i sicrhau mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau o ran iechyd ac addysg, a bod asesiadau iechyd a threfniadau gwasanaeth cynhwysfawr ar waith cyn lleoli plentyn y tu allan i'r ardal. Bydd angen datblygu systemau cadarn i sicrhau bod plant yn cael eu cofrestru gyda meddygon teulu, a bod eu cofnodion meddygol yn eu dilyn yn brydlon. Bydd yn ofynnol i fyrddau iechyd lleol gadw gwybodaeth am yr holl blant sy'n cael gofal y maent yn gyfrifol amdanynt, gan gynnwys rhai wedi eu lleoli y tu allan i'r ardal a'r rheini sy'n dod i ymsefydlu yn eu hardaloedd.

Byddwn hefyd yn gwneud newidiadau cyfochrog i atgyfnerthu'r ddarpariaeth addysg ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal. Yn yr un modd, byddwn yn ceisio sicrhau gwelliannau mewn amrywiaeth o wasanaethau ar gyfer y rheini sy'n gadael gofal. Mae ansawdd gwasanaeth yn dibynnu ar weithlu medrus, ac mae hynny'n hanfodol, yn arbennig ar gyfer plant sy'n cael eu lleoli mewn llety preswyl. Mae cyflymdra'r cynnydd mewn rhai cartrefi plant yn ein siomi, felly, a thynnwyd sylw at hyn yn ddiweddar yn adroddiad y rheoleiddiwr. Gobeithio y bydd y newidiadau hyn yn ysgogi datblygiadau ac yn gwella ansawdd y gofal sydd ar gael mewn cartrefi plant. I'r perwyl hwnnw, bydd y rhaglen i ddatblygu'r gweithlu gofal cymdeithasol yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i hyfforddi staff sy'n gweithio mewn cartrefi plant, er mwyn sicrhau cydymffurfio â'r safonau galwedigaethol cenedlaethol hyn. Gwyddom fod Aelodau am weld newidiadau amserol, a chredwn, mewn

llawer enghraifft, ei bod yn hen bryd gweithredu'r rhain. Gobeithio y byddwn yn gallu gwneud hynny drwy symud ymlaen heddiw a chefnogi'r cynnig hwn.

**Huw Lewis:** I am grateful for Brian's comments and for the work that has been put in by his officials and experts in the field, who have advised the Assembly Government and me on this most important of issues. I would hope that the proposals put forward today allay some of the scepticism expressed by some Members regarding the original Government amendment. I thank all Members for voting through the initial motion and allowing us to get this far.

**Huw Lewis:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Brian am ei sylwadau ac am y gwaith a wnaed gan ei swyddogion ac arbenigwyr yn y maes, sydd wedi cynghori Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a minnau ar y mater hynod bwysig hwn. Gobeithio bod y cynigion a gyflwynir heddiw yn lleddfu rhai o'r amheuan a fynegwyd gan rai Aelodau am welliant gwreiddiol y Llywodraeth. Diolch i'r holl Aelodau am dderbyn y cynnig gwreiddiol ac am ganiatáu inni ddod mor bell â hyn.

4.20 p.m.

I believe that the proposals put forward are a genuine and well thought-out response to the continuing problems experienced by vulnerable children in accessing proper healthcare and education that is worthy of the name. There is no need, at this stage, to restate the case for changing how we protect the interests of looked-after children. That was covered in some detail during the first debate, and anyway, by now, Assembly Members are all too aware of the facts and figures that enumerate our failures as corporate parents.

Credaf fod y cynigion a gyflwynir yn ymateb diffuant ac ystyriol i'r problemau parhaus a plant diamddiffyn wrth geision cael gofal iechyd ac addysg briodol sy'n deilwng o'r enw. Nid oes angen ailddatgan, ar hyn o bryd, yr achos dros newid y ffordd yr ydym yn diogelu buddiannau plant sy'n cael gofal. Cynhwyswyd hynny'n lled fanwl yn ystod y ddadl gyntaf, a sut bynnag, erbyn hyn mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn ymwybodol iawn o'r ffeithiau a'r ffigurau sy'n arwydd o'n methiannau fel rhieni corfforaethol.

The one figure that I repeat is that pertaining to Denmark's record in this area, where more than half of looked-after children go on to access higher education after experiencing a different and far more holistic, pedagogic model of looked-after child care. That is the gold standard on which we must ultimately set our sights, in my opinion. If we aim for anything lower than what is proven can be done in that instance, we will fail again as corporate parents. Achieving this ultimate goal will require a complete rethink of how resources are used at the local level. Excellent work is being undertaken by some looked-after children teams in Wales, but in terms of reaching the standard visible in, for instance, Scandinavia, we remain at base camp. That is not a criticism of the team's work to date at all; rather, it is a call for us in Government and local authorities to develop a better approach to helping vulnerable children. It is apt that we have also discussed

Y ffigur yr wyf yn ei ailadrodd yw'r ffigur hwnnw sy'n ymwneud â record Denmarc yn y maes hwn, lle mae mwy na hanner y plant sy'n cael gofal yn mynd ymlaen i gael addysg uwch ar ôl cael profiad o fodel pedagogiaidd gwahanol a llawer mwy cyfannol o ofal i blant sy'n cael gofal. Honno yw'r safon euraid y mae'n rhaid inni anelu ati yn y pen draw, yn fy marn i. Os anelwn at unrhyw beth sy'n is na'r hyn y profwyd y gellir ei wneud yn yr achos hwnnw, byddwn yn methu eto fel rhieni corfforaethol. Bydd angen ailystyried yn llwyr sut y defnyddir adnoddau'n lleol er mwyn cyflawni'r nod hwn yn y pen draw. Gwneir gwaith ardderchog gan rai timau plant sy'n cael gofal yng Nghymru, ond o ran cyrraedd y safon yn Llychlyn, er enghraifft, megis dechrau yr ydym. Nid beirniadaeth yw hynny o waith y tîm hyd yma; yn hytrach, mae'n alwad arnom ni yn y Llywodraeth ac mewn awdurdodau lleol i ddatblygu dull gwell i



Gwenda Thomas's excellent and important review today.

I will return to the matter of the rethink required shortly. Before that, I will briefly look at the proposals presented today. Placing the child at the centre of every decision made by local authorities is an excellent starting point. There are those who would argue that that is already the case, but it needs to be restated. This priority should not just be at the fore on a Friday night when an emergency placement is being urgently decided, but throughout the council's work every day. If, on such a Friday night, a local authority is forced to make a placement out of county, on the following Monday morning, it should be working to ensure that that does not happen again by identifying which services are missing locally. I hope that the proposed placement panel will have a vital role to play in this regard.

Broadly, the proposals set out a series of improvements that will ensure: that a child is placed close to home, if possible, and that only extenuating circumstances would prevent that; that health and education needs are properly established before placement; that more information is passed on to corporate parents more regularly about the progress and welfare of their looked-after children; that children's homes are better staffed; that a lead person will be given the authority to co-ordinate the health and education services necessary for the looked-after child; that sensible funding regulations will, again, encourage local authorities to place children locally; that closer working arrangements between specialist nurses and GPs on health assessments will come about; that local health boards are formally locked in to the process for the first time; and that a more robust system of transferring health information when a child is moved—a vital element, if these proposals succeed—will also come to pass. Crucially, they will ensure that we offer support to ensure that the health and education needs are not neglected once a child leaves care. This represents a comprehensive response to the concerns that Assembly Members have expressed, and I understand that they have also been broadly

helpu plant diamddiffyn. Mae'n briodol hefyd ein bod wedi trafod adolygiad ardderchog a phwysig Gwenda Thomas heddiw.

Byddaf yn dychwelyd at yr hyn y mae'n rhaid ei ailystyried maes o law. Cyn hynny, edrychaf yn gyflym ar y cynigion a gyflwynir heddiw. Mae sicrhau bod y plentyn yn ganolog i bob penderfyniad a wneir gan awdurdodau lleol yn fan cychwyn gwych. Byddai rhai'n dadlau mai dyna sy'n digwydd eisoes, ond mae angen ei ailddatgan. Nid ar nos Wener yn unig, pan benderfynir ar frys ar leoliad mewn argyfwng, y dylai'r flaenoriaeth hon fod yn amlwg: dylai fod yn amlwg yng ngwaith y cyngor bob dydd. Os bydd awdurdod, ar nos Wener fel hynny, yn gorfod lleoli plentyn y tu allan i'r sir, ar y bore Llun canlynol dylai fod yn gweithio i sicrhau na fydd hynny'n digwydd eto drwy nodi pa wasanaethau sydd ar goll yn lleol. Gobeithio y bydd gan y panel lleoli arfaethedig ran allweddol yn hyn.

Yn gyffredinol, yr oedd y cynigion yn gosod allan gyfres o welliannau a fydd yn sicrhau: bod plentyn yn cael ei leoli yn agos at ei gartref, os yw'n bosibl, ac mai amgylchiadau eithriadol yn unig a fyddai'n atal hynny; bod anghenion iechyd ac addysg yn cael eu sefydlu'n briodol cyn lleoli'r plentyn; bod mwy o wybodaeth yn cael ei rhoi i rieni corfforaethol yn fwy rheolaidd ynghylch cynnydd a lles y plant sy'n cael gofal ganddynt; bod cartrefi plant yn cael eu staffio'n well; bod yr awdurdod yn cael ei roi i berson arweiniol gydgysylltu'r gwasanaethau iechyd ac addysg angenrheidiol ar gyfer y plentyn sy'n cael gofal; y bydd rheoliadau ariannu synhwyrol, unwaith eto, yn annog awdurdodau lleol i leoli plant yn lleol; y bydd trefniadau gweithio agosach rhwng nyrsys arbenigol a meddygon teulu ar gyfer asesiadau iechyd; bod byrddau iechyd lleol yn cael eu cynnwys yn ffurfiol yn y broses am y tro cyntaf; ac y bydd system gadarnach hefyd o drosglwyddo gwybodaeth iechyd pan gaiff plentyn ei symud—elfen hanfodol, os bydd y cynigion hyn yn llwyddo. Yn allweddol, byddant yn sicrhau ein bod yn cynnig cymorth i sicrhau na chaiff anghenion iechyd ac addysg eu hesgeuluso pan fydd plentyn yn gadael gofal. Mae hyn yn ymateb cynhwysfawr i'r

welcomed by local government and children in Wales.

I hope that the lack of amendments tabled to the motion signals broad support for the proposals, and I hope for a swift but comprehensive consultation process that will ensure that partners are confident about this opportunity to better help society's most vulnerable children.

I mentioned the need for a rethink of our expenditure on children more generally, and I will finish on that point. Although it is a step forward, really, we are talking about firefighting. The feasibility report presented today rightly calls the decision to place a child in local authority care,

'the most profound decision that the courts and local authorities will make'.

We cannot consider the crises experienced by looked-after children without considering how to ensure that fewer children are in that situation in future.

The importance of early intervention and preventative schemes cannot be overstated. I am thankful to Leighton Andrews for pointing out to me the success story of the On Track pilot scheme in the Rhondda, which has profoundly affected my thinking on the subject. There are similar schemes in operation elsewhere, and this genuinely proactive multi-agency approach gets to kids before crisis hits. This approach keeps children in families, in schools and it keeps them healthy and safe. For what it delivers, it is astonishingly cheap. This has grown into my proposal for a dignity for children programme as part of Labour's child poverty action plan, as discussed at the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee.

Therefore, this Standing Order No. 31 proposal is just a beginning. I hope that it leads to a general change in our aspirations as corporate parents for our children in our care.

pryderon y mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi'u mynegi, a deallaf eu bod hefyd wedi'u croesawu'n gyffredinol gan lywodraeth leol a phlant yng Nghymru.

Gobeithio bod y diffyg gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd i'r cynnig yn arwydd o gefnogaeth eang i'r cynigion, a gobeithio y bydd proses ymgynghori gyflym ond cynhwysfawr a fydd yn sicrhau bod partneriaid yn hyderus ynglŷn â'r cyfle hwn i roi mwy o help i'r plant mwyaf diamddiffyn mewn cymdeithas.

Soniais fod angen ailystyried ein gwariant ar blant yn fwy cyffredinol, a byddaf yn gorffen ar y pwynt hwnnw. Er ei fod yn gam ymlaen, yr ydym mewn gwirionedd yn siarad am ddatrys problemau wrth iddynt godi. Mae'r adroddiad dichonoldeb a gyflwynir heddiw yn briodol ddigon yn dweud mai'r penderfyniad i leoli plentyn yng ngofal awdurdod lleol

yw'r penderfyniad mwyaf difrifol y bydd y llysoedd ac awdurdodau lleol yn ei wneud.

Ni allwn ystyried yr argyfyngau sy'n wynebu plant sy'n cael gofal heb ystyried sut i sicrhau bod llai o blant yn y sefyllfa honno yn y dyfodol.

Ni ellir gorbwysleisio pwysigrwydd ymyrryd yn gynnar a chynlluniau ataliol. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Leighton Andrews am dynnu fy sylw at lwyddiant cynllun peilot 'On Track' yn Rhondda, sydd wedi effeithio ar fy ffordd o feddwl am y pwnc yn sylweddol. Mae cynlluniau tebyg ar waith mewn mannau eraill, ac mae'r dull amlasiantaeth rhagweithiol hwn yn cysylltu â phlant cyn iddynt wynebu'r argyfwng. Mae'r dull hwn yn sicrhau bod plant yn aros gyda theuluoedd ac mewn ysgolion, ac mae'n sicrhau eu bod yn iach ac yn ddiogel. Am yr hyn y mae'n ei gyflawni, mae'n syndod o rad. Mae hyn wedi datblygu i fod yn rhan o'm cynnig i gael rhaglen urddas i blant fel rhan o gynllun gweithredu Llafur ar dlodi plant, fel y trafodwyd yn y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio.

Felly, dim ond dechrau yw'r cynnig hwn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31. Gobeithio y bydd yn arwain at newid cyffredinol yn ein dyheadau fel rhieni corfforaethol ar gyfer ein

plant yn ein gofal.

**Helen Mary Jones:** Plaid Cymru—the Party of Wales is content to support the motion and the overall approach as set out in the feasibility report. As has been stated, we regret that this has not been taken to committee in the usual way, but we accept the Minister's apology. In that context, will the Minister make a further contribution or is he prepared to commit to taking the detailed guidance and legislation to committee at another time so that we have an opportunity to look in more detail at the implementation?

**Helen Mary Jones:** Mae Plaid Cymru yn fodlon cefnogi'r cynnig a'r dull cyffredinol fel y mae wedi ei osod allan yn yr adroddiad dichonoldeb. Fel y dywedwyd, yr ydym yn flin na thrafodwyd hyn yn y pwyllgor yn y ffordd arferol, ond derbyniwn ymddiheuriadau'r Gweinidog. Yn y cyddestun hwnnw, a wnaiff y Gweinidog gyfraniad pellach, neu a yw'n fodlon ymrwymo i gyflwyno'r canllawiau manwl a'r ddeddfwriaeth yn y pwyllgor ar adeg arall, er mwyn inni gael cyfle i ystyried y broses weithredu'n fanylach?

We are grateful to Huw Lewis for bringing the legislation forward that has moved this issue up the agenda, and we support what he said at the end of his speech about preventative work and this being the first step. As he said, there is no need for us to reiterate how we, as a nation, are failing to look after our looked-after children. We all acknowledge that, as well as the fact that it amounts to a national disgrace. I must express some frustration, echoing some of the comments of Janet Ryder and others in the previous debate, that, seven years after the Assembly's inception and the political consensus on these issues, we have made little progress. Having said that, the report before us sets out a way forward that we can support.

Yr ydym yn ddiolchgar i Huw Lewis am gyflwyno'r ddeddfwriaeth sydd wedi rhoi lle mwy blaenllaw i'r mater hwn ar yr agenda, a chefnogwn yr hyn a ddywedodd ar ddiwedd ei araith am waith ataliol ac mai'r cam cyntaf yw hwn. Fel y dywedodd, nid oes angen inni ailadrodd y modd yr ydym ni, fel cenedl, yn methu â gofalu am ein plant sy'n cael gofal. Yr ydym i gyd yn cydnabod hynny, yn ogystal â'r ffaith ei fod yn warth cenedlaethol. Rhaid imi fynegi rhywfaint o rwystredigaeth, gan adleisio rhai o sylwadau Janet Ryder ac eraill yn y ddatl flaenorol, nad ydym wedi gwneud llawer o gynnydd, saith mlynedd ar ôl sefydlu'r Cynulliad a'r consensws gwleidyddol ar y materion hyn. Wedi dweud hynny, mae'r adroddiad ger ein bron yn gosod allan ffordd ymlaen y gallwn ei chefnogi.

I wish to put on record some specific concerns that I hope the Government will address—if not today, if the Minister is not speaking again, through further discussions in the committee. We want to be clear that the original proposal of the annual health checks will go ahead. My reading of the situation is that it will, but we would not want to lose the simple proposal in the context of a more complex implementation.

Hoffwn gofnodi rhai pryderon penodol y gobeithiaf y bydd y Llywodraeth yn mynd i'r afael â hwy—os nad heddiw, os na fydd y Gweinidog yn siarad eto, yna drwy drafodaethau pellach yn y pwyllgor. Yr ydym am fod yn glir y bydd y cynnig gwreiddiol ar gyfer yr archwiliadau iechyd blynyddol yn mynd yn ei flaen. O'r hyn a ddeallaf, bydd yn mynd yn ei flaen, ond ni fyddem am golli'r cynnig syml yng nghyd-destun proses weithredu fwy cymhleth.

I wish to refer to the cost implications of introducing the proposals, particularly in health. Will the Minister ensure that they are met? I have a particular concern, as we all have, about child and adolescent mental health services. There is a need for major investment, as it is a major failure. If services

Dymunaf gyfeirio at y goblygiadau cost wrth gyflwyno'r cynigion, yn arbennig ym maes iechyd. A wnaiff y Gweinidog sicrhau y cânt eu talu? Yr wyf yn pryderu'n arbennig, fel yr ydym bob un, ynghylch gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl plant a'r glasoed. Mae angen buddsoddiad mawr, gan ei fod yn fethiant

are not provided near to children's homes, we risk perpetuating the situation of having a child fostered or placed in a children's home near a specialist service, which may not be the best thing for the child in every other way. We must see some serious commitment from the Assembly Government to address this issue. It is an area where we have heard a lot of warm words, but, as the children's commissioner has clearly set out, the failure remains a grave concern.

We welcome the principle of the money following the child in health, as it does in other fields in Wales. It will make sense and it will lift a burden from some local health boards. We support that strongly, but there is an issue about how it affects placements from England. Some of us who were in the Welsh Local Government Association briefing heard reference to Powys. I am aware of a substantial number of children in Carmarthenshire who are placed with foster families there by local authorities in England. The Minister has no jurisdiction in that area, but he may wish to take the issue up with his counterparts in the UK Government. No-one would say that we would not welcome these children if these were the best placements for them—although many of us have concerns about children being placed so far away from home—but we need to ensure that services for our own local children are not adversely affected by the pressure put on them by a lack of funding for children coming from outside. We have dealt with this issue in Wales; perhaps the Minister could look at an approach to deal with it across the border.

4.30 p.m.

I also raise the issue of seeking qualified staff to work in children's homes. We would all support that as absolutely right. However, the Welsh Local Government Association has some concerns about the effect that that might have in the short term on recruitment. It has asked us to put to the Minister the possibility of providing ongoing training for the staff who are already employed, rather

mawr. Os na ddarperir gwasanaethau yn agos at gartrefi plant, yr ydym yn wynebu'r risg o barhau'r sefyllfa lle caiff plentyn ei faethu neu ei leoli mewn cartref plant sy'n agos at wasanaeth arbenigol, ond efallai nad hynny yw'r peth gorau i'r plentyn ym mhob agwedd arall. Rhaid inni weld ymrwymiad o ddirif gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn. Mae'n faes lle yr ydym wedi clywed llawer o eiriau cynnes, ond fel y mae'r comisiynydd plant wedi ei osod allan yn glir, mae'r methiant yn dal yn bryder difrifol.

Yr ydym yn croesawu'r egwyddor fod yr arian yn dilyn y plentyn ym maes iechyd, fel y mae mewn meysydd eraill yng Nghymru. Bydd yn gwneud synnwyr, a bydd yn lleddfu'r baich sydd ar rai byrddau iechyd lleol. Cefnogwn hynny'n gryf, ond mae yna broblem o ran y modd y mae hynny'n effeithio ar leoliadau o Loegr. Clywodd rhai ohonom a oedd yn sesiwn friffio Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru gyfeiriad at Bowys. Gwn am nifer fawr o blant yn sir Gaerfyrddin sy'n cael eu lleoli gyda theuluoedd maeth yno gan awdurdodau lleol yn Lloegr. Nid oes gan y Gweinidog unrhyw awdurdodaeth yn y maes hwnnw, ond efallai yr hoffai godi'r mater gyda'i gyd-weinidogion yn Llywodraeth y DU. Ni fyddai neb yn dweud na fyddem yn croesawu'r plant hyn os y rhain oedd y lleoliadau gorau iddynt—er bod nifer ohonom yn pryderu ynglŷn â lleoli plant mor bell o'u cartrefi—ond mae angen inni sicrhau nad yw'r pwysau a roddir ar wasanaethau ar gyfer ein plant lleol ein hunain oherwydd prinder arian ar gyfer plant sy'n dod o'r tu allan yn cael effaith andwyol ar y gwasanaethau hynny. Yr ydym wedi mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yng Nghymru; efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog ystyried dull i fynd ag afael ag ef dros y ffin.

Hoffwn hefyd godi mater chwilio am staff cymwysedig i weithio mewn cartrefi plant. Byddem i gyd yn cefnogi bod hynny'n hollol iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn pryderu ychydig am yr effaith y gallai hynny ei chael yn y tymor byr ar recriwtio. Mae wedi gofyn inni gyflwyno i'r Gweinidog y posibilrwydd o ddarparu hyfforddiant parhaus i'r staff sydd

than insisting that local authorities can only recruit. There will be some ambivalence about that because children in children's homes deserve the best qualified staff, and the best staff possible, but we do not want local authorities to face a situation in which they cannot recruit and appropriate placements are lost.

I hope that the voices of children and young people have been heard in the wide consultation that has taken place and that this approach has been endorsed, in particular, by Voices from Care Cymru, the organisation for and of young people who are in, or have recently left, the looked-after system. It is important that we learn, above all, from their experience.

The approach set out before us today is challenging. It will demand additional resources and a major rethink about the way in which resources are used in some situations. Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales will welcome the opportunity to work with the Minister to get the detailed guidance and the legislation right. We urge him to do that as quickly as possible because looked-after children have been waiting a long time for this.

**Karen Sinclair:** I begin by adding my voice to those who have signalled support for Huw Lewis's Standing Order No. 31 motion and for the Assembly Government in taking this issue forward with its amendment. The wider consultation that is being undertaken with its partners in local government, local health boards, social services and the voluntary sector on dealing with looked-after children is helpful and I welcome the efforts of all concerned.

The proposal will, I hope, enable us to further cement a holistic, multi-agency approach to dealing with looked-after children in Wales. An annual review would provide a starting point for a partnership approach between health workers, mental health teams, social workers, school nurses and others to provide the best care for looked-after children.

I particularly welcome the move to enhance

eisoes yn cael eu cyflogi, yn hytrach na mynnu mai dim ond recriwtio a all awdurdodau lleol. Bydd rhywfaint o ansicrwydd ynghylch hynny oherwydd bod plant mewn cartrefi plant yn haeddu cael y staff mwyaf cymwys, a'r staff gorau posibl. Ond nid ydym am i awdurdodau lleol wynebu sefyllfa lle na allant recriwtio a lle caiff lleoliadau priodol eu colli.

Gobeithio bod lleisiau plant a phobl ifanc wedi cael eu clywed yn yr ymgynghori eang a gynhaliwyd, a bod yr ymagwedd hon wedi'i chymeradwyo, yn benodol, gan Voices from Care Cymru, y sefydliad pobl ifanc ac ar gyfer pobl ifanc sydd yn y system gofal neu sydd newydd ei gadael. Mae'n bwysig inni ddysgu, yn anad dim, o'u profiad hwy.

Mae'r dull sydd wedi ei osod allan o'n blaenau heddiw yn un heriol. Bydd yn galw am adnoddau ychwanegol, a bydd angen i bobl ailfeddwl am y ffordd y defnyddir adnoddau mewn rhai sefyllfaoedd. Bydd Plaid Cymru yn croesawu'r cyfle i weithio gyda'r Gweinidog i gael y canllawiau manwl a'r ddeddfwriaeth yn gywir. Yr ydym yn ei annog i wneud hynny mor gyflym â phosibl gan fod plant sy'n cael gofal wedi bod yn aros am hyn ers cryn amser.

**Karen Sinclair:** Dechreuaf drwy ychwanegu fy llais at y rheini sydd wedi galw ar bobl i gefnogi cynnig Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31 gan Huw Lewis, chynnig Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ddatblygu'r mater hwn gyda'i welliant. Mae'r ymgynghori ehangach gyda'i bartneriaid mewn llywodraeth leol, byrddau iechyd lleol, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a'r sector gwirfoddol ar ddelio â phlant sy'n cael gofal yn ddefnyddiol, ac yr wyf yn croesawu ymdrechion pawb dan sylw.

Gobeithio y bydd y cynnig yn ein galluogi i sicrhau dull cyfannol, amlasiantaeth ymhellach tuag at ddelio â phlant sy'n cael gofal yng Nghymru. Byddai adolygiad blynyddol yn fan cychwyn ar gyfer dull partneriaeth rhwng gweithwyr iechyd, timau iechyd meddwl, gweithwyr cymdeithasol, nysys ysgol ac eraill er mwyn darparu'r gofal gorau i blant sy'n cael gofal.

Hoffwn groesawu'n benodol y symudiad i

the mainstreaming of children looked after by local authorities. By naming a designated professional who will be responsible for co-ordinating the health assessment and the delivery of services for looked-after children, and by tying in the results of the annual health review with the health records held by general practitioners, as well as tracking the child while he or she is placed outside the local authority, we can retain closer control over the child's development.

These kinds of robust systems of tracking and monitoring the welfare of looked-after children have been sadly lacking in the care system in the recent past. I hope that the nature and extent of this welfare monitoring will be comprehensive and that it will be extended to other areas of looked-after children's lives, such as their educational attainment.

At a time when the educational results of children in Wales are improving, it cannot be acceptable that only 35 per cent of children in care achieve two or more GCSEs or their equivalent. It is a failure of the system. When opportunities to enter university are growing and young people's horizons and expectations are far wider and higher than when I was growing up, it is only right that we should demand the same for children in the care system.

This is just the first step. An annual health review is just a single point in the year, and merely sets out the next steps that need to be acted upon by the myriad of agencies involved in a child's life. All of these groups play a role in the care of a child and I would welcome any moves to ensure that this is done better, such as enhancing training for social workers to detect signs of abuse, ill health or mental problems. We talk often in this place about the rights of individual children and the need for those rights to be respected, but those rights are severely impeded if the children are not able to access the services that they so rightly deserve.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly welcome these changes. Good assessment and planning will ensure that looked-after children get the right

wella'r broses o gddod â phlant sy'n cael gofal gan awdurdodau lleol i mewn i'r brif ffrwd. Drwy enwi gweithiwr proffesiynol penodol a fydd yn gyfrifol am gydgyssylltu'r asesiad iechyd a'r broses o ddarparu gwasanaethau ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal, a thrwy gynnwys canlyniadau'r adolygiad iechyd blynyddol gyda'r cofnodion iechyd a gedwir gan feddygon teulu, yn ogystal ag olrhain y plentyn pan gaiff ei leoli y tu allan i'r awdurdod lleol, gallwn gadw rheolaeth fanylach dros ddatblygiad y plentyn.

Ni welwyd digon o'r mathau hyn o systemau cadarn o olrhain a monitro lles plant sy'n cael gofal yn y system gofal yn ddiweddar. Gobeithio y bydd natur a chwmpas y broses hon o fonitro lles yn gynhwysfawr ac y caiff ei hymestyn i gynnwys meysydd eraill ym mywydau plant sy'n cael gofal, fel eu cyrhaeddiad addysgol.

Ar adeg pan yw canlyniadau addysgol plant yng Nghymru yn gwella, nid yw'n dderbyniol mai 35 y cant yn unig o blant mewn gofal sy'n llwyddo mewn dau bwnc TGAU neu fwy neu gymwysterau cyfwerth. Mae'r system yn methu. Ar adeg pan yw'r cyfleoedd i fynd i brifysgol yn cynyddu a gorwelion a disgwyliadau pobl ifanc lawer yn ehangach ac yn uwch nag oeddent pan oeddwn i'n tyfu i fyny, dylem fynnu bod yr un peth yn wir i blant yn y system gofal.

Dim ond cam cyntaf yw hyn. Un cam yn ystod y flwyddyn yw'r adolygiad iechyd blynyddol, a'r unig beth a wna yw nodi'r camau nesaf y mae angen eu cymryd gan y myrdd o asiantaethau sy'n gysylltiedig â bywyd plentyn. Mae i'r holl grwpiau hyn ran yng ngofal plentyn, ac yr wyf yn croesawu unrhyw symudiadau i sicrhau gwneud hyn yn well, fel gwella hyfforddiant i weithwyr cymdeithasol allu gweld arwyddion o gam-drin, salwch neu broblemau meddwl. Byddwn yn aml yn trafod hawliau plant unigol a'r angen i'r hawliau hynny gael eu parchu, ond mae'r hawliau hynny'n cael eu llesteirio'n sylweddol os na all y plant gael y gwasanaethau y maent yn eu haeddu.

Felly, yr wyf yn croesawu'r newidiadau hyn yn llwyr. Bydd gwaith asesu a chynllunio da yn sicrhau bod plant sy'n cael gofal yn cael y

support when they need it most and I am sure that Members would see that as a welcome improvement on what has gone before.

**David Melding:** I commend Huw Lewis on his work in taking this forward. It is a most important area and Helen Mary Jones is right to say that, for the last seven years, we have spent quite a lot of time talking about it, and yet we are still in a situation in which the practical responses are not yet adequate or, indeed, do not give us grounds for hope that we may have significant advances in the near future. I am grateful to the somewhat miscreant Minister for responding with a fairly coherent set of proposals. Why on earth he forgot to consult the subject committee I have no earthly idea. I am sure that there was no malign intent, but it is a slightly depressing cameo of the Executive's relationship with the legislative functions of the Assembly.

What has inspired me most about what Huw Lewis has done is that he is challenging us to raise our aspirations and our ambitions for looked-after children. That is enormously important. He has come up with practical examples from Denmark, which seems to have much better procedures, as well as local initiatives such as the one that he described in the Rhondda—I have forgotten what it is called.

**Leighton Andrews:** You are welcome to visit that project.

**David Melding:** I will. I am delighted that the Member for the Rhondda has now given me a personal invitation to visit that project, which I shall certainly take him up on.

In the last 10 years, we have seen around a 100 per cent increase in the number of looked-after children. The growth in the number of looked-after children is astonishing. That rise is partly due to the fact we are not tolerant of abuse in the way in which we were in the past. Anything that happened at home was thought to be a domestic issue in which outside agencies

cymorth cywir pan fydd ei angen fwyaf, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai Aelodau yn ystyried bod hynny'n welliant ar yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd o'r blaen.

**David Melding:** Hoffwn longyfarch Huw Lewis ar ei waith yn datblygu hyn. Mae'n faes pwysig iawn, ac mae Helen Mary Jones yn llygad ei lle wrth ddweud ein bod, dros y saith mlynedd diwethaf, wedi treulio llawer o amser yn trafod hyn. Er hynny, yr ydym yn dal i fod mewn sefyllfa lle nad yw'r ymatebion ymarferol yn ddigonol neu, yn wir, lle nad ydynt yn rhoi gobaith inni y bydd pethau'n gwella'n sylweddol yn y dyfodol agos. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog anufudd hwn am ymateb gyda chyfres gymharol resymegol o gynigion. Ni wn sut yn y byd y bu iddo anghofio ymgynghori â'r pwyllgor pwnc. Yr wyf yn siŵr nad oedd ganddo unrhyw fwriad maleisus, ond mae'n ddarlun digalon braidd o berthynas y Weithrediaeth â swyddogaethau deddfu'r Cynulliad.

Yr hyn sydd wedi fy hysbrydoli fwyaf ynghylch yr hyn y mae Huw Lewis wedi ei wneud yw ei fod yn ein herio i ehangu ein dyheadau a'n huchelgeisiau ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal. Mae hynny'n hynod o bwysig. Mae wedi cyflwyno enghreifftiau ymarferol o Ddenmarc, lle yr ymddengys bod gweithdrefnau llawer gwell, yn ogystal â mentrau lleol fel yr un a ddisgrifiodd yn Rhondda—yr wyf wedi anghofio beth yw ei henw.

**Leighton Andrews:** Mae croeso ichi ymweld â'r prosiect hwnnw.

**David Melding:** Fe wnaf. Yr wyf wrth fy modd fod yr Aelod dros Rhondda yn awr wedi fy ngwahodd yn bersonol i ymweld â'r prosiect hwnnw, a byddaf yn siŵr o dderbyn y gwahoddiad.

Yn ystod y 10 mlynedd diwethaf, gwelwyd cynnydd o ryw 100 y cant yn nifer y plant sy'n cael gofal. Mae'r cynnydd yn nifer y plant sy'n cael gofal yn rhyfeddol. Mae'r cynnydd hwnnw'n rhannol o ganlyniad i'r ffaith nad ydym yn goddef cam-drin fel y byddem yn y gorffennol. Ystyrid bod unrhyw beth a ddigwyddai yn y cartref yn fater domestig ac na ddylai asiantaethau allanol

should not get involved. It is quite right that we no longer accept that. However, it is also the case that we do not do enough to support parents and guardians, and many children who come into the formal care system simply should not be there. We have to set targets so that we reduce the number of children in care, because the present levels are far too high. We need the best possible services for those children who, inevitably, will have to leave their parental home and will have to be cared for. As corporate parents, we have to set challenging targets for educational attainment and health. Health and wellbeing is hugely important. We know that looked-after children are far more likely, because of their past experiences and sometimes chaotic lifestyle, to suffer mental health problems. One of the most telling things that I was told—I cannot remember which lobbying organisation told me—was that, in one study, it was found that over half of the street prostitutes in Britain had been in the formal care system. That tells you all that you need to know about the outcomes for many people going through care. It is not acceptable. I will end as I began, by thanking the Member for using this ballot and this important procedure of backbench legislation for this subject.

**Jenny Randerson:** The Welsh Liberal Democrats will support this measure. One could not oppose it, because it is full of worthwhile and important issues that need to be tackled, and sensible approaches. It is a wide-ranging chance to improve our social services regulations. The proposals require a holistic approach, which has previously been lacking in the decision making in relation to children in care, that takes account of their health and education needs as well as their immediate family circumstances. It deals with social services, education services, local health boards and children's homes. However, I never cease to be amazed by the fact that the Welsh Assembly Government can never quite get it right when it comes to Standing Order No. 31 proposals. It has not got the hang of it yet. I do not want to rub the poor Minister's nose in it any further with regard to consulting with the Health and Social Services Committee, but having read the feasibility report on this issue with care, I

ymyrryd. Mae'n beth da na dderbynnir hynny bellach. Fodd bynnag, mae hefyd yn wir nad ydym yn gwneud digon i gynorthwyo rhieni a gwarcheidwaid, ac na ddylai nifer o'r plant sy'n cael eu derbyn i'r system gofal ffurfiol fod yno. Rhaid inni bennu targedau fel y gallwn leihau nifer y plant mewn gofal, oherwydd mae'r lefelau presennol lawer yn rhy uchel. Mae angen inni gael y gwasanaethau gorau posibl i'r plant hynny y bydd yn rhaid iddynt yn anochel adael cartref eu rhieni a chael gofal. Fel rhieni corfforaethol, rhaid inni bennu targedau heriol ar gyfer cyrhaeddiad addysgol ac iechyd. Mae iechyd a lles yn hynod bwysig. Gwyddom fod plant sy'n cael gofal lawer yn fwy tebygol, oherwydd eu profiadau yn y gorffennol a'u ffordd anhrefnus o fyw weithiau, o ddioddef problemau iechyd meddwl. Un o'r pethau mwyaf arwyddocaol a ddywedwyd wrthyf—ni allaf gofio pa sefydliad lobïo a ddywedodd wrthyf—oedd fod un astudiaeth wedi cael bod dros hanner puteiniaid y stryd ym Mhrydain wedi bod yn y system gofal ffurfiol. Mae hynny'n rhoi darlun clir o'r canlyniadau i lawer o bobl sy'n cael gofal. Nid yw'n dderbyniol. Hoffwn gloi fel y dechreuais, drwy ddiolch i'r Aelod am ddefnyddio'r bleidlais hon a'r weithdrefn bwysig hon yn neddfwriaeth y meinciau cefn ar gyfer y mater hwn.

**Jenny Randerson:** Bydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn cefnogi'r mesur hwn. Ni allai neb ei wrthwynebu, gan ei fod yn llawn materion gwerth chweil a phwysig y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hwy, a dulliau synhwyrol. Mae'n gyfle eang i wella ein rheoliadau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae ar y cynigion angen dull cyfannol na ddefnyddiwyd o'r blaen wrth wneud penderfyniadau mewn perthynas â phlant mewn gofal, ac sy'n ystyried eu hanghenion iechyd ac addysg yn ogystal ag amgylchiadau eu teulu agos. Mae'n ymdrin â gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, gwasanaethau addysg, byrddau iechyd lleol a chartrefi plant. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn synnu bob amser at y ffaith nad yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru byth yn cael pethau'n hollol gywir mewn perthynas â chynigion Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31. Nid yw wedi ei deall yn iawn eto. Nid wyf am barhau i feirniadu'r Gweinidog druan am beidio ag ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ond ar ôl



note that it goes into a great deal of detail on a number of issues.

darllen yr adroddiad dichonoldeb ar y mater hwn yn ofalus, sylwaf ei fod yn mynd i lawer o fanylder ar nifer o faterion.

4.40 p.m.

It introduces the need for looked-after children placed outside their own area to be registered with a GP, for example. Correct me if I am wrong, Minister, but I cannot find a reference anywhere to a requirement for an annual health review, which is where Huw Lewis's excellent proposal started. I find it quite difficult to follow, but the feasibility study mentions:

Mae'n cyflwyno'r angen i blant sy'n cael gofal y tu allan i'w hardal eu hunain gael eu cofrestru gyda meddyg teulu, er enghraifft. Mae croeso ichi fy nghywiro os wyf yn anghywir, Weinidog, ond ni allaf ddod o hyd i gyfeiriad yn unman at ofyniad am adolygiad iechyd blynyddol, sef lle y dechreuodd cynnig ardderchog Huw Lewis. Yr wyf yn ei chael yn ddigon anodd ei dilyn, ond mae'r astudiaeth ddichonoldeb yn sôn:

'Enhancements to existing provision for health assessments to extend the undertaking of initial assessments to include a registered nurse acting under supervision of the Registered General Medical Practitioner (RGMP) and to require more frequent assessment if the child's welfare requires it.'

Gwelliannau yn y ddarpariaeth bresennol ar gyfer asesiadau iechyd i ehangu'r gwaith o wneud asesiadau cychwynnol i gynnwys nyrs gofrestredig yn gweithredu o dan oruchwyliaeth yr Ymarferydd Meddygol Cyffredinol Cofrestredig, a gwneud asesiad amlach yn ofynnol os bydd ei angen er lles y plentyn.

That is not an annual health assessment. Maybe it is your intention to ensure such a review, but it is not in the feasibility study, whereas there is a lot more detail in there about other aspects, which is important. To be honest, it bears about as much relationship to Huw's original proposal as a Mars bar does to roast beef and Yorkshire pudding: they are both food, and they both stop you from feeling hungry, but they are not at all the same.

Nid asesiad iechyd blynyddol yw hynny. Efallai mai eich bwriad yw sicrhau adolygiad felly, ond nid yw yn yr astudiaeth ddichonoldeb, lle mae llawer mwy o fanylion am agweddau eraill, sy'n bwysig. A bod yn onest, mae mor debyg i gynnig gwreiddiol Huw ag yw bar o siocled Mars i gig eidion wedi'i rostio a phwdin Efrog: bwyd yw'r ddau, sy'n eich llenwi, ond nid ydynt yr un fath o gwbl.

Given that the Children Act 2004 requires guidance and legislation on this issue, I strongly suspect that this set of proposals was likely to come forward just as it is in any case. I shall look with interest at the difference between what we do here and what happens in England, and hope that Huw's proposal will have geed the Government up to take a stronger and more effective line in Wales than will be the case elsewhere.

O gofio bod Deddf Plant 2004 yn galw am ganllawiau a deddfwriaeth ar y mater hwn, yr wyf yn weddol sicr fod y gyfres hon o gynigion yn debygol o gael ei chyflwyno fel y mae beth bynnag. Bydd gennyf ddiddordeb mawr i weld y gwahaniaeth rhwng yr hyn a wnawn ni yma a'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr, a gobeithio y bydd cynnig Huw wedi rhoi hwb i'r Llywodraeth i ddefnyddio dull cryfach a mwy effeithiol yng Nghymru nag mewn man arall.

If this is to be carried properly, it has big implications for local health boards. There are also financial implications, probably for local government. However, local health boards will have to be given strong guidance

Er mwyn gwneud hyn yn iawn, bydd goblygiadau mawr i fyrddau iechyd lleol. Mae yna oblygiadau ariannol hefyd, i lywodraeth leol, mae'n debyg. Fodd bynnag, bydd angen rhoi canllawiau cadarn i fyrddau

to ensure that this is effective.

Some 900 children in Wales are placed in care outside of their home area each year. According to the statistics in our briefing, 281 of these children are placed outside of Wales. Twenty-five per cent of children in care are not registered with a GP—this is where Huw’s proposal is so important. Fifty-five per cent are not registered with a dentist, but that may be a separate issue, because perhaps there is no dentist to register with. The really serious statistic is that half of these children have some sort of mental disorder. We are failing our children in care and if these measures improve the situation, they are to be applauded. However, I ask the Minister to give us a strong assurance with regard to the timescale, because every month lost is a month of a child’s life that is being badly tarnished by the current system.

**David Lloyd:** I strongly support Huw Lewis’s original proposal to revise the general medical services contract to require GPs to carry out an annual health review for looked-after children. In the same way as Helen Mary Jones and Jenny Randerson, I would not want that to be lost in the Government amendment of Huw Lewis’s original proposal.

I have spoken about this proposal with fellow GPs in Swansea and they are all enthusiastic about the prospect of carrying out an annual health review of looked-after children, because we all feel that it is an area where we fail at present. We feel that we have little control over looked-after children because, half of the time, we do not know where they are. As GPs, we do not know where the looked-after children are in order to carry out a health check on them.

With that as a background, three points spring to mind, because I do not want to lose the emphasis on this annual health check, which might happen if we are so busily co-ordinating what everyone is doing in education and social services around all the counties and between countries. The annual health check, which is what Huw Lewis started off with, must not be lost.

iechyd lleol i sicrhau bod hyn yn effeithiol.

Caiff tua 900 o blant yng Nghymru eu rhoi mewn gofal y tu allan i ardal eu cartref bob blwyddyn. Yn ôl yr ystadegau yn ein nodyn briffio, caiff 281 o’r plant hyn eu lleoli y tu allan i Gymru. Nid yw 25 y cant o’r plant mewn gofal wedi’u cofrestru gyda meddyg teulu—dyma ble y mae cynnig Huw mor bwysig. Nid yw 55 y cant wedi cofrestru gyda deintydd, ond efallai fod hynny’n fater ar wahân, oherwydd efallai nad oes deintydd iddynt allu cofrestru ag ef. Yr ystadegau difrifol yw bod gan hanner y plant hyn ryw fath o anhwylder meddwl. Yr ydym yn methu ein plant mewn gofal, ac os bydd y mesurau hyn yn gwella’r sefyllfa, dylid eu croesawu. Fodd bynnag, gofynnaf i’r Gweinidog roi sicrwydd cryf inni o ran yr amserlen, oherwydd mae pob mis a gollir yn fis o fywyd plentyn yr effeithir arno’n andwyol gan y system bresennol.

**David Lloyd:** Cefnogaf yn gryf gynnig gwreiddiol Huw Lewis i ddiwygio’r contract gwasanaethau meddygol cyffredinol, i’w gwneud yn ofynnol i feddygon teulu wneud adolygiad iechyd blynyddol o blant sy’n cael gofal. Fel Helen Mary Jones a Jenny Randerson, ni fyddwn am weld hynny’n cael ei golli yng ngwelliant y Llywodraeth o gynnig gwreiddiol Huw Lewis.

Yr wyf wedi trafod y cynnig hwn gyda meddygon teulu eraill yn Abertawe ac mae pob un ohonynt yn edrych ymlaen at gael adolygiad iechyd blynyddol o blant sy’n cael gofal, oherwydd yr ydym bob un yn teimlo bod hwn yn faes lle yr ydym yn methu ar hyn o bryd. Teimlwn nad oes gennym lawer o reolaeth dros blant sy’n cael gofal, oherwydd hanner yr amser ni wyddom ble y maent. Fel meddygon teulu, ni wyddom ble y mae plant sy’n cael gofal er mwyn rhoi archwiliad iechyd iddynt.

Gyda hynny yn gefndir, hoffwn godi tri phwynt, gan nad wyf am golli’r pwyslais ar yr archwiliad iechyd blynyddol hwn. Gallai hynny ddigwydd os byddwn yn rhy brysur yn cydgysylltu’r hyn y mae pawb yn ei wneud mewn addysg a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ar draws y siroedd a rhwng gwledydd. Rhaid peidio â cholli’r archwiliad iechyd blynyddol, sef pwynt cyntaf Huw Lewis.

Under the GMS contract, there is a simple and funded mechanism by which this can happen; it is called the enhanced service provision. That could be a national enhanced service provision, directed from here by the Minister, or it could be a local enhanced service, but that would be more difficult to organise. However, that provision exists—the enhanced service provision exists under the new GP contract. Without that provision kicking in, this annual health check will not happen. If the enhanced service provision kicks in, it will happen—it is as simple as that, because it will be a contractual obligation, which will be funded. It will happen.

As others have mentioned, looked-after children deserve an annual health assessment, particularly in terms of their immunisation status, mental health assessment, sexual health and contraception assessments—where appropriate—and a dental assessment. Therefore, those are the sorts of things that we will be looking for in an annual health assessment. We must not lose track of those in the various complicated negotiations that are happening.

I was also present at the WLGA briefing over lunch. I reiterate my earlier point about the importance of GPs and the health service knowing where looked-after children are. We need local authority social services on board in a co-ordinated way, identifying those qualifying looked-after children, and transmitting that information to the LHBs and the GP practices involved. Otherwise, GPs will not know where these looked-after children are. As the Minister will recall, he said in March that over 27 per cent of looked-after children were not registered with a GP. Part of that reason is that we do not know where these children are. Social services may well know where they are, but the health sector does not. I would look for strong, early joint-working—after all, the Minister is the Minister for Health and Social Services—so that information about these children in social services is freely transmitted to the health sector. Without that, nothing will change, and we still will not know where these looked-after children are.

O dan y contract ar gyfer gwasanaethau meddygol cyffredinol, mae yna dull syml sy'n cael ei ariannu o wneud hyn, sef y ddarpariaeth gwasanaeth gwell. Gallai hynny fod yn ddarpariaeth gwasanaeth gwell cenedlaethol, yn cael ei arwain yma gan y Gweinidog, neu gallai fod yn wasanaeth lleol gwell, ond byddai hynny'n fwy anodd ei drefnu. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ddarpariaeth honno ar gael—mae'r gwasanaeth gwell ar gael o dan y contract newydd i feddygon teulu. Heb y ddarpariaeth honno, ni fydd yr archwiliad iechyd blynyddol hwn yn digwydd. Os daw'r gwasanaeth gwell i fodolaeth, bydd yn digwydd—mae mor syml â hynny, oherwydd bydd yn rhwymedigaeth gytundebol a gaiff ei hariannu. Bydd yn digwydd.

Fel y soniodd eraill, mae plant sy'n cael gofal yn haeddu asesiad iechyd blynyddol, yn arbennig o ran eu statws imiwneiddio, asesiad iechyd meddwl, iechyd rhyw ac asesiadau atal cenhedlu—lle mae'n briodol—ac asesiad deintyddol. Felly, dyna'r mathau o bethau y byddwn yn chwilio amdanynt mewn asesiad iechyd blynyddol. Rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio am y rheini yn yr amrywiol negodiadau cymhleth sy'n digwydd.

Yr oeddwn i hefyd yn bresennol yn sesiwn frifffio CLILC amser cinio. Pwysleisias fy mhwynt cynharach ei bod yn bwysig i feddygon a'r gwasanaeth iechyd wybod ble mae plant sy'n cael gofal. Mae angen inni gydgyssylltu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol awdurdodau lleol, gan nodi'r plant sy'n cael gofal ac sy'n gymwys, a throsglwyddo'r wybodaeth honno i'r BILlau a'r meddygfeydd perthnasol. Fel arall, ni fydd meddygon teulu yn gwybod ble mae'r plant hyn sy'n cael gofal. Fel y bydd y Gweinidog yn cofio, dywedodd ym mis Mawrth fod dros 27 y cant o blant a oedd yn cael gofal heb eu cofrestru gyda meddyg teulu. Rhan o'r rheswm hwnnw yw nad ydym yn gwybod ble mae'r plant hyn. Efallai fod gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn gwybod ble maent, ond nid yw'r sector iechyd yn gwybod. Byddwn yn annog cydweithio cadarn yn gynnar—wedi'r cyfan, y Gweinidog yw'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethol Cymdeithasol—er mwyn sicrhau y caiff gwybodaeth am y plant hyn mewn gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ei

throsoglwyddo'n rhydd i'r sector iechyd. Heb hynny, ni fydd dim yn newid, a byddwn yn dal mewn sefyllfa lle na wyddom ble y mae'r plant hyn sy'n cael gofal.

There is a significant challenge here for the Minister in the short term; as we have heard, we are seven years down the line, and we are still in this situation. I ask the Minister to seriously consider urgently funding a national direct enhanced service, so that these annual health checks can happen within a short timescale. We have dozens of enhanced services under the new GP contract—one more will make no difference; if it is funded and organised, it will happen quickly. I would also implore the Minister to ensure that we can get the information about looked-after children from social services to the GP practices. Do that, and all this will happen. We can talk about co-ordinating services between departments, until we are blue in the face, but we need to concentrate on Huw Lewis's original proposal, and get the annual health check done.

Mae her bwysig yma i'r Gweinidog yn y tymor byr; fel y clywsom, mae saith mlynedd wedi mynd heibio, ac yr ydym yn dal yn y sefyllfa hon. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ystyried o ddifrif ariannu gwasanaeth uniongyrchol cenedlaethol gwell, fel mater o frys, fel y gellir gwneud yr archwiliadau iechyd blynyddol hyn o fewn amserlen fer. Mae gennym lu o wasanaethau gwell o dan y contract newydd i feddygon teulu—ni fydd un arall yn gwneud dim gwahaniaeth; os caiff ei ariannu a'i drefnu, bydd yn digwydd yn gyflym. Erfyniaf ar y Gweinidog hefyd i sicrhau y gallwn drosglwyddo'r wybodaeth am blant sy'n cael gofal o wasanaethau cymdeithasol i feddygfeydd. Gwnewch hynny, a bydd hyn i gyd yn digwydd. Gallwn siarad am gydgyssylltu gwasanaethau rhwng adrannau faint a fynnwn, ond mae angen inni ganolbwyntio ar gynnig gwreiddiol Huw Lewis, a sicrhau bod yr archwiliad iechyd blynyddol yn digwydd.

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons):** On the last point, to be clear, there is no intention to remove the statutory duty to carry out the annual check, and, for under-5s, it needs to be twice annually. That was the initial point of departure. We need to make it clear to all Members that that is taken as a given. The only issue is how best to do it. Dai Lloyd mentioned some of the difficulties, or the options that would be open to us in pursuing that. Having looked at some of the evidence base on this, there is some evidence to suggest that, while a full health check is needed, other healthcare professionals may, in practice, provide a better and more holistic assessment for these children. Therefore, I would not, at this stage, want to enter into a commitment of enhanced services if there is evidence that some other healthcare practitioners might be better placed, on the basis of evidence, to give a more holistic assessment.

**Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons):** Ar y pwynt olaf, i fod yn glir, nid oes bwriad i ddileu'r ddyletswydd statudol i wneud yr archwiliad blynyddol, ac ar gyfer plant o dan 5 oed mae angen ei wneud ddwywaith y flwyddyn. Dyna'r man gwahanu cyntaf. Mae angen inni egluro wrth bob un o'r Aelodau y cymerir hynny'n ganiataol. Yr unig fater yw'r ffordd orau i'w wneud. Soniodd Dai Lloyd am rai o'r anawsterau, neu'r dewisiadau a fyddai'n agored inni wrth fynd ar drywydd hynny. Ar ôl ystyried ychydig o'r dystiolaeth am hyn, mae rhywfaint o dystiolaeth i awgrymu, er bod angen archwiliad iechyd llawn, y gall gweithwyr proffesiynol gofal iechyd eraill, yn ymarferol, ddarparu asesiad gwell a mwy cyfannol ar gyfer y plant hyn. Felly, ar hyn o bryd ni fyddwn am ymrwymo i wasanaethau gwell os oes tystiolaeth y gallai rhai ymarferwyr gofal iechyd eraill fod mewn sefyllfa well, ar sail tystiolaeth, i ddarparu asesiad mwy cyfannol.

4.50 p.m.

One of the problems with the GP Un o'r problemau gyda'r archwiliad meddyg

examination is that 20 per cent, possibly 25 per cent, of children are not registered with a GP. Therefore, you need this co-ordination to take place in the first instance. It is precisely because this co-ordination is not taking place that many of these children are not registering with a general medical practitioner or a dentist. However, regardless of who does the check, it is crucial that information on the child goes to the child's GP. We decide who is best to do the check and whoever is best should ensure that that is in the clinical record of the GP with all the other key stakeholders as well, if permission is given.

In his opening remarks, Huw made the point about how this work is being developed. One of the most positive developments, which the Welsh Local Government Association itself mentioned, has been the children's commissioning support resource. This is a real example of local government getting together across Wales and trying to map the provision for looked-after children, particularly the more specialist-type of service that might, in ordinary instances, result in a child being placed out of county or even out of country. Through the use of the children's commissioning support resource, we are now beginning to get to a stage at which this will not happen by default and where there will be an evidence base or a mapping facility in which children can be placed within county wherever possible. If they are being moved out of county, there are clear procedures in place, but, hopefully, that will be as close to children's own homes as possible. That will be decided at the highest level in individual local authorities.

David Melding always takes a very keen interest in these things and he hit the nail on the head when he spoke about addressing the increasing number of children who are coming into care. This is a real problem that we do not fully understand in all its complexity and dimensions. While the numbers are not increasing dramatically, they are increasing relatively more quickly here in Wales than in other parts of the United Kingdom. We must get to grips with that. Hopefully, the social services strategic directions paper, which we will be publishing in the next four to six weeks, will be one way

teulu yw nad yw 20 y cant, neu 25 y cant o bosibl, o blant wedi'u cofrestru gyda meddyg teulu. Felly, mae angen y cydgysylltu hwn yn y lle cyntaf. Y ffaith nad yw'r cydgysylltu hwn yn digwydd yw'r union reswm pam nad yw llawer o'r plant hyn yn cofrestru gyda meddyg teulu neu ddeintydd. Fodd bynnag, waeth pwy sy'n gwneud yr archwiliad, mae'n hanfodol i wybodaeth am y plentyn gael ei rhoi i feddyg teulu'r plentyn. Ni sy'n penderfynu pwy yw'r person gorau i wneud yr archwiliad, a dylai pwy bynnag sydd orau sicrhau ei fod yng nghofnod clinigol y meddyg teulu gyda'r holl randdeiliaid allweddol eraill hefyd, os rhoddir caniatâd.

Yn ei sylwadau agoriadol, gwnaeth Huw pwynt am y ffordd y datblygir y gwaith hwn. Un o'r datblygiadau mwyaf cadarnhaol, a grybwyllwyd gan Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ei hun, fu'r adnodd cymorth comisiynu ar gyfer plant. Mae hyn yn enghraifft wirioneddol o lywodraeth leol yn cydgysylltu ledled Cymru a cheisio mapio'r ddarpariaeth ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal, yn arbennig y math mwy arbenigol o wasanaeth a allai olygu, fel rheol, fod plentyn yn cael ei leoli y tu allan i'r sir, neu hyd yn oed y tu allan i'r wlad. Drwy ddefnyddio'r adnodd cymorth comisiynu ar gyfer plant, yr ydym bellach yn dechrau cyrraedd man lle na fydd hyn yn digwydd yn niffyg unrhyw beth arall, a lle bydd tystiolaeth neu gyfleuster mapio lle gellir lleoli plant o fewn y sir ble bynnag y bydd yn bosibl. Os cânt eu symud y tu allan i'r sir, mae gweithdrefnau clir ar waith, ond yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd hynny mor agos â phosibl at gartrefi'r plant eu hunain. Caiff hynny ei benderfynu ar y lefel uchaf mewn awdurdodau lleol unigol.

Mae David Melding bob amser yn dangos diddordeb brwd iawn yn y pethau hyn, a thrawodd yr hoelen ar ei phen pan soniodd am ymdrin â nifer cynyddol y plant sy'n cael eu derbyn i ofal. Mae hon yn broblem wirioneddol nad ydym yn deall ei holl gymhlethdodau ac agweddau yn llawn. Er nad yw'r niferoedd yn cynyddu'n sylweddol, maent yn cynyddu'n gyflymach yma yng Nghymru nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Rhaid inni fynd i'r afael a hynny. Gobeithio y bydd papur cyfarwyddiadau strategol gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, y byddwn yn ei gyhoeddi yn

of doing that. I hope that colleagues in the Assembly will look at this paper in the critical but supportive way in which they have contributed to this debate, to see whether it answers some of the questions that they have been asking—is what is being proposed fit for purpose, namely to keep children in their own homes and in their own communities, and does it provide support there for as long as possible. If they have to be placed elsewhere, is that really the last desperate option? That has to be carried out in a planned and coherent way to ensure that children do not lose out.

David Melding touched on the issue of street prostitution. I am not familiar with those statistics, but in looking at the evidence around this issue, one of the statistics that should concern us is that, in Wales, the number of 16 and 17-year-old children who lose contact or choose to leave looked-after status, is higher than in other parts of the United Kingdom. That relationship lasts longer in some other parts of the United Kingdom. This may be one of the factors leading to the statistic that David Melding mentioned, if that statistic is correct.

A review will start on progress in child and adolescent mental health services. There has been concern, but my own feeling is that progress is being made in this area compared with where we started from. Hopefully, the review will point that out, not in a static way of indicating the progress that has already been made, but by pointing out the next steps and the next point to which we need to travel.

In conclusion, this has been a positive and constructive debate. I strongly feel that this should not, wherever possible, become a party-political issue in terms of its management. It is an area of public service duty that demands scrutiny, inspection and regulation above party-political differences. This is not something that should just happen in the Assembly Chamber; it should be going on up and down Wales, in our local authorities. Scrutiny of local authority executives, particularly in children's

ystod y pedair i chwe wythnos nesaf, yn un ffordd i wneud hynny. Gobeithio y bydd cyd-Aelodau yn y Cynulliad yn ystyried y papur hwn yn yr un ffordd feirniadol ond cefnogol ag y maent wedi cyfrannu at y ddadl hon, i weld a yw'n ateb rhai o'r cwestiynau y maent wedi eu gofyn—a yw'r hyn a gynigir yn addas at y diben, sef sicrhau bod plant yn aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain a'u cymunedau eu hunain, ac a yw'n darparu cymorth yno cyhyd â phosibl. Os oes rhaid eu lleoli rywle arall, ai dyna'r dewis ofnadwy olaf mewn gwirionedd? Rhaid gwneud hynny mewn ffordd wedi'i chynllunio ac wedi'i chydgysylltu er mwyn sicrhau na fydd plant ar eu colled.

Soniodd David Melding am buteindra ar y strydoedd. Nid wyf yn gyfarwydd â'r ystadegau hynny, ond o edrych ar y dystiolaeth am y mater hwn, un o'r ystadegau a ddylai beri pryder inni yw bod nifer y plant 16 a 17 oed yng Nghymru sy'n colli cyswllt, neu'n dewis gadael statws cael gofal, yn uwch nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Mae'r berthynas honno yn para'n hwy mewn rhai rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Efallai fod hyn yn un o'r ffactorau sy'n arwain at yr ystadegyn y soniodd David Melding amdano, os yw'r ystadegyn hwnnw'n gywir.

Bydd adolygiad yn dechrau ar y cynnydd mewn gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl plant a'r glasoed, ond yn bersonol teimlaf fod cynnydd yn cael ei wneud yn y maes hwn o'i gymharu â'r pwynt cychwyn. Gobeithio y bydd yr adolygiad yn tynny sylw at hynny, nid mewn ffordd sefydlog o nodi'r cynnydd a wnaed eisoes, ond drwy dynnu sylw at y camau nesaf a'r man nesaf y mae angen inni ei gyrraedd.

I gloi, mae hon wedi bod yn ddadl gadarnhaol ac adeiladol. Teimlaf yn gryf, ble bynnag y mae'n bosibl, na ddylai hwn ddod yn fater plaid o ran ei reoli. Mae'n faes dyletswydd gwasanaeth cyhoeddus y mae angen craffu arno, ei arolygu a'i reoleiddio heb wahaniaethau plaid. Nid yn Siambr y Cynulliad yn unig y dylai hyn ddigwydd; dylai ddigwydd ledled Cymru, yn ein hawdurdodau lleol. Dylai'r gwaith o graffu ar swyddogion gweithredol awdurdodau lleol, yn enwedig mewn gwasanaethau plant,

services, should be part of good practice, rather than a partisan kickabout. Equally, the same challenge should exist in our local health boards and NHS institutions. If we have that critical friendship and support, we will be able to lend some reality to the aspirations that Huw launched when he initially put forward this motion.

fod yn rhan o arfer da, yn hytrach na phwnc i bleidiau ddadlau drosto. Yn yr un modd, dylid gweld yr un her yn ein byrddau iechyd lleol a sefydliadau'r GIG. Os cawn y cyfeillgarwch beirniadol a'r cymorth hwnnw, byddwn yn gallu dechrau gwireddu'r dyheadau a lansiodd Huw pan gynigiodd y cynnig hwn yn wreiddiol.

*Cynnig (NDM3072): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM3072): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion carried.*

## Dadl Fer Short Debate

### ‘Ei Gael Mewn Pryd’—Gwella Gofal ar gyfer Pobl â Chlefyd Parkinson ‘Get it on Time’—Improving Care for People with Parkinson’s Disease

**Sandy Mewies:** I am pleased that Karen Sinclair, Catherine Thomas, Leighton Andrews, Jenny Randerson and Janet Ryder—if time allows—have asked to speak in this debate. It is a subject that many Assembly Members are keen to support. Therefore, I am particularly pleased to have the opportunity to raise it today and to support the hard work that the Parkinson’s Disease Society is doing to raise awareness of this condition.

Parkinson’s disease, as many will know, is a progressive neurological condition that affects one in 500 people in the UK. In Wales, there are around 6,500 sufferers, making it the second most prevalent long-term neurological condition. While treatments are certainly improving, there are still many difficulties to consider when treating Parkinson’s disease. One reason for this is that, although we know that the disease is caused by diminishing dopamine levels in the brain, no-one knows why it should happen. What is known is that when around 80 per cent of the dopamine has been lost, Parkinson’s symptoms occur. However, according to the society, these symptoms, usually begin slowly and develop gradually, in no particular order. Therefore, we are still learning about this disease—as patients, carers and medical staff, and, of course, as members of the community.

Much good work is being done. I have mentioned before that my constituency, Delyn, now benefits from the appointment of a specialist Parkinson’s disease nurse. This is a joint project between the Parkinson’s Disease Society and Flintshire Local Health Board. The Parkinson’s nurse will support people with the disease throughout Flintshire, but will also have an educational input, through ward staff, into Wrexham Maelor Hospital. I congratulate the society and the Flintshire Local Health Board for their commitment to this post, which I know is already making a difference to the lives of

**Sandy Mewies:** Yr wyf yn falch bod Karen Sinclair, Catherine Thomas, Leighton Andrews, Jenny Randerson a Janet Ryder—os bydd amser yn caniatáu—wedi gofyn am gael siarad yn y ddadl hon. Mae’n bwnc y mae nifer o Aelodau’r Cynulliad yn awyddus i’w gefnogi. Felly, yr wyf yn falch iawn o gael y cyfle i’w godi heddiw ac i gefnogi’r gwaith caled y mae’r Gymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson yn ei wneud i gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth am y cyflwr hwn.

Mae clefyd Parkinson, fel y gŵyr nifer ohonoch, yn gyflwr niwrolegol cynyddol sy’n effeithio ar un o bob 500 o bobl yn y DU. Yng Nghymru, mae tua 6,500 o bobl yn dioddef ganddo, sy’n golygu mai hwn yw’r cyflwr niwrolegol hirdymor mwyaf cyffredin ond un. Er bod triniaethau’n gwella, a hynny’n sicr, mae nifer o anawsterau i’w hystyried wrth drin clefyd Parkinson. Un rheswm dros hyn yw, er ein bod yn gwybod mai lefelau dopamin yn yr ymennydd yn gostwng sy’n ei achosi, nid oes neb yn gwybod pam y dylai ddigwydd. Yr hyn a wyddys yw bod symptomau clefyd Parkinson yn digwydd pan fydd tua 80 y cant o’r dopamin wedi’i golli. Fodd bynnag, yn ôl y gymdeithas, mae’r symptomau hyn yn dechrau’n araf fel rheol ac yn datblygu’n raddol, heb fod mewn trefn benodol. Felly, yr ydym yn dal i ddysgu am y clefyd hwn—fel cleifion, gofalwyr a staff meddygol, ac wrth gwrs, fel aelodau o’r gymuned.

Mae llawer o waith da yn digwydd. Yr wyf wedi sôn o’r blaen fod fy etholaeth yn Delyn erbyn hyn yn elwa o fod wedi penodi nyrs sy’n arbenigo ar glefyd Parkinson. Mae hyn yn brosiect ar y cyd rhwng Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Sir y Fflint. Bydd y nyrs Parkinson yn cefnogi pobl sydd â’r clefyd ledled sir y Fflint, ond bydd ganddi gyfraniad addysgol hefyd, drwy staff wardiau, yn Ysbyty Maelor Wrecsam. Llonyfarchaf y gymdeithas a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Sir y Fflint am eu hymrwymiad i’r swydd hon, a gwn ei bod yn gwneud gwahaniaeth eisoes i fywydau pobl sydd â



people with Parkinson's disease, and, of course, to their carers.

My colleague, Christine Chapman, has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of issues around Parkinson's disease and I support her plea for everyone in Wales with this disease to have access to a specialist nurse and the specific expertise that they can offer. I realise that this will, perhaps, have to be incremental, but this commitment should be made, and should happen in the not too distant future. Parkinson's can be a lonely and baffling disease for sufferers and the importance, for them and their carers, of being able to discuss their fears and aspirations with someone who really understands them and who can bring solutions to some problems, as well as practical advice, cannot be underestimated. This is true of sufferers of any age, and I must mention the Younger Parkinson's Network, which supports the one in 20 sufferers who are under the age of 40. This is a fact that often surprises people.

The Parkinson's Disease Society is currently running a campaign called 'Get it on time', which is a key message for everyone involved, from sufferers to those who care for them at home or in a residential or healthcare setting. We tend to have a certain picture in our minds of a person with Parkinson's disease, and it may well be different for every one of us. Although there are common elements that cause distressing symptoms, such as tremor and stiffness, slow walking, freezing and unsteady steps, each person with Parkinson's disease will experience it in a different way and, as a result, will need individual drug regimes. It is essential that this medication is given to patients at the correct time for them. That is why the society's 'Get it on time' campaign is calling on those who are able to administer such drugs to ensure that people with Parkinson's disease get their medication on time, every time.

I think that we all know and agree that people who work in our hospitals and care homes work incredibly hard to ensure that their patients receive their treatment when they need it and that they are as comfortable as

chlefyd Parkinson, a'u gofawyr, wrth gwrs.

Mae fy nghyd-Aelod, Christine Chapman, wedi gweithio'n ddiflino i gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o faterion yn ymwneud â chlefyd Parkinson, a chefnogaf ei phle i sicrhau y gall pawb sydd â'r clefyd yng Nghymru gael gwasanaeth nyrs arbenigol a'r arbenigedd penodol y gall ei gynnig. Sylweddolaf y bydd yn rhaid i hyn ddigwydd fesul cam, efallai, ond dylid gwneud yr ymrwymiad hwn, a dylai gael ei wireddu cyn bo hir. Gall clefyd Parkinson fod yn glefyd unig ac anodd ei ddeall i'r rheini sy'n dioddef, ac ni ellir tanbrizio mor bwysig ydyw iddynt hwy a'u gofawyr allu trafod eu hofnau a'u dyheadau gyda rhywun sy'n wir yn eu deall ac a all ddarparu atebion i rai problemau, yn ogystal â chynghor ymarferol. Mae hyn yn wir am ddiodefwyr o unrhyw oed, a rhaid imi grybwyll Younger Parkinson's Network, sy'n cefnogi'r un o bob 20 diodefwyr sydd o dan 40 oed. Mae hon yn ffaith sy'n aml yn peri syndod i bobl.

Mae Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson yn cynnal ymgyrch ar hyn o bryd a elwir 'Ei gael mewn pryd'. Mae'n neges allweddol i bawb sy'n gysylltiedig â hyn, o ddiodefwyr i'r rheini sy'n gofalu amdanynt yn y cartref neu mewn lleoliad preswyl neu ofal iechyd. Yr ydym yn dueddol o feddwl am berson sydd â chlefyd Parkinson mewn ffordd benodol, a gallai fod yn wahanol i bob un ohonom. Er bod elfennau cyffredin sy'n achosi symptomau sy'n peri gofid, megis cryndod ac anystwythder, cerdded yn araf, rhewi a champau ansad, bydd pob person sydd â chlefyd Parkinson yn ei brofi mewn ffordd wahanol, ac o ganlyniad bydd angen trefn gyffuriau unigol arnynt. Mae'n hanfodol rhoi'r feddyginiaeth hon i gleifion ar yr adeg sy'n gywir iddynt hwy. Dyna'r rheswm pam mae ymgyrch y gymdeithas 'Ei gael mewn pryd' yn galw ar y bobl hynny sy'n gallu rhoi cyffuriau o'r fath i sicrhau bod pobl sydd â chlefyd Parkinson yn cael eu meddyginiaeth yn ei phryd bob amser.

Credaf ein bod i gyd yn gwybod ac yn cytuno bod y sawl sy'n gweithio yn ein hysbytai a'n cartrefi gofal yn gweithio'n galed iawn i sicrhau bod eu cleifion yn cael eu triniaeth pan fydd ei hangen arnynt, a'u bod mor

possible during their stay. However, we must also recognise the fact that Parkinson's sufferers need to follow a drug regime that may often use timings that differ from the usual ward-round timings—I think that we are all familiar with those ward rounds. They may have to take a number of different drugs and they may have to take them at specific but different times. If the patient is unable to self-medicate, this can be hard for staff to take into account. By raising awareness of the needs of those with this condition, we will be helping to ensure that people who are admitted to care homes or hospitals receive the best possible treatment, at the optimum time.

This year, the Parkinson's Disease Society carried out a small-scale survey among nurse specialists to find out how widespread this problem is. Not one of the 81 people who responded was able to say that, in their area, medication was always administered on time to Parkinson's disease patients in hospital. This is not to accuse anyone of failing—this is sometimes about a lack of awareness and a lack of solutions. By putting this issue high on the agenda and ensuring that agencies work together to find appropriate solutions, we can solve this. The society is therefore asking hospitals and care homes to raise awareness of this issue, to look at medicines management, and to put systems in place to ensure that Parkinson's patients get their drugs on time, every single time.

While this campaign is running—and I think that people are now very aware of it—we should not forget that we are waiting for the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence to publish guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease, following consultation with sufferers across the UK, including those in Wales. Hopefully, the guidelines should be published by the end of the month. The Welsh Assembly Government has been involved in the process and I hope that, when conclusions are reached, it will encourage and guide local health boards to adopt a consistent best-practice approach on this important issue.

gyfforddus â phosibl yn ystod eu harhosiad. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni hefyd gydnabod y ffaith fod yn rhaid i ddiodefwyr Parkinson ddilyn trefn gyffuriau sydd, efallai, yn wahanol i amseroedd arferol rownd y ward—credaf ein bod i gyd yn gyfarwydd â'r rowndiau ward hynny. Efallai y bydd yn rhaid iddynt gymryd nifer o gyffuriau gwahanol, ac efallai y bydd yn rhaid iddynt eu cymryd ar amseroedd penodol ond gwahanol. Os na all y claf gymryd y feddyginiaeth ei hun, gall fod yn anodd i staff ystyried hyn. Drwy gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o anghenion y rheini sydd â'r cyflwr hwn, byddwn yn helpu sicrhau bod pobl sy'n cael eu derbyn i gartrefi gofal neu ysbytai yn cael y driniaeth orau bosibl, ar yr amser gorau posibl.

Eleni, gwnaeth Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson arolwg bach ymhlith arbenigwyr nyrsio i weld pa mor gyffredinol yw'r broblem hon. Nid oedd un o'r 81 o bobl a ymatebodd yn gallu dweud, yn eu hardal hwy, fod meddyginiaeth bob amser yn cael ei rhoi yn ei phryd i gleifion â chlefyd Parkinson yn yr ysbyty. Nid ydym yn cyhuddo neb o fethu—mae hyn weithiau'n fater o ddiffyg ymwybyddiaeth a diffyg atebion. Drwy roi'r mater hwn ar frig yr agenda a sicrhau bod asiantaethau'n cydweithio i ddod o hyd i atebion priodol, gallwn ddatrys hyn. Mae'r gymdeithas felly yn gofyn i ysbytai a chartrefi gofal gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o'r mater hwn, i edrych ar y dull o reoli meddyginiaethau, ac i roi systemau ar waith i sicrhau bod cleifion Parkinson yn cael eu cyffuriau yn eu pryd bob amser.

Tra mae'r ymgyrch hon ar waith—a chredaf fod pobl yn ymwybodol iawn ohoni erbyn hyn—ni ddylem anghofio ein bod yn aros i'r Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Iechyd a Rhagoriaeth Glinigol gyhoeddi canllawiau ar gyfer gwneud diagnosis a thrin clefyd Parkinson, ar ôl ymgynghori â diodefwyr ar draws y DU, gan gynnwys y rheini yng Nghymru. Gobeithir cyhoeddi'r canllawiau erbyn diwedd y mis. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi bod yn rhan o'r broses, a phan ddeuir i gasgliadau gobeithio y bydd yn annog ac yn arwain byrddau iechyd lleol i fabwysiadu dull arfer gorau gyson o ddelio â'r mater pwysig hwn.

Some of you may remember that, in my last short debate, I chose to look at carers and the absolutely invaluable work that they do. Almost one in eight people in Wales provide unpaid help and support to a relative or friend who is either frail, sick or disabled. Of course, a carer does not have to be a relative or friend because there are also professional carers who take their work very seriously. People with Parkinson's disease often need the support of a carer, who is sometimes a family member, for example, a wife, husband or partner, or a friend, neighbour, or someone whom they may know from the society or another organisation. The Parkinson's Disease Society recognises the vital role that carers play, and one of its top priorities is to improve the support that is available to them. Next week, as I am sure everyone knows, is carers' week, and I thought that this debate would be an appropriate opportunity to acknowledge, once again, the important work that carers do, and the work of the carers' week partnership. In this regard, I am talking not just about the carers of those suffering from Parkinson's disease, but the eight different charities that make up the partnership and all the other carers who work formally and informally throughout the country.

Support groups are one way in which this can happen, and the society runs local branches that offer opportunities for patients and carers to come together socially to chat about a range of different issues and to alleviate some of the pressures. I was a carer until quite recently, and I do not think that I need tell anyone how important it often is just to have someone on the other end of a telephone saying, 'Well, I can't really help you, and I can't really tell you what the solution to this is, but I know how you're feeling because it has happened to me'.

Caring can be an incredibly stressful job, and it can have serious effects on the health of the carer. For this reason, the carers' week partnership is calling for the introduction of regular health checks within 12 months of someone becoming a carer, and regular checks from then on. The sense in doing this is obvious, is it not? Some people who are

Efallai y bydd rhai ohonoch yn cofio, yn fy nadl fer ddiwethaf, imi ddewis edrych ar ofalwyr a'r gwaith hollol amhrisiadwy y maent yn ei wneud. Mae bron un o bob wyth o bobl yng Nghymru yn darparu help a chymorth di-dâl i berthynas neu ffrind sydd naill ai'n llesg, yn sâl neu'n anabl. Wrth gwrs, nid oes yn rhaid i ofalwr fod yn berthynas nac yn ffrind, oherwydd mae yna ofalwyr proffesiynol hefyd sy'n cymryd eu gwaith o ddifrif. Mae angen cymorth gofalwr yn aml ar bobl sydd â chlefyd Parkinson, a fydd weithiau'n un o'r teulu, er enghraifft, yn wraig, yn ŵr neu'n bartner, neu'n ffrind, cymydog, neu rywun y gallant fod yn ei adnabod o'r gymdeithas neu o sefydliad arall. Mae Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson yn cydnabod rôl hanfodol gofalwyr, ac un o'i phrif flaenoriaethau yw gwella'r cymorth sydd ar gael iddynt. Bydd yn wythnos gofalwyr yr wythnos nesaf, fel yr wyf yn siŵr y gŵyr pawb, a chredais y byddai'r ddadl hon yn gyfle priodol i gydnabod, unwaith eto, y gwaith pwysig a wneir gan ofalwyr, a gwaith y bartneriaeth wythnos gofalwyr. Yn hyn o beth, yr wyf yn siarad nid yn unig am ofalwyr pobl sy'n dioddef gan glefyd Parkinson, ond yr wyth elusen wahanol yn y bartneriaeth a'r holl ofalwyr eraill sy'n gweithio'n ffurfiol ac yn anffurfiol ledled y wlad.

Mae grwpiau cymorth yn un ffordd y gellir gwneud hyn, ac mae'r gymdeithas yn rhedeg canghennau lleol sy'n cynnig cyfleoedd i gleifion a gofalwyr ddod at ei gilydd yn gymdeithasol i sgwrsio am amrywiaeth o wahanol faterion a lleddfu'r pwysau ryw ychydig. Yr oeddwn innau'n ofalwr tan yn ddiweddar iawn, ac ni chredaf fod angen imi ddweud wrth neb mor bwysig yw cael rhywun ar ben arall y ffôn i ddweud, 'Wel, ni allaf dy helpu mewn gwirionedd, ac ni allaf ddweud wrthynt beth yw'r ateb i hyn, ond gwn sut yr wyt yn teimlo am ei fod wedi digwydd i mi'.

Gall gofalu achosi llawer iawn o dyndra, a gall effeithio'n ddifrifol ar iechyd y gofalwr. Am y rheswm hwnnw, mae partneriaeth yr wythnos gofalwyr yn gofyn am gyflwyno archwiliadau iechyd rheolaidd cyn pen 12 mis ar ôl i rywun ddod yn ofalwr, ac archwiliadau rheolaidd o hynny ymlaen. Onid yw'r synnwyr dros wneud hyn yn amlwg?

carers are themselves frail, and sometimes they are elderly, and they cannot go on doing that job—although they often struggle to do so—if their health fails. That is why they need this sort of support.

Once again, I ask that we all support carers, whoever they are, and carers' week, as it is vital that while we deal with the illness suffered by the cared-for, we should not forget the health needs of those who care for them.

**Karen Sinclair:** I thank Sandy for her short debate. I fully support the Parkinson's Disease Society's 'Get it on time' campaign to ensure that people who have Parkinson's disease, in hospitals and in care homes, get their medication on time, every time. Sandy has made it clear why that should be so.

Parkinson's touches many lives, and, in Clwyd South, many of the letters in my postbag all too often sketch out tragic stories of decimated lives and families in turmoil. Huge strain is placed on everyone who comes into contact with the disease, if the right support is not in place. At present, sadly, as Sandy said, there is no cure for Parkinson's; a range of treatments is available to sufferers to help control the symptoms of the disease and maintain a good quality of life, but the importance of managing the condition effectively is crucial.

In Wrexham, I have campaigned for a long time for a specialist Parkinson's disease nurse for the area, who, I believe, would play a hugely beneficial role in helping those individuals and their families in north-east Wales who live with the condition. Ironically, I was working with the Wrexham trust and the Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust, and we achieved our aim for Conwy and Denbighshire, but not for Wrexham.

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence recently issued guidelines on Parkinson's disease, and it published them for consultation with stakeholders in health

Mae rhai pobl sy'n ofalwyr yn llesg eu hunain, ac weithiau'n hen, ac ni allant barhau i wneud y gwaith—er eu bod yn aml yn ymdrechu i wneud hynny—os bydd eu hiechyd yn methu. Dyna pam y mae arnynt angen y math hwn o gymorth.

Unwaith eto, gofynnaf inni i gyd gefnogi gofalwyr, pwy bynnag ydynt, a'r wythnos gofalwyr, am ei bod yn hanfodol, tra yr ydym yn ymdrin â'r salwch y mae pobl sy'n cael gofal yn ei ddioddef, na ddylem anghofio anghenion iechyd y rheini sy'n gofalu amdanynt.

**Karen Sinclair:** Diolch i Sandy am ei dadl fer. Cefnogaf yn llawn ymgyrch 'Ei gael mewn pryd' Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson i sicrhau bod pobl sydd â chlefyd Parkinson, mewn ysbytai ac mewn cartrefi gofal yn cael eu meddyginiaethau yn eu pryd bob amser. Mae Sandy wedi egluro pam y dylid gwneud hynny.

Mae Parkinson yn effeithio ar lawer o fywydau, ac yn Ne Clwyd mae llawer o'r llythyrau a gaf yn aml yn adrodd storïau trasig am fywydau sydd wedi'u dinistrio a theuluoedd sy'n dioddef. Mae straen enfawr ar bawb sy'n dod i gysylltiad â'r clefyd, os nad yw'r cymorth cywir ar gael. Ar hyn o bryd, yn anffodus, fel y dywedodd Sandy, nid oes gwellhad ar gyfer clefyd Parkinson; mae amrywiaeth o driniaethau ar gael i ddioddefwyr i helpu rheoli symptomau'r clefyd a chynnal ansawdd bywyd da, ond mae'n hanfodol rheoli'r cyflwr yn effeithiol.

Yn Wrecsam, yr wyf wedi ymgyrchu ers amser maith i gael nyrs sy'n arbenigo ar glefyd Parkinson ar gyfer yr ardal, a fyddai, yn fy marn i, yn chwarae rhan fuddiol iawn i helpu'r unigolion hynny a'u teuluoedd yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru sy'n byw gyda'r cyflwr hwn. Yn eironig, yr oeddwn yn gweithio gydag ymddiriedolaeth Wrecsam ac Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Siroedd Conwy a Dinbych, a llwyddwyd i gyflawni ein nod ar gyfer Conwy a sir Ddinbych, ond nid ar gyfer Wrecsam.

Cyhoeddodd y Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Iechyd a Rhagoriaeth Glinigol ganllawiau yn ddiweddar ar glefyd Parkinson, ac fe'i cyhoeddodd ar gyfer ymgyngori â

and social care. The guidelines provide recommendations—

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Order. This is supposed to be a short intervention. Four more speakers wish to contribute, and you will stop the others from getting in, Karen.

**Karen Sinclair:** I thought that this was a half-hour slot, and that, as long as we actually—

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** No; you must come to these debates a bit more often. This one is limited to 15 minutes.

**Karen Sinclair:** That being the case, I apologise. I fully welcome the recommendations in the campaign, and, in particular, I support the proposal that all people with Parkinson's disease should have regular access to specialist nursing care to provide monitoring and adjustment of medication; a point of contact for support, including home visits; and a reliable source of information about their clinical and social needs.

**Catherine Thomas:** I thank Sandy for allowing me to speak, for choosing this subject for her short debate, and for the content of her speech, which was excellent and which covered an awful lot of ground. Sandy, I agree with your calls for more support for those who are sufferers, and also for their carers. Recently, I attended a meeting of the Llanelli branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society, at which I met several people who live with Parkinson's, either as patients or as carers. From speaking to them, I know how devastating this illness can be, but also, what a difference having a support network can make. I was especially pleased to meet members of the Younger Parkinson's Network, which supports Parkinson's patients and carers under the age of 40—something to which Sandy referred. We can sometime forget the number of younger people who have this disease, and I take this opportunity to praise the work of the Younger Parkinson's Network, which does so much to support and help sufferers and their carers, and whose work needs to be highlighted. I am glad that Sandy has drawn

rhanddeiliaid ym maes iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol. Mae'r canllawiau yn rhoi argymhellion—

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Trefn. Mae hwn i fod yn ymyriad byr. Mae pedwar siaradwr arall am gyfrannu, a byddwch yn atal y gweddill rhag siarad, Karen.

**Karen Sinclair:** Yr oeddwn yn meddwl mai slot hanner awr oedd hwn, a chyhyd ag y byddem yn—

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Na; rhaid ichi ddod i'r dadleuon hyn yn amlach. Mae hon wedi'i chyfyngu i 15 munud.

**Karen Sinclair:** Os yw hynny'n wir, mae'n flin gennyf. Croesawaf yr argymhellion yn yr ymgyrch yn llawn, ac yn arbennig cefnogaf y cynnig y dylai pawb sydd â chlefyd Parkinson allu cael gofal nyrsio arbenigol yn rheolaidd er mwyn monitro ac addasu eu meddyginiaeth; pwynt cyswllt ar gyfer cymorth, gan gynnwys ymweliadau cartref; a ffynhonnell wybodaeth ddibynadwy ynglŷn â'u hanghenion clinigol a chymdeithasol.

**Catherine Thomas:** Diolch i Sandy am ganiatáu imi siarad, am ddewis y pwnc hwn ar gyfer ei dadl fer, ac am gynnwys ei haraith, a oedd yn ardderchog ac yn cwmpasu llawer iawn o faterion. Sandy, cytunaf â'ch galwadau am fwy o gymorth i'r rheini sy'n dioddef, a hefyd i'w gofalywyr. Bum mewn cyfarfod yn ddiweddar o gangen Llanelli o Gymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson, lle cyfarfûm â nifer o bobl sy'n byw gyda chlefyd Parkinson, naill ai fel cleifion neu fel gofalywyr. O siarad â hwy, gwn mor ddinistriol y gall y salwch hwn fod, ond hefyd, y gwahaniaeth y gall cael rhwydwaith cymorth ei wneud. Yr oeddwn yn arbennig o falch cyfarfod ag aelodau Younger Parkinson's Network, sy'n cefnogi cleifion Parkinson a gofalywyr dan 40 oed—cyfeiriwyd ato gan Sandy. Weithiau, gallwn anghofio faint o bobl ifanc sydd â'r clefyd hwn, ac achubaf ar y cyfle hwn i ganmol gwaith Younger Parkinson's Network, sy'n gwneud cymaint i gefnogi ac i helpu dioddefwyr a'u gofalywyr. Mae angen tynnu sylw at eu gwaith. Yr wyf yn falch fod Sandy wedi tynnu sylw at hyn heddiw.

attention to this today.

**Leighton Andrews:** I also thank Sandy for bringing the subject to our attention and for her speech. Like my colleagues in the Rhondda Cynon Taff area, Christine Chapman and Jane Davidson, I have campaigned for a specialist Parkinson's disease nurse to be employed by RCT Local Health Board, and we continue with the campaign. There are around 600 people in RCT with the disease, and the recommendation in terms of Parkinson's nurses is that there should be approximately 250 patients per nurse, so, effectively, we should have two nurses in RCT. Many Parkinson's disease sufferers in RCT have had access to a nurse in Cardiff in the past, although that has produced a very high burden on that nurse, and I am not sure whether the service is still available. There have been savings as a result of the employment of specialist nurses for Parkinson's in terms of consultant time, as well as in terms of relieving much-needed pressure elsewhere. Therefore, I urge the Minister to encourage local health boards to support the employment of specialist nurses.

**Jenny Randerson:** I echo Leighton's comments about the need for specialist nurses; they are very efficient and effective in terms of treatment. I also wish to raise the problems of diagnosis, in that there is considerable delay in diagnosis in certain situations, particularly in those cases where it is associated with the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, which is a combined illness of which I have very long experience in my family—I believe it is known as Lewy Body syndrome. It is a cruel combination of illnesses that affects the control of the body and the mind. It often takes GPs a long time to get an accurate diagnosis.

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Order. Time has run out, but there was one more speaker. It is possible to intervene when the Minister is speaking, if he allows it. I ask the Minister to keep to a strict 15 minutes.

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons):** I add my gratitude to Sandy for raising this particular

**Leighton Andrews:** Diolch hefyd i Sandy am ddod â'r pwnc hwn i'n sylw ac am ei haraith. Fel fy cyd-Aelodau yn ardal Rhondda Cynon Taf, Christine Chapman a Jane Davidson, yr wyf wedi ymgyrchu dros gael nyrs sy'n arbenigo ar glefyd Parkinson i gael ei chyflogi gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Rhondda Cynon Taf, ac yr ydym yn parhau â'n hymgyrch. Mae tua 600 o bobl yn Rhondda Cynon Taf sydd â'r clefyd, a'r argymhelliad o ran nyrsys Parkinson yw y dylai fod tua 250 o gleifion fesul nyrs. Felly, mewn egwyddor dylai fod gennym ddwy nyrs yn Rhondda Cynon Taf. Mae nifer o ddiodefyr clefyd Parkinson yn Rhondda Cynon Taf wedi cael cymorth nyrs yng Nghaerdydd yn y gorffennol, er bod hynny wedi rhoi llawer o bwysau ar y nyrs honno, ac ni wn a yw'r gwasanaeth ar gael o hyd. Cafwyd arbedion drwy gyflogi nyrsys sy'n arbenigo ar glefyd Parkinson o ran amser meddygon ymgynghorol, yn ogystal ag o ran lleddfu pwysau mewn mannau eraill lle mae ei angen yn fawr. Felly, anogaf y Gweinidog i annog byrddau iechyd lleol i gefnogi'r broses o gyflogi nyrsys arbenigol.

**Jenny Randerson:** Cytunaf â sylwadau Leighton am yr angen am nyrsys arbenigol; maent yn effeithlon ac yn effeithiol iawn o ran triniaeth. Dymunaf hefyd grybwyll y problemau wrth wneud diagnosis, sef bod oedi sylweddol wrth wneud diagnosis mewn rhai sefyllfaoedd, yn enwedig yn yr achosion hynny lle mae'n gysylltiedig â symptomau clefyd Alzheimer, sy'n salwch cyfunol yr wyf wedi cael profiad maith ohono yn fy ngheulu—fe'i gelwir yn syndrom Lewy Body mi gredaf. Mae'n gyfuniad creulon o sawl salwch sy'n effeithio ar reolaeth y corff a'r meddwl. Mae'n aml yn cymryd amser maith i feddygon teulu wneud diagnosis cywir.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Trefn. Mae'r amser wedi dod i ben, ond yr oedd un siaradwr arall. Mae'n bosibl ymyrryd pan fydd y Gweinidog yn siarad, os bydd yn caniatáu hynny. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog gadw at 15 munud union.

**Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons):** Yr wyf fi hefyd yn diolch i Sandy am godi'r mater

issue. As she pointed out, it is one of the most common neurological diseases that exist in our society, and most of us know about the impact of Parkinson's disease on people. Even if we do not, we have seen the devastating effect it has had on well-known and world-renowned people such as Muhammad Ali, the former world heavyweight champion, Michael J Fox, the actor, and Pope John Paul II, who was seriously affected by it and on which it must have had a long-term effect. Even for those people in the public domain, we can see how serious a condition it is.

I also agree with Sandy that the Parkinson's Disease Society is playing an active role in promoting awareness of the condition by providing information and support. It is also a good campaigner on raising the profile of the condition in the Assembly, in local communities through pressure on local health boards, as Leighton said, and through the Neurological Alliance in the neurosciences review. This is a good example of a voluntary sector organisation making a contribution across the gamut of health and social care for its client group.

The launch of the campaign to improve the management of medicines for Parkinson's disease, called 'Get it on time', highlights the importance of medicines management, and the administration of medicines for people with this condition and other chronic conditions. In particular, 'Get it on time' emphasises the importance of administering medication at timely intervals that are appropriate to individuals' needs in hospital and care-home settings to prevent further deterioration of the condition. Ensuring that medication is administered at the correct time and within the correct therapeutic parameters is important, and difficulties have been traditionally experienced, particularly in more regulated institutions in terms of getting the treatment on a properly tailored basis. A number of steps have been taken by the Assembly Government to ensure the continuity of care between primary and secondary care settings and to ensure that patients have access to appropriate drugs at the appropriate time.

The patient-owned drug system is now well

pwysig hwn. Fel y dywedai, mae'n un o'r clefydau niwrolegol mwyaf cyffredin yn ein cymdeithas, a gŵyr y rhan fwyaf ohonom am effaith clefyd Parkinson ar bobl. Hyd yn oed os na wyddom, yr ydym wedi gweld yr effaith ddinistriol a gafodd ar bobl adnabyddus a byd-enwog fel Muhammad Ali, cyn-bencampwr bocsio pwysau trwm y byd, Michael J Fox, yr actor, a'r Pab John Paul II. Effeithiodd y clefyd yn fawr arno, a rhaid ei fod wedi cael effaith hirdymor arno. Hyd yn oed i'r bobl hynny sydd yn llygad y cyhoedd, gallwn weld mor ddifrifol yw'r cyflwr.

Cytunaf hefyd â Sandy fod i Gymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson ran weithredol wrth hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth o'r cyflwr drwy ddarparu gwybodaeth a chymorth. Mae hefyd yn ymgyrchu'n dda dros godi proffil y cyflwr yn y Cynulliad, mewn cymunedau lleol drwy roi pwysau ar fyrddau iechyd lleol, fel y dywedodd Leighton, a thrwy'r Gynghrair Niwrolegol yn yr adolygiad niwrowyddorau. Mae hon yn enghraifft dda o sefydliad o'r sector gwirfoddol yn gwneud cyfraniad ar draws yr ystod o wasanaethau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol ar gyfer ei grŵp cleientiaid.

Mae lansio'r ymgyrch i wella rheoli meddyginiaethau ar gyfer clefyd Parkinson, a elwir 'Ei gael ar amser', yn tynnu sylw at bwysigrwydd rheoli meddyginiaethau, a rhoi meddyginiaethau i bobl sydd â'r cyflwr hwn a chyflyrau cronig eraill. Yn arbennig, mae 'Ei gael mewn pryd' yn pwysleisio pwysigrwydd rhoi meddyginiaeth ar adegau amserol sy'n briodol i anghenion unigolion mewn ysbytai a chartrefi gofal er mwyn atal y cyflwr hwn rhag dirywio ymhellach. Mae sicrhau y caiff y feddyginiaeth ei rhoi ar yr adeg gywir ac o fewn y paramedrau therapiwtig cywir yn bwysig, a chafwyd anawsterau yn draddodiadol, yn enwedig mewn sefydliadau mwy rheoledig, wrth gael y driniaeth wedi'i theilwra'n briodol. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cymryd llawer o gamau i sicrhau parhad gofal rhwng lleoliadau gofal sylfaenol ac eilaidd ac i sicrhau y gall cleifion gael cyffuriau priodol ar yr adeg briodol.

Mae'r system gyffuriau sy'n eiddo i gleifion

established in most of our hospitals. It allows patients to bring their medications into hospital and to self-medicate, or to ask for the assistance of a nurse in the self-medication process. Each patient is provided with a locked medicines cabinet as part of this system and the key to the cabinet is held either by the patient or by a nurse if they have asked for professional help. The benefit of PODS is that the patient and nurses are educated about the patient's individual healthcare needs and the administration of medication on time, so it is a mutually beneficial process. Difficulties that have been traditionally experienced by the rigid adherence to the drug rounds in our hospitals can be addressed through the more extensive use of the PODS scheme.

The all-Wales medicine strategy group is currently reviewing the use of monitored drug systems in care homes to ensure that medicines are administered safely and effectively. The aspiration is to ensure that patients and staff in these homes are better educated to take greater control of medication regimes. The Assembly also supports the Welsh Medicines Information Centre, which, working with the Parkinson's disease groups, provides advice on the administration of medicines. That has been an excellent partnership between the voluntary sector, the Parkinson's Disease Society and the Welsh Assembly Government. The helpline can be accessed by patients, carers and staff within health and social care settings, and it aims to provide key support and advice on a range of issues, including the administration of medication for Parkinson's disease. The 'Get it on time' campaign should play an important role in further boosting the importance of these schemes, as well as in promoting awareness of the necessity of having properly timed and individually tailored medication regimes. It should also be recognised that the Welsh Assembly Government is committed to ensuring that people spend less time in hospital and are able to live their lives more independently in their homes and communities, wherever possible.

Several initiatives are in place to allow us to move towards a regime that promotes

wedi hen sefydlu bellach yn y rhan fwyaf o'n hysbytai. Mae'n caniatáu i gleifion ddod â'u meddyginiaethau eu hunain i mewn i'r ysbyty a'u cymryd eu hunain, neu ofyn am gymorth nyrs i'w cymryd. Darperir cabinet meddyginiaethau dan glo i bob claf fel rhan o'r system hon, ac mae'r allwedd i'r cabinet naill ai yng ngofal y claf neu'r nyrs os bydd wedi gofyn am gymorth proffesiynol. Mantais y system yw y gellir addysgu'r claf a'r nyrsys am anghenion gofal iechyd unigol y claf a gweinyddu'r feddyginiaeth yn ei phryd, er mwyn iddi fod yn broses sy'n fuddiol i'r ddwy ochr. Gellir ymdrin â'r anawsterau a gafwyd yn draddodiadol dan y drefn o gadw'n gaeth i'r rowndiau cyffuriau yn ein hysbytai drwy ddefnyddio'r system hon yn fwy helaeth.

Mae grŵp strategaeth meddyginiaethau Cymru gyfan wrthi'n adolygu defnyddio systemau cyffuriau wedi eu monitro ar hyn o bryd mewn cartrefi gofal, i sicrhau gweinyddu meddyginiaethau'n ddiogel ac effeithiol. Y nod yw sicrhau bod cleifion a staff yn y cartrefi hyn yn cael eu haddysgu'n well i gymryd mwy o reolaeth dros systemau rhoi meddyginiaethau. Mae'r Cynulliad hefyd yn cefnogi Canolfan Gwybodaeth am Foddion Cymru sydd, drwy weithio gyda grwpiau clefyd Parkinson, yn rhoi cyngor ar weinyddu meddyginiaethau. Mae hon wedi bod yn bartneriaeth ragorol rhwng y sector gwirfoddol, Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Mae'r llinell gymorth ar agor i gleifion, gofalwyr a staff mewn lleoliadau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, a'i nod yw rhoi cymorth a chyngor allweddol ar ystod o faterion, gan gynnwys rhoi meddyginiaeth ar gyfer clefyd Parkinson. Dylai'r ymgyrch 'Ei gael mewn pryd' chwarae rhan bwysig wrth hybu pwysigrwydd y cynlluniau hyn ymhellach, yn ogystal â hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth o'r angen am gael systemau meddyginiaethau wedi eu hamseru'n briodol a'u teilwra i'r unigolyn. Dylid cydnabod hefyd fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwmo i sicrhau bod pobl yn treulio llai o amser yn yr ysbyty ac yn gallu byw eu bywydau'n fwy annibynnol yn eu cartrefi a'u cymunedau, ble bynnag y mae'n bosibl.

Mae sawl menter ar waith i ganiatáu i ni symud tuag at system sy'n hyrwyddo



independence and autonomy. NHS-funded nursing care is provided for people who are eligible. It allows them to stay in their own homes, receiving regular care and support. Social care and support assessments can also help to promptly identify social need and to facilitate the type of support that is required to maximise independence. That is particularly important in view of the emphasis that Sandy placed in her contribution on carers and their rights to have an assessment of their own needs taken into account. The Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act 2004 gives carers new opportunities to pursue a wider and more diverse range of interests and activities, as is their right, as citizens of Wales and the United Kingdom. 'Designed for Life' is about supporting people in the community and has a particular resonance for people with chronic disease, such as Parkinson's disease.

Work is going on to develop more systematic plans on the management of chronic disease in Wales. A start has been made with the publication of the musculoskeletal strategy. The lessons that are outlined in that strategy have wider applications for chronic, long-term diseases and a strategy will look at epilepsy and other elements of neurological disease as part of the roll-out of the wider chronic disease management process.

**Janet Ryder:** I believe that there is an officer in your department in charge of chronic disease in Wales. The Parkinson's groups in Wrexham were surprised to find that out. They have discovered that only recently. Several of them contacted me over the weekend with that news and with the news that the officer said that perhaps he will be able to help them to develop the post of a specialist nurse in Wrexham. They sent him all the information on everything that they did, but they were dismayed to have a response back from a different officer talking about their inquiry to do with multiple sclerosis.

5.20 p.m.

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Order. This is not a speech; this is an intervention.

annibyniaeth ac ymreolaeth. Darperir gofal nyrsio wedi ei ariannu gan y GIG i bobl sy'n gymwys. Mae'n caniatáu iddynt aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, a chael gofal a chymorth rheolaidd. Gall asesiadau gofal cymdeithasol a chymorth helpu hefyd i nodi angen cymdeithasol yn gyflym a hwyluso'r math o gymorth sydd ei angen i fyw mor annibynnol â phosibl. Mae hynny'n arbennig o bwysig o gofio'r pwyslais a roddodd Sandy yn ei chyfraniad ar ofalwyr a'u hawl i ystyried cael asesiad o'u hanghenion eu hunain. Mae Deddf Gofalwyr (Cyfle Cyfartal) 2004 yn rhoi cyfleoedd newydd i ofalwyr ddilyn ystod ehangach a mwy amrywiol o ddi-ddordebau a gweithgareddau, fel y mae hawl ganddynt, fel dinasyddion Cymru a'r Deyrnas Unedig. Mae a wnelo 'Cynllun Oes' â chefnogi pobl yn y gymuned, ac mae'n arbennig o bwysig i bobl sydd â chlefyd cronig, fel clefyd Parkinson.

Mae gwaith yn mynd rhagddo i ddatblygu cynlluniau mwy systematig ar reoli clefydau cronig yng Nghymru. Dechreuwyd ar y gwaith drwy gyhoeddi'r strategaeth cyhyrsgerbydol. Mae cymwysiadau ehangach i'r gwersi a amlinellwyd yn y strategaeth honno ar gyfer clefydau cronig hirdymor, a bydd strategaeth yn ystyried epilepsi ac elfennau eraill mewn clefyd niwrolegol fel rhan o'r gwaith o gyflwyno'r broses rheoli clefydau cronig ehangach.

**Janet Ryder:** Credaf fod swyddog yn eich adran sy'n gyfrifol am ofal clefyd cronig yng Nghymru. Yr oedd y grwpiau Parkinson yn Wrecsam yn synnu o glywed hynny. Dim ond yn ddiweddar y daethant i wybod hynny. Cysylltodd nifer ohonynt â mi dros y penwythnos gyda'r newyddion hwnnw, a chyda'r newyddion fod y swyddog wedi dweud y bydd yn gallu eu helpu efallai i ddatblygu swydd nyrs arbenigol yn Wrecsam. Anfonwyd yr holl wybodaeth ato am bopeth a wnaethant, ond cawsant eu siomi pan gafwyd ateb yn ôl gan swyddog gwahanol yn sôn am eu hymholiad ynglŷn â sglerosis ymlledol.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Trefn. Nid arait hmo hon; ymyriad ydyw.

**Janet Ryder:** Is there a lack of co-ordination within your department, and could that officer please get in touch with the groups in Wrexham to support their calls for a specialist nurse?

**Brian Gibbons:** First of all, the person who is leading on most of the work on chronic diseases is a she and not a he. So, the person that I would look to in those circumstances would be one of our women officials. I find it difficult, therefore, to answer that question. However, it would not be appropriate for my officials to put pressure on individual local health boards in any event to urge them to pursue a particular course of action, because that would distort the local needs assessment and the establishment of local priorities in that community. I am sure that, if we were to intervene in certain areas and insist that certain priorities were imposed upon local communities without taking into account local priorities, you would be one of the first to object.

The Assembly also supports the development of lay-led self-management programmes and training to increase the independence of people with chronic disease—initiatives such as the expert patient programme. Condition-specific programmes are being developed with the voluntary sector and are playing an increasingly important role in supporting people who are living with long-term conditions. Yesterday, I had an opportunity to meet with practitioners and tutors involved in the expert patient programme. It was heartening and humbling to hear of the life-changing experiences of people suffering from chronic disease, achieved by these lay-led initiatives. Having spoken with those involved in the expert patient programme, I would think that it is well fitted to working with patients who suffer from Parkinson's disease. The experience developed through the expert patient programme would fit very well into that.

Delivering integrated care will call on the commitment of a number of partners in health, social care and the voluntary sector. It is clear that multidisciplinary working will be necessary to improve the response for people with chronic disease. Increasing the skill base of health and other professionals is important,

**Janet Ryder:** A oes diffyg cydgysylltu o fewn eich adran, ac a allech gael y swyddog hwnnw i gysylltu â'r grwpiau yn Wrecsam i gefnogi eu galwadau am nyrs arbenigol?

**Brian Gibbons:** Yn gyntaf, menyw ac nid dyn yw'r person sy'n gwneud y rhan fwyaf o'r gwaith ar glefydau cronig. Felly, y person y byddwn yn ei ystyried yn yr amgylchiadau hynny fyddai un o'n swyddogion sy'n ferch. Felly, caf anhawster i ateb y cwestiwn hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddai'n briodol i'm swyddogion roi pwysau ar fyrddau iechyd lleol unigol i'w hannog i gymryd cam gweithredu penodol, oherwydd byddai hynny'n gwyrdroi'r asesiad anghenion lleol ac yn effeithio ar sefydlu blaenoriaethau lleol yn y gymuned honno. Yr wyf yn siŵr, pe baem yn ymyrryd mewn rhai ardaloedd ac yn mynnu bod blaenoriaethau penodol yn cael eu gosod ar gymunedau lleol heb ystyried blaenoriaethau lleol, chi fyddai un o'r cyntaf i wrthwynebu.

Mae'r Cynulliad hefyd yn cefnogi datblygu rhaglenni a hyfforddiant hunanreoli o dan arweiniad pobl leyg i gynyddu annibyniaeth pobl sydd â chlefyd cronig—mentrau megis y rhaglen cleifion arbenigol. Mae rhaglenni sy'n canolbwyntio'n benodol ar gyflyrau yn cael eu datblygu gyda'r sector gwirfoddol, ac yn chwarae rhan gynyddol bwysig i gefnogi pobl sy'n byw gyda chyflyrau hirdymor. Ddoe, cefais gyfle i gwrdd ag ymarferwyr a thiworiaid sy'n ymwneud â'r rhaglen cleifion arbenigol. Yr oedd yn calonogi ac yn iselhau dyn i glywed am brofiadau pobl sy'n dioddef gan glefyd cronig a'r modd yr oedd y mentrau hyn o dan arweiniad pobl leyg wedi newid eu bywydau. Ar ôl siarad â'r rheini sy'n gysylltiedig â'r rhaglen cleifion arbenigol, byddwn yn meddwl ei bod yn addas iawn ar gyfer cleifion Parkinson. Byddai'r profiad sydd wedi datblygu drwy'r rhaglen cleifion arbenigol yn gweddu'n dda i hynny.

Bydd darparu gofal integredig yn gofyn am ymrwymiad gan nifer o bartneriaid ym maes iechyd, gofal cymdeithasol a'r sector gwirfoddol. Mae'n amlwg y bydd angen gwneud gwaith amlddisgyblaethol i wella'r ymateb ar gyfer pobl sydd â chlefyd cronig. Mae cynyddu sgiliau gweithwyr proffesiynol

and local health boards will be required to support local professional development and identify opportunities for the development of GPs, particularly those with special interests, specialist nurses and extended-scope practitioners in line with local requirements and priorities.

Plans are also being taken forward to improve medicine management and administration across primary and secondary care. Particularly important in this context is the new pharmacy contract and the new general medical practitioners' contract, which will support the regular review of medicines for individual patients. Community pharmacists are now able to undertake a greater degree of work with increased responsibility, particularly with the use of long-term medication. There is also scope for an extension of the prescribing rights of community pharmacists and of the nurses involved in delivering community care. New technologies are also being explored to help to link primary and secondary care services. They will improve communication and increase the flow of patient information.

In conclusion, therefore, Parkinson's disease and the Parkinson's Disease Society are a good example of where the voluntary sector can work, and is working, with statutory and other voluntary sector organisations to achieve real change. That change is taking place, and it will be supported by the Welsh Assembly Government as part of its wider 'Designed for Life' strategy.

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** That concludes our business for today.

ym maes iechyd a gweithwyr proffesiynol eraill yn bwysig, a bydd yn ofynnol i fyrddau iechyd lleol gefnogi datblygiad proffesiynol lleol a nodi cyfleoedd i ddatblygu meddygon teulu, yn arbennig y rheini sydd â diddordebau arbennig, nyrsys arbenigol ac ymarferwyr sydd â chwmpas estynedig yn unol â gofynion a blaenoriaethau lleol.

Mae cynlluniau'n cael eu datblygu hefyd i wella rheolaeth a gweinyddiaeth meddyginiaethau ar draws gofal sylfaenol ac eilaidd. Yn y cyd-destun hwn, bydd y contract fferyllfeydd newydd yn arbennig o bwysig, ynghyd â'r contract ymarferwyr meddygol cyffredinol newydd, a fydd yn cefnogi'r adolygiad rheolaidd o feddyginiaethau i gleifion unigol. Mae fferyllwyr cymunedol yn gallu ymgymryd â llawer mwy o waith yn awr gyda mwy o gyfrifoldeb, yn arbennig gyda defnyddio meddyginiaethau hirdymor. Mae posibilidau hefyd i ymestyn hawliau rhagnodi i fferyllwyr cymunedol a'r nyrsys sy'n gysylltiedig â darparu gofal cymunedol. Mae technolegau newydd yn cael eu hystyried hefyd i helpu cysylltu gwasanaethau gofal sylfaenol ac eilaidd. Byddant yn gwella cyfathrebu ac yn cynyddu llif gwybodaeth cleifion.

I gloi, felly, mae clefyd Parkinson a Chymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson yn enghraifft dda o ble y gall y sector gwirfoddol weithio a ble y mae'n gweithio, gyda sefydliadau statudol a sefydliadau yn y sector gwirfoddol i sicrhau newid gwirioneddol. Mae'r newid hwnnw'n digwydd, a chaiff ei gefnogi gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fel rhan o'i strategaeth 'Cynllun Oes' ehangach.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.23 p.m.  
The meeting ended at 5.23 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)  
 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)