



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Cofnod y Trafodion**

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

**Dydd Mercher, 5 Gorffennaf 2006
Wednesday, 5 July 2006**

Cynnwys
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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynddi 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

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiwn 1, **The Presiding Officer:** Question 1, OAQ0756(SJR), yn ôl. OAQ0756(SJR), has been withdrawn.

Tlodi ymysg Plant yng Nghwm Cynon Child Poverty in Cynon Valley

Q2 Christine Chapman: What progress has been made in tackling child poverty in Cynon Valley? OAQ0813(SJR)

C2 Christine Chapman: Pa gynnydd sydd wedi ei wneud o ran mynd i'r afael â thlodi ymysg plant yng Nghwm Cynon? OAQ0813(SJR)

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): Significant numbers of policies and programmes that are in place across the Assembly Government are aimed at combating child poverty in the Cynon Valley, most notably Genesis Wales and the new Flying Start initiative. In addition, my Deputy Minister has developed a range of general and specific policy proposals to be taken forward over the next 12 months as part of the child poverty implementation plan.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Mae nifer sylweddol o'r polisïau a'r rhaglenni sydd ar waith ar draws Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn anelu at fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant yng Nghwm Cynon, yn enwedig Genesis Cymru a'r fenter newydd Dechrau'n Deg. Yn ogystal, mae fy Nirprwy Weinidog wedi datblygu amrywiaeth o gynigion polisi cyffredinol a phenodol i'w datblygu dros y 12 mis nesaf fel rhan o'r cynllun gweithredu ar dlodi plant.

Christine Chapman: I welcome the fact that your Deputy Minister, Huw Lewis, will be in my area next week to talk about this important issue. As you say, it is a huge issue for our social justice agenda. I applaud the ambition of the Labour Government in Westminster and in Wales to reduce and eliminate child poverty. It is one of the greatest injustices that children's life chances are so heavily shaped by the circumstances into which they are born and the income of their households. We know that the challenge is immense. In 1979, less than 10 per cent of people were on what is classed as a low income; by 1997, this had risen to 25 per cent. Do you agree that, in areas such as the Valleys, where many incomes are low and many are reliant on state benefits, tackling child poverty is a top priority and that we owe it to our children to reverse the impact of the policies of the previous Conservative Government?

Christine Chapman: Croesawaf y ffaith y bydd eich Dirprwy Weinidog, Huw Lewis, yn fy ardal yr wythnos nesaf i siarad am y mater pwysig hwn. Fel y dywedwch, mae'n fater enfawr i'n hagenda cyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn canmol uchelgais y Llywodraeth Lafur yn San Steffan ac yng Nghymru i leihau tlodi plant a rhoi diwedd arno. Un o'r anghyfiawnderau mwyaf yw'r ffaith fod amgylchiadau plentyn pan gaiff ei eni ac incwm y cartref yn cael effaith mor fawr ar gyfleoedd y plentyn hwnnw mewn bywyd. Gwyddom fod yr her yn enfawr. Yn 1979, yr oedd llai na 10 y cant o bobl ar incwm isel, fel y'i diffinnir; erbyn 1997, yr oedd y ffigur hwn wedi codi i 25 y cant. A gytunwch, mewn ardaloedd fel y Cymoedd, lle mae incwm nifer o'r bobl yn isel a llawer yn dibynnu ar fudd-daliadau'r wladwriaeth, fod mynd i'r afael â thlodi plant yn brif flaenoriaeth, a'i bod yn ddyletswydd arnom i wrthdroi effaith polisïau'r Llywodraeth Geidwadol flaenorol.

Edwina Hart: I concur with your comments about the importance of tackling the issues of child poverty. It is a responsibility of Government at every level, be that nationally at the Assembly or at local government level, to prioritise policies to tackle child poverty across the piece.

Leanne Wood: Your Government's main programme to tackle poverty in the Cynon Valley and elsewhere in Wales is the Communities First programme. How many jobs have been created by that programme?

Edwina Hart: As Leanne knows full well, Communities First is part of a package of measures that we have to look at the issue of poverty across Wales. Leanne is also aware that we are currently considering what data we can provide in the future on specific levels of jobs and other things, which we may be able to garner together for Communities First areas.

Leanne Wood: One of the nine stated aims of your programme is to create jobs. I have seen your paper on statistics, and that is not going to answer my question regarding how many jobs have been created by the Communities First programme. I have asked you this question three times already. We are six years into a 10-year programme, a total of £131 million has been allocated to that programme, and you cannot tell us whether one of the key aims, which is to create jobs, has been met. Can you answer another simple question then? Another aim of the programme is to raise income levels. By how much have income levels been raised by the programme?

Edwina Hart: Leanne is referring to a paper that is going to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee for further discussion tomorrow. I will value the committee's comments and any improvements that we can make in terms of what statistical information we can make available. Communities First is out there and is at the capacity-building stage in many areas. It will take a considerably longer time to come to fruition, which is why it is a 10-year programme. These are not simple questions when you consider the holistic approach that the Government is taking.

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf â'ch sylwadau ynghylch pwysigrwydd mynd i'r afael â materion tlodi plant. Mae gan y Llywodraeth, ar bob lefel, boed yn genedlaethol yn y Cynulliad neu ar lefel llywodraeth leol, gyfrifoldeb i flaenoriaethu polisiau i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant yn gyffredinol.

Leanne Wood: Prif raglen eich Llywodraeth ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â thlodi yng Nghwm Cynon ac mewn mannau eraill yng Nghymru yw'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Faint o swyddi sydd wedi eu creu gan y rhaglen honno?

Edwina Hart: Fel y gŵyr Leanne, mae Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn rhan o becyn o fesurau sydd gennym i edrych ar dlodi ledled Cymru. Gŵyr Leanne hefyd ein bod wrthi ar hyn o bryd yn ystyried pa ddata y gallwn eu rhoi yn y dyfodol, ar lefelau penodol swyddi a phethau eraill, y gallwn hwyrach eu casglu ynghyd ar gyfer ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf.

Leanne Wood: Un o'r naw nod sydd gan eich rhaglen yw creu swyddi. Yr wyf wedi gweld eich papur ar ystadegau, ac nid yw hwnnw'n mynd i ateb fy nghwestiwn ynghylch faint o swyddi sydd wedi'u creu gan y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yr wyf wedi gofyn y cwestiwn hwn ichi deirgwaith yn barod. Mae'r rhaglen 10 mlynedd hon yn ei chweched blwyddyn, dyrannwyd cyfanswm o £131 miliwn ar gyfer y rhaglen honno, ac ni allwch ddweud wrthym a yw un o'r nodau allweddol, sef creu swyddi, wedi ei gyflawni. A allwch ateb cwestiwn syml arall? Un o nodau eraill y rhaglen yw cynyddu lefelau incwm. Faint y mae lefelau incwm wedi cynyddu oherwydd y rhaglen?

Edwina Hart: Mae Leanne yn cyfeirio at bapur a gaiff ei gyflwyno i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio i'w drafod ymhellach yfory. Byddaf yn gwerthfawrogi sylwadau'r pwyllgor ac unrhyw welliannau y gallwn eu gwneud o ran pa wybodaeth ystadegol y gallwn ei darparu. Mae Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ar waith ac yn y cyfnod datblygu capasiti mewn llawer ardal. Bydd yn cymryd lawer iawn yn hwy i ddwyn ffrwyth, a dyna'r rheswm pam y mae'n rhaglen 10 mlynedd. Nid yw'r rhain yn gwestiynau syml pan ystyriwch ddull cyfannol y Llywodraeth o weithredu.

David Melding: Child poverty is also linked to issues such as poor educational attainment, and poor nutrition and other health indicators. A recent report found evidence of early signs of heart disease and diabetes in 12-year-old children in Cynon Valley. It is important that we improve the general health and nutrition of people as part of the poverty-reduction programmes that are in place.

Edwina Hart: I thank David Melding for his comments, in terms of looking at the age range and the impact that poverty is having on children's health. One of the issues raised last week was the impact of homelessness on children, and Shelter Cymru has produced a report, 'Hidden', which focuses on that, because of children going from place to place. It is very important that we draw these strands together if we are to have a successful programme to tackle child poverty.

I also thank the Welsh Conservative Party for signing up to our targets in respect of child poverty.

David Melding: Mae tlodi plant hefyd yn gysylltiedig â materion megis cyrhaeddiad addysgol gwael, maeth gwael a dangosyddion iechyd eraill. Mewn adroddiad yn ddiweddar, cyflwynwyd tystiolaeth o arwyddion cynnar o glefyd y galon a diabetes ymhlith plant 12 oed yng Nghwm Cynon. Mae'n bwysig inni wella iechyd a maeth cyffredinol pobl fel rhan o'r rhaglenni sydd ar waith i leihau tlodi.

Edwina Hart: Hoffwn ddiolch i David Melding am ei sylwadau, o ran edrych ar yr ystod oedran ac effaith tlodi ar iechyd plant. Un o'r materion a godwyd yr wythnos diwethaf oedd effaith digartrefedd ar blant, ac mae Shelter Cymru wedi llunio adroddiad dan y teitl 'Cuddiedig', sy'n canolbwyntio ar hynny, oherwydd bod plant yn mynd o le i le. Mae'n bwysig iawn inni gyfuno'r elfennau hyn er mwyn cael rhaglen lwyddiannus i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant.

Hoffwn ddiolch hefyd i'r Blaid Geidwadol yng Nghymru am gytuno ar ein targedau ar dlodi plant.

Tai Cymdeithasol Social Housing

Q3 Leanne Wood: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of social housing in Wales? OAQ0765(SJR)

Edwina Hart: The social housing grant programme is being progressively increased to £96.4 million by 2007-08. The addition of private finance should produce total investment during the three years to 2007-08 of around £400 million. We have also recently launched a comprehensive package of measures to increase the provision of affordable housing.

Leanne Wood: I noted your announcement last week, Minister, regarding the right to buy. While it is a step in the right direction, a five-year moratorium is not enough when 47 per cent of our housing stock has been lost to the right to buy since 1991 and we have high levels of homelessness. The social housing grant is now two thirds of what it was in the 1990s, and, in 2005, local authorities in Wales built the grand total of one house. In your 2003 manifesto, you promised to

C3 Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ddarpariaeth tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru? OAQ0765(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Mae'r rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol yn cael ei chynyddu'n raddol i £96.4 miliwn erbyn 2007-08. Dylai cyllid preifat ar ben hynny sicrhau buddsoddi rhyw £400 miliwn yn ystod y tair blynedd i 2007-08. Yn ddiweddar hefyd yr ydym wedi lansio pecyn cynhwysfawr o fesurau i gynyddu'r ddarpariaeth o dai fforddiadwy.

Leanne Wood: Sylwais ar eich cyhoeddiad yr wythnos diwethaf, Weididog, ynghylch yr hawl i brynu. Er ei fod yn gam i'r cyfeiriad cywir, nid yw moratoriwm pum mlynedd yn ddigon pan gollwyd 47 y cant o'n stoc tai i'r cynllun hawl i brynu er 1991 a chennym lefelau uchel o ddigartrefedd. Erbyn hyn dim ond dwy ran o dair o'r hyn a oedd ar gael yn y 1990au yw'r grant tai cymdeithasol, ac yn 2005 adeiladodd awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru un tŷ yn unig. Yn eich manifffesto

suspend the right to buy. Can we now add that to your list of broken promises?

Edwina Hart: It is not entirely in my gift to suspend the right to buy; it was a matter of whether we could have the relevant powers given to us by the UK Government, and I, like you, would have liked those powers, because they would have made a substantial difference to our discussion on the affordable housing agenda.

Mark Isherwood: Research by Professor Steve Wilcox has shown that, even if we banned right to buy in its entirety today, there would not be another house available for rent through local authorities for another 10 years, on average.

We have heard reference to homelessness. Last year, Shelter Cymru stated that the latest figures showed a continued rise in homelessness in Wales and, as you say, that has an impact on children. Last month, you reported an unexplained decrease in homelessness. I have received an e-mail from social housing providers in Wales stating that they agree that the best way to tackle homelessness and to ensure affordable social housing is to increase housing investment, so for every £1 invested by the Assembly Government, the sector can ensure a corresponding leverage of private sector investment. What action will you take, working with your colleague, the Finance Minister, to prioritise this in the next budget round?

Edwina Hart: The Finance Minister and I are prioritising housing. The next budget round will be subject to discussions elsewhere, and I hope that I can be assured of all your support when it comes to looking at the issues surrounding housing. I am also pleased to note that you are having e-mails from social housing providers, but perhaps it would be nicer if they were to e-mail me, given that I have responsibility for it.

Mark Isherwood: May I respond?

The Presiding Officer: Yes. As the party spokesperson, I believe that you have the

yn 2003, addawyd y byddech yn atal yr hawl i brynu dros dro. A allwn yn awr ychwanegu hynny at eich rhestr o addewidion a dorwyd?

Edwina Hart: Nid yw'n llwyr o fewn fy mhwerau i atal yr hawl i brynu dros dro; yr oedd yn fater a allem gael y pwerau perthnasol gan Lywodraeth y DU, a byddwn i, fel chithau, wedi hoffi cael y pwerau hynny, oherwydd byddent wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i'n trafodaeth ar yr agenda tai fforddiadwy.

Mark Isherwood: Mae ymchwil gan yr Athro Steve Wilcox wedi dangos, hyd yn oed pe byddem yn gwahardd yr hawl i brynu yn gyfan gwbl heddiw, na fyddai tŷ arall ar gael i'w rentu drwy awdurdodau lleol am 10 mlynedd arall, ar gyfartaledd.

Clywsom gyfeiriad at ddigartrefedd. Y llynedd, dywedodd Shelter Cymru fod y ffigurau diweddaraf yn dangos cynnydd parhaus mewn digartrefedd yng Nghymru, ac fel y dywedwch, mae hynny'n effeithio ar blant. Fis diwethaf, yr oeddech yn sôn am ostyngiad yn nifer y digartref heb esboniad drosto. Yr wedi cael e-bost gan ddarparwyr tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru yn dweud eu bod yn cytuno mai'r ffordd orau i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd yw cynyddu'r buddsoddiad mewn tai. Felly, am bob £1 a gaiff ei buddsoddi gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, gall y sector sicrhau trosoledd cyfatebol o fuddsoddiad gan y sector preifat. Pa gamau a gymerwch, ar y cyd â'ch cyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog Cyllid, i flaenoriaethu hyn yng nghylch nesaf y gyllideb?

Edwina Hart: Mae'r Gweinidog Cyllid a minnau yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i dai. Bydd cylch nesaf y gyllideb yn amodol ar drafodaethau eraill, a gobeithio y gallaf ddibynnu ar gefnogaeth pob un ohonoch pan ddown i edrych ar y materion sy'n ymwneud â thai. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch gweld eich bod yn cael negeseuon e-bost gan ddarparwyr tai cymdeithasol. Ond efallai y byddai'n well pe byddent yn anfon negeseuau e-bost ataf fi, gan mai fi sy'n gyfrifol am y maes hwnnw.

Mark Isherwood: A gaf fi ymateb?

Y Llywydd: Cewch. Fel llefarydd y blaid, credaf fod gennych ddau gwestiwn atodol,

courtesy of two supplementary questions, which works rather well.

Mark Isherwood: My understanding is that those providers have every intention of communicating with you in detail on this matter, Minister. As you are aware, the current social housing grant projections for 2007-08 still leave them below the level that they were even a decade ago—they are massively lower in real terms.

You referred to falling homelessness in the latest figures, and Shelter has told me that it agrees with that; it does not know where homeless people are going. Housing associations also acknowledge a fall in homelessness presentations, but they say that that does not equate with their experience. At the same time, we note that housing waiting lists have risen dramatically—some 50 per cent, I think, across Wales last year alone. What urgent action can you and will you take, not only to meet the projections for future budget rounds, but also to tackle this real crisis in Wales today?

Edwina Hart: I am fortunate that some Members make positive suggestions regarding what I should do on homelessness, and one such suggestion that I did take up was Rhodri Glyn Thomas's, who said that I should meet representatives of the rural authorities to talk about rural homelessness. I did that this week, to see whether figures are being counted properly. I also attended Shelter Cymru's recent conference, and took part in a question-and-answer session. Shelter Cymru raised its concern with me that, as we are now looking for statistics, perhaps we are losing people, as it were, by asking them to comply. I have taken up all the points raised at that Shelter conference with my officials, and the points made by the representative of the Welsh Local Government Association about rural housing problems. The Wales Rural Observatory is also doing some work, and a report is due on that. I will report back to committee in the autumn if there is further work that we can do in that area.

sy'n gweithio'n eithaf da.

Mark Isherwood: O'r hyn a ddeallaf, mae'r darparwyr hynny yn bwriadu cysylltu â chi i drafod y mater hwn yn fanwl, Weinidog. Fel y gwyddoch, mae rhagamcanion presennol y grant tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer 2007-08 yn dal i olygu eu bod yn is na'u lefel ddegawd yn ôl hyd yn oed—maent yn sylweddol is mewn termau real.

Yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at ostyngiad yn nifer y digartref yn y ffigurau diwethaf, ac mae Shelter wedi dweud wrthyf ei bod yn cytuno â hynny; nid yw'n gwybod i ble y mae pobl ddigartref yn mynd. Mae cymdeithasau tai hefyd yn cydnabod bod nifer y bobl ddigartref a ddaw atynt wedi gostwng, ond dywedant nad yw hynny'n cyd-fynd â'u profiad. Ar yr un pryd, gwelwn fod rhestrau aros am dai wedi cynyddu'n ddramatig—tua 50 y cant, mi gredaf, ledled Cymru y llynedd yn unig. Pa gamau brys y gallwch eu cymryd ac y byddwch yn eu cymryd, nid yn unig i fodloni'r rhagamcanion ar gyfer cylchoedd cyllideb yn y dyfodol, ond hefyd i fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng gwirioneddol hwn yng Nghymru heddiw?

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn ffodus fod rhai Aelodau'n gwneud awgrymiadau cadarnhaol ynghylch yr hyn y dylwn ei wneud am ddigartrefedd, ac un o'r argymhellion a weithredwyd gennyf oedd un Rhodri Glyn Thomas, a ddywedodd y dylwn gwrdd â chynrychiolwyr o'r awdurdodau gwledig i siarad am ddigartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad. Gwneuthum hynny yr wythnos hon, i weld a yw ffigurau'n cael eu cyfrif yn gywir. Hefyd, bûm mewn cynhadledd yn ddiweddar gan Shelter Cymru a chymerais ran mewn sesiwn holi ac ateb. Mynegodd Shelter Cymru ei phryder sef, gan ein bod yn chwilio am ystadegau yn awr, efallai ein bod yn colli pobl, fel petai, drwy ofyn iddynt gydymffurfio. Yr wyf wedi trafod yr holl bwyntiau a godwyd yn y gynhadledd honno gan Shelter gyda'm swyddogion, ynghyd â'r pwyntiau a wnaed gan gynrychiolydd Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ynghylch problemau tai gwledig. Mae Arsyllfa Wledig Cymru hefyd yn gwneud rhywfaint o waith, ac mae adroddiad ar hynny yn yr arfaeth. Byddaf yn cyflwyno

adroddiad i'r pwyllgor yn yr hydref os oes rhagor o waith y gallwn ei wneud yn y maes hwnnw.

2.10 p.m.

Peter Black: Minister, I understand that about half a dozen local authorities are looking to transfer their stock as part of the stock transfer programme in order to raise money to bring that stock up to the Welsh quality housing standard. If those transfers go ahead, and the tenants vote for them, a substantial amount of money will come into Wales from the Treasury to pay off the huge amounts of debt that the local authorities concerned have built up over the years. In the past, you have made representations about the public sector borrowing requirement. It seems to me that, with prudential borrowing, if those debts were paid off prior to transfer, those authorities would not have to go down that route. Would you consider making representations to the Treasury along those lines, and suggest that, instead of paying the debt off after transfer, it pays off the debt before transfer, thus offering another alternative to local authorities?

Edwina Hart: I thank the Member for his suggestion. I will discuss it with the Finance Minister to see whether we can take it forward, and report back to Plenary.

Peter Black: Thank you for that, Minister. I am Mick Bates today, so I can have a second supplementary. Thank you for taking up that suggestion. In terms of those stock transfer arrangements, can you say what you can do to help local authorities get the message across to tenants about how much this investment is needed and, in particular, the lack of alternatives available to them?

Edwina Hart: I have had this raised with me recently by a local authority leader concerned that the message about how this investment can help economic development and other issues is not being clearly conveyed. As you are aware, Keith Edwards has been seconded to us from the Chartered Institute of Housing to look at the right-to-know issues, and we

Peter Black: Weinidog, deallaf fod tua chwe awdurdod lleol yn bwriadu trosglwyddo'u stoc fel rhan o'r rhaglen trosglwyddo stoc er mwyn codi arian i sicrhau bod y stoc hwnnw'n cyrraedd safon ansawdd tai Cymru. Os gwneir hynny, a bod y tenantiaid yn pleidleisio o'u plaid, bydd swm sylweddol o arian yn cael ei roi i Gymru gan y Trysorlys i dalu'r dyledion enfawr y mae'r awdurdodau lleol dan sylw wedi eu tynnu dros y blynyddoedd. Yn y gorffennol, yr ydych wedi gwneud sylwadau am ofyniad benthyca'r sector cyhoeddus. Ymddengys imi, o ran benthyca darbodus, pe byddai'r dyledion hynny yn cael eu talu cyn y broses drosglwyddo, na fyddai'n rhaid i'r awdurdodau hynny ddilyn y llwybr hwnnw. A fydech yn ystyried cyflwyno sylwadau i'r Trysorlys ar hynny, ac awgrymu, yn hytrach na thalu'r ddyled ar ôl trosglwyddo stoc, ei fod yn talu'r ddyled cyn ei drosglwyddo, a thrwy hynny, gynnig dewis amgen i awdurdodau lleol?

Edwina Hart: Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Aelod am ei awgrym. Byddaf yn ei drafod gyda'r Gweinidog Cyllid i weld a allwn wneud hynny, ac adroddaf yn ôl ar y mater i'r Cyfarfod Llawn.

Peter Black: Diolch am hynny, Weinidog. Gan fy mod yn cymryd lle Mick Bates heddiw, gallaf ofyn ail gwestiwn atodol. Diolch am ystyried yr awgrym hwnnw. O ran y trefniadau hynny i drosglwyddo stoc, a allwch ddweud beth y gallwch ei wneud i helpu awdurdodau lleol i gyfleu'r neges i denantiaid ynghylch faint yw'r angen am y buddsoddiad hwn, ac yn arbennig y prinder dewisiadau amgen sydd ar gael iddynt?

Edwina Hart: Mae arweinydd un awdurdod lleol wedi codi'r mater hwn yn ddiweddar gan ei fod yn pryderu nad yw'r neges ynghylch sut y gall y buddsoddiad hwn helpu datblygu economaidd a materion eraill yn cael ei chyfleu'n glir. Fel y gwyddoch, mae Keith Edwards ar fenthg i ni ar hyn o bryd o'r Sefydliad Tai Siartredig i edrych ar y

are progressing quite well on some of those, which I hope will help us to have a frank exchange of views, and also to have the proper facts in the public domain.

materion sy'n ymwneud â'r hawl i wybod, ac yr ydym yn gwneud cynnydd eithaf da ar rai ohonynt. Gobeithio y bydd hynny'n ein helpu i rannu safbwyntiau mewn ffordd agored, a hefyd i gyhoeddi'r ffeithiau cywir.

Uno'r Heddluoedd Police Force Mergers

Q4 Jonathan Morgan: What discussions has the Minister had with the UK Government regarding the delay to police force mergers in Wales? OAQ0788(SJR)

C4 Jonathan Morgan: Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cael gyda Llywodraeth y DU ynglŷn â'r oedi cyn uno'r heddluoedd yng Nghymru? OAQ0788(SJR)

Edwina Hart: I have been pressing both the current and former Home Office Ministers to review the timetable and I am delighted that they have now done so.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf wedi bod yn pwysu ar gyn Weinidog a Gweinidog presennol y Swyddfa Gartref i adolygu'r amserlen, ac yr wyf wrth fy modd eu bod erbyn wedi gwneud hynny.

Jonathan Morgan: I am grateful to the Minister for that reply. Minister, you know that many in the Chamber are still worried that the police merger will go ahead and that, as a result, we in Wales could incur a substantial charge to cover the costs of that merger. Can you confirm that it is the Assembly Government's intention, and your intention as Minister, to ensure that the cost of any future merger does not fall on either the Assembly Government or the Welsh taxpayer?

Jonathan Morgan: Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Weinidog, fe wyddoch fod llawer Aelod yn y Siambr yn dal i boeni y bydd y broses o uno'r heddluoedd yn mynd rhagddi, ac o ganlyniad y gallem yng Nghymru dynnu costau sylweddol i dalu am hynny. A allwch gadarnhau ei bod yn fwriad gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, ac yn fwriad gennych chi fel Gweinidog, i sicrhau na fydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad na threthdalwyr yng Nghymru yn gorfod talu am unrhyw uno yn y dyfodol?

Edwina Hart: I concur with the comments of the Finance Minister, which are relevant to this discussion, made when she answered questions on this. I will continue to press the Home Office to resolve the outstanding financial issues. As far as I am concerned, this is a structural review that has been undertaken by the Home Office, never mind that it was done by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, and I do not believe that the costs should fall on the Welsh taxpayer.

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf â sylwadau'r Gweinidog Cyllid, sy'n berthnasol i'r drafodaeth hon, pan atebodd gwestiynau ar hyn. Byddaf yn parhau i bwysu ar y Swyddfa Gartref i ddatrys y materion ariannol sydd ar ôl. Yn fy marn i, adolygiad strwythurol yw hwn a gynhaliwyd gan y Swyddfa Gartref, er mai Arolygiaeth Cwnstabiliaeth Ei Mawrhydi a fu'n gyfrifol amdano, ac ni chredaf y dylai'r trethdalwyr yng Nghymru orfod talu'r costau.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Weinidog, yr ydym i gyd yn falch bod uno'r heddluoedd wedi'i oedi am o leiaf blwyddyn. Fodd bynnag, pe bai'n digwydd ymhen blwyddyn, byddwch yn ymwybodol fod cymunedau gwledig Cymru yn poeni y bydd adnoddau yn cael eu symud o'r ardaloedd hynny i'r dinasoedd, lle mae prinder heddlu, fel yr ydym yn ei gydnabod. A wnewch roi sicrwydd i ni, os

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Minister, we are all pleased that the police merger has been delayed for at least a year. However, if it were to happen in a year's time, you will be aware that rural communities in Wales are worried that resources will be moved from those areas to the cities, where there is a shortage of police, as we recognise. Will you assure us that, if you are in Government after

ydych mewn Llywodraeth ar ôl 2007, y byddwch yn sicrhau na fydd cymunedau gwledig yn colli'r plismona cymunedol sydd ganddynt ar hyn o bryd?

Edwina Hart: I share the concerns that have been expressed across Wales that communities do not want to lose what they currently have as a result of any restructuring. The important issue for us is community policing; the police need to be seen out and about, and many rural areas have particularly welcomed the way in which some forces have adapted to this agenda. As far as I am concerned, it is our duty to ensure that we have the same levels of policing, even if restructuring goes ahead. More money should be put into the pot if there are to be changes.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): There has been a fair deal of Minnie the Moochering going on by your Government Ministers in London to try to assuage the difficulties left by a previous Home Secretary. Can you tell us whether, in your view, the delay that will happen because the Ministers have decided, at last, to talk to people, will be of a year or two or three years? What is your estimate of when you expect them to reach a final conclusion on what they propose to do in Wales?

Edwina Hart: To be entirely honest, I am not sure whether this will be 12, 24 or 36 months, but I think that it is essential that we recognise that there is a spirit of discussion. It is not only Wales that has been unhappy about the restructuring proposals. We will only know when we receive a letter from the Home Office advising us of the timetable; the only certainty will be at that stage. However, it is important that we continue to air our views. I am delighted that we will debate the committee report on restructuring this afternoon; that will allow us to put forward, quite firmly, the cross-party views of the National Assembly on some of these issues, which I will then forward to the Minister for Police and Security.

2007, you will ensure that rural communities will not lose the community policing that they currently have?

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf fi hefyd yn pryderu, fel y mynegwyd ledled Cymru, nad yw cymunedau am golli'r hyn sydd ganddynt ar hyn o bryd oherwydd unrhyw ailstrwythuro. Y mater pwysig inni yw plismona cymunedau; mae angen i'r heddlu gael eu gweld, ac mae llawer ardal wledig wedi croesawu'r ffordd y mae rhai heddluoedd wedi addasu i'r agenda hon. Yn fy marn i, mae'n ddyletswydd arnom sicrhau bod gennym yr un lefelau plismona, hyd yn oed os gweithredir y broses ailstrwythuro. Dylid buddsoddi mwy o arian os bydd newidiadau.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Bu llawer iawn o ddiffyg gweithredu gan Weinidogion eich Llywodraeth yn Llundain i geisio lleddfu'r anawsterau a adawyd gan Ysgrifennydd Cartref blaenorol. A allwch ddweud wrthym a fydd yr oedi, a fydd yn digwydd am fod y Gweinidogion o'r diwedd wedi penderfynu siarad â phobl, yn flwyddyn neu ddwy neu dair, yn eich barn chi? Pryd y disgwylwch iddynt benderfynu'r hyn y maent yn cynnig ei wneud yng Nghymru?

Edwina Hart: A dweud y gwir, nid wyf yn siŵr a fydd yn 12, 24 neu 36 mis, ond credaf ei bod yn hanfodol inni gydnabod bod awydd i drafod. Nid Cymru yn unig sydd wedi bod yn anfodlon ynghylch y cynigion ailstrwythuro. Ni fyddwn yn gwybod tan inni gael llythyr gan y Swyddfa Gartref yn cyflwyno'r amserlen; ni fydd sicrwydd tan hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig inni barhau i leisio ein barn. Yr wyf yn falch iawn ein bod yn mynd i drafod adroddiad y pwyllgor ar ailstrwythuro y prynhawn yma; bydd hynny'n ein galluogi i gyflwyno barn drawsbleidiol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn eithaf cadarn ar rai o'r materion hyn, a byddaf yn ei hanfon ymlaen wedyn at y Gweinidog dros yr Heddlu a Diogelwch.

Camddefnyddio Cyffuriau ac Alcohol Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Q5 Janet Ryder: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of treatment for drug and alcohol abuse in north Wales? OAQ0767(SJR)

Edwina Hart: A range of treatment services for drug and alcohol misuse is provided in north Wales. The community safety partnerships in that area have responsibility for commissioning appropriate treatment services based on an assessment of need.

Janet Ryder: Hand in hand with treatment goes prevention. I am sure that you are aware of the 'Don't touch—tell' programme run by Cais Ltd, which has been running successfully for 10 years. The parents of 80 per cent of the children who have participated in that programme remember them talking about it at home, and over 75 per cent of those children remember what they have been told a year on. Will you look at that programme to see how it can be used as an example of really good practice? The programme works with very young children at key stages 1 and 2. Will you see how it can be rolled out across Wales?

Edwina Hart: Thank you for your comments; it is good when you see a programme that has worked well. I would be delighted to take this on board and consider it with my officials.

Brynle Williams: I have received—I am sorry; good afternoon, Minister. [*Laughter.*] I have received several complaints from teaching staff at north Wales schools who are concerned about the lack of police interest in following up reports about drug dealing in and around school premises. Would you agree that, in terms of the best preventative action, the police should be doing their utmost to work in partnership with schools to nip these problems in the bud, before they get under way?

Edwina Hart: Thank you for your question. There is a public interest here if issues are not being picked up when drug dealing goes on

C5 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddarpariaeth triniaethau ar gyfer camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol yng ngogledd Cymru? OAQ0767(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Darperir amrywiaeth o wasanaethau trin i bobl sy'n camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol yn y gogledd. Mae'n gyfrifoldeb ar y partneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol yn yr ardal honno i gomisiynu gwasanaethau trin priodol ar sail asesiad o'r angen.

Janet Ryder: Mae atal yn mynd law yn llaw â thrin. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn gwybod am y rhaglen 'Don't touch—tell' y mae Cais Cyf yn ei rhedeg, rhaglen a fu'n llwyddiannus am 10 mlynedd. Mae rhieni 80 y cant o'r plant sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn y rhaglen honno'n cofio iddynt sôn am y peth gartref, ac mae dros 75 y cant o'r plant hynny yn cofio'r hyn a ddywedwyd wrthynt flwyddyn yn ddiweddarach. A fyddwch yn edrych ar y rhaglen honno i weld sut y gellir ei defnyddio fel enghraifft o arfer gwirioneddol dda? Mae'r rhaglen yn gweithio gyda phlant bach yng nghyfnodau allweddol 1 a 2. A fyddwch yn edrych i weld sut y gellid ei rhoi ar waith ledled Cymru?

Edwina Hart: Diolch ichi am eich sylwadau; mae'n braf gweld rhaglen sydd wedi gweithio'n dda. Byddwn yn falch iawn o drafod ac ystyried y rhaglen hon gyda'm swyddogion.

Brynle Williams: Yr wyf wedi cael—mae'n ddrwg gennyf; prynhawn da, Weinidog. [*Chwerthin.*] Yr wyf wedi cael nifer o gwynion gan staff addysgu mewn ysgolion yn y gogledd sy'n pryderu ynghylch diffyg diddordeb yr heddlu i fynd ar drywydd adroddiadau am werthu cyffuriau ar dir ysgolion a'r cyffiniau. A gytunech y dylai'r heddlu, o ran y camau gweithredu ataliol gorau, fod yn gwneud eu gorau i weithio mewn partneriaeth ag ysgolion i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau hyn cyn iddynt waethygu?

Edwina Hart : Diolch am eich cwestiwn. Os nad eir i'r afael â phroblemau gwerthu cyffuriau yng nghyffiniau ysgolion, mae'n

around schools. I met the chief constables on Monday, so, unfortunately, I am not due to meet them again until the autumn. However, I will write to them on this point, to see what common practice exists across Wales for dealing with reports of drug dealing around schools. We certainly do not want to see dealers at school gates, as we sometimes see in other countries on our televisions.

fater o fudd cyhoeddus. Cyfarfûm â'r prif gwnstabiliaid ddydd Llun, felly, ni fyddaf yn cyfarfod â hwy eto tan yr hydref, yn anffodus. Fodd bynnag, ysgrifennaf atynt ynghylch hyn i weld pa arfer sy'n gyffredin ledled Cymru i ymdrin ag adroddiadau am werthu cyffuriau yng nghyffiniau ysgolion. Yn sicr nid ydym am weld gwerthwyr cyffuriau wrth glwydi ysgolion, fel y gwelwn weithiau mewn gwledydd eraill ar y teledu.

Hybu Menter Gymdeithasol Promoting Social Enterprise

Q6 Janice Gregory: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to support and promote social enterprise in Wales?
OAO0773(SJR)

C6 Janice Gregory: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i gefnogi a hybu menter gymdeithasol yng Nghymru?
OAO0773(SJR)

Edwina Hart: A detailed paper supporting the social enterprise strategy, along with presentations from six social enterprise organisations, went to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 15 March. Priorities for action identified by the social enterprise joint working group are procurement, asset transfer, access to finance, and, of course, mentoring.

Edwina Hart: Cyflwynwyd papur manwl yn ategu'r strategaeth mentrau cymdeithasol, ynghyd â chyflwyniadau gan chwe sefydliad sy'n cynrychioli mentrau cymdeithasol, i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 15 Mawrth. Y blaenoriaethau ar gyfer gweithredu a nodwyd gan y cydweithgor mentrau cymdeithasol yw caffael, trosglwyddo asedau, gallu cael cyllid, ac, wrth gwrs, mentora.

Janice Gregory: That was an interesting part of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee meeting. Creation Development Trust, based in Blaengarw, in my constituency, has recently launched a new, healthy-eating village café, a village hall catering facility and a food co-operative that distributes fresh food locally, as do many other organisations throughout Wales. The aim of these projects is to tackle poor health in the community, but they will also provide a welcome place to socialise, thereby adding to the sense of community. Will you join me in recognising Creation Development Trust for its continuing work in addressing the social, environmental, economic and, now, health needs of the Garw valley, and may I invite you to visit this facility with me at some point?

Janice Gregory: Yr oedd y rhan honno o gyfarfod y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio yn ddiddorol. Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Ddatblygu Creation, o Flaengarw yn fy etholaeth i, yn ddiweddar wedi lansio caffi pentref newydd sy'n darparu bwydydd iach, cyfleuster arlwyio yn neuadd y pentref a chwmni bwyd cydweithredol sy'n dosbarthu bwyd ffres yn lleol, fel y mae nifer o sefydliadau eraill ledled Cymru yn ei wneud. Nod y prosiectau hyn yw mynd i'r afael ag iechyd gwael yn y gymuned, ond byddant hefyd yn fannau da i gymdeithasu, a fydd yn ychwanegu at yr ymdeimlad o gymuned. A ymunwch â mi i gydnabod gwaith parhaus Ymddiriedolaeth Ddatblygu Creation wrth geisio diwallu'r anghenion cymdeithasol, amgylcheddol, economaidd, a'r anghenion iechyd bellach, yng nghwm Garw, ac a gaf eich gwahodd i ymweld â'r cyfleuster hwn gyda mi rywbryd?

Edwina Hart: I congratulate the trust on its initiative in setting up this arrangement. I am particularly interested in the food co-

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn llongyfarch yr ymddiriedolaeth am fod mor flaengar yn sefydlu'r trefniant hwn. Mae'r cwmni bwyd

operative, as such co-operatives, which are to be seen across Wales, are enormously successful. Some of them deliver to pensioners, and youngsters are involved in making the deliveries. That puts healthy food in people's homes. I would be delighted to visit this project.

Alun Cairns: Many social enterprises, such as that mentioned by Janice Gregory in Blaengarw, in my constituency, and the one that you will be familiar with in Clydach, also in my constituency—the Cwmni Clydach Development Trust—depend on European funding to establish themselves and to progress. With new cohesion funds becoming available next year, it is obvious that the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks seeks to centralise issues rather than have this bottom-up approach; he was quite explicit about abandoning the bottom-up approach this morning in committee. What representation have you received from such organisations, which might need that extra bit of funding just for a short period to ensure their long-term sustainability?

2.20 p.m.

Edwina Hart: It is important that we ensure their long-term sustainability, because some excellent work has been undertaken, particularly by development trusts. You mentioned Clydach in the Gower constituency, which is an excellent example given the new community facility that was opened the other week by the First Minister. It shows how you can bring the various strands of community activity together. Clearly, social enterprise crosses several departmental and ministerial portfolios in the Assembly. However, we have a co-ordinated approach, and I will certainly look with interest at how we can further develop that in terms of economic development and will have the appropriate discussions with my colleague, Andrew Davies.

Gwenda Thomas: Will you join me in congratulating the Glynneath Training Centre

cydweithredol o ddiddordeb arbennig i mi, gan fod cwmnïau cydweithredol o'r fath, sydd i'w gweld ledled Cymru, yn llwyddiannus dros ben. Mae rhai ohonynt yn dosbarthu bwyd i bensiynwyr, ac mae pobl ifanc yn ymwneud â'r gwaith dosbarthu. Mae hynny'n rhoi bwyd iachus yng nghartrefi pobl. Byddwn wrth fy modd yn ymweld â'r prosiect hwn.

Alun Cairns: Mae nifer o fentrau cymdeithasol, fel honno y soniodd Janice Gregory amdani ym Mlaengarw, yn fy etholaeth i, a'r un y byddwch yn gyfarwydd â hi yng Nghlydach, sydd hefyd yn fy etholaeth i—Ymddiriedolaeth Ddatblygu Cwmni Clydach—yn dibynnu ar arian Ewropeaidd i ymsefydlu a datblygu. Gyda dyfodiad cronfeydd cydlyniant newydd y flwyddyn nesaf, mae'n amlwg bod y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau am ganoli materion yn hytrach na pharhau'r dull hwn o'r bôn i'r brig; yn y pwyllgor y bore yma yr oedd yn eithaf pendant ynghylch cefnu ar y dull hwn o'r bôn i'r brig. Pa sylwadau a gawsoch gan sefydliadau o'r fath y gallai fod arnynt angen ychydig mwy o arian am gyfnod byr i sicrhau eu bod yn gynaliadwy yn yr hirdymor?

Edwina Hart: Mae'n bwysig inni sicrhau eu bod yn gynaliadwy yn yr hirdymor, oherwydd mae gwaith ardderchog wedi ei wneud, gan ymddiriedolaethau datblygu yn enwedig. Soniech am Glydach yn etholaeth Gŵyr, sy'n enghraifft ardderchog, o gofio am y cyfleuster cymunedol newydd a agorwyd yno ychydig wythnosau'n ôl gan y Prif Weinidog. Mae'n dangos sut y gallwch ddwyn ynghyd wahanol agweddau ar weithgaredd cymunedol. Yn amlwg, mae menter gymdeithasol yn berthnasol i lawer adran a phortffolio gweinidogol yn y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym ddull cydgyssylltiedig, ac yn sicr byddaf yn edrychaf gyda diddordeb i weld sut y gallwn ddatblygu hynny ymhellach o ran datblygiad economaidd, a byddaf yn cael y trafodaethau priodol gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Andrew Davies.

Gwenda Thomas: A ymunwch â mi i longyfarch Canolfan Hyfforddiant Glyn-nedd

in my constituency, which has been named the most enterprising place in Wales as part of the prestigious UK-wide Enterprising Britain 2006 competition? The centre currently provides employment for approximately 36 tutors and 21 centre staff, and had 17,000 users in the last year alone, attracting almost £2 million in grant funding to the local community. Will you join me in wishing it all the best in the UK national competition final in September?

Edwina Hart: I very much hope that it is successful in becoming a winner in the UK national competition, which would be excellent news. I am well aware of the work that Glynneath Training Centre undertakes. The fact that 17,000 people have had access to it in such an area is quite phenomenal. It is to be congratulated on its work at a grass-roots level in developing what communities require.

Eleanor Burnham: In the Enterprise, Innovation and Networks Committee meeting this morning, we heard that community regeneration might well be severely cut. What do you have to say on that? Furthermore, how are the targets that you set in the social enterprise strategy for Wales of ensuring growth in turnover of over £1 million by 2008 performing, and how has that improved the lives of my north Wales constituents?

Edwina Hart: The establishment of successful social enterprises helps everyone in communities, for example, they help people into employment. It is important for us to continue to develop this strategy. I have no reason to believe that the target set by me will not be reached, but I will not comment on any discussion that may have occurred in committee this morning until I check the Record of Proceedings.

yn fy etholaeth, a enwyd fel y lle gorau o ran menter yng Nghymru fel rhan o'r gystadleuaeth bwysig 'Enterprising Britain 2006' a gynhelir ledled y DU? Ar hyn o bryd mae'r ganolfan yn cyflogi tua 36 o diwtoriaid a 21 o staff y ganolfan, ac fe'i defnyddiwyd gan 17,000 o bobl yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf yn unig, gan ddenu bron i £2 filiwn mewn arian grant i'r gymuned leol. A ymunwch â mi i ddymuno'r gorau iddi yn rownd derfynol cystadleuaeth genedlaethol y DU ym mis Medi?

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn gobeithio'n wir y bydd yn llwyddiannus ac y bydd yn ennill cystadleuaeth genedlaethol y DU. Byddai hynny'n newyddion gwych. Gwn yn iawn am y gwaith y mae Canolfan Hyfforddiant Glynedd yn ei wneud. Mae'r ffaith fod 17,000 o bobl wedi gallu ei defnyddio mewn ardal felly yn rhyfeddol. Dylid ei llongyfarch am ei gwaith ar lawr gwlad yn datblygu'r hyn y mae cymunedau am ei gael.

Eleanor Burnham: Yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Menter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau y bore yma, clywsom ei bod yn bosibl iawn y bydd arian adfywio cymunedol yn cael ei gwtogi'n ddifrifol. Beth sydd gennych i'w ddweud am hynny? Ar ben hynny, sut mae'r targedau a bennwyd gennych yn y strategaeth mentrau cymdeithasol ar gyfer Cymru, sef sicrhau twf mewn trosiant o fwy nag £1 filiwn erbyn 2008, yn perfformio, a sut mae hynny wedi gwella bywydau fy etholwyr i yn y gogledd?

Edwina Hart: Mae sefydlu mentrau cymdeithasol llwyddiannus yn helpu pawb mewn cymunedau; er enghraifft, maent yn helpu pobl i gael gwaith. Mae'n bwysig inni barhau i ddatblygu'r strategaeth hon. Nid oes gennyf reswm dros gredu na chyrhaeddir y targed a bennwyd, ond nid wyf am wneud sylw am unrhyw drafodaeth a allai fod wedi digwydd yn y pwyllgor y bore yma tan imi edrych ar Gofnod y Trafodion.

Camddefnyddio Cyffuriau ac Alcohol Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Q7 Jocelyn Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of treatment of drug and alcohol abuse in South Wales East? OAQ0764(SJR)

C7 Jocelyn Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y triniaethau ar gyfer camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol a ddarperir yn Nwyrain De Cymru?

OAQ0764(SJR)

Edwina Hart: There is a wide range of treatment services for drug and alcohol misuse in South Wales East. The community safety partnerships in that area have responsibility for commissioning appropriate treatment services based on an assessment of need.

Jocelyn Davies: You will know that plans to set up rehabilitation units often meet with fierce opposition from local residents. What guidance do you give relating to the suitability of locations for rehabilitation facilities, and how many new beds have been created in the south east since 1999?

Edwina Hart: I am aware that there is some controversy sometimes about the location of substance misuse centres, but those are mainly matters for the local authorities. However, I will discuss with my officials what additional help and assistance could be given. I know that you, Jocelyn, very much support my line: that it is very important for us to have these centres and that we must work with the public to ensure that they are welcomed because we must provide that necessary provision.

On the treatment side, I will have to check the number of spaces, or whatever we call them, and come back to you because that information is not easily available to me at the moment.

William Graham: You will be aware of the success—or lack of success last night, if you consider the German football team—of German footballer Michael Ballack's anti-smoking campaign in his country. Could you encourage sportswomen and sportsmen in Wales to give a similar anti-drugs and anti-drinking message?

Edwina Hart: Yes. I can see that my fellow Ministers were listening to those comments. It is an excellent idea to have such role models giving strong messages. We need strong messages on alcohol consumption, as well as tobacco consumption. It is important that the Assembly continues to press for a ban on alcohol advertising and related issues. That might also help. It would be enormously

Edwina Hart: Mae yna amrywiaeth eang o wasanaethau triniaeth i bobl sy'n camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol yn Nwyrain De Cymru. Mae cyfrifoldeb ar y partneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol yn yr ardal honno i gomisiynu gwasanaethau triniaeth priodol ar sail ar asesiad o'r angen.

Jocelyn Davies: Gwyddoch fod cynlluniau i sefydlu unedau adsefydlu yn aml yn wynebu gwrthwynebiad chwyrn gan drigolion lleol. Pa ganllawiau a roddwch o ran addasrwydd lleoliadau ar gyfer cyfleusterau adsefydlu, a sawl gwely newydd a grëwyd yn y de-ddwyrain ers 1999?

Edwina Hart: Gwn fod ychydig ddadlau weithiau ynghylch lleoliad canolfannau camddefnyddio sylweddau, ond materion i'r awdurdodau lleol yw'r rheini'n bennaf. Fodd bynnag, yn trafod gyda'm swyddogion pa gymorth ychwanegol y gellid ei roi. Gwn eich bod chi, Jocelyn, yn cefnogi fy safiad: ei bod yn bwysig inni gael y canolfannau hyn a bod rhaid inni weithio gyda'r cyhoedd i sicrhau bod croeso i'r canolfannau oherwydd rhaid inni ddarparu'r ddarpariaeth angenrheidiol honno.

O ran y driniaeth, bydd rhaid imi gadarnhau nifer y lleoedd gwag, neu beth bynnag yr ydym yn eu galw, a dod yn ôl atoch, oherwydd nid yw'r wybodaeth honno wrth law yhwylus ar hyn o bryd.

William Graham: Gwyddoch am lwyddiant—neu aflwyddiant neithiwr, os ystyriwch dîm pêl-droed yr Almaen—yr ymgyrch wrth-ysmygu gan y pêl-droediwr Michael Ballack o'r Almaen yn ei wlad ei hun. A allech annog unigolion yn y byd chwaraeon yng Nghymru i gyhoeddi neges debyg yn erbyn cyffuriau ac yfed?

Edwina Hart: Gallwn. Gwelaf fod fy nghyd-Weinidogion yn gwrando ar y sylwadau hynny. Mae cael modelau rôl o'r fath yn cyhoeddi negeseuon cryfion yn syniad gwych. Mae arnom angen negeseuon cryfion ynghylch yfed alcohol yn ogystal â negeseuon am ysmegu. Mae'n bwysig i'r Cynulliad barhau i alw am waharddiad ar hysbysebu alcohol a materion cysylltiedig.

helpful if we could have sports people whom young people look up to and admire sending out some of those messages.

Gallai hynny helpu hefyd. Byddai'n fuddiol dros ben pe gallem ddarbwyllio unigolion o'r byd chwaraeon y mae pobl ifanc yn eu hedmygu i gyfleu rhai o'r negeseuon hynny.

Allgáu Cymdeithasol Social Exclusion

Q8 Jenny Randerson: Will the Minister make a statement on social exclusion in Cardiff Central? OAQ0815(SJR)

C8 Jenny Randerson: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am allgáu cymdeithasol yng Nghanol Caerdydd? OAQ0815(SJR)

Edwina Hart: We are committed to tackling social exclusion across Wales through a range of Assembly policies and programmes. The social justice report for 2006 sets out how the wider social, educational and economic barriers that contribute to social exclusion are being tackled.

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael ag allgáu cymdeithasol ledled Cymru drwy ystod o bolisiau a rhaglenni'r Cynulliad. Mae'r adroddiad ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol 2006 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.

Jenny Randerson: Recent publicity on the placing of paedophiles in hotel accommodation in central Cardiff has highlighted a number of worrying issues. There is an increasing trend in terms of ex-offenders, and drug users in need of housing, being placed in Cardiff by their home local authorities. Several councils make particular use of this within their housing policies. Cardiff County Council is not informed about or consulted on the suitability of the accommodation, and the police are only informed in the case of registered sex-offenders. I am concerned that there is a weakness in the housing legislation in this regard, which also then imposes a duty on Cardiff council to eventually re-house the people concerned. Minister, will you agree to re-examine the housing and homelessness legislation to ensure that a local authority, where such groups are re-housed within its area, is suitably consulted, and also to ensure that local authorities cannot export housing problems to other local authorities?

Jenny Randerson: Mae cyhoeddusrwydd yn ddiweddar ynghylch lletya pedoffiliaid mewn gwestai yng nghanol Caerdydd wedi tynnu sylw at nifer o faterion sy'n destun pryder. Mae tuedd gynyddol ymysg awdurdodau lleol i osod cyn-droseddwr a defnyddwr cyffuriau sydd ag angen tai arnynt ac sy'n rhan o'u hawdurdod, yng Nghaerdydd. Mae sawl cyngor yn gwneud defnydd penodol o hyn yn eu polisiau tai. Nid yw Cyngor Sir Caerdydd yn cael gwybod ac nid ymgynghorir â'r cyngor ynghylch priodoldeb y llety, a dim ond os yw'n droseddwr rhyw cofrestredig y caiff yr heddlu wybod. Yr wyf yn pryderu bod gwendid yn y ddeddfwriaeth tai yn hyn o beth, sy'n golygu bod dyletswydd ar gyngor Caerdydd yn y pen draw i ailgartrefu'r bobl hyn. Weinidog, a gytunwch i ailedrych ar y ddeddfwriaeth tai a digartrefedd i sicrhau ymgynghori'n briodol ag awdurdod lleol pan gaiff grwpiau felly eu hailgartrefu yn ei ddalgylch, a hefyd i sicrhau na all awdurdodau lleol allforio problemau tai i awdurdodau lleol eraill?

Edwina Hart: The points that you raise are sensitive and complex in many ways. The only thing that I can say to you, Jenny, is that I will discuss the matter further with my officials and with those responsible for these issues, which, in some areas, is not the Assembly Government. I will come back in

Edwina Hart: Mae'r pwyntiau a godwch yn un sensitif a chymhleth ar lawer ystyr. Yr unig beth y gallaf ei ddweud wrthy, Jenny, yw y byddaf yn trafod y mater ymhellach gyda'm swyddogion a'r rhai sy'n gyfrifol am y materion hyn. Mewn rhai ardaloedd, nid Llywodraeth y Cynulliad sy'n gyfrifol am

the autumn if I have anything positive to say on these areas.

David Melding: Do you agree that a more innovative use of open spaces, particularly in city areas, could help to reduce social exclusion, particularly among the young? I have been impressed with things such as skateboard parks, for example. When you see something that really works, it is a result of consultation with young people; it is a facility that they want to use, and so they use it with enthusiasm, they are responsible and they look after it.

Edwina Hart: Yes, I think that once they have been involved in a project that they wanted with regard to an open space, they will protect the open space from vandalism, graffiti and so on. There are plenty of bits of green around, but, generally, rubbish is dumped there, as are old fridges and cookers. It is important that we clean up those environments so that those open spaces can be used imaginatively and so that children can play in them and enjoy them.

hynny. Os bydd gennyf unrhyw beth cadarnhaol i'w ddweud am y meysydd hyn, fe ddof yn ôl yn yr hydref.

David Melding: A ydych yn cytuno y gallai defnyddio mannau agored yn fwy arloesol, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd dinesig, helpu lleihau allgáu cymdeithasol, yn enwedig ymysg yr ifanc? Mae pethau fel parciau byrddau sglefrio, er enghraifft, wedi gwneud argraff arnaf. Pan welwch rywbeth sy'n gweithio o ddifrif, bydd hynny oherwydd ymgynghori â phobl ifanc; mae'n gyfleuster y maent am ei ddefnyddio, felly maent yn ei ddefnyddio'n frwd, maent yn gyfrifol ac maent yn gofalu amdano.

Edwina Hart: Ydwyf. Pan fyddant wedi dod yn rhan o brosiect yr oeddent am ei gael mewn man agored, credaf y byddant yn diogelu'r man agored hwnnw rhag fandaliaeth, graffiti ac ati. Mae digon o lecynnau gwyrdd o gwmpas, ond ar y cyfan, gadewir sbwriel yno, a hen oergelloedd a ffyrnau. Mae'n bwysig inni lanhau'r amgylcheddoedd hynny fel y gellir defnyddio'r mannau agored hynny gyda dychymyg ac fel y gall plant chwarae yno a'u mwynhau.

Strwythurau'r Heddluoedd Structure of Police Forces

Q9 William Graham: What discussions has the Minister had with the Home Office regarding the structure of police forces in Wales following the Home Secretary's announcement on 19 June 2006? OAQ0801(SJR)

Edwina Hart: I have kept the Assembly fully informed about my discussions about police reform in Wales with Home Office Ministers via regular Plenary statements.

William Graham: Thank you for your answer, Minister. I am sure that you would welcome the Home Secretary's recent acceptance of the total impracticality of the previous timetable set for the restructuring of police forces in Wales. Furthermore, it was heartening to learn that the Home Secretary plans only to go ahead with changes where there is a willingness to do so from the police

C9 William Graham: Pa drafodaethau mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref gyda golwg ar strwythur heddluoedd yng Nghymru yn dilyn cyhoeddiad yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref ar 19 Mehefin 2006? OAQ0801(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf wedi rhoi'r wybodaeth lawn i'r Cynulliad am fy nhrafodaethau ar ddiwygio'r heddlu yng Nghymru gyda Gweinidogion y Swyddfa Gartref drwy ddatganiadau rheolaidd yn y Cyfarfod Llawn.

William Graham: Diolch am eich ateb, Weinidog. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn croesawu'r ffaith fod yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi derbyn yn ddiweddar fod yr amserlen flaenorol a bennwyd ar gyfer ailstrwythuro heddluoedd yng Nghymru yn gwbl anymarferol. At hynny, yr oedd yn galonddid clywed mai dim ond pan fydd yr awdurdodau heddlu perthnasol yn fodlon gwneud hynny y

authorities concerned. Will you confirm that you will make every effort to impose that view upon the Home Secretary?

Edwina Hart: Thank you for your question, William. I am meeting the chairs of the police authorities tomorrow. One of our discussion items will, of course, be what the Home Office may or may not be doing at the current time with regard to timetables and the future of the Welsh police force. I will certainly keep your points at the forefront of my mind, and I am sure that I will be supported by the chairs of the police authorities with regard to those points.

Janice Gregory: Minister, can you confirm that your officials will remain engaged with the Home Office on matters of police funding? While police structures may be non-devolved, the delivery of any new arrangements depends crucially upon responsibilities that lie with the Assembly. I think that that is something that will come out loud and clear this afternoon in the committee's report.

Edwina Hart: Thank you very much. My officials will keep in touch with Home Office officials, because we need to recognise that there is an issue relating to council tax. The equalisation of council tax and precepts are the responsibility of the National Assembly for Wales, and are not reserved policing matters.

2.30 p.m.

Atal Digartrefedd Preventing Homelessness

Q10 John Griffiths: Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Assembly Government initiatives aimed at preventing homelessness? OAQ0782(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Prevention is the central theme of our national homelessness strategy. The action plan sets out how we are delivering this strategy, including through increased funding for local and national prevention initiatives, published guidance, and the promotion of good practice.

mae'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref yn bwriadu bwrw ati gyda newidiadau. A gadarnhewch y byddwch yn gwneud pob ymdrech i bwysu'r farn honno ar yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref?

Edwina Hart: Diolch am eich cwestiwn, William. Byddaf yn cyfarfod â chadeiryddion awdurdodau'r heddlu yfory. Un o'r pethau y byddwn yn eu trafod, wrth gwrs, fydd yr hyn y mae'r Swyddfa Gartref yn ei wneud, neu nad yw'n ei wneud, ar hyn o bryd o ran amserlenni a dyfodol heddluoedd Cymru. Yn sicr, bydd eich pwyntiau ar flaen fy meddwl, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y caf gefnogaeth gan gadeiryddion yr awdurdodau heddlu ar y pwyntiau hynny.

Janice Gregory: Weinidog, a allwch gadarnhau y bydd eich swyddogion yn parhau i drafod gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref am ariannu'r heddlu? Er nad yw strwythurau'r heddlu yn fater datganoledig, mae sicrhau unrhyw drefniadau newydd yn dibynnu'n llwyr ar gyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad. Credaf fod hynny'n rhywbeth a ddaw'n eglur y prynhawn yma yn adroddiad y pwyllgor.

Edwina Hart: Diolch yn fawr iawn. Bydd fy swyddogion yn cadw mewn cysylltiad â swyddogion y Swyddfa Gartref, oherwydd mae angen inni gydnabod bod problem yn ymwneud â'r dreth gyngor. Cyfrifoldeb Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yw cydraddoli'r dreth gyngor a phraeseptau, ac nid ydynt yn gyfyngedig i faterion plismona.

C10 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynlluniau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer atal digartrefedd? OAQ0782(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Atal yw thema ganolog ein strategaeth genedlaethol ar bobl ddigartref. Mae'r cynllun gweithredu yn gosod allan sut yr ydym yn cyflawni'r strategaeth hon, gan gynnwys drwy ddarparu mwy o gyllid ar gyfer mentrau atal lleol a chenedlaethol, canllawiau sydd wedi eu cyhoeddi a hyrwyddo arfer da.

John Griffiths: Do you agree that one organisation that has shown best practice in this area is Newport Action for the Single Homeless, now part of a wider group, which provides accommodation, a day centre and a range of activities? Therefore, it is quite widely based in the benefits that it brings to people in these vulnerable positions. Do you agree that its work is to be applauded?

Edwina Hart: Yes, I think that you are fortunate in Newport to have such an organisation undertaking some of the necessary work on the homelessness agenda. I have been pleased to learn of its work and I have seen its work at first hand. I hope that it will continue to expand its role and function to help the most vulnerable in society.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth sy'n ymwneud â digartrefedd yn creu anawsterau ar lawr gwlad. Yn dilyn beirniadaeth gan yr ombwdsmon, mae swyddogion yn gorfod dehongli'r ddeddfwriaeth hon yn gaeth. O ganlyniad, caf lawer o gwynion am fod pobl yn methu â chael tai ar rent, yn arbennig, yn eu cymunedau. A ydych yn ymwybodol fod problemau ymarferol fel hyn yn codi yn sgîl y ddeddfwriaeth hon, ac a fydddech yn fodlon gwneud ymholiadau gydag awdurdodau lleol a chymdeithasau tai i weld beth yn union yw natur y problemau hyn?

Edwina Hart: If it would be helpful, I will ask my officials to contact Welsh local government and others to see whether we can assess the level of concern that there is about this issue, and report back.

John Griffiths: A gytunwch mai un sefydliad sydd wedi dangos arfer gorau yn y maes hwn yw Newport Action for the Single Homeless, sydd bellach yn rhan o grŵp ehangach sy'n darparu llety, canolfan ddydd ac amrywiaeth o weithgareddau? Felly, mae ganddo sail eithaf eang o ran y buddiannau a rydd i bobl yn y sefyllfaoedd diamddiffyn hyn. A ydych yn cytuno y dylid canmol ei waith?

Edwina Hart: Ydwyf. Credaf eich bod yn ffodus yng Nghasnewydd fod gennych sefydliad o'r fath sy'n gwneud rhywfaint o'r gwaith angenrheidiol ar yr agenda ddigartrefedd. Yr oeddwn yn falch clywed am ei waith, ac yr wyf wedi cael profiad uniongyrchol ohono. Gobeithio y bydd yn parhau i ehangu ei rôl a'i swyddogaeth i helpu'r bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn mewn cymdeithas.

Alun Ffred Jones: The legislation regarding homelessness creates problems at grass-roots level. Following criticism from the ombudsman, officials have had to interpret this legislation to the letter. As a result, I receive many complaints from people who are unable to find rented accommodation, in particular, within their communities. Are you aware that such practical problems arise from this legislation, and would you be prepared to make inquiries of local authorities and housing associations to see what the exact nature of these problems is?

Edwina Hart: Os byddai'n ddefnyddiol, gofynnaf i'm swyddogion gysylltu â llywodraeth leol Cymru ac eraill i weld a allwn asesu lefel y pryder am y mater hwn, a dof yn ôl ag adroddiad.

Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub The Fire and Rescue Services

Q11 Jocelyn Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's policies for fire and rescue services in Wales? OAQ0816(SJR)

Edwina Hart: I refer you to the fire and rescue national framework for Wales, which was agreed by the Assembly on 16 March

C11 Jocelyn Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bolisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer y gwasanaethau tân ac achub yng Nghymru? OAQ0816(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at fframwaith cenedlaethol tân ac achub Cymru, a gytunwyd gan y Cynulliad ar 16 Mawrth

2005. This sets out our expectations of the service in all areas of Wales and the support that it can expect from us in return.

Jocelyn Davies: Are you as concerned as I am that the proposed changes to the fire service may see some full-time stations reduced to part-time stations, relying on retained firefighters? What discussions have you had with the fire authorities about their proposals?

Edwina Hart: The fire authorities' risk reduction plans are currently out for consultation in the three fire authority areas. The chair and the chief officer of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority have been in to meet me to explain some issues, as have their colleagues in mid and west Wales. I understand that your comments are likely to be in relation to the South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's risk reduction plan, which is currently out for consultation. If there are any relevant points that Members wish me to make to the fire authority, or if there are particular concerns about its plan, I would be delighted to host a meeting with it to make points on behalf of Members. We have to understand that this is currently at a consultation stage. It is the role of the authorities to make these decisions as long as they stay within our national framework. However, I am happy to have any meetings that are necessary.

Lisa Francis: You referred to the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority and its risk reduction plan—which, I believe, was released on Monday—and there are proposals emanating from that to change the shift patterns at Haverfordwest fire station to reduced cover, I believe. Before the implementation of that, the authority needs to receive Welsh Assembly Government guidance on its risk planning. What discussions have you had with that particular fire authority about the wide variety of risks associated with the petrochemical industry, particularly in Pembrokeshire?

Edwina Hart: There is sufficient guidance, because it has issued its suggested risk reduction plans and the appropriate guidance

2005. Mae'n gosod allan ein disgwyliadau gan y gwasanaeth ym mhob rhan o Gymru a'r cymorth y gall ei ddisgwyl gennym ni yn gyfnewid am hynny.

Jocelyn Davies: A ydych yn pryderu cymaint â mi y gallai'r newidiadau arfaethedig yn y gwasanaeth tân olygu bod rhai gorsafoedd llawn amser yn dod yn orsafoedd rhan amser llai o faint, gan ddibynnu ar ddiffoddwyr tân wrth gefn? Pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi eu cael gyda'r awdurdodau tân am eu cynigion?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym wrthi'n ymgynghori ar gynlluniau lleihau risg yr awdurdodau tân mewn tair ardal awdurdod tân. Mae cadeirydd a phrif swyddog Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Gogledd Cymru wedi dod i'm gweld i esbonio rhai materion, a hefyd eu cydweithwyr yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin. Deallaf fod eich sylwadau'n debygol o fod yn cyfeirio at gynllun lleihau risg gan Awdurdod Tân ac Achub De Cymru yr ymgynghorir arno ar hyn o bryd. Os oes yna unrhyw bwyntiau perthnasol yr hoffai Aelodau imi eu rhoi i'r awdurdod tân, neu os oes pryderon penodol am ei gynllun, byddwn yn fwy na pharod trefnu cyfarfod ag ef er mwyn cyflwyno pwyntiau ar ran Aelodau. Rhaid inni ddeall mai'r cam ymgynghori sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Rôl yr awdurdodau yw gwneud y penderfyniadau hyn cyhyd â'u bod yn dal o fewn ein fframwaith cenedlaethol. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn fodlon cael unrhyw gyfarfodydd angenrheidiol.

Lisa Francis: Yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru a'i gynllun i leihau risg—cafodd ei ryddhau, mi gredaf, ddydd Llun—ac mae cynigion yn deillio ohono i newid y patrymau sifftiau yng ngorsaf dân Hwlfordd i gynnwys llai o staff wrth gefn, mi gredaf. Cyn gweithredu hynny, mae angen i'r awdurdod gael canllawiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar ei brosesau cynllunio risg. Pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi eu cael gyda'r awdurdod tân penodol hwnnw am yr amrywiaeth eang o risgiau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r diwydiant petrogemegau, yn arbennig yn sir Benfro?

Edwina Hart: Mae yna ganllawiau digonol, gan ei fod wedi cyhoeddi ei awgrym ar gyfer cynlluniau lleihau risg ac yr ydym ni wedi

has gone out from us. It is now up to the authority, during the consultation period, to listen to the views of politicians and local people regarding these particular issues. The issues around Haverfordwest have been raised with me frequently over the past 12 months. If I am correct—although I will have to check the note of my meeting with the authority—I believe that I spoke to representatives of the authority when they were last here to see me about particular concerns around that area. However, I know that I have spoken to them previously. It is important that people make their representations and concerns known to the fire authority, as this a genuine consultation exercise.

darparu'r canllawiau priodol. Cyfrifoldeb yr awdurdod yn awr, yn ystod y cyfnod ymgynghori, yw gwranddo ar farn gwleidyddion a phobl leol am y materion penodol hyn. Codwyd y materion ynglŷn â Hwlfordd gyda mi yn aml dros y 12 mis diwethaf. Os wyf yn iawn—er y bydd rhaid i mi gadarnhau drwy edrych ar y nodyn o'm cyfarfod gyda'r awdurdod—credaf i mi siarad â chynrychiolwyr yr awdurdod pan ddaethant yma'r tro diwethaf i'm gweld ynglŷn â phryderon penodol yn ymwneud â'r ardal honno. Fodd bynnag, gwn fy mod wedi siarad â hwy gynt. Mae'n bwysig i bobl gyflwyno'u sylwadau a'u pryderon i'r awdurdod tân, gan fod hwn yn ymarfer ymgynghori gwirioneddol.

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

Gweithgynhyrchu yn Ynys Môn Manufacturing in Anglesey

C1 Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol gweithgynhyrchu yn Ynys Môn? OAQ0957(EIN)

The Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks (Andrew Davies): The Assembly Government is working closely with existing manufacturers, potential entrepreneurs, and inward investors, who are considering Anglesey as a production location, to ensure that manufacturing has a role in Anglesey's future economic development.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I believe that the Minister will be aware of the issue that I am about to raise, which is our concern about the future of Anglesey Aluminium and Wylfa power station. We now know that, in all likelihood, Wylfa will close in 2010. Anglesey Aluminium is currently dependent on the electricity supply from that power station and, beyond 2010, needs another electricity contract to enable it to continue in existence. Will the Minister give me two assurances? First, will he work with Anglesey Aluminium and the Department of Trade and Industry in London to ensure that, beyond 2010, there is an electricity contract that allows Anglesey

Q1 The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Will the Minister make a statement on the future of manufacturing in Anglesey? OAQ0957(EIN)

Y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau (Andrew Davies): Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio'n agos gyda gweithgynhyrchwyr presennol, darpar entrepreneuriaid a mewnfuddsoddwyr, sy'n ystyried Ynys Môn fel lleoliad cynhyrchu, er mwyn sicrhau y bydd gan weithgynhyrchu ran yn natblygiad economaidd Ynys Môn yn y dyfodol.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Credaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol o'r mater yr wyf ar fin ei godi, sef ein pryder am ddyfodol Alwminiwm Môn ac atomfa'r Wylfa. Gwyddom yn awr ei bod yn debygol y bydd yr Wylfa yn cau yn 2010. Mae Alwminiwm Môn ar hyn o bryd yn dibynnu ar y cyflenwad trydan o'r atomfa honno, ac ar ôl 2010 bydd angen contract trydan arall arno i'w alluogi i barhau. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi sicrwydd imi ar ddau gyfrif? Yn gyntaf, a fydd yn gweithio gydag Alwminiwm Môn a'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant yn Llundain i sicrhau, ar ôl 2010, y bydd yna contract trydan sy'n galluogi Alwminiwm Môn i

Aluminium to continue its production, and, if necessary, support the generation of electricity on the Anglesey Aluminium site to protect the company? Secondly, will he ensure that his officials, at the highest level, work with the local authority and others to ensure that Anglesey's economy is protected, whatever happens?

Andrew Davies: I am more than happy to give the commitment that we will work with the local authority and all other key players—whether in the public or private sector—to look at the implications of decommissioning Wylfa. We have a good relationship with Anglesey Aluminium. The First Minister met company officials recently, and I met them and visited the plant relatively recently. We will work with Anglesey Aluminium to identify another energy source—that is an investment decision with the company, or for another part of the private sector to invest; it is not a matter of Government investment. However, we have done a great deal over the last few years to work with the company on a range of issues, not just energy, including the emissions training system and its impact on the company, and the operation in Anglesey. Given the projected decommissioning date of 2010, we will work with Anglesey Aluminium, the local authority, and others to come forward with a plan of action to try to mitigate the effects of the closure of Wylfa, and any possible closure or run-down of Anglesey Aluminium.

Brynle Williams: The port of Belfast is currently enjoying some £9 million in tourism revenue from cruise ships stopping at the city. What priorities are you giving for the regeneration of Holyhead harbour to provide suitable facilities and amenities to cater for the cruise-ship industry?

Andrew Davies: As Brynle may know, Holyhead is a key priority for me as a Minister, and for us as a Government. That is why we gave the go-ahead for a new Stena Line berth for the new superferry, the Stena Adventurer, increasing capacity at the port. Specifically on Holyhead as a destination for

barhau ei waith cynhyrchu, ac os bydd angen yn cefnogi'r gwaith o gynhyrchu trydan ar safle Alwminiwm Môn i ddiogelu'r cwmni? Yn ail, a wnaiff sicrhau bod ei swyddogion, ar y lefel uchaf, yn gweithio gyda'r awdurdod lleol ac eraill i sicrhau y caiff economi Ynys Môn ei gwarchod, beth bynnag fydd yn digwydd?

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i roi'r ymrwymiad y byddwn yn gweithio gyda'r awdurdod lleol a phob chwaraewr allweddol arall—boed yn y sector cyhoeddus neu'r sector preifat—i edrych ar oblygiadau dadgomisiynu'r Wylfa. Mae gennym berthynas dda gydag Alwminiwm Môn. Yn ddiweddar, cyfarfu'r Prif Weinidog â swyddogion y cwmni, a chefais i gyfarfod â hwy ac ymweld â'r safle yn gymharol ddiweddar. Byddwn yn gweithio gydag Alwminiwm Môn i nodi ffynhonnell ynni arall—penderfyniad buddsoddi i'r cwmni yw hwnnw, neu i ran arall o'r sector preifat fuddsoddi ynddo; nid yw'n fater o fuddsoddi gan y Llywodraeth. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi gwneud llawer dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf i weithio gyda'r cwmni ar amrywiaeth o faterion, nid ynni'n unig, gan gynnwys y system hyfforddiant ar allyriadau a'i heffaith ar y cwmni, a'r gwaith yn Ynys Môn. O gofio mai 2010 yw'r dyddiad a ragwelir ar gyfer dadgomisiynu, byddwn yn gweithio gydag Alwminiwm Môn, yr awdurdod lleol, ac eraill i gyflwyno cynllun gweithredu i geisio lliniaru effeithiau cau'r Wylfa, ac unrhyw gynlluniau posibl i gau neu leihau lefelau cynhyrchu yn Alwminiwm Môn.

Brynle Williams: Ar hyn o bryd mae porthladd Belfast yn mwynhau tua £9 miliwn mewn refeniw twristiaeth o longau teithio sy'n aros yn y ddinas. Pa flaenoriaethau sydd gennych ar gyfer adfywio harbwr Caergybi i ddarparu cyfleusterau ac amwynderau addas i ddarparu ar gyfer y diwydiant llongau teithio?

Andrew Davies: Fel y gwyr Brynle, efallai, mae Caergybi yn flaenoriaeth allweddol i mi fel Gweinidog, ac i ni fel Llywodraeth. Dyna pam y rhoesom ganiatâd ar gyfer angorfa newydd Stena Line ar gyfer y fferi fawr newydd, y Stena Adventurer, i gynyddu gallau'r porthladd. Yn benodol, o ran

cruise ships, we are working with members of the former Welsh Development Agency board, and the officials who are now in my department, to grow that part of the market for cruise liners. Holyhead has been the beneficiary of much of that proactive work. We have a good relationship with the Stena Line ferry company, and we are looking with it at the possible development of this part of the business in Holyhead. I am optimistic that we will be able to grow the business from the substantial progress that we have already made.

Caergybi fel cyrchfan i longau teithio, yr ydym yn gweithio gydag aelodau o fwrdd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru gynt, a'r swyddogion sydd bellach yn fy adran i, i ddatblygu'r rhan honno o'r farchnad ar gyfer llongau teithio. Mae llawer o'r gwaith rhagweithiol hwnnw wedi bod o fudd i Gaergybi. Mae gennym berthynas dda gyda chwmni fferi Stena Line, ac yr ydym yn ystyried, gyda'r cwmni, y posibilrwydd o ddatblygu'r rhan hon o'r busnes yng Nghaergybi. Yr wyf yn ffyddiog y byddwn yn gallu datblygu'r busnes o'r cynnydd sylweddol a wnaed gennym eisoes.

Datblygiad Economaidd (Sir y Fflint) Economic Development (Flintshire)

Q2 Sandy Mewies: Will the Minister make a statement on economic development in Flintshire? OAQ0937(EIN)

C2 Sandy Mewies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddatblygu economaidd yn sir y Fflint? OAQ0937(EIN)

Andrew Davies: Flintshire's economy has performed strongly over recent years. Flintshire is now experiencing, effectively, full employment, with an unemployment rate of 1.7 per cent, and an economic activity rate of 79.9 per cent.

Andrew Davies: Mae economi sir y Fflint wedi perfformio'n gryf dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. I bob pwrpas, mae sir y Fflint bellach yn mwynhau cyflogaeth lawn, gyda chyfradd ddiweithdra o 1.7 y cant a chyfradd gweithgarwch economaidd o 79.9 y cant.

Sandy Mewies: While I understand the importance of the development of the A55/A494 nationally and internationally, it is also important to local people in the impact that it has on them. Many people, for example, from Northop Hall, have contacted me with their concerns about the proposed phase 3 road improvements. Will you assure me that the views of local people will be taken into account, that the responses received during this consultation period will be seriously considered, and that a public inquiry will be held before final plans are made?

Sandy Mewies: Er fy mod yn deall pwysigrwydd datblygu'r A55/A494 yn genedlaethol ac yn rhynglwadol, mae'r datblygiad hefyd yn bwysig i bobl leol o ran ei effaith arnynt. Er enghraifft, mae nifer o bobl o Northop Hall wedi cysylltu â mi gyda'u pryderon ynglŷn â cham 3 yn y gwelliannau ffordd arfaethedig. A rowch sicrwydd imi y caiff barn pobl leol ei hystyried, y caiff yr ymatebion a dderbynnir yn ystod y cyfnod ymgynghori hwn eu hystyried o ddifrif, ac y cynhelir ymchwiliad cyhoeddus cyn llunio cynlluniau terfynol?

2.40 p.m.

Andrew Davies: The Government and I, as Minister, must balance the strategic transport and economic needs of Wales—not forgetting Ireland, which has the most dynamic economy in the European Union—with the needs of the local community. We will listen very carefully indeed to the representations received before publishing draft Orders on the specific road schemes,

Andrew Davies: Rhaid i mi, fel Gweinidog, a'r Llywodraeth gydbwysu anghenion trafniadaeth ac anghenion economaidd strategol Cymru—gan beidio ag anghofio Iwerddon, sydd â'r economi mwyaf deinamig yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd—ag anghenion y gymuned leol. Yn wir, byddwn yn gwrando'n ofalus iawn ar y sylwadau a wneir cyn cyhoeddi Gorchmynion drafft ar y cynlluniau

particularly on the A494 Drome Corner to Ewloe scheme, and before announcing the preferred option on the combined A55/A494 Ewloe interchange, which includes a link to Mold, and the A55 Ewloe to Northop improvement scheme. I will certainly give that commitment.

Janet Ryder: Following the news earlier this year that BAE intends to sell its stake in Airbus, the UK Minister for trade and industry said that the guarantee signed between the parent companies, EADS and BAE, would secure that future Airbus jobs in the UK would be taken on by the Government. However, that guarantee has subsequently been described as 'worthless' by an industry source. I have written to you twice on this topic, but have yet to receive a substantive reply. Given the recent turmoil surrounding Airbus, especially within its parent companies, have you or your officials been in contact recently with Airbus UK to discuss the employment issues, and can you give the Assembly any guarantees on the future security of jobs at the Broughton plant in Flintshire?

Andrew Davies: We are in constant contact with the company, both at management and trade-union level. We cannot deny that Airbus is experiencing difficulty. Incidentally, Boeing went through similar difficulties some years ago. There may be turmoil at the top of the company, but, from the point of view of the operation at Broughton, as I said in committee this morning, although a six-month delay in the production of the A380 superjumbo has been announced, if you look at the order book for the company, across all the various models of planes that it makes, you will see that it is very robust. In fact, the testing of the A380 has gone very well, although there are clearly some issues with the rewiring to be addressed. However, this September, 100 new apprenticeships will be taken on at Airbus, and that will complement what is already the biggest apprenticeship scheme in any private sector company in the UK. I do not wish to be complacent, but all the indications, given the robust order book, are that the Broughton operation, despite the difficulties at the top of the company, is in

ffyrdd penodol, yn arbennig ar gynllun yr A494 Drome Corner i Ewloe, a chyn cyhoeddi'r dewis ar gyfer Cyfnewidfa gyfun A55/A494 Ewloe, sy'n cynnwys ffordd gyswllt i'r Wyddgrug, a chynllun gwella'r A55 o Ewloe i Laneurgain. Yn sicr, rhoddaf yr ymrwymiad hwnnw.

Janet Ryder: Yn dilyn y newyddion yn gynharach eleni fod BAE yn bwriadu gwerthu ei ran yn Airbus, dywedodd Gweinidog y DU dros fasnach a diwydiant y byddai'r warant a lofnodwyd rhwng y rhiant gwmnïau, EADS a BAE, yn sicrhau y byddai'r Llywodraeth yn dod yn gyfrifol am swyddi Airbus yn y DU yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, ers hynny disgrifiwyd y warant honno fel un 'ddiwerth' gan ffynhonnell yn y diwydiant. Yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu atoch ddwywaith ar y pwnc hwn, ond nid wyf hyd yma wedi cael ateb o sylwedd. O ystyried y cythrwfl yn ddiweddar ynghylch Airbus, yn arbennig o fewn ei riant gwmnïau, a ydych chi neu eich swyddogion wedi cysylltu ag Airbus UK yn ddiweddar i drafod y materion cyflogaeth, ac a allwch roi unrhyw sicrwydd i'r Cynulliad am ddiogelwch swyddi yn y dyfodol ar safle Brychdyn yn sir y Fflint?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym yn cysylltu â'r cwmni'n barhaus, ar lefel rheolwyr ac undebau llafur. Ni allwn wadu nad yw Airbus yn cael anawsterau. Gyda llaw, aeth Boeing drwy anawsterau tebyg rai blynyddoedd yn ôl. Efallai fod cythrwfl ar frig y cwmni, ond o safbwynt y gwaith ym Mrychdyn, fel y dywedais yn y pwyllgor y bore yma, er bod oedi o chwe mis wrth gynhyrchu'r superjumbo A380 wedi ei gyhoeddi, os edrychwch ar lyfr archebion y cwmni, ar draws yr holl amrywiol fodolau o awyren a gynhyrchir ganddo, fe welwch ei fod yn gadarn iawn. Yn wir, aeth y broses o brofi'r A380 yn dda iawn, er bod rhai materion ailwifro i fynd i'r afael â hwy. Fodd bynnag, fis Medi nesaf caiff 100 o brentisiaid newydd eu cyflogi yn Airbus, a bydd hynny'n ategu'r cynllun prentisiaeth mwyaf sydd ar waith mewn unrhyw gwmni yn y sector preifat yn y DU. Nid wyf am gymryd hyn yn ganiatol, ond dengys yr holl arwyddion, o gofio bod y llyfr archebion yn gadarn, fod gwaith Brychdyn, er yr anawsterau ar frig y cwmni, mewn sefyllfa dda.

good health.

Mark Isherwood: I have obtained assurances from Airbus that job protection at Broughton will be paramount, that, as you said, the apprenticeship scheme of more than 100 should be going ahead later this year, and that negotiations are ongoing with the unions about a possible change in shift patterns in the short term to accommodate this. On a recent visit to Toulouse, the president of Airbus France told me that it would take a pragmatic approach, and that there would be no risk to future jobs provided its relationship with the UK Government continued as it had over decades. Therefore, what urgent discussions are you having with the UK Government about this, particularly in the context of repayable launch aid, now and in the future, of announcements ahead of the Farnborough International Airshow, of which I am sure you are aware, and also in the context of a co-ordinated response by the four European governments affected by the case brought against Airbus by the US at the World Trade Organization?

Andrew Davies: In terms of the UK operation, both the UK Government and the Assembly Government have been at the forefront of discussions with the company. We have a very good track record in supporting the company, both at a UK and Welsh Assembly level. Earlier this year, £5.2 million of regional selective assistance was invested in Broughton to create the significant number of jobs—around 600—that would lead to total employment at Broughton being not far off 7,000, making it the largest private sector employer in Wales. In terms of future developments, we have been very intimately involved with the UK Government and the Department of Trade and Industry in negotiations with the company about financial support, launch aid or whatever. Those negotiations and discussions are ongoing, but the company is very clear that it has massive support from the UK Government and us.

Mark Isherwood: Yr wyf wedi cael sicrwydd gan Airbus y bydd diogelu swyddi ym Mrychdyn yn hollbwysig, y dylai'r cynllun prentisiaid o fwy na 100 fynd rhagddo yn ddiweddarach eleni, fel y dywedech, a bod trafodaethau parhaus yn digwydd gyda'r undebau ynglŷn â newid posibl mewn patrymau sifftiau yn y byrdymor er mwyn ystyried hyn. Ar daith yn ddiweddar i Toulouse, dywedodd llywydd Airbus France wrthyf y byddai'n cymryd ymagwedd bragmatig, ac na fyddai unrhyw risg i swyddi yn y dyfodol cyhyd ag y bydd ei berthynas â Llywodraeth y DU yn parhau fel y mae wedi gwneud dros ddegawdau. Felly, pa drafodaethau brys yr ydych yn eu cael gyda Llywodraeth y DU am hyn, yn arbennig yng nghyd-destun cymorth lansio ad-daladwy, yn awr ac yn y dyfodol, cyhoeddiadau cyn Sioe Awyr Ryngwladol Farnborough, yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn gwybod ohonynt, a hefyd yng nghyd-destun ymateb cydgysylltiedig gan y pedair llywodraeth yn Ewrop yr effeithir arnynt gan yr achos a ddygwyd yn erbyn Airbus gan yr Unol Daleithiau yn Sefydliad Masnach y Byd?

Andrew Davies: O ran y gweithredu yn y DU, maen Llywodraeth y DU a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cymryd rhan amlwg mewn trafodaethau gyda'r cwmni. Mae gennym hanes da iawn o gefnogi'r cwmni, ar lefel y DU a Chynulliad Cymru. Yn gynharach eleni buddsoddwyd £5.2 miliwn o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol ym Mrychdyn i greu'r nifer sylweddol o swyddi—tua 600—a fyddai'n golygu bod cyfanswm y swyddi ym Mrychdyn yn agos at 7,000, gan ei wneud yn gyflogwr mwyaf y sector preifat yng Nghymru. O ran datblygiadau'r dyfodol, yr ydym wedi bod yn ymwneud yn agos iawn â Llywodraeth y DU a'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant mewn negodiadau gyda'r cwmni ynglŷn â chymorth ariannol, cymorth lansio neu beth bynnag. Mae'r negodiadau a'r trafodaethau hynny'n parhau, ond mae'r cwmni'n glir iawn ein bod ni a Llywodraeth y DU yn gadarn iawn o'i blaid.

Chwilio am Nwy ac Olew Exploration for Oil and Gas

Q3 William Graham: Will the Minister outline his discussions with the Department of Trade and Industry concerning the exploration for oil and gas in Wales? OAQ948(EIN)

Andrew Davies: I refer you to my ministerial statement of last week on the twenty-fourth oil and gas licensing round applications in Cardigan bay.

William Graham: In the event of new resources being available in west Wales, have you examined the need to build on our existing means of transporting oil and gas, particularly as the liquefied petroleum gas pipeline that is currently under construction will cross an environmentally sensitive area?

Andrew Davies: Clearly, as I said in response to Sandy Mewies's question, we have to ensure a balance between the strategic importance of a particular development at a UK level, or even a Wales level, and local concerns, which, in this case, are environmental concerns. We are always mindful of that. Cardigan bay is an area of European and domestic environmental designation. If oil or gas were discovered and any drilling or seismic studies were to be carried out, there would be a consents process. The UK Government would consult with us, and we would look at the whole issue in the round before making our views known to the UK Government.

Elin Jones: A ydych yn cytuno nad yw ymgynghori yn ddigonol yn yr achos hwn ac y dylai'r penderfyniadau ynglŷn â gosod trwyddedu i chwilio am olew a nwy oddi ar arfordir Cymru gael eu datganoli i'r Cynulliad, a bod y Mesur Morol, sydd ar fin cael ei gyflwyno yn San Steffan, yn fodd o drosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb hwnnw i'r Cynulliad? Dylech chi, fel Llywodraeth, fod yn mynnu'r cyfrifoldeb hwnnw gan San Steffan.

Andrew Davies: As I said in reply to William, we need to balance all these various

C3 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei drafodaethau gyda'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant ynglŷn â chwilio am nwy ac olew yng Nghymru? OAQ948(EIN)

Andrew Davies: Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at fy natganiad yr wythnos diwethaf am y pedwerydd cylch ar hugain o geisiadau am drwyddedau nwy ac olew ym mae Ceredigion.

William Graham: Yng ngoleuni'r ffaith bod adnoddau newydd ar gael yn y gorllewin, a ydych wedi archwilio'r angen am adeiladu ar ein dulliau presennol o gludo olew a nwy, yn enwedig gan y bydd y biblinell nwy petrolewm hylif sy'n cael ei hadeiladu ar hyn o bryd yn croesi ardal amgylcheddol sensitif?

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais mewn ymateb i gwestiwn Sandy Mewie, mae'n amlwg y bydd rhaid inni sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng pwysigrwydd strategol datblygiad penodol ar lefel y DU, neu hyd yn oed ar lefel Cymru, a phryderon lleol, sef pryderon amgylcheddol, yn yr achos hwn. Yr ydym yn ystyriol o hynny bob amser. Mae bae Ceredigion wedi ei ddynodi'n ardal amgylcheddol Ewropeaidd a domestig. Pe bai nwy neu olew yn cael eu darganfod a gwaith drilio neu astudiaethau seismig yn mynd ymlaen, byddai'n rhaid cael proses o ganiatadau. Byddai Llywodraeth y DU yn ymgynghori â ni, a byddem yn ystyried y mater yn ei gyfanrwydd cyn rhoi ein barn i Lywodraeth y DU.

Elin Jones: Do you agree that consultation is not sufficient in this case, and that decisions about granting licences to explore for oil and gas off the Welsh coast should be devolved to the Assembly, and that the Marine Bill, which is about to be read in Westminster, offers a means of transferring that responsibility to the Assembly? As the Government, you should insist on being given that responsibility from Westminster.

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais mewn ymateb i William, mae angen inni

considerations. In terms of the Marine Bill, I am working closely with Carwyn Jones, my ministerial colleague, and his department on framing our response to the Bill and on having input into the legislative process. As I said, it is about balancing the economic and the environmental issues. It would largely depend on the scale of oil or gas supplies or reserves identified—that would be a key consideration. In view of the environmental importance of the area, the economic impact would have to substantially outweigh the environmental impact before we would be able to broadly support it, which was, I think, the point that William was making.

gydbwyso'r holl ystyriaethau amrywiol hyn. O ran y Mesur Morol, yr wyf yn gweithio'n agos gyda Carwyn Jones, fy nghyd-Weinidog, a'i adran i lunio ein hymateb i'r Mesur a chyfrannu at y broses ddeddfwriaethol. Fel y dywedais, mae'n ymwneud â chydbwyso'r materion economaidd a'r materion amgylcheddol. Byddai'n dibynnu'n helaeth ar raddau'r cyflenwadau neu'r cronfeydd nwy neu olew a fyddai'n cael eu nodi—byddai hynny'n ystyriaeth allweddol. O ran pwysigrwydd amgylcheddol yr ardal, byddai'n rhaid i'r effaith economaidd fod lawer yn fwy na'r effaith amgylcheddol cyn y gallem ei gefnogi'n fras, sef y pwynt yr oedd William yn ceisio ei wneud, mi gredaf.

Gwasanaethau Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus Public Transport Services

Q4 Janet Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on any development in public transport services? OAQ0958(EIN)

C4 Janet Davies: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am unrhyw ddatblygiad yn y gwasanaethau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus? OAQ0958(EIN)

Andrew Davies: I am investing across all public transport modes. I opened the Vale of Glamorgan railway last year, which has proved very popular. I am funding a rail investment programme across Wales through the four regional transport consortia, and I am also funding bus and community transport projects across Wales.

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn buddsoddi ym mhob math o drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus. Agorais reilffordd Bro Morgannwg y llynedd, sydd wedi bod yn boblogaidd iawn. Yr wyf yn ariannu rhaglen o fuddsoddi yn y rheilffyrdd ledled Cymru drwy'r pedwar consortiwm trafndiaeth rhanbarthol, ac yr wyf hefyd yn ariannu prosiectau bysiau a thrafnidiaeth gymunedol ledled Cymru.

Janet Davies: You will be aware of the recent increase in the level of rail freight. What were you doing to accelerate that increase, because it has the potential to save money on road building?

Janet Davies: Fe wyddoch am y cynnydd yn ddiweddar yn y nwyddau sy'n cael eu cludo ar y rheilffyrdd. Beth yr oeddech yn ei wneud i gyflymu'r cynnydd hwnnw, gan fod iddo potensial o arbed arian wrth adeiladu ffyrdd?

Andrew Davies: Now that the functions under the Transport (Wales) Act 2006 have been delegated, next week I will be launching the transport strategy for Wales for consultation. One of the key follow-on documents to that will be a freight strategy for Wales, looking at how we can shift more freight off the roads and onto other, more sustainable forms of transport, whether rail or our ports, which present us with a huge opportunity. We are one of the few parts of the UK that is still able to provide freight facility grant and we have funded some

Andrew Davies: Gan fod y swyddogaethau bellach o dan Ddeddf Trafnidiaeth (Cymru) 2006 wedi'u dirprwyo, byddaf yn lansio strategaeth trafndiaeth Cymru yr wythnos nesaf ar gyfer ymgynghori. Un o'r dogfennau dilynol allweddol fydd strategaeth cludo nwyddau i Gymru, gan edrych ar y ffordd y gallwn gludo mwy o nwyddau gan ddefnyddio mathau eraill o drafnidiaeth sy'n fwy cynaliadwy, boed ar y rheilffyrdd neu drwy ein porthladdoedd, yn hytrach na'u cludo ar y ffordd, sy'n gyfle anferthol inni. Yr ydym yn un o'r ardaloedd prin yn y DU

significant investments in many of our ports, helping to shift freight from the roads onto the rail and port infrastructure. Whether it is at a strategic or a specific level, we have shown our commitment to that modal shift.

sy'n dal i allu cynnig grant cyfleuster cludo nwyddau, ac yr ydym wedi ariannu buddsoddiadau sylweddol yn nifer o'n porthladdoedd, gan helpu trosglwyddo nwyddau o'r ffyrdd i'r seilwaith rheilffyrdd a phorthladdoedd. P'un a yw hynny ar lefel strategol neu benodol, yr ydym wedi dangos ein hymrwymiad i'r newid hwnnw yn y dull.

2.50 p.m.

Lorraine Barrett: Minister, have you had an opportunity to look at innovative public transport systems, such as the Parry People Mover Light Rail System, which basically acts as a shuttle, and can take people effortlessly from city centres by rail and road?

Lorraine Barrett: Weinidog, a gawsoch gyfle i edrych ar systemau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus arloesol, fel y Parry People Mover Light Rail System, sy'n gweithredu fel gwennol yn y bôn ac sy'n gallu cludo pobl o ganol dinasoedd ar y rheilffyrdd a'r ffyrdd yn diddraftherth?

Andrew Davies: I think that I will call it 'the Parry proposal', rather than using the longer name. I am aware of the proposal and, in fact, my officials have met Mr Parry and the company. Light rail may well be an attractive proposal, but we would need to look at the wider picture in terms of how it fits into our overall integrated transport plans, following the emergence of the transport Wales strategy, and we would need to liaise with key players, such as the local council. We would need to look at the issue in the round, including the economic and financial aspects.

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn meddwl fy mod am ei alw'n 'gynnig Parry' yn hytrach na defnyddio'r enw hirach. Gwn am y cynnig, ac i ddweud y gwir, mae fy swyddogion wedi cyfarfod â Mr Parry a'r cwmni. Efallai fod rheilffyrdd ysgafn yn gynnig atyniadol, ond byddai angen inni edrych ar y darlun ehangach ynglŷn â sut y mae'n cyd-fynd â'n cynlluniau trafndiaeth integredig cyffredinol, ar ôl cyhoeddi strategaeth trafndiaeth Cymru. A byddai angen inni gael trafodaethau gyda charfanau allweddol, fel y cyngor lleol. Byddai angen inni ystyried y mater yn gyffredinol, gan gynnwys yr agweddau economaidd ac ariannol.

Lisa Francis: A few weeks ago, I wrote to ask whether you were prepared to fund infrastructure improvements to railway station platforms on the Cambrian line, at Dyffryn Ardudwy, Towyn and Aberdyfi, where there is difference in height of, I think, 16 inches between the platform and the train. That proves enormously difficult for most travellers to negotiate. You said that you were able to fund improvements, subject to business case considerations and the availability of funding. Have any representations been made to you in respect of improvements to those platforms?

Lisa Francis: Rai wythnosau'n ôl, ysgrifennais atoch i ofyn a oeddech yn barod i ariannu gwelliannau seilwaith ar blatfform gorsafodded rheilffyrdd ar linell Cambria, yn Nyffryn Ardudwy, Tywyn ac Aberdyfi, lle mae gwahaniaeth o 16 modfedd, mi gredaf, rhwng lefel y platfform a'r trê. Mae hynny'n peri anawsterau i'r rhan fwyaf o deithwyr. Dywedasoeh y gallech ariannu gwelliannau, yn amodol ar ystyriaethau achos busnes a bod arian ar gael. A oes unrhyw sylwadau wedi eu cyflwyno ichi ar wella'r platfformau hynny?

Andrew Davies: Other than your raising it, I am not aware of any representations on this. However, we are committed to improving passenger services, particularly on the Cambrian line. There has been significant

Andrew Davies: Ar wahân i'ch sylwadau chi, nid wyf yn gwybod am unrhyw sylwadau ar hyn. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i wella gwasanaethau teithwyr, yn enwedig ar lein Cambria. Buddsoddyd swm

investment in improving the station facilities at Machynlleth. Clearly, I would need to look at the business case for any additional funding for any stations, in conjunction with Arriva Trains Wales, and TRAC, the mid Wales transport consortium, as well, to see whether it was a priority for them.

sylweddol i wella cyfleusterau'r orsaf ym Machynlleth. Yn amlwg, byddai'n rhaid imi edrych ar yr achos busnes dros roi unrhyw arian ychwanegol ar gyfer unrhyw orsafoedd, ar y cyd â Trenau Arriva Cymru, a TRAC, consortiwm trafndiaeth y canolbarth, yn ogystal, i weld a yw hyn yn flaenoriaeth iddynt.

Datblygu'r Rhwydwaith Rheilffyrdd Development of the Rail Network

Q5 William Graham: Will the Minister make a statement concerning development of the rail network in Wales? OAQ0929(EIN)

C5 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddatblygu'r rhwydwaith rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru? OAQ0929(EIN)

Andrew Davies: We have a strong record of investment in rail. Our achievements include the re-opening of the Vale of Glamorgan line, an increased frequency of trains throughout the Valleys network, and the extension of the Manchester services to Swansea and Carmarthen hourly.

Andrew Davies: Mae gennym record gref o fuddsoddi'n hael mewn rheilffyrdd. Ymhlith y pethau a wnaed gennym mae ailagor llinell Bro Morgannwg, cynyddu amllder trenau ar rwydwaith y Cymoedd, ac ymestyn gwasanaethau o Fanceinion i Abertawe a Chaerfyrddin bob awr.

William Graham: Last Thursday's election results spectacularly showed how the people of Blaenau Gwent rejected your party's prescriptions for the area's well-documented problems. Will you now give an assurance that the forthcoming Ebbw Vale rail link, with its connection to Newport, will be adequately factored into your future economic programme to give the area a chance?

William Graham: Dangosodd canlyniadau'r etholiad ddydd Iau diwethaf sut y gwrthododd pobl Blaenau Gwent atebion eich plaid i broblemau hysbys yr ardal. A rowch sicrwydd yn awr y bydd cyswllt rheilffordd Glynebwy sydd ar droed, gyda'i gysylltiadau â Chasnewydd, yn cael ei gynnwys yn ddigonol yn eich rhaglen economaidd yn y dyfodol er mwyn rhoi cyfle i'r ardal?

Andrew Davies: In fact, the money is in my budget, as members of the committee will have noted this morning. There is significant investment already in the budget for the introduction of passenger services on the Ebbw Vale line. I was going to refer to Janet Davies's comments; unfortunately, she has just left. However, she kindly pointed out the significant investment going into the Valleys, and Blaenau Gwent in particular. When an opposition Member recognises the level of investment, then we have a victory of sorts.

Andrew Davies: Mewn gwirionedd, mae'r arian yn fy nghyllideb, fel y bydd aelodau'r pwyllgor wedi sylwi y bore yma. Mae buddsoddiad sylweddol eisoes yn y gyllideb ar gyfer cyflwyno gwasanaethau teithwyr ar linell Glynebwy. Yr oeddwn yn mynd i gyfeirio at sylwadau Janet Davies; yn anffodus, mae hi newydd adael. Fodd bynnag, eglurodd yn garedig y symiau sylweddol yr ydym yn eu buddsoddi yn y Cymoedd, a Blaenau Gwent yn benodol. Pan fydd aelod o un o'r gwrthbleidiau'n cydnabod graddau'r buddsoddiad, yr ydym wedi ennill rhyw fath o fuddugoliaeth.

Christine Chapman: I met the new Arriva managing director, Bob Holland, last week, and discussed rail services on the Valleys

Christine Chapman: Cefais gyfarfod â chyfarwyddwr rheoli newydd Arriva, Bob Holland, yr wythnos diwethaf, a thrafodwyd

lines, which, as you know, has been a concern of mine in recent months. What is the nature of the discussions between the Assembly Government and Arriva on how to spend the £50 million that you have made available to improve the fleet during the franchise? Will some of it be used to purchase or lease additional trains to relieve some of the overcrowding at peak times? Also, can you give me some idea of the timescale of the discussions with Arriva, and when the outcomes will be implemented?

Andrew Davies: I have regular meetings with the company, as do my officials. With the transfer of the responsibility for the Wales and the Borders franchise to us as a Government from the Department for Transport, we have now considerably enhanced the capacity within my department, and we now have a head of rail, Tim James, who is formerly of Network Rail. He is already beginning to show his expertise and is demonstrating to Arriva, Network Rail and other operators that we expect a considerable improvement in performance. One of the issues that we have identified is that of how we can work with the rail operators to improve rolling stock. The reliability, comfort and cleanliness of rolling stock is a key issue for passengers, and it comes up regularly in questions in Plenary and in committee meetings. However, we are considering a specific proposal over and above the existing funding, from Arriva Trains Wales, for a significant step change in improving the rolling stock, particularly on the Valleys lines.

Trish Law: Can the Minister explain the delays in the opening of the Ebbw Vale railway link? Can you give a definitive date as to when it will be up and running? As New Labour is now supposedly committed to listening, will the Minister listen to the electors of Blaenau Gwent who say that the journey should immediately include the link to Newport as well as to Cardiff?

Andrew Davies: Thank you, Trish. Welcome to the Assembly, and congratulations to you. This is a major commitment for us as an Assembly Government. Significant funding

gwasanaethau rheilffyrdd ar linellau'r Cymoedd, sydd, fel y gwyddoch, wedi achosi pryder imi yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf. Beth yw natur y trafodaethau rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac Arriva am y ffordd i wario'r £50 miliwn yr ydych wedi'i glustnodi i wella'r fflyd yn ystod y fasnachfaint? A ddefnyddir rhywfaint ohono i brynu neu brydlesu trenau ychwanegol i leddfu ychydig ar y gorlenwi yn ystod amseroedd brig? Hefyd, a allwch roi rhyw fath o syniad imi o amserlen y trafodaethau gydag Arriva, a phryd y caiff y canlyniadau eu gweithredu?

Andrew Davies: Byddaf yn cyfarfod â'r cwmni'n rheolaidd, fel y bydd fy swyddogion. O ran trosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb dros fasnachfaint Cymru a'r Gororau inni fel Llywodraeth o'r Adran Drafnidiaeth, yr ydym bellach wedi gwella'r capasiti o fewn fy adran yn sylweddol, ac mae gennym bennaeth rheilffyrdd bellach, Tim James, a gynt o Network Rail. Mae'n dechrau dangos ei arbenigedd eisoes, ac mae'n dangos i Arriva, Network Rail a gweithredwyr eraill ein bod yn disgwyl gwelliant sylweddol mewn perfformiad. Un o'r materion yr ydym wedi eu nodi yw sut y gallwn weithio gyda gweithredwyr rheilffyrdd i wella cerbydau. Mae cerbydau dibynadwy, cyfforddus a glân yn fater allweddol i deithwyr, a chaiff y mater hwnnw ei godi'n aml mewn cwestiynau yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ac yng nghyfarfodydd y pwyllgor. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn ystyried cynnig penodol yn ychwanegol at y cyllid presennol, gan Drenau Arriva Cymru, i wella'r cerbydau'n sylweddol, yn enwedig ar linellau'r Cymoedd.

Trish Law: A all y Gweinidog esbonio'r oedi cyn agor cyswllt rheilffordd Glynebwy? A allwch roi dyddiad pendant pryd y bydd yn weithredol? Gan fod Llafur Newydd yn honni ei bod wedi ymrwymo i wrando, a wnaiff y Gweinidog wrando ar etholwyr Blaenau Gwent, sy'n dweud y dylai'r siwrnai gynnwys ar unwaith y cysylltiad â Chasnewydd yn ogystal â Chaerdydd?

Andrew Davies: Diolch, Trish. Croeso i'r Cynulliad, a llongyfarchiadau ichi. Mae hwn yn ymrwymiad sylweddol inni fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Mae arian

has been earmarked for what is an important development in terms of the improvement of rail services, particularly for your constituents, but also for those of Irene James, for example, and people in Caerphilly and Newport. Many communities will benefit from this. Having talked to Network Rail and the consortium of local authorities that are developing the infrastructure, we are confident that passenger services will be reintroduced in June of next year. On that point, we are on schedule, but I am more than happy to give you a briefing on this issue with my officials, if you would appreciate that.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): The Minister will be aware that at the time of the budget, immediately before Christmas, there was an agreement to bring in fresh rolling stock on the mid Wales lines: the Cambrian Coast line as well as the Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth line. There continue to be concerns about the status of the rolling stock on those lines, and I have received many complaints from constituents. Can the Minister give us an update and tell us when we are likely to see the improvements on those lines that I think that he wants as much as we do?

Andrew Davies: We have just considered a proposition from Arriva Trains Wales to improve the quality and modernity of the rolling stock. I will write to you with the specific details, but if they are not already operational, they will be operating shortly on the Cambrian line. On the general issues about the rolling stock and the leasing arrangements across the whole of the UK, I am pleased that the Department for Transport and the Office of the Rail Regulator will look at the leasing arrangements of other leasing companies, the rolling stock companies. There was a media comment last week that showed that the arrangements, and whether the public investment was getting the required return, perhaps needed to be looked at. So, I welcome the overall look at the leasing arrangements.

sylweddol wedi ei glustnodi ar gyfer yr hyn sy'n ddatblygiad pwysig o ran gwella gwasanaethau rheilffordd, yn enwedig i'ch etholwyr chi, ond hefyd i etholwyr Irene James, er enghraifft, a thrigolion Caerffili a Chasnewydd. Bydd nifer o gymunedau yn cael budd o hyn. Ar ôl siarad â Network Rail a'r consortiwm awdurdodau lleol sy'n datblygu'r seilwaith, yr ydym yn hyderus y caiff gwasanaethau teithwyr eu hailgyflwyno ym mis Mehefin y flwyddyn nesaf. O ran hynny, yr ydym yn gweithio o fewn yr amserlen, ond yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i roi briff ichi ar y mater hwn gyda'm swyddogion, os byddech yn gwerthfawrogi hynny.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwybod inni gytuno, adeg y gyllideb, yn union cyn y Nadolig, i gyflwyno cerbydau newydd ar linellau'r canolbarth: llinell Arfordir Cambria yn ogystal â llinell Amwythig i Aberystwyth. Mae pryderon yn parhau ynglŷn â statws y cerbydau ar y llinellau hynny, a chefais nifer o gwynion gan etholwyr. A all y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am hynny a dweud wrthym pryd yr ydym yn debygol o weld y gwelliannau ar y llinellau hynny y credaf ei fod am eu gweld gymaint â ninnau?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym newydd ystyried cynnig Trenau Arriva Cymru i wella ansawdd a modernrwydd y cerbydau. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch i roi'r manylion penodol, ond os nad ydynt eisoes ar waith, byddant ar waith cyn hir ar linell Cambria. O ran y materion cyffredinol am y cerbydau a'r trefniadau prydlesu ledled y DU gyfan, yr wyf yn falch y bydd yr Adran Drafnidiaeth a Swyddfa'r Rheoleiddiwr Rheilffyrdd yn edrych ar drefniadau prydlesu cwmnïau prydlesu eraill, sef y cwmnïau cerbydau. Cafwyd sylw yn y wasg yr wythnos diwethaf a oedd yn dangos hwyrach fod angen edrych ar y trefniadau, ac a oedd y buddsoddiad cyhoeddus yn rhoi'r manteision angenrheidiol. Felly, croesawaf y gwaith o edrych yn gyffredinol ar y trefniadau prydlesu.

Datblygiad Economaidd Economic Development

Q6 Irene James: Will the Minister make a statement about the Welsh Assembly Government's economic development strategy for Wales? OAQ0920(EIN)

Andrew Davies: The consultation on 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy' has confirmed the overall framework and has provided important pointers for our future plans and actions, which we develop in the Department for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks's new business plan, which brings together, for the first time, a comprehensive range of actions into one integrated plan.

Irene James: Thank you for your response, Minister. Will you join me in welcoming the start of advance work on the Ebbw Vale line, which is a milestone in the regeneration of some of our most deprived communities in Wales, and a key development for the people of Islwyn? It is considered commitment and partnership working between local representatives and local authorities working within the five counties regeneration framework, the Labour Welsh Assembly Government, which is funding the project, and rail stakeholders, which has brought us to the construction stage of this key development. The importance of re-establishing this vital link cannot be overestimated, and I ask for an assurance that the line will not be delayed.

Andrew Davies: I am happy to give that assurance. The Assembly Government has made a commitment to reintroduce passenger services on the Ebbw Vale line, which, as I said earlier, will benefit your constituents as well as those of Blaenau Gwent. It remains a priority; the funding is in place, and I have received assurances from the consortium that is building the line, and from Network Rail and others, that services will start next June. As you rightly pointed out, I understand that advance works on the Ebbw Vale line have started. A press release will go out later this week, and it may be the first time in history that a press release has followed the start of works, but I prefer it to be that way around

C6 Irene James: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am strategaeth datblygu economaidd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer Cymru? OAQ0920(EIN)

Andrew Davies: Mae'r ymgynghori ar 'Cymru: Economi yn Ffynnu' wedi cadarnhau'r fframwaith cyffredinol ac wedi darparu awgrymiadau pwysig ar gyfer ein cynlluniau a'n camau gweithredu yn y dyfodol sy'n cael eu datblygu yng nghynllun busnes newydd yr Adran Menter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau. Mae hwnnw'n dod ag amrywiaeth gynhwysfawr o gamau gweithredu at ei gilydd mewn cynllun integredig am y tro cyntaf.

Irene James: Diolch am eich ymateb, Weinidog. A ymunwch â mi i groesawu dechrau'r gwaith paratoi ar linell Glynebwy, sy'n garreg filltir yn y gwaith o adfywio rhai o'n cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru, ac yn ddatblygiad allweddol i drigolion Islwyn? Ymrwymiad dwys a gweithio mewn partneriaeth rhwng cynrychiolwyr lleol ac awdurdodau lleol yn gweithio o fewn fframwaith adfywio'r pum sir, Llywodraeth Lafur Cynulliad Cymru sy'n ariannu'r prosiect, a rhanddeiliaid rheilffyrdd sydd wedi dod â ni i'r cyfnod adeiladu yn y datblygiad allweddol hwn. Ni ellir gorbwysleisio pwysigrwydd ailsefydlu'r cyswllt hanfodol hwn, a gofynnaf am sicrwydd na fydd oedi cyn agor y llinell.

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn fodlon rhoi'r sicrwydd hwnnw. Gwnaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ymrwymiad i ailgyflwyno gwasanaethau i deithwyr ar linell Glynebwy, a fydd, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, o fudd i'ch etholwyr chi yn ogystal ag etholwyr Blaenau Gwent. Mae'n dal yn flaenoriaeth; mae'r arian ar gael, ac yr wyf wedi cael sicrwydd gan y consortiwm sy'n adeiladu'r llinell, a chan Network Rail ac eraill, y bydd gwasanaethau'n dechrau fis Mehefin nesaf. Fel yr oeddech yn dweud, yn gywir ddigon, yr wyf yn deall bod gwaith paratoi eisoes wedi dechrau ar linell Glynebwy. Caiff datganiad i'r wasg ei gyhoeddi'n ddiweddarach yr wythnos hon, ac efallai mai

rather than the other way around.

hwn fydd y tro cyntaf mewn hanes i ddatganiad i'r wasg gael ei gyhoeddi ar ôl i'r gwaith ddechrau. Ond mae'n well gennyf fod pethau fel hyn nag fel arall.

3.00 p.m.

Alun Ffred Jones: Rhan o'ch strategaeth yw grantiau cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol. Yr wyf wedi bod yn edrych ar ddisbarthiad y grantiau hyn drwy ardal Amcan 1, ac, er bod poblogaeth siroedd mwyaf gwledig ardal Amcan 1 yn dri chwarter poblogaeth y siroedd mwy trefol, nid yw cyfanswm y swyddi a grëwyd drwy gynlluniau grantiau RSA yn y siroedd gwledig yn cyfrif am fwy na 15 y cant o'r nifer a grëwyd yn yr ardaloedd mwy trefol. Sut yr ydych yn bwriadu newid y patrwm hwnnw, sydd yn milwriaethu yn erbyn datblygiad economaidd mewn ardaloedd mwy gwledig?

Alun Ffred Jones: Part of your strategy is regional selective assistance grants. I have been looking at the distribution of these grants throughout the Objective 1 area, and although the population of the most rural counties in the Objective 1 area is three quarters of the population of the more urban counties, the total number of jobs created in the rural counties through RSA grant schemes is only 15 per cent of those created in the more urban areas. How do you intend to change that pattern, which militates against economic development in more rural areas?

Andrew Davies: Alun Ffred asked me substantially the same question this morning, so he will get the same answer, although it may not be word for word. As I pointed out this morning, RSA grants are discretionary and demand led, which means that it is up to companies to apply for funding; it is not a question of us dictating to companies what to do. As it is demand led, it is entirely up to companies where they wish to locate, if they are inward investors, for example. We can offer financial incentives and other logistical support, but, ultimately, it is up to the company where it wishes to locate.

Andrew Davies: Gofynnodd Alun Ffred yr un cwestiwn imi yn y bôn y bore yma, felly fe gaiff yr un ateb, er nad gair am air efallai. Fel yr eglurais y bore yma, mae grantiau cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol yn grantiau dewisol sy'n cael eu harwain gan y galw, sy'n golygu mai penderfyniad cwmnïau yw gwneud cais am arian; nid ni sy'n dweud wrth gwmmnïau beth i'w wneud. Gan fod y grantiau'n cael eu harwain gan y galw, penderfyniad cwmnïau'n llwyr yw ble yr hoffent fod, os ydynt yn fewnfuddsoddwyr, er enghraifft. Gallwn gynnig cymhellion ariannol a chymorth logistaidd arall, ond yn y pen draw y cwmni sy'n penderfynu ble yr hoffai fod.

The other point is that while the number of applications from large companies is smaller, and forms a minority of the applications made, in terms of the scale of investment and the number of jobs created, those large companies have a disproportionate effect. Those companies, on the whole, tend to locate their operations nearer to larger centres of population, or the major trans-European networks, such as the A55 or the M4. For those reasons, the large investment and job creation will tend to occur in the areas with the greatest concentrations of population. While we can offer incentives in the rural areas and some Valleys communities, it is entirely a matter for the companies where

Y pwynt arall yw hwn: er bod llai o geisiadau gan gwmmnïau mawr, ac yn lleiafrif o'r ceisiadau a wneir, o ran maint y buddsoddiad a nifer y swyddi a grëir, mae'r cwmnïau mawr hynny'n cael effaith anghymesur. Mae'r cwmnïau hynny, ar y cyfan, yn dueddol o leoli eu gweithrediadau wrtyh ymyl canolfannau poblogaeth mwy, neu'r rhwydweithiau traws-Ewropeaidd mawr, fel yr A55 neu'r M4. Am y rhesymau hynny, bydd y buddsoddiad mawr a'r swyddi a grëir yn dueddol o gael eu gweld yn yr ardaloedd sydd â'r boblogaeth fwyaf. Er y gallwn gynnig cymhellion yn yr ardaloedd gwledig a rhai cymunedau yn y Cymoedd, penderfyniad y cwmnïau'n llwyr yw ble yr hoffent fod.

they locate.

The other point that I made this morning is that RSA is only one source of funding and support for companies. Carwyn Jones's department, for example, can offer a substantial range of financial support, and there is substantial investment from the Objective 1 programme and, in the future, the convergence programme, as well as independent private sector investment, such as the liquefied natural gas developments in west Wales.

Alun Ffred Jones: Yr wyf yn derbyn bod hynny'n ddisgrifiad o'r sefyllfa fel ag y mae, ond gwelwch yr un patrwm o ran grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad. Yr ydych yn iawn i ddweud bod llawer o'r grantiau hyn yn mynd i gwmnïau sydd yn datblygu ar hyd yr M4, ond dyna'r broblem. Sut yr ydych yn mynd i sicrhau datblygiad economaidd a ffyniant cymunedau ar hyd a lled Cymru, gan gynnwys yn yr ardaloedd gwledig? Beth yn eich strategaeth fydd yn hwyluso cwmnïau i sefydlu yn yr ardaloedd hynny fel eu bod yn gallu manteisio ar y grantiau hyn? Derbyniaf mai mater i'r cwmni yw hwn, ond mae'n amlwg nad yw'r galw yno, ac mae'r patrwm cwbl anghybwys hwn yn datblygu: dim ond 15 y cant o'r swyddi a grëwyd drwy'r grantiau hyn sydd yn yr ardaloedd gwledig, sy'n rhan helaeth o Gymru.

Andrew Davies: I come back to the point that Government support is only part of what is on offer, and what my department can offer is only one part of a wider Government offer. We can only deal with companies, in terms of their investment plans, with regard to what they want to do in their area. In rural areas, companies tend to be smaller, and that is one reason why, as I said earlier, we do not get the same level of take-up of grant. Nevertheless, whether it is the convergence programme in the future, or any other funding, we always look to support companies in Wales irrespective of where they are located.

John Griffiths: We are rapidly approaching 2010, when the Ryder Cup will come to Newport and Wales. The eyes of the world will be on Newport and Wales. We know that

Y pwynt arall a wnaethpwyd gennyf y bore yma yw mai un ffynhonnell arian a chymorth yn unig i gwmnïau yw grantiau cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol. Gall adran Carwyn Jones, er enghraifft, gynnig pob math o gymorth ariannol, ac mae buddsoddiad sylweddol gan y rhaglen Amcan 1, a'r rhaglen gydgyfeirio yn y dyfodol, yn ogystal â buddsoddi gan y sector preifat annibynnol, fel y datblygiadau nwy naturiol hylif yn y gorllewin.

Alun Ffred Jones: I accept that that is a description of the situation as it stands, but you see the same pattern in terms of Assembly investment grants. You are right to say that many of these grants go to companies that develop along the M4, but that is the problem. How are you going to ensure economic development and flourishing communities throughout Wales, including the rural areas? What in your strategy will facilitate companies to locate in those areas so that they can take advantage of those grants? I accept that this is a matter for the company, but it is obvious that the demand is not there, and you end up with a completely unbalanced picture: only 15 per cent of the jobs created by these grants are in the rural areas, which is a large part of Wales.

Andrew Davies: Dychwelaf at y pwynt mai dim ond rhan o'r hyn sy'n cael ei gynnig yw cymorth y Llywodraeth, a dim ond rhan o gynnig ehangach y Llywodraeth yw'r hyn y gall fy adran i ei gynnig. O ran eu cynlluniau buddsoddi, dim ond o ran yr hyn yr hoffent ei wneud yn eu hardal y gallwn ddelio â chwmnïau. Mewn ardaloedd gwledig, mae cwmnïau'n dueddol o fod yn llai, a dyna un rheswm, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, pam nad ydym yn gweld cynifer o gwmnïau'n gwneud cais am grantiau. Serch hynny, boed drwy'r rhaglen cydgyfeirio yn y dyfodol, neu unrhyw ddull ariannu arall, yr ydym bob amser yn ceisio cynorthwyo cwmnïau yng Nghymru waeth ble y maent.

John Griffiths: Yr ydym yn agosáu'n gyflym at 2010, pan fydd y Cwpan Ryder yn dod i Gasnewydd ac i Gymru. Bydd llygaid y byd ar Gasnewydd a Chymru. Gwyddom y

this will bring substantial opportunities to businesses in Wales, such as in tourism and inward investment. The run-up to the period is extremely important as well as the year itself, Andrew, so are you satisfied that the Welsh Assembly Government is working with Newport City Council, Newport Unlimited and other key partners to fully exploit these opportunities for Newport and Wales?

Andrew Davies: Yes, I am now, although a year or so ago, I was not content with our progress. Nevertheless, we now have a new focus, and the merger of the Assembly sponsored public bodies into my department—the former Welsh Development Agency and Wales Tourist Board—has helped significantly. We have a very good relationship with Newport, and with Sir Terry Matthews, owner of the Celtic Manor Resort. We are looking at what we need to do to maximise the immediate impact and management of the event in 2010, but you are quite right to say that it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. As a global sporting event, it is almost unparalleled. I am determined that we will seize this opportunity. One aspect is that we are using the Ryder Cup as the peg on which to promote Wales as a place to do business, particularly in the North American market. You have only to mention the fact that Wales is hosting the Ryder Cup in 2010 to see the significant impact that that has, and will continue to have in future.

Alun Cairns: The original question was about the economic development strategy, Minister, and the key body in delivering much of that strategy, until this financial year, was the Welsh Development Agency. How would you account for its success or otherwise up to April just gone?

Andrew Davies: I suppose that one advantage of having a committee meeting on the same day as my questions in Plenary is that I often get asked the same questions. As we reported openly and fully to committee this morning—and I made a commitment to the Chair and the committee—the level of

bydd hyn yn dod â chyfleoedd sylweddol i fusnesau yng Nghymru, megis ym maes twristiaeth a mewnfuddsoddi. Mae'r cyfnod cyn hynny yr un mor bwysig â'r flwyddyn ei hun, Andrew, felly, a ydych yn fodlon fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cydweithio â Chyngor Dinas Casnewydd, Newport Unlimited a phartneriaid allweddol eraill i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y cyfleoedd hyn i Gasnewydd ac i Gymru?

Andrew Davies: Ydwyf, yr wyf yn fodlon yn awr, er nad oeddwn yn fodlon ar ein cynnydd tua blwyddyn yn ôl. Serch hynny, mae gennym ffocws newydd yn awr, ac mae'r broses o uno cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad â'm hadran i—Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a Bwrdd Croeso Cymru gynt—wedi helpu'n fawr. Mae gennym berthynas dda iawn â Chasnewydd, ac â Syr Terry Matthews, perchennog Gwesty Celtic Manor. Yr ydym yn ystyried yr hyn y mae angen inni ei wneud i sicrhau y caiff y digwyddiad yn 2010 yr effaith fwyaf posibl ac y caiff ei reoli yn y ffordd orau posibl. Ond yr ydych yn llygad eich lle i ddweud mai cyfle unwaith mewn oes yw hwn. Fel digwyddiad chwaraeon byd-eang, mae'n ddigwyddiad bron heb ei ail. Yr wyf yn benderfynol y byddwn yn achub ar y cyfle hwn. Un agwedd yw ein bod yn defnyddio'r Cwpan Ryder fel cyfrwng i hyrwyddo Cymru fel lle i wneud busnes, yn enwedig ym marchnad Gogledd America. Nid oes ond angen sôn am y ffaith mai Cymru sy'n cynnal y Cwpan Ryder yn 2010 i weld yr effaith fawr y mae hynny'n ei chael, ac y bydd yn parhau i'w chael yn y dyfodol.

Alun Cairns: Yr oedd a wnelo'r cwestiwn gwreiddiol â'r strategaeth datblygu economaidd, Weinidog, a'r corff allweddol a fu'n gyfrifol am gyflwyno llawer o'r strategaeth honno, tan y flwyddyn ariannol hon, oedd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru. Sut y byddech yn cyfrif am ei lwyddiant neu fel arall hyd at fis Ebrill diwethaf?

Andrew Davies: Mae'n siŵr mai un o'r prif fanteision o gael cyfarfod pwyllgor ar yr un diwrnod â'm cwestiynau yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yw bod yr un cwestiynau'n cael eu gofyn yn aml. Fel y nodwyd yn agored ac yn llawn yn y pwyllgor y bore yma—ac fel yr addewais i'r Cadeirydd a'r pwyllgor—bydd

scrutiny, the amount of information and the transparency will be equal to, if not better than, what was on offer before. I think that we have delivered on that, certainly in terms of the new business plan.

I have been public in my comments on how some parts of the former Welsh Development Agency operated, and, as was explained to Alun and the rest of the committee this morning, the WDA felt strongly that its forecasting and its targets were not robust, which is why they have now been revised. As was reported to committee this morning, much of the reason why targets were not achieved was because of delivery on the overseas investment market particularly. I come back to the point that I made this morning: we now have far more robust figures. Given the significant performance of the Welsh economy over the past few years, we now have a much sounder foundation on which to build.

Alun Cairns: I am grateful for your reply, but is it not strange that, if we look at the targets over the past four years or so—excluding the last year—we see that they appear to be quite positive? The WDA achieved almost every one of its targets, bar the odd one here and there. However, since you made your announcement about the merger, morale must have slumped. It is quite obvious that performance has dipped, because some of the best staff have left, and, if you look at job numbers, capital investment figures, at almost each and every measure of what was achieved under your body—and it was you who said that it was not an arm's-length organisation and that it had to take ministerial direction—you see that in the time that you have been fiddling and telling it what to do, it has failed in almost every target. Will you not accept that your announcement is one reason why it has failed in its targets? Why is it that it achieved almost all of them for each of the four years up until that point?

Andrew Davies: As Gareth Hall, former chief executive of the WDA and now the director of my new department, and I said this morning, it is because the way in which

lefel y gwaith craffu, y wybodaeth a roddir a'r tryloywder crystal â'r hyn a gynigid gynt, os nad yn well. Credaf ein bod wedi cyflawni hynny, yn sicr o ran y cynllun busnes newydd.

Yr wyf wedi datgan yn gyhoeddus fy sylwadau am y ffordd yr oedd rhai rhannau o Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru gynt yn gweithio, ac fel yr esboniwyd wrth Alun a gweddill y pwyllgor y bore yma, yr oedd WDA yn teimlo'n gryf nad oedd ei ragolygon a'i dargedau yn gadarn, a dyna pam maent wedi eu diwygio bellach. Fel y dywedwyd yn y pwyllgor y bore yma, y cyflawni yn y farchnad fuddsoddi dramor oedd yn gyfrifol i raddau helaeth na chyrraeddwyd y targedau. Dychwelaf at y pwynt a wneuthum y bore yma: mae gennym ffigurau llawer cadarnach yn awr. O ystyried perfformiad da economi Cymru dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, mae gennym yn awr sail lawer cadarnach y gellir adeiladu arni.

Alun Cairns: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich ateb, ond onid yw'n rhyfedd, os edrychwn ar y targedau dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf—ac eithrio'r flwyddyn ddiwethaf—ein bod yn gweld eu bod yn ddigon cadarnhaol? Cyrhaeddodd WDA bron bob un o'i dargedau, ac eithrio ambell darged yma ac acw. Fodd bynnag, ers ichi wneud eich cyhoeddiad ynglŷn â'r uno, rhaid bod morâl wedi gwaethygu. Mae'n amlwg iawn bod y perfformiad wedi gwaethygu, gan fod rhai o'r staff gorau wedi gadael, ac os edrychwch ar nifer y swyddi, y ffigurau buddsoddi cyfalaf, ar bron bob mesur o'r hyn a gyflawnwyd o dan eich corff chi—a chi a ddywedodd nad sefydliad hyd braich ydoedd a bod yn rhaid iddo dderbyn cyfarwyddyd gan weinidogion—yn ystod yr amser ers ichi fod yn ymyrryd ac yn dweud wrtho beth i'w wneud, fe welwch ei fod wedi methu â chyrraedd bron pob targed. Oni dderbyniwch mai eich cyhoeddiad chi yw un o'r rhesymau pam y mae wedi methu â chyrraedd ei dargedau? Pam y llwyddodd i gyrraedd bron pob un ohonynt am y pedair blynedd hyd at hynny?

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedodd Gareth Hall, cyn-brif weithredwr WDA a chyfarwyddwr fy adran newydd bellach, a minnau y bore yma, y rheswm am hynny

job targets—or any targets—were forecast was not robust. In fact, between 65 and 70 per cent of the inability to reach targets was explained by the inward investment arm of the agency. Its own internal review, which was published last year, after discussion between the then chief executive, Gareth Hall, and me, revealed that the North American operation of the international division of the WDA was following an outdated strategy. Even its own figures showed that, even though that operation took 40 per cent of the costs, it only produced 70 jobs, and that is compared with the rest of the world.

oedd nad oedd y ffordd y rhagwelwyd targedau o ran swyddi—nac unrhyw dargedau—yn gadarn. Mewn gwirionedd, esboniwyd rhwng 65 a 70 y cant o'r anallu i gyflawni targedau gan gangen mewnfuddsoddi'r awdurdod. Datgelodd ei adolygiad mewnol ei hun, a gyhoeddwyd y llynedd, ar ôl trafodaethau rhwng Gareth Hall, y prif weithredwr ar y pryd, a minnau, fod gwaith Gogledd America o is-adran ryngwladol WDA yn dilyn strategaeth a oedd yn hen. Yr oedd hyd yn oed ei ffigurau ei hun yn dangos, er bod y gwaith hwnnw'n cymryd 40 y cant o'r costau, mai dim ond 70 o swyddi a grëwyd ganddo, a hynny o'i gymharu â gweddill y byd.

3.10 p.m.

I also think that, since we have reorganised the overseas operation under Ian Williams, a former senior executive of Shell, with the new International Business Wales, we have refocused the North American operation and I am confident that, once we appoint the new head of American operation, and that person will be based in America, unlike in the past, when the head of—

Credaf hefyd, ers inni ad-drefnu'r gwaith tramor o dan Ian Williams, cyn-uwch swyddog gweithredol Shell, gyda'r sefydliad newydd Busnes Rhyngwladol Cymru, ein bod wedi newid pwyslais y gwaith yng Ngogledd America, ac yr wyf yn hyderus, pan benodir y pennaeth Americanaidd newydd a'r person hwnnw'n gweithio yn America, yn wahanol i'r gorffennol, pan oedd pennaeth—

Alun Cairns: You have taken your eye off the ball.

Alun Cairns: Yr ydych wedi colli eich ffordd.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Alun Cairns, you have already had two supplementary questions; do not try to get a third one.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Alun Cairns, yr ydych wedi gofyn dau gwestiwn atodol eisoes; peidiwch â cheisio gofyn trydydd cwestiwn.

Andrew Davies: As I say, a new head of American operation in International Business Wales will be appointed and whoever he or she is will be based in America, unlike the former head of American operations, whose business card proudly gave an Amsterdam address.

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais, penodir pennaeth newydd ar y gwaith Americanaidd yn Busnes Rhyngwladol Cymru, a bydd pwy bynnag a benodir yn gweithio yn America, yn wahanol i gyn-bennaeth y gwaith yn America. Yr oedd ei gerdyn busnes ef yn rhoi cyfeiriad yn Amsterdam.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: You will inspire to greater things.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Byddwch yn anelu at gyflawni mwy.

The Presiding Officer: Order. The same applies to you, Rhodri Glyn.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae'r un peth yn berthnasol i chi, Rhodri Glyn.

Janice Gregory: Minister, I was with you last month at Sony in Pencoed and I felt privileged and extremely proud to be a member of a National Assembly that has a

Janice Gregory: Weinidog, yr oeddwn gyda chi fis diwethaf yn Sony ym Mhencoed a theimlwn anrhydedd a balchder mawr o fod yn aelod o Gynulliad Cenedlaethol sydd â

Minister that will chase the chief executive officer of Sony all over the world to discuss job losses. In case anybody missed it, he did say that and it was reported. I am pleased with the economic strategy that we are pursuing, as are my constituents who work in firms in the Ogmore and Bridgend constituencies. Will you continue to look at firms like Sony and the high-definition cameras and electronics industries, as well as at the more traditional industries, such as Georgia-Pacific in my constituency?

Andrew Davies: I am more than happy to give that commitment. The point that I made following Alun Cairns's questions was that the WDA, to a large extent, was following an out-of-date strategy. It was not focused on the reality of today's global market or our strengths in Wales, whether they are in the manufacturing and service industries or our university centres of excellence. I felt for a long time that we were missing a trick. We needed to engage with companies such as Sony on a more strategic and proactive basis and, in addition to Sony, another major investment triumph for Wales was the negotiations that we undertook with IBM to develop the Institute of Life Science, with a £15 million investment, in the University of Wales Swansea. That is a record of success and it shows the way forward into the future.

Michael German: Your strategy will depend heavily on your ability, through Assembly investment grants and regional selective assistance, and that of local authorities and others to give assistance to businesses. The whole of this strategy is up for grabs, from the Vale of Glamorgan right through to Flintshire, in a bidding war with the Department of Trade and Industry. Can you tell us clearly what your strategy is for getting the best deal for Wales? I do not want you to simply say, 'We are going to get the best deal for Wales'. What is your strategy? Is it based on economic hotspots, getting the biggest geographical spread that you can get or getting everybody in from the Vale of Glamorgan to Flintshire? So far, we have no information on this matter.

Gweinidog sy'n barod i ddilyn prif swyddog gweithredol Sony ledled y byd i drafod colli swyddi. Rhag ofn bod unrhyw un heb glywed hynny, dyna a ddywedodd, a chafodd sylw yn y wasg. Yr wyf fi a'm hetholwyr sy'n gweithio i gwmnïau yn etholaethau Ogwr a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn fodlon ar y strategaeth economaidd yr ydym yn ei rhoi ar waith. A fyddwch yn parhau i ystyried cwmnïau fel Sony a'r diwydiannau camerâu croyw ac electroneg, yn ogystal â'r diwydiannau mwy traddodiadol fel Georgia-Pacific yn fy etholaeth?

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i roi'r ymrwymiad hwnnw. Y pwynt a wneuthum yn dilyn cwestiynau Alun Cairns oedd bod WDA, i raddau helaeth, yn dilyn strategaeth a oedd yn hen. Nid oedd yn canolbwyntio ar realiti'r farchnad fyd-eang sydd ohoni na'n cryfderau ni yng Nghymru, boed yn y diwydiannau gweithgynhyrchu a gwasanaethau neu yng nghanolfannau rhagoriaeth ein prifysgolion. Yr oeddwn wedi teimlo ers amser maith fel pe baem yn colli rhywbeth. Yr oedd angen inni ymgysylltu â chwmnïau fel Sony yn fwy strategol a rhagweithiol, ac yn ogystal â Sony, llwyddiant mawr arall i Gymru wrth ddenu buddsoddiad oedd y trafodaethau a gafwyd gydag IBM i ddatblygu'r Sefydliad Gwyddor Bywyd, gyda buddsoddiad o £15 miliwn, ym Mhrifysgol Cymru Abertawe. Mae hynny'n record o lwyddo ac mae'n dangos y ffordd ymlaen ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Michael German: Bydd eich strategaeth yn dibynnu'n helaeth ar eich gallu chi, drwy grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad a chymorth rhanbarthol dewisol, a gallu awdurdodau lleol ac eraill i gynorthwyo busnesau. Mae'r strategaeth gyfan hon yn y fantol, o Fro Morgannwg i sir y Fflint, drwy gystadleuaeth gyda'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. A allwch ddweud wrthym yn glir beth yw eich strategaeth ar gyfer cael y fargen orau i Gymru? Nid wyf am ichi ddweud, 'Yr ydym yn mynd i gael y fargen orau i Gymru'. Beth yw eich strategaeth? A yw'n seiliedig ar ardaloedd sydd â phroblemau economaidd, sicrhau'r gwasgariad daeryddol mwyaf posibl, neu gynnwys pawb o Fro Morgannwg i sir y Fflint? Hyd yn hyn, nid ydym wedi cael unrhyw wybodaeth am y mater hwn.

Andrew Davies: The reason you do not have information is that we have been in negotiation with not just the UK Government, through DTI, but the European Commission, which has to agree our proposals for the coverage of the non-assisted area of east Wales. I know that you will probably say that this is at the level of rhetoric, but we are exploring every opportunity to get the maximum coverage that we can. There is a view that Wales has done extremely well in terms of the current coverage of assisted areas, but we are looking to put together the best package that we can to get the maximum impact in Wales. However, it is not a final decision for us; it is a matter for the UK Government and, ultimately, the European Commission. However, we continue to make the case as forcefully as we have done.

Michael German: There you are, Minister; you gave me the rhetoric back: you talked about getting the best deal possible. I think that we heard that from Mr Michael sometime in the past. I am asking what the methodology that you are using is. If you cannot give us a methodology, can you at least give us a measure of how you think things would be if you were as successful as you wanted to be?

Can you tell us whether there would be something for every county in east Wales, from the Vale of Glamorgan to Cardiff through to Flintshire, or would there be little pockets of little wards here and there in which you might be able to get something to happen? What measure of success would you attribute to that, if you were being good at your job?

Andrew Davies: First, I reject any idea that we have not been successful. The accusation was thrown at us about doing Wales down. We have had a very successful deal, working with the UK Government, on the European budget. We now have convergence funding status, which opposition Members always said that we would never get. We delivered on Objective 1 and the European programmes, and I reported to committee this morning that we have achieved almost 100 per cent—99.9 per cent, in fact—

Andrew Davies: Y rheswm pam nad oes gennych wybodaeth yw ein bod wedi cael trafodaethau nid yn unig â Llywodraeth y DU, drwy'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant, ond â'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd. Rhaid i hwnnw gytuno ein cynigion ar gyfer yr ardal nad yw'n cael cymorth yn y dwyrain. Gwn y byddwch yn dweud, mae'n debyg, mai amter o rethreg yw hyn, ond yr ydym yn archwilio pob cyfle i sicrhau bod yr ardal fwyaf posibl yn cael ei chynnwys. Ystyrir bod Cymru wedi gwneud yn dda iawn o ran yr ardaloedd a gynorthwyir ar hyn o bryd, ond ein nod yw sicrhau'r pecyn gorau posibl er mwyn iddo gael yr effaith fwyaf posibl yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, nid ni sy'n gwneud y penderfyniad terfynol; penderfyniad Llywodraeth y DU, a'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd ydywyn y pen draw. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn parhau i gyflwyno'r ddadl mor rymus ag o'r blaen.

Michael German: Dyna chi, Weinidog; yr ydych wedi ymateb drwy ddefnyddio rhethreg: yr oeddech yn sôn am gael y fargen orau sy'n bosibl. Credaf inni glywed hynny gan Mr Michael rywbryd yn y gorffennol. Mae fy nghwestiwn yn ymwneud â'r fethodoleg yr ydych yn ei defnyddio. Os na allwch roi methodoleg inni, a allwch o leiaf roi mesur inni o sut y credwch fyddai pethau pe byddech mor llwyddiannus ag yr hoffech?

A allwch ddweud wrthym a fyddai rhywbeth i bob sir yn y dwyrain, o Fro Morgannwg i Gaerdydd hyd at sir y Fflint? Neu a fyddai pocedi bach o wardiau bach fan hyn a fan draw lle gallech efallai ysgogi camau gweithredu? Pa fesur o lwyddiant y byddech yn ei briodoli i hynny, pe baech yn llwyddo yn eich gwaith?

Andrew Davies: Yn gyntaf, gwrthodaf unrhyw syniad nad ydym wedi bod yn llwyddiannus. Fe'n cyhuddwyd o wneud cam â Chymru. Yr ydym wedi sicrhau bargaen lwyddiannus iawn, gan weithio gyda Llywodraeth y DU, ar y gyllideb Ewropeaidd. Bellach, mae gennym statws cyllid cydgyfeirio, y dywedai Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau na fyddem byth yn ei gael. Cyflawnwyd Amcan 1 a'r rhaglenni Ewropeaidd, a chyflwynais adroddiad i'r pwyllgor y bore yma yn dweud ein bod wedi

commitment of all the EU funding programmes. I will write to you on the criteria issue. My understanding is that the assisted area map, as I reported to committee this morning, will be published on 10 July. However, there is clearly some way to go to get agreement on that from the European Commission, working through the DTI.

sicrhau ymrwymiad o bron 100 y cant—99.9 y cant, mewn gwirionedd—ar gyfer holl raglenni cyllido'r UE. Ysgrifennaf atoch am y meini prawf. Deallaf y caiff y map o'r ardaloedd a gynorthwyir, fel y dywedais yn y pwyllgor y bore yma, ei gyhoeddi ar 10 Gorffennaf. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer i'w wneud o hyd i sicrhau cytundeb ar hynny gan y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd, gan weithio drwy'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant.

Strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd Heads of the Valleys Strategy

Q7 Jeff Cuthbert: Will the Minister give an update on the Heads of the Valleys strategy? OAQ0981(EIN)

C7 Jeff Cuthbert: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd? OAQ0981(EIN)

Andrew Davies: On 15 June, following a meeting of the Heads of the Valleys programme board, I launched 'Turning Heads...A Strategy for the Heads of the Valleys 2020', which sets out how we will use £140 million of additional special funding to bring together the public, private and voluntary sectors and deliver change for the people who live, work and play in the area.

Andrew Davies: Ar 15 Mehefin, yn dilyn cyfarfod bwrdd rhaglen Blaenau'r Cymoedd, lansiais 'Syniadau Blaengar...Strategaeth ar gyfer Blaenau'r Cymoedd 2020', sy'n gosod allan sut y byddwn yn defnyddio £140 miliwn o gyllid arbennig ychwanegol i ddod â'r sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol ynghyd a sicrhau newid i'r bobl sy'n byw, yn gweithio ac yn chwarae yn yr ardal.

Jeff Cuthbert: There is no doubt that the investment that you have announced will make a massive difference to the quality of people's lives. The mass planting, hard landscaping and artwork in Merthyr Tydfil will undoubtedly bring a complete change to the lives of people living in that community, as will the investments in key towns such as in Bargoed in my constituency, which will be one of the first to benefit from an initial £1 million from the Assembly, once the construction of the Bargoed relief road begins shortly. Do you agree that these major investments, and other major public investments in Valleys communities, show that this Labour-led Assembly Government has the interests of the people of the Valleys at heart, unlike the former Conservative administration, for which investment in the Valleys was alien?

Jeff Cuthbert: Nid oes amheuaeth o gwbl na wnaiff y buddsoddiad a gyhoeddwyd gennych wahaniaeth mawr i ansawdd bywydau pobl. Bydd y cynllun plannu, tirlunio caled a chelf cynhwysfawr ym Merthyr Tudful yn sicr yn newid bywydau pobl sy'n byw yn y gymuned honno yn llwyr. Felly hefyd y buddsoddiadau mewn trefi allweddol megis ym Margod yn fy etholaeth i, sef un o'r etholaethau cyntaf i gael budd o £1 miliwn cychwynnol gan y Cynulliad, ar ôl dechrau'r gwaith o adeiladu ffordd liniaru Bargod maes o law. A gytunwch fod y buddsoddiadau sylweddol hyn, a buddsoddiadau cyhoeddus sylweddol eraill yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd, yn dangos bod y Llywodraeth Cynulliad hon o dan arweiniad y Blaid Lafur yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i fuddiannau pobl y Cymoedd, yn wahanol i'r weinyddiaeth Geidwadol gynt yr oedd buddsoddi yn y Cymoedd yn gysyniad estron iddi?

Andrew Davies: We are seeing levels of investment in the Valleys that we have not seen for a generation, and that is reflected in

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym yn gweld lefelau buddsoddi yn y Cymoedd na welwyd mo'u tebyg ers cenhedlaeth, ac adlewyrchir hynny

all the economic indicators, which show a rise in employment, a fall in unemployment and a rise in average earnings. However, the Heads of the Valleys programme is different because it is about doing business in a different way. It is very much linked to 'Making the Connections' and how we can work with the key players, particularly the five local authorities. There is an acceptance that those communities' current economic and social position is the result of long-term economic decline. We cannot turn that around overnight. However, as Janet Davies kindly pointed out this morning, significant investment—indeed, it is record levels of investment—is going in across the Valleys, including in Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Rhondda Cynon Taf and other areas.

This approach is different because everyone is signed up to it. They have signed up to the vision as well as to the practical delivery of that vision, whether it is in terms of environmental enhancement, for example, improvement near the steelworks in Ebbw Vale—and you mentioned what is happening in your own local authority area—or, indeed, town centre regeneration, such as that at Abertillery, Blaenau Gwent and many other places. Over time, the people of the Valleys will see a substantial improvement in their environment as well as in their economic and social position.

Jocelyn Davies: Last week, we heard the leader of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council casting doubt on the idea that the towns in that borough would be transformed from their rundown state in the foreseeable future. That was televised. As you said, that is an important part of the recovery of the Heads of the Valleys. How will you ensure that the towns in Blaenau Gwent will be restored to their former glory?

Andrew Davies: As I said in my response to Jeff, we are working with the local authorities and other stakeholders. Over the next three years, there will be a theme for each year. The theme for the first year was environmental improvement, and, as I said

yn yr holl ddangosyddion economaidd, sy'n dangos cynnydd mewn cyflogaeth, gostyngiad mewn diweithdra a chynnydd yn lefel yr enillion cyfartalog. Fodd bynnag, mae rhaglen Blaenau'r Cymoedd yn wahanol gan ei bod yn golygu gwneud busnes mewn ffordd wahanol. Mae cyswllt amlwg rhyngddi â 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau' a'r ffordd y gallwn weithio gyda'r cyfranogwyr allweddol, yn arbennig y pum awdurdod lleol. Derbynnir bod sefyllfa economaidd a chymdeithasol bresennol y cymunedau hynny'n deillio o ddirywiad economaidd maith. Ni allwn newid hynny dros nos. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedodd Janet Davies yn garedig y bore yma, mae buddsoddiad sylweddol—yn wir, y buddsoddiad mwyaf erioed—yn digwydd ym mhob rhan o'r Cymoedd, gan gynnwys Blaenau Gwent, Caerffili, Rhondda Cynon Taf ac ardaloedd eraill.

Mae'r dull hwn yn wahanol gan fod pawb wedi ymrwymo iddo. Maent wedi ymrwymo i'r weledigaeth yn ogystal â'r broses ymarferol o gyflawni'r weledigaeth honno, boed o ran gwella'r amgylchedd, er enghraifft, cynllun gwella ger y gwaith dur yng Nglynebwy—soniech am yr hyn sydd ar droed yn ardal eich awdurdod lleol chi—neu, yn wir, adfywio canol trefi, megis y cynlluniau yn Abertyleri, Blaenau Gwent a llawer lle arall. Gydag amser, bydd pobl y Cymoedd yn gweld gwelliant sylweddol yn eu hamgylchedd yn ogystal â'u sefyllfa economaidd a chymdeithasol.

Jocelyn Davies: Yr wythnos diwethaf, clywsom arweinydd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent yn bwrw amheuan dros y syniad y byddai trefi yn y fwrdeistref honno'n cael eu trawsnewid o'u cyflwr dadfeiliedig yn y dyfodol agos. Dywedodd hynny ar y teledu. Fel yr oeddech yn dweud, mae hynny'n rhan bwysig o'r broses o wella Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Sut y bwriadwch sicrhau y caiff trefi ym Mlaenau Gwent eu hadfer i'w cyflwr godidog blaenorol?

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais yn fy ymateb i Jeff, yr ydym yn gweithio gyda'r awdurdodau lleol a rhanddeiliaid eraill. Dros y tair blynedd nesaf, bydd thema ar gyfer pob blwyddyn. Y thema ar gyfer y flwyddyn gyntaf oedd gwella'r amgylchedd, ac fel y

earlier, there will be substantial environmental improvement in Blaenau Gwent. In fact, if I remember the figures correctly, the Blaenau Gwent development is probably the biggest of all the five local authority developments. In the second year, each of the local authorities will propose a town centre for regeneration, and I believe that Blaenau Gwent has proposed investment in Abertillery. Once again, if you have not read the document, I will send you more detail on the specific points that you raised, or I will give you a briefing, if you wish, on the issues faced by the Heads of the Valleys programme.

dywedais yn gynharach, gwneir gwelliannau amgylcheddol sylweddol ym Mlaenau Gwent. Yn wir, os cofiaf y ffigurau'n gywir, mae'n fwy na thebyg mai datblygiad Blaenau Gwent yw'r mwyaf o blith holl ddatblygiadau'r pum awdurdod lleol. Yn yr ail flwyddyn, bydd pob un o'r awdurdodau lleol yn cynnig canol tref i'w hadfywio, a chredaf fod Blaenau Gwent wedi cynnig buddsoddi yn Abertillery. Unwaith eto, os nad ydych wedi darllen y ddogfen, anfonaf ragor o fanylion atoch am y pwyntiau penodol a godwyd gennych, neu cynhaliad sesiwn friffio, os hoffech, ar y materion sy'n wynebu rhaglen Blaenau'r Cymoedd.

3.20 p.m.

Hybu Arloesedd Promoting Innovation

Q8 Val Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on what action he is taking to promote innovation in Wales?
OAQ0970(EIN)

C8 Val Lloyd: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau y mae'n eu cymryd i hybu arloesedd yng Nghymru?
OAQ0970(EIN)

Andrew Davies: Key actions in supporting the innovation section of our economic development strategy, 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy', and the innovation action plan include integrated, regionally based innovation business support services, including a single research and development or innovation grant scheme—SMART Cymru; communicating how innovation makes businesses more competitive and profitable; and higher education having more economic impact via, for example, institutes of life sciences or technium centres.

Andrew Davies: Ymhlith y camau gweithredu allweddol i ategu adran arloesedd ein strategaeth datblygu economaidd, 'Cymru: Economi yn Ffynnu', a'r cynllun gweithredu arloesedd, mae gwasanaethau cymorth i fusnesau arloesedd integredig, rhanbarthol, gan gynnwys un cynllun grant ymchwil a datblygu neu arloesi—SMART Cymru; cyfleu sut y mae arloesedd yn golygu bod busnesau'n fwy cystadleuol a phroffidiol; ac addysg uwch yn cael mwy o effaith economaidd drwy athroffeydd gwyddorau bywyd neu ganolfannau technium, er enghraifft.

Val Lloyd: Providing the right knowledge, support and facilities for starter businesses is a huge incentive for young, innovative companies. The technium development in the SA1 area of Swansea East offers exactly the right environment for these companies. In light of that, can you give an update on the latest progress agreed by the techniums in Swansea?

Val Lloyd: Mae darparu'r wybodaeth, y cymorth a'r cyfleusterau priodol i fusnesau newydd yn gymhelliant mawr i gwmnïau ifanc, arloesol. Mae'r datblygiad technium yn ardal SA1 Dwyrain Abertawe yn cynnig yr amgylchedd gorau i'r cwmnïau hyn. O ystyried hynny, a allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y cynnydd diweddaraf y cytunwyd arno gan y canolfannau technium yn Abertawe?

Andrew Davies: Swansea probably has the greatest concentration of technium centres. I understand that the first technium in SA1

Andrew Davies: Mae'n debyg mai yn Abertawe y mae'r crynodiad mwyaf o ganolfannau technium. Deallaf fod 93 y cant

now has 93 per cent occupancy. Technium 2 for the grow-on companies has 69 per cent occupancy, and I understand that the figures are similar for the digital technium on the university campus. I am delighted to say that there is now a third phase of technium in SA1: the private-sector-led Ethos project, which has support from Objective 1. I understand that the construction of that will start shortly.

o'r lleoedd wedi eu cymryd erbyn hyn yn y technium cyntaf yn SA1. Mae gan Technium 2 ar gyfer y cwmnïau datblygiadol lefelau meddiannu o 69 y cant, a deallaf fod y ffigurau'n debyg ar gyfer y technium digidol ar gampws y brifysgol. Mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud bod trydydd cam o ganolfannau technium erbyn hyn yn SA1: prosiect Ethos o dan arweiniad y sector preifat, a gaiff gymorth gan Amcan 1. Deallaf y bydd y gwaith adeiladu'n dechrau'n fuan.

Economi Gorllewin Cymru The West Wales Economy

C9 Elin Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar economi gorllewin Cymru? OAQ0966(EIN)

Q9 Elin Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the economy of West Wales? OAQ0966(EIN)

Andrew Davies: Since 2001, employment in west Wales has risen by 6.3 per cent and unemployment has fallen by 16 per cent. Such figures help demonstrate the effectiveness of the Welsh Assembly Government's policies. Our vision for the Welsh economy, set out in 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy', will build on this substantial progress.

Andrew Davies: Er 2001, mae lefelau cyflogaeth yn y gorllewin wedi codi 6.3 y cant, a lefelau diweithdra wedi gostwng 16 y cant. Mae'r ffigurau hyn yn help i ddangos mor effeithiol yw polisiau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Bydd ein gweledigaeth ar gyfer economi Cymru, a amlinellwyd yn 'Cymru: Economi yn Ffynnu', yn adeiladu ar y cynnydd sylweddol hwn.

Elin Jones: Ddydd Llun, cwrddais â'r Tywysog Siarl yng nghastell Aberteifi. Datganodd ei gefnogaeth lwyr i adfer y castell a defnyddio treftadaeth fel arf i hybu'r economi lleol. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol mai arian o'ch cyllideb chi ariannodd y broses o drosglwyddo castell Aberteifi i berchnogaeth gyhoeddus yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. A wnewch sicrhau bod eich adran yn gweithio gyda'r ymddiriedolaeth leol sy'n rhedeg castell Aberteifi, Cadwgan, i wireddu potensial y castell, a'i ddefnyddio i adfer yr economi leol?

Elin Jones: On Monday, I met Prince Charles at Cardigan castle. He expressed his full support for the restoration of the castle and the use of heritage as a tool to boost the local economy. I am aware that money from your budget was used to restore Cardigan castle to public ownership over the last few years. Will you ensure that your department works with Cadwgan, the local trust which runs Cardigan castle, to realise the potential of the castle, and use it to regenerate the local economy?

Andrew Davies: I feel that Christmas has come early today; Janet Davies praised our investment in the Valleys, and Elin Jones has praised our investment in Cardigan.

Andrew Davies: Mae'r Nadolig wedi dod yn gynnar imi heddiw; canmolodd Janet Davies ein buddsoddiad yn y Cymoedd, ac mae Elin Jones wedi canmol ein buddsoddiad yn Aberteifi.

I have met the local trust with regard to the development of the castle. We are, through the mid-Wales division of my department, funding a feasibility study to look at how we can maximise the potential of Cardigan castle. It is the jewel in the crown of the

Cyfarfûm â'r ymddiriedolaeth leol mewn perthynas â datblygu'r castell. Drwy'r isadran yn fy adran sy'n delio â'r canolbarth, yr ydym yn ariannu astudiaeth ddichonoldeb i ystyried sut y gallwn fanteisio i'r eithaf ar botensial castell Aberteifi. Hwn yw'r goron

town-centre development. Cardigan is a model for regeneration, and I pay particular tribute to the local authority in its response to working with us to take forward the overall economic regeneration of that town and of south Ceredigion.

Glyn Davies: The Institute for Grassland and Environmental Research near Aberystwyth has provided an important contribution to the west Wales economy. As a result of changes in Government priorities, at a UK level more than at the Welsh level, a number of those jobs are now under threat because of the speed of change in the programmes. What steps are you taking to introduce longer lead-in times so that we do not have disruption to what is a huge contributor to the west Wales economy?

Andrew Davies: IGER is a real centre of excellence in terms of research. I visited the institute last year and was given an introduction by the head of the research centre to what it is doing in terms of research and the contribution that it could make to my department, not least what it does in terms of renewable energy and the development of biofuels in particular. Carwyn Jones has been leading the negotiations with the UK Government on funding, but, following discussions with other universities in Wales, I believe that Swansea University, for example, is looking to work closely with IGER specifically on the development of biofuels and the use of grasses and other material for the production of renewable energy sources. Perhaps I could write to you in more detail about some of the potential in that area.

ar y cynllun i ddatblygu canol y dref. Mae Aberteifi yn fodel ar gyfer adfywio, a hoffwn roi deyrnged arbennig i'r awdurdod lleol am ei ymateb i gydweithio â ni i weithredu cynllun adfywio economaidd cyffredinol i'r dref honno ac i dde Ceredigion.

Glyn Davies: Mae'r Sefydliad Ymchwil Tir Glas a'r Amgylchedd ger Aberystwyth wedi gwneud cyfraniad pwysig i economi'r gorllewin. O ganlyniad i newidiadau ym mlaenoriaethau'r Llywodraeth, ar lefel y DU yn fwy nag ar lefel Cymru, mae nifer o'r swyddi hynny bellach yn y fantol oherwydd cyflymder y newid yn y rhaglenni. Pa gamau a gymerir gennych i gyflwyno amserau cyflwyno hwy fel na fydd amharu ar un o'r cyfranwyr mawr at economi'r gorllewin?

Andrew Davies: Mae IGER yn ganolfan ragoriaeth wirioneddol mewn gwaith ymchwil. Ymwelais â'r sefydliad y llynedd, a chefais gyflwyniad gan bennaeth y ganolfan ymchwil i'r hyn y mae'n ei wneud mewn gwaith ymchwil a'r cyfraniad y gallai ei wneud i'm hadran i, yn arbennig yr hyn a wnaiff gydag ynni adnewyddadwy a datblygu biodanwydd yn benodol. Bu Carwyn Jones yn arwain y negodiadau gyda Llywodraeth y DU ar gyllido, ond yn dilyn trafodaethau gyda phrifysgolion eraill yng Nghymru, credaf fod Prifysgol Abertawe, er enghraifft, yn bwriadu gweithio'n agos gydag IGER yn benodol ar ddatblygu biodanwydd a defnyddio glaswellt a deunyddiau eraill i gynhyrchu ffynonellau ynni adnewyddadwy. Efallai y gallwn ysgrifennu atoch yn fanylach am rywffaint o'r potensial yn y maes hwnnw.

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

Prif Ffrydio Cydraddoldeb Mainstreaming Equality

Q1 Jenny Randerson: Will the Minister make a statement on mainstreaming equality in the Welsh Assembly Government? OAQ261(BM)

C1 Jenny Randerson: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am brif-ffrydio cydraddoldeb yn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ261(BM)

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): We

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Yr ydym wedi

have developed a mainstreaming equality strategy, which requires every Welsh Assembly Government department to develop and implement equality action plans.

Jenny Randerson: Having seen you at the Coalition on Charging meeting yesterday, which I welcome, I wonder whether your Government has truly mainstreamed equality. Do you now realise, having listened to the people who attended that meeting, that free home care is an equality issue for disabled people and their carers, and has your Government begun to take this aspect on board?

Jane Hutt: I was pleased to join the Coalition on Charging Cymru meeting yesterday. I have been meeting with members over the past few months. It is important that we link the disability rights opportunities. We have had our discussion on the disability equality duties, and we have had events throughout Wales. I understand that these issues were raised with the Minister for Health and Social Services yesterday, and he will look at the links to equality rights and duty, and in terms of social care. I am sure that that will be linked to the fairer charging consideration that is being carried out. I am delighted that members from the coalition are involved in that.

Jenny Randerson: When your Government did a u-turn on free home care, part of the compensation package was a review of the fair charging system. How long will your Government take over that review? Every month that passes further destroys the confidence of disabled people and their carers in your Government.

Jane Hutt: I know that one meeting has already taken place of the stakeholders that were involved in working with Assembly Government officials on this important issue. I understand that the next meeting is scheduled for August. It is a crucial issue, particularly in relation to fairer charging, and the fact that we have inequities across Wales, and that we need to ensure that our local authorities are clear about our ambitions to ensure that we have a fairer charging

datblygu strategaeth prif-ffrydio cydraddoldeb, sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i bob un o adrannau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ddatblygu a gweithredu cynlluniau gweithredu cydraddoldeb.

Jenny Randerson: Ar ôl eich gweld yng nghyfarfod y Glymblaid ar Godi Tâl ddoe, ac yr wyf yn croesawu hynny, tybed a yw eich Llywodraeth mewn gwirionedd wedi prif-ffrydio cydraddoldeb. A ydych yn sylweddoli erbyn hyn, ar ôl gwrando ar y bobl a oedd yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, fod gofal yn y cartref yn fater o gydraddoldeb i bobl anabl a'u gofalwyr, ac a yw eich Llywodraeth wedi dechrau ystyried yr agwedd hon?

Jane Hutt: Yr oedd yn bleser gennyf ymuno â chyfarfod Clymblaid ar Godi Tâl Cymru ddoe. Bùm yn cyfarfod ag aelodau yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf. Mae'n bwysig inni gysylltu cyfleoedd hawliau'r anabl. Yr ydym wedi cael ein trafodaeth am y dyletswyddau cydraddoldeb pobl anabl, a chynhaliwyd digwyddiadau gennym ledled Cymru. Deallaf fod y materion hyn wedi eu codi gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ddoe, a bydd yn edrych ar y cysylltiadau â hawliau a dyletswyddau cydraddoldeb, ac o ran gofal cymdeithasol. Yr wyf yn siŵr y caiff hynny ei gysylltu â'r ystyriaeth sydd sar waith o godi taliadau tecach. Yr wyf yn falch fod aelodau o'r glymblaid yn rhan o'r broses honno.

Jenny Randerson: Pan newidiodd eich Llywodraeth ei meddwl yn llwyr am ofal cartref am ddim, rhan o'r pecyn iawndal oedd cynnal adolygiad o'r system o godi taliadau tecach. Am ba hyd y bydd eich Llywodraeth yn cynnal yr adolygiad hwnnw? Fis ar ôl mis, mae hyder pobl anabl a'u gofalwyr yn eich Llywodraeth yn cael ei ddinistrio ymhellach.

Jane Hutt: Gwn fod un cyfarfod eisoes wedi'i gynnal gyda'r rhanddeiliaid a fu'n gweithio gyda swyddogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar y mater pwysig hwn. Deallaf mai ym mis Awst y bwriedir cynnal y cyfarfod nesaf. Mae'n fater hollbwysig, yn arbennig o ran codi taliadau tecach, a'r ffaith fod gennym anghydraddoldeb ledled Cymru, a bod angen inni sicrhau bod ein hawdurdodau lleol yn glir am ein dyheadau i sicrhau trefniant tecach i godi taliadau, sy'n

arrangement, which links to equality of opportunity, relationships and legislation.

Mark Isherwood: When the Assembly debated mainstreaming equality in the Welsh Assembly Government, I tabled some amendments—one, I believe, was supported; one was not—calling for the professional development of staff working within the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure direct action to get people in the right place at the right time with the appropriate qualifications. To this day, I feel that perhaps one amendment was not supported because people misunderstood it rather than opposed it. What action is being taken to ensure active professional development for people from all backgrounds, not only through recruitment, but through the development and promotion process, so that the Assembly Government could be truly reflective of the population from which we all come, in its widest and most diverse sense?

Jane Hutt: It is an important duty in terms of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. We must have in place, by December, a disability equality scheme for the Welsh Assembly Government and all public bodies. We have been holding discussions throughout Wales, including an important meeting, which took place here, just over a week ago. If we want to be an exemplar employer, those issues in relation to promotion and recruitment have to be taken on board and we must recognise barriers that face disabled people. Therefore, I will take that back again, Mark, look at it, and report back to you.

3.30 p.m.

Gwella Mynediad y Cyhoedd at Ddogfennau Improving Public Access to Documents

Q2 Michael German: Will the Minister make a statement on what she is doing to improve public access to Assembly Government documents? OAQ262(BM)

Jane Hutt: The framework for public access to Assembly Government information is set out in our code of practice on public access to information. Our approach to providing access to publications is set out in our

gysylltiedig â chyfle cyfartal, cydberthynas a deddfwriaeth.

Mark Isherwood: Pan gafodd y Cynulliad ddadl ar brif-ffrydio cydraddoldeb yn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, cyflwynais welliannau—credaf fod un ohonynt wedi ei gefnogi ac un wedi ei wrthod—yn gofyn am raglen datblygiad proffesiynol i staff sy'n gweithio yn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, er mwyn sicrhau camau uniongyrchol i gael pobl yn y man iawn ar yr adeg iawn gyda'r cymwysterau priodol. Hyd heddiw, teimlaf efallai na chefnogwyd un gwelliant am fod pobl wedi ei gamddeall yn hytrach na'i wrthwynebu. Pa gamau sy'n cael eu cymryd i sicrhau datblygiad proffesiynol gweithredol i bobl o bob cefndir, nid yn unig drwy recriwtio, ond drwy'r broses ddatblygu a dyrchafu, er mwyn sicrhau y gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fod yn adlewyrchiad gwirioneddol o'r boblogaeth y mae pob un ohonom yn rhan ohoni, yn ei hystyr ehangaf, mwyaf amrywiol?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n ddyletswydd bwysig o ran Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 2005. Erbyn mis Rhagfyr, rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a phob corff cyhoeddus gael cynllun cydraddoldeb ar waith ar gyfer pobl anabl. Cawsom drafodaethau ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys cyfarfod pwysig a gynhaliwyd yma ychydig dros wythnos yn ôl. Os ydym am ddarparu esiampl dda fel cyflogwr, rhaid ystyried y materion hynny o ran dyrchafu a recriwtio, a rhaid inni gydnabod y rhwystrau sy'n wynebu pobl anabl. Felly, af â'r mater hwn yn ôl eto, Mark, a'i ystyried a rhoi ateb ichi.

publication scheme, which we are currently updating and extending to improve access to published material.

Michael German: One of the most obvious ways in which people can access the documents is through the Assembly Government's website. However, it is sometimes difficult to get some documents. For example, the most out-of-date section that we could find was the Welsh-language news. Would you like to comment on that? What should we read into the fact that that has not been updated since April?

Jane Hutt: You know that we have a new website, which was launched on 2 April. That was an ambitious timescale, disentangling from the National Assembly for Wales's website. The website is in development. I will take the issue that you raise back and look into it, because we must ensure that there is equality of opportunity in relation to access to Welsh-language information and publications.

Owen John Thomas: Three and a half months ago, I wrote to Tony Blair, requesting copies of correspondence between his office and the Lord Chancellor's office on reforms to the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which could see the introduction of a charge for the release of information. I was informed last week that it was not considered to be in the public interest to release these documents to me. Ironically, just over a year ago, when the Act was introduced, the Prime Minister boasted that it was the most open thing that the British Government had done since the Reform Acts of the 1800s.

The Presiding Officer: Order. This is not the House of Commons.

Jonathan Morgan: Or the House of Lords.

The Presiding Officer: Indeed—or the House of Lords. The Minister has no responsibility for anything that the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has or has not done.

Owen John Thomas: Does the Assembly

cyhoeddiadau wedi ei osod allan yn ein cynllun cyhoeddi yr ydym wrthi'n ei ddiweddarau a'i ymestyn ar hyn o bryd er mwyn gallu gweld deunydd cyhoeddedig yn haws.

Michael German: Un o'r ffyrdd amlycaf i allu cael gweld dogfennau yw drwy wefan Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, mae'n anodd dod o hyd i rai dogfennau weithiau. Er enghraifft, y rhan lle mae'r wybodaeth hynaf y gallem ei gweld oedd y newyddion Cymraeg. A hoffech wneud sylw ar hynny? Sut y dylem ddehongli'r ffaith nad yw wedi ei diweddarau ers mis Ebrill?

Jane Hutt: Gwyddoch fod gennym wefan newydd, a lanswyd ar 2 Ebrill. Yr oedd hynny'n amserlen uchelgeisiol, i ddatgysylltu oddi wrth wefan Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Mae'r wefan yn cael ei datblygu o hyd. Byddaf yn cymryd y mater a godwyd gennych ac ymchwiliad iddo, oherwydd rhaid inni sicrhau bod cyfle cyfartal o ran gallu gweld gwybodaeth a chyhoeddiadau yn Gymraeg.

Owen John Thomas: Dri mis a hanner yn ôl, ysgrifennais at Tony Blair, yn gofyn am gopiâu o ohebiaeth rhwng ei swyddfa ef a swyddfa'r Arglwydd Ganghellor ynglŷn â diwygiadau i Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, a allai arwain at gyflwyno tâl am ryddhau gwybodaeth. Cefais wybod yr wythnos diwethaf na chredid y byddai rhyddhau'r dogfennau hyn o les i'r cyhoedd. Yn eironig ddigon, ychydig dros flwyddyn yn ôl, pan gyflwynwyd y Ddeddf, broliai Prif Weinidog y DU mai hwn oedd y peth mwyaf agored yr oedd Llywodraeth Prydain wedi'i wneud ers y Deddfau Diwygio yn yr 1800au.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid Tŷ'r Cyffredin mo hwn.

Jonathan Morgan: Na Thŷ'r Arglwyddi.

Y Llywydd: Yn gwir—na Thŷ'r Arglwyddi. Nid yw'r Gweinidog yn gyfrifol am ddim byd y mae Prif Weinidog y Deyrnas Unedig wedi'i wneud neu heb ei wneud.

Owen John Thomas: A yw Llywodraeth y

Government support the reforms that would put requests for information beyond the financial means of the general public?

Jane Hutt: I am glad that we have got to our responsibilities; thank you, Llywydd, for ensuring that the Member recognises that.

You know that we deal with all requests for information as openly and as promptly as possible. Indeed, we go beyond the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is why our code of practice on public access to information predated that Act. I will certainly look at the issue that you raise.

David Melding: You say that the website has been updated and disentangled, in anticipation of the separation of the Assembly from the Government. However, any successful website needs an effective search engine, which has been a particular weakness to date. Will you ensure that this is reviewed as soon as possible?

Jane Hutt: I agree that the search engine has been inadequate since it came into being, again in its new form, on 2 April. We are working hard on that. On the development and the technical difficulties, they are being resolved week-on-week, and I hope that you will see the search engine improve, as we speak.

Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r diwygiadau a fyddai'n golygu bod ceisiadau am wybodaeth yn rhy gostus i'r cyhoedd?

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn falch inni gyrraedd ein cyfrifoldebau ni; diolch ichi, Lywydd, am sicrhau bod yr Aelod yn cydnabod hynny.

Gwyddoch ein bod yn ymdrin â phob cais am wybodaeth mor agored a phrydlon â phosibl. Yn wir, yr ydym yn rhagori ar ofynion Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, a dyna'r rheswm pam yr oedd ein cod ymarfer ar ganiatáu i'r cyhoedd weld gwybodaeth yn rhagflaenu'r Ddeddf honno. Byddaf yn sicr yn ystyried y mater a godwyd gennyh.

David Melding: Dywedwch fod y wefan wedi ei diweddarau a'i datgysylltu, cyn i'r Cynulliad gael ei wahanu oddi wrth y Llywodraeth. Fodd bynnag, mae angen i unrhyw wefan lwyddiannus gael chwilotwr effeithiol, sydd wedi bod yn wendid mawr hyd yma. A wnewch sicrhau y caiff hyn ei adolygu mor fuan â phosibl?

Jane Hutt: Cytunaf fod y chwilotwr wedi bod yn annigonol y cychwyn, unwaith eto yn ei ffurf newydd, ar 2 Ebrill. Yr ydym yn gweithio'n galed ar hynny. O ran y problemau datblygu a thechnegol, maent yn cael eu datrys o wythnos i wythnos, a gobeithio y byddwch yn gweld y chwilotwr yn gwella wrth i'r amser fynd heibio.

Cydlynu Polisiâu sy'n ymwneud â Phlant Co-ordinating Policies relating to Children

Q3 Peter Black: What is the Minister doing in regard to co-ordinating the Assembly Government's policies relating to children? OAQ258(BM)

Jane Hutt: As well as chairing the Cabinet sub-committee on children and young people, I have also, on behalf of Cabinet colleagues, co-ordinated activities in policy areas such as food and fitness, the United Nations convention on the rights of the child, and services for looked-after children.

Peter Black: One issue that often comes up, particularly in relation to anti-social behaviour, is the lack of facilities in

C3 Peter Black: Beth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud gyda golwg ar gydlynu polisiâu Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymwneud â phlant? OAQ258(BM)

Jane Hutt: Yn ogystal â chadeirio is-bwyllgor y Cabinet ar blant a phobl ifanc, yr wyf hefyd, ar ran fy nghyd-Weinidogion, wedi cydlynu gweithgareddau mewn meysydd polisi megis bwyd a ffitrwydd, confensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar hawliau'r plentyn, a gwasanaethau i blant sy'n cael gofal.

Peter Black: Un mater sy'n codi'n aml, yn enwedig o ran ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, yw prinder cyfleusterau

communities where children and young people can go to get off the streets. Many facilities are in place in various communities—although not enough—all of which are struggling to find funds to make ends meet. However, there is no single funding stream available via the Welsh Assembly Government to assist them or local government in meeting those costs. As this does not seem to be the responsibility of any single Minister—it covers anti-social behaviour, education, and various other elements of different portfolios—could your sub-committee co-ordinate looking at this issue to try to put such a funding stream in place?

Jane Hutt: There are funding streams available, as well as the obvious funding responsibilities: the statutory and discretionary responsibilities of local authorities. However, with the funding streams available through ‘Extending Entitlement’, Cymorth and Communities First, a great deal of funding is going to focus on precisely those issues. If you recall, one of the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration’s first announcements was to fund skateboard parks and additional play care facilities within the first tranche of funding for Communities First. Clearly, it needs a joined-up response, and I will certainly take that back to the Cabinet sub-committee on children and young people.

Janet Ryder: Your Government has always encouraged partnership working in its approach to children’s work, and has supported the development of the children and young people’s partnerships and their predecessors, the local children’s partnerships. Originally, the voluntary sector and groups like Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin, the pre-school playgroup, had a very strong voice on those partnerships. They are now becoming increasingly concerned that those partnerships are being taken over by statutory bodies. Will you undertake to review the working of those partnerships across Wales to ensure that everyone is given an equal voice around the table?

Jane Hutt: The voluntary sector still has a

mewn cymunedau, lle y gall plant a phobl ifanc fynd yn lle bod ar y stryd. Mae nifer o gyfleusterau ar waith mewn gwahanol gymunedau—er nad oes digon—a phob un ohonynt yn cael anhawster i ddod o hyd i arian i gael dau ben llinyn ynghyd. Fodd bynnag, nid oes yr un ffrwd ariannu benodol ar gael drwy Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i helpu cyfleusterau neu lywodraeth leol i dalu’r costau hynny. Gan nad yw hyn yn gyfrifoldeb ar unrhyw Weinidog penodol, mae’n ymddangos—mae’n rhychwantu ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, addysg a gwahanol elfennau eraill mewn portffolios gwahanol—a wnaiff eich is-bwyllgor gydlynw’r gwaith o ystyried y mater hwn er mwyn ceisio rhoi ffrwd ariannu o’r fath ar waith?

Jane Hutt: Mae rhai ffrydiau ariannu ar gael, yn ogystal â’r cyfrifoldebau ariannu amlwg: cyfrifoldebau statudol a dewisol llywodraeth leol. Fodd bynnag, gyda’r ffrydiau ariannu sydd ar gael drwy ‘Ymestyn Hawliau’, Cymorth a Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, bydd llawer iawn o arian yn cael ei neilltuo ar gyfer yr union faterion hynny. Os cofiwch, un o gyhoeddiadau cyntaf y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio oedd ariannu parciau sgrialu a chyfleusterau gofal chwarae ychwanegol, yn y gyfran gyntaf o arian a roddwyd o dan Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yn amlwg, mae angen ymateb cydgysylltiedig, a byddaf yn sicr yn codi hynny gydag is-bwyllgor y Cabinet ar blant a phobl ifanc.

Janet Ryder: Mae eich Llywodraeth bob amser wedi annog gweithio mewn partneriaeth o ran gwaith plant, ac mae wedi cefnogi datblygu partneriaethau plant a phobl ifanc, a’r partneriaethau a’u rhagflaenodd, y partneriaethau plant lleol. Yn wreiddiol, yr oedd gan y sector gwirfoddol a grwpiau megis Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin, y cychoedd chwarae, lais cryf iawn yn y partneriaethau hynny. Erbyn hyn maent yn pryderu mwyfwy fod y partneriaethau’n cael eu meddiannu gan gyrff statudol. A wnewch addo adolygu’r ffordd y mae’r partneriaethau hynny’n gweithio ledled Cymru, er mwyn sicrhau bod pawb yn cael yr un cyfle i fynegi barn?

Jane Hutt: Mae gan y sector gwirfoddol lais

very strong voice both in the children's partnerships and the young people's partnerships. Recently, as Minister for children, I met with a range of voluntary sector organisations, as my colleague, Jane Davidson, does regularly, and we talked about issues such as their role and profile, as well as their influence on the development of the partnerships' framework plans. I can assure you that my colleagues in the Cabinet sub-committee and I scrutinise that very carefully in terms of delivery at a local level. It is clear in the guidance.

Jonathan Morgan: The Clywch inquiry and the report that was published unearthed a level of abuse and failure within the education system and other agencies in Wales that shocked large numbers of people, including Members of the Assembly. We were all committed to ensuring that the recommendations of the 'Clywch' report would be implemented as quickly as possible. There are now concerns about the rate of implementation. Minister, what is the point in having a Minister with responsibility for children if you are not able to adequately co-ordinate the Government's response to that very important report?

Jane Hutt: Those recommendations are being implemented and Jane Davidson, our Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, reports regularly to the committee on progress. There are some recommendations that relate to the UK Government and to other agencies, and it is important that a co-ordinated approach is taken across devolved and non-devolved responsibilities. However, I can assure you of our commitment in the Welsh Assembly Government to deliver on those recommendations. In terms of progress, they are being delivered, and we are reporting back as we take them forward.

cryf iawn o hyd yn y partneriaethau plant a'r partneriaethau pobl ifanc. Yn ddiweddar, fel y Gweinidog dros blant, cyfarfûm â nifer o fudiadau o'r sector gwirfoddol, fel y bydd fy nghyd-Weinidog, Jane Davidson, yn ei wneud yn rheolaidd, a thrafodwyd materion megis eu rôl a'u proffil, yn ogystal â'u dylanwad ar y broses o ddatblygu cynlluniau fframwaith partneriaethau. Gallaf roi sicrwydd ichi fy mod i a'm cyd-aelodau yn is-bwyllgor y Cabinet yn craffu'n fanwl iawn o ran darparu'n lleol. Mae'n glir yn y canllaw.

Jonathan Morgan: Drwy ymchwiliad Clywch a'r adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd, datgelwyd lefel o gam-drin a methiant yn y gyfundrefn addysg ac asiantaethau eraill yng Nghymru a syfrdanodd nifer fawr o bobl, gan gynnwys Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Yr oeddem i gyd wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau y câi argymhellion adroddiad 'Clywch' eu gweithredu mor fuan â phosibl. Erbyn hyn mae pryderon ynglŷn â pha mor gyflym y maent yn cael eu gweithredu. Weinidog, beth yw diben cael Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am blant os na allwch gydlynun' ddigonol ymateb y Llywodraeth i'r adroddiad hynod bwysig hwnnw?

Jane Hutt: Mae'r argymhellion hynny'n cael eu gweithredu a bydd Jane Davidson, ein Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau, yn rhoi adroddiad yn rheolaidd i'r pwyllgor ar y cynnydd. Mae rhai argymhellion yn ymwneud â Llywodraeth y DU ac asiantaethau eraill, ac mae'n bwysig cael dull cydgysylltiedig ar draws cyfrifoldebau sydd wedi eu datganoli a rhai sydd heb eu datganoli. Fodd bynnag, gallaf eich sicrhau o'n hymrwymiad yn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i weithredu'r argymhellion hynny. O ran cynnydd, maent yn cael eu gweithredu, ac yr ydym yn adrodd yn ôl wrth inni weithredu arnynt.

Blaenoriaethau Cyfredol Current Priorities

Q4 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister make a statement on her current priorities for her portfolio? OAQ250(BM)

Jane Hutt: My current priorities include: mainstreaming equality: producing schemes

C4 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei blaenoriaethau cyfredol ar gyfer ei phortffolio? OAQ250(BM)

Jane Hutt: Ymhlith fy mlaenoriaethau cyfredol mae: paratoi cynlluniau ar gyfer y

for the new duties of disability and gender; promoting a coherent Government strategy for children and young people; improving communications; and ensuring the continued good handling of freedom of information requests.

Nick Bourne: I am grateful to the Minister for outlining her priorities, the last of which is requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. She indicated earlier that the Government was committed to going beyond the requirements of that Act, presumably by being more open. She will be aware of the legal advice regarding the ditched commitment to provide free homecare for the disabled, rendering it fairly clear that there were questions about the legality of that particular pledge—doubts that were not shared with the full Assembly. Similarly, there has been legal advice in relation to free school breakfasts, which the Government is refusing to publish. Is it for the same reason, and, if not, will she publish it?

Jane Hutt: This is a mischievous supplementary to your question about priorities. You raised that very point during my last question time, Nick, namely at what point did we know that there could be an issue with how we could enable local authorities to take forward the free homecare commitment. I reported at that time that Brian Gibbons made a statement in March last year—and we can go back to it—saying that we recognised that we could not take this forward without a special grant. That was not an issue that we were worried about, and we put it out into the public domain. Therefore, there has been no attempt whatsoever by the Government to hide or in any way not to disclose information. That is part of the process of making decisions and implementing policies. The same is equally true of the implementation of free school breakfasts.

Yesterday, the First Minister, Rhodri Morgan, talked about the 500 or more primary schools in Wales that are, and will be, benefiting from our free school breakfasts. Is it not that which you should be

dyletswyddau newydd ar anabledd a rhywedd; hybu strategaeth gydlynol gan y Llywodraeth ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc; gwella cyfathrebu; a sicrhau parhau i ymdrin â cheisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth yn dda.

Nick Bourne: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am amlinellu ei blaenoriaethau, a'r olaf oedd ceisiadau o dan Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000. Dywedodd yn gynharach fod y Llywodraeth wedi ymrwmo i ragori ar ofynion y Ddeddf, drwy fod yn fwy agored, mae'n debyg. Bydd yn ymwybodol o'r cyngor cyfreithiol, y cefnwyd arno, ar yr ymrwymiad i roi gofal yn y cartref am ddim i bobl anabl, gan ei gwneud yn eithaf amlwg fod amheuan ynglŷn â chyfreithlondeb yr addewid benodol honno—amheuan na rannwyd gyda'r Cynulliad llawn. Yn yr un modd, cafwyd cyngor cyfreithiol mewn perthynas â darparu brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion, cyngor y mae'r Llywodraeth yn gwrthod ei gyhoeddi. Ai am yr un rheswm y gwrthodir gwneud hynny, ac os nad dyna'r rheswm, a wnaiff ei gyhoeddi?

Jane Hutt: Mae hwn yn gwestiwn atodol drygionus i'ch cwestiwn ynglŷn â blaenoriaethau. Codwyd yr union bwynt hwnnw gennyh yn ystod fy sesiwn cwestiynau diwethaf, Nick, sef pryd y daethom i wybod y gallai fod problem o ran sut y gallem alluogi awdurdodau lleol i weithredu ar yr ymrwymiad i roi gofal cartref am ddim. Dywedais bryd hynny fod Brian Gibbons wedi gwneud datganiad fis Mawrth diwethaf—a gallwn ddychwelyd ato—yn dweud inni gydnabod na allem weithredu hyn heb grant arbennig. Nid oedd hynny'n fater yr oeddem yn poeni yn ei gylch, ac fe'i gwnaed yn gyhoeddus gennym. Felly, ni fu ymgais o gwbl gan y Llywodraeth i gelu gwybodaeth na pheidio â datgelu gwybodaeth. Mae hynny'n rhan o'r broses o wneud penderfyniadau a gweithredu polisïau. Mae'r un mor wir am ddarparu brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion.

Ddoe, soniodd Rhodri Morgan, y Prif Weinidog, am y 500 neu fwy o ysgolion cynradd yng Nghymru sy'n elwa, ac a fydd yn elwa, o'n cynllun i roi brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion. Onid hynny y dylech

focusing on, Nick, as leader of the Welsh Conservatives? You should be recognising that we are delivering on our manifesto policy of providing free school breakfasts.

ganolbwyntio arno, Nick, fel arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru? Dylech fod yn cydnabod ein bod yn gweithredu ein polisi maniffesto ar ddarparu brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion.

3.40 p.m.

Nick Bourne: That was not the question that I asked. Last time, I did ask you a question about disabled care; you are right about that. However, the question that I asked today was about publishing, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the advice in relation to free school breakfasts, which you have resisted doing. I am asking you now, since you say that you go beyond the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, whether you will publish that advice, given that there have been issues about legal advice and the legality of the commitment. If you will not publish it, what is the reason for that?

Nick Bourne: Nid dyna'r cwestiwn a ofynnais. Y tro diwethaf, gofynnais ichi gwestiwn am ofal i bobl anabl; yr ydych yn gywir o ran hynny. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd y cwestiwn a ofynnais heddiw yn ymwneud â chyhoeddi, o dan Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, y cyngor ar ddarparu brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion, rhywbeth yr ydych yn gwrthod ei wneud. Gofynnaf ichi yn awr, a chithau'n dweud eich bod yn rhagori ar ofynion Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, a wnewch chi gyhoeddi'r cyngor hwnnw, o gofio bod yna faterion am gyngor cyfreithiol a chyfreithlondeb yr ymrwymiad. Os na fyddwch yn ei gyhoeddi, beth yw'r rheswm dros hynny?

Jane Hutt: There are no issues about legality, and we have been open at every step of the way. The most important thing for us is to deliver our policy to ensure that children have access to free breakfasts, and that schools take up the scheme. It is very successful.

Jane Hutt: Nid oes problemau o ran cyfreithlondeb, ac yr ydym wedi bod yn agored bob cam o'r ffordd. Y peth pwysicaf inni yw gweithredu ein polisi i sicrhau bod plant yn gallu cael brecwast am ddim, a bod ysgolion yn ymuno â'r cynllun. Mae'n llwyddiannus iawn.

The Presiding Officer: Question 5, OAQ256(BM), is transferred for written answer by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills.

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 5, OAQ256(BM), i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig gan y Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau.

Gwella'r Broses o fod yn Agored Improving Openness

Q6 Jonathan Morgan: What measures is the Minister taking to improve openness within the Welsh Assembly Government? OAQ263(BM)

C6 Jonathan Morgan: Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cymryd i wella'r broses o fod yn agored o fewn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ263(BM)

Jane Hutt: The policy reflected in our code of practice on public access to information takes us beyond the legal requirements for openness. We have received praise from the Campaign for Freedom of Information, journalists, academics and the Information Commissioner for the way in which we respond to information requests.

Jane Hutt: Mae'r polisi sydd yn ein cod ymarfer ar ganiatáu i'r cyhoedd weld gwybodaeth yn golygu ein bod yn rhagori ar y gofynion cyfreithiol i fod yn agored. Mae'r Ymgyrch dros Ryddid Gwybodaeth, newyddiadurwyr, academyddion, a'r Comisiynydd Gwybodaeth wedi ein canmol am y ffordd yr ydym yn ymateb i geisiadau am wybodaeth.

Jonathan Morgan: Minister, could you tell me when the Assembly Government told the Welsh Language Board about the delay in bringing the organisation in-house?

Jane Hutt: Jonathan, you want to try to twist what was a clear response to the consultation that was undertaken, reported in a written statement yesterday. There will be plenty of opportunities to discuss this matter following the response to the urgent question, and I will certainly not pre-empt the response of the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport. We undertook a consultation on the Welsh Language Board, recognising the issues around the dyfarnydd and how that should come together, and we have come to a conclusion. Surely that is what you should welcome, as a member of the opposition—the fact that we are a responsible Government, listening to people through consultation.

Elin Jones: A ydych yn credu ei bod yn iawn i unrhyw fwrdd iechyd lleol gynnal trafodaethau am ddyfodol ysbytai cymunedol yn eich GIG chi y tu ôl i ddrysau caeedig? Yng Ngheredigion, nid yn unig y bu'n rhaid i'r cyhoedd a'r wasg adael cyfarfodydd y bwrdd pan fo trafodaethau am ysbytai cymunedol; rhaid hefyd i gynrychiolwyr y cyngor iechyd cymunedol adael. A yw hyn yn hybu llywodraeth a GIG agored? Os ydych yn credu bod ymddygiad o'r fath mor annerbyniol ag yr wyf fi yn credu ei fod, a wnewch chi anfon cyfarwyddyd i fyrddau iechyd lleol ac i'r GIG yn fwy cyffredinol yn nodi bod gweithredu fel hyn yn annerbyniol?

Jane Hutt: We would encourage any local health board or NHS trust to have meetings in the open and in public, and many of them do. Clearly, there will be times when matters relate to personal or commercial interests when it will be important for that board or trust not to hold open sessions. However, I must say that openness has been shown by those organisations in holding public meetings and consultations, and the thousands of people who have engaged in discussions on the future of hospitals and community services in those areas are a demonstration of that commitment to openness. It is an approach

Jonathan Morgan: Weinidog, a allech ddweud wrthyf pryd y dywedodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wrth Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg am yr oedi wrth ddod â'r sefydliad o dan adain y Cynulliad?

Jane Hutt: Jonathan, yr ydych yn ceisio ystumio'r hyn a oedd yn ymateb clir i'r ymgynghori a gynhaliwyd ac a roddwyd mewn datganiad ysgrifenedig ddoe. Bydd digon o gyfle i drafod y mater hwn ar ôl ymateb i'r cwestiwn brys, ac yn sicr ni fwriadaf achub y blaen ar ymateb y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon. Buom yn ymgynghori am Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, gan gydnabod y materion ynglŷn â'r dyfarnydd a sut y dylid gweithredu hynny, ac yr ydym wedi dod i gasgliad. Fel aelod o'r gwrthbleidiau, oni ddylech groesawu'r ffaith ein bod yn Llywodraeth gyfrifol, sy'n gwrandao ar bobl drwy ymgynghori?

Elin Jones: Do you think it is right that any local health board should have discussions on the future of community hospitals in your NHS behind closed doors? In Ceredigion, not only do the public and the press have to leave the board's meetings when community hospitals are discussed, but representatives of the community health council also have to leave. Does this promote open government and openness in the NHS? If you think such behaviour is as unacceptable as I think it is, will you issue a direction to local health boards and to the NHS more generally, stating that such actions are unacceptable?

Jane Hutt: Byddem yn annog unrhyw fwrdd iechyd lleol neu ymddiriedolaeth GIG i gynnal ei gyfarfodydd yn agored ac yn gyhoeddus, ac mae nifer ohonynt yn gwneud hynny. Yn amlwg, ar adegau bydd materion yn ymwneud â buddiannau personol neu fasnachol pan fydd yn bwysig i'r bwrdd neu'r ymddiriedolaeth honno beidio â chynnal sesiynau agored. Fodd bynnag, rhaid imi ddweud bod y sefydliadau hynny wedi bod yn agored drwy gynnal cyfarfodydd ac ymgynghori'n gyhoeddus, ac mae'r miloedd o bobl sydd wedi cymryd rhan mewn trafodaethau am ddyfodol ysbytai a

that we would encourage all public bodies to take.

gwasanaethau cymunedol yn yr ardaloedd hynny yn dyst i'r ymrwymiad hwnnw i fod yn agored. Mae'n rhywbeth y dylem annog pob corff cyhoeddus i'w wneud.

Effaith Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000 The Impact of the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Q7 Alun Cairns: Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the Welsh Assembly Government? OAQ264(BM)

C7 Alun Cairns (Gorllewin De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am effaith Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000 ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ264(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Assembly Government has responded to more than 1,100 requests for information since the beginning of 2005 and welcomes the opportunity to promote openness in all aspects of Government. A small team was established in January 2003 to advise on access-to-information matters.

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymateb i fwy na 1,100 o geisiadau am wybodaeth ers dechrau 2005, ac mae'n croesawu'r cyfle i hybu bod yn agored ym mhob agwedd ar Lywodraeth. Sefydlwyd tîm bach ym mis Ionawr 2003 i roi cyngor ar faterion yn ymwneud â gallu cael gwybodaeth.

Alun Cairns: Does the Minister accept that Assembly Members should not really have to use the Freedom of Information Act 2005 to glean information from Ministers? On several occasions, when Assembly questions have been tabled, they have come back with 'disproportionate expenditure' given as a reason for not answering them. For example, the response to a question tabled for the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks about the hospitality that his department had offered since April was that a disproportionate cost would be incurred in answering it. I now have to resort to the Freedom of Information Act to glean any possible information. Do you think that that is fair and right? Do you think that that is an open and transparent process in this new National Assembly?

Alun Cairns: A yw'r Gweinidog yn derbyn na ddylai Aelodau'r Cynulliad mewn gwirionedd orfod defnyddio Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2005 i gael gwybodaeth gan Weinidogion? Pan gyflwynwyd cwestiynau i'r Cynulliad, maent wedi eu dychwelyd droeon gyda'r rheswm 'gwariant anghymesur' wedi'i roi am beidio â'u hateb. Er enghraifft, yr ymateb i gwestiwn a gyflwynwyd i'r Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau ynglŷn â'r lletygarwch a gynigiwyd gan ei adran ers mis Ebrill oedd y byddid wedi gorfod tynnu cost anghymesur i'w ateb. Bellach rhaid imi droi at y Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth i gael unrhyw wybodaeth bosibl. A gredwch fod hynny'n deg ac yn briodol? A gredwch fod hynny'n broses agored a thryloyw yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol newydd hwn?

Jane Hutt: I am glad to take the opportunity to clarify again the rights and opportunities in terms of access to any information held by the Assembly Government for Members. This is laid down in the Code of Practice on Members' Access to Information, which clarifies various routes, which include, as you know, Alun, writing to Ministers, making requests via the Members' Research Service, making requests in committee meetings and tabling Assembly questions. We also have timescales for responses to requests, but we

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn falch o achub ar y cyfle i egluro unwaith eto yr hawliau a'r cyfleoedd o ran gweld unrhyw wybodaeth sydd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gan Aelodau. Pennir hyn yn y Cod Ymarfer ar Ganiatáu i Aelodau Weld Gwybodaeth, sy'n egluro sawl ffordd, ac ymhlith y rhain, fel y gwyddoch, Alun, mae ysgrifennu at Weinidogion, cyflwyno ceisiadau drwy Wasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau, cyflwyno ceisiadau mewn cyfarfodydd pwyllgorau a chyflwyno cwestiynau i'r Cynulliad. Mae

do have issues with regard to complex information requests, and that is recognised in the Code of Practice on Members' Access to Information. However, we aim to meet the timescales set out in the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is always important for Assembly Government and Members' research officials to reach agreement on timescales for responding to requests, and that is established.

Of course, there are times when Members can find this information, and the Members' Research Service can also have access to this information, but decisions about whether information should be released, and any explanation as to why it is appropriate to withhold information, are based on the provisions within the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and our Code of Practice on Public Access to Information with regard to the Code of Practice on Members' Access to Information. The criteria are therefore clearly laid down, and I am glad to have been able to repeat that today.

gennym derfynau amser ar gyfer ymateb i geisiadau hefyd, ond mae yna broblemau o ran ceisiadau cymhleth am wybodaeth, a chydabyddir hynny yn y Cod Ymarfer ar Ganiatáu i Aelodau Weld Gwybodaeth. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn anelu at gyrraedd y terfynau amser sydd wedi eu gosod allan yn Neddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000. Mae'n bwysig bob amser i swyddogion ymchwil Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac Aelodau gytuno ar y terfynau amser ar gyfer ymateb i geisiadau, ac mae hynny wedi'i bennu.

Wrth gwrs, bydd adegau pan all Aelodau ddod o hyd i'r wybodaeth hon, a gall Gwasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau weld y wybodaeth hon hefyd. Ond mae penderfyniadau a ddylid rhyddhau gwybodaeth, ac unrhyw esboniad pam mae'n briodol atal gwybodaeth, yn seiliedig ar y darpariaethau yn Neddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000 a'n Cod Ymarfer ar Ganiatáu i'r Cyhoedd Weld Gwybodaeth mewn perthynas â'r Cod Ymarfer ar Ganiatáu i Aelodau Weld Gwybodaeth. Felly, mae'r meini prawf wedi eu pennu'n glir, ac yr wyf yn falch fy mod wedi gallu ailadrodd hynny heddiw.

Diogelwch Plant The Safety of Children

Q8 William Graham: Will the Minister outline discussions held with Assembly Cabinet colleagues to facilitate the co-ordination of all agencies responsible for ensuring the safety of children in Wales? OAQ252(BM)

Jane Hutt: In addition to regular bilateral meetings, such discussions are held in the Cabinet sub-committee on children and young people. Of particular priority has been the co-ordination of the response to Gwenda Thomas's review, 'Keeping us Safe', across the Assembly Government.

William Graham: In these discussions, will you look again at the needs of the less fortunate, particularly looked-after children?

Jane Hutt: Indeed, that is key to the discussions in the Cabinet sub-committee, and I draw your attention to the fact that the

C8 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu'r trafodaethau a gafwyd gyda'i chyd-Weinidogion i hwyluso cydlynu'r holl asiantaethau sy'n gyfrifol am sicrhau diogelwch plant yng Nghymru? OAQ252(BM)

Jane Hutt: Yn ogystal â chyfarfodydd dwyochrog rheolaidd, cynhelir trafodaethau o'r fath yn is-bwyllgor y Cabinet ar blant a phobl ifanc. Yr hyn y rhoddwyd blaenoriaeth benodol iddo oedd y gwaith o gydlynu'r ymateb i adolygiad Gwenda Thomas, 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel', ar draws Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

William Graham: Yn y trafodaethau hyn, a edrychwch eto ar anghenion y llai ffodus, yn arbennig plant sy'n cael gofal?

Jane Hutt: Yn wir, mae hynny'n allweddol i'r trafodaethau yn is-bwyllgor y Cabinet, a thynnaf eich sylw at y ffaith fod gan

Welsh Assembly Government has a children's safeguarding officials group, which is an internal group, including officials from children's health and social services departments, as well as from the Department for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, the community safety unit, medical and nursing colleagues, and officials from the Social Services Inspectorate for Wales, and the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales. It brings people together so that we can have a joined-up approach to looked-after children. Of key importance most recently has been the group's discussion on how to take forward the £1 million allocated through the raising attainment and individual standards in education in Wales programme, particularly to improve the educational attainment of looked-after children.

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru grŵp swyddogion diogelu plant, grŵp mewnol sy'n cynnwys swyddogion o adrannau iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol plant, yn ogystal â'r Adran Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau, yr uned diogelwch cymunedol, staff meddygol a nyrsio, a swyddogion o Arolygiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru, ac Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru. Mae'n dod â phobl ynghyd fel y gallwn sicrhau dull cydgysylltiedig tuag at blant sy'n cael gofal. Yr hyn a fu'n hollbwysig yn ddiweddar oedd trafodaeth y grŵp am y ffordd i ddefnyddio'r £1 filiwn a ddyrannwyd drwy'r rhaglen i godi cyrhaeddiad a safonau addysgol unigolion yng Nghymru, yn arbennig i wella cyrhaeddiad addysgol plant sy'n cael gofal.

Cydraddoldeb Rhywiol Gender Equality

Q9 Ann Jones: Will the Minister make a statement about the Welsh Assembly Government's input to the Council of Europe's ministerial conference on gender equality? OAQ255(BM)

C9 Ann Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyfraniad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gynhadledd Gweinidogion Cyngor Ewrop ar gydraddoldeb rhyw? OAQ255(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Assembly Government welcomes the sixth European ministerial conference on equality, which took place recently. Gender equality remains an ongoing challenge, and we are establishing a dedicated project to develop our gender equality scheme.

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn croesawu chweched cynhadledd Gweinidogion Ewrop ar gydraddoldeb, a gynhaliwyd yn ddiweddar. Mae cydraddoldeb rhwng y ddau ryw yn her barhaus, ac yr ydym yn sefydlu prosiect penodedig i ddatblygu ein cynllun cydraddoldeb rhwng y dau ryw.

Ann Jones: One of the key themes of that conference was taking action to tackle the dreadful problem of the trafficking of human beings. Will you press your counterparts in the UK Government to sign up the Council of Europe's convention on action against people trafficking? Can you assure me that proper protocols are in place in social services and education departments, in schools and other relevant places in Wales, so that children who may be at risk from trafficking can be identified promptly, dealt with appropriately and provided with the proper support?

Ann Jones: Un o themâu allweddol y gynhadledd honno oedd cymryd camau i fynd i'r afael â masnachu pobl, sy'n broblem ofnadwy. A wnewch bwysu ar Weinidogion cyfatebol yn Llywodraeth y DU i lofnodi confensiwn Cyngor Ewrop ar gamau gweithredu yn erbyn masnachu pobl? A allwch fy sicrhau bod protocolau priodol ar waith mewn adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ac addysg, mewn ysgolion a lleoedd perthnasol eraill yng Nghymru, er mwyn gallu nodi'n gyflym y plant a all fod mewn perygl o ran masnachu, er mwyn gallu ymdrin â hwy'n briodol a rhoi'r cymorth priodol iddynt?

Jane Hutt: This is an area where we need to

Jane Hutt: Mae hwn yn faes lle y mae angen

deliver that joined-up response, not only here in Wales—and I pay tribute to the voluntary sector and Members across the Chamber who have been engaged in various meetings and campaigns to tackle this problem—but also in links with the UK Government. I give an undertaking to follow this through with my colleague, the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, and with our UK colleagues in terms of ministerial action.

inni sicrhau'r ymateb cydgysylltiedig hwnnw, nid yn unig yma yng Nghymru—ac yr wyf yn rhoi teyrnged i'r sector gwirfoddol ac Aelodau ar draws y Siambr sydd wedi cymryd rhan mewn amrywiol gyfarfodydd ac ymgyrchoedd i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon—ond hefyd mewn cysylltiadau â Llywodraeth y DU. Yr wyf yn addo mynd ar drywydd hyn gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, a'n cyd-weinidogion yn y DU o ran camau gweithredu gan Weinidogion.

Cyfle Cyfartal Equality of Opportunity

Q10 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister make a statement on equality of opportunity for Welsh and non-Welsh speakers? OAQ254(BM)

C10 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyfle cyfartal i siaradwyr Cymraeg a'r rheini nad ydynt yn siarad Cymraeg? OAQ254(BM)

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad am greu Cymru ddwyieithog, gwlad lle y gall pobl ddewis byw drwy'r Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. 'Iaith Pawb' yw'n cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer Cymru ddwyieithog, ac yr ydym wedi gwneud y buddsoddiad mwyaf erioed yn y Gymraeg, gyda swm ychwanegol o £28 miliwn ers 2003.

Jane Hutt: The Assembly Government is committed to creating a bilingual Wales, a country in which people can choose to live their lives through the medium of Welsh or English. Through 'Iaith Pawb', our action plan for a bilingual Wales, we have made the biggest ever investment in the Welsh language, with an additional £28 million since 2003.

Lisa Francis: Diolch am ateb yn Gymraeg.

Lisa Francis: Thank you for answering in Welsh.

3.50 p.m.

Lisa Francis: I will ask my supplementary question in English. Do you agree that, given that Wales has two national languages, in terms of equality and participation in democracy, community councils should issue copies of their agendas and minutes in both languages? This does not happen currently. What will your Government do to ensure that this happens in the future, or do you consider that your Government's expertise would be greater than that of an independent Welsh language commissioner, for example?

Lisa Francis: Gofynnaf fy nghwestiwn atodol yn Saesneg. A gytunwch, o gofio bod gan Gymru ddwy iaith genedlaethol, o ran cydraddoldeb a bod yn rhan o ddemocratiaeth, y dylai cynghorau cymuned gyhoeddi copïau o'u hagendaŵ a'u cofnodion yn y ddwy iaith? Nid yw hyn yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Beth fydd eich Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd yn y dyfodol, neu a ydych o'r farn y byddai arbenigedd eich Llywodraeth yn fwy nag arbenigedd comisiynydd iaith Gymraeg annibynnol, er enghraifft?

Jane Hutt: I think that that would be helpful, and I shall follow this up with my colleague, the Finance Minister, who has responsibility for local government, as well as the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport. We

Jane Hutt: Credaf y byddai hynny'n ddefnyddiol, a byddaf yn trafod hyn gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Cyllid, sy'n gyfrifol am lywodraeth leol, yn ogystal â'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a

should take that forward. I also welcome the support that has come through the Government amendments to the Government of Wales Bill, which puts the current good practice of the Welsh Assembly Government on a firm statutory footing, which was praised by Lord Prys-Davies and welcomed by Lord Roberts of Conwy.

Chwaraeon. Dylem weithredu ar hynny. Croesawaf hefyd y gefnogaeth sydd wedi dod drwy welliannau'r Llywodraeth i Fesur Llywodraeth Cymru, sy'n rhoi safle cadarn i arferion da presennol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, sydd wedi eu canmol gan yr Arglwydd Prys-Davies a'u croesawu gan yr Arglwydd Roberts o Gonwy.

Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 2005 The Disability Discrimination Act 2005

Q11 Carl Sargeant: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to make organisations aware of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005? OAQ265(BM)

C11 Carl Sargeant: Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod sefydliadau'n ymwybodol o'u cyfrifoldebau dan Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 2005? OAQ265(BM)

Jane Hutt: The small and medium-sized businesses equality project encourages best practice in developing and valuing diversity in the workplace.

Jane Hutt: Mae prosiect cydraddoldeb busnesau bach a chanolig yn annog arferion gorau wrth ddatblygu a gwerthfawrogi amrywiaeth yn y gweithle.

Carl Sargeant: Under the Act, the responsibility lies with the Department for Work and Pensions, but the Assembly has made a commitment to promote the Act through the dissemination of information and best practice. Disabilities come in many forms, and may not always be visible. A wide range of illnesses, such as mental health illness or diabetes, can have a huge impact on people's lives but are not necessarily seen by others. How is the Assembly spreading the message that, under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, workplaces and schools have a responsibility to employees and customers with non-visible disabilities?

Carl Sargeant: O dan y Ddeddf, yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau sy'n gyfrifol am hyn, ond mae'r Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i hyrwyddo'r Ddeddf drwy ledaenu gwybodaeth ac arferion gorau. Mae llawer math o anableddau, ac efallai nad ydynt yn weladwy bob amser. Gall pob math o salwch, megis salwch iechyd meddwl neu ddiabetes, gael effaith enfawr ar fywydau pobl ond heb eu gweld gan bobl eraill o reidrwydd. Sut y mae'r Cynulliad yn lledaenu'r neges fod gan weithleoedd ac ysgolion gyfrifoldeb i gyflogwyr a chwsmeriaid ag anableddau nad ydynt yn weladwy, o dan Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 2005?

Jane Hutt: This is an important point, which is being addressed by a pioneering European scheme that is engaging social partners—the EQUAL scheme—and which the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks was involved in launching. The scheme recognises that mental health is a key factor in terms of impairment and disability, leading to economic inactivity and unemployment. It is an area on which we will focus with regard to our disability equality duty.

Jane Hutt: Mae hwn yn bwynt pwysig, ac ymdrinnir ag ef gan gynllun Ewropeaidd arloesol sy'n ymgysylltu â phartneriaid cymdeithasol—cynllun EQUAL—sef cynllun yr oedd y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau yn rhan o'r gwaith o'i lansio. Mae'r cynllun yn cydnabod bod iechyd meddwl yn ffactor allweddol o ran nam ac anabledd, gan arwain at anweithgarwch economaidd a diweithdra. Byddwn yn canolbwyntio ar y maes hwn o ran ein dyletswydd i sicrhau cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl.

Ymestyn Llywodraeth Agored Extending Open Government

Q12 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister update us on her discussions with Ministers regarding extending open government in Wales? OAQ249(BM)

C12 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am ei thrafodaethau gyda Gweinidogion ynglŷn ag ymestyn llywodraeth agored yng Nghymru? OAQ249(BM)

Jane Hutt: I have held numerous discussions with Cabinet Ministers to ensure that our experiences of handling requests are shared, and that our approach is consistent and timely.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf wedi cael trafodaethau niferus gyda Gweinidogion y Cabinet i sicrhau y caiff ein profiadau o drin ceisiadau eu rhannu, a bod ein dull yn gyson ac yn amserol.

Nick Bourne: I accept the Minister's good faith in stating that, but has she discussed with Cabinet colleagues the importance of making statements in Plenary before they are made to the media, or to bodies that are concerned with those statements of public policy?

Nick Bourne: Yr wyf yn derbyn bod y Gweinidog yn ddiwyll wrth ddweud hynny, ond a yw wedi trafod gyda chyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet y pwysigrwydd o wneud datganiadau mewn Cyfarfod Llawn cyn eu rhoi'r cyfryngau, neu i gyrrff sy'n gysylltiedig â'r datganiadau hynny am bolisi cyhoeddus?

Jane Hutt: Our Ministerial Code is abided by at every turn.

Jane Hutt: Yr ydym yn cydymffurfio â'n Cod i'r Gweinidogion bob tro.

Cyfle Cyfartal Equality of Opportunity

Q13 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister make a statement on equality of opportunity for looked-after children in Wales? OAQ253(BM)

C13 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyfle cyfartal i blant sy'n cael gofal yng Nghymru? OAQ253(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to achieving equality of opportunity for all looked-after children in Wales, and to improving their life chances through initiatives such as the Children First programme, the national service framework for children, and ensuring improved educational outcomes.

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau cyfle cyfartal i bob plentyn sy'n cael gofal yng Nghymru, ac i wella eu cyfleoedd mewn bywyd drwy fentrau megis y rhaglen Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf, y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer plant, a sicrhau canlyniadau addysgol gwell.

Lisa Francis: Could you write to me on this particular issue? I want to know how the RAISE scheme will help looked-after children in Ceredigion specifically. How much money has been allocated to Ceredigion, and what criteria will determine its usage?

Lisa Francis: A allech ysgrifennu ataf am y mater penodol hwn? Yr wyf am wybod sut y bydd y Cynllun Rhagori yn helpu plant sy'n cael gofal yng Ngheredigion yn benodol. Faint o arian sydd wedi'i ddyrannu i Geredigion, a pha feini prawf a ddefnyddir i bennu sut y defnyddir yr arian?

Jane Hutt: I will write to you on that, but I would like to put on record that there is a £1 million grant for this year and next year to

Jane Hutt: Ysgrifennaf atoch ynglŷn â hynny, ond hoffwn gofnodi bod yna grant o £1 filiwn am y flwyddyn hon a'r flwyddyn

enable local authorities to support the education of looked-after children. It will be aimed at year 10 and year 11 pupils to help them to move on to further and higher education or workplace training. That will benefit all looked-after children in Wales, and I recently met the Frank Buttle Trust, which has welcomed that we are targeting looked-after children in this way. I will write to you about Ceredigion.

nesaf i alluogi awdurdodau lleol i gefnogi addysg plant sy'n cael gofal. Bydd yn anelu at ddisgyblion blwyddyn 10 a blwyddyn 11 i'w helpu i symud ymlaen i addysg bellach neu addysg uwch neu hyfforddiant yn y gweithle. Bydd hynny o fudd i bob plentyn sy'n cael gofal yng Nghymru, a chyfarfûm ag Ymddiriedolaeth Frank Buttle yn ddiweddar, sydd wedi croesawu'r ffaith ein bod yn targedu plant sy'n cael gofal fel hyn. Ysgrifennaf atoch ynglŷn â Cheredigion.

Trechu Gwahaniaethu Combating Discrimination

Q14 Jenny Randerson: Will the Minister make a statement on the progress of Assembly Government policies to combat discrimination? OAQ260(BM)

C14 Jenny Randerson: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cynnydd gyda pholisïau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer trechu gwahaniaethu? OAQ260(BM)

Jane Hutt: I am fully committed to combating discrimination in whatever form it manifests itself in Wales. Our race equality schemes take forward our commitments under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 to promote race equality, and to tackle racism, discrimination and inequality.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf wedi ymrwymo'n llwyr i drechu gwahaniaethau ar ba ffurf bynnag y mae i'w weld yng Nghymru. Mae ein cynlluniau cydraddoldeb hiliol yn cyflawni ein hymrwymiaidau o dan Ddeddf Cysylltiadau Hiliol (Diwygio) 2000 i hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb hiliol, ac i fynd i'r afael â hiliaeth, gwahaniaethu ac anghydraddoldeb.

Jenny Randerson: Perhaps we can return to the issue of the website. The view of many disabled groups is that many aspects of that website are not friendly to people with disabilities. The typeface and colouring may have been approved by disability groups, but it is a very complex website, with a lack of logic to how many of the documents are set out. Will you review this with representatives of disability groups in order to get a more coherent approach?

Jenny Randerson: Efallai y gallwn fynd yn ôl i drafod y wefan. Mae nifer o grwpiau anabl o'r farn bod llawer bod nifer o agweddau ar y wefan honno nad ydynt yn ystyriol o bobl ag anableddau. Efallai fod y ffurfdeip a'r llywio wedi'u cymeradwyo gan grwpiau anabledd, ond mae'n wefan gymhleth iawn, ac nid oes rhesymeg yn y ffordd y mae nifer o'r dogfennau wedi eu gosod allan. A wnewch chi adolygu hyn gyda chynrychiolwyr grwpiau anabledd er mwyn sicrhau dull mwy cydlynol?

Jane Hutt: I will certainly undertake to do that. I am glad to have had these questions and comments on the website. It is a top priority as far as I am concerned. We have a strong user base, but I will certainly now engage the disability groups in looking at the website and at improvements.

Jane Hutt: Yn sicr, yr wyf yn addo gwneud hynny. Yr wyf yn falch fd y cwestiynau a'r sylwadau hyn am y wefan wedi'u cyflwyno. Mae'n un o'm blaenoriaethau pennaf. Mae gennym sylfaen gadarn o ddefnyddwyr, ond byddaf yn sicr yn ymgysylltu â grwpiau anabledd yn awr i edrych ar y wefan ac ar welliannau.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i'r Gweinidog am ateb y cwestiynau i gyd ac am ateb un ohonynt yn y Gymraeg.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the Minister for answering all of the questions and for answering one of them in Welsh.

Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question

Dyfodol Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg Future of the Welsh Language Board

Ieuan Wyn Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar ddyfodol Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg? EAQ0880(CWS) [W]

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the future of the Welsh Language Board? EAQ0880(CWS) [W]

Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon (Alun Pugh): Mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn benderfynol am sicrhau twf yr iaith Gymraeg a gwella atebolrwydd democrataidd. Yn dilyn ymgynghori cyhoeddus, yr ydym wedi penderfynu uno Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg â Llywodraeth y Cynulliad drwy un set o newidiadau deddfwriaethol yn hytrach na dau.

The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Alun Pugh): This Government is determined to ensure the growth of the Welsh language and to improve democratic accountability. Following public consultation, we have decided to merge the Welsh Language Board with the Welsh Assembly Government by means of one set of legislative changes instead of two.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Dylai fod gennych yr asgwrn cefn i ddod i'r Cynulliad pan bod gennych benderfyniadau pwysig ar ddyfodol Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg i'w cyhoeddi. Y ffaith eich bod wedi rhyddhau, yn llechwraidd, datganiad i'r wasg am 5.30 p.m. neithiwr, cyn ei roi i Aelodau, yn dangos dirmyg llwyr at drefn y Cynulliad. Nonsens llwyr yw dweud mai oherwydd yr ymgynghoriad yr ydych wedi newid eich meddwl; yr ydym i gyd yn gwybod mai canlyniad Blaenau Gwent sydd yn gyfrifol amdano, ond nid oes gennych yr asgwrn cefn i ddod yma a chydabod hynny. Yr ydym yn gwybod mai eich bwriad chi oedd cario ymlaen gyda hyn oherwydd y buodd prosiect tîm wedi cyfarfod ddwywaith—ar 5 Mehefin ac ar 3 Gorffennaf—i gario ymlaen gyda'r gwaith. Mae'r hyn wedi'i rwystro oherwydd yr hyn a ddigwyddodd ym Mlaenau Gwent.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: You should have the backbone to come to the Assembly when you have important decisions to announce on the future of the Welsh Language Board. The fact that you released, surreptitiously, a statement to the press at 5.30 p.m. last night, before issuing it to Members, shows a complete lack of respect for the Assembly. It is absolute nonsense to say that you have changed your mind because of the consultation; we all know that the result in Blaenau Gwent is responsible for it, but you do not have the backbone to come here and admit that. We know that it was your intention to carry on with this because a project team met twice—on 5 June and on 3 July—to continue the work. It has been stopped because of what happened in Blaenau Gwent.

Er ein bod yn croesawu'r penderfyniad hwn, oherwydd ei fod yn sicrhau dyfodol bwrdd yr iaith tan 2007, yr ydym am wybod lle yr ydych yn sefyll ar ddyfodol yr iaith Gymraeg ac ar gryfhau'r iaith. Os ydych yn dweud mai'r unig beth yr ydych yn fodlon ei wneud yw sefydlu swydd y dyfarnydd, nid yw hynny'n ddigon i sicrhau dyfodol yr iaith. Mae'n bwysig, felly, eich bod yn amlinellu yn glir, heddiw, beth yn union yw rhaglen eich Llywodraeth.

Although we welcome this decision, because it ensures the future of the language board until 2007, we should like to know where you stand on the future of the Welsh language and on strengthening the language. If you are saying that the only thing you are prepared to do is to establish the post of the dyfarnydd, that is not enough to ensure the future of the language. It is therefore important that you outline clearly, today, exactly what your Government's programme is.

Alun Pugh: Leaving aside the petty and personal abuse there, I issued a written—

Alun Pugh: Gan anwybyddu'r sylwadau difrifol pitw a phersonol hynny, cyhoeddais

ddatganiad ysgrifenedig—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Minister, had there been personal abuse, I would certainly have intervened. I heard nothing disorderly; it was the normal political stuff that we tend to hear around here.

Alun Pugh: I assure the Assembly that my office issued a written statement to Members before any press notice was issued. There will be a major debate, with an amendable motion, on the language next week and Members will have the opportunity to put forward their views—let us be clear about that.

The establishment of the dyfarnydd on its own is of course not sufficient. That is why this Government has firmly nailed its colours to the mast in terms of its vision of a bilingual Wales and why we have invested an additional £28 million of resources in the Welsh language.

Frankly, this has nothing to do with Blaenau Gwent. I have never ever spoken to Trish Law about the Welsh language, and I do not believe that she has ever made any statement on her vision for any aspect of cultural policy, including the Welsh language. Were she here this afternoon for this question, I would be happy to answer any questions that she might have.

Nick Bourne: I hope that that was not personal, but it seemed to be getting quite close to it. Let us address the issues of process to start with. We asked for a statement on the Welsh language yesterday. We were told that we could not have a statement on the Welsh Language Board by the Business Minister. Later in the evening, immediately after Plenary had risen, a written statement was made. Who got that written statement first? The BBC got it first. We heard about it from the BBC. The Welsh Language Board also heard about it from the BBC; I have had meetings this morning with members of the Welsh Language Board. This is not an acceptable way to treat the Assembly. It is outrageous, in fact. This Minister has consistently flouted the

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Weinidog, pe bai sylwadau difriol wedi'u gwneud, byddwn wedi ymyrryd, a hynny'n sicr. Ni chlywais unrhyw beth a oedd allan o drefn; y sylwadau gwleidyddol arferol yr ydym yn tueddu i'w clywed yma oeddent.

Alun Pugh: Gallaf sicrhau'r Cynulliad fod fy swyddfa wedi anfon datganiad ysgrifenedig at Aelodau cyn cyhoeddi unrhyw hysbysiad i'r wasg. Cynhelir dadl bwysig, gyda chynnig y gellir ei ddiwygio, ar yr iaith yr wythnos nesaf a chaiff Aelodau y cyfle i leisio'u barn—gadewch inni fod yn glir am hynny.

Nid yw sefydlu swydd y dyfarnydd ar ei ben ei hun yn ddigonol, wrth gwrs. Dyna pam mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi mynegi ei barn yn glir am ei gweledigaeth ar gyfer Cymru ddwyieithog, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi buddsoddi £28 miliwn ychwanegol o adnoddau yn yr iaith Gymraeg.

A dweud y gwir, nid oes a wnelo hyn ddim byd â Blaenau Gwent. Nid wyf erioed wedi siarad â Trish Law am y Gymraeg, ac ni chredaf ei bod erioed wedi gwneud unrhyw ddatganiad am ei gweledigaeth ar gyfer unrhyw agwedd ar bolisi diwylliannol, gan gynnwys y Gymraeg. Pe bai yma y prynhawn yma ar gyfer y cwestiwn hwn, byddwn yn fodlon ateb unrhyw gwestiynau a allai fod ganddi.

Nick Bourne: Gobeithio nad oedd hynny'n bersonol, ond mae'n ymddangos yn eithaf tebyg i hynny. Gadewch inni ymdrin â'r broses yn gyntaf. Gofynsom am ddatganiad ar y Gymraeg ddoe. Dywedwyd wrthym na allem gael datganiad am Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg gan y Trefnydd. Yn ddiweddarach yn y noson, yn syth ar ôl i'r Cyfarfod Llawn ddod i ben, gwnaed datganiad ysgrifenedig. Pwy gafodd y datganiad ysgrifenedig hwnnw yn gyntaf? Y BBC a'i cafodd yn gyntaf. Clywsom ni amdano gan y BBC. Clywodd Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg amdano hefyd gan y BBC; cefais gyfarfodydd gydag aelodau o Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg y bore yma. Nid yw hon yn ffordd dderbyniol o drin y Cynulliad. Mae'n warthus, mewn gwirionedd. Mae'r Gweinidog hwn wedi diystyru arferion

acceptable norms of behaviour in relation to his portfolio.

4.00 p.m.

Yesterday's action was but the latest. It is totally unacceptable to treat Assembly Members, the democratic representatives of the people of Wales on devolved issues, in this way. It is totally unacceptable. I can see Labour Members shaking their heads; I cannot imagine why. Perhaps they think that treating elected representatives in this way is acceptable. In which case, let us wait to see whether they regard that as acceptable when they are Members of the opposition. It is totally unacceptable to treat elected Members and institutions like the Welsh Language Board in this way. I seek the Minister's assurance that he will investigate this, given that he does not believe that it was leaked to the BBC first; I can assure him that it was.

Secondly, on the substance of the announcement, the delay is certainly welcome. We do not want it to happen at all, so any delay is welcome to that extent. However, what is the timescale for this now? The Welsh Language Board does not know; he has not told the board. Is the Welsh Language Board still expected to attend these meetings, which means that it cannot achieve its targets, as I am told, because it is tied up in all these meetings? If this announcement is not related to the Blaenau Gwent by-election result—the timing seems absolutely extraordinary—could the Minister explain its timing?

Alun Pugh: I can assure you that the statement was issued to Members first; we gave very clear instructions for that. As was explained to the Assembly yesterday, our timetable between now and the summer recess is very full. We have a full programme of regulations this afternoon. There is a full debate on an amendable motion next week, giving plenty of opportunity to go through these issues.

In fairness, we know that the Tories have been consistently against the reform of the quango state. You have been entirely

ymddygiad derbyniol yn gyson o ran ei bortffolio.

Yr enghraifft ddiweddaraf o blith nifer oedd yr hyn a wnaeth ddoe. Mae'n gwbl annerbyniol trin Aelodau'r Cynulliad, cynrychiolwyr democrataidd pobl Cymru ar faterion sydd wedi eu datganoli, fel hyn. Mae'n gwbl annerbyniol. Gallaf weld Aelodau Llafur yn siglo'u pennau; ni allaf ddychmygu paham. Efallai eu bod yn credu ei bod yn dderbyniol trin cynrychiolwyr etholedig fel hyn. Os felly, gadewch inni weld a fydd hynny'n dderbyniol iddynt pan fyddant yn Aelodau o'r gwrthbleidiau. Mae'n gwbl annerbyniol trin Aelodau etholedig a sefydliadau fel Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg fel hyn. Gofynnaf am sicrwydd gan y Gweinidog y bydd yn ymchwilio i hyn, a derbyn nad yw'n credu bod hwn wedi ei ddatgelu i'r BBC yn gyntaf; gallaf ei sicrhau mai dyna a ddigwyddodd.

Yn ail, o ran cynnwys y cyhoeddiad, mae'r oedi i'w groesawu'n wir. Nid ydym am iddo ddigwydd o gwbl, felly, mae unrhyw oedi i'w groesawu i'r graddau hynny. Fodd bynnag, beth yw'r amserlen ar gyfer hyn yn awr? Ni w'yw'r Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg; nid yw wedi dweud wrth y bwrdd. A oes disgwyl o hyd i Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg fynychu'r cyfarfodydd hyn, sy'n golygu na all gyflawni ei dargedau, fel y deallaf, oherwydd ei fod ynghlwm wrth yr holl gyfarfodydd hyn? Os nad yw'r cyhoeddiad hwn yn gysylltiedig â chanlyniad isetholiad Blaenau Gwent—mae'r amseru'n ymddangos yn gwbl ryfeddol—a allai'r Gweinidog egluro'r amseru?

Alun Pugh: Gallaf eich sicrhau bod y datganiad wedi ei ryddhau i'r Aelodau yn gyntaf; rhoesom gyfarwyddiadau clir ar gyfer hynny. Fel yr eglurwyd wrth y Cynulliad ddoe, mae ein hamserlen rhwng yn awr a'r toriad yn llawn iawn. Mae gennym raglen lawn o reoleiddio y prynhawn yma. Bydd dadl lawn yr wythnos nesaf ar gynnis y gellir ei wella, gan roi digon o gyfle i fynd drwy'r materion hyn.

A bod yn deg, gwyddom fod y Toriaid yn gyson yn eu gwrthwynebiad i ddiwygio'r wladwriaeth gwango. Yr ydych wedi bod yn

consistent on that. On the legislative changes, we have always made it clear that getting the post of dyfarnydd on to a statutory basis would require legislation, following on from the new powers that will be given to the Assembly by the Government of Wales Bill, shortly to become the Government of Wales Act. I can tell the Assembly that it will be an early priority for legislation in the new Assembly.

You asked about the timetable for this and suggested that there must be some strange and suspicious reasons for it. It is very obvious: the announcement was made after a public consultation and before the debate. That allows Members enough opportunity to consider the Government's response in advance of the debate; we could hardly issue the response before the consultation was finished.

Michael German: We want the future of the Welsh language at the heart of everything and I am afraid that your actions, your timetable, and how you have announced this, do not fill any of us on the opposition benches with any confidence that you have done this properly.

I want you to tell us in clear terms whether or not your officials were outside the door of the Chamber, briefing members of the press and the BBC on your decision. That is what we believe to be the case, given that the party leaders were phoned by the BBC and asked for our opinions. We asked where we would find this statement and were told that we could find it on the Assembly website. We went looking for it on the Assembly website, but it was not there. So, we had to come back and ask you this vital question. You have not treated the Assembly correctly.

You have repeatedly said that you are merging the quangos in order to improve democratic accountability, so can you tell us when you made the decision to postpone this merger and why you did not have the courtesy to tell the National Assembly first? It is obvious to those of us who look around the political world, just scanning the horizon, that the fact that this was not announced until after the Blaenau Gwent by-election must have had some connection with whether or

gwbl gyson yn hynny. O ran y newidiadau deddfwriaethol, fe'i gwnaethom yn glir ar hyd yr amser y byddai angen deddfwriaeth i sefydlu swydd y dyfarnydd yn statudol, yn dilyn y pwerau newydd a gaiff y Cynulliad yn sgîl Mesur Llywodraeth Cymru a ddaw'n Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru maes o law. Gallaf ddweud wrth y Cynulliad y bydd ymhlith y blaenoriaethau cyntaf ar gyfer deddfwriaeth yn y Cynulliad newydd.

Yr oeddech yn holi am yr amserlen ar gyfer hyn gan awgrymu bod rhesymau rhyfedd ac amheus drosto. Mae'n amlwg iawn: gwnaed y cyhoeddiad ar ôl ymgynghori cyhoeddus a chyn y ddadl. Mae hynny'n rhoi digon o gyfle i'r Aelodau ystyried ymateb y Llywodraeth cyn y ddadl; ni allem fod wedi cyhoeddi'r ymateb cyn diwedd y broses ymgynghori.

Michael German: Yr ydym am i ddyfodol yr iaith Gymraeg fod wrth wraidd popeth, ac mae arnaf ofn nad yw eich gweithredoedd, eich amserlen na'r modd yr ydych wedi cyhoeddi hyn yn ennyn hyder yn ein plith ni, Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau, eich bod wedi gwneud hyn yn iawn.

Yr wyf am ichi ddweud wrthym yn glir a oedd eich swyddogion y tu allan i ddrws y Siambr yn briffio aelodau'r wasg a'r BBC ynghylch eich penderfyniad. Dyna yr ydym yn credu a ddigwyddodd, o gofio bod y BBC wedi ffonio arweinwyr y pleidiau i ofyn am ein barn. Gofynasom ble y gallem ddod o hyd i'r datganiad hwn, a dywedwyd wrthym ei fod ar wefan y Cynulliad. Aethom i edrych amdano ar wefan y Cynulliad ond nid oedd yno. Felly, bu'n rhaid inni ddod yn ôl a gofyn y cwestiwn hanfodol hwn i chi. Nid ydych wedi trin y Cynulliad yn iawn.

Yr ydych wedi dweud droeon eich bod yn uno'r cwangos er mwyn gwella atebolrwydd democrataidd. Felly, a allwch ddweud wrthym pryd y gwnaethoch y penderfyniad i ohirio'r uno hwn, a pham nad oedd gennych ddigon o gwrteisi i ddweud wrth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn gyntaf? Mae'n amlwg i'r rheini ohonom sy'n edrych yn gyffredinol tua'r gorwel gwleidyddol ei bod yn rhaid bod rhyw gysylltiad rhwng y ffaith na chyhoeddwyd hyn tan ar ôl isetholiad

not your proposals would carry a majority in the Chamber.

You talk about the creation of a language powerhouse; we have no idea of its details or how it will proceed. I would like you to answer this question: should you have the opportunity, after the next elections, to put forward an Order-in-Council proposal, at what stage, between your placing of that Order in Council and getting it approved in the Chamber, would it result in these proposals that you are taking forward being delivered? Would that be, at the very tightest, 18 months, or are we talking about two years? I think that the Welsh Language Board needs an answer, as does the Welsh-language community in Wales, as to how long it will be before these proposals—even if you were given the opportunity—are in place? If we are going to be waiting for three years, then at least have the courage to say so.

Alun Pugh: As far as yesterday is concerned, I will give you an assurance that I will get that process checked, but there was a clear intention to transmit the written statement to Members first. I certainly respect the processes of the Assembly.

I made my decision after going through the consultation responses. There were over 200 written responses to a technical consultation document. We had five public meetings across the length and breadth of this nation. It was a big and complex consultation, which received a number of responses, and which deserved careful consideration. As I said, the Blaenau Gwent timetable had little to do with it. We know that Trish Law has not made any statement on cultural policy, and I do not know how she feels about ASPB reform; but I remember that Peter was stalwart in his attacks on the quango state.

Blaenau Gwent â'r cwestiwn a fyddai eich cynigion yn cael mwyafrif yn y Siambr.

Yr ydych yn siarad am greu pwerdy iaith; nid oes gennym syniad am ei fanylion na'r modd y bydd yn mynd ymlaen. Hoffwn pe byddech yn ateb y cwestiwn hwn: os cewch gyfle i gyflwyno cynnig Gorchymyn yn y Cyfrin Gyngor ar ôl yr etholiadau nesaf, pryd, rhwng cyflwyno'r Gorchymyn hwnnw yn y Cyfrin Gyngor a chael cymeradwyaeth iddo yn y Siambr, y byddai'r cynigion hyn yr ydych yn eu dwyn yn eu blaen yn cael eu gweithredu? Ai 18 mis, sef yr amser lleiaf posibl, neu a ydym yn siarad am ddwy flynedd? Credaf fod angen ateb ar Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, ynghyd â'r gymuned Gymraeg yng Nghymru, i'r cwestiwn pa mor hir fydd rhoi'r cynigion ar waith yn ei gymryd—hyd yn oed os cewch y cyfle? Os byddwn yn aros am dair blynedd, dylech o leiaf fod yn ddigon dewr i ddweud hynny.

Alun Pugh: O safbwynt ddoe, rhoddaf sicrwydd ichi y caiff y broses ei harchwilio, ond yr oedd bwriad clir i drosglwyddo'r datganiad ysgrifenedig i'r Aelodau yn gyntaf. Yr wyf, yn sicr, yn parchu prosesau'r Cynulliad.

Gwneuthum fy mhenderfyniad ar ôl mynd drwy'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghori. Cafwyd dros 200 o ymatebion ysgrifenedig i ddogfen ymgynghori dechnegol. Cawsom bum cyfarfod cyhoeddus ym mhob cwr o'r wlad. Yr oedd yn ymgynghori helaeth a chymhleth a cafwyd nifer o ymatebion a haeddai ystyriaeth ofalus. Fel y dywedais, nid oedd gan amserlen Blaenau Gwent odid ddim i'w wneud ag ef. Gwyddom nad yw Trish Law wedi gwneud unrhyw ddatganiad ar bolisi diwylliannol, ac ni wn sut y mae'n teimlo ynghylch diwygio CCNC; ond cofiaf fod Peter yn ddiwyro yn ei ymosodiadau ar y wladwriaeth gwango.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Nick Bourne: Point of order. I seek a ruling from you in relation to statements that should come to the Assembly but are made elsewhere first. The leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat group, the leader of Plaid

Nick Bourne: Pwynt o drefn. Yr wyf yn gofyn am ddyfarniad gennyh ynghylch datganiadau a ddylai ddod i'r Cynulliad ond a wneir mewn manau eraill yn gyntaf. Cysylltwyd ag arweinydd grŵp y

Cymru, and I were all contacted when this was in the public domain, and it was not on the Assembly website at that stage. Other Members, such as Lisa Francis, were treated in a similar way. I accept what the Minister said, that he did not know that that was the case, but it was the case, so I encourage him to look at his department and investigate what went wrong, because I can assure him that that is what happened. I seek a ruling from you, Llywydd, about the seriousness of this, because the Assembly should clearly be told first. In this particular instance, we were pressing for a statement on the future of the Welsh Language Board just yesterday afternoon and were told that we could not have one. It seems to be an extraordinary way to treat people.

Alun Pugh: I am happy to take that back, but I can assure Members that there was a clear instruction that Members should receive this first. The reason that there was no oral statement yesterday was simply because of timetable matters. There is huge pressure on business. We have a full opportunity to discuss this in detail next week on an amendable motion.

The Presiding Officer: I accept what the Minister has said about the circumstances surrounding the written statement. However, I can assure you that I will always find time for a statement in the Assembly. If a Minister, or the Business Minister, requests to make a statement, time will be found. Indeed, my firm view is that time should have been found for a statement to be made on this matter to the Assembly. In case someone raises it, I say that not because of any interest that I have, historically, in matters relating to the Welsh Language Board, but because I have stalwartly defended the rights of Members to ask questions of Ministers. The reason why I allowed this urgent question today is that one of my criteria for allowing a question of urgent public importance, as the Standing Order says, is whether or not a Minister has made a written statement on it. If it is important enough for a Minister to make a written statement, there is an open goal for me, legitimately, to allow an urgent question that would allow Members to question the

Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yng Nghymru, arweinydd Plaid Cymru a minnau pan oedd y mater hwn yn fater cyhoeddus ac nid oedd ar wefan y Cynulliad bryd hynny. Cafodd Aelodau eraill, fel Lisa Francis, eu trin mewn modd tebyg. Derbyniaf yr hyn a ddywed y Gweinidog na wyddai mai dyna a ddigwyddodd, ond dyna a ddigwyddodd, felly fe'i anogaf i edrych ar ei adran ac ymchwilio i'r hyn a aeth o'i le, oherwydd gallaf ei sicrhau mai dyna a ddigwyddodd. Yr wyf yn gofyn am ddyfarniad gennych chi, Lywydd, ynghylch difrifoldeb hyn oherwydd y Cynulliad a ddylai gael gwybod yn gyntaf. Yn yr achos arbennig hwn, yr oeddem yn pwysu am ddatganiad ar ddyfodol Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg brynhawn ddoe, a dywedwyd wrthym nad oedd hynny'n bosibl. Mae'n ymddangos yn ffordd ryfedd o drin pobl.

Alun Pugh: Yr wyf yn fodlon mynd â hynny yn ôl gyda mi, ond gallaf roi sicrwydd i'r Aelodau bod yna gyfarwyddyd clir y dylai'r Aelodau gael hyn yn gyntaf. Y rheswm pam na chafwyd datganiad llafar ddoe, yn syml, oedd oherwydd materion amserlen. Mae pwysau aruthrol ar fusnes. Bydd gennym gyfle llawn i drafod hyn yn fanwl yr wythnos nesaf ar gynnig y gellir ei wella.

Y Llywydd: Derbyniaf yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog am yr amgylchiadau'n ymwneud â'r datganiad ysgrifenedig. Fodd bynnag, gallaf eich sicrhau y byddaf bob tror yn dod o hyd i amser ar gyfer datganiad yn y Cynulliad. Os bydd Gweinidog neu'r Trefnydd yn gofyn am gael gwneud datganiad, deuir o hyd i amser ar gyfer hynny. Yn wir, credaf yn gryf y dylid bod wedi dod o hyd i amser ar gyfer datganiad i'r Cynulliad ar y mater hwn. Rhag ofn y bydd rhywun yn ei godi, yr wyf yn dweud hynny nid oherwydd unrhyw fuddiant sydd gennyf fi, yn hanesyddol, mewn materion yn ymwneud â Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, ond oherwydd imi fod yn gadarn yn fy amddiffyniad o hawliau'r Aelodau i holi Gweinidogion. Y rheswm pam yr wyf wedi caniatáu'r cwestiwn brys hwn heddiw yw mai un o'm meini prawf ar gyfer caniatáu cwestiwn brys sydd o bwys i'r cyhoedd, fel y dywed y Rheol Sefydlog, yw a yw Gweinidog wedi gwneud datganiad ysgrifenedig arno ai peidio. Os yw'n ddigon pwysig i Weinidog wneud datganiad

Minister. That is one of the ways in which we ensure accountability.

Notwithstanding the fact that there will be a debate on this matter next week, where issues have been raised in Plenary, and where references have been made, as was the case yesterday, to the possibility of a statement, I can understand the feeling of Members—and I have no interest in what the BBC does—about seeing written statements when oral statements could have been made. That is the position that I have always taken, and it is a position that I hope will have some influence on Ministers' consideration of allowing statements in the future. There is always the facility within the business of the Assembly to find time for a statement, either early on, or later on. Whenever the Assembly is sitting, we can find time for statements.

Glyn Davies: Further to that point of order—

The Presiding Officer: As they say, I have already spoken.

Glyn Davies: I have listened to what you have said, and to what the Minister said earlier, but if it transpires that there was a desire not to make it public to Members before it was made public to the media, what sort of recourse is there to bring that to account in the Chamber—

4.10 p.m.

The Presiding Officer: Order. The Minister has already made a statement that it was his instruction that Members should be informed before the media. I accept his word for that. If anything untoward has happened after that, it is clearly the Minister's responsibility. I am trying to avoid that situation by ensuring that Ministers volunteer full oral statements to this Chamber whenever the Assembly is sitting. That is a useful convention for any parliamentary body, and I hope that it will continue here.

ysgrifenedig, mae'n agored imi, yn gyfreithlon, ganiatáu cwestiwn brys a fyddai'n galluogi Aelodau i holi'r Gweinidog. Dyna un o'r ffyrdd yr ydym yn sicrhau atebolrwydd.

Er gwaethaf y ffaith y bydd dadl ar y mater hwn yr wythnos nesaf, lle bydd materion wedi eu codi yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, a phan fydd cyfeiriadau wedi eu gwneud, fel a ddigwyddodd ddoe, at bosibilrwydd datganiad, gallaf ddeall teimladau'r Aelodau—ac nid oes diddordeb gennyf yn yr hyn a wna'r BBC—ynghylch gweld datganiadau ysgrifenedig pan ellid bod wedi gwneud datganiadau llafar. Dyna fu fy safbwynt erioed, ac mae'n safbwynt, gobeithio, a fydd yn dylanwadu ar ystyriaethau Gweinidogion o ran caniatáu datganiadau yn y dyfodol. Mae yan gyfleuster bob amser ym musnes y Cynulliad i ddod o hyd i amser ar gyfer datganiad, naill ai'n gynnar neu'n ddiweddarach. Pryd bynnag y bydd y Cynulliad yn eistedd, gallwn ddod o hyd i amser ar gyfer datganiadau.

Glyn Davies: Yn ychwanegol at yr pwynt hwnnw o drefn—

Y Llywydd: Yn ôl y dywediad, yr wyf eisoes wedi siarad.

Glyn Davies: Gwrandewais ar yr hyn a ddywedasoch ac ar yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog ynghynt, ond os daw i'r amlwg bod awydd i'w gadw rhag yr Aelodau cyn ei ryddhau i'r cyhoedd a'r cyfryngau, pa gamau sydd ar gael i ddod â hynny i gyfrif yn y Siambr—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae'r Gweinidog eisoes wedi gwneud datganiad mai ei gyfarwyddyd oedd y dylid hysbysu'r Aelodau cyn y cyfryngau. Derbyniaf ei air. Os digwyddodd unrhyw beth anffodus wedi hynny, cyfrifoldeb y Gweinidog yw hynny, yn amlwg. Yr wyf yn ceisio osgoi'r sefyllfa honno drwy sicrhau bod Gweinidogion yn cynnig datganiadau llafar llawn i'r Siambr hon pryd bynnag y bydd y Cynulliad yn eistedd. Mae hynny'n gonfensiwn defnyddiol i unrhyw gorff seneddol, a gobeithio y bydd

yn parhau yma.

Datganiad Busnes Diwygiedig Revised Business Statement

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I come forward with a revised business statement, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 5.4 and 5.5. The draft statement can be found on the Chamberweb under supporting documents. Members will see that I have brought forward the debate on the Assembly Government's forward programme, and, as a consequence, some minor adjustments have also been made.

Y Llywydd: A oes gwrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes? Gwelaf nad oes. A oes sylwadau?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn diolch i'r Trefnydd am gytuno i ddod â'r dadl ar flaenraglen y Llywodraeth ymlaen. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cael cyfle yn gynnar yn y tymor newydd i gael dadl ar hynny, ac i osod gwahanol safbwyntiau.

Byddem wedi mynnu cael datganiad ar Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, ond gan fod hynny bellach wedi digwydd yn sgîl cwestiwn brys, ni fyddwn yn gwrthwynebu'r datganiad busnes heddiw.

Lisa Francis: We are grateful for the rescheduling of the Government's forward work programme debate to the first meeting of the Assembly in September. As for the statement on the Welsh Language Board, two weeks ago you told us that work was in progress and that the Minister was bringing forward a statement in due course. Obviously, this happened last night, and it was brought to my attention by the BBC. Given the massive concern surrounding this particular issue, the Minister's timing and content of the statement has to be called into question. If your Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport thinks that this is an acceptable way to do business after all of the uncertainty that has been created, it clearly signals your Government's priorities to the electorate of Wales, which will judge you in due course.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cyflwynaf ddatganiad busnes diwygiedig, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog 5.4 a 5.5. Gellir gweld y datganiad drafft ar we'r Siambr o dan ddogfennau ategol. Bydd yr Aelodau'n gweld fy mod wedi dwyn y ddadl ar flaenraglen Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei blaen, ac o ganlyniad, gwnaed rhai mân addasiadau.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the business statement? I see that there are none. Are there any comments?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank the Business Minister for agreeing to bring forward the debate on the Government's forward work programme. It is important that we have an opportunity early on in the new term to have a debate on it, and to convey different points of view.

We would have insisted on having a statement on the Welsh Language Board, but as that has already happened as a result of the urgent question, we will not be objecting to today's business statement.

Lisa Francis: Yr ydym yn ddiolchgar bod y ddadl ar flaenraglen waith y Llywodraeth wedi cael ei had-drefnu ar gyfer cyfarfod cyntaf y Cynulliad fis Medi. O ran y datganiad ar Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, bythefnos yn ôl yr oeddech yn dweud wrthym fod y gwaith yn mynd rhagddo ac y byddai'r Gweinidog yn cyflwyno datganiad maes o law. Yn amlwg, digwyddodd hyn neithiwr, ac fe'i dygwyd i'm sylw gan y BBC. O gofio'r pryder dybryd ynghylch y mater penodol hwn, rhaid cwestiynu amseru'r Gweinidog a chynnwys y datganiad. Os yw'ch Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon o'r farn bod hon yn ffordd dderbyniol i gynnal busnes ar ôl yr holl ansicrwydd a grëwyd, mae'n amlwg yn arwydd o flaenoriaethau eich Llywodraeth i etholwyr Cymru, a fydd yn eich barnu maes o law.

Peter Black: I am also grateful that the Minister has brought forward the debate on the forward work programme. It is important that we have it as early as possible. We have already rehearsed the issues about the Welsh Language Board and the statement. I note that the written statement was circulated at 6.29 p.m. last night. I heard it on Radio Wales before that; I have just checked my computer. It seems to me that that is the sort of issue on which we should be having oral statements. We have rehearsed that; I would have preferred to have seen it in the business statement, but, as we have just been through the whole process, I am happy to accept it as it is at present.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I am glad that there are no objections to the draft business statement. For the record, I did say yesterday that the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport would bring a statement to the Assembly before the Iaith Pawb date; that is what he has done.

Peter Black: Yr wyf fi hefyd yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ddwyn y ddadl ar y flaenraglen waith yn ei blaen. Mae'n bwysig inni gael y ddadl hon cyn gynted â phosibl, Yr ydym eisoes wedi trin a thrafod y materion ynghylch Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg a'r datganiad. Sylwaf fod datganiad ysgrifenedig wedi ei ddsbarthu am 6.29 p.m. neithiwr. Fe'i clywais ar Radio Wales cyn hynny; yr oeddwn newydd edrych ar fy nghyfrifiadur. Ymddengys i mi fod hwn yn fater y dylem gael datganiadau llafar arno. Yr ydym wedi trin a thrafod hynny; byddai wedi bod yn well gennyf weld hynny yn y datganiad busnes, ond gan ein bod newydd fynd drwy'r broses honno, yr wyf yn fodlon ei dderbyn fel y mae ar hyn o bryd.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Yr wyf yn falch nad oes dim gwrthwynebiadau i'r datganiad busnes drafft. Er mwyn y cofnod, dywedais ddoe y byddai'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon yn cyflwyno datganiad i'r Cynulliad cyn dyddiad Iaith Pawb; dyna a wnaeth.

Ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau: Rhan 2 yr Adolygiad Polisi Anghenion Addysgol Arbennig The Welsh Assembly Government's Response to the Report of the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee: Part 2 Policy Review of Special Educational Needs

The Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning, and Skills (Jane Davidson): I thank the committee for undertaking this review of special educational needs and for delivering such a comprehensive report on the statutory assessment framework. I welcome this report and, as you will note, I broadly accept most of its recommendations. I am also pleased to inform you that many of the recommendations are already receiving attention.

This review has provided me with an evidence-based platform to take forward further work on changes to the current statutory assessment framework, to ensure that the needs of all children and young people with special educational needs are met. I recognise that while improvements have been made over the last 30 years in how we identify, assess and meet the needs of

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau (Jane Davidson): Yr wyf yn diolch i'r pwyllgor am ymgymryd â'r adolygiad hwn o anghenion addysgol arbennig ac am gyflwyno adroddiad mor gynhwysfawr ar y fframwaith asesu statudol. Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn, ac fel y sylwch yr wyf, ar y cyfan, yn derbyn y rhan fwyaf o'i argymhellion. Mae'n bleser gennyf hefyd ddweud wrthy ch ein bod eisoes yn mynd i'r afael â nifer o'r argymhellion.

Mae tystiolaeth yr adolygiad hwn wedi bod yn sail imi ddatblygu gwaith pellach ar newidiadau yn y fframwaith asesu statudol presennol, i sicrhau diwallu anghenion pob plentyn a pherson ifanc sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig. Cydnabyddaf, er inni weld gwelliannau dros y 30 mlynedd diwethaf yn y ffordd yr ydym yn nodi, asesu a diwallu anghenion plant a phobl ifanc

individual children and young people with SEN, the current statutory assessment framework requires further review.

Evidence received as part of this review would suggest that the current system has become costly, bureaucratic and cumbersome and that it is difficult for parents to secure appropriate levels of provision and support for their children. Conversely, and paradoxically, evidence from parents suggests that they continue to rely on a statement of special educational needs to secure this provision and, as such, would wish them to remain.

One of the fundamental issues raised in this review centres around the need for a partnership approach between all those involved—local education authorities, schools, parents, pupils, health and social services, and other agencies—in meeting the needs of children with SEN. Often, relationships falter if there is a lack of a co-ordinated approach by the statutory agencies. Conflicting policies and practices are often the main stumbling block to this co-ordinated approach, hence the reliance on statements to secure provision.

One example would be in the delivery of speech and language services. To address this, in 2005, I provided £3 million for the development of pilot projects to improve services for children and young people with speech, language and communication difficulties. The projects are required to develop jointly commissioned services, provided by integrated teams of health and education professionals. It is envisaged that, through projects such as this, and the establishment of local children and young people framework partnerships, issues relating to prime and ultimate responsibility will be steadily removed.

Last year, we also published the national service framework for children, young people and maternity services. This provides statutory agencies with a template for the improved delivery of services to all children and young people in Wales. To address anomalies in the statutory assessment framework, and as part of the development of

unigol sydd ag AAA, mae angen adolygiad pellach o'r fframwaith asesu statudol presennol.

Byddai tystiolaeth a gafwyd fel rhan o'r adolygiad hwn yn awgrymu bod y system bresennol bellach yn rhy gostus, biwocrataidd ac anhylaw a'i bod yn anodd i rieni sicrhau'r lefelau priodol o ddarpariaeth a chymorth i'w plant. I'r gwrthwyneb, ac yn baradoesaidd, mae'r dystiolaeth gan rieni yn awgrymu eu bod yn dal i ddibynnu ar ddatganiadau o anghenion addysgol arbennig i sicrhau'r ddarpariaeth hon, ac felly byddent yn dymuno iddynt barhau.

Mae un o'r materion sylfaenol a godir yn yr adolygiad hwn yn canolbwyntio ar yr angen am dull partneriaeth rhwng yr holl bobl dan sylw—awdurdodau addysg lleol, ysgolion, rhieni, disgyblion, iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ac asiantaethau eraill—wrth ddiwallu anghenion plant ag AAA. Bydd perthynas yn aml yn chwalu os na fydd yr asiantaethau statudol yn mabwysiadu dull cydgyssylltiedig. Polisiau ac arferion croes yw'r prif rwystrau i'r dull cydgyssylltiedig hwn yn aml, ac oherwydd hynny dibynnir ar ddatganiadau i sicrhau darpariaeth.

Byddai'r modd y darperir gwasanaethau lleferydd ac iaith yn enghraifft o hyn. Er mwyn mynd i'r afael â hyn, yn 2005, rhoddais £3 miliwn i ddatblygu prosiectau peilot i wella gwasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc sydd ag anawsterau lleferydd, iaith a chyfathrebu. Mae'n ofynnol i'r prosiectau ddatblygu gwasanaethau wedi eu comisiynu ar y cyd, a ddarperir gan dimau integredig o weithwyr proffesiynol ym maes iechyd ac addysg. Rhagwelir y caiff materion sy'n ymwneud â chyfrifoldeb pennaf a chyfrifoldeb yn y pen draw eu dileu'n raddol drwy brosiectau fel y rhain, a thrwy sefydlu partneriaethau fframwaith lleol ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc.

Y llynedd, cyhoeddwyd gennym hefyd y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer plant, pobl ifanc a gwasanaethau mamolaeth. Mae hwn yn batrwm i asiantaethau statudol ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau'n well i bob plentyn a pherson ifanc yng Nghymru. Er mwyn mynd i'r afael ag anghysondebau yn y fframwaith asesu statudol, ac fel rhan o'r

an inclusion policy and performance framework for Wales, last year I asked my advisory group for special educational needs—WAGSEN—to undertake a review of the statutory assessment process.

A sub-group of WAGSEN was established, which gave evidence to the committee on the progress of the group, and outlined several options under consideration for the future delivery of services. Its report provides practical advice on the implications for reform to the current system, and the group's early deliberations on proposed changes. The committee recommends further consultation with parents and key stakeholders on these options. In response, I have asked my officials to conduct a consultation exercise on the options for change with all interested parties over the coming months. I will then take a view as to what legislative changes, if any, need to be made to the current system.

In considering any future changes, it will be important to place the needs of children at the centre of the debate. Their needs must be safeguarded, and I will want to be assured that, whatever changes are recommended, first and foremost, their interests are protected.

The committee recommends that there is a need to change the terminology by moving away from using the term 'special educational needs' to using the term 'additional educational needs'. Guidance to be published in the autumn term—'Inclusion and Pupil Support'—has adopted the term 'additional learning needs' to embrace a diverse range of learners' needs. Following consultation with parents and other key stakeholders, I will consider seeking framework powers to amend the current terminology for special educational needs, and issue revised guidance. Until that time, the term 'special educational needs' will need to remain to ensure that children and parents maintain their statutory rights under current legislation.

I have already put in place various projects and funding streams, ahead of any changes in the statutory assessment arrangements, to

gwaith o ddatblygu polisi cynhwysiant a fframwaith perfformiad i Gymru, y llynedd gofynnais i'm grŵp cyngori ar anghenion addysgol arbennig—WAGSEN—wneud adolygiad o'r broses asesu statudol.

Sefydlwyd is-grŵp o WAGSEN, a roddodd dystiolaeth i'r pwyllgor ar hynt y grŵp, gan amlinellu nifer o ddewisiadau a ystyrir ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol. Mae ei adroddiad yn rhoi cyngor ymarferol ar y goblygiadau ar gyfer diwygio'r system bresennol, ac ystyriaethau cynnar y grŵp ar newidiadau arfaethedig. Argymhella'r pwyllgor y dylid cael ymgynghori pellach â rhieni a rhanddeiliaid allweddol am y dewisiadau hyn. Mewn ymateb, yr wyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion ymgynghori am y dewisiadau ar gyfer newid gyda'r holl bartion sydd â diddordeb, yn ystod y misoedd nesaf. Byddaf wedyn yn penderfynu pa newidiadau deddfwriaethol, os o gwbl, y bydd angen eu gwneud yn y system bresennol.

Wrth ystyried unrhyw newidiadau yn y dyfodol, bydd yn bwysig sicrhau bod anghenion plant wrth wraidd y ddadl. Rhaid diogelu eu hanghenion, a byddaf am gael sicrwydd y caiff eu buddiannau eu diogelu, yn anad dim, waeth pa newidiadau a argymhellir.

Argymhella'r pwyllgor fod angen newid y derminoleg drwy roi'r gorau i ddefnyddio'r term 'anghenion addysgol arbennig' a defnyddio'r term 'anghenion addysgol ychwanegol' yn ei le. Mae canllawiau a gaiff eu cyhoeddi yn ystod tymor yr hydref—'Cynhwysiant a Chymorth i Ddisgyblion'—wedi mabwysiadu'r term 'anghenion dysgu ychwanegol' i gwmpasu ystod amrywiol o anghenion dysgwyr. Ar ôl ymgynghori â rhieni a rhanddeiliaid allweddol eraill, byddaf yn ystyried ceisio pwerau fframwaith i ddiwygio'r derminoleg bresennol ar gyfer anghenion addysgol arbennig, a chyhoeddi canllawiau diwygiedig. Tan hynny, bydd angen cadw'r term 'anghenion addysgol arbennig' er mwyn sicrhau bod hawliau statudol plant a rhieni'n parhau o dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol.

Yr wyf eisoes wedi rhoi amryw brosiectau a ffrydiau ariannu ar waith, cyn unrhyw newidiadau yn y trefniadau asesu statudol, i

improve provision and services to children and young people with SEN, to ensure equality of educational opportunity and to remove potential barriers to learning. In recognition of the need to provide a range of services and provision for children and young people with low incidence and complex needs, Wales-only provisions were taken in the Education Act 2002 for the delivery of regional SEN goods and services. To date, almost £6 million has been allocated to authorities across Wales to deliver a collaborative approach and to develop high-quality facilities and services on a regional basis. One example of this is the development of Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn in north Wales as a centre of excellence for pupils with autistic spectrum disorders.

I was also delighted to announce earlier this year a £5.1 million grant to local authorities to develop the role of special schools working with mainstream schools, and to enable them to share valuable expertise and knowledge in meeting pupils' needs. This is addressed as one of the specific recommendations of this review. Having published the Assembly Government's response to 'Acknowledging Need'—the Welsh Language Board's report on Welsh-medium SEN services—I have provided funding of £90,000 to the University of Wales, Bangor to develop Welsh-medium diagnostic assessment material, which is a further recommendation of this report. An external reference group has been established with the Welsh Language Board to take this work forward.

I assure Members that social inclusion remains at the heart of all our policies. Ensuring that we deliver the best possible services for children and young people with special educational needs will continue to be a key priority for this Assembly Government.

4.20 p.m.

Janet Ryder: I thank the Minister for her response to the committee's report. The Minister has outlined the dilemma that the committee faces, and that many people face, namely that, although the statementing process has become bureaucratic and is

wella darpariaeth a gwasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc sydd ag AAA, er mwyn sicrhau cyfle addysgol cyfartal a diddymu rhwystrau posibl i ddysgu. I gydnabod y ffaith fod angen darparu amrywiaeth o wasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc sydd â nifer fach o anghenion a rhai cymhleth, ystyriwyd darpariaethau ar gyfer Cymru'n unig yn Neddf Addysg 2002 ar gyfer darparu nwyddau a gwasanaethau AAA rhanbarthol. Hyd yma, dyrannwyd bron £6 miliwn i awdurdodau ledled Cymru i ddarparu dull cydweithredol ac i ddatblygu cyfleusterau a gwasanaethau o safon yn rhanbarthol. Un enghraifft o hyn yw'r gwaith o ddatblygu Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn yn y gogledd fel canolfan ragoriaeth i ddisgyblion sydd ag anhwylderau'r sbectrum awtistig.

Yr oedd hefyd yn bleser gennyf gyhoeddi, yn gynharach eleni, grant o £5.1 miliwn i awdurdodau lleol i ddatblygu rôl ysgolion arbennig sy'n gweithio gydag ysgolion prif ffrwd, a'u galluogi i rannu arbenigedd a gwybodaeth werthfawr wrth ddiwallu anghenion disgyblion. Eir i'r afael â hyn fel un o argymhellion penodol yr adolygiad hwn. Ar ôl cyhoeddi ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i 'Cydnabod Angen'—adroddiad Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg ar wasanaethau AAA drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg—yr wyf wedi addo darparu £90,000 i Brifysgol Cymru, Bangor i ddatblygu deunydd asesu diagnostig drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, sy'n un o argymhellion pellach yr adroddiad hwn. Sefydlwyd grŵp cyfeirio allanol gyda Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg i ymgymryd â'r gwaith hwn.

Gallaf sicrhau Aelodau fod cynhwysiant cymdeithasol yn dal wrth wraidd ein holl bolisiau. Bydd sicrhau ein bod yn darparu'r gwasanaethau gorau posibl i blant a phobl ifanc sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig yn parhau'n un o flaenoriaethau allweddol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Janet Ryder: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei hymateb i adroddiad y pwyllgor. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi amlinellu'r cyfyng-gyngor sy'n wynebu'r pwyllgor, ac yn wynebu nifer o bobl, sef, er bod y broses datganiadau wedi dod yn fiwrocraidd ac yn ddrud iawn, fe'i

extremely expensive, it is seen as a thing of safety, and sometimes as a necessity, by parents. The Minister said that she is going to consult on a range of options. One of the committee's concerns, when we took evidence, was that parents, without full knowledge of what those options might be, and perhaps without practical experience of how the new system might work before any change comes into place, may not want to change because they want to retain the safety of having the statement. When the Minister goes out to consultation on the various ways forward, will that be accompanied by a full range of information so that parents have plenty of information on which to base their judgment of those options? I have a fear that, faced with the bare options of which path they want to choose for the development of SEN in Wales, parents may seek to stay with the safety of what they know rather than look to how we can produce the best way forward for Wales.

I am pleased that additional money is being made available to develop regional support and specialist schools as centres of excellence within their areas. I ask the Minister for an assurance that that money will be ongoing to enable those centres to develop and to enable us to develop more of them throughout Wales, so that we see a proper interchange of information between mainstream and specialist facilities and mainstream and specialist teachers, which would be a true exchange of knowledge.

Jane Davidson: It is an important dilemma in terms of wanting to reduce the reliance on the statement in order to ensure that all children can access their rights to be properly educated. I know that the committee felt strongly that we all wanted to move in that direction. It is fairly pleasing that the number of pupils with statements of SEN is going down, and we want to see that trend continuing in the statistics provided by the national statistics division.

I can also assure you that we want to have the widest possible consultation. Committee members were encouraged by a particular presentation by Mark Provis, on behalf of the

hystyrir yn rhwyd diogelwch, ac weithiau'n angenrheidiol, gan rieni. Dywedodd y Gweinidog ei bod yn mynd i ymgynghori am amrywiaeth o ddewisiadau. Un o bryderon y pwyllgor, pan glywsom dystiolaeth, oedd nad oedd rhieni am newid oherwydd eu bod am gadw'r diogelwch sy'n gysylltiedig â'r datganiad, a hynny heb wybodaeth lawn am y dewisiadau hynny ac efallai heb brofiad ymarferol o'r modd y byddai'r system newydd yn gweithio cyn i unrhyw newid gael ei weithredu. Pan fydd y Gweinidog yn ymgynghori am yr amrywiol ffyrdd ymlaen, a fydd yna amrywiaeth lawn o wybodaeth i ategu hynny er mwyn rhoi digon o wybodaeth i rieni seilio eu barn arni am y dewisiadau hynny? Pryderaf y byddai rhieni, efallai, wrth wynebu'r dewisiadau moel ynglŷn â lwybr y maent am ei ddewis ar gyfer datblygu AAA yng Nghymru, yn ceisio parhau gyda diogelwch yr hyn sy'n gyfarwydd iddynt, yn hytrach nag ystyried sut y gallwn greu'r ffordd orau ymlaen i Gymru.

Yr wyf yn falch bod arian ychwanegol yn cael ei ddarparu i ddatblygu cymorth rhanbarthol ac ysgolion arbenigol fel canolfannau rhagoriaeth yn eu hardaloedd. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog roi sicrwydd y bydd yr arian hwnnw'n barhaus er mwyn galluogi'r canolfannau hynny i ddatblygu a'n galluogi ni i ddatblygu mwy ohonynt ledled Cymru, fel y gwelwn ymgynghoriad priodol o wybodaeth rhwng cyfleusterau prif ffrwd a chyfleusterau arbenigol ac athrawon prif ffrwd ac athrawon arbenigol, a fyddai'n gyfnewid gwirioneddol o wybodaeth.

Jane Davidson: Mae'n gyfyng-gyngor pwysig o ran bod yn awyddus i leihau'r ddibyniaeth ar y datganiad er mwyn sicrhau bod pob plentyn yn gallu cael ei hawliau i gael addysg briodol. Gwn fod y pwyllgor yn teimlo'n gryf ein bod am symud i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw. Mae'n weddol foddhaol fod nifer y disgyblion sydd â datganiadau AAA yn gostwng, ac yr ydym am weld y duedd honno'n parhau yn yr ystadegau a ddarperir gan yr is-adran ystadegau gwladol.

Gallaf hefyd roi sicrwydd i chi ein bod am ymgynghori mor eang â phosibl. Calonogwyd aelodau'r pwyllgor gan gyflwyniad penodol gan Mark Provis, ar ran y grŵp arbennig a

special group that we have set up under WAGSEN to look at issues around statementing, on the idea of a passport for children with ongoing learning needs. That is exactly the kind of approach that is being refined at the moment. We intend for a secondee to come in to help us with a series of consultation events, so it is not just about a normal consultation. We know that many parents of children with SEN do not even necessarily know until they have problems that they have the right to a copy of the code of practice and the guidebook that goes along with it. Therefore, we will be conducting a series of consultation events as well, and we will want to ensure that that is done with children and young people, as well as with parents. We want to utilise all those who are currently providing special support, either through the special schools mechanism or in mainstream schools, to ensure that people are fully aware across Wales.

William Graham: In welcoming the Minister's statement, I am sure that she will also reflect that there is a genuine cross-party desire to address the wide-ranging SEN requirements. Some key recommendations are that statements should be limited to those children with the most severe and complex needs, and that guidance to local authorities should be revised to ensure a consistent application of the current statementing arrangements across Wales. I am grateful that the Minister has indicated that she broadly accepts many of the recommendations and that, as she has correctly stated, many of them are already receiving attention. I ask the Minister to look again at ensuring that statementing tests are available in the child's first language. The Minister must acknowledge the strain placed upon children in such tests and the need to ensure an accurate assessment to determine the most appropriate educational provision for each individual child. In Wales, this means finding the funding to provide adequate testing in Welsh. In taking evidence, time after time, we heard parents describe how they had to battle for their children's education requirements and fight further for adequate provision. It is my hope, and that of the committee, that this view is not a feature of future reviews of SEN provision.

sefydlwyd gennym o dan WAGSEN, i ystyried materion yn ymwneud â datganiadau, yng nghyd-destun y syniad o roi pasbort i blant sydd ag anghenion dysgu parhaus. Dyna'r union fath o ddull sy'n cael ei fireinio ar hyn o bryd. Bwriadwn i berson ar fenthyg ddod i mewn i'n helpu gyda chyfres o ddiwygiadau ymgynghori, felly, nid ymgynghoriad arferol mohono. Gwyddom nad yw llawer o rieni plant sydd ag AAA yn gwybod o reidrwydd, nes byddant yn cael anawsterau, fod ganddynt yr hawl i gael copi o'r cod ymarfer a'r canllaw sy'n ei ategu. Felly, byddwn yn cynnal cyfres o ddigwyddiadau ymgynghori hefyd, a byddwn am sicrhau gwneud hyn gyda phlant a phobl ifanc, yn ogystal â chyda rhieni. Yr ydym am ddefnyddio'r holl bobl hynny sy'n darparu cymorth arbennig ar hyn o bryd, boed mewn ysgolion arbennig neu mewn ysgolion prif ffrwd, er mwyn sicrhau bod pobl yn hollol ymwybodol ledled Cymru.

William Graham: Wrth groesawu datganiad y Gweinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hefyd yn myfyrio ar y ffaith fod dymuniad gwirioneddol ar draws y pleidiau i fynd i'r afael â'r gofynion AAA eang. Dywed rhai argymhellion allweddol y dylid cyfyngu datganiadau i'r plant hynny sydd â'r anghenion mwyaf difrifol a chymhleth, ac y dylid diwygio canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol er mwyn sicrhau y caiff y trefniadau presennol ar gyfer datganiadau eu cymhwyso'n gyson ledled Cymru. Yr wyf yn falch fod y Gweinidog wedi dweud ei bod yn derbyn llawer o'r argymhellion, yn gyffredinol, a bod nifer ohonynt eisoes ar waith, fel y nododd yn gywir ddigon. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog edrych eto ar sicrhau bod profion datganiadau ar gael yn iaith gyntaf y plentyn. Rhaid i'r Gweinidog gydnabod y straen ar blant mewn profion o'r fath a'r ffaith fod angen sicrhau asesiad cywir i benderfynu'r ddarpariaeth addysgol fwyaf priodol ar gyfer pob plentyn unigol. Yng Nghymru, mae hyn yn golygu dod o hyd i'r arian i ddarparu profion digonol yn y Gymraeg. Wrth wrando ar dystiolaeth, dro ar ôl tro clywsom rieni'n disgrifio sut yr oedd yn rhaid iddynt frwydro dros ofynion addysgol eu plentyn a brwydro ymhellach am ddarpariaeth ddigonol. Fy ngobaith i a'r pwyllgor yw na fydd y farn honno i'w gweld mewn adolygiadau o ddarpariaeth AAA yn y

dyfodol.

Jane Davidson: I am pleased and heartened by the fact that this is a genuine cross-party response to the issues. Janet also raised the importance of sharing the good practice from the special schools sector, and the new £5.1 million that is being distributed over three years will enable us to take best practice from the special schools sector into the mainstream local authority sector, which is a specific recommendation in the report. It was an area that we were already moving towards and, therefore, we have really come together on these issues.

I must say that, in terms of issues around the child's first language, it is not just a question of funding. We have made a clear statement about supporting the principle that children should be able to receive their education and their assessment through the medium of Welsh if they are first-language Welsh speakers and if their family wants them to have that kind of support. We had put a number of extra provisions in place in terms of extra courses in universities—a new e-learning course, which will be available in both languages, is commencing in January, and we are putting on new courses in Newport in terms of people who are hearing and visually impaired. Therefore, a lot of work is also going into the higher education sector in terms of supporting the initiative. There are also new places for speech and language therapy, through the media of Welsh and English, in Bangor and other places. However, we will not be able to guarantee, in the short term, that we will be able to do every assessment through the medium of Welsh. One of the key issues in looking at the whole statementing process is to ensure that we continue looking at the workforce issues alongside the policy issues.

Peter Black: I welcome the Minister's response to the report. The written statement that accompanies the oral statement that she has just made effectively accepts all but one of the recommendations in the report. That underlines the cross-party approach that was taken to this subject and the broad consensus achieved by the committee on the way forward in terms of statementing and special educational needs.

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf yn falch fod hwn yn ymateb trawsbleidiol gwirioneddol i'r materion, ac mae'n fy nghalonogi. Soniodd Janet hefyd am bwysigrwydd rhannu arfer da o'r sector ysgolion arbennig, a bydd y £5.1 miliwn newydd a gaiff ei ddosbarthu dros dair blynedd yn ein galluogi i gyflwyno arfer gorau o'r sector ysgolion arbennig i'r sector awdurdod lleol prif ffrwd, sy'n un o argymhellion penodol yr adroddiad. Yr oedd yn faes yr oeddem eisoes yn symud tuag ato, ac felly yr ydym yn wir wedi dod ynghyd ar y materion hyn.

Rhaid imi ddweud, o ran materion yn ymwneud ag iaith gyntaf y plentyn, nid arian yn unig y mae'n rhaid ei ystyried. Yr ydym wedi gwneud datganiad clir yn ategu'r egwyddor y dylai plant allu cael eu haddysg a'u hasesiad drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg os ydynt yn Gymry Cymraeg ac os yw eu teuluoedd am iddynt gael y math hwnnw o gefnogaeth. Rhaid inni roi nifer o ddarpariaethau ychwanegol ar waith o ran cyrsiau ychwanegol mewn prifysgolion—mae cwrs e-ddysgu newydd, a fydd ar gael yn y ddwy iaith, yn dechrau ym mis Ionawr, ac yr ydym yn cynnig cyrsiau newydd yng Nghasnewydd ar gyfer pobl sydd â nam ar eu clyw ac ar eu golwg. Felly, mae llawer o waith yn mynd rhagddo yn y sector addysg uwch o ran cefnogi'r fenter. Mae yna leoedd newydd hefyd ar gyfer therapi lleferydd ac iaith, drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg, ym Mangor ac mewn mannau eraill. Fodd bynnag, ni allwn warantu, yn y byrdymor, y byddwn yn gallu cynnal pob asesiad drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Un o'r materion allweddol wrth ystyried yr holl broses datganiadau yw sicrhau ein bod yn parhau i ystyried y materion gweithlu ochr yn ochr â'r materion polisi.

Peter Black: Croesawaf ymateb y Gweinidog i'r adroddiad. Mae'r datganiad ysgrifenedig sy'n ategu'r datganiad llafar y mae newydd ei wneud, i bob pwrpas, yn derbyn pob un o'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad, namyn un. Mae hynny'n tanlinellu'r agwedd drawsbleidiol at y pwnc hwn a'r consensws cyffredinol a sicrhawyd gan y pwyllgor ar y ffordd ymlaen gyda datganiadau ac anghenion addysgol arbennig.

The Minister is right to consult on the way forward; there was a recommendation in the report that she should do so. I am pleased that she is doing these events, but, in carrying out the consultation, I would ask her to try to get as wide a participation as possible. The committee found it difficult to reach everybody in terms of its consultation, and I think that the Minister may well find a similar problem in terms of trying to engage all the parents who have an interest in this issue, all of whom are passionate about the future of statementing and special educational needs, but do not always feel included in the decision-making process. I think that that applies to our consultation as well. It is a difficult balancing act to get right, and I think that the events may be prove to be a way forward in terms of doing that.

I wanted to ask one question that relates to the recommendation on funding school clusters directly, which the Minister rejected. I accept that, as school clusters are not effectively legal entities, you cannot delegate funding to them. However, it is possible to provide special grants to local authorities to carry out specific functions or to take forward particular agendas. Therefore, it is possible to direct funding to local authorities to carry out this sort of clustering activity. The committee felt that it was important that schools worked together more in terms of sharing SEN resources, particularly in rural areas or where there are a number of small schools in less-rural areas. It is important that we try to find ways of doing that, and I ask the Minister to look at that again to see whether there are ways in which she can encourage funding for this clustering arrangement, which the committee felt was valuable.

Jane Davidson: I am grateful for your response. The amendment is rejected in that way, as you quite rightly say, purely because of the legal entity issue in terms of the delegation of funding to schools. The principle of clustering fits with our whole transition agenda, with our encouragement to primary schools to work with secondary schools, with the 'Making the Connections'

Mae'r Gweinidog yn llygad ei lle i ymgynghori ar y ffordd ymlaen; yr oedd argymhelliad yn yr adroddiad y dylai wneud hynny. Yr wyf yn falch ei bod yn gwneud y pethau hyn, ond yn yr ymgynghori byddwn yn gofyn iddi geisio sicrhau cymaint o gyfranogi â phosibl. Cafodd y pwyllgor anhawster i gyrraedd pawb yn ei ymgynghoriad, a chredaf y gall y Gweinidog yn hawdd gael problem debyg wrth geisio ymgysylltu â'r holl rieni sydd â diddordeb yn y mater hwn. Mae pob un ohonynt yn frwdfrydig dros ddyfodol datganiadau ac anghenion addysgol arbennig, ond nid ydynt bob amser yn teimlo'n rhan o'r broses benderfynu. Credaf fod hynny'n berthnasol i'n hymgynghoriad ni hefyd. Mae'n gydbwysedd sy'n anodd ei wneud yn gywir, a chredaf y gall y digwyddiadau fod yn ffordd ymlaen wrth gyflawni hynny.

Yr oeddwn am ofyn un cwestiwn yn ymwneud â'r argymhelliad ar ariannu clystyrau o ysgolion yn uniongyrchol, a wrthodwyd gan y Gweinidog. Derbyniaf na allwch ddirprwyo arian i glystyrau o ysgolion gan nad ydynt, yn eu hanfod, yn endidau cyfreithiol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bosibl darparu grantiau arbennig i awdurdodau lleol gyflawni swyddogaethau penodol neu weithredu ar agendâu penodol. Felly, mae'n bosibl cyfeirio arian i awdurdodau lleol gyflawni'r math hwn o weithgarwch clystyru. Yr oedd y pwyllgor o'r farn ei bod yn bwysig i ysgolion weithio gyda'i gilydd yn fwy o ran rhannu adnoddau AAA, yn arbennig mewn ardaloedd gwledig neu lle mae nifer o ysgolion bach mewn ardaloedd llai gwledig. Mae'n bwysig inni geisio dod o hyd i ffyrdd i wneud hynny, a gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ystyried hynny eto i weld a oes ffyrdd y gall annog ariannu ar gyfer y trefniant clystyru hwn, a oedd yn werthfawr, ym marn y pwyllgor.

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich ymateb. Gwrthodir y gwelliant yn y ffordd honno, fel y dywedwch yn gywir, gan nad oes modd dirprwyo arian i ysgolion nad ydynt yn endidau cyfreithiol. Mae'r egwyddor o glystyru yn gydnaws â'n hagenda drosiannol gyfan, â'n hymgyrch i annog ysgolion cynradd i weithio gydag ysgolion uwchradd, â'r agenda 'Creu'r

agenda, and with the Wales-only powers for regional collaboration. We are strongly in favour of the principles of clustering.

I accept your concern that, when we consult on the way forward, we should do it in a way that reaches as wide a set of people as possible. I would like to commend Catherine Thomas, because she held an event in Llanelli, at which Jane Hutt and I were invited to speak, where she had gathered together the carers of children with special educational needs and had, therefore, gone way beyond the normal consultation arrangements. As we have cross-party support on this issue, I would have thought that people might feel that they could hold similar events in their local area to bring parents together with whom we, as Assembly Members, may have contact, to encourage them to respond to these issues and jointly to carry the flag for the fact that, if we can get this right, there will still be statementing where appropriate, particularly for children with complex needs, but we should not have people needing to rely on a statement just to get the right provision for their child.

4.30 p.m.

I will just add one small caveat to that, which is that we also have to look at issues affecting young people with specific disabilities, supported by the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, because, sometimes, entitlements are predicated on having statements. As part of the consultation, we will need to ensure that no-one loses entitlements that are currently predicated on statements, as that would be a perverse outcome.

Owen John Thomas: Llongyfarchaf y Gweinidog am glustnodi rhyw £90,000 i Brifysgol Cymru, Bangor i ddatblygu deunydd asesu cyfrwng Cymraeg, a hynny'n un o argymhellion yr adroddiad. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch ei bod yn defnyddio Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg i sicrhau bod y gwaith hwn yn mynd yn ei flaen. Pryd ydych chi'n disgwyl i'r gwaith gael ei gwblhau?

Jane Davidson: Diolch am eich llongyfarchiadau. Yr oeddwn yn deall bod y

Cysylltiadau' ac â'r pwerau i sicrhau cydweithredu rhanbarthol ar gyfer Cymru yn unig. Yr ydym yn gadarn o blaid yr egwyddorion o glystyru.

Derbyniaf eich pryder, pan ymgynghorwn ar y ffordd ymlaen, y dylem wneud hynny mewn ffordd sy'n cyrraedd cynifer â phosibl o bobl. Hoffwn ganmol Catherine Thomas, gan iddi drefnu digwyddiad yn Llanelli lle gwahoddwyd Jane Hutt a minnau i siarad, a lle yr oedd wedi casglu gofalgwyr plant ag anghenion addysgol arbennig ynghyd. Yr oedd, felly, wedi mynd ymhell y tu hwnt i'r trefniadau ymgynghori arferol. Gan fod gennym gefnogaeth ar draws y pleidiau ar y mater hwn, byddwn wedi meddwl y gallai pobl deimlo y gallent gynnal digwyddiadau tebyg yn eu hardal leol i ddod â rhieni ynghyd y gallwn ni, fel Aelodau Cynulliad, gysylltu â hwy efallai, i'w hannog i ymateb i'r materion hyn a chyd-gefnogi'r ffaith, os llwyddwn i wneud hyn yn iawn, y bydd datganiadau'n dal i gael eu gwneud lle mae'n briodol, yn arbennig i blant ag anghenion cymhleth. Ond ni ddylem gael sefyllfa lle mae angen i bobl ddibynnu ar ddatganiad er mwyn cael y ddarpariaeth gywir i'w plentyn.

Ychwanegaf un cafeat bach at hynny, sef bod yn rhaid inni edrych hefyd ar faterion sy'n effeithio ar bobl ifanc sydd ag anableddau penodol, gyda chefnogaeth gan Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005, oherwydd, weithiau, seilir hawliadau ar gael datganiadau. Fel rhan o'r ymgynghori, bydd angen inni sicrhau na fydd neb yn colli hawliadau'n seiliedig ar ddatganiadau ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd byddai hynny'n ganlyniad croes.

Owen John Thomas: I congratulate the Minister on allocating some £90,000 for the University of Wales, Bangor to develop Welsh-medium assessment materials, which was one of the recommendations in the report. I am also glad that you are using the Welsh Language Board to ensure that that work is carried out. When do you expect the work to be completed?

Jane Davidson: Thank you for your congratulations. My understanding was that

gwaith bron wedi'i orffen, ond byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch, gan anfon copi at aelodau eraill y pwyllgor, i wneud yr amserlen yn glir.

Mark Isherwood: I welcome the fact that guidance will be issued soon on adopting the new term, 'additional learning need'. However, your statements include evidence from parents that suggests that they continue to rely on a statement of special educational need to secure provision and, as such, they would wish for that to remain. Many of the professional witnesses, in their evidence to us, expressed similar views. What action will you take to ensure that, in defining severe and complex needs, we recognise the fact that statements still remain an insurance policy for children? We should be as sensitive to this as we would be in proposing to abolish building insurance on the basis that risk management would remove the need for it, or on the basis that we should abolish trade union membership because industrial democracy would work perfectly in every workplace. Can you give assurances on that basis?

With reference to the collaborative approach, I share your view on Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn as a centre of excellence, but what action do you propose where different counties pursue different paths nonetheless, even when they are next door to each other, and where even pupils from Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn find their way to Royal Schools for the Deaf in Cheadle in Cheshire? I believe that it will have five statemented pupils from north Wales from the end of this summer.

Finally, what parent support do you propose, not only in terms of local authority officers, but also in terms of independent advice and advocacy, which experience has taught us has too often led to vulnerable children not receiving the support to which they are entitled?

Jane Davidson: We are going to conduct an audit of the material currently available in every local authority that is going out with information to parents. On a consistency basis, the SEN code of practice, introduced in 2002, is operating across Wales, and a

the work had been finished, but I will write to you, sending a copy to the other members of the committee, to make the timetable clear.

Mark Isherwood: Croesawaf y ffaith y caiff canllawiau newydd eu cyhoeddi'n fuan ar fabwysiadu'r term newydd, 'angen dysgu ychwanegol'. Fodd bynnag, mae eich datganiadau'n cynnwys tystiolaeth gan rieni sy'n awgrymu eu bod yn dal i ddibynnu ar ddatganiad o angen addysgol arbennig i sicrhau darpariaeth, ac fel y cyfryw byddent am i hynny barhau. Mynegodd nifer o'r tystion proffesiynol safbwyntiau tebyg yn eu tystiolaeth i ni. Pa gamau a gymerwch i sicrhau, wrth ddiffinio anghenion difrifol a chymhleth, ein bod yn cydnabod bod datganiadau'n dal yn bolisi yswiriant i blant? Dylem fod mor sensitif i hyn ag y byddem wrth gynnig diddymu yswiriant adeiladau ar y sail y byddai rheoli risg yn dileu'r angen amdano, neu ar y sail y dylem ddiddymu aelodaeth undeb llafur oherwydd byddai democratiaeth ddiwydiannol yn gweithio'n berffaith ym mhob gweithle. A allwch roi sicrwydd ar y sail honno?

Gan gyfeirio at y dull cydweithrediadol, cytunaf â chi fod Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn yn ganolfan ragoriaeth, ond pa gamau y bwriadwch eu cymryd lle mae gwahanol siroedd yn mynd ar drywydd gwahanol er hynny, hyd yn oed pan fyddant y drws nesaf i'w gilydd, a phan fydd disgyblion o Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn hyd yn oed yn mynd i'r Ysgol Frenhinol i'r Byddar yn Cheadle yn swydd Gaer? Credaf y bydd ganddi bum disgybl o'r gogledd sydd â datganiad o ddiwedd yr haf eleni.

Yn olaf, pa gymorth i rieni a gynigir gennych, nid yn unig o ran swyddogion awdurdod lleol, ond hefyd o ran cyngor annibynnol ac eiriolaeth sydd, yn ein profiad ni, yn rhy aml wedi golygu nad yw plant diamddiffyn yn cael y cymorth y mae hawl ganddynt i'w gael?

Jane Davidson: Byddwn yn gwneud archwiliad o'r deunydd sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd ym mhob awdurdod lleol ac sy'n cael ei ddsbarthu gyda gwybodaeth i rieni. O ran cysondeb, mae'r cod ymarfer AAA, a gyflwynwyd yn 2002, ar waith ledled Cymru,

handbook supporting that was published by the Assembly Government and sent out in 2003. However, we know of a number of local authorities that are also putting out their own information, and we will look at all of that to evaluate whether there are any conflicting messages, and whether there are any particular local initiatives that could be spread more widely. I was involved in the launch of a good parent-partnership pack in Bridgend, which was strongly supported by local parents. I commend that pack to Members.

We must ensure that disagreement resolution services operate effectively across local authorities, and I know that you have been interested in that. I was pleased that, back in 2004, the directors of education in Wales took the initiative to work together to get consistency on that front. Of course, from 2005, the National Children's Home charity was involved in the delivery of those services for all but two of the authorities in Wales, the two being happy to stay in their existing relationships with Citizens' Advice. There is a close partnership to ensure the consistency of delivery, and we are moving strongly towards the mechanisms of consistency of delivery.

Finally, both the committee's report and my response make it clear that it is the needs of the children that are paramount. Neither the committee nor I as Minister will take a leap of faith on this issue, by removing statementing. The issue is about making sure that we can withdraw statementing over time, if that is the right outcome from the consultation, so that people feel secure that they will get the right type of support for their children across Wales.

a chyhoeddwyd llawlyfr yn cefnogi hynny gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad a'i ddisbarthu yn 2003. Fodd bynnag, gwyddom am nifer o awdurdodau lleol sydd hefyd yn dosbarthu eu gwybodaeth eu hunain, a byddwn yn edrych ar yr holl wybodaeth honno i weld a oes unrhyw negeseuon croes, ac a oes unrhyw fentrau lleol penodol y gellid eu lledaenu'n fwy eang. Bûm yn gysylltiedig â lansio pecyn partneriaeth rhieni da ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, a gefnogwyd yn gryf gan rieni lleol. Cymeradwyaf y pecyn hwnnw i'r Aelodau.

Rhaid inni sicrhau bod gwasanaethau datrys anghydfodau yn gweithredu'n effeithiol ar draws awdurdodau lleol, a gwn fod gennych ddi-ddordeb yn hynny. Yr oeddwn yn falch fod cyfarwyddwyr addysg yng Nghymru, yn ôl yn 2004, wedi achub y blaen i gydweithio i sicrhau cysondeb yn hynny. Wrth gwrs, o 2005 bu'r elusen Cartrefi Plant Cenedlaethol yn ymwneud â darparu'r gwasanaethau hynny i bob awdurdod namyn dau yng Nghymru, gan fod y ddau yn hapus i barhau eu perthynas agos â'r gwasanaeth Cyngor ar Bopeth. Mae yna bartneriaeth agos i sicrhau darparu gwasanaethau'n gyson, ac yr ydym yn symud yn gadarn tuag at fecanweithiau i sicrhau'r cysondeb hwnnw.

I gloi, mae adroddiad y pwyllgor a'm hymateb i yn pwysleisio bod anghenion y plant yn hollbwysig. Ni fydd y pwyllgor na minnau fel Gweinidog yn mentro ar y mater hwn, drwy ddileu datganiadau. Mae a wnelo hyn â sicrhau y gallwn ddileu datganiadau dros amser, os hynny fydd y canlyniad cywir o'r ymgynghori, er mwyn i bobl deimlo'n sicr eu bod yn cael y math cywir o gymorth i'w plant ledled Cymru.

Cymeradwyo Deddfwriaeth o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25 Approval of Legislation under Standing Order No. 24.25

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 24.25, this motion is not subject to debate.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, acting

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25, ni chynhelir dadl ar y cynnig hwn.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan

<i>under Standing Order No. 24.25:</i>	<i>weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25:</i>
<i>1.a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006 on the draft the Assembly Learning Grants (European Institutions) (Wales) Regulations 2006;and</i>	<i>1.a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006 ynghylch y rheoliadau drafft, Rheoliadau Grantiau Dysgu y Cynulliad (Sefydliadau Ewropeaidd) (Cymru) 2006; a</i>
<i>b) approves that the Assembly Learning Grants) (European Institutions) (Wales) Regulations 2006 are made in accordance with</i>	<i>b) yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Grantiau Dysgu y Cynulliad (Sefydliadau Ewropeaidd) (Cymru) 2006 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol ag</i>
<i>(i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 13 June 2006;</i>	<i>(i) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mehefin 2006;</i>
<i>(ii) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 13 June 2006; and</i>	<i>(ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mehefin 2006; a</i>
<i>(iii) the memorandum of corrections laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006;</i>	<i>(iii) y memorandwm cywiriadau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006;</i>
<i>2.a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006 on the draft the Education (Fees and Awards) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006; and</i>	<i>2.a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006 ynghylch y rheoliadau drafft, Rheoliadau Addysg (Ffioedd a Dyfarniadau) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2006; a</i>
<i>b) approves that the Education (Fees and Awards) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006 are made in accordance with</i>	<i>b) yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Addysg (Ffioedd a Dyfarniadau) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2006 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol ag</i>
<i>(i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 13 June 2006; and</i>	<i>i) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mehefin 2006; a</i>
<i>(ii) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 13 June 2006. (NDM3163)</i>	<i>(ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3163)</i>

*Cynnig (NDM3163): O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3163): For 28, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William

Gregory, Janice
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Pysgota Môr (Stoc o Gegdduon Gogleddol) (Cymru) 2006
 Approval of the Sea Fishing (Northern Hake Stock) (Wales) Order 2006**

The Deputy Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Tamsin Dunwoody): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

considers the principle of the Sea Fishing (Northern Hake Stock) (Wales) Order 2006, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 6 June 2006. (NDM3164)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 20 June 2006 in relation to the draft the Sea Fishing (Northern Hake Stock) (Wales) Order 2006; and

2. approves that the draft the Sea Fishing (Northern Hake Stock) (Wales) Order 2006 is made in accordance with:

a) the draft laid in the Table Office on 6 June 2006; and

b) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 6 June 2006. (NDM3165)

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Tamsin Dunwoody): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Pysgota Môr (Stoc o Gegdduon Gogleddol) (Cymru) 2006, y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3164)

Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 20 Mehefin 2006 ynghylch y Gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn Pysgota Môr (Stoc o Gegdduon Gogleddol) (Cymru) 2006; a

2. yn cymeradwyo bod y Gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn Pysgota Môr (Stoc o Gegdduon Gogleddol) (Cymru) 2006 yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag:

a) y drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mehefin 2006; a

b) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3165)

Y Llywydd: Ni chredaf fod neb am siarad am yr eitem hon, felly symudwn i'r bleidlais. **The Presiding Officer:** I do not believe anyone wishes to speak on this item, so we will move to the vote.

*Cynnig (NDM3164): O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3164): For 34, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM3165): O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3165): For 34, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian

Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wood, Leanne

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

**Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Ffliw Adar (Brechu) (Cymru) 2006 a Gorchymyn
 Ffliw Adar a Ffliw sy'n Deillio o Adar mewn Mamaliaid (Cymru) 2006 o dan
 Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.27**

**Approval of the Avian Influenza (Vaccination) (Wales) Regulations 2006 and the
 Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (Wales) Order 2006
 under Standing Order No. 24.27**

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

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

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

considers the principle of the Avian Influenza (Vaccination) (Wales) Regulations 2006, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006. (NDM3166)

yn ystyried egwyddor Rheoliadau Ffliw Adar (Brechu) (Cymru) 2006, y gosodwyd copi ohonynt yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3166)

I propose that

Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

approves that the Avian Influenza (Vaccination) (Wales) Regulations 2006 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006. (NDM3167)

yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Ffliw Adar (Brechu) (Cymru) 2006 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3167)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

considers the principle of the Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (Wales) Order 2006, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006. (NDM3168)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

approves that the Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (Wales) Order 2006 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006. (NDM3169)

Glyn Davies: I wish to make just one or two brief comments on these items. We will support the regulations before us, but there are one or two points worth making. The whole issue of avian flu is hugely important, but there are one or two emphases that we must make whenever this issue is on our agenda.

First, the situation has not changed. We saw a huge amount of publicity over the H5N1 outbreak in Scotland, which was largely made worse by the misdiagnosis of the breed of the bird, which caused huge concern all over Britain. We also saw a lower pathological avian influenza virus in another part of England, which caused a huge amount of interest and publicity. That situation has not changed in the least. The threat and the concerns that were associated with avian flu are exactly the same as they always were, and we want the Government to stay on high alert, because we will be in the same position next winter or possibly the winter after—whenever there is a migration of birds.

I also wish to comment on the position of vaccination. There is a lot of confusion about this, and I have looked at the Government's position on it. Generally speaking, I accept the arguments that are made, but they are questionable. As time goes on, one would want the Government to keep a view on this and to look at whether its arguments

Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Ffliw Adar a Ffliw sy'n Deillio o Adar mewn Mamaliaid (Cymru) 2006, y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3168)

Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Ffliw Adar a Ffliw sy'n Deillio o Adar mewn Mamaliaid (Cymru) 2006 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3169)

Glyn Davies: Hoffwn wneud un neu ddau o sylwadau byr ar yr eitemau hyn. Byddwn yn cefnogi'r rheoliadau sydd ger ein bron, ond mae yna ychydig bwyntiau yr hoffwn eu codi. Mae'r holl fater ffliw adar yn hynod o bwysig, ond rhaid pwysleisio ambell beth pryd bynnag y bydd y mater hwn ar ein agenda.

Yn gyntaf, nid yw'r sefyllfa wedi newid. Gwelsom lawer iawn o gyhoeddusrwydd ynghylch yr achosion o H5N1 yn yr Alban, a waethygyd i raddau helaeth gan y camddiagnosis o frid yr aderyn, a achosodd bryder mawr ledled Prydain. Gwelsom hefyd feirws ffliw adar patholegol is mewn rhan arall o Loegr, a greodd lawer o ddi-ddordeb a chyhoeddusrwydd. Nid yw'r sefyllfa honno wedi newid o gwbl. Mae'r bygythiad a'r pryderon a oedd yn gysylltiedig â ffliw adar yn union fel yr oeddent, ac yr ydym am i'r Llywodraeth barhau i fod yn wylidwrus iawn, oherwydd byddwn yn yr un sefyllfa y gaeaf nesaf neu efallai'r gaeaf wedyn—pryd bynnag y bydd adar yn mudo.

Hoffwn wneud sylw hefyd am y sefyllfa o ran brechu. Mae llawer o ddryswch ynghylch hyn, ac yr wyf wedi edrych ar sefyllfa'r Llywodraeth ar hyn. Yn gyffredinol, derbyniaf y dadleuon a wnaed, ond maent yn ddadleuol. Wrth i amser fynd yn ei flaen, byddai rhywun am i'r Llywodraeth gadw golwg ar hyn ac edrych i weld a yw ei

opposing general vaccination in Britain are the right way to go. We would always want an ongoing consideration of whether this should be reviewed.

4.40 p.m.

It is a matter of such importance, particularly as the vaccination is available to what one might call 'hobby farmers'. There is an issue here. It is certainly in two European countries and there is another one in France. The view taken is that vaccination is important, it is allowed, and that can happen. Arguments are used about the concentration of the flocks in the Netherlands and in France being different from that in Britain, but I think that those arguments are weak. My concern is that while there is a failure to allow people who care for their small flocks to vaccinate—they will automatically be culled—there is an inevitable temptation not to declare the fact that they own birds, and there is pressure not to become official flock keepers. That is another question that the Government has to consider constantly. There is a general antipathy towards vaccination, and there are question marks over that, which should be reviewed, as well as over the freedom to vaccinate small flocks—not just birds in zoos, which I think are currently covered; I am talking about extending that to hobby farmers who have small numbers of expensively acquired birds in their flocks. They care for them a lot and there will be a lot of pressure on people like that not to register unless the Government keeps a close eye on the position that it has taken here.

Having said all of that, we are in support of the regulations before us. My views and concerns about this are not enough to challenge the advice that is coming from the Minister.

The Presiding Officer: As I have no speakers apart from the Chair of the committee, who has just spoken, I ask the Deputy Minister to reply.

The Deputy Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Tamsin Dunwoody): Thank you for your contribution, Glyn. The first Order addresses measures for high and low pathogenicity

dadleuon dros wrthwynebu brechu cyffredinol ym Mhrydain yn briodol. Dylid bob amser ystyried a ddylai hyn gael ei adolygu.

Mae'n fater mor bwysig, yn arbennig gan fod y brechu ar gael i'r rhai y gellid eu galw'n 'ffermwyr hobi'. Mae yma broblem. Yn sicr mae'n broblem mewn dwy wlad yn Ewrop ac un arall yn Ffrainc. Y farn yw bod brechu'n bwysig, fe'i caniateir a gall ddigwydd. Defnyddir dadleuon ynghylch y ffaith fod crynhoed yr heidiau yn yr Iseldiroedd a Ffrainc yn wahanol i'r hyn ydyw ym Mhrydain, ond credaf fod y dadleuon hynny'n wan. Pryderaf, er y methir caniatáu i bobl sy'n gofalu am eu heidiau bach frechu—cânt eu difa'n awtomatig—fod temtasiwn anochel i beidio â datgan eu bod yn berchen ar adar, ac mae pwysau arnynt i beidio â dod yn geidwaid heidiau swyddogol. Mae hynny'n gwestiwn arall y mae'r Llywodraeth yn gorfod ei ystyried yn gyson. Mae gwrthnawsedd cyffredinol tuag at frechu, ac mae amheuan am hynny y dylid eu hadolygu yn ogystal â'r rhyddid i frechu heidiau bach—nid adar mewn swâu yn unig a gynhwysir ar hyn o bryd, mi gredaf; yr wyf yn sôn am ymestyn hynny i ffermwyr hobi sydd â niferoedd bach o adar drud yn eu heidiau. Maent yn ofalus iawn ohonynt, a bydd llawer o bwysau ar bobl fel hynny i beidio â chofrestru oni fydd y Llywodraeth yn cadw llygad barcud ar y safbwynt sydd ganddi yma.

Ar ôl dweud hynny i gyd, yr ydym o blaid y rheoliadau sydd ger ein bron. Nid yw fy safbwyntiau na'm pryderon ynghylch hyn yn ddigon i herio'r cyngor y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei roi.

Y Llywydd: Gan nad oes gennyf unrhyw siaradwyr ar wahân i Gadeirydd y pwyllgor, sydd newydd siarad, gofynnaf i'r Dirprwy Weinidog ateb.

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Tamsin Dunwoody): Diolch am eich cyfraniad, Glyn. Mae'r Gorchymyn cyntaf yn mynd i'r afael â mesurau ar gyfer achosion o fflw adar

outbreaks of avian influenza. On the second Order, we are allowing that look at using vaccination in areas of high risk as a preventative against the culling that you have mentioned, and that is also specifically for hobby flocks, free-range flocks and the smaller flocks that you mention. The Government is investing in a vaccination bank: 2.5 million doses for flu and 10 million doses in other areas. Thank you for your support.

pathogenedd uchel ac isel. O ran yr ail Orchymyn, yr ydym yn caniatáu'r ystyriaeth honno o ddefnyddio brechiadau mewn ardaloedd lle mae risg uchel fel cam ataliol yn erbyn y difa yr oeddech yn sôn amdano, ac mae hynny'n benodol hefyd ar gyfer heidiau hobi, heidiau buarth a'r heidiau llai yr oeddech yn sôn amdanynt. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn buddsoddi mewn banc brechu: 2.5 miliwn o ddosau ar gyfer ffliw a 10 miliwn o ddosau mewn meysydd eraill. Diolch i chi am eich cefnogaeth.

*Cynnig (NDM3166): O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3166): For 34, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM3167): O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3167): For 34, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM31368): O blaid 33, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3168): For 33, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Ann
Jones, Laura Anne

Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM3169): O blaid 33, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3169): For 33, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Ann
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, 'Ailstrwythuro'r Heddlu: Strwythurau Democrataidd'
The Social Justice and Regeneration Committee Report, 'Restructuring the Constabulary: Democratic Structures'

Janice Gregory: I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

acting under Standing Orders Nos. 6.6 and 9.9, notes the report of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, titled 'Restructuring the Constabulary: Democratic Structures', which was laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006. (NDM3170)

As Members will know, in November last year, the committee conducted a review of the 'Closing the Gap' report, which recommended the restructuring of the police force in Wales. In its report, the committee concluded that there was a particularly Welsh dimension to the restructuring of the constabulary in Wales. It also agreed that any additional cost resulting from restructuring should be met by the Home Office, that the priority for neighbourhood policing should remain and that local accountability and job security are of paramount importance.

I brought the committee's report to Plenary, and it was endorsed by Members. Subsequently, the Home Secretary announced that his preferred option for Wales was for the four existing police forces to merge into one all-Wales strategic force. The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration again asked the committee to gather evidence and to report on the democratic structures that would best suit the Welsh situation. We were more than happy to agree to that request.

Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.46 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.46 p.m.

In this review, we worked on the understanding that there will be an all-Wales strategic force. Although we again received evidence from a number of organisations that this should not be the case, we decided that that was outside of our remit. This review

Janice Gregory: Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

gan weithredu'n unol â Rheolau Sefydlog 6.6 a 9.9, yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio sy'n dwyn y teitl, 'Ailstrwythuro'r Heddlu: Strwythurau Democrataidd', a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Mehefin 2006. (NDM3170)

Fel y gwŷr Aelodau, ym mis Tachwedd y llynedd cynhaliodd y pwyllgor adolygiad o'r adroddiad 'Cau'r Bwlch', a oedd yn argymhell ailstrwythuro'r heddlu yng Nghymru. Yn ei adroddiad, daeth y pwyllgor i'r casgliad fod dimensiwn arbennig o Gymreig i ailstrwythuro'r heddlu yng Nghymru. Cytunwyd hefyd y dylai unrhyw gost ychwanegol yn deillio o ailstrwythuro gael ei thalu gan y Swyddfa Gartref, y dylai'r flaenoriaeth ar gyfer plismona cymdogaethau barhau, a bod atebolrwydd lleol a diogelu swyddi yn hollbwysig.

Deuthum ag adroddiad y pwyllgor i'r Cyfarfod Llawn, a chafodd ei gymeradwyo gan yr Aelodau. Ar ôl hynny, cyhoeddodd yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref mai ei ddewis ef ar gyfer Cymru oedd i'r pedwar heddlu presennol uno i greu un heddlu strategol i Gymru gyfan. Gofynnodd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio unwaith eto i'r pwyllgor gasglu tystiolaeth ac adrodd yn ôl ar y strwythurau democrataidd a fyddai'n gweddu orau i'r sefyllfa yng Nghymru. Yr oeddem yn fwy na pharod i gytuno i'r cais hwnnw.

Yn yr adolygiad hwn, buom yn gweithio ar y ddealltwriaeth y bydd gennym heddlu strategol i Gymru gyfan. Er inni gael tystiolaeth unwaith eto gan nifer o sefydliadau nad dyna a ddylai ddigwydd, penderfynwyd bod hynny y tu allan i'n cylch

was more detailed in nature than our first review, but we were careful not to go into specific detail on the operational aspects of the democratic structures. We hope to have time to do that at a later date.

In all, we have made 19 recommendations, which are with regard to the timeframe for implementation, finance, regional authorities and local accountability, staffing, precepts, the size and geography of Wales and the Welsh language. While accepting that an all-Wales strategic force appears to be an inevitability, we feel strongly that how the force is structured and funded should be determined in Wales. We are still unanimous in our belief that the consultation process has been carried out with undue haste and we welcome the announcement of a delay in the implementation of the restructuring in Wales.

However, we urge that additional time be given to full and in-depth consultation and that no decision on the detail of the restructuring be made until its implications have been fully assessed. The committee is still concerned about the cost of reorganising the police structures. Many of the organisations from which we received evidence expressed frustration about the difficulties in obtaining information from the Home Office about funding issues. We strongly adhere to our view that the cost of the restructuring of the police forces in Wales should not fall on the Welsh taxpayers or the Assembly and urge that a full assessment of all the costs should be carried out before any restructuring takes place.

The committee received very strong evidence on the issues of staffing and precepts. We are concerned about the potential for job losses, particularly among civilian staff, and about the role of community safety officers in filling the gap in local policing. We support the view that police staffing levels must at least maintain or improve upon the existing levels of service to the public and urge that the roles of police and community safety officers, civilian staff and neighbourhood wardens be examined and clarified before restructuring takes place.

Police precepts vary across Wales and our

gwaith. Yr oedd yr adolygiad hwn yn fanylach ei natur na'n hadolygiad cyntaf, ond yr oeddem yn ofalus i beidio â mynd i mewn i fanylion penodol yr agweddau gweithredol ar y strwythurau democrataidd. Gobeithio y cawn amser i wneud hynny'n ddiweddarach.

At ei gilydd, gwnaethom 19 o argymhellion, sy'n ymwneud â'r amserlen ar gyfer gweithredu, cyllid, awdurdodau rhanbarthol ac atebolrwydd lleol, staffio, praeseptau, maint Cymru a'i daearyddiaeth a'r iaith Gymraeg. Er ein bod yn derbyn bod heddlu strategol i Gymru gyfan yn anochel yn ôl pob tebyg, credwn yn gryf y dylid penderfynu strwythur yr heddlu a sut y caiff ei ariannu yng Nghymru. Yr ydym yn dal yn unfrydol ein barn fod yr ymgynghori'n rhy frysio, ac yr ydym yn croesawu'r cyhoeddiad y bydd oedi cyn rhoi'r broses ailstrwythuro ar waith yng Nghymru.

Fodd bynnag, gofynnwn yn daer am roi amser ychwanegol i ymgynghori'n llawn av yn fanwl, ac na ddylid gwneud unrhyw benderfyniad am fanylion yr ailstrwythuro nes bydd ei oblygiadau wedi'u hasesu'n llawn. Mae'r pwyllgor yn dal yn bryderus am gost aildrefnu strwythurau'r heddlu. Mynegodd nifer o'r sefydliadau y cawsom dystiolaeth ganddynt rwystredigaeth am yr anawsterau wrth cael gwybodaeth gan y Swyddfa Gartref am faterion ariannu. Yr ydym yn glynu'n gryf wrth ein barn na ddylai trethdalwyr Cymru na'r Cynulliad dalu'r gost o ailstrwythuro'r heddluoedd yng Nghymru, ac yr ydym yn argymhell y dylid gwneud asesiad llawn o'r costau cyn y bydd unrhyw waith ailstrwythuro.

Cafodd y pwyllgor dystiolaeth ddibynadwy iawn am faterion staffio a phraeseptau. Yr ydym yn poeni am y posibilrwydd y caiff swyddi eu colli, yn enwedig ymhlith staff sifil, a rôl swyddogion diogelwch cymunedol wrth lenwi'r bwlch mewn plismona lleol. Yr ydym yn cefnogi'r farn fod yn rhaid i lefelau staffio'r heddlu o leiaf gynnal y lefelau gwasanaeth presennol i'r cyhoedd neu ragori arnynt, ac y dylid archwilio ac egluro rolau swyddogion heddlu a swyddogion diogelwch cymunedol, staff sifil a wardeniaid cymdogaeth cyn i'r ailstrwythuro ddigwydd.

Mae praeseptau'r heddlu'n amrywio ledled

recommendation that they be equalised may not be popular in those areas with a lower precept. However, we were unanimous in agreeing that an equalised precept throughout Wales is the only fair way of funding an all-Wales strategic force. We strongly urge that transitional arrangements be put in place while equalisation is achieved.

We fully agree with the chief constables and police authorities that a regional structure is essential in an all-Wales force. The changes to the Police and Justice Bill enable Wales to have deputy chief constables and we strongly urge that they be appointed on a regional basis. While we believe that the detail and make-up of the regional structure should be an issue for widespread debate, we have made several recommendations that suggest models for the new structure.

The committee wishes to reiterate two points that we made in our first report. There should be no presumption that the headquarters of an all-Wales strategic force will be located in the south of Wales. We ask that serious consideration be given to locating the headquarters in north Wales, but all areas of the country should be considered. We also maintain our view that any restructuring of the police force in Wales should not be prejudicial to any potential future transfer of responsibility for policing in Wales from the Home Secretary to the National Assembly for Wales.

Finally, we were all concerned about the evidence that we heard from the police authorities, chief constables and the Welsh Local Government Association about a lack of co-operation from the Home Office during the consultation. The evidence that we received pointed to a lack of information available to address the debate, unreasonable timescales and a lack of appreciation of the Welsh dimension. We hope that these issues will be resolved following the revised timetable for implementation, but urge the Home Office to ensure that all possible help and co-operation is given during the next phase of the consultation.

Cymru, ac efallai na fydd ein hargymhelliad y dylid eu cysoni yn boblogaidd iawn yn yr ardaloedd hynny lle mae'r praesept yn is. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn unfrydol ein barn mai sicrhau praesept cysoni ledled Cymru yw'r unig ffordd deg i ariannu heddlu strategol i Gymru gyfan. Argymhellwn yn gryf y dylid rhoi trefniadau trosiannol ar waith yn ystod y broses gysoni.

Yr ydym yn cytuno'n llwyr â'r prif gwnstabiliaid a'r awdurdodau heddlu fod strwythur rhanbarthol yn hanfodol mewn un heddlu i Gymru gyfan. Mae'r newidiadau ym Mesur yr Heddlu a Chyfiawnder yn galluogi Cymru i gael dirprwy brif gwnstabiliaid, ac argymhellwn yn gryf eu penodi'n rhanbarthol. Er y credwn y dylid cael trafodaeth eang am fanylion a chyfansoddiad y strwythur rhanbarthol, yr ydym wedi gwneud sawl argymhelliad sy'n awgrymu modelau ar gyfer y strwythur newydd.

Dymuna'r pwyllgor ailadrodd dau bwynt a wnaethom yn ein hadroddiad cyntaf. Ni ddylid rhagdybio y bydd pencadlys un heddlu i Gymru gyfan yn cael ei leoli yn y de. Gofynnwn inni ystyried o ddifrif leoli'r pencadlys yn y gogledd, ond dylid ystyried pob rhan o'r wlad. Yr ydym hefyd yn parhau o'r farn na ddylai unrhyw waith i ailstrwythuro'r heddlu yng Nghymru beryglu'r posibilrwydd o drosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb dros blismona yng Nghymru odi wrth yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Yn olaf, yr oeddem i gyd yn pryderu am y dystiolaeth a glywsom gan yr awdurdodau heddlu, y prif gwnstabiliaid a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru am ddiffyg cydweithredu ar ran y Swyddfa Gartref yn ystod yr ymgynghori. Yr oedd y dystiolaeth a gawsom yn dangos nad oedd gwybodaeth ar gael i fynd i'r afael â'r drafodaeth, amserlenni afresymol a diffyg gwerthfawrogiad o'r dimensiwn Cymreig. Gobeithio y caiff y materion hyn eu datrys yn dilyn yr amserlen ddiwygiedig ar gyfer gweithredu. Ond pwyswn ar y Swyddfa Gartref i sicrhau rhoi'r holl gefnogaeth a chydweithredu sy'n bosibl yn ystod y cam nesaf yn yr ymgynghori.

The conclusions and recommendations in this report were not influenced by party policy, but by the belief in the importance of achieving the right outcome for the people of Wales.

4.50 p.m.

In conclusion, I believe that the committee has produced a very good report. In doing so, it has been greatly assisted by the various organisations involved, which have made high quality and comprehensive presentations to the committee. It has received the co-operation of all of the main stakeholders in providing both oral and written evidence, and I thank them all most sincerely for that. My thanks also go to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee clerking team: Virginia Hawkins, Claire Griffiths, Richard Miltiadis and, of course, the now retired clerk, Roger Chaffey. I also thank those who worked on producing the report, who are too numerous to mention individually, but who have turned around the evidence and the report in a very short time. Last, but certainly not least, I thank my fellow committee members, who engaged willingly and wholeheartedly with the review. I hope that we can undertake further work to ensure that the restructuring of the police force in Wales leads to a service for the public that is not only efficient and effective, but maintains the high standards already being achieved. I am delighted to present this report to Plenary.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I know that time is short, so I would like to look specifically at the evidence that we received from the WLGA about the accountability of one police authority. How can we ensure that all 22 local authorities can have an influence on the decisions of the police authority? If that is not possible, will that affect the accountability of the police authority, and how will local issues and concerns throughout Wales be raised with that authority? That is a very important point, and perhaps we have not emphasised it sufficiently. I concur with all of the recommendations of the report. I thought that the committee did an excellent job in producing the report, and I commend the

Ni ddylanwadwyd ar gasgliadau nac argymhellion yr adroddiad hwn gan bolisiâu plaid, ond yn hytrach gan y gred ym mhwystrwydd sicrhau'r canlyniad cywir i bobl Cymru.

I gloi, credaf fod y pwyllgor wedi cynhyrchu adroddiad da iawn. Wrth wneud hynny, cafodd gefnogaeth helaeth gan yr amrywiol sefydliadau dan sylw, sydd wedi gwneud cyflwyniadau cynhwysfawr o safon i'r pwyllgor. Cafodd gydweithrediad gan bob prif rhanddaliad wrth ddarparu tystiolaeth lafar ac ysgrifenedig, a diolchaf iddynt i gyd yn ddidwyll am hynny. Diolch hefyd i dîm clericio'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio: Virginia Hawkins, Claire Griffiths, Richard Miltiadis ac, wrth gwrs, Roger Chaffey, sydd wedi ymddeol bellach. Diolch hefyd i'r rhai a fu'n gweithio ar gynhyrchu'r adroddiad: y mae'r rhestr yn rhy hir i'w henwi'n unigol, ond dyma'r rhai sydd wedi casglu'r dystiolaeth a chynhyrchu'r adroddiad mewn amser byr iawn. I gloi, yn anad dim, diolchaf i'm cyd-Aelodau ar y pwyllgor, a fu'n barod ac yn eiddgar iawn i weithio ar yr adolygiad. Gobeithio y gallwn wneud gwaith pellach er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y gwaith o ailstrwythuro'r heddlu yng Nghymru yn creu gwasanaeth i'r cyhoedd a fydd nid yn unig yn effeithlon ac yn effeithiol, ond yn cadw'r safonau uchel sydd eisoes yn cael eu cyflawni. Yr wyf wrth fy modd yn cael cyflwyno'r adroddiad hwn i'r Cyfarfod Llawn.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Gwn fod amser yn brin, felly, hoffwn edrych yn benodol ar y dystiolaeth a gafwyd gan Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru am atebolrwydd un awdurdod heddlu. Sut y gallwn sicrhau y gall pob un o'r 22 o awdurdodau lleol ddylanwadu ar benderfyniadau awdurdod yr heddlu? Os nad yw hynny'n bosibl, a fydd hynny'n effeithio ar atebolrwydd awdurdod yr heddlu, a sut y caiff materion a phryderon lleol ledled Cymru eu codi gyda'r awdurdod hwnnw? Mae hynny'n bwynt pwysig iawn, ac efallai nad ydym wedi ei bwysleisio'n ddigonol. Cytunaf â phob un o argymhellion yr adroddiad. Yr oedden yn credu bod y pwyllgor wedi gwneud gwaith gwych wrth gynhyrchu'r adroddiad, a chanmolaf y

Chair on ensuring that there was unanimity in all of the discussions among representatives from all of the political parties. There was also unanimity in the evidence about this proposed change being unwelcome in Wales. I find it ironic that we have a Scottish Home Secretary who is pushing for an amalgamation of police forces in Wales and England, when that is not happening in Scotland. Dr Reid might like to ponder that. He does not believe that the police forces in Scotland should be amalgamated, but he believes that they should be in England and Wales. The rationale for that escapes me. It is a strong report, and gives the Minister the kind of ammunition that she needed in her discussions with the Home Office. I commend her on the work that she has done to raise those concerns with the Home Office and to ensure that the kind of service that we get from the police forces in Wales will not be lost, whatever happens in a year's time.

William Graham: I acknowledge that this report is still valid, but the implication of the Home Secretary's announcement on 19 June must now be reflected in our considerations. The demands upon our police forces are increasing. We all seek the friendly reassurance of a local policeman on his or her beat. We also require a police force capable of reacting to and safeguarding the public from a criminal element that may target neighbourhoods in regional, nationwide or international crime programmes, often with acts of violence, and sometimes acts of terrorism. Our response to crime must be a continuing one and reflect new methods of tackling crime. Any restructuring of our police forces must have one objective: greater efficiency in all aspects of service provision. The public does not seem to have confidence that this was the Government's objective in its proposals, and police officers seem never to have been confident that this was the Government's objective. Francis Wilkinson, a former chief constable of Gwent, expressed the concerns of many about the proposed reorganisation when he commented that if this reorganisation is to be considered, it is paramount that we retain a definite link at local level between our police forces and the communities that they serve, and that we are given assurances that the proposed increases

Cadeirydd ar sicrhau bod unfrydedd ymhlith cynrychiolwyr pob plaid wleidyddol ym mhob un o'r trafodaethau hyn. Cafwyd unfrydedd hefyd yn y dystiolaeth sy'n awgrymu na fyddai Cymru'n croesawu'r newid arfaethedig hwn. Yr wyf yn ei gweld yn eironig fod gennym Ysgrifennydd Cartref yn yr Alban sy'n pwysu am i heddluoedd yng Nghymru a Lloegr gael eu huno, pan nad yw hynny'n digwydd yn yr Alban. Efallai yr hoffai'r Dr Reid feddwl am hynny. Nid yw'n credu y dylid uno heddluoedd yn yr Alban, ond cred y dylem wneud hynny yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Mae'r rhesymeg honno y tu hwnt i mi. Mae'n adroddiad cryf, ac mae'n rhoi'r pŵer yr oedd ei angen ar y Gweinidog yn ei thrafodaethau gyda'r Swyddfa Cartref. Yr wyf yn ei chanmol am y gwaith a wnaeth i godi'r pryderon hynny gyda'r Swyddfa Cartref ac i sicrhau na fyddwn yn colli'r math o wasanaeth a gawn gan yr heddluoedd yng Nghymru, beth bynnag fydd yn digwydd ymhen blwyddyn.

Wiliam Graham: Yr wyf yn cydnabod bod yr adroddiad hwn yn dal yn ddilys, ond rhaid i gyhoeddiad yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref ar 19 Mehefin gael ei adlewyrchu yn ein hystyriaethau. Mae'r galwadau ar ein heddluoedd ar gynnydd. Yr ydym i gyd am gael sicrwydd cyfeillgar plismon lleol ar ei rawd ef neu hi. Yr ydym hefyd am gael heddlu sy'n gallu ymateb i'r cyhoedd a'i ddiogelu rhag elfen droseddol a allai dargedu cymdogaethau mewn rhaglenni trosedd rhanbarthol, cenedlaethol neu ryngwladol, yn aml gyda thrais, ac weithiau gyda therfysgaeth. Rhaid inni ymateb yn barhaus i droseddu, a rhaid iddo adlewyrchu dulliau newydd o fynd i'r afael â throseddu. Rhaid i'r gwaith o ailstrwythuro ein heddluoedd gael un amcan: gwell effeithlonrwydd ym mhob agwedd ar ddarparu'r gwasanaeth. Ymddengys nad yw'r cyhoedd yn hyderus mai dyma oedd amcan y Llywodraeth yn ei chynigion, ac ymddengys na fu swyddogion heddlu erioed yn hyderus mai dyna oedd amcan y Llywodraeth. Mynegodd Francis Wilkinson, cyn brif gwnstabl Gwent, bryderon nifer o bobl am yr ad-drefnu arfaethedig pan ddywedodd, os caiff yr ad-drefnu arfaethedig ei ystyried, ei bod o'r pwys mwyaf inni gadw cyswllt pendant ar lefel leol rhwng swyddogion heddlu a'r cymunedau a wasanaethant, ac y cawn

in efficiency and savings can be achieved.

Day by day, and Home Secretary by Home Secretary, Labour has triggered fresh controversy about the future of policing. This week, Labour announced plans to tighten Whitehall's grip through a new national board to set priorities and oversee strategy.

Labour's proposed national policing board will mean that, for the first time since Robert Peel laid the foundations for modern policing in the nineteenth century, a formal central framework may be superimposed on local autonomous constabularies. Given that John Reid readily admits that the Home Office is dysfunctional and unfit for purpose, giving it greater control of the police would hardly inspire public confidence in the fight against crime.

Only two years ago, David Blunkett, the former Home Secretary, said that central interference in the running of individual forces was not desirable. We ask that Labour should pause and listen. It needs to regain the public's confidence before seeking to introduce further proposals. The Association of Police Officers has calculated that forces are likely to lose a further £206 million across England and Wales—the yearly cash equivalent of 14,000 probationary police salaries—in the precept equalisation process.

The Labour Government has made political capital out of boosting police numbers in England and Wales to more than 140,000. It must realise that its proposals will lead either to the loss of tens of thousands of officer posts or the shedding of thousands of civilian support staff. It will inevitably take officers from front-line policing. Therefore, the Government's regime of targets, instructions and guidelines will go on.

In recognising the validity of the report, I also pay tribute to the work that Edwina Hart has done in making known to the Home Office—not an easy task by any means—the

sicrwydd y gellir darparu'r cynnydd a'r arbedion arfaethedig.

O ddydd i ddydd ac o un Ysgrifennydd Cartref i'r llall, mae'r blaid Lafur wedi sbarduno dadleuon ynghylch dyfodol plismona. Yr wythnos hon, cyhoeddodd y blaid Lafur gynlluniau i wella dylanwad Whitehall drwy gyflwyno bwrdd cenedlaethol newydd i bennu blaenoriaethau a goruchwyllo'r strategaeth.

Bydd bwrdd plismona cenedlaethol arfaethedig y blaid Lafur yn golygu y gellir arosod fframwaith canolog ffurfiol ar heddluoedd ymreolaethol am y tro cyntaf ers i Robert Peel osod y sylfeini ar gyfer plismona modern yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg. O gofio bod John Reid yn cyfaddef yn barod fod y Swyddfa Gartref yn gamweithredol ac yn anaddas i'r diben, prin y byddai rhoi mwy o reolaeth iddi dros yr heddlu yn rhoi hyder i'r cyhoedd yn y frwydr yn erbyn troseddu.

Dim ond dwy flynedd sydd ers i David Blunkett, y cyn Ysgrifennydd Cartref, ddweud nad oedd ymyrryd yn ganolog yn y gwaith o drefnu heddluoedd unigol yn ddymunol. Gofynnwn i Lafur oedi a gwrando. Mae angen iddi adennill hyder y cyhoedd cyn ceisio cyflwyno cynigion pellach. Mae Cymdeithas y Swyddogion Heddlu wedi cyfrifo bod heddluoedd yn debygol o golli £206 miliwn arall ledled Cymru a Lloegr—sy'n cyfateb i gyflog blwyddyn 14,000 o swyddogion prawf yr heddlu—wrth gysoni praeseptau.

Mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur wedi hawlio'r clod am gynyddu niferoedd yr heddlu yng Nghymru a Lloegr i fwy na 140,000. Rhaid iddi sylweddoli y bydd ei chynigion naill ai'n arwain at golli degau o filoedd o swyddi swyddogion neu golli miloedd o staff cymorth sifil. Yn anochel, bydd yn arwain at lai o swyddogion ar gyfer gwaith plismona rheng flaen. Felly, bydd cyfundrefn y Llywodraeth o ran targedau, cyfarwyddiadau a chanllawiau yn parhau.

Wrth gydnabod dilysrwydd yr adroddiad, yr wyf yn rhoi teyrnged hefyd i'r gwaith a wnaeth Edwina Hart drwy ddweud wrth y Swyddfa Gartref am ddymuniadau pobl

wishes of the people of Wales. I hope that she will continue in the same vein.

Eleanor Burnham: I am not a member of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, and so I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak, Deputy Presiding Officer. I also commend the Chair, the committee in general, the secretariat, and, in particular, Edwina Hart, on their work. As a former magistrate I realise the strength of will in the Home Office. I urge you to continue on our behalf, Edwina.

The Welsh Liberal Democrats welcome this review of democratic structures. We are happy that the committee, in its recommendations, has taken all considerations on board. We are still firmly in favour of maintaining the status quo. We also welcome the delay in the production of the plans for restructuring the constabulary in Wales, which proves that the timetable that was originally set for such colossal changes was ridiculous and restrictive.

This committee review showed again that there is widespread opposition to this merger. A number of organisations continue to reiterate their objection to an all-Wales strategic force. This delay, and the words of the Home Secretary, have showed that this restructuring is not yet a fait accompli, and it is vital that the National Assembly engages fully with this consultation process. In respect of the membership of the strategic police authority, if there has to be just one force, we welcome the fact that the Police and Justice Bill allows for more members in Wales, so that all local authorities can have a seat on the new strategic police authority.

With regard to precepts, as we all know, there is currently a massive difference between police precepts across Wales. We agree with the committee's recommendation that the precepts should be equalised, and that there should be a transition period.

With regard to the comparison with Scotland that has been made earlier, why is it not a requirement there that forces should not be smaller than 4,000 officers? Four thousand is

Cymru—nid yw hynny'n dasg hawdd. Gobeithio y bydd hi'n parhau yn yr un modd.

Eleanor Burnham: Nid wyf yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, ac felly yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am adael imi siarad, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Yr wyf fi hefyd yn canmol y Cadeirydd, y pwyllgor yn gyffredinol, yr ysgrifenyddiaeth ac, yn benodol, Edwina Hart, am eu gwaith. Fel cyn-ynad, gwn am rym penderfyniad yn y Swyddfa Gartref. Fe'ch anogaf i barhau ar ein rhan, Edwina.

Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn croesawu'r adolygiad hwn o strwythurau democrataidd. Yr ydym yn fodlon fod y pwyllgor, yn ei argymhellion, wedi ystyried yr holl ystyriaethau. Yr ydym yn dal o blaid cadw'r sefyllfa bresennol. Yr ydym hefyd yn croesawu'r oedi wrth gynhyrchu'r cynlluniau ar gyfer ailstrwythuro'r heddlu yng Nghymru, sy'n profi bod yr amserlen a bennwyd yn wreiddiol ar gyfer newidiadau mor anferthol yn chwerthinllyd ac yn gyfyngol.

Dangosodd adolygiad y pwyllgor eto fod gwrthwynebiad cyffredinol i'r broses hon o uno. Pery nifer o sefydliadau i ailadrodd eu gwrthwynebiad i un heddlu i Gymru gyfan. Mae'r oedi hwn, a geiriau'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref, wedi dangos nad yw'r ailstrwythuro hwn yn fait accompli, ac mae'n hanfodol bod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ymgysylltu'n llawn yn yr ymgynghori hwn. O ran aelodaeth yr awdurdod heddlu strategol, os oes yn rhaid cael un heddlu yn unig, croesawn y ffaith fod Mesur yr Heddlu a Chyfiawnder yn caniatáu i ni gael mwy o aelodau yng Nghymru, fel y gall pob awdurdod lleol gael ei gynrychioli ar yr awdurdod heddlu strategol newydd.

O ran y praeseptau, fel y gwyddom, mae gwahaniaeth anferthol ar hyn o bryd rhwng praeseptau'r heddlu ledled Cymru. Yr ydym yn cytuno ag argymhellion y pwyllgor y dylid cysoni'r praeseptau, ac y dylid cael cyfnod pontio.

O ran y gymhariaeth â'r Alban a wnaed yn gynharach, pam nad yw'n ofyniad yno na ddylai heddluoedd gael llai na 4,000 o swyddogion? Mae 4,000 yn rhif mympwyol.

an arbitrary number. The main concern that we have as Welsh Liberal Democrats, and which others have mentioned, is that community policing and local police, visible on our streets, should be a priority.

The bottom line for this merger seemed to be finance. Obviously, we have put that to bed, which I am pleased about. The committee also recognises that none of these discussions should prejudice the devolution of the responsibility for police forces to Wales. We agree with that. There are few local issues on which the police work alone. Bodies such as community safety partnerships, family safety units, local domestic abuse fora and local neighbourhood watch groups all involve the police in close partnership working.

The main reason for the proposed merger seemed to be to cut costs. As I said earlier, I am pleased that this will not now take place. With regard to the north Wales aspect of this, there is a lot of talk about this within the North Wales Police Force, which I have been visiting. It is very concerned about this, and we need to continue to voice those concerns. The geography of Wales does not necessarily lend itself to there being an all-Wales force. There are all kinds of questions to be asked, therefore, I am pleased, as a Welsh Liberal Democrat, to commend this committee report.

Y prif bryder sydd gennym fel Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, ac y mae eraill wedi sôn amdano, yw y dylem roi blaenoriaeth i blismona cymunedol a sicrhau bod gennym swyddogion heddlu lleol ac amlwg ar ein strydoedd.

Ymddengys mai arian oedd wrth wraidd yr uno. Yn amlwg, yr ydym wedi ymdrin â hynny bellach, ac yr wyf yn falch am hynny. Mae'r pwyllgor hefyd yn cydnabod na ddylai'r trafodaethau hyn beryglu'r posibilrwydd o ddatganoli'r cyfrifoldeb dros heddluoedd i Gymru. Prin yw'r materion lleol lle y mae'r heddlu'n gweithio arnynt ar eu pen eu hunain. Mae cyrff fel partneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol, unedau diogelwch teuluoedd, fforymau lleol trais yn y cartref a grwpiau lleol gwarchod cymdogaeth i gyd yn cynnwys yr heddlu drwy waith partneriaeth agos.

Y prif reswm dros yr uno arfaethedig oedd er mwyn torri costau. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, yr wyf yn falch na fydd hyn yn digwydd bellach. O ran agwedd y gogledd ar hyn, mae cryn drafod ar hyn yn Heddlu Gogledd Cymru, y bûm yn ymweld ag ef. Mae'n pryderu'n fawr am hyn, ac mae angen inni barhau i leisio'r pryderon hynny. Nid yw daearyddiaeth Cymru yn caniatáu inni gael un heddlu i Gymru. Mae pob math o gwestiynau i'w gofyn, felly, yr wyf yn falch o gymeradwyo'r adroddiad pwyllgor hwn, fel un o Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru.

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I invite the Business Minister, if she so wishes, to propose a motion to extend the time for this debate by half an hour.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, under Standing Order No. 6.21, extends the time for this debate by 30 minutes.

5.00 p.m.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: It should be

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf yn gwahodd y Trefnydd, os ydyw'n dymuno, i gynnig cynnig i ychwanegu hanner awr at yr amser ar gyfer y ddadl hon.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21, yn ychwanegu hanner awr at yr amser ar gyfer y ddadl hon.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Dylai fod yn llai na

less than that, I hope, if Members make succinct speeches. Are 10 Members in support? I see that there are, so we proceed to a vote.

hynny, gobeithio, os bydd Aelodau yn gwneud areithiau byr. A oes 10 o Aelodau o blaid? Oes, felly symudwn i bleidlais.

Cynnig: O blaid 17, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 2.

Motion: For 17, Abstain 0, Against 2.

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, Val
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

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

Davies, Janet
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, 'Ailstrwythuro'r Heddlu: Strwythurau Democrataidd': Parhad
The Social Justice and Regeneration Committee's Report, 'Restructuring the Constabulary: Democratic Structures': Continued

Leanne Wood: This is the second part of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee's review into the Home Office's proposals to restructure police services in Wales. Throughout both reviews, it has been clear from those giving evidence that the proposals have been rushed, that little consideration has been given to the unique position of Welsh police forces, and that there are serious fears about community policing. The questions over financing are still unresolved, and, without answers to those questions, we were told that it would not be possible to achieve this reorganisation without a reduction in policing on the ground.

Since that evidence was taken, we have heard that the Home Secretary has delayed the plans for another year. This news was widely welcomed, and this year now provides the opportunity to get things right. The problem

Leanne Wood: Dyma ail ran adolygiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar gynigion y Swyddfa Gartref i ailstrwythuro gwasanaethau'r heddlu yng Nghymru. Drwy'r ddau adolygiad, yr oedd yn amlwg o'r rhai a roddodd dystiolaeth fod y cynigion wedi'u gwneud ar frys, na roddwyd llawer o ystyriaeth i sefyllfa unigryw heddluoedd Cymru, a bod pryderon difrifol ynghylch plismona cymunedol. Mae'r cwestiynau ynghylch ariannu yn dal heb eu hateb, a heb atebion i'r cwestiynau hynny dywedwyd wrthym na fyddai'n bosibl cyflawni'r ailstrwythuro hwn heb leihau plismona ar lawr gwlad.

Ers cymryd y dystiolaeth honno, clywsom fod yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi gohirio'r cynlluniau am flwyddyn arall. Croesawyd y newyddion hyn yn gyffredinol, ac eleni cawn y cyfle i unioni pethau. Y broblem yw mai

is that this is a Home Office decision, as it has constantly made clear to us. We, in the Assembly, can make all the recommendations that we like, but the Home Office is not obliged to take any of them up. That is why we in Plaid Cymru, throughout this debate, have called for the police service to be devolved to Wales. We could then have reorganised the police service to meet the needs of the people of Wales, as opposed to having a structure imposed on us by the Home Secretary.

It is interesting to note that a majority of members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee are in favour of the devolution of police services, and, as time has gone on, more and more people have been won over to that argument. The truth is that few people have confidence in the Home Office to deliver this reorganisation. I do not need to stand here and reiterate the catalogue of disasters that has resulted in one previous Home Secretary describing the Home Office as a dysfunctional department. We may have an extra year, but, so far, there has been little departure from the original proposals. We must all remember that there is little support out there for those original proposals.

However, focusing on this second part of the committee's review, there are some recommendations that are particularly important. The recommendation regarding finance is key. We were told clearly that, unless the finances are sorted out, policing on the ground will be affected. I am sure that every Assembly Member would oppose the costs of this reorganisation being paid for by an increase in the police precept through the council tax. It will be impossible to persuade people to pay for something that they just do not want. It is a Home Office initiative, and the Home Office should pay. We have made that clear in our report.

Unfortunately, the committee decided not to come down in favour of one model for the new structure. The view was that the next year should be used to investigate several different options for structures. Throughout the debate, Plaid Cymru has maintained that, if there is to be an all-Wales police force, it

penderyniad gan y Swyddfa Gartref yw hwn, a chawn ein hatgoffa o hyn yn gyson. Gallwn ni, yn y Cynulliad, wneud cynifer ag a fynnwn o argymhellion, ond nid yw'n ofynnol i'r Swyddfa Gartref dderbyn yr un ohonynt. Dyna pam yr ydym ni ym Mhlaid Cymru, drwy gydol y ddadl hon, wedi galw am ddatganoli'r gwasanaeth heddlu i Gymru. Gallem wedyn fod wedi ad-drefnu'r gwasanaeth heddlu i ddiwallu anghenion pobl Cymru, yn hytrach na dilyn strwythur dan orfodaeth y Swyddfa Gartref.

Mae'n ddiddorol sylwi bod y mwyafrif o aelodau'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio o blaid datganoli gwasanaethau heddlu, ac wrth i amser fynd yn ei flaen mae'r ddadl honno wedi ennill mwy a mwy o gefnogaeth gan bobl. Y gwir yw nad oes gan braidd neb hyder y gall y Swyddfa Gartref gyflawni'r ailstrwythuro hwn. Nid oes angen imi sefyll yma'n ailadrodd y gyfres o drychinebau a arweiniodd at un cyn-Ysgrifennydd Cartref yn disgrifio'r Swyddfa Gartref fel adran sy camweithredu. Efallai fod gennym flwyddyn ychwanegol, ond hyd yma nid ydym wedi symud ryw lawer oddi wrth y cynigion gwreiddiol. Rhaid inni gofio nad oes fawr ddim cefnogaeth i'r cynigion gwreiddiol hynny.

Fodd bynnag, gan ganolbwyntio ar ail ran adolygiad y pwyllgor, ceir rhai argymhellion sy'n arbennig o bwysig. Yr argymhelliad ar gyllid sydd fwyaf allweddol. Dywedwyd wrthym yn glir yr effeithir ar blismona ar lawr gwlad oni ymdrinnir â'r materion ariannol. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad yn gwrthwynebu cynyddu praesept yr heddlu drwy'r dreth gyngor er mwyn talu costau'r ailstrwythuro hwn. Bydd yn amhosibl perswadio pobl i dalu am rywbeth nad oes ei eisiau arnynt. Menter y Swyddfa Gartref yw hwn, a dylai dalu amdani. Nodwyd hynny'n glir gennym yn ein hadroddiad.

Yn anffodus, penderfynodd y pwyllgor beidio â chefnogi model penodol ar gyfer y strwythur newydd. Y farn honno oedd y dylid defnyddio'r flwyddyn nesaf i archwilio nifer o wahanol dewisiadau ar gyfer strwythurau. Drwy gydol y ddadl, mae Plaid Cymru wedi dal i fynnu, os bydd un heddlu i Gymru

should be done on the basis of minimum disruption. One huge police authority, with local authorities and all other interested bodies being represented, would be an unwieldy body. Therefore, careful consideration should be given to how productive a body with, possibly, more than 100 members could be.

I have concerns that these proposals could open the door to policing on the cheap; that has been reiterated by many of those giving evidence to our committee. I would have liked our report to have said that we oppose current police work being done by community support officers. Communities will be at real risk if part of this plan is to get community support officers to do police work—we should all keep a close eye on that.

The final recommendation in this report states that any restructuring should not be prejudicial to any future devolution. I was disappointed to see this recommendation, because it has been watered down from the first report. The original committee report said that we recommended that,

‘the Home Secretary takes the reorganisation of the police Forces in England and Wales as an opportunity to suggest to his Cabinet colleagues that the time is now appropriate to start consultations on the devolution of responsibility for the police service in Wales to the National Assembly for Wales’.

Our current report does not say it in those strong terms, and I am disappointed that that original position was not reiterated. Someone previously mentioned that members of the committee were unanimous, but on that position at least, we certainly were not. I am disappointed that that point is not made in the report, and I hope that the Minister will take that on board.

Mark Isherwood: I will start by thanking the Chair, the former and current clerk and their teams for their extremely hard work in producing this report within a very demanding timescale. As one interested

gyfan, y dylid gwneud hynny gan sicrhau cyn lleied â phosibl o darfu. Byddai un awdurdod heddlu anferth, sy'n cynrychioli awdurdodau lleol a phob corff arall sydd â diddordeb, yn gorff anhydrin. Felly, dylid ystyried pa mor gynhyrchiol y gall corff fod gyda 100 o aelodau ychwanegol o bosibl.

Mae gennyf bryderon y gallai'r cynigion hyn arwain at blismona rhad; ac ategwyd hynny gan lawer o'r rhai a roddodd dystiolaeth i'n pwyllgor. Byddwn wedi hoffi pe bai ein hadroddiad wedi dweud ein bod yn gwrthwynebu'r syniad fod gwaith presennol yr heddlu i gael ei wneud gan swyddogion cymorth cymunedol. Bydd risg sylweddol i gymunedau os yw cael swyddogion cymorth cymunedol i wneud gwaith yr heddlu yn rhan o'r cynllun—dylem galw llygad barcud ar hynny.

Mae'r argymhelliad olaf yn yr adroddiad hwn yn dweud na ddylai unrhyw waith ailstrwythuro effeithio ar unrhyw gamau i ddatganoli yn y dyfodol. Cefais fy siomi o weld yr argymhelliad hwn, gan nad oedd mor gadarn â'r hyn a ymddangosodd yn yr adroddiad cyntaf. Yr oedd adroddiad gwreiddiol y pwyllgor yn dweud ein bod yn argymhell,

‘i'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref achub ar y cyfle wrth ailstrwythuro Heddluoedd Cymru a Lloegr i awgrymu wrth ei gymheiriaid yn y Cabinet ei bod yn bryd cychwyn ymgynghori ar ddatganoli'r cyfrifoldeb dros wasanaethau'r heddlu yng Nghymru i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru’.

Nid yw ein hadroddiad presennol yn dweud hyn mor bendant, ac yr wyf yn siomedig na chafodd y farn honno ei hailadrodd. Mae rhywun eisoes wedi sôn bod aelodau'r pwyllgor yn unfrydol, ond nid yw hynny'n wir, ar y pwynt hwnnw o leiaf. Yr wyf yn siomedig na chaiff hyn ei nodi yn yr adroddiad, a gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn ystyried hynny.

Mark Isherwood: Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i'r Cadeirydd, y cyn-glerc a'r clerc presennol a'u timau am eu gwaith caled iawn wrth lunio'r adroddiad hwn o fewn amserlen dynn iawn. Fel y dywedodd rhywun sydd â

observer put it to me this morning, the message that the Assembly is sending out shows that we can get it right when Charles Clarke could not. However, comments made by the new Home Secretary and the new Minister for Police and Security suggest that the UK Government will not shift its position, and that the question now is simply about how we will move forward.

We welcome the Home Secretary's announcement of a delay in plans for an all-Wales police force and it is interesting to note that this was announced following the letter sent by all four Welsh chief constables to the new Home Secretary stating that they would withdraw operational support for the restructuring unless their main concerns were resolved. As the chief constables told the committee, this was a doomed plan without adequate and sustained planning and a realistic timescale. They added that they sought an extension, to 1 April 2008, for this purpose, which tallied with this report's recommendation of a 12-month delay to carry out a detailed consultation. As our report states, this should include a detailed financial assessment carried out and audited by an independent source.

The Welsh Local Government Association, the police authorities and chief constables all agreed that the issue was fundamentally about finance. They identified a £79 million deficit by 2012-13, including £30 million for council tax equalisation, adding that, in a worst-case scenario, this deficit would rise to £100 million. That deficit was despite what the chief constables described as more hopeful noises from the Home Office about the set-up costs of restructuring and after £75 million of savings over five years from shared corporate services had been factored in. Concern was also expressed by the chief constables that, under an all-Wales system, they would lose the Home Office grants that they would receive if they remained separate.

This report states that an all-Wales police force should be supported by regional forces with local accountability, and all four police authorities agreed that these should be

diddordeb yn y mater hwn wrthyf y bore yma, mae'r neges a anfonir gan y Cynulliad yn dangos y gallwn gael hyn yn iawn, yn wahanol i Charles Clarke. Fodd bynnag, awgrymodd sylwadau a wnaed gan yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref newydd a'r Gweinidog newydd dros yr Heddlu a Diogelwch na fydd Llywodraeth y DU yn newid ei safiad, ac mai penderfynu symud ymlaen yw'r unig gwestiwn i'w drafod yn awr.

Croesawn gyhoeddiad yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref i ohirio'r cynlluniau i gael un heddlu i Gymru gyfan, ac mae'n ddiddorol sylwi bod hyn wedi ei gyhoeddi ar ôl y llythyr a anfonwyd gan bedwar prif gwnstabl Cymru at yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref newydd yn dweud y byddent yn tynnu cefnogaeth weithredol i'r ailstrwythuro yn ôl oni châi eu prif bryderon eu datrys. Fel y dywedodd y prif gwnstablaiid wrth y pwyllgor, ni allai'r cynllun hwn lwyddo heb gynllunio digonol a chyson ac amserlen realistig. Ychwanegwyd iddynt geisio cael estyniad, hyd at 1 Ebrill 2008, i'r perwyl hwn, a oedd yn cyd-fynd ag argymhelliad yr adroddiad hwn i ohirio am 12 mis er mwyn ymgynghori'n fanwl. Fel y dywed ein hadroddiad, dylai hyn gynnwys gwneud asesiad ariannol manwl a'i archwilio gan ffynhonnell annibynnol.

Cytunodd Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, yr awdurdodau lleol a'r prif gwnstablaiid mai'r cyllid oedd y brif broblem. Nodwyd diffyg o £79 miliwn erbyn 2012-13, yn cynnwys £30 miliwn ar gyfer cysoni'r dreth gyngor, gan ychwanegu y byddai'r diffyg hwn yn cynyddu i £100 miliwn yn y sefyllfa waethaf. Nodwyd y diffyg hwnnw er gwaethaf yr hyn a ddisgrifiwyd gan y prif gwnstablaiid fel arwyddion mwy gobeithiol gan y Swyddfa Gartref ynghylch costau sefydlu ailstrwythuro, ac ar ôl cynnwys £75 miliwn o arbedion dros bum mlynedd drwy rannu gwasanaethau corfforaethol. Mynegodd y prif gwnstablaiid bryder hefyd y byddent yn colli grantiau'r Swyddfa Gartref o dan system Cymru gyfan, sef grantiau y byddent yn eu cael pe byddent yn parhau ar wahân.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn dweud y dylai un heddlu i Gymru gyfan gael ei ategu gan heddluoedd rhanbarthol gydag atebolrwydd lleol, a chytunodd y pedwar awdurdod heddlu

headed by regional deputy chief constables. Democratic accountability at strategic and regional level should include statutory seats for the police federation and other bodies. This should be in an advisory capacity rather than in a voting role, representing policing at the grass-roots level as a counter balance to the accelerating politicisation of chief constable roles under successive Governments.

Accountability at basic command unit level will also be required through community safety partnership committees, and there was a strong view that these should include town and community councils. As our report states, the committee does not wish the use of community support officers to be to the detriment of police officers. We also believe that police restructuring provides an opportunity to enhance the work of civilian police staff. Concern was expressed over the future role of community support officers, what their powers might be, the risks if they were able to go on strike, and their vulnerability as unprotected targets if they look like police officers. Such concerns were heightened when the Police Federation of England and Wales revealed plans to axe 25,000 police officers across the UK and to replace them with community support officers. As a council leader told me and other Assembly Members recently, Home Office funding for community support officers will be cut to 75 per cent next year and police forces will either have to sack civilian staff or leave vacant police posts unfilled. In consequence, police funding for neighbourhood wardens in places like Wrexham will also be cut, which may force the council there to ask North Wales Police to appoint their neighbourhood wardens as police community support officers.

As our report also states, Welsh language services, fully funded by the Home Office, must be provided by police forces in Wales and serious consideration should be given to the siting of an all-Wales police headquarters in north Wales. The report also rightly states that the size and geography of Wales is one of the determining factors in suggesting that the nation should be policed regionally. In

y dylai'r rhain gael eu harwain gan ddirprwy brif gwnstabiliaid rhanbarthol. Dylai atebolrwydd democrataidd ar lefel strategol a rhanbarthol gynnwys seddi statudol i ffederasiwn yr heddlu a chyrrff eraill. Dylai fod iddynt swyddogaeth ymgynghorol yn hytrach na swyddogaeth bleidleisio, gan gynrychioli plismona ar lawr gwlad i wrthbwyso'r rolau cynyddol wleidyddol sydd gan brif gwnstabiliaid o dan Lywodraethau olynol.

Bydd angen atebolrwydd hefyd ar lefel uned reoli sylfaenol drwy bwyllgorau partneriaeth diogelwch cymunedol, a chafwyd safbwynt cryf y byddai'r rhain yn cynnwys cynghorau tref a chynghorau cymuned. Fel y dywed ein hadroddiad, nid yw'r pwyllgor am i ddefnyddio swyddogion cymorth cymunedol effeithio'n andwyol ar swyddogion heddlu. Credwn hefyd fod ailstrwythuro'r heddlu'n gyfle i wella gwaith staff heddlu sifil. Lleisiwyd pryder ynglŷn â rôl swyddogion cymorth cymunedol yn y dyfodol, beth fyddai eu pwerau, y risgiau pe gallent fynd ar streic, a'r perygl iddynt fel targedau heb eu diogelu os ydynt yn edrych fel swyddogion yr heddlu. Amlygwyd pryderon felly pan ddatgelodd Ffederasiwn Heddlu Cymru a Lloegr gynlluniau i gael gwared ar 25,000 o swyddogion yr heddlu ar draws y DU a defnyddio swyddogion cymorth cymunedol yn eu lle. Fel y dywedodd arweinydd cyngor wrthyf fi ac Aelodau eraill o'r Cynulliad yn ddiweddar, bydd arian y Swyddfa Gartref ar gyfer swyddogion cymorth cymunedol yn cael ei gwtogi i 75 y cant y flwyddyn nesaf, a bydd yn rhaid i heddluoedd ddiswyddo staff sifil neu adael swyddi gwag yn yr heddlu heb eu llenwi. O ganlyniad, caiff arian yr heddlu ar gyfer wardeniaid cymunedol mewn lleoedd fel Wrecsam ei gwtogi hefyd, a allai orfodi'r cyngor yno i ofyn i Heddlu Gogledd Cymru benodi eu wardeiniaid cymunedol fel swyddogion cymorth cymunedol yr heddlu.

Fel y dywed ein hadroddiad hefyd, rhaid i heddluoedd yng Nghymru ddarparu gwasanaethau yn Gymraeg, a ariennir yn llawn gan y Swyddfa Gartref, a dylid ystyried o ddifrif sefydlu pencadlys yr heddlu i Gymru gyfan yn y gogledd. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn nodi'n gywir ddigon mai maint a daearyddiaeth Cymru yw un o'r ffactorau pwysicaf sy'n awgrymu y dylid plismona'r

this context, the North Wales Police Authority wrote yesterday to all north Wales Assembly Members and Members of Parliament stating that the people of north Wales are fiercely opposed to an all-Wales police force. The authority has asked its chief constable to prepare a costed plan in order to fill the gap in protective services in north Wales for what it believes will be a fraction of the price involved in an all-Wales force. He will be presenting his proposals to his authority on 28 July. If it can be shown that this can be achieved without the creation of an all-Wales force, I close by asking the Minister to tell us now if she will support it?

wlad yn rhanbarthol. Yn y cyd-destun hwn, ysgrifennodd Awdurdod Heddlu Gogledd Cymru at holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad a'r Aelodau Seneddol yn y gogledd yn dweud bod pobl y gogledd yn gwrthwynebu'n chwyrn y cynnig i gael un heddlu i Gymru gyfan. Mae'r awdurdod wedi gofyn i'w brif gwnstabl baratoi cynllun gyda chostau er mwyn llenwi'r bwch mewn gwasanaethau diogelu yn y gogledd am gyfran o'r pris y byddai un heddlu i Gymru gyfan yn ei gostio yn ei farn ef. Bydd yn cyflwyno'i gynigion i'w awdurdod ar 28 Gorffennaf. Os gellir dangos bod modd gwneud hyn heb greu un heddlu i Gymru gyfan, hoffwn gloi drwy ofyn i'r Gweinidog ddweud wrthym yn awr a fydd yn cefnogi hyn?

5.10 p.m.

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): I am grateful to the members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee for undertaking this piece of work, particularly as, once again, it needed to be delivered in a short timescale. I am as frustrated as committee members, I am sure, that the timescale for this review could not have been longer, particularly as the decision to delay has now been taken. Although we have all welcomed the decision to delay the process, I only wish that the timetable had not been so overly ambitious at the start and I look forward to seeing the revised timetable for further discussion. The conclusions and recommendations of the committee's report are important because they are based on the views of the key stakeholders in the restructuring process, not just the views of Members.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i aelodau'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio am ymgymryd â'r darn hwn o waith, yn arbennig gan fod yr amserlen ar gyfer ei gwblhau yn dynn unwaith eto. Yr wyf yn teimlo yr un mor rhwystredig ag aelodau'r pwyllgor, yr wyf yn siŵr, am na ellid bod wedi cymryd mwy o amser gyda'r adolygiad hwn, yn enwedig gan fod y penderfyniad i ohirio wedi'i wneud bellach. Er ein bod wedi croesawu'r penderfyniad i ohirio'r broses, mae'n drueni i'r amserlen fod mor uchelgeisiol ar y dechrau, ac edrychaf ymlaen at weld yr amserlen ddiwygiedig ar gyfer trafodaethau pellach. Mae casgliadau ac argymhellion adroddiad y pwyllgor yn bwysig gan eu bod yn seiliedig ar safbwyntiau rhanddeiliaid allweddol yn y broses ailstrwythuro, yn ogystal â safbwyntiau Aelodau.

While all the issues raised in the report are important, the key issue that the committee was asked to examine in the second review was the regional structures and local accountability that should underpin a new strategic force. Leanne referred to the conclusions of the first report; I see the first and second reports as being put forward in conjunction with each other, so I think that we can take it as read that whatever was included in the first report and accepted would be accepted now, in that context.

Er bod yr holl faterion a godir yn yr adroddiad hwn yn bwysig, y prif fater y gofynnwyd i'r pwyllgor ei archwilio yn yr ail adolygiad oedd y strwythurau rhanbarthol a'r atebolrwydd lleol a ddylai fod yn sail i heddlu strategol newydd. Cyfeiriodd Leanne at gasgliadau'r adroddiad cyntaf; ystyriaf fod yr adroddiad cyntaf a'r ail adroddiad yn cael eu cyflwyno ar y cyd, felly, credaf y gallwn gymryd y byddai beth bynnag a gafodd ei gynnwys a'i dderbyn yn yr adroddiad cyntaf yn cael ei dderbyn yn awr, yn y cyd-destun

hwnnw.

If the restructuring process goes ahead, it is crucial that we get these structures right. I believe that the effectiveness of an all-Wales force, if that is what we end up with, will depend to a large extent on the regional structures that will be put in place. The Home Office has recognised the importance of this issue in Wales by agreeing that additional deputy chief constables should be appointed and that there should be a formal delegation of powers to regional committees. I have said, from the outset, that we must ensure that local policing, the introduction of neighbourhood policing and the BCU structure should not be put at risk by the strategic force. The committee's recommendations clearly support that view and the suggestions on strengthening local accountability are helpful.

We now have something of a hiatus in terms of knowing where we are on the future timescale for restructuring. However, I believe that this report provides us with a starting point to develop a consensus view of how we would wish to see a regional structure developing. I have said previously that I feel that any regional structure should dovetail with the Assembly's structures for policy delivery and I am pleased that the committee supports that approach.

If we look at some of the other issues, the report was, of course, completed before the Home Secretary's announcement that the process was to be slowed down, which has stopped the merger becoming effective on 1 April 2007. The chief constables and chairs of the police authorities in Wales, and I, have been pressing for a review of the timetable, so I am delighted that this has happened. The slowing down of the process also means that the period for consultation has now been extended. The new Home Office timetable for restructuring will be a matter for discussion and I will ensure that our views are fed in. We will continue to consult closely with all interested parties in relation to the implications of any proposed merger. The Home Secretary has also signalled that he wants more time to consider all the issues involved in the restructuring process,

Os bydd y broses ailstrwythuro'n mynd rhagddi, mae'n hanfodol inni gael y strwythurau hyn yn iawn. Credaf y bydd effeithiolrwydd un heddlu i Gymru gyfan, os dyna a fydd gennym yn y diwedd, yn dibynnu i raddau helaeth ar y strwythurau rhanbarthol a sefydlir. Mae'r Swyddfa Gartref wedi cydnabod pwysigrwydd y mater hwn yng Nghymru drwy gytuno y dylid penodi dirprwy brif gwnstabiliaid ychwanegol ac y dylid dirprwyo pwerau'n ffurfiol i bwyllgorau rhanbarthol. Yr wyf wedi dweud, o'r dechrau, ei bod yn rhaid inni sicrhau na ddylai'r heddlu strategol beryglu prosesau plismona lleol, cyflwyno plismona cymunedol a strwythur yr unedau rheoli sylfaenol. Mae'n amlwg fod argymhellion y pwyllgor yn cefnogi'r safbwynt hwnnw, ac mae'r awgrymiadau ar atgyfnerthu atebolrwydd lleol yn ddefnyddiol.

Mae bwlech o ryw fath bellach o ran gwybod beth fydd yr amserlen ar gyfer ailstrwythuro yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, credaf fod yr adroddiad hwn yn fan cychwyn i ddatblygu barn gytûn ar sut yr hoffem weld strwythur rhanbarthol yn datblygu. Dywedais eisoes fy mod yn teimlo y dylai unrhyw strwythur rhanbarthol gyd-fynd â strwythurau'r Cynulliad ar gyfer cyflawni polisiâu, ac yr wyf yn falch bod y pwyllgor yn cefnogi'r ymagwedd honno.

Os edrychwn ar rai o'r materion eraill, cwblhawyd yr adroddiad, wrth gwrs, cyn cyhoeddiad yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref fod y broses i gael ei harafu, cyhoeddiad a rwystrodd yr uno rhag dod i rym ar 1 Ebrill 2007. Bu'r prif gwnstabiliaid a chadeiryddion awdurdodau heddlu yng Nghymru, a minnau, yn pwysu am gael adolygu'r amserlen hon, felly yr wyf yn falch bod hyn wedi digwydd. Mae arafu'r broses hefyd yn golygu bod y cyfnod ymgynghori wedi'i estyn. Bydd amserlen newydd y Swyddfa Gartref ar gyfer ailstrwythuro yn fater i'w drafod a byddaf yn sicrhau y caiff ein safbwyntiau eu cynnwys. Byddwn yn parhau i ymgynghori'n agos â phawb sydd â diddordeb mewn perthynas â goblygiadau unrhyw uno arfaethedig. Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref hefyd wedi arwyddo ei fod am gael mwy o amser i ystyried yr holl faterion sy'n gysylltiedig â'r broses

including the timetable.

I have also stressed the importance of resolving financial matters urgently and reminded the Home Office Minister that the Welsh Assembly Government is adamant that the cost of restructuring should not fall to the Assembly or Welsh council tax payers. The Home Office has committed itself to meeting all net additional set-up costs, but agreement needs to be reached on what these costs are. Discussions are continuing about how the variations in council tax precepts across the newly merged force areas will be handled and the committee has recommended that precepts should be equalised and that this equalisation should be subject to transitional arrangements. Any transitional arrangements need to apply for a significant length of time to allow for a stable budgetary position. The tripartite working group is still considering the options and we are ensuring that the interests of taxpayers in Wales are at the forefront of those discussions. Based on the new 2006-07 precepts, an average precept for a single force would be £145, which is higher than the current south Wales figure of £126, but lower than the precepts of the other three forces: £167 in north Wales, £150 in Dyfed-Powys and £152 in Gwent. I will continue to press the Home Office to resolve the outstanding financial issues as soon as possible.

It has been agreed that amendments to the Police and Justice Bill would allow a strategic policy authority to delegate specific functions to an individual member or an area committee and would allow the appointment of one or more additional deputy chief constables. The Home Secretary will be taking reserve powers to enable those functions that might be delegated to be regulated.

I have again asked that the Welsh Assembly Government be consulted over the use of the reserve powers, and I await a response. I have received written assurance from Home Office Ministers that a new strategic police authority for Wales would include representation from all Welsh local authorities, and amendments to the Police and Justice Bill have made the necessary legislative changes. This means that a new SPA is likely to have 43 members, initially, but there may be a reduction in the

ailstrwythuro.

Yr wyf hefyd wedi pwysleisio pwysigrwydd datrys materion ariannol ar frys ac wedi atgoffa Gweinidog y Swyddfa Gartref fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn bendant nad y Cynulliad na thalwyr treth cyngor Cymru ddylai dalu am gost yr ailstrwythuro. Mae'r Swyddfa Gartref wedi ymrwmo i dalu'r holl gostau sefydlu ychwanegol net, ond mae angen cytuno ar beth fydd y costau hyn. Mae trafodaethau'n parhau ynghylch sut yr eir i'r afael â'r amrywiadau mewn praeseptau treth cyngor ar draws ardaloedd yr heddlu unedig newydd, ac mae'r pwyllgor wedi argymhell y dylid cysoni praeseptau ac y dylai'r broses hon gael ei gwneud drwy drefniadau trosiannol. Bydd angen i unrhyw drefniadau trosiannol gael eu gweithredu am gyfnod sylweddol er mwyn sicrhau sefyllfa gyllidol sefydlog. Mae'r gweithgor tridarn yn dal i ystyried y dewisiadau, ac yr ydym yn sicrhau bod buddiannau trethdalwyr yng Nghymru yn cael lle blaenllaw yn y trafodaethau hyn. Ar sail praeseptau newydd 2006-07, byddai'r praesept ar gyfer un heddlu yn £145 ar gyfartaledd, sy'n uwch na'r ffigur presennol yn y de o £126, ond yn is na phraeseptau'r tri heddlu arall: £167 yn y gogledd, £150 yn Nyfed-Powys a £152 yng Ngwent. Byddaf yn parhau i roi pwysau ar y Swyddfa Gartref i ddatrys y materion ariannol sy'n weddill cyn gynted â phosibl.

Cytunwyd y byddai'r gwelliannau yn Mesur yr Heddlu a Chyfiawnder yn caniatáu i awdurdod heddlu strategol ddirprwyo swyddogaethau penodol i aelod unigol neu bwyllgor ardal a phenodi un dirprwy brif gwnstabl ychwanegol neu fwy. Bydd yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref yn arfer pwerau a gadwyd yn ôl er mwyn galluogi rheoleiddio'r swyddogaethau hynny y gellid eu dirprwyo.

Yr wyf wedi gwneud cais am ymgynghori â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynglŷn â defnyddio pwerau a gadwyd yn ôl, ac yr wyf yn aros am ymateb. Cefais gadarnhad ysgrifenedig gan Weinidogion y Swyddfa Gartref y byddai awdurdod heddlu strategol newydd i Gymru yn cynnwys cynrychiolaeth o bob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru, ac mae gwelliannau ym Mesur yr Heddlu a Chyfiawnder wedi gwneud y newidiadau deddfwriaethol angenrheidiol. Golyga hyn

number of independent members at some point. It is imperative that neighbourhood policing is protected under the proposed new arrangements and that this will result in dedicated, visible and accessible policing teams.

On the issue of devolution, I support the view that any proposals on restructuring should not do anything to prejudice the future devolution of police responsibilities to the Welsh Assembly Government.

I will comment briefly on the judicial review position, which Members have raised with me previously. As you know, I have sought legal advice on the possibility of the Assembly mounting a judicial review of the merger of police forces in Wales. My understanding is that it might, in certain circumstances, be possible for the Assembly to mount such a challenge, but only if there were sufficient grounds for it to do so. Whether legal proceedings are appropriate or possible depends on the facts. However, the issue of possible judicial review proceedings could only be fully and properly considered when a final decision on a merger has been taken by the Home Secretary, and the details associated with such a decision are known—that includes sight of the draft Order or Orders for Wales. As the Home Secretary's announcement has fettered an extension of the consultation period to a so far unspecified time, a final decision on a merger or the associated details do not yet exist. Any discussions on legal proceedings by the Assembly at this stage are at best premature, and my view remains that it is primarily a matter for the police authorities to mount any such challenge or challenges, as has been the case in England, where several authorities have issued challenges. I am aware that judicial review procedures have been commenced in Cleveland, and we will watch the developments with interest.

I am pleased that the committee's report has been debated today. I will pass a copy of the it to the Minister of State for Policing, Security and Community Safety for further consideration of this matter. However, as

fod Awdurdod Heddlu Strategol newydd yn debygol o gynnwys 43 o aelodau, ar y cychwyn, ond gall fod gostyngiad yn nifer yr aelodau annibynnol rywbryd. Mae'n hanfodol i blismona yn y gymdogaeth gael ei ddiogelu o dan y trefniadau newydd arfaethedig ac y bydd hyn yn arwain at dimau plismona ymroddedig, gweledol a hygyrch.

O ran datganoli, cefnogaf y farn na ddylai unrhyw gynigion i ailstrwythuro wneud dim i effeithio ar ddatganoli cyfrifoldebau'r heddlu i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn y dyfodol.

Soniaf yn gryno am sefyllfa'r adolygiad barnwrol, a godwyd gan Aelodau yn y gorffennol. Fel y gwyddoch, yr wyf wedi cael cyngor cyfreithiol ar y posibilrwydd y gallai'r Cynulliad drefnu adolygiad barnwrol o uno heddluoedd Cymru. Deallaf y gallai fod yn bosibl i'r Cynulliad, o dan rai amgylchiadau, gynnig her o'r fath, ond dim ond pe bai sail ddigonol iddo wneud hynny. Mae'r cwestiwn a yw achos cyfreithiol yn briodol neu'n bosibl yn dibynnu ar y ffeithiau. Fodd bynnag, dim ond pan fydd yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi gwneud penderfyniad terfynol ar yr uno y byddai'n bosibl rhoi ystyriaeth lawn a phriodol i'r posibilrwydd o adolygiad barnwrol, a phan fydd y manylion sy'n gysylltiedig â phenderfyniad o'r fath yn hysbys—mae hynny'n cynnwys gweld y Gorchymyn neu'r Gorchymynion drafft dros Gymru. Gan fod cyhoeddiad yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi atal estyn y cyfnod ymgynghori am amser amhenodol ar hyn o bryd, nid oes unrhyw benderfyniad terfynol ar uno na manylion cysylltiedig ar gael hyd yma. Mae unrhyw drafodaethau ar achos cyfreithiol gan y Cynulliad ar hyn o bryd lawer yn rhy gynnar ar y gorau, a'm barn i o hyd yw mai mater i'r awdurdodau heddlu'n bennaf yw cynnig her neu heriau o'r fath, fel sydd wedi digwydd yn Lloegr, lle mae sawl awdurdod wedi cynnig heriau. Gwn fod adolygiad barnwrol wedi cychwyn yn Cleveland, a byddwn yn gwylio'r datblygiadau gyda diddordeb.

Yr wyf yn falch fod adroddiad y pwyllgor wedi cael ei drafod heddiw. Rhoddaf gopi ohono i'r Gweinidog Gwladol dros Blismona, Diogelwch a Diogelwch Cymunedol er mwyn ystyried y mater hwn ymhellach. Fodd

time goes on, and as timescales perhaps become clearer to us all, I am afraid that there might be more opportunity for the committee to undertake further work in this area on the basis of the two excellent reports that it has produced, which I have been pleased, as Minister, to forward to the UK Government. We need to make clear that there are priorities for the Home Office in terms of its reserved powers, and that there are also priorities for us, in terms of the powers that we have; our powers are to do with council tax, precept equalisation and all those issues, which I am sure are of enormous interest to our constituents.

Janice Gregory: I thank everyone who has contributed today, including current members of the committee, former members and non-members. It is always useful to have those contributions.

>From the comments made this afternoon, Members will see what kind of issue we have had to grapple with. We had already done the first part of the report and grappled with those issues, and parked that to one side, and it was quite difficult to do the second part of the report without straying into the area of the first part of the report.

I wish to make a few comments. On some of the comments that Eleanor made—and I do not want to single you out, Eleanor—this may form part of a leaflet that may be circulated in some constituencies, and my plea to you and the Liberal Democrats is, please stick to the facts of this restructuring. Please do not go out, in my constituency especially, putting out leaflets that would scaremonger among my constituents, because that would be completely unfair to the people of Wales when this matter is currently ongoing.

Leanne, yes, of course, there was general consensus among the committee members; a vote was never taken in committee—as you know, we do not do that. Certainly, some of us were disappointed: I know that you were disappointed that there was not one model that we could push through, but we decided on that, and the Minister has kindly reiterated our comments in committee, although she

bynag, wrth i'r amser fynd yn ei flaen, ac amserlenni'n dod yn fwy clir efallai i bob un ohonom, mae arnaf ofn y gall fod mwy o gyfle i'r pwyllgor wneud mwy o waith yn y maes hwn ar sail y ddau adroddiad ardderchog a gynhyrchodd ac yr oeddwn i, fel Gweinidog, yn falch o'u cyflwyno i Lywodraeth y DU. Mae angen inni wneud yn glir fod blaenoriaethau i'r Swyddfa Gartref o ran ei phwerau a gadwyd yn ôl, a bod blaenoriaethau i ninnau hefyd, o ran y pwerau sydd gennym; mae ein pwerau ni'n ymwneud â'r dreth gyngor, cysoni praseptau a'r holl faterion hynny, sydd o ddiddordeb mawr i'n hetholwyr, mae'n siŵr.

Janice Gregory: Diolch i bawb sydd wedi cyfrannu heddiw, gan gynnwys aelodau presennol y pwyllgor, cyn-aelodau a'r rhai nad ydynt yn aelodau. Mae bob amser yn ddefnyddiol cael y cyfraniadau hynny.

O glywed y sylwadau a gyflwynwyd y prynhawn yma, bydd yr Aelodau'n deall y math o fater yr ydym wedi gorfod ymdrin ag ef. Yr ydym eisoes wedi ymrafael â rhan gyntaf yr adroddiad a thrafod y materion hynny, ac wedi rhoi hynny o'r neilltu, ac yr oedd braidd yn anodd trafod ail ran yr adroddiad heb grwydro i ran gyntaf yr adroddiad.

Hoffwn gyflwyno rhai sylwadau. Ar rai o'r sylwadau a wnaeth Eleanor—ac nid yw'n fwrriad gennyf eich beirniadu chi'n benodol, Eleanor—gallai hyn fod yn rhan o daflen a allai gael ei dosbarthu mewn rhai etholaethau, ac erfyniaf arnoch chi a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i gadw at y ffeithiau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r ailstrwythuro. Peidiwch â mynd allan yn fy etholaeth i yn arbennig yn dosbarthu taflenni a fydd yn codi braw ar fy etholwyr, gan y byddai hynny'n hollol annheg i bobl Cymru a'r mater hwn yn dal i gael ei drafod.

Leanne, wrth gwrs fod consensws cyffredinol ymysg aelodau'r pwyllgor; ni chynhaliwyd pleidlais o gwbl yn y pwyllgor—fel y gwyddoch, ni fyddwn fyth yn gwneud hynny. Yn bendant, yr oedd rhai ohonom wedi'n siomi: gwn eich bod chi wedi'ch siomi nad oedd un model y gallem ei gefnogi, ond gwnaethom benderfyniad ar hynny, ac mae'r Gweinidog yn garedig wedi ailadrodd y

was not there, about our perhaps taking on further work, until March or April of next year, to look at what we would like to see as a model. I accept what you are saying, and you did make the point about policing on the cheap; you were not the only one to make those points, and that has been addressed here.

5.20 p.m.

You will know about my views on the devolution settlement, but those who believe that devolution is the way forward were not won over by Plaid Cymru's argument; we probably felt that way before in any case.

We will move forward with the report. Every committee member received the report, and I am grateful that they have taken the time to come back with comments. I wish that some of the comments had come back to me instead of being voiced in the Chamber, so that we could perhaps have incorporated them in the final draft of the report, but there you go.

I look forward to the committee's further deliberations on this, and I reiterate to the Minister, committee members and those who may be interested and tuning in outside, who may have taken time to give oral evidence or to submit written evidence to the committee, that we are extremely grateful. It was an extremely important piece of work by the committee, and the members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee should be grateful to the Minister for asking us to undertake it. We can be justifiably proud of what we have achieved in the two reports before us. They are reports that I would be proud for anyone to read, and they will see that we addressed, on a non-partisan basis, the issues that were brought to us by our constituents, by people out there and by those who came to give evidence. Thank you all.

sylwadau a wnaed gennym yn y pwyllgor, er nad oedd yno, ynglŷn â'r posibilrwydd y gallem ymgymryd â mwy o waith, tan fis Mawrth neu fis Ebrill y flwyddyn nesaf, i edrych ar yr hyn yr hoffem ei weld fel model. Derbyniaf yr hyn a ddywedwch, a gwnaethoch gyfeirio at blismona rhad; nid chi oedd yr unig un i gyfeirio at y pwyntiau hynny, ac yr ydym wedi trafod hynny yma.

Fe wyddoch fy marn am y setliad datganoli, ond ni chafodd y rhai sy'n credu mai datganoli yw'r ffordd ymlaen eu perswadio gan ddadl Plaid Cymru; mae'n debyg ein bod yn teimlo felly gynt beth bynnag.

Symudwn ymlaen gyda'r adroddiad. Cafodd pob aelod o'r pwyllgor gopi o'r adroddiad, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar eu bod wedi trafferthu i gyflwyno sylwadau. Byddai'n dda gennyf pe bai rhai o'r sylwadau wedi'u cyflwyno imi yn hytrach na chael eu mynegi yn y Siambr, fel y byddai wedi bod yn bosibl, efallai, eu hymgorffori yn y drafft terfynol o'r adroddiad, ond felly y mae.

Edrychaf ymlaen at drafodaethau'r pwyllgor ar hyn, a dywedaf eto wrth y Gweinidog, aelodau'r pwyllgor a'r rhai sydd â diddordeb ac yn gwrandao o'r tu allan, sydd efallai wedi trafferthu i roi tystiolaeth lafar neu gyflwyno tystiolaeth ysgrifenedig i'r pwyllgor, ein bod yn ddiolchgar iawn. Yr oedd yn ddarn o waith pwysig iawn gan y pwyllgor, a dylai aelodau'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio fod yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ofyn inni ymgymryd ag ef. Gallwn yn wir ymfalchïo yn yr hyn a gyflawnwyd gennym yn y ddau adroddiad sydd ger ein bron. Maent yn adroddiadau y byddwn yn falch i unrhyw un eu darllen, a byddant yn gweld ein bod, heb fod yn bleidiol, wedi mynd i'r afael â'r materion a gyflwynwyd inni gan ein hetholwyr, gan bobl o'r tu allan a chan y rhai a ddaeth i roi tystiolaeth. Diolch i bawb.

*Cynnig (NDM3170): O blaid 33, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3170): For 33, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Elin
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Rhoi Clefion yn Gyntaf: Gofal Canser yng Nghymru Putting Patients First: Cancer Care in Wales

Denise Idris Jones: I have agreed to allow Ann Jones, Jeff Cuthbert, Jenny Randerson and Leighton Andrews to speak for one minute each.

Doreen Atkinson, of Bryn Pydew, Conwy, has had three operations for breast cancer. She says:

‘At every stage, everything was clearly explained to me and the staff were absolutely magnificent. I feel very passionately about this. In Maesdu Ward, Llandudno Hospital, we have an exceptional specialist breast care unit, which has been recognised as a centre of excellence in its field. To move it to another hospital where breast surgery patients would

Denise Idris Jones: Yr wyf wedi cytuno i ganiatáu i Ann Jones, Jeff Cuthbert, Jenny Randerson a Leighton Andrews siarad am funud yr un.

Mae Doreen Atkinson, o Fryn Pydew, Conwy, wedi cael tair llawdriniaeth am ganser y fron. Fe ddywed:

Cafodd popeth ei esbonio'n glir imi ar bob cam ac yr oedd y staff yn wych. Yr wyf yn teimlo'n gryf iawn am hyn. Yn Ward Maesdu, Ysbyty Llandudno, mae gennym uned canser y fron arbenigol ragorol, sydd wedi ei chydnabod fel canolfan ragoriaeth yn ei maes. Byddai'n drueni mawr ei symud i ysbyty arall lle mae'n debyg y byddai

probably be in mixed surgical wards would be a terrible shame.'

She is one voice among many who praise this facility. Breast cancer is the most common cancer for women. In 2001, there were 13,000 deaths due to breast cancer among females in the UK. A woman's lifetime risk of developing breast cancer is one in nine. The annual rate of breast cancer in women in the UK is increasing. That is the negative side, but, on the positive side, survival rates for breast cancer have been improving for more than 20 years. Women with breast cancer who live in affluent areas have better survival rates than women in deprived areas. That is the background; I now move to the situation in Wales today.

My colleague, Dr Brian Gibbons, while talking about the current NHS consultation, said that it will not be a quick political fix and that the process will be driven by those involved in healthcare delivery in north Wales, both clinicians and managers. He asserted that the changes would follow a local agreement, which would include the lay community health councils, on the basis of the best way forward. To echo Dr Gibbons, I would like to make the following point: the NHS does not belong to paid officials; it belongs to the people. It belongs to us as we all contribute to it through our national insurance contributions. We give willingly so that our fellow human beings can benefit and have healthier, longer and happier lives. Can you not hear the voice of Aneurin Bevan saying this?

Recently, by a stroke of good fortune, I had the pleasure of meeting Dr Chris Davies, a breast cancer surgeon. He has given me much good information and advice. He writes that

'the present difficulties arise out of the fact that health care managers and accountants have a very different idea from the patients and the population affected by the proposals and the medical and nursing professionals in the area as to what is the best way forward.'

Dr Davies has worked in north Wales for 24 years, mostly at Glan Clwyd Hospital. He has a special interest in breast and endocrine diseases. He now works for Breast Test

cleifion llawdriniaeth y fron mewn wardiau llawfeddygol cymysg.

Dim ond un llais ydyw ymysg llawer sy'n canmol y cyfleuster hwn. Canser y fron yw'r canser mwyaf cyffredin ymysg menywod. Yn 2001, bu farw 13,000 o fenywod yn y DU o ganser y fron. Mae risg menyw o ddatblygu canser y fron yn ystod ei hoes yn un o bob naw. Mae'r gyfradd flynyddol o ganser y fron ymysg menywod yn y DU yn cynyddu. Dyna'r agwedd negyddol, ond yr agwedd gadarnhaol yw bod cyfraddau goroesi canser y fron wedi bod yn gwella ers dros 20 mlynedd. Mae gan fenywod sydd â chanser y fron ac sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd cefnog gyfraddau goroesi gwell na menywod sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig.

Wrth siarad am yr ymgynghoriad GIG cyfredol, dywedodd fy nghyd-Weinidog, Dr Brian Gibbons, na fydd ateb gwleidyddol cyflym iddo ac y caiff y broses ei llywio gan y rhai sy'n gysylltiedig â darparu gofal iechyd yn y gogledd, yn glinigwyr ac yn rheolwyr. Pwysleisiodd y bydd y newidiadau yn deillio o gytundeb lleol, a fydd yn cynnwys y cynghorau iechyd cymuned lleig, ar sail y ffordd orau ymlaen. I ategu Dr Gibbons, hoffwn wneud y pwynt canlynol: nid yw'r GIG yn eiddo i swyddogion cyflogedig; mae'n eiddo i'r bobl. Mae'n eiddo i ni gan ein bod i gyd yn cyfrannu iddo drwy ein cyfraniadau yswiriant gwladol. Rhoddwn yn llawen fel y gall ein cyddynion elwa a byw bywydau iachach, hirach a hapusach. Oni chlywch chi lais Aneurin Bevan yn dweud hyn?

Bûm yn ffodus yn ddiweddar pan gefais y pleser o gwrdd â Dr Chris Davies, llawfeddyg ganser y fron. Rhoddodd lawer o wybodaeth a chyngor da imi. Mae'n ysgrifennu bod

yr anawsterau presennol yn codi o'r ffaith fod gan reolwyr a chyfrifwyr gofal iechyd syniad gwahanol iawn i'r cleifion a'r boblogaeth yr effeithir arnynt gan y cynigion a'r meddygon a'r nyrsys yn yr ardal ynglŷn â'r ffordd orau ymlaen.

Mae Dr Davies wedi gweithio yn y gogledd ers 24 mlynedd, yn bennaf yn Ysbyty Glan Clwyd. Mae ganddo ddiddordeb arbennig yng nghlefydau'r fron a chlefydau endocrin.

Wales and recently completed a contract with Llandudno Hospital, where he carried out surgery on breast patients once a week. Dr Davies has made his position clear. He questions the NHS's consultative document 'Designed for North Wales', in which it is proposed that all breast surgery and recovery services be moved to one of the three main sites, be they in Wrexham, Bangor or Glan Clwyd Hospital. The NHS report says that this would,

'give an opportunity to develop a centre of excellence in purpose-built facilities.'

Dr Davies replies by saying:

'The existing arrangements at Llandudno Hospital do already provide the equivalent of such purpose-built facilities. The calm ward atmosphere—undisturbed by emergency surgical admissions—is ideal for those experiencing the stress of undergoing breast cancer surgery. The emotional support of experienced nursing staff is of enormous benefit to their patients. The report proposes splitting emergency and elective surgical work. This is already the case in the Breast Unit at Llandudno Hospital where we have never had to cancel an elective admission on the basis of the bed being needed for an emergency admission.'

Furthermore, Dr Davies asserts:

'The Llandudno breast unit is close to the breast screening site where the best skills are available—both radiologists and the often underestimated skills of experienced breast radiographers—for the pre-operative placement of guide wires to assist the accuracy of breast conserving surgery. And...the theatre facilities are entirely suitable for the Sentinel Node procedure and most reconstructive surgery.'

In conclusion, Dr Davies writes:

'It would be foolish, for short-term financial pressures, to move this excellent breast service and in so doing destroy a valuable asset favoured by the professionals working in the breast service as well as those using it.'

Mae bellach yn gweithio i Bron Brawf Cymru a chwblhaodd contract gydag Ysbyty Llandudno yn ddiweddar, lle byddai'n rhoi llawdriniaeth i gleifion y fron unwaith yr wythnos. Mae Dr Davies wedi egluro ei sefyllfa. Mae'n cwestiynu dogfen ymgynghori y GIG, 'Cynllun gogledd Cymru', sy'n cynnig y dylai holl wasanaethau llawdriniaeth y fron ac adfer gael eu symud i un o dri phrif safle, boed yn Wrecsam, Bangor neu Ysbyty Glan Clwyd. Dywed adroddiad y GIG y byddai hyn,

Yn rhoi cyfle i ddatblygu canolfan ragoriaeth mewn cyfleusterau pwrpasol.

Ymateb Dr Davies yw:

Mae'r trefniadau presennol yn Ysbyty Llandudno eisoes yn darparu'r hyn sy'n cyfateb i gyfleusterau pwrpasol o'r fath. Mae'r awyrgylch dawel ar y ward—nad oes amharu arno gan dderbyniadau llawfeddygol brys—yn ddelfrydol i'r rheini sydd dan straen o gael llawdriniaeth canser y fron. Mae cymorth emosiynol y staff nyrsio profiadol o fudd mawr i'w cleifion. Mae'r adroddiad yn cynnig rhannu gwaith llawdriniaethol brys a dewisol. Mae hyn eisoes yn digwydd yn Uned y Fron yn Ysbyty Llandudno, lle nad ydym erioed wedi gorfod canslo apwyntiad dewisol oherwydd bod angen y gwely ar gyfer achos brys.

Yn ogystal, dywed Dr Davies:

Mae uned y fron yn Llandudno yn agos at safle sgrinio'r fron lle mae'r sgiliau gorau ar gael—o ran radiolegwyr a sgiliau radiograffyddion profiadol y fron na chaiff eu llawn werthfawrogi yn aml—ar gyfer gosod gwifren dywys cyn llawdriniaeth i gynorthwyo'r gwaith cywrain o lawdriniaeth i gadw'r fron. Ac...mae'r cyfleusterau theatr yn hollol addas ar gyfer llawdriniaeth ar y Nod Gwarchodol a'r rhan fwyaf o waith llawdriniaethol adluniol.

I gloi, ysgrifenna Dr Davies:

Ffolineb, oherwydd pwysau ariannol byrdymor, fyddai symud gwasanaeth ardderchog o'r fath, a thrwy wneud hynny ddinistrio ased gwerthfawr a gaiff ei ffafrio gan y bobl broffesiynol sy'n gweithio yng

ngwasanaeth y fron yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n ei ddefnyddio.

That view is echoed by Dr Fielder, director of Breast Test Wales. She asserts that Llandudno Hospital should continue to specialise in elective breast surgery. She says that Breast Test Wales does not support the transfer of breast surgery from Llandudno Hospital to the main sites.

Ategir y farn honno gan Dr Fielder, cyfarwyddwr Bron Brawf Cymru. Mae'n datgan y dylai Ysbyty Llandudno barhau i arbenigo mewn llawdriniaeth ddewisol ar y fron. Dywed nad yw Bron Brawf Cymru yn cefnogi trosglwyddo llawdriniaeth y fron o Ysbyty Llandudno i'r prif safleoedd.

I know that I am speaking of a medical facility that is much loved by the public, and it is in my constituency—in what you would call my back yard.

Gwn fy mod yn siarad am gyfleuster meddygol sy'n uchel ei barch ymhlith y cyhoedd, ac mae yn fy etholaeth i—yn fy milltir sgwâr, gallech ddweud.

On the first Thursday of each month, a support group called Cancer Chums meets in the Empire Hotel, Llandudno. The members support one another, especially those with mammogram recalls. This shows how far advanced sensitivity to breast cancer cases is in my area. Other parts of Wales have similar centres of excellence in the NHS, which are the product of decades of experience, and they do valuable work in the health field and are highly valued by the public. We have to look to the consumers of health provision and say, 'They have a voice too.'

Ar y dydd Iau cyntaf o bob mis, bydd grŵp cymorth a elwir yn Cancer Chums yn gwrdd yng Ngwesty'r Empire, Llandudno. Mae'r aelodau'n cynorthwyo'i gilydd, yn arbennig y rhai a gaiff eu galw yn ôl am famogram. Dengys hyn i ba raddau y mae pobl yn sensitif i achosion o ganser y fron yn fy ardal. Mae canolfannau rhagoriaeth tebyg yn y GIG mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru, sy'n ffrwyth degawdau o brofiad, ac maent yn gwneud gwaith gwerthfawr ym maes iechyd ac yn uchel eu parch ymhlith y cyhoedd. Rhaid inni edrych ar ddefnyddwyr y ddarpariaeth iechyd a dweud, 'Mae ganddynt hwy hefyd farn.'

Certainly, we have our medical experts in the organisation of provision. We must also have our financial experts. I do not undervalue their contribution. However, where there is already, within the system in Wales, provision that is as sophisticated and highly developed as the breast care facility at Llandudno Hospital, we should value it, as the public does, and we should ask our experts in the organisation of healthcare in Wales to search out these centres and ask themselves whether it is better for our clients, the public, that these valuable facilities be uprooted and shifted to a new site. Reorganisation does not always result in an improvement.

Yn sicr, mae gennym arbenigwyr meddygol ym maes trefnu darpariaeth. Rhaid inni gael ein harbenigwyr ariannol hefyd. Nid wyf yn dibrisio eu cyfraniad. Fodd bynnag, pan fydd darpariaeth eisoes, o fewn y system yng Nghymru, sydd mor soffistigedig a datblygedig â'r cyfleuster gofal y fron yn Ysbyty Llandudno, dylem ei gwerthfawrogi, fel y gwna'r cyhoedd, a dylem ofyn i'n harbenigwyr ym maes gofal iechyd yng Nghymru chwilio am y canolfannau hyn a gofyn iddynt eu hunain a yw'n well i'n cleientiaid, y cyhoedd, fod y cyfleusterau gwerthfawr hyn yn cael eu symud i safle newydd. Nid yw ad-drefnu bob amser yn arwain at welliant.

5.30 p.m.

Let us be confident, and I am sure that the Minister will agree, that the present move towards restructuring healthcare provision in Wales will result in a better system all round.

Gadewch inni fod yn hyderus, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y Gweinidog yn cytuno, y bydd y camau presennol tuag at ad-drefnu darpariaeth gofal iechyd yng Nghymru yn arwain at system well yn gyffredinol.

Ann Jones: I thank Denise for giving me a minute in which to speak in her short debate, and I thank her for an excellent, well thought-out presentation on why the breast unit at Llandudno Hospital should remain there.

I will take this opportunity to refer to the cancer centre at Bodelwyddan and pay tribute to Mrs Margaret Smith MBE, who died recently. She was a tireless campaigner for that cancer centre on behalf of her late husband, whose dying wish was that she should ensure that that cancer centre went up. Mrs Smith and her band of people, who have helped to support the cancer centre at Bodelwyddan and, I am sure, at Llandudno, have highlighted the prominent need for us to ensure that those areas of immediate support for people who undergo treatment, particularly for those with breast cancer, are available.

I feel that the 'Designed for Life' for north Wales is flawed, which Denise has pointed out quite categorically. I support her in her efforts to maintain the unit at Llandudno Hospital.

Jeff Cuthbert: I, too, add my thanks to Denise Idris Jones for the subject of her short debate and for how she has presented it. Briefly, I wish to refer to the work of perhaps the main charity involved in cancer research: Cancer Research UK. On Saturday, I had the privilege of starting its Relay for Life event in Bargoed park, involving more than 400 people, which raised in the order of £40,000. Tribute must be paid to ordinary people like that and the organisers of those events, because, without that investment, which provides extra facilities to look at research, the types of treatments and medicines that are available for cancer sufferers now would not exist. I took part in the first lap, which was for those who have recovered from cancer, because, 17 years ago, I had cancer, so I have a vested interest in the continual development of such services.

One in four of us—a frightening figure—will be touched by cancer during our lifetimes, and we are moving towards the day when, with the developments in treatments and medicines, cancer could be treated as a

Ann Jones: Hoffwn ddiolch i Denise am roi munud o'i hamser imi siarad yn ei dadl fer, ac am gyflwyniad gwych, a gynlluniwyd yn ofalus, ar y rhesymau pam y dylai uned y fron yn Ysbyty Llandudno aros yn o.

Hoffwn achub ar y cyfle hwn i gyfeirio at y ganolfan ganser ym Modelwyddan a rhoi teyrnged i Mrs Margaret Smith MBE, a fu farw'n ddiweddar. Yr oedd yn ymgyrchydd diflino dros y ganolfan ganser honno ar ran ei diweddar ŵr, gan mai ei ddymuniad olaf oedd ei bod yn sicrhau bod y ganolfan ganser honno yn cael ei sefydlu. Mae Mrs Smith a'i phobl, sydd wedi helpu cefnogi'r ganolfan ganser ym Modelwyddan ac, yr wyf yn siŵr, yn Llandudno, wedi amlygu'r angen mawr inni sicrhau bod cymorth ar gael ar unwaith i'r bobl hynny sy'n cael triniaeth, yn arbennig y rhai sydd â chanser y fron.

Teimlaf fod y 'Cynllun Oes' ar gyfer y gogledd yn ddiffygiol, ac mae Denise wedi tynnu sylw at hynny yn benodol. Cefnogaf ei hymdrechion i gadw'r uned yn Ysbyty Llandudno ar agor.

Jeff Cuthbert: Hoffwn innau hefyd ddiolch i Denise Idris Jones am bwnc ei dadl fer a'r modd y bu iddi ei gyflwyno. Hoffwn gyfeirio'n gyflym at waith yr elusen fwyaf efallai sy'n ymwneud ag ymchwil cancer: Cancer Research UK. Ddydd Sadwrn, cefais y fraint o ddechrau ei digwyddiad Ras Gyfnewid am Oes ym mharc Bargoed, gyda mwy na 400 o bobl yn cymryd rhan i godi tua £40,000. Rhaid canmol pobl gyffredin fel hyn a threfnwyr y digwyddiadau hynny, oherwydd heb y buddsoddiad hwnnw, sy'n darparu cyfleusterau ychwanegol i gynnal ymchwil, ni fyddai'r mathau o driniaeth a meddyginiaethau sydd ar gael i bobl sydd â chanser heddiw yn bodoli. Cymerais ran yn y lap gyntaf, i bobl sydd wedi goroesi cancer, oherwydd, 17 mlynedd yn ôl yr oedd cancer arnaf, felly mae gennyf ddi-ddordeb personol yn natblygiad parhaus gwasanaethau o'r fath.

Bydd cancer yn effeithio ar un o bob pedwar ohonom—ffigur dychrynlyd—yn ystod ein bywydau, ac yr ydym yn agosáu at y diwrnod pan ellid trin cancer fel clefyd cronig, yn yr un modd ag asthma a diabetes, yn sgîl y

chronic disease, along the lines of asthma and diabetes. In other words, people would be able to live with it. That is the level of advancement that we are making partly as a result of organisations such as Cancer Research UK.

Jenny Randerson: I thank Denise for allowing me to take part in this debate. I suggest that the Record of Proceedings of this short debate be sent to the Health and Social Services Committee, which has just embarked on a review of cancer services. It is the sort of in-depth insight that you have given us into one of the units that we are very anxious to hear about. We are keen to look at the variety of services throughout Wales, to see whether there is equity of provision. Therefore, I invite Denise to do that.

I will add to the issue of the range of cancer services in north Wales. Jeff referred to cancer, hopefully, one day being only a chronic disease; unfortunately, at the moment, it is not, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to the hospice movement for its contribution to the palliative care that is provided. I draw the Assembly's attention to the fact that the level of funding for the hospice movement in Wales is far lower than it is England. It is important that we engage the hospice movement in the agenda of the national health service to enable it to contribute fully and to receive the funding that it deserves.

Leighton Andrews: I would also like to start by thanking Denise for giving me time in this debate. I want to put on record my thanks, and pay tribute to those people working in the Rhondda, both survivors of cancer and relatives of those who have suffered from cancer, who are running a number of different initiatives, along with the voluntary organisations concerned. These include the Rhondda Breast Friends, established earlier this year by Diane Raybould and friends of hers, and those working on raising awareness of prostate cancer, including Sue Waters, who is very active in this field. I also want to pay tribute to the work of the Community Cancer Services project in Tonypany, which was initiated by the Coal Industry Social

datblygiadau mewn triniaethau a meddyginiaethau. Mewn geiriau eraill, byddai pobl yn gallu byw gydag ef. Dyna lefel y datblygiad yr ydym yn ei wneud yn rhannol oherwydd sefydliadau megis Cancer Research UK.

Jenny Randerson: Hoffwn ddiolch i Denise am ganiatáu imi gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon. Credaf y dylid anfon Cofnod y Trafodion o'r ddadl fer hon at y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, sydd newydd ddechrau adolygiad o wasanaethau canser. Dyma'r math o ddarlun manwl yr ydych wedi'i roi inni o un o'r unedau yr ydym yn awyddus iawn i glywed amdani. Yr ydym hefyd yn awyddus i edrych ar yr amrywiaeth o wasanaethau ledled Cymru, i weld a oes cydraddoldeb o ran y ddarpariaeth sydd ar gael. Felly, hoffwn wahodd Denise i wneud hynny.

Hoffwn ychwanegu at y mater ynghylch yr amrywiaeth gwasanaethau canser yn y gogledd. Cyfeiriodd Jeff at y gobaidh y bydd canser yn glefyd cronig yn unig ryw ddiwrnod; yn anffodus, ar hyn o bryd, nid yw'n glefyd cronig, ac mae ein dyled yn fawr i'r mudiad hosbisau am ei gyfraniad at y gofal lliniarol a ddarperir. Hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Cynulliad at y ffaith fod yr arian a gaiff y mudiad hosbisau yng Nghymru lawer yn is nag yn Lloegr. Mae'n bwysig fod y mudiad hosbisau yn ymgysylltu ag agenda'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol er mwyn ei alluogi i wneud cyfraniad llawn a chael yr arian y mae'n ei haeddu.

Leighton Andrews: Hoffwn i hefyd ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Denise am roi amser imi yn y ddadl hon. Hoffwn i'm diolch gael ei gofnodi, ynghyd â theyrned i'r bobl hynny sy'n gweithio yn Rhondda, yn bobl sydd wedi goroesi canser ac yn berthnasau pobl sydd wedi goroesi canser, sy'n rhedeg nifer o fentrau gwahanol, yn ogystal â'r sefydliadau gwirfoddol dan sylw. Ymhlith y rhain mae Rhondda Breast Friends, a sefydlwyd yn gynharach eleni gan Diane Raybould a'i ffrindiau, a'r rhai sy'n gweithio ar gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth am ganser y brostad, gan gynnwys Sue Waters, sy'n weithgar iawn yn y maes hwn. Hoffwn hefyd ganmol gwaith y prosiect Gwasanaethau Canser Cymunedol yn Nhonypany, a

Welfare Organisation, and the team there working under Andrew Penny. I know that the Minister has visited that scheme recently.

The reality is that we are seeing a significant growth, perhaps not surprisingly, in the number of people who have had close contact with cancer, if not directly suffering from it, becoming involved in the provision of services. That is an important and significant development.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): As Jenny said in her contribution, this is a timely debate given that the Health and Social Services Committee is carrying out its review of cancer services. Her suggestion that the Record of today's debate be forwarded to the committee is useful. Equally, I thank Denise for her contribution. It was certainly a passionate and personal contribution to the debate, and I think that it reiterates her commitment to the future of Llandudno Hospital. That is on record.

I think that people will appreciate that, at this stage of the consultation process, it would be incorrect of me to try to prejudge the outcome in any area. However, the positive way in which Denise responded to the consultation document is the correct way to proceed. There is a duty on all public representatives in this debate on service reconfiguration to reflect the views of their constituents and electors in this important area. This should not be done in an uncritical way, because it is easy to run with the hares and hunt with the hounds on this issue, and to be everyone's friend. However, I think that Denise has taken the issue a step further forward. Her contribution was not about being reactive or pandering to the latest headline; she tried to give some sense of direction and provided some leadership in trying to take the debate forwards.

In her contribution, Denise highlighted the experience of patients and how well they felt the service was delivering for them. It reiterates some of the experiences that we had from the South West Wales Cancer

ddechreuwyd gan Sefydliad Lles Cymdeithasol y Diwydiant Glo, a'r tîm yno sy'n gweithio o dan Andrew Penny. Gwn fod y Gweinidog wedi ymweld â'r cynllun hwnnw'n ddiweddar.

Y realiti yw ein bod yn gweld twf sylweddol, nad yw'n syndod efallai, yn nifer y bobl y mae cancer wedi effeithio'n fawr arnynt, hyd yn oed os nad ydynt wedi ei gael yn bersonol, ac sy'n ymwneud â'r broses o ddarparu gwasanaethau. Mae hwnnw'n ddatblygiad pwysig ac arwyddocaol.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Fel y dywedodd Jenny yn ei chyfraniad, mae hon yn ddadl amserol o ystyried bod y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wrthi'n cynnal ei adolygiad o wasanaethau cancer. Mae ei hawgrym y dylid anfon y Cofnod o ddadl heddiw at y pwyllgor yn ddefnyddiol. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i Denise am ei chyfraniad. Yr oedd yn bendant yn gyfraniad angerddol a phersonol i'r ddadl, a chredaf ei fod yn pwysleisio'i hymrwymiad i ddyfodol Ysbyty Llandudno. Mae hynny wedi'i gofnodi.

Credaf y bydd pobl yn gwerthfawrogi, yn y cam hwn yn y broses ymgynghori, na fyddai'n briodol imi geisio rhagweld y canlyniad mewn unrhyw faes. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ffordd gadarnhaol yr ymatebodd Denise i'r ddogfen ymgynghori yn adlewyrchu'r ffordd gywir ymlaen. Mae'n ddyletswydd ar bawb sy'n cynrychioli'r cyhoedd yn y ddadl hon ar ail-gyflunio'r gwasanaeth i adlewyrchu barn eu hetholwyr yn y maes pwysig hwn. Ni ddylid gwneud hyn mewn modd anfeiriadol, oherwydd hawdd yw cefnogi'r ddwy ochr yn hyn a bod yn ffrind i bawb. Fodd bynnag, credaf fod Denise wedi symud cam ymlaen mewn perthynas â'r mater hwn. Nid oedd a wnelo ei chyfraniad â bod yn ymatebol neu blesio'r pennawd diweddaraf; ceisiodd roi rhyw fath o gyfeiriad a rhoddodd ryw faint o arweinyddiaeth wrth geisio symud y ddadl ymlaen.

Yn ei chyfraniad, amlygodd Denise brofiad cleifion ac mor dda yr oeddent yn teimlo bod y gwasanaeth yn diwallu eu hanghenion. Mae'n adlewyrchu rhai o'r profiadau a roddwyd yn arolwg Rhwydwaith Cancer y

Network survey of patients' experience of the health service. In fairness to that survey, it showed that people had a high level of satisfaction with the way in which cancer services were delivered. It did not show that the service was perfect by any manner or means, but, in many of the important patient-centred items, such as confidentiality and respecting the dignity of patients, it showed that there was a good base of practice available.

With an ageing population, it is true that the demand for cancer care will increase. That is one reason why cancer is one of the main Assembly Government priorities. We know that around 15,000 new cases are diagnosed every year, and that there is a one-in-three chance of a man being diagnosed with cancer, and a two-in-seven chance of a woman being diagnosed with cancer before their seventy-fifth birthday—those figures are very much along the lines that Jeff mentioned. One of our health-gain targets for 2012 is to reduce the level of premature deaths.

Much of the debate focused on breast cancer, which is understandable, but it is a worry to me that—particularly in women—lung cancer is vying with breast cancer to be the most common cancer. The outlook with lung cancer is nowhere near as good as it is with breast cancer. Consequently, the initiatives that we are taking—for example, the move to ban smoking in public places—must be seen as part of the wider fight against cancer in our society.

5.40 p.m.

The national cancer standards have been published and they are being driven by the cancer networks with a view to implementation by 2009. To address this, the cancer networks have been stated as organisations that have influence rather than authority. We heard that at the review in the Health and Social Services Committee, and it has caused a sense of frustration to all those involved. Therefore, as an Assembly Government, we are working to put the

de-orllewin o brofiad cleifion o'r gwasanaeth iechyd. Er tegwch i'r arolwg hwnnw, dangosodd fod pobl yn fodlon iawn ar y ffordd y darparwyd gwasanaethau canser. Ni ddangosodd fod y gwasanaeth yn berffaith mewn unrhyw ffordd, ond ar nifer o'r materion pwysig sy'n canolbwyntio ar gleifion, megis cyfrinachedd a pharchu urddas cleifion, dangosodd fod sylfaen dda o arfer ar gael.

Gyda phoblogaeth sy'n heneiddio, mae'n wir y bydd y galw am ofal canser yn cynyddu. Dyna un o'r rhesymau pam mai canser yw un o brif flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Gwyddom fod tua 15,000 o achosion newydd o ganser bob blwyddyn, a bod un siawns mewn tri y bydd dyn yn cael canser, a dau siawns mewn saith y bydd merch yn cael canser cyn eu pen-blwydd yn 75 oed—mae'r ffigurau hynny yn debyg iawn i'r hyn a grybwyllwyd gan Jeff. Un o'n targedau gwella iechyd ar gyfer 2012 yw gostwng nifer y marwolaethau cynnar.

Yr oedd y rhan fwyaf o'r ddadl yn canolbwyntio ar ganser y fron, sy'n ddealladwy, ond mae'n fy mhryderu—yn enwedig ymhlith merched—fod canser yr ysgyfaint yn cystadlu â chanser y fron fel y canser mwyaf cyffredin. Nid yw'r rhagolygon ar gyfer canser yr ysgyfaint yn agos at fod mor dda â chanser y fron. O ganlyniad, rhaid i'r mentrau yr ydym yn eu cynnal—er enghraifft, symud tuag at wahardd ysmygu mewn mannau cyhoeddus—gael eu hystyried fel rhan o'r frwydr ehangach yn erbyn canser yn ein cymdeithas.

Mae'r safonau canser cenedlaethol wedi'u cyhoeddi ac maent yn cael eu llywio gan y rhwydweithiau canser gyda'r nod o'u gweithredu erbyn 2009. Er mwyn mynd i'r afael â hyn, mae'r rhwydweithiau canser wedi'u disgrifio fel sefydliadau sydd â dylanwad yn hytrach nag awdurdod. Clywsom hynny yn yr adolygiad yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ac mae wedi bod yn destun rhwystredigaeth i bawb dan

cancer networks firmly in a lead role in the commissioning of cancer services, and very much in the driving seat in relation to the 2009 standards. Action plans will be put in place to work towards these standards, and a final step will be taking place in the not-too-distant future through an accreditation process of the services that are being provided.

We are also monitoring the waiting times in relation to how quickly breast cancer patients are seen. We can see from that that some progress is being made. Again, as we heard in the Health and Social Services Committee meeting this morning, even though good progress has been made, we are still a fairly long way from achieving these particular targets. There are no grounds for complacency. The head of the NHS and social services in Wales, Mrs Ann Lloyd, has written to trust executives reminding them of their duty to work towards the targets and to identify the barriers and obstacles to delivering the targets. We have also asked the delivery and support unit to work more proactively with the cancer networks to start to identify where the bottlenecks are with a view to clearing them.

The point that Denise made about separating elective and emergency surgery is important. Across the national health service in Wales, we know that there is variable performance, with people being listed for operations and then those operations being cancelled. Having a separation between the emergency and elective casework is one way of addressing that, which was outlined in the Wanless review.

Lisa Francis: I am grateful to you for taking an intervention. For constituents within the mid and west Wales area, particularly Aberystwyth, who are undergoing radiotherapy courses, they often, as you will be aware, have to go to Singleton Hospital. In the past, there were facilities for patients and relatives to stay there overnight. There is talk that some of these facilities may be cut back, which is of great concern to my constituents, because of the travelling involved. It is important for patients who are undergoing

syllw. Felly, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yr ydym yn gweithio i roi rôl arweiniol i'r rhwydweithiau canser yn y gwaith o gomisiynu gwasanaethau canser, a sicrhau eu bod wrth y llyw i bob pwrpas mewn perthynas â safonau 2009. Caiff cynlluniau gweithredu eu rhoi ar waith ar gyfer cyrraedd y safonau hyn, a bydd y cam terfynol yn cael ei gymryd yn y dyfodol agos drwy'r broses o achredu'r gwasanaethau sy'n cael eu darparu.

Yr ydym hefyd yn monitro'r amseroedd aros mewn perthynas â pha mor gyflym y gwelir cleifion canser y fron. Gallwn weld o hynny fod rhywfaint o gynnydd yn digwydd. Unwaith eto, fel y clywsom yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol y bore yma, er bod cynnydd da wedi'i wneud, mae angen inni wneud llawer o waith o hyd i gyrraedd y targedau penodol hyn. Ni ellir bod yn hunanfodlon. Mae pennaeth y GIG a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru, Mrs Ann Lloyd, wedi ysgrifennu at swyddogion gweithredol yr ymddiriedolaethau yn eu hatgoffa o'u dyletswydd i weithio tuag at y targedau a nodi'r rhwystrau rhag cyflawni'r targedau. Yr ydym hefyd wedi gofyn i'r uned darparu a chymorth weithio'n agosach gyda'r rhwydweithiau canser i ddechrau nodi'r rhwystrau gyda'r nod o'u dileu.

Mae'r pwynt a wnaed gan Denise ynghylch gwahanu llawdriniaeth ddewisol a llawdriniaeth frys yn bwysig. Ar draws y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru, gwyddom fod perfformiad yn amrywio, gyda phobl ar restr aros am llawdriniaethau a'r llawdriniaethau hynny wedyn yn cael eu canslo. Mae gwahanu gwaith achos brys a dewisol yn un ffordd o fynd i'r afael â hynny, fel yr amlinellwyd yn adolygiad Wanless.

Lisa Francis: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am dderbyn ymyriad. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'n rhaid i etholwyr yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin, yn enwedig Aberystwyth, sy'n cael triniaeth radiotherapi deithio i Ysbyty Singleton yn aml. Yn y gorffennol, bu'n bosibl i gleifion a pherthnasau aros yno dros nos. Mae sôn efallai y caiff rhai o'r cyfleusterau hyn eu cwtogi, sy'n pryderu fy etholwyr yn fawr, oherwydd y daith dan sylw. Mae'n bwysig i gleifion sy'n cael triniaeth canser gael eu cefnogi gan eu

cancer treatment to get the support of their family. Could you look into this?

Brian Gibbons: You do make a reasonable point, but I despair. The number of times that you have asked me to intervene in a consultation process is worrying; that could undermine the whole process. I understand the legitimacy of the point of view that you have just articulated, but I hope that you have undertaken the correct procedure, which is to submit your point of view to the relevant local health board involved in this. If you have done so, that is the correct way to go; if you have not, I would suggest that there is great urgency in doing so, because the consultation process, even though it has been extended, comes to an end at the end of July. This point of view, particularly from people who are some distance from Singleton Hospital, is an important perspective that needs to be brought up in the consultation process.

Early detection is important, and Denise mentioned the importance of Breast Test Wales in that respect. We know from our colleague, Glyn Davies, and his campaign for bowel cancer screening, as well as Lorraine Barrett, who has raised this issue with me. I am pleased that Health Commission Wales is working towards a bowel cancer screening programme for men and women aged between 50 and 74. The work is going on as we speak, and, hopefully, within the next 12 to 18 months, we will be able to roll that out.

The point that Denise made about health inequalities in relation to cancer is important. There are significant differences in the incidence of cancer, and also the survival of cancer, depending upon a person's social and economic circumstances. A potent comment was made in the Health and Social Services Committee meeting this morning by one of the contributors, who said that poverty is a potent carcinogen. That is true, and I think that tackling poverty and social inequality is a big part of the campaign to tackle cancer.

I am glad that Ann Jones mentioned Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, because there was a big campaign to develop a cancer centre in north

teuluoedd. A allech edrych ar hyn?

Brian Gibbons: Mae gennych bwynt rhesymol, ond yr wyf yn anobeithio. Mae nifer y troeon yr ydych wedi gofyn imi ymyrryd mewn proses ymgynghori yn fy mhoeni; gallai hynny danseilio'r holl broses. Deallaf ddilysrwydd y safbwynt yr ydych newydd ei roi, ond gobeithio eich bod wedi dilyn y weithdrefn gywir, sef cyflwyno eich safbwynt i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol perthnasol dan sylw. Os ydych wedi gwneud hynny, dyna'r ffordd gywir o weithredu; os nad ydych wedi gwneud hynny, awgrymwn fod angen ichi wneud hynny ar frys, oherwydd bydd y broses ymgynghori, er ei bod wedi'i hystyngi, yn dod i ben ddiwedd mis Gorffennaf. Mae'r safbwynt hwn, yn enwedig gan bobl sy'n byw ymhell o Ysbyty Singleton, yn bwysig ac mae angen ei godi yn ystod y broses ymgynghori.

Mae darganfod canser yn gynnar yn bwysig, a soniodd Denise am bwysigrwydd Bron Brawf Cymru yn hynny. Gwyddom o'n cyd-Aelod, Glyn Davies, a'i ymgyrch i gael gwasanaeth sgrinio canser y coluddyn, yn ogystal â Lorraine Barrett, sydd wedi codi'r mater hwn gyda mi. Yr wyf yn falch fod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn gweithio tuag at raglen sgrinio am ganser y coluddyn i ddynion a menywod rhwng 50 a 74 oed. Mae'r gwaith yn mynd rhagddo ar hyn o bryd, a'r gobaith yw y gallwn gyflwyno'r rhaglen yn y 12 i'r 18 mis nesaf.

Mae'r pwynt a wnaeth Denise am anghydraddoldebau iechyd o ran canser yn bwysig. Mae yna wahaniaethau mawr yn nifer yr achosion o ganser, a hefyd yn y nifer sy'n goresgyn canser, yn ôl amgylchiadau cymdeithasol ac economaidd pobl. Gwnaeth un o'r cyfranwyr yn y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol y bore yma sylw treiddgar, sef bod tlodi yn garsinogen cryf. Mae hynny'n wir, a chredaf fod mynd i'r afael â thlodi ac anghydraddoldeb cymdeithasol yn rhan fawr o'r ymgyrch i fynd i'r afael â chanser.

Yr wyf yn falch fod Ann Jones wedi sôn am Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, gan fod ymgyrch fawr i ddatblygu canolfan ganser yn y gogledd. Mae

Wales. Bringing that centre to north Wales is very much part of the philosophy that underpins 'Designed for Life'. There are problems, as Lisa mentioned, in getting radiotherapy moved out to local communities. However, there are good opportunities with regard to ensuring that treatments such as chemotherapy are more accessible in peripheral locations. This can be done in many innovative ways. It is worth pointing out, for example, the work that is going on in south-west Wales in using video-conferencing as a mechanism to allow the multidisciplinary teams to meet to discuss individual problems that patients may have without the patient having to travel to Singleton, for example. While there is not a ready solution with regard to radiotherapy, there are opportunities to deliver services closer to people's homes, and in their communities, through innovative activity such as that which we are seeing in Bronglais, and through the use of telemedicine.

Palliative care is an important part of the overall picture, as Jenny mentioned. I am sure that Denise knows well the good work that St David's Hospice is doing. On the back of her advice, I visited St David's Hospice last year, and we had the pleasure of that hospice giving evidence—again, by video-link—to the Health and Social Services Committee as part of the committee's cancer services review.

I agree with Jeff Cuthbert's point. We are on the cusp of important developments in cancer treatment. We are probably still at the stage at which a cancer diagnosis is like a TB diagnosis was 50 or 100 years ago—it is pretty much seen as a terminal diagnosis. However, significant progress has been made. In relation to breast cancer, we know that the five-year survival rate can be 70 to 80 per cent—that depends on the application of best treatment, but it is a realistic proposition. Between 1990 and 1999, the five-year survival rate, overall, in Wales, increased from 40.9 to 45.5 per cent. That is not an insignificant increase. It demonstrates Jeff's point that, if we continue to build on this progress, cancer treatment will improve, and cancer management, in the long term, will be more akin to the management of a

agor y ganolfan honno yn y gogledd yn rhan fawr o'r athroniaeth sy'n ategu 'Cynllun Oes'. Mae problemau, fel y soniodd Lisa, yn gysylltiedig â symud radiotherapi allan i gymunedau lleol. Fodd bynnag, mae yna gyfleoedd da i sicrhau bod triniaethau megis cemotherapi yn fwy hygyrch mewn lleoliadau ymylol. Gellir gwneud hyn mewn nifer o ffyrdd arloesol. Mae'n werth nodi, er enghraifft, y gwaith a wneir yn y de-orllewin ar ddefnyddio fideo-gynadledda fel dull o alluogi'r timau amlddisgyblaethol i gwrdd i drafod problemau unigol a allai fod gan gleifion, heb iddynt orfod teithio i Ysbyty Singleton, er enghraifft. Er nad oes ateb parod o ran radiotherapi, mae cyfleoedd ar gael i ddarparu gwasanaethau yn nes at gartrefi pobl, ac yn eu cymunedau, drwy weithgarwch arloesol megis yr hyn a welwn yn Ysbyty Bron-glais, a thrwy ddefnyddio telefeddygaeth.

Mae gofal lliniarol yn rhan bwysig o'r darlun cyffredinol, fel y soniodd Jenny. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod Denise yn ymwybodol o'r gwaith da a wnaiff Hosbis Dewi Sant. Yn dilyn ei chynghor, ymwelais â Hosbis Dewi Sant y llynedd, a chawsom y pleser o weld yr hosbis honno yn rhoi tystiolaeth—eto, drwy gyswllt fideo—i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol fel rhan o adolygiad y pwyllgor o wasanaethau canser.

Cytunaf â phwynt Jeff Cuthbert. Mae datblygiadau pwysig ym maes triniaethau canser ar droed. Mae'n debyg ein bod yn dal yn y cyfnod lle mae cael diagnosis o ganser fel cael diagnosis o TB 50 neu 100 mlynedd yn ôl—fe'i hystyrir ar y cyfan yn ddiagnosis marwol. Fodd bynnag, gwnaed cynnydd sylweddol. O ran canser y fron, gwyddom y gall y gyfradd oroesi o bum mlynedd fod tua 70 i 80 y cant—yn dibynnu ar ddefnyddio'r driniaeth orau, ond mae'n gynnig realistig. Rhwng 1990 a 1999, cynyddodd y gyfradd oroesi o bum mlynedd, ar y cyfan, o 40.9 i 45.5 y cant yng Nghymru. Nid yw hynny'n gynydd dibwys. Mae'n dangos pwynt Jeff y bydd triniaeth canser, os byddwn yn parhau i adeiladu ar y cynnydd hwn, yn gwella, ac y bydd y gwaith o reoli canser, yn yr hirdymor, yn debycach i'r gwaith o reoli clefyd cronig

chronic disease and less like the immediate killer disease that we now fear and dread on a day-to-day basis.

Therefore, this is very much part of our vision, which is about what we can do to prevent the disease, and how we can ensure that treatment is of the highest quality, delivered in a timely way, without operations being cancelled, and provided in a patient-sensitive way, and, ultimately, about ensuring the longevity of patients who suffer from that condition.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close.

ac yn llai tebyg i'r clefyd marwol sy'n codi ofn arnom ar hyn o bryd ac yn ein dychryn o un dydd i'r llall.

Felly, mae hyn yn rhan o'n gweledigaeth, sy'n ymwneud â'r hyn y gallwn ei wneud i atal y clefyd, a sut y gallwn sicrhau triniaeth o'r safon uchaf, a gaiff ei darparu'n amserol, heb ganslo llawdriniaethau, a'i darparu hefyd mewn ffordd sy'n ystyriol o gleifion, ac yn y pen draw sy'n ymwneud â sicrhau hirhoedledd cleifion sy'n dioddef o'r cyflwr hwnnw.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.48 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.48 p.m.*

**Aelodau a'u Pleidiau
Members and their Parties**

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
 Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
 Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
 Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
 Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Glyn (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Dunwoody, Tamsin (Llafur - Labour)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Essex, Sue (Llafur – Labour)
 Francis, Lisa (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
 Gwyther, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Idris Jones, Denise (Llafur – Labour)
 Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Laura Anne (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Law, Trish (Annibynnol – Independent)

Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
Marek, John (Cymru Ymlaen – Forward Wales)
Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
Pugh, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
Randerson, Jenny (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Ryder, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)
Sinclair, Karen (Llafur – Labour)
Thomas, Catherine (Llafur – Labour)
Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
Thomas, Owen John (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)