



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Cofnod y Trafodion**

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

**Dydd Mercher, 4 Hydref 2006  
Wednesday, 4 October 2006**

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

**The Presiding Officer:** Question 1, **Y Llywydd:** Tynnwyd cwestiwn 1, OAQ0822(SJR), has been withdrawn. OAQ0822(SJR), yn ôl.

**Pobl Ddigartref  
The Homeless**

**Q2 Glyn Davies:** How often do inspections of properties used for temporary housing for the homeless take place? OAQ0828(SJR)

**C2 Glyn Davies:** Pa mor aml yr archwilir eiddo a ddefnyddir i ddarparu llety dros dro ar gyfer pobl ddigartref? OAQ0828(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** It is the responsibility of local authorities to inspect temporary housing for homeless people. They have a duty to ensure that the housing is suitable for each household. We will issue further guidance on the exercise of this responsibility in the next few months.

**Edwina Hart:** Awdurdodau lleol sy'n gyfrifol am arolygu llety dros dro ar gyfer pobl ddigartref. Mae ganddynt ddyletswydd i sicrhau bod y llety'n addas i bob cartref. Byddwn yn cyhoeddi rhagor o ganllawiau ar arfer y cyfrifoldeb hwn yn ystod yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf.

**Glyn Davies:** That is an encouraging response. The way in which we care for our most vulnerable, particularly the homeless, is a measure of how civilised an organisation we are. I know of examples of the homeless being housed in what I consider to be entirely unsatisfactory accommodation. I hope not only that will you review the current situation but that you will also set out a programme of reviews for future years to ensure that accommodation is in a satisfactory condition.

**Glyn Davies:** Mae'r ymateb hwnnw'n galonogol. Mae'r modd y gofalon am ein pobl fwyaf diamddiffyn, yn enwedig y digartref, yn adlewyrchu pa mor waraidd ydym fel sefydliad. Gwn am enghreifftiau lle mae'r digartref yn cael llety sy'n gwbl anfodddhaol yn fy marn i. Gobeithio y byddwch nid yn unig yn adolygu'r sefyllfa bresennol, ond y byddwch hefyd yn sefydlu rhaglen o adolygiadau ar gyfer y blynyddoedd i ddod er mwyn sicrhau bod llety o safon foddhaol.

**Edwina Hart:** I concur totally with the Member's comments. In March this year, we introduced legislation to protect vulnerable homeless people housed in temporary accommodation. It introduces new standards for accommodation, to take effect from 2007-08, which will, hopefully, end the long-term use of bed-and-breakfast accommodation for vulnerable people.

**Edwina Hart:** Cytunaf yn llwyr â sylwadau'r Aelod. Ym mis Mawrth eleni, cyflwynwyd deddfwriaeth gennym i ddiogelu pobl ddigartref ddiamddiffyn a gaiff eu rhoi mewn llety dros dro. Mae'n cyflwyno safonau newydd ar gyfer y llety a ddarperir, a ddaw i rym o 2007-2008, a gobeithio yn bydd yn rhoi diwedd ar ddefnyddio llety gwely a brecwast dros gyfnod hir ar gyfer pobl ddiamddiffyn.

**Owen John Thomas:** On the question of housing, Minister, a recent paper by Professor Kevin Morgan estimates the cost of bringing council houses in Wales up to the Government's Welsh housing quality

**Owen John Thomas:** Wrth sôn am lety neu dai, Weinidog, yr oedd papur yn ddiweddar gan yr Athro Kevin Morgan yn amcangyfrif bod y gost o sicrhau bod tai cyngor yng Nghymru yn cyrraedd y safon ansawdd y

standard to be in the region of £3 billion to £4 billion. The standards are admirable, and include keeping places clean and warm, and securing homes for all council tenants. However, without a clear strategy and funding for implementation, your policies are not worth anything.

**Edwina Hart:** Thank you—

**Owen John Thomas:** What action are you taking, Minister —

**The Presiding Officer:** Order.

**Owen John Thomas:** Dyma'r cwestiwn, Lywydd.

**The Presiding Officer:** I thought that you had already asked a question.

**Owen John Thomas:** What action are you or your Government taking to ensure that the ambitious targets are met, so that the £3 billion to £4 billion required to bring council houses up to a good standard of quality is there?

**Edwina Hart:** I am aware of Professor Kevin Morgan's report on this, and we estimate that quite a large amount of money is required to bring it up to standard. The standard is there, but we have to recognise that council houses are the responsibility of Welsh local government. Housing has lamentably been neglected over the past 20 years, in terms of local government's priorities, but the issue is now coming to a head and will have to be dealt with firmly by local authorities. We live in a society in which democracy has several strands. It is the responsibility of local and central Government. However, local government is well aware of the fact that there is no more money in the pot. Where would any additional resources come from? They would come from the education or health budgets. Following our detailed discussion on health yesterday, I do not think that there will be many calls in this Chamber for money to be moved from the health budget.

Llywodraeth ar gyfer tai yng Nghymru rhwng tua £3 biliwn a £4 biliwn. Mae'r safonau'n gymeradwy, ac maent yn cynnwys cadw lleoedd yn lân ac yn gynnes, a sicrhau bod cartrefi ar gael ar gyfer holl denantiaid cynghorau. Fodd bynnag, heb strategaeth glir ac arian i'w gweithredu, nid yw eich polisiau o unrhyw werth.

**Edwina Hart:** Diolch—

**Owen John Thomas:** Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd, Weinidog—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn.

**Owen John Thomas:** This is the question, Presiding Officer.

**Y Llywydd:** Yr oeddwn yn meddwl eich bod wedi gofyn cwestiwn eisoes.

**Owen John Thomas:** Pa gamau yr ydych chi neu eich Llywodraeth yn eu cymryd i sicrhau bodloni'r targedau uchelgeisiol, er mwyn i'r £3 biliwn i £4 biliwn y mae ei angen i sicrhau bod tai cyngor yn cyrraedd safon dda fod ar gael?

**Edwina Hart:** Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o adroddiad yr Athro Kevin Morgan ar hyn, ac amcangyfrifwn fod angen llawer iawn o arian i sicrhau eu bod yn cyrraedd y safon. Mae'r safon yn bodoli, ond rhaid inni gydnabod mai llywodraeth leol Cymru sy'n gyfrifol am dai cyngor. Yn anffodus, mae tai'n fater sydd wedi ei esgeuluso yn ystod yr 20 mlynedd diwethaf, o ran blaenoriaethau llywodraeth leol, ond mae hyn yn dod i ben bellach a bydd yn rhaid i'r awdurdodau lleol fynd i'r afael ag ef mewn ffordd gadarn. Yr ydym yn byw mewn cymdeithas lle mae i ddemocratiaeth nifer o haenau. Cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth leol a chanolog ydyw. Fodd bynnag, mae llywodraeth leol yn gwbl ymwybodol o'r ffaith nad oes rhagor o arian ar gael. O ble y byddai unrhyw adnoddau ychwanegol yn dod? Byddent yn dod o'r gyllideb addysg neu'r gyllideb iechyd. Yn dilyn ein trafodaeth fanwl ar iechyd ddoe, ni chredaf y bydd llawer yn y Siambr hon yn galw am symud arian o'r gyllideb iechyd.

**Cronfa Datblygu Swyddfa'r Post  
The Post Office Development Fund**

**Q3 Peter Black:** Will the Minister make a statement on the post office development fund? OAQ0825(SJR)

**C3 Peter Black:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gronfa datblygu swyddfa'r post? OAQ0825(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Since 2003, the Assembly Government's post office development fund has awarded grants worth £4.1 million to 106 post offices across Wales.

**Edwina Hart:** Er 2003, mae cronfa datblygu swyddfa'r post gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi rhoi grantiau gwerth £4.1 miliwn i 106 o swyddfeydd post ledled Cymru.

**Peter Black:** Although the scheme recently introduced by the Assembly Government on rate relief for post offices is welcome, there remains a major threat to many post offices around Wales, with the abolition of the post office credit card account. Will you consider reopening the post office development fund to try to assist post offices in expanding their business and in countering that threat?

**Peter Black:** Er bod y cynllun a gyflwynwyd yn ddiweddar gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer rhyddhad ardrethi i swyddfeydd post yn cael ei groesawu, erys bygythiad mawr i nifer o swyddfeydd post ledled Cymru, yn sgîl diddymu cyfrif cerdyn credyd swyddfa'r post. A wnewch ystyried ailagor cronfa datblygu swyddfa'r post i helpu swyddfeydd post i ehangu eu busnes a gwrthsefyll y bygythiad hwnnw?

**Edwina Hart:** As you are aware, I held a review on the future of the post office development fund. It was a successful review, which said how well the fund had functioned. However, I have a problem, because I am not sure of the future direction of the post office network, and I still await the decision of the Department of Trade and Industry. In light of that uncertainty, I do not think that it would be prudent of me to commit funding at the moment. As a result of our debate in June, I have undertaken to come back to the Assembly with my proposals for the fund, once there is greater clarity from the UK Government on the future of the post office network. My officials are actively engaged with all parties across the United Kingdom on this issue.

**Edwina Hart:** Fel y gwyrddoch, gwneuthum adolygiad o ddyfodol cronfa datblygu swyddfa'r post. Yr oedd yn adolygiad llwyddiannus, a soniai mor dda yr oedd y gronfa wedi gweithio. Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf broblem, oherwydd nid wyf yn siŵr o gyfeiriad rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post yn y dyfodol, ac yr wyf yn dal i ddisgwyl penderfyniad yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Yn sgîl yr ansicrwydd hwnnw, ni chredaf y byddai'n ddoeth imi ymrwymo arian ar hyn o bryd. O ganlyniad i'n dadl ym mis Mehefin, yr wyf wedi addo cyflwyno fy nghynigion ar gyfer y gronfa i'r Cynulliad, pan fydd Llywodraeth y DU yn fwy eglur ynghylch dyfodol rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post. Mae fy swyddogion yn ymgysylltu â phawb dan sylw yn y Deyrnas Unedig ar y mater hwn.

**Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** Yr ydym yn gwerthfawrogi'r gefnogaeth yr ydych wedi'i rhoi i'r rhwydwaith swyddfeydd post ar hyd a lled Cymru, a'ch parodrwydd i fynd â neges unol y Cynulliad i'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain er mwyn sicrhau bod y cyfrif cerdyn post yn parhau wedi 2010. A ydych yn ymwybodol bod Age Concern wedi mynegi cefnogaeth i'r syniad hwn yn ddiweddar? Mae'r sefydliad hwnnw wedi dangos y bydd yn rhaid i 88 y cant o'r henoed wneud trefniadau teithio arbennig i gael eu harian os yw'r cyfrif

**The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** We appreciate the support you have given to the post office network across the length and breadth of Wales, as well as your willingness to represent the Assembly's unanimous view to the Government in London to try to ensure that the post office card account continues beyond 2010. Are you aware that Age Concern has recently lent support to this idea? That organisation has revealed that 88 per cent of the elderly would have to make special travel arrangements to collect their money if the card account was

cerdyn yn cael ei golli, ac mae 99 y cant o'r bobl sy'n defnyddio swyddfeydd post yn gwerthfawrogi'r gwasanaeth a geir yno. Onid yw hynny'n cefnogi ein hymgyrch i gadw'r cerdyn?

**Edwina Hart:** I have been heartened by the fact that we have cross-party support in the Chamber for the actions that I have taken in writing to the Minister about our concerns with regard to the post office card account. I have not yet received any specific information from Age Concern—it has not lobbied me—but I concur with its comments. I am increasingly concerned that, if we do not maintain the post office network in rural and urban deprived areas, there will be an enormous loss of resources, not only for older people but for other age groups as well. Postmasters and postmistresses tell me that people sometimes go to post offices to ask for advice; they would not go anywhere else, because they trust these individuals. If we want to ensure that these services are available in communities, we must keep up the pressure. It might be helpful if I, once again, put pen to paper in respect of the UK Government on this issue.

**The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne):** I echo what you said about cross-party support; that is vital to your success. It is important that you write again to the UK Government, and I thank you for making that undertaking. Clearly, this is not just about the withdrawal of the post office card account, important though that is; there are other issues such as people no longer being able to pay for television licences at post offices. This is a great British institution, and we should do everything that we can to underpin it. It is important socially—I agree with the Minister—and not just for the elderly; it is also important across all age ranges. More strength to your elbow on this issue. It is important that you come back to the Assembly with the UK Government's response.

**Edwina Hart:** I am grateful for the all-party support on this issue. We need to try to get a decision from the UK Government on the future and on what it wants to do with the

lost, and 99 per cent of people who use post offices appreciate the services offered there. Does that not bolster our campaign to retain the card?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'r ffaith fod gennym gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol yn y Siambr i'r camau yr wyf wedi eu cymryd, drwy ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog ynghylch ein pryderon am gerdyn cyfrif swyddfa'r post, yn galonogol. Nid wyf wedi cael dim gwybodaeth benodol gan Age Concern eto—nid yw wedi fy lobio—ond cytunaf â'i sylwadau. Yr wyf yn pryderu fwyfwy, os na chynhaliwn y rhwydwaith swyddfeydd post mewn ardaloedd gwledig ac ardaloedd trefol difreintiedig y bydd colled aruthrol o ran adnoddau, nid yn unig i bobl hŷn ond i grwpiau oed eraill hefyd. Dywed postfeistri a phostfeistresi wrthyf fod pobl weithiau'n mynd i swyddfeydd post am gyngor; ni fyddent yn mynd i unman aral, am eu bod yn ymddiried yn yr unigolion hyn. Os ydym am sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau hyn ar gael mewn cymunedau, rhaid i ni barhau i roi pwysau ar Lywodraeth y DU. Efallai y byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe byddwn, unwaith eto, yn ysgrifennu ati ynghylch y mater hwn.

**Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne):** Ategaf yr hyn a ddywedwyd gennych ynghylch cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol; mae hynny'n hanfodol i'ch llwyddiant. Mae'n bwysig ichi ysgrifennu at Lywodraeth y DU eto, ac yr wyf yn diolch ichi am addo gwneud hynny. Yn amlwg, nid mater o ddiddymu cyfrif cerdyn swyddfa'r post yn unig yw hyn, er bod hynny'n bwysig; mae yna faterion eraill megis pobl sy'n methu â thalu am drwyddedau teledu mewn swyddfeydd post mwyach. Mae'n sefydliad Prydeinig mawr, a dylem wneud popeth yn ein gallu i'w gefnogi. Mae'n bwysig yn gymdeithasol—cytunaf â'r Gweinidog—ac nid i'r henoed yn unig; mae hefyd yn bwysig ar draws pob ystod oedran. Bydded ichi gael pob cefnogaeth yn hyn. Mae'n bwysig ichi ddod yn ôl at y Cynulliad gydag ymateb Llywodraeth y DU.

**Edwina Hart:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y gefnogaeth hollbleidiol yn y mater hwn. Mae angen inni geisio cael penderfyniad gan Lywodraeth y DU ar y dyfodol a'r hyn y mae

network, so that we can make decisions about what support we wish to give to communities.

am ei wneud â'r rhwydwaith, fel y gallwn wneud penderfyniadau ynghylch pa gymorth y dymunwn ei roi i gymunedau.

### **Y Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub The Fire and Rescue Service**

**Q4 Mark Isherwood:** Will the Minister make a statement on the fire and rescue service carrying out co-responding duties? OAQ0855(SJR)

**C4 Mark Isherwood:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyflawni dyletswyddau ymateb ar y cyd gan y gwasanaeth tân ac achub? OAQ0855(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** The fire and rescue national framework for Wales, agreed by the National Assembly on 16 March 2005, sets out our support for discussions between Welsh fire and rescue authorities and medical and ambulance services to expand co-responding schemes across Wales.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'r fframwaith cenedlaethol ar dân ac achub ar gyfer Cymru, a gytunwyd gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar 16 Mawrth 2005, yn gosod allan ein cefnogaeth i drafodaethau rhwng awdurdodau tân ac achub a gwasanaethau meddygol ac ambiwlans Cymru i ehangu cynlluniau ymateb ar y cyd ledled Cymru.

**Mark Isherwood:** According to ambulance service figures, if automatic external defibrillators were available in Welsh communities, as they have been in Cleveland since the early 1990s, the chance of survival for cardiac arrest patients would increase by up to 85 per cent; however, the chance of survival declines by between 7 and 10 per cent with each passing minute. Will the Minister provide a progress report on the co-responding trials undertaken under the fire and rescue service plan for Dolgellau and Harlech, and indicate when she would expect this to be rolled out across Wales, subject to a favourable outcome?

**Mark Isherwood:** Yn ôl ffigurau'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans, pe byddai diffibrilwyr allanol awtomatig ar gael mewn cymunedau yng Nghymru, fel sydd yn Cleveland ers dechrau'r 1990au, byddai cleifion 85 y cant yn fwy tebygol o fyw ar ôl ataliad y galon; fodd bynnag, mae'r siawns o fyw yn lleihau rhwng 7 a 10 y cant gyda phob munud a aiff heibio. A wnaiff y Gweinidog gyflwyno adroddiad ar hynt y treialon ymateb ar y cyd a gynhaliwyd o dan y cynllun gwasanaeth tân ac achub ar gyfer Dolgellau a Harlech, a dynodi pryd y byddai'n disgwyl i hyn gael ei gyflwyno ledled Cymru, yn amodol ar ganlyniad ffafriol?

**Edwina Hart:** I regularly discuss this issue with the fire and rescue service chiefs. The use of defibrillation equipment, as you say, could save the life of a heart attack victim, with firefighters trained in resuscitation techniques, including the use of defibrillators and oxygen. Providing first-aid assistance would be very welcome, especially given the incidents that occur across Wales. In mid and west Wales, the fire and rescue service has been operating a co-responder scheme in parts of its rural area since 1998, and, as you know, pilot schemes have been held in north Wales. The south Wales fire and rescue authority, in its draft plan, has indicated that it should undertake some co-responder schemes; it hopes to pilot a scheme for completion in April 2007. I would be

**Edwina Hart:** Byddaf yn trafod y mater hwn yn rheolaidd gyda phrif swyddogion y gwasanaeth tân ac achub. Gallai defnyddio offer diffibrilio, fel y dywedwch, achub bywyd rhywun sy'n cael trawiad ar y galon, gyda diffoddwyr tân wedi'u hyfforddi i ddefnyddio technegau dadebru, gan gynnwys defnyddio diffibrilwyr ac ocsigen. Byddai gallu rhoi cymorth cyntaf i'w groesawu'n fawr, yn enwedig o ystyried yr hyn sy'n digwydd ledled Cymru. Yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin, mae'r gwasanaeth tân ac achub wedi gweithredu cynllun ymateb ar y cyd mewn rhannau o gefn gwlad er 1998, ac fel y gwyddoch cynhaliwyd cynlluniau peilot yn y gogledd. Yn ei gynllun drafft, mae awdurdod tân ac achub de Cymru wedi dynodi y dylai gael rhai cynlluniau ymateb ar y cyd; mae'n

delighted to update the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on any development with these schemes. Early indications are that they are successful.

gobeithio treialu cynllun i'w gwblhau ym mis Ebrill 2007. Byddwn wrth fy modd yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio am unrhyw ddatblygiad gyda'r cynlluniau hyn. Yn ôl yr arwyddion cynnar, maent yn llwyddiannus.

**Jocelyn Davies:** You will know that the *South Wales Argus* is supporting a campaign by a mother whose teenage daughter died of carbon monoxide poisoning for detectors to be installed in every home. Would you consider what you can do towards achieving that aim, and what the fire service can do to ensure that as many homes as possible get a detector?

**Jocelyn Davies:** Byddwch yn gwybod bod y *South Wales Argus* yn cefnogi ymgyrch i osod synwryddion ymhob cartref gan fam y bu ei merch farw yn ei harddegau o wenwyn carbon monocsid. A fyddech yn ystyried beth y gallwch ei wneud i gyflawni'r nod hwnnw, a'r hyn y gall y gwasanaeth tân ei wneud i sicrhau bod cynifer o gartrefi â phosibl yn cael synhwyrdd?

2.10 p.m.

**Edwina Hart:** I thank you for raising this point, not only in the Chamber today, but outside, as it is an important issue. I have asked officials to look at this for me, and I will be happy to report back to committee in due course. It is very important that we help to save lives in the best way possible.

**Edwina Hart:** Diolch am godi'r pwynt hwn, nid yn unig yn y Siambr heddiw, ond y tu allan, oherwydd mae'n fater pwysig. Yr wyf wedi gofyn i swyddogion edrych ar hyn ar fy rhan, a dof yn ôl at y pwyllgor maes o law. Mae'n bwysig iawn inni helpu achub bywydau yn y ffordd orau sy'n bosibl.

### Tai Cymdeithasol Social Housing

**C5 David Lloyd:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ddarpariaeth tai cymdeithasol? OAQ0872(SJR)

**Q5 David Lloyd:** Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of social housing? OAQ0872(SJR)

**C10 Ieuan Wyn Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei chynlluniau i gynyddu'r ddarpariaeth tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru? OAQ0877(SJR)

**Q10 Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on her plans to increase the provision of social housing in Wales? OAQ0877(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** We recognise the lack of affordable housing in many parts of Wales, which is why we have progressively increased the budget by 62 per cent over 2005-06 to 2007-08 and introduced a comprehensive package of policy measures and guidance aimed at increasing the supply of affordable housing.

**Edwina Hart:** Cydnabyddwn fod prinder tai fforddiadwy mewn llawer rhan yng Nghymru, a dyna'r rheswm pam yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r gyllideb 62 y cant rhwng 2005-06 a 2007-08, ac wedi cyflwyno pecyn cynhwysfawr o fesurau polisi a chanllawiau sy'n anelu at gynyddu nifer y tai fforddiadwy sydd ar gael.

**David Lloyd:** Beth ydych yn ei wneud i gael pwerau i alluogi awdurdodau lleol i fenthycu'n llawn fel nad oes yn rhaid iddynt drosglwyddo eu stoc tai cyngor?

**David Lloyd:** What are you doing to obtain powers to enable local authorities to borrow in full, so that they do not have to transfer their council housing stock?

**Edwina Hart:** I am on record as indicating

**Edwina Hart:** Cofnodwyd fy mod wedi



that I have lobbied the Treasury and so on about issues around the public sector borrowing requirement and whether there could be arm's-length companies, and I will continue to do so. I attended a conference last week with the trade unions on the whole issue of stock transfer, and agreed that I would once again make representations to the UK Government on these matters. It would be nice if the so-called fourth option did exist, but if it does not exist because of central Government policy, there will be some difficult decisions to be taken by local authorities and their tenants.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** I ddilyn trywydd ychydig yn wahanol, efallai byddai'r Gweinidog yn cydnabod bod angen cynnydd eithaf sylweddol yn y stoc tai cymdeithasol, nid yn unig oherwydd bod digartrefedd ar gynnydd, ond oherwydd bod nifer fawr o bobl ifanc a theuluoedd ifanc yn methu fforddio prynu cartref, ac felly yn edrych am le i'w rentu. A yw'r Gweinidog yn derbyn bod yn rhaid i ni gyd, pa bynnag blaid yr ydym yn ei chynrychioli, weld hwn fel blaenoriaeth i unrhyw lywodraeth? Byddai unrhyw beth y gall ei wneud i sicrhau ychwanegiad at y stoc tai cymdeithasol yn cael pob cefnogaeth.

**Edwina Hart:** Affordable housing is a priority for the Government, and judging from the number of questions that I get in committee and here about this, it is also a priority for those outside of Government. It is important, if it is a priority for us all, that we get our best brains together to decide how we can take matters forward, rather than making the issue a party-political football in the next few months. As a Government, we looked at the issue of land owned by the Assembly and Assembly sponsored public bodies and what we can do in that regard. There are, hopefully, some interesting projects coming up with the Forestry Commission. We are developing a protocol for the disposal of land owned by the Assembly and ASPBs, which will help.

There is also the issue of local authority land and the freedom to sell it at a discount for affordable housing. All of the things in the affordable housing toolkit, and all of the issues that my colleague, Carwyn Jones, is

dweud imi lobio'r Trysorlys ac ati ynghylch materion yn ymwneud â gofyniad benthyca'r sector cyhoeddus ac a fyddai'n bosibl cael cwmnïau hyd braich, a byddaf yn parhau i wneud hynny. Bûm mewn cynhadledd yr wythnos diwethaf gyda'r undebau llafur ar holl fater trosglwyddo stoc, a chytunais y byddwn unwaith eto'n cyflwyno sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU ar y materion hyn. Byddai'n braf pe byddai'r pedwerydd dewis, fel y'i gelwir, ar gael, ond os na fydd ar gael oherwydd polisi'r Llywodraeth ganolog, bydd yn rhaid i awdurdodau lleol a'u tenantiaid wneud rhai penderfyniadau anodd.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** To follow a slightly different tack, perhaps the Minister would acknowledge that a quite significant increase in the social housing stock is needed, not only because homelessness is increasing, but because large numbers of young people and young families cannot afford to buy a house, and are therefore looking for somewhere to rent. Does the Minister accept that all of us, whatever party we represent, must see this as a priority for any government? Anything she can do to ensure an addition to the social housing stock would be fully supported.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae tai fforddiadwy yn flaenoriaeth i'r Llywodraeth, ac yn ôl nifer y cwestiynau a gaf yng nghyfarfodydd y pwyllgor ac yma am hyn, mae hefyd yn flaenoriaeth i'r rheini y tu allan i'r Llywodraeth. Mae'n bwysig, os ydyw'n flaenoriaeth i bob un ohonom, inni ddod at ein gilydd i benderfynu sut y gallwn fwrw ati i ddatblygu'r mater, yn hytrach na'i wneud yn bêl-droed wleidyddol yn ystod yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym wedi edrych ar y tir sy'n eiddo i'r Cynulliad a chyrrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad a'r hyn y gallwn ei wneud yn y cyswllt hwnnw. Gobeithio y bydd gan y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth rai prosiectau diddorol. Yr ydym wrthi'n datblygu protocol ar gyfer cael gwared â thir sy'n eiddo i'r Cynulliad a'r CCNC, a bydd hynny'n helpu.

Yn ogystal, mae angen ystyried tir sy'n eiddo i awdurdodau lleol a'r rhyddid i'w werthu am bris gostyngol ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy. Bydd yr holl bethau a gynhwysir yn y pecyn cymorth ar dai fforddiadwy, a'r holl faterion

dealing with on the planning side, will come to fruition eventually, but we have to recognise that there is an issue with affordability and we must do all that we can, at a national and local level, to address it.

**Mark Isherwood:** How do you respond to the concern expressed by the Wales rural housing association group and the Wales rural housing authorities network that the rural homebuy low-cost home-ownership scheme is not working?

**Edwina Hart:** I think that homebuy in general is working, but I have agreed that I will look at it to see what I can do in terms of more resources for that particular area. What we have in the homebuy scheme is working across Wales. There are some very good figures, for instance, out of Gwynedd, in terms of the number of houses there. The housing authorities are maximising what they can do in particular areas. We have to keep saying that it is important that resources are available. I have commissioned a review of low-cost home ownership in Wales, and I think that, among other things, it will help me to consider the relative advantages and disadvantages of having a separate budget for homebuy.

**Mark Isherwood:** As you know, overall, the social housing grant, even with the budget increase that you have referred to, will still be less than it was 10 years previously. That is a massive cut in real terms, especially when it has to do so much more. You also know that the number of households assisted by homebuy in its various forms has fallen by two thirds. How do you respond to the research by the Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru, which calls for a significant increase in the provision of affordable housing for rent and sale, and the development of other forms of low-cost home-ownership schemes besides homebuy to assist working households with incomes at the margins to enjoy access to some form of home ownership?

**Edwina Hart:** When my review of low-cost

y mae fy nghyd-Aelod, Carwyn Jones, yn ymdrin â hwy ar yr ochr gynllunio, yn dwyn ffrwyth yn y pen draw. Ond rhaid inni gydnabod bod fforddiadwyedd yn broblem, a rhaid inni wneud popeth a allwn, ar lefel genedlaethol ac ar lefel leol, i fynd i'r afael â hi.

**Mark Isherwood:** Beth yw eich ymateb i'r pryder a fynegwyd gan grŵp cymdeithas tai gwledig Cymru a rhwydwaith awdurdodau tai gwledig Cymru nad yw'r cynllun cymorth prynu rhad gwledig yn gweithio?

**Edwina Hart:** Credaf fod y cynllun cymorth prynu yn gweithio ar y cyfan, ond yr wyf wedi cytuno i edrych arno i weld beth y gallaf ei wneud o ran darparu mwy o adnoddau ar gyfer y maes penodol hwnnw. Mae'r hyn sydd yn y cynllun cymorth prynu yn gweithio ledled Cymru. Mae yna rai ffigurau da iawn, er enghraifft, yn dod o Wynedd, o ran nifer y tai yno. Mae'r awdurdodau tai yn gwneud popeth yn eu gallu mewn ardaloedd penodol. Rhaid inni barhau i ddweud ei bod yn bwysig i adnoddau fod ar gael. Yr wyf wedi comisiynu adolygiad o berchentyaeth cost isel yng Nghymru, a chredaf y bydd, ymhlith pethau eraill, yn fy helpu i ystyried manteision ac anfanteision cymharol creu cyllideb ar wahân ar gyfer cymorth prynu.

**Mark Isherwood:** Fel y gwyddoch, ar y cyfan, bydd y grant tai cymdeithasol, hyd yn oed gyda'r cynnydd yn y gyllideb yr oeddech yn cyfeirio ato, yn dal yn llai nag ydoedd 10 mlynedd yn ôl. Mae hynny'n gwtogiad anferth mewn termau gwirioneddol, yn enwedig pan yw'n gorfod gwneud cymaint yn fwy. Fe wyddoch hefyd fod nifer y cartrefi a gaiff eu cynorthwyo gan y cynllun cymorth prynu yn ei ffurfiau amrywiol wedi gostwng dwy ran o dair. Sut yr ydych yn ymateb i'r ymchwil gan Sefydliad Siartredig Tai Cymru, sy'n galw am gynnydd sylweddol yn nifer y tai fforddiadwy sydd ar gael i'w rhentu a'u prynu, ac am ddatblygu mathau eraill o gynlluniau perchentyaeth cost isel ar wahân i gymorth prynu er mwyn helpu cartrefi sydd ag incymau ar yr ymylon i allu prynu mewn rhyw fodd?

**Edwina Hart:** Pan fydd fy adolygiad o

home-ownership issues in Wales is finished, I will comment on what individual organisations have said to me and see whether I can make progress in that policy area.

**Leanne Wood:** Does the Minister agree that it is important for local authorities to give accurate and impartial information when they ballot tenants on the stock transfer process?

**Edwina Hart:** All parties, and not just local authorities, must give accurate information in respect of stock transfer. That includes organisations that might be running campaigns against stock transfer. This is a matter of concern for me, as the citizens of Wales must have the right information on which to base their decisions.

People have said to me, 'Oh, the rents are going to increase like mad because that is what has happened elsewhere'. The Welsh Assembly Government deals with the control of rents in terms of registered social landlords, so there will not be massive increases in rents following stock transfer. People have also asked, 'What is going to happen to my right to buy?'. All rights are protected. I concur with you, as this has been worrying me a lot. Keith Edwards, who is on secondment from the Chartered Institute of Housing, has been looking at the issues around the right to know. I have been considering whether to have a third party to distribute information for and against this so that tenants will know what the line is on this issue and where the truth lies.

**Leanne Wood:** I welcome that statement, Minister, because local authorities are spending vast amounts of money on providing information to tenants in the run-up to balloting. Will you join me in condemning Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, which has sent correspondence to its employees and council tenants attacking those who oppose stock transfer on the grounds that they are ideological and that they send out misleading and politically motivated material? Will you agree to write to that council to clarify the rules on how ballots should be organised and how councils should inform tenants during

faterion perchentyaeth cost isel yng Nghymru wedi'i orffen, byddaf yn rhoi sylwadau ar yr hyn a ddywedodd sefydliadau unigol wrthyf ac yn gweld a allaf ddatblygu'r maes polisi hwnnw.

**Leanne Wood:** A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno ei bod yn bwysig i awdurdodau lleol roi gwybodaeth gywir a diduedd pan fyddant yn cynnal pleidlais ymhlith tenantiaid ynghylch trosglwyddo stoc?

**Edwina Hart:** Rhaid i bob plaid, nid awdurdodau lleol yn unig, roi gwybodaeth gywir wrth drosglwyddo stoc. Mae hynny'n cynnwys sefydliadau a allai fod yn ymgyrchu yn erbyn trosglwyddo stoc. Mae hyn yn fater sy'n peri pryder imi, oherwydd rhaid i ddinasyddion Cymru gael y wybodaeth gywir i seilio'u penderfyniadau arni.

Mae pobl wedi dweud wrthyf, 'O, bydd y rhent yn cynyddu'n wyllt am mai dyna sydd wedi digwydd mewn mannau eraill'. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn delio â rheoli rhenti o ran landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, felly, ni fydd cynnydd anferthol mewn rhenti ar ôl trosglwyddo stoc. Mae pobl hefyd wedi gofyn, 'Beth fydd yn digwydd i'm hawl i brynu?'. Mae pob hawl yn cael ei diogelu. Yr wyf yn cytuno â chi, oherwydd mae hyn wedi bod yn fy mhoeni'n fawr. Mae Keith Edwards, sydd ar secondiad o'r Sefydliad Tai Siartredig, wedi bod yn ymchwilio i faterion hawl i wybod. Bûm yn ystyried a ddylem gael trydydd parti i ddsbarthu wybodaeth o blaid ac yn erbyn hyn fel y bydd tenantiaid yn gwybod y ffeithiau a'r gwirionedd.

**Leanne Wood:** Croesawaf y datganiad hwnnw, Weinidog, gan fod awdurdodau lleol yn gwario symiau anferth o arian ar ddarparu gwybodaeth i denantiaid yn y cyfnod sy'n arwain at bleidleisio. A ymunwch â mi i gondemnio Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf, sydd wedi anfon llythyrau at ei gyflogeion a'i denantiaid cyngor yn lladd ar y rheini sy'n gwrthwynebu trosglwyddo stoc ar y sail eu bod yn ideolegol ac yn anfon deunydd camarweiniol sydd â chymhellant gwleidyddol? A gytunwch i ysgrifennu at y cyngor hwnnw i egluro'r rheolau am y ffordd y dylid trefnu pleidleisio a sut y dylai cynghorau roi

the process?

**Edwina Hart:** You are only the second person to raise with me the issue of the quality of the information that Rhondda Cynon Taf council is sending out. I will ask my officials to look at this information, but I understand that they are content with the information that the local authority has sent out. In light of Members' concerns, I will also take a direct interest in the matter.

gwybodaeth i denantiaid yn ystod y broses?

**Edwina Hart:** Chi yw'r ail berson yn unig i godi'r mater gyda mi o safon y wybodaeth y mae cyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf yn ei dosbarthu. Byddaf yn gofyn i'm swyddogion edrych ar y wybodaeth hon, ond deallaf eu bod yn fodlon â'r wybodaeth y mae'r awdurdod lleol wedi'i dosbarthu. Oherwydd pryderon Aelodau, byddaf fi hefyd yn cymryd diddordeb uniongyrchol yn y mater.

### Camddefnyddio Sylweddau Substance Misuse

**Q6 Jenny Randerson:** Will the Minister make a statement on waiting times for rehabilitation for substance misuse? OAQ0844(SJR)

**C6 Jenny Randerson:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am amseroedd aros ar gyfer adsefydlu pobl sy'n camddefnyddio sylweddau? OAQ0844(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** I know that you are concerned about this issue, because we have corresponded on it previously. Information on waiting times was included as part of my fourth annual report on substance misuse, which I presented to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 21 September.

**Edwina Hart:** Gwn eich bod yn pryderu am y mater hwn, gan ein bod wedi gohebu amdano gynt. Cynhwyswyd gwybodaeth am amseroedd aros fel rhan o'm pedwerydd adroddiad blynyddol ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau, a gyflwynais i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 21 Medi.

**Jenny Randerson:** During the summer, I visited HMP Cardiff in my constituency, and saw the excellent work that is being done in the detoxification wing there and the programme that is being undertaken. The people who run that scheme say that they do not have sufficient resources to contact all the prisoners who would wish to volunteer for the scheme. They also do not have enough time with those prisoners who wish to volunteer. Furthermore, there is evidence that ex-prisoners, when they leave prison, do not get that continuity of care to ensure that they do not fall back into substance misuse. Have you corresponded with the Home Office on this issue, and will you agree to press for a seamless and expanded scheme for prisoners?

**Jenny Randerson:** Yn ystod yr haf, ymwelais â Charchar Caerdydd yn fy etholaeth, a gwelais y gwaith gwych a wneir yn yr adain ddadwenwyno yno a'r rhaglen sydd ar y gweill. Dywed y bobl sy'n rhedeg y cynllun hwnnw nad oes ganddynt ddigon o adnoddau i gysylltu â'r holl garcharorion a fyddai'n dymuno gwirfoddoli i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun. Hefyd, nid oes ganddynt ddigon o amser gyda'r carcharorion hynny sydd am wirfoddoli. Yn ogystal, mae yna dystiolaeth nad yw cyn-garcharorion yn cael y parhad gofal hwnnw, wrth adael y carchar, er mwyn sicrhau na fyddant yn aildechrau camddefnyddio sylweddau. A ydych wedi gohebu â'r Swyddfa Gartref am y mater hwn, ac a gytunwch i bwysio am gynllun di-dor ac ehangach ar gyfer carcharorion?

**Edwina Hart:** Thank you for raising these points with me; it is a matter of concern for me, because I visited HMP Swansea and saw some of the arrangements that exist there. I am happy for my officials to look into all these matters, and, if necessary, I will correspond with the Home Office, which has

**Edwina Hart:** Diolch am godi'r pwyntiau hyn gyda mi; mae'n peri pryder imi, oherwydd ymwelais â Charchar Abertawe a gweld rhai o'r trefniadau sydd ar waith yno. Yr wyf yn fodlon i'm swyddogion ymchwilio i'r holl faterion hyn, ac os bydd angen byddaf yn gohebu â'r Swyddfa Gartref, sy'n gyfrifol

final responsibility for prisons. Some excellent work is being done in prisons, and it is a pity when it is not continued on the outside. A lot more work could be done in prisons if more money were allocated to that agenda. Given that there are health issues associated with prisoners, I will also speak to me colleague, Brian Gibbons, and will include this in my ministerial report to committee so as to update Members.

**Jonathan Morgan:** A year ago this month, the Auditor General for Wales published a report examining the state of adult mental health services in Wales. As part of that, he examined the impact of one service on another. One chapter focused on the impact that the problems experienced in services dealing with those who have suffered from drug and alcohol misuse has had on mental health services. In the report's conclusions, he says,

'around half of all areas in Wales do not have an agreed protocol for the management of individuals with a serious mental illness with drug and alcohol services'.

He goes on to say that,

'problems are reported with the availability of some specialist drug and alcohol services in Wales and as a result adult mental health services are being stretched'.

2.20 p.m.

Clearly, one service is having an impact on another. While accepting that this report is only a year old, could you update the Assembly on what progress is being made to address those specific points?

**Edwina Hart:** There are a lot of issues about substance misuse and mental health problems and we have held a series of workshops across Wales to support the implementation of our published treatment framework model on this issue. The workshops bring together

am garchardai yn y pen draw. Mae ychydig waith gwych yn cael ei wneud mewn carchardai, ac mae'n drueni pan nad yw'n parhau y tu allan i'r carchar. Gellid gwneud llawer mwy o waith mewn carchardai pe byddai mwy o arian yn cael ei ddyrannu i'r agenda honno. O gofio bod materion iechyd yn gysylltiedig â charcharorion, byddaf hefyd yn siarad â'm cyd-Weinidog, Brian Gibbons, ac yn cynnwys hyn yn fy adroddiad gweinidogol i'r pwyllgor er mwyn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i Aelodau.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Flwyddyn yn ôl i'r mis hwn, cyhoeddodd Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru adroddiad yn archwilio cyflwr y gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion yng Nghymru. Fel rhan o'r adroddiad hwnnw, archwiliodd effaith un gwasanaeth ar wasanaeth arall. Canolbwyntiai un bennod ar yr effaith y mae'r problemau a geir mewn gwasanaethau sy'n ymdrin â'r rheini sydd wedi camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol wedi ei chael ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl. Yng nghasgliadau'r adroddiad, dywed,

'nid oes gan tua hanner yr holl ardaloedd yng Nghymru unrhyw brotocol y cytunwyd arno ar gyfer rheoli unigolion â salwch meddwl difrifol gyda gwasanaethau cyffuriau ac alcohol'.

Mae'n mynd yn ei flaen i ddweud,

'nodwyd bod problemau yn gysylltiedig ag argaeledd rhai gwasanaethau cyffuriau ac alcohol arbenigol yng Nghymru ac o ganlyniad mae gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl dan bwysau'.

Yn amlwg, mae un gwasanaeth yn effeithio ar wasanaeth arall. Gan dderbyn mai'r llynedd yn unig y cyhoeddwyd yr adroddiad hwn, a allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad am y cynnydd a wneir i fynd i'r afael â'r pwyntiau penodol hynny?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae yna nifer o broblemau ynglŷn â chamddefnyddio sylweddau a phroblemau iechyd meddwl, a chynhaliwyd cyfres o weithdai gennym ledled Cymru i gefnogi'r gwaith o weithredu ein model fframwaith ar gyfer triniaethau cyhoeddedig

professionals from the mental health and substance misuse services, for them to consider their working practices between services to ensure a seamless treatment pathway for this exceptionally vulnerable client group, which was your point, Jonathan. Apparently, it is considered to be a complex aspect of the treatment services and is highly specialised. Now we are considering what further events we need to organise to assist in the development of more robust protocols between agencies. However, if it would be helpful to Members, I would be happy to report back in detail, at some stage, to my committee on some of these further issues. We obviously discussed the annual report on substance misuse at the last committee meeting, but, in view of Members' concerns, I would be more than happy to include something further on this area. If Jonathan has any specific issues to raise, I would be grateful if he would write to me with them.

ar y mater hwn. Mae'r gweithdai yn dod â gweithwyr proffesiynol o'r gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl a chamddefnyddio sylweddau at ei gilydd, er mwyn iddynt ystyried eu harferion gwaith rhwng gwasanaethau i sicrhau llwybr triniaeth di-dor i'r grŵp cleientiaid hwn sy'n arbennig o agored i niwed. Mae hynny'n ateb eich pwynt chi, Jonathan. Mae'n debyg ei fod yn cael ei ystyried yn agwedd gymhleth ar y gwasanaethau triniaeth ac yn arbenigol iawn. Erbyn hyn, yr ydym yn ystyried pa ddigwyddiadau eraill y mae angen inni eu trefnu i helpu datblygu protocolau mwy cadarn rhwng asiantaethau. Fodd bynnag, pe bai o gymorth i Aelodau, byddwn yn fodlon mynd yn ôl at fy mhwyllgor rywbryd gyda gwybodaeth fanwl am rai o'r materion pellach hyn. Yn amlwg, trafodwyd yr adroddiad blynyddol ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau yng nghyfarfod diwethaf y pwyllgor, ond oherwydd pryderon Aelodau, byddwn yn fwy na pharod i gynnwys rhywbeth pellach am y maes hwn. Os oes gan Jonathan unrhyw faterion penodol i'w codi, byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai ysgrifennu ataf yn eu cylch.

### **Digartrefedd Homelessness**

**Q7 Mick Bates:** Will the Minister make a statement on rural homelessness in Wales? OAQ0842(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** We are committed to tackling rural homelessness, as set out in the national homelessness strategy. We have commissioned research, which has recently been published, and this will lead to a good practice note. We are promoting our agenda through grant funding, guidance and the promotion of good practice.

**Mick Bates:** Statistics released by the Wales Rural Observatory in August revealed that, between 1978 and 2005, rural homelessness rose by 309 per cent. That compares with a 129 per cent increase in urban areas. Homelessness is a major issue throughout Wales; however, its impact on rural Wales is, for a large part, forgotten. Minister, what action are you taking to solve the homelessness crisis in rural Wales?

**C7 Mick Bates:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddigartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad Cymru? OAQ0842(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad, fel sydd wedi ei osod allan yn y strategaeth genedlaethol ar ddigartrefedd. Yr ydym wedi comisiynu ymchwil, a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar, a bydd hyn yn arwain at nodyn arfer da. Yr ydym yn hyrwyddo ein hagenda drwy arian grant, canllawiau a hyrwyddo arfer da.

**Mick Bates:** Dengys ystadegau a ryddhawyd gan Arsyllfa Wledig Cymru ym mis Awst fod ddigartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad wedi cynyddu 309 y cant rhwng 1978 a 2005. Mae hynny'n cymharu â chynnydd o 129 y cant mewn ardaloedd trefol. Mae digartrefedd yn fater pwysig ledled Cymru; fodd bynnag, mae ei effaith ar gefn gwlad Cymru yn cael ei ddiystyru i raddau helaeth. Weinidog, pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i ddatrys

argyfwng digartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad Cymru?

**Edwina Hart:** You are quite right that the rural homeless report revealed that homelessness in rural areas increased at a faster rate than it did in urban areas between 1978 and 2005. By 2005, homelessness in rural areas was at the same level as that experienced in urban areas, that is, 7.3 households per 1,000. Within those figures, there are enormous variations between authorities, with Pembrokeshire on 11.6 households per 1,000 and Carmarthenshire on 6.1. Those factors are definitely affected by local market forces in those areas. There is also an issue about the effectiveness of each authority in preventing homelessness, which is also a big issue, as we do not have standard practices across Wales. It is up to local authorities to assess the housing needs of their areas and to plan provision accordingly, and that is why we have put in the affordable housing toolkit, changes to the technical advice notes, and restrictions on the right to buy scheme, which, as Members know, I would like to be able to deal with even better.

**Mick Bates:** Thank you, especially for that last comment. One of the major drivers of homelessness in rural Wales is the lack of affordable housing, which you have already raised today. During one of the debates in the Assembly, we all voted in favour of suspending the right to buy scheme in areas where the affordable housing crisis was at its worst. Minister, what progress have you made in discussions with your Westminster colleagues to allow that to happen?

**Edwina Hart:** None.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** O ran cwestiwn Mick Bates a'ch ateb na fu unrhyw gynnydd, a yw hynny'n golygu nad ydych wedi gwneud cais i'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain am yr hawl hwnnw? Os ydych wedi gwneud y cais, beth oedd y rheswm a roddodd Llywodraeth Lafur San Steffan dros wrthod rhoi'r hawl hwnnw i'r Cynulliad?

**Edwina Hart:** As I have advised Plenary and

**Edwina Hart:** Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle fod yr adroddiad ar ddigartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad wedi dangos bod digartrefedd mewn ardaloedd gwledig wedi cynyddu'n gyflymach nag mewn ardaloedd trefol rhwng 1978 a 2005. Erbyn 2005, yr oedd digartrefedd mewn ardaloedd gwledig ar yr un lefel ag mewn ardaloedd trefol, hynny yw, 7.3 o gartrefi fesul 1,000. O fewn y ffigurau hynny mae yna amrywiadau mawr rhwng awdurdodau: sir Benfro yn 11.6 o gartrefi fesul 1,000 a sir Gaerfyrddin yn 6.1. Yn sicr, mae grym y farchnad leol yn effeithio ar y factorau hynny. Mae yna broblem hefyd ynglŷn ag effeithiolrwydd pob awdurdod wrth atal digartrefedd, sydd hefyd yn broblem fawr, gan nad oes gennym arfer cyffredin ledled Cymru. Cyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol yw asesu anghenion tai eu hardaloedd a chynllunio darpariaeth yn unol â hynny. Dyna pam yr ydym wedi cyflwyno'r pecyn cymorth tai fforddiadwy, newidiadau yn y nodiadau cyngor technegol, a chyfyngiadau ar y cynllun hawl i brynu, ac fel y gŵyr Aelodau hoffwn ymdrin â hyn hyd yn oed yn well.

**Mick Bates:** Diolch, yn enwedig am y sylw diwethaf hwnnw. Un o'r prif resymau dros ddigartrefedd yng nghefn gwlad Cymru yw diffyg tai fforddiadwy, sydd eisoes wedi ei godi gennych heddiw. Yn ystod un o'r dadleuon yn y Cynulliad, pleidleisiodd pob un ohonom dros atal y cynllun hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle yr oedd yr argyfwng tai fforddiadwy ar ei waethaf. Weinidog, pa gynnydd yr ydych wedi ei wneud mewn trafodaethau gyda'ch cyd-aelodau yn San Steffan i alluogi hynny i ddigwydd?

**Edwina Hart:** Dim.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** With regard to Mick Bates's question and your answer that there has been no progress, does that mean you have not applied to the Government in London for that power? If you have applied, what reason did the Westminster Labour Government give for refusing to give the Assembly that power?

**Edwina Hart:** Fel y dywedais gynt mewn

my committee previously, I have asked for this to be included in the legislative programme. It will now have to be taken forward after May next year.

Cyfarfod Llawn ac yn fy mhwyllgor, gofynnais am i hyn gael ei gynnwys yn y rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol. Bellach bydd yn rhaid ei weithredu ar ôl mis Mai y flwyddyn nesaf.

### **Lleihau Tlodi Ymhlith Plant Reducing Child Poverty**

**Q8 Helen Mary Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on progress in reducing child poverty? OAQ0876(SJR)

**C8 Helen Mary Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cynnydd a wnaed i leihau tlodi ymhlith plant? OAQ0876(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** Eradicating child poverty requires a long-term strategy, involving many policies and programmes. Some are in place, while others are planned. I hope to provide a paper shortly to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on a range of cross-cutting targets and milestones to monitor and measure progress towards eradicating child poverty in Wales by 2020.

**Edwina Hart:** Mae angen strategaeth hirdymor i ddileu tlodi ymhlith plant, a fydd yn cynnwys nifer o bolisiau a rhaglenni. Mae rhai ohonynt ar waith ac eraill yn yr arfaeth. Gobeithiaf ddarparu papur i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio maes o law ar amrywiaeth o dargedau a cherrig milltir trawsbynciol i fonitro a mesur cynnydd tuag at ddileu tlodi ymhlith plant yng Nghymru erbyn 2020.

**Helen Mary Jones:** Will that report outline the progress that has been made on proofing all Welsh Assembly Government policies against promoting child poverty, and will it set out what is being done to ensure that funding streams are geared to the most vulnerable children? Will it also explain how that progress is to be monitored?

**Helen Mary Jones:** A fydd yr adroddiad hwnnw'n amlinellu'r cynnydd a wnaed i brawfesur pob un o bolisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn erbyn hyrwyddo tlodi ymhlith plant, ac a fydd yn gosod allan yr hyn a wneir i sicrhau bod ffrydiau ariannu yn cael eu hanelu at y plant mwyaf diamddiffyn? A fydd hefyd yn esbonio sut y caiff y cynnydd hwnnw ei fonitro?

**Edwina Hart:** We have started work. As you know, Huw produced his report, which we wanted to implement. In that, the Deputy Minister included some specific policy proposals, including family income maximisation, which is a key issue, a review of planning law guidance and recommendations for holiday activities. We have also taken forward a series of bilateral meetings with relevant Cabinet colleagues to adopt the measures to progress reducing child poverty, and I intend to submit the final milestones on that. I will also ask the Deputy Minister to look further at the points that you raised today in the context of that report that he produced.

**Edwina Hart:** Yr ydym wedi dechrau ar y gwaith. Fel y gwyddoch, cynhyrchodd Huw ei adroddiad ac yr oeddem am ei weithredu. Yn yr adroddiad hwnnw, cynhwysodd y Dirprwy Weinidog rai cynigion polisi penodol, gan gynnwys cynyddu incwm teuluoedd, sy'n fater allweddol, adolygiad o ganllawiau cyfraith cynllunio, ac argymhellion ar gyfer gweithgareddau gwyliau. Yr ydym hefyd wedi cael cyfres o gyfarfodydd dwyochrol gyda chyd-Weinidogion perthnasol y Cabinet i fabwysiadu'r mesurau i leihau tlodi ymhlith plant, a bwriadaf gyflwyno'r cerrig milltir terfynol ar hynny. Byddaf hefyd yn gofyn i'r Dirprwy Weinidog ystyried ymhellach y pwyntiau a godwyd gennych heddiw yng nghyd-destun yr adroddiad hwnnw a gynhyrchwyd ganddo.



**Christine Chapman:** I was fortunate to have Mick Millman, who leads the On Track programme in the Rhondda, at a child poverty event that I held in Cynon valley. This was in addition to your Deputy Minister, Huw Lewis. On Track, which began in 2000, provides a hands-on, community-based solution to problems associated with child poverty. I welcome the fact that work is under way to set up On Track projects in Mountain Ash and Aberdare, and I hope that we can replicate the positive results seen in the Rhondda. Do you agree that this approach to tackling child poverty has proved successful and shows what can be achieved when the commitment is there to combat child poverty head on?

**Edwina Hart:** The On Track projects are absolutely first class, and a marvellous example of how we can get some real achievements by working together. I am pleased that further work will be done by On Track, and I urge everybody to look at whether that would be suitable in their area. It is a quite expensive programme, but the results are certainly there.

**David Melding:** Will you join me in commending the Barnardo's report, 'Give us a chance', which is based on a wide consultation with children, many of them from Wales? It is quite obvious that particular problems face children who live in poverty in their daily experiences at school or at college. Many of our ameliorative measures ought to be aimed at that, so that their experiences of school and college are as positive as possible. Obviously, the long-term commitment to raising parents' incomes is equally important, but these children suffer some harsh experiences at school and college.

**Edwina Hart:** I applaud the work of Barnardo's across the country and the way in which it actively engages with people at the sharp end, some of whom are those children and young people. I can think of nothing worse than being one of perhaps two children who cannot afford to go on a school trip. It is awful for any child to realise at such a young age that their parents just cannot afford to send them. That is why I think that the

**Christine Chapman:** Yr oedd yn ffodus bod Mick Millman, sy'n arwain rhaglen On Track yn Rhondda, yn bresennol mewn digwyddiad ar dlodi ymhlith plant a drefnwyd gennyf yng nghwm Cynon. Yr oedd hynny'n ychwanegol at eich Dirprwy Weinidog, Huw Lewis. Mae On Track, a ddechreuodd yn 2000, yn darparu ateb cymunedol ymarferol i broblemau sy'n gysylltiedig â thlodi ymhlith plant. Croesawaf y ffaith bod gwaith ar droed i sefydlu prosiectau On Track yn Aberpennar ac Aberdâr, a gobeithio y gallwn ailadrodd y canlyniadau cadarnhaol a welwyd yn Rhondda. A gytunwch fod y dull hwn o fynd i'r afael â thlodi ymhlith plant wedi bod yn llwyddiannus ac yn dangos yr hyn y gellir ei gyflawni pan fydd yna ymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â thlodi ymhlith plant yn uniongyrchol?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae'r prosiectau On Track yn wych ac yn enghraifft ardderchog o'r ffordd y gallwn gael rhai llwyddiannau gwirioneddol drwy gydweithio. Yr wyf yn falch y bydd On Track yn gwneud gwaith pellach, ac anogaf bawb i ystyried a fyddai hynny'n addas yn eu hardal hwy. Mae'n rhaglen ddigon drud, ond yn ddi-os mae'n rhoi canlyniadau.

**David Melding:** A ymunwch â mi i gymeradwyo adroddiad Barnardo's 'Rhowch gyfle inni', sy'n seiliedig ar ymgynghori'n eang â phlant, nifer ohonynt o Gymru? Mae'n hollol amlwg fod problemau penodol yn wynebu plant sy'n byw mewn tlodi yn eu profiadau bob dydd yn yr ysgol neu yn y coleg. Dylid anelu nifer o'n mesurau gwella at hynny, er mwyn i'w profiadau o fod yn yr ysgol ac yn y coleg mor gadarnhaol â phosibl. Wrth reswm, mae'r ymrwymiad hirdymor o gynyddu incwm rhieni yr un mor bwysig, ond mae'r plant hyn yn wynebu profiadau anodd yn yr ysgol ac yn y coleg.

**Edwina Hart:** Cymeradwyaf waith Barnardo's ledled y wlad a'r ffordd y mae'n ymgysylltu â phobl sy'n dioddef fwyaf, a'r plant a'r bobl ifanc hynny yn eu plith. Ni allaf feddwl am ddim byd gwaeth na bod yn un o ddau o blant efallai na allant fforddio mynd ar wibdaith ysgol. Mae'n anodd i unrhyw blentyn sylweddoli mor ifanc na all ei rieni fforddio iddo fynd. Dyna pam y credaf fod polisi Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o

Assembly Government's policy of free entry to museums, galleries and so on is such good news. It helps schools to organise a bus, so if you do not have to pay for the bus or to go in, and you take a packed lunch, it is affordable. Despite all these measures, people sometimes think, 'Oh, what has the Assembly done?', but that is something that is actually happening on this agenda. I thank David for his continuing interest in this matter, as these interests and concerns are expressed across the piece in respect of children and young people. They have to feel valued, and they have to have a level playing field. Sometimes, in school, somebody has designer trainers on, and somebody is in other shoes, and it makes you worry. Such comparisons get made at an early age, and it is really not fair on the child.

roi mynediad am ddim i amgueddfeydd, orielau ac ati yn newyddion mor dda. Mae'n helpu ysgolion i drefnu bws, felly, os nad oes rhaid ichi dalu am fws na mynediad, ac os ewch â phe cyn bwyd gyda chi, mae'n bosibl ei fforddio. Er yr holl fesurau hyn, weithiau mae pobl yn meddwl, 'O, beth mae'r Cynulliad wedi'i wneud?', ond mae hynny'n wir yn rhywbeth sy'n digwydd ar yr agenda hon. Diolch i David am ei ddiddordeb parhaus yn y mater hwn, gan fod y diddordebau a'r pryderon hyn yn cael eu mynegi'n gyffredinol am blant a phobl ifanc. Rhaid iddynt deimlo eu bod o werth, a rhaid iddynt gael cyfle cyfartal. Weithiau, yn yr ysgol, bydd rhywun yn gwisgo esgidiau rhedeg ffasiynol, a bydd rhywun arall yn gwisgo esgidiau eraill, ac mae'n peri ichi boeni. Mae cymariaethau felly'n cael eu gwneud yn ifanc, ac yn sicr nid yw'n deg i'r plentyn.

### **Tai Fforddiadwy Affordable Housing**

**Q9 Christine Gwyther:** Will the Minister give an update on Welsh Assembly Government action in the field of affordable housing in Wales? OAQ0830(SJR)

**C9 Christine Gwyther:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gamau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ym maes tai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru? OAQ0830(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** We have progressively increased the budgetary contribution, which is good, and we have introduced a patch of policies. The revised technical advice notes 1 and 2, the local housing market assessment guide and the affordable housing toolkit are the answer to tackling the issues.

**Edwina Hart:** Yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r cyfraniad cyllidebol yn gynyddol, sy'n beth da, ac wedi cyflwyno llu o bolisiau. Y nodiadau cyngor technegol diwygiedig 1 a 2, y canllaw ar asesu'r farchnad dai leol a'r pecyn cymorth tai fforddiadwy yw'r ateb i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau.

**Christine Gwyther:** Will you join me in welcoming the work of Carmarthenshire County Council in the field of affordable housing? It has put together some exciting short, medium and long-term plans for affordable housing, including the use of convergence funding, hopefully, to upskill the workforce in that area in construction and maintenance.

**Christine Gwyther:** A ymunwch â mi i groesawu gwaith Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ym maes tai fforddiadwy? Mae wedi creu cynlluniau cyffrous dros dymor byr, tymor canolig a thymor hir ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy, gan gynnwys defnyddio arian cydgyfeirio, gobeithio, i wella sgiliau'r gweithlu yn yr ardal honno ym maes adeiladu a chynnal a chadw.

**Edwina Hart:** Carmarthenshire has done a lot of excellent work in this area, and I commend what you have outlined. The council has also done lots of excellent work on its empty homes strategy, which is a good example of a strategic document aimed at

**Edwina Hart:** Mae sir Gaerfyrddin wedi gwneud llawer o waith ardderchog yn y maes hwn, a chymeradwyaf yr hyn a amlinellwyd gennyh. Mae'r cyngor hefyd wedi gwneud llawer o waith ardderchog ar ei strategaeth ar dai gwag, sy'n enghraifft dda o ddogfen

tackling the problems of empty homes in the private sector in the area. Newport City and County Council, whose leader, Bob Bright, is keen on this issue, has also developed a good policy agenda in that area. I am also hoping to introduce new secondary legislation at the end of October enabling local authorities to apply to the residential property tribunal to introduce empty dwelling management orders for properties that have been empty for more than six months. I think that that will help to assist the situation.

2.30 p.m.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Yr wyf innau hefyd yn cydnabod y gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud yn sir Gaerfyrddin ar hyn o bryd, ond mae llawer o waith sydd angen ei wneud. Gofynnais i chi peth amser yn ôl gysylltu â rhai o'r awdurdodau lleol mewn ardaloedd gwledig i weld a oedd problem arbennig yn bodoli yn yr ardaloedd hynny. Mae llawer o'r digartrefedd mewn ardaloedd gwledig yn guddiedig, gyda sawl cenhedlaeth o'r un teulu yn byw yn yr un tŷ. Byddai gennyf ddiddordeb gwybod os y gwnaethoch lwyddo i gael unrhyw wybodaeth yn ôl.

**Edwina Hart:** After you raised the issue with me in Plenary, I wrote to the Welsh Local Government Association and I had an initial discussion with its leader, Derek Vaughan. I will attend a meeting on 28 December in Dolgellau with representatives of rural authorities to look at these very real issues that you have raised with me.

**Lisa Francis:** Can you elaborate on any discussions that you may have had with any renewable energy companies based in mid and west Wales that create renewable energy products for housing, and how those might be used to develop more affordable housing?

**Edwina Hart:** I would have to look back at who I have met; I will certainly find out from my officials if they have had any such discussions, because sometimes these companies approach my officials in the first instance for their initial discussions. I will be

strategol wedi'i hanelu at fynd i'r afael â phroblemau tai gwag yn y sector preifat yn yr ardal. Mae Cyngor Sir a Dinas Casnewydd--mae ei arweinydd, Bob Bright, yn frwd dros y mater hwn--hefyd wedi datblygu agenda bolisi dda yn yr ardal honno. Gobeithiaf hefyd gyflwyno is-ddeddfwriaeth newydd ddiwedd mis Hydref i alluogi awdurdodau lleol i wneud cais i'r tribiwnlys eiddo preswyl i gyflwyno gorchmynion rheoli anheddau gwag ar eiddo sydd wedi bod yn wag ers dros chwe mis. Credaf y bydd hynny'n helpu'r sefyllfa.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** I, too, acknowledge the work being done in Carmarthenshire at the moment, but a great deal of work needs to be done. I asked you some time ago to contact some of the local authorities in rural areas to see whether there was a particular problem in those areas. Much of the homelessness in rural areas is hidden, with several generations of the same family living under the same roof. I should be interested to know whether you have succeeded in getting any information back on that.

**Edwina Hart:** Ar ôl ichi godi'r mater gyda mi yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, ysgrifennais at Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a chefais drafodaeth gychwynol gyda'i harweinydd, Derek Vaughan. Byddaf yn mynd i gyfarfod yn Nolgellau ar 28 Rhagfyr gyda chynrychiolwyr awdurdodau gwledig er mwyn edrych ar y problemau gwirioneddol hyn yr ydych wedi eu codi gyda mi.

**Lisa Francis:** A allwch ymhelaethu ar unrhyw drafodaethau yr ydych wedi eu cael efallai gydag unrhyw gwmnïau ynni adnewyddadwy sydd â'u pencadlys yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin ac sy'n creu cynnyrch ynni adnewyddadwy ar gyfer tai, a sut y gellid defnyddio hwnnw i ddatblygu mwy o dai fforddiadwy?

**Edwina Hart:** Byddai'n rhaid imi edrych yn ôl i weld â phwy yr wyf wedi cyfarfod; yn sicr, fe holaf fy swyddogion a ydynt wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau o'r fath, oherwydd weithiau bydd y cwmnïau hyn yn cysylltu â'm swyddogion yn y lle cyntaf i gychwyn eu

delighted then to write to update you on that.

trafodaethau. Bydd yn bleser gennyf ysgrifennu atoch wedyn i roi gwybod ichi am hynny.

**Y Llywydd:** Cafodd cwestiwn 10 ei grwpio gyda chwestiwn 5.

**The Presiding Officer:** Question 10 was grouped with question 5.

### **Y Cynllun Cymorth Prynu The Homebuy Scheme**

**Q11 Eleanor Burnham:** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's homebuy scheme? OAQ0831(SJR)

**C11 Eleanor Burnham:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cynllun cymorth prynu gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ0831(SJR)

**Edwina Hart:** The homebuy scheme is funded from the social housing grant programme, and bids for homebuy resources for 2006-08 were allocated in full, resulting in a programme of just over 400 units. I am looking at extending the programme further when I have considered the result of the review of the low-cost home ownership scheme in the next few weeks.

**Edwina Hart:** Ariennir y cynllun cymorth prynu o'r rhaglen grantiau tai cymdeithasol, a dyrannwyd ceisiadau am adnoddau cymorth prynu ar gyfer 2006-08 yn llawn, sy'n golygu y bydd yna raglen o ychydig dros 400 o unedau. Yr wyf yn ystyried ymestyn y rhaglen ymhellach pan fyddaf wedi ystyried canlyniad yr adolygiad o'r cynllun perchenogaeth tai cost isel yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Thank you for your earlier comments about the homebuy scheme. My understanding is that it is not easy to identify the homebuy budget, and therefore it is difficult to understand your shared or stated commitment to help people buy homes. Do you not agree that it would be better for everyone if the homebuy funds were put in a different budget line, separate from the social housing grant?

**Eleanor Burnham:** Diolch am eich sylwadau'n gynharach am y cynllun cymorth prynu. O'r hyn a ddeallaf fi, nid yw'n hawdd nodi'r gyllideb cymorth prynu, ac felly mae'n anodd deall yr ymrwymiad yr ydych wedi ei gyhoeddi i helpu pobl i brynu tai. Oni chytunwch y byddai'n well i bawb pe rhoddid y cronfeydd cymorth prynu mewn llinell wariant wahanol, a'u cadw ar wahân i'r grant tai cymdeithasol?

**Edwina Hart:** As I indicated when I responded earlier, I am looking at this issue, and I will report after I have received the review of the low-cost home ownership scheme. The reforms that I have introduced in the social housing grant programme enable authorities to submit an evidence-based bid, which is not constrained locally by a predetermined allocation of resources. So, there is no limit as to how much of their programme authorities can earmark towards providing assistance under the homebuy scheme. However, yours is a point that your colleague, Mick Bates, raises with me on a regular basis in committee, and I have indicated to him that I will respond.

**Edwina Hart:** Fel y dywedais wrth ymateb yn gynharach, yr wyf yn edrych ar y mater hwn, a byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar ôl i mi gael yr adolygiad o'r cynllun perchentyaeth cost isel. Mae'r diwygiadau a gyflwynais yn y rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol yn galluogi awdurdodau i gyflwyno cais yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth, nad yw'n cael ei gyfyngu'n lleol gan ddyraniad adnoddau wedi ei bennu ymlaen llaw. Felly, nid oes terfyn ar faint o'u rhaglen y gall awdurdodau ei glustnodi i ddarparu cymorth o dan y cynllun cymorth prynu. Fodd bynnag, mae eich pwynt yn un y bydd eich cyd-Aelod, Mick Bates, yn ei godi gyda mi'n rheolaidd mewn pwyllgorau, ac yr wyf wedi dweud wrtho y byddaf yn ymateb.

**Alun Cairns:** The Welsh Conservative Party supports the homebuy scheme, but one of the drawbacks of the scheme is that it puts more money into the housing market, which can inflate prices within communities if it is widely raised. What consideration have you given to other types of support schemes to enable people to afford to buy their own homes in areas where there is a lack of housing?

**Edwina Hart:** We have some very innovative schemes about joint purchasing, and buying so much equity yourself, and we need to do more work in that area and publicise it more widely. I sometimes receive queries from individuals and I can point them in the right direction, so it shows perhaps that there is a paucity of literature on this issue. Therefore, I am happy to take up the point that you raised.

**Alun Cairns:** Mae Plaid Geidwadol Cymru yn cefnogi'r cynllun cymorth prynu, ond un o anfanteision y cynllun yw ei fod yn rhoi mwy o arian yn y farchnad dai, a all chwyddo prisiau mewn cymunedau os caiff ei godi'n eang. Pa ystyriaeth a roesoch i fathau eraill o gynlluniau cymorth i alluogi pobl i fforddio prynu eu cartrefi eu hunain mewn ardaloedd lle mae prinder tai?

**Edwina Hart:** Mae gennym rai cynlluniau arloesol iawn o ran cydbrynu, a phrynu hyn a hyn o ecwiti eich hun, ac mae angen inni wneud mwy o waith yn y maes hwnnw a rhoi mwy o gyhoeddusrwydd iddo. Weithiau caf ymholiadau gan unigolion, a gallaf eu cyfeirio i'r man cywir, felly, mae'n dangos efallai fod prinder llenyddiaeth am y mater hwn. Felly, yr wyf yn fodlon mynd ar drywydd y pwynt a godwyd gennych.

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

#### **Economi Gogledd-orllewin Cymru The Economy of North-west Wales**

**Q1 Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on when he expects to announce his plans for dealing with the challenges facing the economy of north-west Wales? OAQ1014(EIN)

**The Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks (Andrew Davies):** The Assembly Government is working in partnership with local authorities and stakeholders in north-west Wales, within the context of the Wales spatial plan, to build on recent economic progress and create a sustainable long-term future for the area. I expect to make an announcement shortly as this work progresses.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** I am grateful to the Minister for that response. As the Minister knows, there has been considerable discussion recently between the two local authorities and others on a development plan based around the Menai hub, which is a matter that has been raised by Alun Ffred Jones, me and others. There is a general welcome for this move and I am grateful to

**C1 Ieuan Wyn Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynglŷn â phryd y mae'n disgwyl cyhoeddi ei gynlluniau ar gyfer delio â'r heriau sy'n wynebu economi gogledd-orllewin Cymru? OAQ1014(EIN)

**Y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau (Andrew Davies):** Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio mewnartneriaeth ag awdurdodau lleol a rhanddeiliaid yn y gogledd-orllewin, yng nghyd-destun cynllun gofodol Cymru, i adeiladu ar y cynnydd economaidd diweddar ac i greu dyfodol cynaliadwy hirdymor i'r ardal. Disgwyliaf wneud datganiad yn fuan wrth i'r gwaith hwn fynd rhagddo.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, bu cryn drafod yn ddiweddar rhwng y ddau awdurdod lleol ac eraill am gynllun datblygu yn ardal Menai, mater a godwyd gan Alun Ffred Jones, gennyf fi a chan eraill. Mae croeso cyffredinol i'r datblygiad hwn, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am roi ei gefnogaeth i'r cynllun

the Minister for giving his support to this scheme. However, local people would want to know whether any resources that are allocated to this development will be additional to the moneys that are already allocated to the rest of the spatial plan area.

**Andrew Davies:** I thank you for your thanks, Ieuan. As you acknowledged, we have been working on this—particularly, but not exclusively, my department, as Sue Essex, the Minister who has responsibility for the spatial plan in north-west Wales and others have also been working on this—and there are going to be big challenges with the decommissioning of Wylfa power station in 2010. We do not, as yet, know what the implications will be in terms of Anglesey Aluminium Metal Ltd; it is four years off. Therefore, at the moment, it is difficult to know what level of resource will be needed, but we see dealing with the aftermath of the closure of Wylfa as a major priority for this Government and we will be planning for that eventuality. However, as you have acknowledged, we can only do that in conjunction with local authorities and other key stakeholders.

**Brynle Williams:** You mentioned Anglesey Aluminium Metal Ltd. How close are you to securing an alternative power supply for the company? As you are well aware, upwards of 2,000 jobs could go with the closure of Wylfa. Have you any plans or are you in discussions to find an alternative power supply for it?

**Andrew Davies:** Finding a power supply for Anglesey Aluminium Metal Ltd is not a matter for Government; it is a commercial decision for the company. We have worked with it and with the local authority. We argued strongly that the life of Wylfa should be extended but, unfortunately, the decommissioning agency said that that was not possible. We have done everything that we can in working with the company to address these concerns. When I was at the K Club for the Ryder Cup just over a week ago, I had a meeting with the Minister responsible for communications and energy, Noel Dempsey, looking at what we can do collaboratively and with the stakeholders in Anglesey and north-west Wales to enhance

hwn. Fodd bynnag, byddai pobl leol am wybod a fydd unrhyw adnoddau a ddyrennir i'r datblygiad hwn yn ychwanegol at yr arian a ddyrannwyd eisoes i weddill ardal y cynllun gofodol.

**Andrew Davies:** Diolch ichi am eich diolch, Ieuan. Fel yr oeddech yn cydnabod, yr ydym wedi bod yn gweithio ar hyn—fy adran i'n benodol, ond nid yn unig, oherwydd mae Sue Essex, y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am y cynllun gofodol yn y gogledd-ddwyrain, ac eraill hefyd wedi bod yn gweithio ar hyn—a bydd llawer her fawr wrth ddadgomisiynu atomfa'r Wylfa yn 2010. Ni wyddom, hyd yma, beth fydd y goblygiadau o ran Alwminiwm Môn Cyf; mae pedair blynedd tan hynny. Felly, ar hyn o bryd mae'n anodd gwybod faint o adnoddau y bydd eu hangen, ond mae ymdrin â chanlyniadau cau'r Wylfa yn flaenoriaeth bwysig i'r Llywodraeth hon, a byddwn yn cynllunio ar gyfer hynny. Fodd bynnag, fel yr ydych wedi cydnabod, dim ond ar y cyd ag awdurdodau lleol a rhanddeiliaid eraill y gallwn wneud hynny.

**Brynle Williams:** Yr oeddech yn sôn am Alwminiwm Môn Cyf. Pa mor agos ydych chi at sicrhau cyflenwad pŵer arall i'r cwmni? Fel y gwyddoch yn dda, gallai dros 2,000 o swyddi ddiflannu wrth i'r Wylfa gau. A oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau neu a ydych yn cael trafodaethau i ddod o hyd i gyflenwad trydan arall i'r cwmni?

**Andrew Davies:** Nid mater i'r Llywodraeth yw dod o hyd i gyflenwad pŵer i Alwminiwm Môn Cyf; penderfyniad masnachol i'r cwmni ydyw. Yr ydym wedi gweithio gyda'r cwmni a chyda'r awdurdod lleol. Bu inni ddadlau'n gryf y dylid ymestyn oes y Wylfa, ond yn anffodus dywedodd yr awdurdod dadgomisiynu nad oedd modd gwneud hynny. Yr ydym wedi gwneud popeth a allwn i weithio gyda'r cwmni i fynd i'r afael â'r pryderon hyn. Pan oeddwn yn y K Club ar gyfer y Cwpan Ryder gwta wythnos yn ôl, cefais gyfarfod gyda'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am gyfathrebu ac ynni, Noel Dempsey, i edrych ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i gydweithio ac i weithio gyda'r rhanddeiliaid ym Môn a'r gogledd-

the electricity supply in the area. However, ultimately, it will be a commercial decision for Anglesey Aluminium Metal Ltd as to from where it will obtain its electricity supply. As I said, it is not a matter for Government.

orllewin i wella'r cyflenwad trydan yn yr ardal. Fodd bynnag, yn y pen draw penderfyniad masnachol i gwmni Alwminiwm Môn Cyf fydd penderfynu o ble y caiff ei gyflenwad trydan. Fel y dywedais, nid mater i'r Llywodraeth ydyw.

### Colli Swyddi Job Losses

**Q2 Peter Black:** Will the Minister make a statement on job losses in the Neath Port Talbot area? OAQ1030(EIN)

**C2 Peter Black:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am golli swyddi yn ardal Castell-nedd Port Talbot? OAQ1030(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** I very much regret the job losses that have occurred in Neath Port Talbot. However, new jobs are also being created and we are investing in the local infrastructure to facilitate further economic growth in the area.

**Andrew Davies:** Mae'r colli swyddi a fu yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot yn bryder mawr imi. Fodd bynnag, mae swyddi newydd yn cael eu creu yn ogystal, ac yr ydym yn buddsoddi yn y seilwaith lleol i hwyluso twf economaidd pellach yn yr ardal.

**Peter Black:** In the meetings that I have had with the unions at Visteon, which is in the Neath Port Talbot area, concerns have been expressed about the potential takeover of the plant by GKN plc and the possible loss of up to 200 jobs as a result. What work are your officials doing with the management at Visteon on this issue? What support are you offering it to try to mitigate any loss of jobs? What has happened to the regional selective assistance grant of £2.5 million that was offered to Visteon and what will the fate of that grant be if a takeover occurs?

**Peter Black:** Yn y cyfarfodydd a gefais gyda'r undebau yng nghwmni Visteon, sydd yn ardal Castell-nedd Port Talbot, mynegwyd pryderon am bosibilrwydd meddiannu'r gwaith gan gwmni GKN ccc a phosibilrwydd colli 200 o swyddi o ganlyniad. Pa waith y mae eich swyddogion yn ei wneud gyda'r rheolwyr yng nghwmni Visteon ar y mater hwn? Pa gymorth yr ydych yn ei gynnig iddo i geisio lliniaru unrhyw golli swyddi? Beth sydd wedi digwydd i'r grant cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol o £2.5 miliwn a gynigiwyd i Visteon, a beth ddaw o'r grant hwnnw os caiff y cwmni ei feddiannu?

**Andrew Davies:** We have worked closely with Visteon over many years, and, as you have pointed out, offered it regional selective assistance. I have been working closely with the trade unions at a plant level and at an all-Wales level, particularly the Transport and General Workers Union and, a few months ago, I had a meeting with the senior management, Steve Gawne and his colleagues, about the future. I am delighted to say that the management has been arguing the case with the American parent company that the facility should remain open and we stand ready to help the company in any way that we can. The RSA offer, I believe, is on the table and is there for the company to take up if it so wishes in terms of capital investment and maintaining the future of the plant.

**Andrew Davies:** Yr ydym wedi cydweithio'n agos â chwmni Visteon ers blynyddoedd lawer, ac, fel yr oeddech yn dweud, cynigiwyd cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol iddo. Yr wyf wedi cydweithio'n agos â'r undebau llafur ar lefel y gwaith ac ar lefel Cymru gyfan, yn enwedig Undeb y Gweithwyr Cludiant a Chyffredinol, ac ychydig fisoedd yn ôl cefais gyfarfod â'r uwch reolwyr, Steve Gawne a'i gydweithwyr, ynghylch y dyfodol. Mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud bod y rheolwyr wedi bod yn dadlau'r achos gyda'r rhiant gwmni yn America y dylai'r gwaith barhau, ac yr ydym yn barod i gynorthwyo'r cwmni mewn unrhyw ffordd a allwn. Mae'r cynnig cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol ar y bwrdd, mi gredaf, ac mae yno i'r cwmni ei gymryd os yw'n dymuno, i'w ddefnyddio fel

buddsoddiad cyfalaf a sicrhau dyfodol y gwaith.

**David Lloyd:** Yn dilyn pwynt Peter Black ond yn siarad yn fwy cyffredinol, gan fod nifer o swyddi wedi'u colli yn ddiweddar, pa waith ragweithiol ydych yn ei wneud gyda chwmnïau cyn iddynt ddatgan bod ffatrïoedd yn cau?

**David Lloyd:** Following on from Peter Black's point, but speaking more generally, as a number of jobs have been lost recently, what proactive work are you doing with companies before they announce the closure of factories?

2.40 p.m.

**Andrew Davies:** We have worked with the Visteon, and, indeed, the automotive sector, over many years. We have done that mainly through the Wales Automotive Forum and the Accelerate Wales programme to help it and other such companies overcome and meet the challenges of globalisation. We stand ready to help it in any way that we can, whether that is in financial assistance, assistance with skills, or infrastructure development. That is a model, but clearly it is a matter for the company to address in terms of its commercial development. There has been much speculation about Visteon, but it is my understanding that it is only speculation at the moment and that the company has not yet made any decision about the future. However, we are in discussions with it.

**Andrew Davies:** Yr ydym wedi gweithio gyda chwmni Visteon, a chyda'r sector modurol yn wir, ers blynyddoedd lawer. Yr ydym wedi gwneud hynny'n bennaf drwy Fforwm Modurol Cymru a'r rhaglen Accelerate Cymru i helpu Visteon a chwmnïau tebyg eraill i wynebu a goresgyn heriau globaleiddio. Yr ydym yn barod i'w helpu ym mha bynnag fodd a allwn, boed hynny drwy gymorth ariannol, cymorth gyda sgiliau, neu ddatblygu seilwaith. Mae hynny'n fodel, ond mater ydyw i'r cwmni fynd i'r afael ag ef, yn amlwg, o ran ei ddatblygiad masnachol. Bu llawer o ddyfalu ynghylch Visteon, ond o'r hyn a ddeallaf, dyfalu'n unig yw hynny ar hyn o bryd ac nid yw'r cwmni eto wedi gwneud unrhyw benderfyniad am y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym cael trafodaethau gyda'r cwmni.

**Alun Cairns:** The Neath Port Talbot area, like many other areas of Wales, is dependent upon manufacturing. Over the last six months alone, as I highlighted to you yesterday, there were 3,000 job losses in the manufacturing sector. Some employment has been created, but the sectors in which we see most job creation, in Neath Port Talbot and other areas, are the public and retail sectors. Although they are welcome to the individuals concerned, I question the long-term economic benefits of some of those jobs. Are you concerned that they are not of the value of the jobs in the manufacturing sector that they are replacing? What analysis have you done of the value of each of the jobs that have been lost, compared with the value of those jobs that have been created, to the Welsh economy?

**Alun Cairns:** Mae ardal Castell-nedd Port Talbot, fel llawer ardal arall yng Nghymru, yn ddibynnol ar weithgynhyrchu. Yn ystod y chwe mis diwethaf yn unig, fel y tynnais eich sylw ddoe, collwyd 3,000 o swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu. Crëwyd rhai swyddi, ond yn y sectorau cyhoeddus a manwerthu y gwelwn y rhan fwyaf o swyddi newydd, yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot ac mewn ardaloedd eraill. Er bod yr unigolion sy'n cael y swyddi hynny yn eu croesawu, amheuf pa fudd economaidd hirdymor sydd i rai o'r swyddi hynny. A ydych yn pryderu nad ydynt o'r un gwerth â'r swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu y maent yn eu disodli? Pa ddadansoddiad yr ydych wedi ei wneud o werth pob un o'r swyddi a gollwyd, o'u cymharu â gwerth y swyddi hynny sydd wedi eu creu, i economi Cymru?

**Andrew Davies:** At the macro-economic level, Wales is the only part of the nations and regions of the UK where the increase in

**Andrew Davies:** O'r safbwynt macro-economaidd, Cymru yw'r unig un o wledydd a rhanbarthau'r DU lle mae'r cynnydd mewn



employment in the private sector has exceeded that in the public sector—

**Alun Cairns:** Those jobs are just in retail.

**Andrew Davies:** No, they are not just in retail; they are in a whole range of sectors, including manufacturing. For example, Intertissue, the paper mill at Baglan bay, will be commissioned later this year. It has received over £8 million in regional selective assistance from my budget. There is the JTEKT plant, formerly Toyota-Koki, in Resolven, which, again, was helped through regional selective assistance and is creating 20 jobs locally. The development of a plant to recycle tyres by Tyre Genics was announced this week. That will create 23 jobs, with a £4.1 million investment. There is also Dragon Baits Ltd at Baglan bay, which is developing a dynamic business based in the aquaculture sector. Those are all vibrant businesses and sectors, and, through collaboration with the private sector, we are helping to regenerate the Neath Port Talbot area.

swyddi yn y sector preifat wedi bod yn fwy nag yn y sector cyhoeddus—

**Alun Cairns:** Dim ond swyddi manwerthu yw'r rheini.

**Andrew Davies:** Nage, nid dim ond swyddi manwerthu ydynt; maent yn swyddi mewn ystod eang o sectorau, gan gynnwys gweithgynhyrchu. Er enghraifft, bydd Intertissue, y felin bapur ym mae Baglan, yn cael ei gomisiynu'n ddiweddarach eleni. Mae wedi cael dros £8 miliwn o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol o'm cyllideb i. Yna mae gwaith JTEKT, Toyota-Koki gynt, yn Resolven, cwmni arall a gafodd ei gynorthwyo drwy gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol ac sy'n creu 20 o swyddi'n lleol. Yr wythnos hon cyhoeddwyd bod Tyre Genics yn datblygu gwaith i ailgylchu teiars. Bydd hynny'n creu 23 o swyddi, gyda buddsoddiad o £4.1 miliwn. Ym mae Baglan hefyd mae Dragon Baits Cyf, sy'n datblygu busnes dynamig yn y sector dyframaethu. Mae pob un o'r rheini'n fusnesau ac yn sectorau sy'n ffynnu, a thrwy gydweithio â'r sector preifat yr ydym yn helpu adfywio ardal Castell-nedd Port Talbot.

### **Trafnidiaeth a'r Economi Transport and the Economy**

**Q3 Eleanor Burnham:** Will the Minister make a statement on the relationship between transport and the economy? OAQ1028(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Transport is fundamental to the economy, which is dependent on the effective and efficient transport of people and goods. The Welsh Assembly Government's transport programmes are designed to support the development of the economy and help to spread prosperity across all parts of Wales.

**Eleanor Burnham:** As you know, in the last 10 years, Wrexham has experienced considerable economic growth and regeneration and, setting aside the completion of the road to the industrial estate, which I have asked you about several times, there now appears to be the distinct possibility of an interesting direct rail service from Wrexham to London. We did not have these details when we considered rail privatisation in the Committee on Rail

**C3 Eleanor Burnham:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y berthynas rhwng trafndiaeth a'r economi? OAQ1028(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Mae trafndiaeth yn hanfodol i'r economi, sy'n ddibynnol ar gludo pobl a nwyddau yn effeithiol ac effeithlon. Cynlluniwyd rhaglenni trafndiaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gefnogi datblygiad yr economi ac i helpu lledaenu ffyniant i Gymru ben baladr.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Fel y gwyrddoch, yn y 10 mlynedd diwethaf mae Wrecsam wedi gweld adfywio a thwf economaidd sylweddol, a heblaw am gwblhau'r ffordd i'r ystad ddiwydiannol, rhywbeth yr wyf wedi eich holi yn ei gylch droeon, ymddengys bellach fod posibilrwydd pendant y bydd gwasanaeth rheilffordd uniongyrchol diddorol o Wrecsam i Lundain. Nid oedd y manylion hynny gennym pan fuom yn ystyried preifateiddio'r rheilffyrdd yn y Pwyllgor ar Seilwaith y

Infrastructure and Improved Passenger Services. I urge you to consider the details of this proposal by Wrexham County Borough Council and the Shropshire and Marleybone Railway Company. I take this opportunity to ask you to at least try to provide some means of help so that the profile of Wrexham and the north-east can be raised even further.

**Andrew Davies:** On economic development in Wrexham, the fact that it is not in an assisted area constrains the support that we can give it, particularly the financial support that we can give. Nevertheless, we will work with companies, for example, Sharp Electronics Ltd, which has created a European manufacturing facility for photovoltaics in Wrexham. We will do everything that we can to help companies.

On the proposed rail service, it will be an open access service, so there is some way to go before the service can be up and running because it will have implications for other rail operators. I had a meeting with Bob Holland, the managing director of Arriva Trains Wales, and others this morning. That new service may well have implications for that and other services. Nevertheless, in broad principles, we welcome this new service between Wrexham and Marylebone and we will do everything that we can to help the company. As I said, there are many issues to be resolved before the service is operational, but I have asked my officials to look at this and at what we can do to help the company.

**Carl Sargeant:** Minister, the A380 is the world's biggest passenger jet, but there has been some terrible news today about the delay in its production. I have spoken with your department this morning and with the company's managers in Broughton, who are extremely concerned about the future development of the site. What comfort and reassurance can you give the workforce of 7,000 working in the Broughton plant, which affects not only the economy of Flintshire, but that of Wales and the UK?

Rheilffyrdd a Gwella Gwasanaethau i Deithwyr. Erfyniaf arnoch i ystyried manylion y cynnig hwn gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam a Chwmni Rheilffordd Shropshire and Marylebone. Achubaf ar y cyfle hwn i ofyn i chi geisio darparu rhyw fath o gymorth o leiaf, fel y gellir codi proffil Wrecsam a'r gogledd-dwyrain yn uwch fyth.

**Andrew Davies:** O ran datblygu economaidd yn Wrecsam, mae'r ffaith nad yw mewn ardal a gynorthwyr yn cyfyngu'r cymorth y gallwn ei roi i'r dref, yn enwedig y cymorth ariannol y gallwn ei roi. Er hynny, byddwn yn gweithio gyda chwmnïau, er enghraifft, Sharp Electronics Cyf, sydd wedi creu cyfleuster gweithgynhyrchu Ewropeaidd ar gyfer gwaith ffotofoltäig yn Wrecsam. Byddwn yn gwneud popeth a allwn i gynorthwyo cwmnïau.

O ran y gwasanaeth rheilffordd arfaethedig, bydd yn wasanaeth agored i bawb, felly, mae rhywfaint o waith i'w wneud cyn y gall y gwasanaeth fod yn barod oherwydd bydd iddo oblygiadau ar gyfer cwmnïau trên eraill. Cefais gyfarfod gyda Bob Holland, rheolwr gyfarwyddwr Trenau Arriva Cymru, ac eraill y bore yma. Mae'n ddigon posibl y bydd i'r gwasanaeth newydd hwnnw oblygiadau ar gyfer hwnnw a gwasanaethau eraill. Serch hynny, o ran yr egwyddorion cyffredinol, croesawn y gwasanaeth newydd hwn rhwng Wrecsam a Marylebone a byddwn yn gwneud popeth yn ein gallu i helpu'r cwmni. Fel y dywedais, mae llawer mater i'w ddatrys cyn y bydd y gwasanaeth yn dechrau gweithio, ond yr wyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion edrych ar y mater ac ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i helpu'r cwmni.

**Carl Sargeant:** Weinidog, yr A380 yw'r awyren fwyaf y byd i deithwyr, ond cawsom newyddion ofnadwy heddiw am yr oedi wrth ei chynhyrchu. Yr wyf wedi siarad â'ch adran y bore yma a chyda rheolwyr y cwmni ym Mrychdyn, sy'n bryderus iawn am ddatblygiad y safle yn y dyfodol. Pa gysur a sicrwydd y gallwch eu rhoi i'r gweithlu o 7,000 sy'n gweithio yn safle Brychdyn, sy'n effeithio nid ar economi sir y Fflint yn unig, ond ar economi Cymru a'r DU?

**Andrew Davies:** The company and the trade unions at Broughton know that the Assembly Government is fully behind them. We have demonstrated that through a range of measures, not least of which was £5.2 million of regional selective assistance earlier this year. Airbus is the biggest private-sector employer in Wales. We have regular meetings not just with the local management, including Brian Fleet, but I also had a recent meeting with the chief executive of the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company. We are working with the company to maintain the operation at Broughton, but also in other areas to enhance the Airbus and EADS operation in Wales, including supporting any research and development proposals that they have.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Bu ichi gyfeirio at bwysigrwydd y cynllun gofodol o ran datblygiad economaidd. Un o elfennau'r cynllun hwnnw yw'r canolfannau twf, fel glannau'r Fenai yn fy etholaeth i. Mae'r cynllun gofodol yn nodi ardaloedd cysylltiol, fel Porthmadog; mae cysylltiad rhwng y ganolfan dwf a'r ardaloedd hynny yn hollbwysig. Felly, gan gydnabod bod eich adran chi wedi cydnabod problemau difrifol ar y ffordd o Gaernarfon i'r gorllewin i gyfeiriad Pwllheli, a ydych yn barod i ystyried rhoi eich cefnogaeth i gynllun i osgoi pentref Bontnewydd a thref Caernarfon er mwyn hwyluso'r cysylltiadau hynny sydd mor bwysig i bobl sy'n teithio i ardal glannau'r Fenai i weithio?

**Andrew Davies:** In terms of investment in infrastructure, whether it is part of the trunk road programme or local road schemes, we are always looking to enhance transport infrastructure, particularly with local road schemes. We have invited bids from local authorities in taking forward those programmes. However, I have to balance those bids for particular enhancement schemes against the overall budget. There is a transport grant programme as well as the trunk road programme, but in terms of the context of my reply to Ieuan Wyn Jones earlier, we will need to look at the economic development needs of north-west Wales in its entirety. Transport links will be crucial. For that reason, we should be seeing the

**Andrew Davies:** Mae'r cwmni a'r undebau llafur ym Mrychdyn yn gwybod bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cefnogi'n llwyr. Yr ydym wedi dangos hynny drwy amrywiaeth o fesurau, ac yn anad yr un arall £5.2 miliwn o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol yn gynharach eleni. Airbus yw'r cyflogwr mwyaf yn y sector preifat yng Nghymru. Cawn gyfarfodydd rheolaidd gyda'r rheolwyr lleol, gan gynnwys Brian Fleet, ond cefais gyfarfod yn ddiweddar hefyd gyda phrif weithredwr European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company. Yr ydym yn gweithio gyda'r cwmni i gynnal y gwaith ym Mrychdyn, ond hefyd mewn ardaloedd eraill er mwyn gwella gweithrediad Airbus ac EADS yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys cefnogi unrhyw gynigion ymchwil a datblygu sydd ganddynt.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** You referred to the importance of the spatial plan in relation to economic development. Growth centres make up one element of that plan, one example being the banks of the Menai Straits in my constituency. The spatial plan refers to linked areas, such as Porthmadog; links between the growth centre and those areas are crucial. Therefore, bearing in mind that your department has recognised the serious problems on the road from Caernarfon in a westerly direction towards Pwllheli, are you prepared to consider supporting a scheme to bypass the village of Bontnewydd and the town of Caernarfon in order to facilitate those links, which are so important for people travelling to work along Menai Straits?

**Andrew Davies:** O ran buddsoddi mewn seilwaith, boed yn rhan o'r rhaglen cefnffyrdd neu gynlluniau ffyrdd lleol, yr ydym bob amser yn awyddus i wella seilwaith trafndiaeth, yn arbennig drwy gynlluniau ffyrdd lleol. Yr ydym wedi gwahodd ceisiadau gan awdurdodau lleol i ddatblygu'r rhaglenni hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid imi gydbwysu'r ceisiadau hynny am gynlluniau gwella penodol yn erbyn y gyllideb gyffredinol. Mae yna raglen grantiau trafndiaeth yn ogystal â'r rhaglen cefnffyrdd, ond yng nghyd-destun fy ymateb i Ieuan Wyn Jones yn gynharach, bydd angen inni edrych ar anghenion gogledd-orllewin Cymru gyfan o ran datblygu economaidd. Bydd cysylltiadau trafndiaeth yn hanfodol. I'r

establishment of a new air service between Cardiff and RAF Valley early next year, which is part of our commitment to improving links between north and south Wales.

**Alun Cairns:** Minister, transport and economic development and economic prosperity are inextricably linked. If you accept that premise, how do you account for the marginal increase in your budget for transport in comparison with the larger increases across other portfolios within the Assembly Government?

**Andrew Davies:** I do not know if you can call a rise in expenditure from £200 million in 2000-01 to the current budget of £500 million, which is nearly half my budget, a marginal increase. There are big challenges that we need to address in terms of transport infrastructure. As I indicated to both Alun Ffred and Ieuan Wyn Jones, transport is important in terms of developing a sound economic foundation and we will look at the needs of all parts of Wales. However, that has to be balanced against budgetary availability.

2.50 p.m.

**Alun Cairns:** The point that I am making about the increase in budget is that it forced the cancellation of some exciting infrastructure programmes and now you are starting to think of regenerating some of them. One of the most important infrastructure programmes would be a link into Cardiff bay from the eastern side, taking us on to the M4. That is a priority of some of Wales's leading business organisations, but there is no plan for that. You would argue that it is not a trunk road so it is not a matter for you, but the only way that Cardiff County Council could deal with that would be as a result of some sort of support from the Welsh Assembly Government. After all, it was Matthew Parris who said that the Assembly was established in a half-built industrial estate.

**Andrew Davies:** That shows the real commitment of the Conservative Party to devolution, despite recent cosmetic statements. In terms of infrastructure, your

perwyl hwnnw, dylem weld gwasanaeth awyr newydd yn cael ei sefydlu rhwng Caerdydd ac RAF y Fali yn gynnar y flwyddyn nesaf, sy'n rhan o'n hymrwymiad i wella'r cysylltiadau rhwng y gogledd a'r de.

**Alun Cairns:** Weinidog, mae cyswllt annatod rhwng trafndiaeth a datblygu economaidd a ffyniant economaidd. Os derbyniwch hynny, sut yr ydych yn cyfrif am y cynnydd bychan yn eich cyllideb ar gyfer trafndiaeth o'i gymharu â'r enghreifftiau o godiadau mwy mewn portffolios eraill o fewn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad?

**Andrew Davies:** Ni wn a allwch alw cynnydd mewn gwariant o £200 miliwn yn 2000-01 i'r gyllideb bresennol o £500 miliwn, sef bron i hanner fy nghyllideb, yn gynnydd bychan. Mae yna heriau mawr y mae angen inni ymdrin â hwy o ran seilwaith trafndiaeth. Fel y dywedais wrth Alun Ffred ac wrth Ieuan Wyn Jones, mae trafndiaeth yn bwysig o ran datblygu sylfaen economaidd gadarn, a byddwn yn edrych ar anghenion pob rhan o Gymru. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid cydbwysu hynny â'r gyllideb sydd ar gael.

**Alun Cairns:** Fy mhwynt o ran y cynnydd yn y gyllideb yw ei fod wedi gorfodi diddymu rhai rhaglenni seilwaith cyffrous, ac yn awr yr ydych yn dechrau ystyried adfywio rhai ohonynt. Un o'r rhaglenni seilwaith pwysicaf fyddai cyswllt i fae Caerdydd o'r ochr ddwyreiniol, gan ymuno â'r M4. Mae hynny'n flaenoriaeth gan rai o brif sefydliadau busnes Cymru, ond nid oes cynllun ar gyfer hynny. Byddech yn dadlau nad cefnffordd ydyw ac felly nad yw'n fater i chi, ond yr unig ffordd y gallai Cyngor Sir Caerdydd ymdrin â hynny fyddai o ganlyniad i ryw fath o gefnogaeth gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Wedi'r cyfan, Matthew Parris a ddywedodd bod y Cynulliad wedi ei sefydlu mewn ystâd ddiwydiannol heb ei gorffen.

**Andrew Davies:** Mae hynny'n dangos ymrwymiad gwirioneddol y Blaid Geidwadol i ddatganoli, er gwaethaf datganiadau arwynebol yn ddiweddar. O ran seilwaith,

point about the eastern bay link, in a way, illustrates my response to Alun Ffred; I have to balance bids for particular transport schemes on an all-Wales basis and against budgetary availability. There is a substantial cost associated with the eastern bay link enhancement. The local authority—Cardiff County Council, in this case—has been looking upon it in terms of a public-private partnership to develop infrastructure, including an integrated transport scheme in Cardiff. It is a local authority matter, but the cost of the scheme far outweighs the whole of the transport grant programme that I have for the whole of Wales. That is the reason. I have to balance my current budget in terms of the transport grant—it has been increased and not cut, as you said—against needs across the whole of Wales.

mae eich pwynt ynglŷn â chyswllt o'r dwyrain i'r bae, mewn ffordd, yn egluro fy ymateb i Alun Ffred; rhaid imi gydbwyso ceisiadau am gynlluniau trafndiaeth penodol ar sail Cymru gyfan yn erbyn y gyllideb sydd ar gael. Mae cost sylweddol yn gysylltiedig â'r cynnig i wella'r cyswllt o'r dwyrain i'r bae. Mae'r awdurdod lleol—Cyngor Sir Caerdydd yn yr achos hwn—wedi bod yn edrych arno o ran partneriaeth gyhoeddus-breifat i ddatblygu seilwaith, gan gynnwys cynllun trafndiaeth integredig yng Nghaerdydd. Mater i'r awdurdod lleol ydyw, ond mae cost y cynllun lawer yn uwch na'r rhaglen grantiau trafndiaeth gyfan sydd gennyf ar gyfer Cymru gyfan. Dyna'r rheswm. Rhaid imi gydbwyso fy nghyllideb bresennol o ran y grant trafndiaeth—mae wedi ei chynyddu, nid ei chwtoigi, fel yr oeddech yn dweud—yn erbyn anghenion ar draws Cymru gyfan.

### **Trafodaethau gyda Network Rail Discussions with Network Rail**

**Q4 Janet Davies:** Will the Minister make a statement on any recent discussions that he has had with Network Rail? OAQ1006(EIN)

**C4 Janet Davies:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am unrhyw drafodaethau a gafodd yn ddiweddar gyda Network Rail? OAQ1006(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** I have a good working relationship with Network Rail and I meet Robbie Burns, the route director of the Great Western region, several times a year to review progress with all rail infrastructure in Wales, including its £400 million investment to re-signal the south Wales main line between Port Talbot and the Severn junction.

**Andrew Davies:** Mae gennyf berthynas weithio dda gyda Network Rail, a byddaf yn cyfarfod â Robbie Burns, cyfarwyddwr llwybrau rhanbarth Great Western, droeon yn ystod y flwyddyn i adolygu cynnydd gyda'r holl seilwaith rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys ei fuddsoddiad o £400 miliwn i ailosod signalau ar y brif linell yn ne Cymru rhwng Port Talbot a chyffordd Hafren.

**Janet Davies:** I am pleased that you meet so regularly. As you know, the Cardiff/Beddau passenger service is being talked about again. Have you had any discussions about reinstating and upgrading the line for passenger traffic from the Cwm colliery in Beddau to Pontyclun and Cardiff, in order to relieve the excessively heavy traffic on the A473 through Church Village? If so, what was the outcome?

**Janet Davies:** Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn cyfarfod mor rheolaidd. Fel y gwyddoch, mae sôn am wasanaeth teithwyr Caerdydd/Beddau unwaith eto. A ydych wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau ar ailagor ac uwchraddio'r llinell i deithwyr o bwll glo'r Cwm ym Meddau i Bont-y-clun a Chaerdydd, er mwyn lliniaru'r traffig eithriadol o drwm ar yr A473 drwy Bentre'r Eglwys? Os felly, beth oedd y canlyniad?

**Andrew Davies:** I have not discussed that particular project with Network Rail but I will ask officials to follow the matter up to see where it is in terms of prioritisation.

**Andrew Davies:** Nid wyf wedi trafod y prosiect penodol hwnnw gyda Network Rail, ond gofynnaf i swyddogion ymchwilio i'r mater i weld pa flaenoriaeth a roddir iddo.

**Christine Chapman:** In your discussions with Network Rail, how do you monitor its impact on service delivery? For example, you have allocated £50 million to Arriva Trains Wales for the duration of the franchise to relieve overcrowding, but how is this spent? Is it being used to improve capacity at peak times, as this is when we are experiencing overcrowding on an almost daily basis in the Cynon valley? I know that the First Minister referred to 20 additional trains last week. Will there be further additions to the fleet following the work that your department has been undertaking with Arriva? How will Network Rail's investment in Wales assist that?

**Andrew Davies:** As I said in reply to an earlier question, I have regular meetings, not just with Network Rail but with Arriva Trains Wales. If you look at the performance of the current franchise in Wales and the borders, performance has improved significantly over the last year and certainly since the introduction of the standard-pattern timetable last December.

We are now facing the real problems of success on the railways in Wales. We have over 10 per cent annual passenger growth. There is a significant amount of work that we need to do to help to increase that capacity, including significant investment on the Valley Lines. Last year, the lengthening of stations on the Cynon valley line was done. We are working with Arriva Trains Wales to increase the amount of capacity on the lines in the Valleys, particularly on the Treherbert, Rhymney and Merthyr lines. We are also funding infrastructure improvements between Abercynon and Merthyr Tydfil and a whole range of other investments, which, we think, will underpin the substantial progress that we have already made.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Minister, we are still in a position in Wales where there is poor disabled access to many of our train stations. Many of the disabled toilets in our stations are in an absolutely appalling state. This is not good enough. What are you doing, and

**Christine Chapman:** Yn eich trafodaethau gyda Network Rail, sut yr ydych yn monitro ei effaith ar ddarparu gwasanaethau? Er enghraifft, yr ydych wedi dyrannu £50 miliwn i Trenau Arriva Cymru dros gyfnod y fasnachfaint i wella problem gorlenwi trenau, ond sut y caiff ei wario? A yw'n cael ei ddefnyddio i ddarparu mwy o le yn ystod oriau brig, gan mai dyna pryd mae gormod o bobl bron bob dydd ar drenau yng nghwm Cynon? Gwn i'r Prif Weinidog gyfeirio at 20 o drenau ychwanegol yr wythnos diwethaf. A gaiff mwy o drenau eu hychwanegu at y fflyd yn sgil y gwaith y mae eich adran wedi ei wneud gydag Arriva? Sut y bydd buddsoddiad Network Rail yng Nghymru yn cynorthwyo hynny?

**Andrew Davies:** Fel y dywedais yn fy ymateb i gwestiwn cynharach, caf gyfarfodydd rheolaidd, nid yn unig gyda Network Rail ond gyda Trenau Arriva Cymru. Os edrychwch ar berfformiad y fasnachfaint bresennol yng Nghymru a'r gororau, mae perfformiad wedi gwella'n sylweddol yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf ac yn sicr ers cyflwyno'r amserlen patrwm safonol fis Rhagfyr diwethaf.

Yr ydym bellach yn wynebu problemau gwirioneddol llwyddiant ar reilffyrdd yng Nghymru. Mae nifer y teithwyr yn cynyddu 10 y cant bob blwyddyn. Mae angen inni wneud llawer iawn o waith i helpu cynyddu'r capasiti hwnnw, gan gynnwys buddsoddiad sylweddol yng Nghledrau'r Cymoedd. Y llynedd, gwnaed gwaith i ymestyn hyd gorsafydd ar linell cwm Cynon. Yr ydym yn gweithio gyda Trenau Arriva Cymru i gynyddu'r capasiti ar linellau'r Cymoedd, yn arbennig ar linellau Treherbert, Rhymni a Merthyr. Yr ydym hefyd yn ariannu gwelliannau seilwaith rhwng Abercynon a Merthyr Tudful ac amrywiaeth fawr o fuddsoddiadau eraill a fydd, yn ein barn ni, yn ategu'r cynnydd sylweddol yr ydym eisoes wedi'i wneud.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Weinidog, yr ydym yn dal mewn sefyllfa yng Nghymru lle mae mynediad gwael ar gyfer yr anabl i nifer o'n gorsafydd trenau. Mae nifer o'r toiledau i'r anabl yn ein gorsafydd mewn cyflwr cywilyddus. Nid yw hyn yn ddigon da. Beth

how are you working with Network Rail and the train companies that operate in Wales, to ensure that these sorts of issues are at the top of their agenda? I hope, Minister, that these sorts of considerations for disabled people will be built into any future plans for lines in Wales.

**Andrew Davies:** Where we are directly funding station enhancement, particularly on the Valley Lines—and only last week I signalled the start of the work on the Ebbw Vale line, which will include six new stations—they will be fully compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. However, this is an issue about how we can work with Arriva Trains Wales and Network Rail to upgrade existing facilities, whether they are mainline stations or on the Valley Lines; we will continue to do that. There is also our continuing investment in terms of improving passenger and staff safety, through the investment in closed circuit television on trains and on stations.

**Jeff Cuthbert:** Minister, the Rhymney valley rail line is a popular and well-used rail link, but it needs improvement. There are plans for the lengthening of all stations in order to take six carriages, and a new station at Energlyn is likely to be opened by 2009. Do you agree that it is crucial that Network Rail, Arriva Trains Wales, the Welsh Assembly Government, and Caerphilly County Borough Council work together, with a sense of urgency, to ensure that those improvements take place within a reasonable period of time? Finally, it is also crucial that Network Rail works closely with Cardiff County Council to address the issue of Queen Street station, which is currently a bottleneck for all services to the north.

**Andrew Davies:** In terms of south-east Wales, we are working closely with SEWTA, which is the transport consortium for the region, on enhancing infrastructure across the whole of south-east Wales. Clearly, it is the part of the Wales and the border franchise and the mainline service that has had the largest growth and where the pressures are

yr ydych yn ei wneud, a sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda Network Rail a'r cwmnïau trenau sy'n gweithredu yng Nghymru, i sicrhau bod y materion hyn ar frig eu hagenda? Gobeithio, Weinidog, y bydd y mathau hyn o ystyriaethau i bobl anabl yn rhan o unrhyw gynlluniau yn y dyfodol ar gyfer rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru.

**Andrew Davies:** Lle yr ydym yn ariannu cynlluniau i wella gorsafoedd yn uniongyrchol, yn arbennig ar Gledrau'r Cymoedd—a nodais yr wythnos diwethaf fod gwaith wedi dechrau ar linell Glynebwy, a fydd yn cynnwys chwe gorsaf newydd—byddant yn cydymffurfio'n llawn â'r Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 1995. Fodd bynnag, mater yw hwn o'r ffordd y gallwn weithio gyda Trenau Arriva Cymru a Network Rail i uwchraddio cyfleusterau sydd eisoes yn bod, boed yn orsafoedd ar y brif linell neu ar Gledrau'r Cymoedd; byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny. Byddwn hefyd yn parhau i fuddsoddi i wella diogelwch i deithwyr a staff, drwy fuddsoddi mewn teledu cylch cyfyng ar drenau ac ar orsafoedd.

**Jeff Cuthbert:** Weinidog, mae llinell rheilffordd cwm Rhymni yn gyswllt rheilffordd poblogaidd a ddefnyddir yn helaeth, ond mae angen ei gwella. Mae yna gynlluniau i ymestyn hyd pob gorsaf er mwyn gallu cymryd chwe cherbyd, ac mae gorsaf newydd yn Energlyn yn debygol o agor erbyn 2009. A gytunwch ei bod yn hanfodol i Network Rail, Trenau Arriva Cymru, Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili gydweithio, ar fyrder, i sicrhau y bydd y gwelliannau hynny'n digwydd ymhen amser rhesymol? Yn olaf, mae hefyd yn hanfodol i Network Rail gydweithio'n agos â Chyngor Sir Caerdydd i ymdrin â gorsaf Heol y Frenhines, sydd ar hyn o bryd yn dagfa i drenau ar yr holl wasanaethau i'r gogledd.

**Andrew Davies:** O ran de-ddwyrain Cymru, yr ydym yn gweithio'n agos gyda SEWTA, sef y consortiwm trafniadaeth dros y rhanbarth, i wella seilwaith ar draws de-ddwyrain Cymru yn gyfan. Yn amlwg, dyma'r rhan o fasnachfaint Cymru a'r gorau a'r gwasanaeth prif linell lle y bu'r twf mwyaf a lle y mae'r pwysau ar eu

the most acute. We are working with local authorities, train operating companies and Network Rail to ensure that the investment programme is on track.

On the other issue about Queen Street station, you are quite right, it is a major bottleneck. We have been working with Network Rail and Arriva Trains Wales to identify what needs to be done in that location to enhance the capacity. I have been keeping the pressure up on that, because early delivery will enable us to increase capacity on the services that come into Queen Street and Cardiff Central stations.

**Jenny Randerson:** Thank you, Minister, for your comments about Queen Street station; I hope that that progresses rapidly, because I have talked to you about that on many occasions. However, I am concerned about other stations in Cardiff. Have you seen recent publicity about wheelchair users who have to go north from Llandaff North station to Radyr to change trains in order to get into Cardiff, because of the lack of disabled facilities? I see no reference to improving disabled facilities in existing stations in your current strategic plan. Can you assure me that you do have money set aside for that?

**Andrew Davies:** I will have to look into that particular issue and ask my officials to follow it up. We are not responsible for the maintenance of railway stations; it is a matter for Network Rail or Arriva Trains Wales. If there is a demonstrable need, and if there is flexibility, I will work with the operators to see what we can do to address that issue.

**John Griffiths:** Andrew, we know that Network Rail is carrying out necessary platform work at Newport station, and will be carrying out necessary signalling work, which will enable the Newport to Ebbw Vale passenger rail link to be established. Is there other infrastructure work that is necessary? If so, will you state what it is, and how that work will be taken forward?

gwaethaf. Yr ydym yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol, cwmnïau trenau a Network Rail i sicrhau bod y rhaglen fuddsoddi yn mynd yn ei blaen.

O ran y mater arall, sef gorsaf Heol y Frenhines, yr ydych yn llygad eich lle; mae tagfeydd trenau sylweddol yn digwydd yno. Yr ydym wedi gweithio gyda Network Rail a Trenau Arriva Cymru i nodi'r hyn y mae angen ei wneud yn y man hwnnw i wella'r capasiti. Yr wyf wedi bod yn pwysu'n gyson am hynny, oherwydd bydd gwneud hynny'n gynnar yn ein galluogi i gynyddu capasiti ar y gwasanaethau a ddaw i mewn i orsafoedd Heol y Frenhines a Chaerdydd Canolog.

**Jenny Randerson:** Diolch, Weinidog, am eich sylwadau am orsaf Heol y Frenhines; gobeithio y bydd y cynnydd gyda hynny yn sydyn, gan fy mod wedi trafod y mater gyda chi droeon. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn pryderu am orsafoedd eraill yng Nghaerdydd. A welsoch y cyhoeddusrwydd yn ddiweddar am bobl mewn cadeiriau olwyn sy'n gorfod teithio i'r gogledd o orsaf Ystum Taf i Radur i newid trenau er mwyn cyrraedd Caerdydd, oherwydd diffyg cyfleusterau i'r anabl? Ni welaf unrhyw gyfeiriad at wella cyfleusterau i'r anabl mewn gorsafoedd sydd eisoes ar gael yn eich cynllun strategol presennol. A allwch roi sicrwydd imi eich bod wedi neilltuo arian i wneud hynny?

**Andrew Davies:** Bydd yn rhaid imi ymchwilio i'r mater penodol hwnnw a gofyn i'm swyddogion weithredu ddilyn y mater. Nid ydym yn gyfrifol am gynnal gorsafoedd rheilffordd; Network Rail neu Trenau Arriva Cymru sy'n gyfrifol am hynny. Os gellir dangos bod angen, ac os bydd hyblygrwydd, byddaf yn gweithio gyda'r cwmnïau i weld beth y gallwn ei wneud i ymdrin â'r mater hwnnw.

**John Griffiths:** Andrew, gwyddom fod Network Rail yn gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol ar blatfform gorsaf Casnewydd, ac y bydd yn gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol ar signalau, a fydd yn galluogi agor y cyswllt rheilffordd i deithwyr rhwng Casnewydd a Glynebwy. A oes yna unrhyw waith seilwaith arall angenrheidiol? Os felly, beth yw'r gwaith hwnnw, a sut yr eir ati i wneud y gwaith hwnnw?



3.00 p.m.

**Andrew Davies:** At the moment, it is physically impossible for a service to run regularly from Ebbw Vale to Newport. As you have pointed out, the mainline resignalling needs to be done, which will not be completed in 2009-10. There is also the reconstruction of Newport station and the addition of a fourth platform there, as well as other infrastructure enhancements that need to be done. However, I have asked Network Rail to look at the costs and the feasibility of what will be needed for a service to run from Ebbw Vale into Newport, over and above the existing investment that I have already outlined. I have not had the results of that costing yet, but I would need to take that into account, in the negotiations with Arriva Trains Wales in terms of implementing a second phase of the Ebbw Vale line, and services to Newport. However, I am delighted to say that work has now started on the Ebbw Vale line, and that services will run hourly from Ebbw Vale into Cardiff from next summer.

**Andrew Davies:** Ar hyn o bryd, mae'n gorfforol amhosibl i wasanaeth redeg yn rheolaidd o Lynebwy i Gasnewydd. Fel yr ydych wedi egluro, mae angen gosod signalau newydd ar y brif linell, gwaith na fydd wedi'i gwblhau yn 2009-10. Rhaid cofio hefyd fod angen ailadeiladu gorsaf Casnewydd ac ychwanegu pedwerydd plattform yno, yn ogystal â'r gwelliannau eraill y mae angen eu gwneud ar y seilwaith. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi gofyn i Network Rail edrych ar y costau ac ymarferoldeb yr hyn a fydd yn angenrheidiol i gael gwasanaeth o Lynebwy i Gasnewydd, yn ychwanegol at y buddsoddiad presennol a amlinellwyd gennyf eisoes. Nid wyf wedi cael canlyniadau'r costau hynny eto, ond byddai angen imi ystyried hynny, yn y negodi gyda Trenau Arriva Cymru o ran gweithredu ail gam llinell Glynebwy, a gwasanaethau i Gasnewydd. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn falch iawn dweud bod y gwaith bellach wedi dechrau ar linell Glynebwy ac y bydd gwasanaethau bob awr o Lynebwy i Gaerdydd o'r haf nesaf ymlaen.

### **Anweithgarwch Inactivity**

**Q5 David Melding:** How many people of employment age are inactive in Wales? OAQ0993(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** According to the labour force survey, there were 428,000 economically inactive people of working age in Wales in May to July 2006, which is down 14,000, or 3.2 per cent, on the previous year. Over the same period, the UK saw a reduction of 1.6 per cent.

**David Melding:** Many people with mental illnesses, and those recovering from mental illnesses, are economically inactive, which is damaging to their prognosis and wellbeing. Will you ensure that, in all the initiatives and the funding streams available to you, social enterprises and supportive employment schemes are given every chance to flourish? They are crucial to serving these people well, and encouraging them back into the job

**C5 David Melding:** Faint o bobl oed gweithio sy'n anweithgar yng Nghymru? OAQ0993(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Yn ôl yr arolwg o'r llafurlu, yr oedd 428,000 o bobl economaidd anweithgar o oed gweithio yng Nghymru rhwng mis Mai a mis Gorffennaf 2006, sef gostyngiad o 14,000 neu 3.2 y cant o'i gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol. Dros yr un cyfnod, cafwyd gostyngiad o 1.6 y cant yn y DU.

**David Melding:** Mae nifer o bobl â salwch meddwl a phobl sy'n gwella o salwch meddwl yn economaidd anweithgar, sy'n niweidiol i'w prognosis a'u lles. A wnewch sicrhau bod mentrau cymdeithasol a chynlluniau cefnogi cyflogaeth, ymhlith yr holl fentrau a'r ffrydiau ariannu sydd ar gael ichi, yn cael pob cyfle i ffynnu? Maent yn hanfodol i wasanaethu'r bobl hynny yn dda ac i'w hannog i ddychwelyd i'r farchnad

market.

**Andrew Davies:** The barriers faced by those who have experienced mental health illnesses are substantial, not least of which is the attitude towards and the stigmatisation of depressive illness, or more serious mental health problems. I was delighted last year to launch the Healthy Minds at Work programme, funded through Objective 1, to address some of these issues, and to help those with a history of mental illness into economic activity. When most people think of the economically inactive or long-term sick, they think of physical illnesses, when the most significant proportion is probably made up of those with long-term mental health problems. That is a major challenge, and we are working, not just as the Assembly Government, but also with the UK Government, particularly through the Department for Work and Pensions, on its various programmes, including Jobmatch, and a range of other programmes, to help people into economic activity. We are now in receipt of a second round of European funding, and the convergence programme in particular, to address that major challenge that we have; we have seen a significant investment in resources to address the very issues that you raise.

**Lorraine Barrett:** You will know of the large Somali community in my constituency, where there is a relatively higher percentage of unemployment. Will you join me one day in a visit to the Somali advice centre, to discuss with people from that community various employment opportunities?

**Andrew Davies:** I am more than happy to accept your invitation and to have that meeting.

**Kirsty Williams:** While I acknowledge that there has been a drop in the numbers of those who are currently inactive, compared with the UK average, would you not agree that those with more complex cases, and those with more difficult reasons for not being engaged in the economy at present, will be those individuals whom it will be much more difficult to get into the workplace? At present, we are perhaps tackling the easier cases to get back into the workplace. What

waith.

**Andrew Davies:** Mae pobl sydd wedi dioddef salwch meddwl yn wynebu rhwystrau mawr, yn bennaf oherwydd yr agwedd at iselder ysbryd, neu broblemau iechyd meddwl mwy difrifol a'r stigma sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy. Yr oeddwn yn falch o gael lansio rhaglen Meddwl Iach yn y Gwaith y llynedd, sy'n cael ei ariannu drwy Amcan 1, i fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion hyn, ac i helpu pobl sydd â hanes o salwch meddwl i fod yn economaidd weithgar. Pan fydd y rhan fwyaf o bobl yn meddwl am bobl economaidd anweithgar neu bobl sydd â salwch hirdymor, maent yn meddwl am salwch corfforol, ond eto mae'n debyg mai'r gyfran fwyaf sylweddol yw pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl hirdymor. Mae hynny'n her fawr ac yr ydym yn gweithio, nid yn unig fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ond hefyd gyda Llywodraeth y DU, yn enwedig drwy'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, ar ei rhaglenni amrywiol, gan gynnwys Jobsmatch ac ystod o raglenni eraill, i helpu pobl i fod yn economaidd weithgar. Yr ydym bellach wedi cael ail gylch o arian Ewropeaidd, a'r rhaglen gydgyfeirio'n benodol, i fynd i'r afael â'r her fawr honno sy'n ein hwynebu; gwelwyd buddsoddi sylweddol mewn adnoddau i fynd i'r afael â'r union faterion a godwch.

**Lorraine Barrett:** Fe wyddoch am y gymuned fawr o Somaliaid yn fy etholaeth, lle mae canran gymharol uwch o ddiweithdra. A ymunwch â mi rywbryd i ymweld â'r ganolfan gynghori i Somaliaid, i drafod amrywiol gyfleoedd cyflogaeth gyda phobl o'r gymuned honno?

**Andrew Davies:** Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i dderbyn eich gwahoddiad a chael y cyfarfod hwnnw.

**Kirsty Williams:** Er fy mod yn cydnabod inni weld lleihad yn nifer y bobl sy'n economaidd anweithgar ar hyn o bryd, o'u cymharu â chyfartaledd y DU, oni fyddech yn cytuno mai'r rheini sydd ag achosion mwy cymhleth, a'r rheini sydd â rhesymau anos dros beidio â bod yn rhan o'r economi ar hyn o bryd, fydd yr unigolion hynny y bydd yn anos o lawer iddynt gael gwaith? Ar hyn o bryd, efallai ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â'r achosion haws o ddychwelyd i weithio. Beth

have you done to analyse the needs of those more complex cases, and what programmes will you be able to invest in, with the new convergence funding, to tackle the problems of those with the most complex needs, which stop them from being active in the economy at present?

**Andrew Davies:** As I said in reply to David Melding, the fact that we have another round of European funding means that we have this second opportunity. In terms of developing our thinking, our planning, and, in particular, strategic frameworks, one of the biggest priorities is ensuring that we help people out of economic inactivity into work. I have been working closely with Jane Davidson on that, because one of the biggest challenges is in terms of those who are economically inactive and have been on long-term sick leave; there is a close correlation between that group and those with low skills or no skills. Therefore, there is a comprehensive programme of work that will be enhanced by convergence programme funding, which will allow us to address these needs on a long-term basis.

**Kirsty Williams:** A recent survey shows that those who are currently economically inactive but would like to be working in the short to medium term are women with young children. However, access to comprehensive childcare that is accessible and affordable continues to be a huge problem, especially in many Valleys communities. What will your Government do with its convergence funding to address the problem of a lack of affordable childcare?

**Andrew Davies:** One of the most successful projects of the current Objective 1 programme has been the Genesis programme, which Brian Gibbons and I launched jointly a year or so ago. We want to build on that success, to find out what we can learn from that programme and that project and, by learning from the best of it, take it forward to the next convergence programme period.

yr ydych wedi ei wneud i ddadansoddi anghenion yr achosion mwy cymhleth hynny, a pha raglenni y byddwch yn gallu buddsoddi ynddynt, gyda'r arian cydgyfeirio newydd, i fynd i'r afael â phroblemau'r rheini sydd â'r anghenion mwyaf cymhleth, sy'n eu hatal rhag bod yn weithgar yn yr economi ar hyn o bryd?

**Andrew Davies:** Fel y dywedais yn fy ateb i David Melding, mae'r ffaith ein bod yn cael cylch arall o arian Ewropeaidd yn golygu bod gennym yr ail gyfle hwn. O ran datblygu ein syniadau, ein gwaith cynllunio, ac yn arbennig ein fframweithiau strategol, un o'r blaenoriaethau mwyaf yw sicrhau ein bod yn helpu pobl sy'n economaidd anweithgar i gael gwaith. Yr wyf wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda Jane Davidson ar hynny, oherwydd un o'r heriau mwyaf yw'r bobl hynny sy'n economaidd anweithgar ac sydd wedi bod yn absennol am amser hir oherwydd salwch; mae perthynas agos rhwng y grŵp hwnnw a'r rheini sydd â sgiliau gwael neu heb sgiliau. Felly, mae yna raglen waith gynhwysfawr a fydd yn cael ei gwella drwy arian y rhaglen cydgyfeirio i roi cyfle inni fynd i'r afael â'r anghenion hyn yn yr hirdymor.

**Kirsty Williams:** Dengys arolwg yn ddiweddar mai'r rheini sy'n economaidd anweithgar ar hyn o bryd ond a hoffai fod mewn gwaith dros gyfnod byr neu gyfnod canolig yw merched sydd â phlant ifanc. Fodd bynnag, mae gofal plant cynhwysfawr sy'n gyfleus ac yn bosibl ei fforddio yn dal yn broblem enfawr, yn enwedig mewn nifer o gymunedau yn y Cymoedd. Beth fydd eich Llywodraeth yn ei wneud gyda'i harian cydgyfeirio i fynd i'r afael â phroblem prinder gofal plant y gellir ei fforddio?

**Andrew Davies:** Un o brosiectau mwyaf llwyddiannus y rhaglen Amcan 1 gyfredol oedd rhaglen Genesis, a lansiwyd ar y cyd gan Brian Gibbons a minnau tua blwyddyn yn ôl. Yr ydym am adeiladu ar y llwyddiant hwnnw, gweld beth y gallwn ei ddysgu o'r rhaglen honno a'r prosiect hwnnw, a thrwy ddysgu o'r pethau gorau ei datblygu yn ystod cyfnod y rhaglen cydgyfeirio nesaf.

## Hyrwyddo Twristiaeth Promotion of Tourism

**Q6 Christine Gwyther:** Will the Minister make a statement on the promotion of tourism in Wales? OAQ1053(EIN)

**C6 Christine Gwyther:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am hyrwyddo twristiaeth yng Nghymru? OAQ1053(EIN)

**Q10 Gwenda Thomas:** Will the Minister make a statement on the promotion of tourism in Wales? OAQ1052(EIN)

**C10 Gwenda Thomas:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am hyrwyddo twristiaeth yng Nghymru? OAQ1052(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** During 2005-06, Wales's UK Big Country marketing campaign and international marketing campaigns exceeded advertising-response targets. In addition to this, I am delighted to say that Visit Wales won seven marketing awards at the recent Chartered Institute of Marketing Travel Industry Group awards.

**Andrew Davies:** Yn ystod 2005-06, llwyddodd ymgyrch farchnata Mawredd Mawr Cymru yn y DU a'r ymgyrchoedd marchnata rhyngwladol i ragori ar y targedau ymateb i hysbysebu. Yn ogystal â hyn, yr wyf yn falch iawn cael dweud bod Croeso Cymru wedi ennill saith gwobr farchnata yn ystod yr achlysur gwobrwyo a gynhaliwyd yn diweddar gan Grŵp Diwydiant Teithio y Seflydiad Siartredig Marchnata.

**Christine Gwyther:** Thank you for that answer, Minister. I agree that destination marketing is a big part of tourism promotion, but the regional appeal that we have is also important. I recently visited the South West Wales Tourism Partnership in Llandeilo, to talk about what it has been doing over the past four years. We talked about the different strengths of regions in Wales. Can you assure me that, as you are undertaking a review of regional tourism partnerships, you will not try to adopt a one-size-fits-all model for all of those partnerships, and that you understand that diversity is a strength in terms of our tourism appeal in Wales?

**Christine Gwyther:** Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Cytunaf fod marchnata cyrchfan yn rhan fawr o hyrwyddo twristiaeth, ond mae ein hapêl ranbarthol hefyd yn bwysig. Ymwelais â Phartneriaeth Twristiaeth De Orllewin Cymru yn Llandeilo yn ddiweddar, i drafod yr hyn y mae wedi ei wneud yn ystod y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Buom yn siarad am gryfderau'r gwahanol ranbarthau yng Nghymru. A allwch roi sicrwydd imi, a chithau'n gwneud adolygiad o bartneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol, na fyddwch yn ceisio mabwysiadu'r un model ar gyfer pob un o'r partneriaethau hynny, a'ch bod yn deall bod amrywiaeth yn gryfder yn ein hapêl yng Nghymru i ymwelwyr?

**Andrew Davies:** I can certainly give that assurance. The principle that underlies the Wales spatial plan is that a one-size-fits-all policy does not fit the needs of the different parts of Wales and does not reflect local distinctiveness. Clearly, that was why the regional tourism partnerships were set up. As you rightly said, an evaluation is going on at the moment, and I want to see its outcome before deciding how to go forward. One of the strengths of the RTPs is that they bring local government to the table. Too often in the past, local government has not seen tourism as a priority, but I am delighted to say that one of the biggest benefits of the RTPs is that, almost universally across

**Andrew Davies:** Gallaf yn bendant roi'r sicrwydd hwnnw. Yr egwyddor sy'n sail i gynllun gofodol Cymru yw nad yw un polisi i bawb yn diwallu anghenion y gwahanol rannau o Gymru, ac nad yw'n adlewyrchu natur arbennig ardaloedd lleol. Wrth gwrs, dyna pam y sefydlwyd y partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol. Fel yr oeddech yn dweud yn hollol gywir, mae gwerthusiad ar y gweill ar hyn o bryd, ac yr wyf am weld ei ganlyniadau cyn penderfynu sut i weithredu. Un o gryfderau'r partneriaethau yw eu bod yn cynnwys llywodraeth leol. Yn rhy aml yn y gorffennol, mae llywodraeth leol wedi methu ystyried twristiaeth yn flaenoriaeth. Ond yr wyf yn falch dweud mai un o

Wales, local government now sees tourism as a major industry in each locality, whether that it is in more traditional areas, such as Pembrokeshire, or in the south Wales Valleys.

**Gwenda Thomas:** Will you join me in recognising the achievement of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in helping the tourism industry of the borough to increase the total rooms available to visitors by 15 per cent over the last year? The greatest growth was in the self-catering sector, which increased by 31 per cent. I am sure that you will agree that this support encourages local people to set up businesses in their communities and to improve the overall economic prosperity of the area.

**Andrew Davies:** Very much so. One of the most significant developments over the last five years or so has been the significant improvement in the quality of tourism accommodation, as well as its quantity. This is particularly the case in Neath Port Talbot. Mountain biking is hugely popular in the Afan valley, which is now seen as a premier location or destination for mountain biking. That has had an effect on the local community, particularly in villages such as Glynorrwg, where accommodation has now improved and increased, as has other services for visitors to the area. All the partners involved need to be commended for the huge success that they have made of this project.

**Janet Ryder:** I understand that the grading of hotels in Wales is about to be changed. Grading is incredibly important, especially when people are booking ahead and looking at accommodation. There is a small hotel in Ruthin that has now upgraded its restaurant to an extremely high standard, and the owners are also improving the residential side of the hotel to that standard. They carried out that upgrading work in full consultation with members of your department and took guidance on whether to go for a hotel or a guest house; they thought that they had got it just right until they applied for the licence and someone from your department came and looked at the building and said that they had to comply to a

fanteision mwyaf y partneriaethau yw bod llywodraeth leol, bron yn ddiethriad ledled Cymru, yn ystyried twristiaeth yn ddiwydiant pwysig ym mhob ardal, boed hynny yn yr ardaloedd mwy traddodiadol, megis sir Benfro, neu yng nghymoedd y De.

**Gwenda Thomas:** A ymunwch â mi i gydnabod llwyddiant Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Castell-nedd Port Talbot yn helpu diwydiant twristiaeth y fwrdeistref i gynyddu nifer yr ystafelloedd sydd ar gael i ymwelwyr 15 y cant dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf? Yn y sector hunanarlwyo yr oedd y twf mwyaf, gyda chynnydd o 31 y cant. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod y gefnogaeth hon yn annog pobl leol i sefydlu busnesau yn eu cymunedau ac i wella ffyniant economaidd cyffredinol yr ardal.

**Andrew Davies:** Yn sicr. Un o'r datblygiadau pwysicaf dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf yw'r gwelliant sylweddol yn ansawdd y llety i ymwelwyr, yn ogystal â faint sydd ar gael. Mae hyn yn arbennig o wir yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot. Mae beicio mynydd yn hynod boblogaidd yng nghwm Afan, a ystyrir yn un o'r prif leoliadau neu gyrchfannau ar gyfer beicio mynydd. Mae hynny wedi cael effaith ar y gymuned leol, yn enwedig mewn pentrefi megis Glynorrwg, lle mae llety wedi gwella ac wedi cynyddu erbyn hyn, ac felly hefyd wasanaethau eraill i ymwelwyr a ddaw i'r ardal. Rhaid canmol yr holl bartneriaid sy'n ymwneud â hyn am eu llwyddiant mawr wrth ddatblygu'r prosiect hwn.

**Janet Ryder:** Deallaf fod y system o raddio gwystai yng Nghymru ar fin newid. Mae graddio'n hynod bwysig, yn enwedig pan fydd pobl yn llogi ymlaen llaw ac yn chwilio am lety. Mae gwesty bach yn Rhuthun bellach wedi uwchraddio ei fwyty i safon hynod uchel, ac mae'r perchnogion hefyd wedi gwella'r cyfleusterau i westeion preswyl i'r un safon uchel. Gwnaethpwyd y gwaith uwchraddio hwnnw ganddynt ar ôl ymgynghori'n llawn â'ch adran a chael cyngor ar ddewis gwesty ynteu tŷ llety; yr oeddent yn meddwl eu bod wedi cael popeth yn iawn nes iddynt wneud cais am drwydded, a daeth rhywun o'ch adran i edrych ar yr adeilad gan ddweud bod yn rhaid iddynt gydymffurfio â safon wahanol. Weinidog,

different standard. Minister, what are you doing to ensure that officials in your department are giving the right information to hoteliers to ensure that they do not waste time and money and that they get the classification right?

3.10 p.m.

**Andrew Davies:** It is difficult for me to comment on a specific case because I do not know the details of it, but if you write to me on that, I will follow it up. As that question was asked in Plenary, I will also make the answer available to the Assembly Parliamentary Service. I think that you are referring to the grading harmonisation programme, which is the grading approach that is now used across the UK. Until now, England, Wales and Scotland had different grading systems, so it was difficult for someone from overseas to compare something of a particular standard in Wales with something of the same standard in England. In future, there will be a common standard so that any visitor will know what they can expect: if they go for 2-star or 3-star accommodation, they will know exactly what they will be getting, irrespective of what part of the UK that they are in.

**Rosemary Butler:** Minister, you said that you can have high-quality attractions, but it is the quality of the accommodation that is vital. Will you therefore join me in congratulating David and Barbara Gilfillan of Radford House in Caerleon, who this week were awarded the title of 'Best Bed and Breakfast in Wales'?

**Andrew Davies:** I am always prepared to celebrate success, and certainly where, as in this case, it is obviously well earned. As I said in my reply to Gwenda Thomas, one of the significant things that have happened in Wales over the last five years or so has been the dramatic increase in the quality of tourism accommodation, visitor attractions and, above all, our restaurants, and the quality of the produce on offer. That is a tribute to everyone in the industry who is working with the Government to significantly improve the quality on offer.

**Lisa Francis:** I visited Tourism Ireland in

beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod swyddogion yn eich adran yn rhoi'r wybodaeth gywir i berchnogion gwestai i sicrhau nad ydynt yn gwastraffu amser nac arian a'u bod yn cael y dosbarthiad yn iawn?

**Andrew Davies:** Mae'n anodd imi wneud sylwadau ar achos penodol gan nad wyf yn gwybod y manylion, ond os ysgrifennwch ataf ynglŷn â hynny, fe ymchwiliaf i'r mater. Gan fod y cwestiwn hwnnw wedi'i ofyn yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, byddaf yn sicrhau hefyd bod yr ateb ar gael i Wasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad. Credaf eich bod yn cyfeirio at y rhaglen cysoni graddau, sef y ffordd o raddio a ddefnyddir ledled y DU bellach. Hyd yma, mae Cymru, Lloegr a'r Alban wedi bod yn defnyddio systemau graddio gwahanol, felly yr oedd yn anodd i rywun o wlad dramor gymharu rhywbeth o safon benodol yng Nghymru â rhywbeth o'r un safon yn Lloegr. Yn y dyfodol, bydd safon gyffredin er mwyn i unrhyw ymwelydd wybod beth y gall ei ddisgwyl: os bydd yn penderfynu aros mewn gwesty 2 seren neu 3 seren, bydd yn gwybod yn union beth fydd yn ei gael, waeth ym mha ran o'r DU y mae.

**Rosemary Butler:** Weinidog, yr oeddech yn dweud ei bod yn bosibl cael atyniadau o safon dda ond mai'r hyn sy'n hollbwysig yw ansawdd y llety. Felly, a ymunwch â mi i longyfarch David a Barbara Gilfillan o Dŷ Radford yng Nghaerllion a enillodd y wobwr am 'Y Gwely a Brecwast Gorau yng Nghymru' yr wythnos hon?

**Andrew Davies:** Yr wyf bob amser yn barod i ddathlu llwyddiant, ac yn sicr lle mae hynny, fel yn yr achos hwn, yn amlwg yn haeddiannol iawn. Fel y dywedais yn fy ateb i Gwenda Thomas, un o'r pethau pwysicaf sydd wedi digwydd yng Nghymru dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf yw'r cynnydd mawr yn ansawdd y llety i ymwelwyr, atyniadau i ymwelwyr ac, yn anad dim, ein bwytai, ac ansawdd y cynnyrch a gynnigir. Mae hynny'n glod i bawb yn y diwydiant sy'n gweithio gyda'r Llywodraeth i wella'r safon a gynnigir yn sylweddol.

**Lisa Francis:** Ymwelais â Tourism Ireland

Dublin during the summer and it was interesting to hear how, in relation to the Ryder Cup, it was maximising opportunities for all tourism operators, not just the large corporate operators. Could you list your marketing priorities that will ensure that all tourism operators, not just the big corporate players, manage to do well out of the Ryder Cup when it comes to Wales?

**Andrew Davies:** The overarching aim of our hosting the Ryder Cup in 2010 is to maximise the benefit for all parts of Wales, be that in terms of general visitors or golf tourism. At the Ryder Cup at the K Club, only a week ago, I launched Visit Wales's latest marketing campaign, 'Golf as it should be'. We aim to improve quality everywhere in Wales, irrespective of the size of the company involved. In fact, only recently, when I met Tourism Swansea Bay and talked to the operators, I discovered that some small hoteliers are already taking bookings for the Ryder Cup in 2010. Therefore, it is clear that we want to maximise the economic impact of the cup across the whole of Wales, not just for the sake of large companies or those in the Newport area.

**Jonathan Morgan:** For a small nation, we have a good number of excellent hotels and restaurants that ought to be a draw and a boost for tourist numbers. When I was in Hong Kong in September, I was astonished to find a large number of publications that, while listing a good number of hotels and restaurants in England and Scotland, were rather weak on noticing the excellence that we have in Wales. What strategy is responsible for helping to market the excellent hotels and restaurants that we have in Wales and are there any plans to re-examine the situation?

**Andrew Davies:** I will follow up that specific issue with my officials in Visit Wales, and also with VisitBritain. There is now a broad division of labour in terms of marketing. VisitBritain will be responsible for marketing Wales and the rest of the UK in emerging markets, particularly in the far east—in China, for example—whereas we, as Visit Wales, will be marketing Wales in

yn Nulyn yn ystod yr haf ac yr oedd yn ddiddorol clywed sut yr oedd, mewn cysylltiad â'r Cwpan Ryder, yn sicrhau'r cyfleoedd gorau posibl i bawb ym myd twristiaeth, nid yn unig y cwmnïau corfforaethol mawr. A allech restru'ch blaenoriaeth marchnata a fydd yn sicrhau bod pawb ym myd twristiaeth, nid y cwmnïau corfforaethol mawr yn unig, yn llwyddo i elwa pan ddaw'r Cwpan Ryder i Gymru?

**Andrew Davies:** Y nod cyffredin wrth inni gynnal y Cwpan Ryder yn 2010 yw cael y budd mwyaf i bob rhan o Gymru, boed o ran ymwelwyr cyffredinol neu dwristiaeth golff. Yn ystod y Cwpan Ryder yn y K Club yr wythnos diwethaf lansiais ymgyrch farchnata ddiweddaraf Croeso Cymru, 'Golff i godi'r galon'. Ein nod yw gwella safon ym mhobman yng Nghymru, waeth pa mor fawr neu fach yw'r cwmni dan sylw. Yn wir, yn ddiweddar iawn, pan gyfarfûm â Thwristiaeth Bae Abertawe i siarad â'r gweithredwyr, clywais fod rhai gwestai bach eisoes yn gosod ystafelloedd ar gyfer y Cwpan Ryder yn 2010. Felly, mae'n amlwg ein bod am sicrhau'r effaith economaidd fwyaf oherwydd y cwpan ym mhob rhan o Gymru, nid yn unig er mwyn y cwmnïau mawr neu'r rheini yn ardal Casnewydd.

**Jonathan Morgan:** O genedl fach, mae gennym nifer dda o westai a bwytai rhagorol a ddylai ddenu ymwelwyr a chynyddu niferoedd. Pan oeddwn yn Hong Kong ym mis Medi, synnwn o weld nifer fawr o gyhoeddiadau yn rhestru nifer dda o westai a bwytai yn Lloegr a'r Alban, ond a oedd braidd yn wan o ran nodi'r pethau rhagorol sydd gennym yng Nghymru. Pa strategaeth sy'n gyfrifol am helpu marchnata'r gwestai a'r bwytai rhagorol sydd gennym yng Nghymru, ac a oes unrhyw fwriad i ystyried y sefyllfa?

**Andrew Davies:** Byddaf yn ychwilio i'r mater penodol hwnnw gyda'm swyddogion yn Croeso Cymru a hefyd gyda VisitBritain. Rhennir y gwaith marchnata yn fras erbyn hyn. Bydd VisitBritain yn gyfrifol am farchnata Cymru a gweddill y DU mewn marchnadoedd newydd, yn enwedig yn y dwyrain pell—yn Tsieina, er enghraifft—ond ni, ynghyd â Croeso Cymru, fydd yn

established or mature markets, for example, in Ireland and other parts of the European Union. That is the broad division of labour, but I will follow up your specific question with my officials and get a reply to you.

marchnata Cymru yn y marchnadoedd sefydledig neu aeddfed, er enghraifft, yn Iwerddon a rhannau eraill o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Dyna sut y rhennir y gwaith yn fras, ond byddaf yn codi'ch cwestiwn penodol gyda fy swyddogion ac yn rhoi ateb ichi.

### **Datblygu Economaidd yng Ngheredigion Economic Development in Ceredigion**

**C7 Elin Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei gynlluniau ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yng Ngheredigion? OAQ995(EIN)

**Q7 Elin Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on his plans for economic development in Ceredigion? OAQ995(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** In line with our vision for our economy set out in 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy', we continue to support the economic development of Ceredigion. Notable examples include: the use of regional selective assistance and the Assembly investment grant to support job creation and fresh investment; developing the unmanned aerial vehicle centre of excellence at ParcAberporth; and support for innovative companies through Technium Aberystwyth.

**Andrew Davies:** Yn unol â'n gweledigaeth ar gyfer yr economi sydd wedi ei gosod allan yn 'Cymru: Economi yn Ffynnu', yr ydym yn parhau i gefnogi datblygiad economaidd Ceredigion. Ymhlith enghreifftiau nodedig mae defnyddio cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad i gefnogi creu swyddi a buddsoddiad newydd; datblygu canolfan ragoriaeth ar gyfer cerbydau awyr di-griw ym Mharc Aberporth; a chefnogi cwmnïau arloesol drwy Technium Aberystwyth.

**Elin Jones:** Mae'ch Llywodraeth wedi gosod targed i'r WDA i werthu unedau diwydiannol a adeiladwyd gan yr awdurdod. Mae'r drefn hon wedi bod ers dyddiau John Redwood o leiaf. Yn hanesyddol, dywedai'r WDA yn gyhoeddus ei fod yn credu bod y targedau hyn yn afresymol, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig. A wyddoch chi fod ffatri a godwyd yn nyffryn Aeron wedi cael ei gwerthu i gwmni Dairygold am £200,000 yn llai na'r gost o'i hadeiladu i'r WDA, ac mae'r ffatri honno'n wag heddiw ac yn parhau i fod yn eiddo Dairygold yn Iwerddon? A ydych yn cytuno y dylech chi a'ch Llywodraeth ollwng eich targed ar gyfer gwerthu asedau, a chadw mwy ohonynt mewn perchnogaeth gyhoeddus fel y gallwch eu rhentu i gwmnïau yn hytrach na'u gwerthu, fel yr ydych yn ei wneud yn awr ac sydd wedi arwain at y sefyllfa echrhydus yn nyffryn Aeron?

**Elin Jones:** Your Government has set a target for the WDA to sell on industrial units built by the agency. That arrangement has been in place at least since the days of John Redwood. Historically, the WDA stated publicly that it believes the targets are unreasonable, especially in rural areas. Were you aware that a factory built in the Aeron valley was sold to Dairygold for £200,000 less than it cost the WDA to build it, and that that factory now sits vacant and continues to be in the ownership of Dairygold in Ireland? Do you agree that you and your Government should drop your target for selling on assets, and keep more assets in public ownership so that you can rent them out to companies rather than sell them, as you are doing at present and which has led to the disgraceful situation in the Aeron valley?

**Andrew Davies:** We are always reviewing policies, particularly where they may have a particular impact on a locality. From meeting businesses in Cardigan only a few months ago, I know that the availability of premises

**Andrew Davies:** Yr ydym yn gyson yn adolygu polisiau, yn arbennig lle maent yn cael effaith arbennig ar gymdogaeth. O gwrdd â busnesau yng Aberteifi prin fisoedd yn ôl, gwn fod medru cael safleoedd yn



was an issue for them. However, the basic principle that drives our policies is that the Government's role is to intervene where there is market failure. If, in the case of Ceredigion or anywhere else in Wales, the market is able to supply business parks, enterprise parks or even individual premises, then we believe it best to recycle the receipts by selling our assets on to the private sector so that they can then be reinvested in other parts of the locality—in this case, Cardigan or, indeed, Ceredigion. I will take up the specific issue about Aberaeron and write to you.

broblem iddynt. Fodd bynnag, yr egwyddor sylfaenol sy'n llywio ein polisiau yw mai rôl y Llywodraeth yw ymyrryd lle mae'r farchnad yn methu. Os yw farchnad yn gallu cyflenwi parciau busnes, parciau menter neu hyd yn oed safleoedd unigol, yn achos Aberteifi neu unman arall yng Nghymru, yna credwn mai'r peth gorau yw ailgylchu'r derbyniadau drwy werthu ein hasedion i'r sector preifat fel y gellir eu hailfuddsoddi mewn rhannau eraill o'r gymdogaeth—yn yr achos hwn yn Aberteifi, neu, yn wir, yng Ngheredigion. Byddaf yn codi'r mater penodol ynglŷn ag Aberaeron ac yn ysgrifennu atoch.

### **Perthynas y Gweinidog â Chyflogwyr The Minister's Relationship with Employers**

**C8 David Lloyd:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei berthynas â chyflogwyr yng Ngorllewin De Cymru? OAQ1016(EIN)

**Q8 David Lloyd:** Will the Minister make a statement on his relationship with employers in South Wales West? OAQ1016(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** Strong and effective relationships between the Assembly Government, business and trade unions is one of our great successes. This relationship is often envied across the border. In addition to formal meetings with groups such as the business partnership council, both with the First Minister and separately, I regularly meet and visit companies, including those in South Wales West.

**Andrew Davies:** Perthynas gref ac effeithiol rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, busnes ac undebau llafur yw un o'n llwyddiannau mawr. Mae'r berthynas hon yn aml yn destun cenfigen y tu hwnt i Glawdd Offa. Yn ogystal â chyfarfodydd ffurfiol gyda grwpiau megis y cyngor partneriaeth busnes, gyda'r Prif Weinidog ac ar wahân, byddaf yn cwrdd â chwmnïau ac yn ymweld â hwy'n rheolaidd, gan gynnwys y rheini yng Ngorllewin De Cymru.

**David Lloyd:** Yn Abertawe, 8.8 y cant o fusnesau sy'n hunangyflogedig, ond 12.7 y cant yw'r cyfartaledd drwy Brydain. Beth ydych yn ei wneud i godi lefel entrepreneuriaeth yn Abertawe?

**David Lloyd:** In Swansea, 8.8 per cent of businesses are self-employed, while the average figure for the whole of Britain is 12.7 per cent. What are you doing to raise the level of entrepreneurship in Swansea?

**Andrew Davies:** That happens mainly through a highly successful programme called the entrepreneurship action plan, which was established and run by the former Welsh Development Agency, but which now forms part of my department. If you look at the recent figures for entrepreneurial growth, particularly through business start-ups, you will see that growth in Wales has actually exceeded that in the rest of the UK. The *Global Entrepreneurship Monitor*, a piece of global research conducted by Professor Dylan Jones-Evans and Professor David Brooksbank, shows that, through looking at

**Andrew Davies:** Mae hyn yn digwydd yn bennaf drwy raglen lwyddiannus iawn a elwir yn gynllun gweithredu entrepreneuriaeth, a sefydlwyd ac sy'n cael ei rheoli gan Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru gynt ond sy'n rhan o'm hadran i yn awr. Os edrychwech ar y ffigurau diweddar ar gyfer twf entrepreneuriaidd, yn arbennig drwy gychwyn busnes, fe welwch fod twf yng Nghymru mewn gwirionedd yn fwy nag yng ngweddill y DU. Mae'r *Monitor Entrepreneuriaeth Byd-eang*, darn o ymchwil fyd-eang a wnaed gan yr Athro Dylan Jones-Evans a'r Athro David Brooksbank, yn dangos bod twf yng

the measure of total entrepreneurial activity, growth in Wales has been much more dramatic than in other parts of the UK. However, we are not complacent, and we realise that we are coming at this from a low base, which is why we have invested considerable resources into encouraging people to start their own businesses.

Nghymru, drwy edrych ar fesur y cyfanswm gweithgaredd entrepreneuriaidd, lawer yn fwy dramatig nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn hunanfodlon, a sylweddolwn ein bod yn dechrau o sylfaen isel, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi buddsoddi adnoddau sylweddol i annog pobl i gychwyn eu busnesau eu hunain.

### **Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus Public Transport**

**Q9 Huw Lewis:** Will the Minister make a statement on public transport in the south Wales Valleys? OAQ1048(EIN)

**C9 Huw Lewis:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus yng Nghymoedd y de? OAQ1048(EIN)

**Andrew Davies:** I strongly believe that excellent public transport is vital for improving the lives of people in the south Wales Valleys. The South East Wales Transport Alliance is responsible for preparing an integrated transport strategy that will set out priorities for future investment in public transport in the area.

**Andrew Davies:** Credaf yn gryf fod trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus ragorol yn hanfodol i wella bywydau pobl yng nghymoedd y de. Mae Cynghair Trafnidiaeth De-ddwyrain Cymru yn gyfrifol am baratoi strategaeth drafnidiaeth integredig a fydd yn gosod blaenoriaethau ar gyfer buddsoddi yn y dyfodol ym maes trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus yn yr ardal.

**Huw Lewis:** We have all celebrated the recent announcement of Welsh Labour's achievement in commencing the Ebbw Vale rail link. Those of us who represent Valleys constituencies have celebrated most particularly. However, you will be aware of other Valleys communities that have waited patiently for an improvement in their rail services, and I am thinking particularly of the Merthyr and Rhymney half-hourly rail link commitment, which has been ongoing now for some years. Could you give us an update on your determination to follow through on that improvement in services, as well as an illustration of the timescale?

**Huw Lewis:** Yr ydym i gyd wedi dathlu'r cyhoeddiad yn ddiweddar am lwyddiant Llafur Cymru yn dechrau'r cyswllt rheilffordd o Lynebwyl. Mae'r rheini ohonom sy'n cynrychioli etholaethau'r Cymoedd wedi dathlu'n arbennig iawn. Fodd bynnag, byddwch yn ymwybodol o gymunedau eraill yn y Cymoedd sydd wedi bod yn aros yn amyneddgar am welliant yn eu gwasanaethau rheilffordd, ac yr wyf yn meddwl yn arbennig am yr ymrwymiad i gysylltiad rheilffordd bob hanner awr rhwng Merthyr a Rhymni. A allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am eich penderfyniad i weithredu ar y gwelliant hwnnw mewn gwasanaethau, yn ogystal â syniad o'r amserlen?

3.20 p.m.

**Andrew Davies:** I will write to you on the specific timescale, but we are certainly committed to improving transport services and infrastructure in the Valleys. You rightly pointed out our commitment to investing in improved stations, particularly on the Treherbert, Rhymney and Merthyr lines. One of our priorities is to fund infrastructure improvements on the Abercynon to Merthyr line, particularly the construction of a passing

**Andrew Davies:** Byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r amserlen benodol, ond yr ydym yn sicr wedi ymrwymo i wella gwasanaethau trafnidiaeth a seilwaith yn y Cymoedd. Yr oeddech yn tynnu sylw'n gwbl gywir at ein hymrwymiad i fuddsoddi i wella gorsafoedd, yn arbennig ar linellau Treherbert, Rhymni a Merthyr. Un o'n blaenoriaethau yw ariannu gwelliannau seilwaith ar linell Abercynon i Ferthyr, yn arbennig adeiladu dolen basio.

loop. This will enable a half-hourly service as opposed to the hourly service that is currently available. However, I will write to you on the specific timescales.

**Janet Davies:** I refer to public transport in the Llynfi, Ogmore and Garw valleys, which I represent, among others. There are quite good bus services in those valleys, but they are limited by the quality of the roads. The Ogmore and Garw valleys have very poor roads, and, although the road at Llynfi, south of Maesteg, is better, the loss of jobs there will increase the pressure on that particular road. In the past, you have told me that local authorities should apply for transport grants to improve these roads. When I write to the local authorities, they tell me that you do not allow them to apply for transport grants to improve roads. Where does the truth lie?

**Andrew Davies:** We do support—  
[*Interruption.*]

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. The Minister is about to begin his answer. He has answered questions for a long period. [*Interruption.*] Order. I have allowed this to go on, because the Minister has wide-ranging responsibilities, and he has excited a lot of—  
[*Laughter.*] Order. He has excited a lot of demands for accountability from Members. I am therefore exercising my discretion to allow Members to question the Minister. If Members do not wish to question the Minister, they know what to do—they should not send me their names.

**Andrew Davies:** I do invite applications for local transport enhancement. The problem with the transport grant budget at the moment is that it is severely over-programmed, as I have reported to committee and Plenary on many occasions over the past couple of years. That is largely because many local authority road schemes have come in substantially over budget, and, therefore, in terms of prudent management of the budget, I must manage that issue.

On transport priorities in the future, with the

Bydd hyn yn galluogi cael gwasanaeth bob hanner awr yn hytrach na'r gwasanaeth bob awr sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r amserlenni penodol.

**Janet Davies:** Cyfeiriai at drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus yng nghymoedd Llynfi, Ogwr a Garw yr wyf yn eu cynrychioli, ymhlith eraill. Mae gwasanaethau bws lled dda yn y cymoedd hynny, ond cânt eu cyfyngu gan ansawdd y ffyrdd. Mae yng nghymoedd Ogwr a Garw ffyrdd gwael iawn, ac er bod y ffordd yn Llynfi, i'r de o Faesteg, yn well, bydd colli swyddi yno'n cynyddu'r pwysau ar y ffordd benodol honno. Yn y gorffennol, yr ydych wedi dweud wrthyf y dylai awdurdodau lleol wneud cais am grantiau trafnidiaeth i wella'r ffyrdd hyn. Pan ysgrifennaf at yr awdurdodau lleol, maent yn dweud wrthyf nad ydych yn caniatáu iddynt wneud cais am grantiau trafnidiaeth i wella ffyrdd. Beth yw'r gwirionedd?

**Andrew Davies:** Yr ydym yn cefnogi—  
[*Torri ar draws*]

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Mae'r Gweinidog ar fin dechrau ei ateb. Mae wedi bod yn ateb cwestiynau ers amser maith. [*Torri ar draws*] Trefn. Yr wyf wedi caniatáu i hyn barhau oherwydd fod gan y Gweinidog gyfrifoldebau eang, ac mae wedi ennyn llawer o—[*Chwerthin*] Trefn. Mae wedi ennyn llawer o alw am atebolrwydd gan Aelodau. Yr wyf felly'n arfer doethineb i ganiatáu i Aelodau holi'r Gweinidog. Os nad yw Aelodau am holi'r Gweinidog, gwyddant beth i'w wneud—ni ddylent anfon eu henwau ataf.

**Andrew Davies:** Byddaf yn gwahodd ceisiadau am wella trafnidiaeth leol. Y broblem gyda chyllideb y grantiau trafnidiaeth ar hyn o bryd yw bod llawer gormod o alw, fel yr wyf wedi ei ddweud wrth y pwyllgor a'r Cyfarfod Llawn lawer gwaith yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae hynny'n bennaf oherwydd bod nifer o gynlluniau ffyrdd gan awdurdodau lleol wedi bod yn sylweddol uwch na'u cyllideb, ac felly, o ran rheoli'r gyllideb yn ddoeth, rhaid imi reoli'r mater hwnnw.

O ran blaenoriaethau trafnidiaeth yn y

Transport Wales strategy and the requirement for the four regional transport consortia in Wales—in this case, it is SEWTA—to develop a regional transport plan, the funding for transport services and investment will be on the basis of the priorities as decided by the regional transport consortia in those transport plans. Therefore, we have been working with local authorities in south-east Wales and will continue to do so over the next year or two to identify those priorities.

**William Graham:** In restraining my excitement, Andrew, I ask for your assurance that, when the new link railway is opened to Ebbw Vale, we will have good and decent trains on that link.

**Andrew Davies:** Yes, we are committed to improving the rolling stock in Wales. From December, there will be 12 new 175s working on the north-to-south service particularly. We are working with Arriva Trains, and I had a meeting earlier today with Bob Holland, the managing director, and his team. We are looking at ways to improve the rolling stock on the franchise, as well as the quality of the cleaning and the maintenance of those units.

**The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German):** Following that answer, I have a firm request that you tell us whether the people using the trains running on the new Ebbw Vale line will have new rolling stock, new carriages, and a brand new service in which they can sit comfortably, or whether they will have someone else's hand-me-downs. If you do not know the answer to that yet, when will you know?

**Andrew Davies:** What can I say? It will be a brand new service next summer, because passenger services have not been on that line since the Beecham cuts of the early 1960s. However, we are in discussion with Arriva Trains about the quality of the rolling stock. It is for next year, and those discussions are being held between Arriva and my officials at present.

dyfodol, gyda strategaeth Trafnidiaeth Cymru a'r gofyniad i'r pedwar consortiwm trafndiaeth rhanbarthol yng Nghymru—SEWTA yn yr achos hwn—ddatblygu cynllun trafndiaeth rhanbarthol, caiff ariannu gwasanaethau trafndiaeth a buddsoddiad ei seilio ar flaenoriaethau a gaiff eu penderfynu gan y consortia trafndiaeth rhanbarthol yn y cynlluniau trafndiaeth hynny. Felly, yr ydym wedi bod yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol yn y de-ddwyrain i nodi'r blaenoriaethau hynny, a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny am y flwyddyn neu ddwy nesaf.

**William Graham:** Wrth geisio ffrwyno fy nghyffro, Andrew, gofynnaf ichi am sicrwydd, pan agorir y cyswllt rheilffordd newydd i Lynebwy, y bydd gennym drenau da o safon ar y cyswllt hwnnw.

**Andrew Davies:** Bydd, yr ydym wedi ymrwmo i wella cerbydau yng Nghymru. O fis Rhagfyr, bydd 12 o gerbydau 175 newydd yn gweithio ar y gwasanaeth rhwng y gogledd a'r de yn arbennig. Yr ydym yn cydweithio â Trenau Arriva, a chefais gyfarfod yn gynharach heddiw gyda Bob Holland, y rheolwr gyfarwyddwr, a'i dîm. Yr ydym yn edrych ar ffyrdd i wella'r cerbydau ar yr fasnachfaint, yn ogystal â safon glanhau a chynnal yr unedau hynny.

**Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German):** Yn dilyn yr ateb hwnnw, mae gennyf gais cadarn ichi ddweud wrthym a fydd y bobl sy'n defnyddio'r trenau ar linell newydd Glynebwy yn cael cerbydau newydd a gwasanaeth newydd sbon lle y gallent eistedd yn gyfforddus, neu a fyddant yn cael hen gerbydau rhywrai eraill. Os na wyddoch yr ateb i hynny eto, pryd y byddwch yn gwybod?

**Andrew Davies:** Beth y gallaf ei ddweud? Bydd yn wasanaeth newydd sbon yr haf nesaf, oherwydd ni chafwyd gwasanaethau teithwyr ar y llinell honno ers toriadau Beecham ar ddechrau'r 1960au. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn trafod gyda Trenau Arriva ynglŷn ag ansawdd y cerbydau. Mae hynny ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, ac y mae'r trafodaethau hynny rhwng Arriva a'm swyddogion yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd.

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

**Plant sy'n Derbyn Gofal**  
**Looked-after Children**

**Q1 David Melding:** Will the Minister make a statement on how she ensures equality of opportunity in Welsh Assembly Government initiatives specifically aimed at looked-after children? OAQ0286(BM)

**The Business Minister (Jane Hutt):** Initiatives for looked-after children recognise the additional support that they need to ensure equality of opportunity to enable them to reach their full potential. These include the £1 million raising attainment and individual standards in education in Wales grant, and the child trust fund grant for looked-after children.

**David Melding:** Looking at educational attainment as an indicator of general provision for looked-after children, we see that, in 2004, 8 per cent of looked-after children received five good GCSE passes compared with 51 per cent of the general population. That figure in 2005 fell to 4 per cent. A year-on-year indicator is not necessarily a good indicator but, still, the figure is low compared with a rise in that figure for the general population to 52.2 per cent. It is important that we focus on that and realise that it is the result of a range of services not delivering at optimum level for looked-after children. Can you ensure that your ministerial colleagues take this on board and realise the general improvement that we need? I do not make a partisan point, because it is only now that we are becoming fully aware of the attention that we must pay to this particularly vulnerable group of children.

**Jane Hutt:** We fully subscribe to the points that you have been making, and that is why it was so important to put that £1 million into the RAISE grant, which is aimed at helping years 10 and 11 pupils to move onto further

**C1 David Melding:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ffordd y mae hi'n sicrhau cyfle cyfartal yng nghynlluniau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru sy'n anelu'n benodol at blant sy'n cael gofal? OAQ0286(BM)

**Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt):** Mae mentrau ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal yn cydnabod y cymorth ychwanegol y mae arnynt ei angen i sicrhau cyfle cyfartal er mwyn eu galluogi i gyrraedd eu potensial llawn. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys y grant gwerth £1 filiwn i godi cyrhaeddiad a safonau unigol mewn addysg yng Nghymru, a grant y gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal.

**David Melding:** O edrych ar gyrhaeddiad addysgol fel dangosydd o'r ddarpariaeth gyffredinol ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal, gwelwn yn 2004 fod 8 y cant o blant a oedd yn cael gofal wedi ennill pum gradd TGAU dda o'u cymharu â 51 y cant o'r boblogaeth gyffredinol. Gostyngodd y ffigur hwnnw i 4 y cant yn 2005. Nid yw dangosydd o flwyddyn i flwyddyn o reidrwydd yn ddangosydd da, ond eto mae'r ffigur yn isel o'i gymharu â chynnydd yn y ffigur hwnnw ar gyfer y boblogaeth gyffredinol i 52.2 y cant. Mae'n bwysig inni ganolbwyntio ar hynny a sylweddoli bod hynny'n digwydd am fod amrywiaeth o wasanaethau'n methu â darparu ar y lefel orau posibl i blant sy'n cael gofal. A allwch sicrhau y bydd eich cyd-Weinidogion yn derbyn hyn ac yn cydnabod y gwelliant cyffredinol y mae arnom ei angen? Nid gwneud pwynt pleidiol yr wyf, oherwydd yn awr yr ydym yn dod yn hollol ymwybodol o'r sylw y mae'n rhaid inni ei roi i'r grŵp hwn o blant sy'n arbennig o agored i niwed.

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydym cefnogi i'r carn y pwyntiau yr ydych wedi eu gwneud, a dyna pam yr oedd mor bwysig rhoi'r £1 filiwn honno yn y grant Rhagori sy'n anelu at helpu disgyblion blynyddoedd 10 ac 11 i symud

and higher education or work-based training. We also have a very effective stakeholder group on the education and training of looked-after children, which is looking at how we can address those very issues to strengthen arrangements for the promotion of education for looked-after children, using the powers that we have under the Children Act 2004. It is also about the other issues: support for foster carers; continuity; reducing the number of placements; and widening access to further and higher education for care leavers. Those key points are being addressed by this stakeholder group and, indeed, are being addressed by this £1 million grant specifically for looked-after children.

ymlaen i addysg bellach neu uwch, neu i hyfforddiant yn seiliedig ar waith. Mae gennym hefyd grŵp effeithiol iawn o randdeiliaid ar addysg a hyfforddiant plant sy'n cael gofal. Mae hwn yn edrych ar y modd y gallwn fynd i'r afael â'r union faterion hynny i gryfhau trefniadau ar gyfer hyrwyddo addysg i blant sy'n cael gofal, gan ddefnyddio'r pwerau sydd gennym o dan y Ddeddf Plant 2004. Mae hefyd yn ymwneud â materion eraill: cymorth i ofalwyr maeth; parhad; lleihau nifer y lleoliadau; ac ehangu mynediad i addysg bellach ac addysg uwch i'r rheini sy'n gadael gofal. Eir i'r afael â'r materion allweddol hynny gan y grŵp rhanddeiliaid, ac yn wir eir i'r afael â hwy drwy'r grant hwn gwerth £1 filiwn yn benodol ar gyfer plant sy'n cael gofal.

### **Hygyrchedd Gwefan y Llywodraeth The Accessibility of the Government's Website**

**Q2 Peter Black:** How is the Welsh Assembly Government making its own website accessible? OAQ0273(BM)

**C2 Peter Black:** Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gwneud ei gwefan ei hun yn hygyrch? OAQ0273(BM)

**Q4 Peter Black:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to ensure that its website meets Disability Discrimination Act 2005 requirements? OAQ0272(BM)

**C4 Peter Black:** Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod ei gwefan yn bodloni gofynion y Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005? OAQ0272(BM)

**Q7 Mick Bates:** Will the Minister make a statement on the accessibility of the Welsh Assembly Government's own website? OAQ0282(BM)

**C7 Mick Bates:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am hygyrchedd gwefan Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ei hun? OAQ0282(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Website accessibility is defined by an international standard: the web content accessibility guidelines. UK Government guidelines specify that all new public sector websites must be built to this standard. Therefore, the Welsh Assembly Government website has sought to meet or exceed the recommended standard.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae hygyrchedd gwefannau'n cael ei ddiffinio gan safon ryngwladol: sef y canllawiau ar hygyrchedd cynnwys gwefannau. Mae canllawiau Llywodraeth y DU yn pennu bod yn rhaid llunio pob gwefan sector cyhoeddus newydd yn ôl y safon hon. Felly, mae gwefan Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ceisio bodloni'r safon a argymhellir neu ragori arni.

**Peter Black:** In terms of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and its requirements for websites, what testing do you do with users of the site to ensure that it is fully compliant with the Act and that those users who have disabilities that the site is designed to cope with can access the site?

**Peter Black:** O ran y Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 2005 a'i gofynion ar gyfer gwefannau, pa brofion y byddwch yn eu cynnal gyda defnyddwyr y wefan er mwyn sicrhau ei bod yn cydymffurfio'n llawn â'r Ddeddf, ac y gall y defnyddwyr hynny sydd ag anableddau y cynlluniwyd y wefan i ddelio â hwy yn gallu defnyddio'r wefan?

**Jane Hutt:** As you say, Part 3 of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 makes it unlawful for a service provider to discriminate against a disabled person, and websites are mentioned specifically in the Act. We have commissioned an independent audit of the accessibility of the current site, carried out by the Shaw Trust. It started last week and the recommendations in its report will inform future improvements to the site. I would be pleased to bring the recommendations back to the Chamber.

**Peter Black:** I notice that it is an impressive site—and I would hope so for the price tag that came with it—but it seems to be one-dimensional, in the sense that you access the site to get information, but it is difficult to interact with the site and make comments and so on. Are there plans to make it more interactive to encourage people to engage with the Assembly Government through the website at some stage in the future?

**Jane Hutt:** Yes, that is the next stage of the website development. I am sure that you will have noticed that we now have video clips, including a clip of our First Minister making a speech to the Institute of Welsh Affairs. The second stage of the development of the website must be interactive engagement. I pay tribute to those organisations, particularly in the voluntary sector, which have developed interactive websites so that people who cannot come to meetings can be consulted via the website. That is the intention in the next stage of the development of our website.

3.30 p.m.

**Mick Bates:** The wonders of the digital age—the First Minister in video. No doubt we will have more PowerPoint presentations—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. This is not a debate; I have been indulgent with Members today because there is much interest in this matter, but I would like questions to be questions.

**Mick Bates:** Thank you for that guidance,

**Jane Hutt:** Fel y dywedwch, mae Rhan 3 o'r Ddeddf Gwahaniaethau ar sail Anabledd 2005 yn ei gwneud yn anghyfreithlon i ddarparwr gwasanaeth wahaniaethau yn erbyn person anabl, a sonnir am wefannau'n benodol yn y Ddeddf. Yr ydym wedi comisiynu archwiliad annibynnol o'r wefan bresennol, a gynhaliwyd gan Ymddiriedolaeth Shaw. Dechreuodd yr wythnos diwethaf, a bydd yr argymhellion yn ei hadroddiad yn llywio gwelliannau'r dyfodol yn y wefan. Byddwn yn falch o ddod â'r argymhellion yn ôl i'r Siambr.

**Peter Black:** Sylwaf ei bod yn wefan drawiadol—a byddwn yn gobeithio hynny am y pris a dalwyd—ond mae'n ymddangos yn un dimensiwn, yn yr ystyr eich bod yn mynd i'r wefan i gael gwybodaeth, ond mae'n anodd rhyngweithio â'r wefan a rhoi sylwadau ac ati. A oes cynlluniau i'w gwneud yn fwy rhyngweithiol i annog pobl i gysylltu â Llywodraeth y Cynulliad drwy'r wefan rywbryd yn y dyfodol?

**Jane Hutt:** Oes, dyna'r cam nesaf yn natblygiad y wefan. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod wedi sylwi bod gennym glipiau fideo erbyn hyn, gan gynnwys clip o'n Prif Weinidog yn rhoi araith i'r Sefydliad Materion Cymreig. Rhaid i ail gam y broses o ddatblygu'r wefan gynnwys ymgysylltiad rhyngweithiol. Yr wyf yn rhoi teyrnged i'r sefydliadau hynny, yn arbennig yn y sector gwirfoddol, sydd wedi datblygu gwefannau rhyngweithiol fel y gellir cysylltu drwy'r wefan â phobl na allant ddod i gyfarfodydd. Dyna'r bwriad yn y cam nesaf yn y broses o ddatblygu ein gwefan.

**Mick Bates:** Rhyfeddodau'r oes ddigidol—y Prif Weinidog ar fideo. Mae'n siŵr y gwelwn ragor o gyflwyniadau PowerPoint—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid dadl yw hon; yr wyf wedi caniatáu rhyddid i Aelodau heddiw gan fod cryn ddiddordeb yn y mater hwn, ond hoffwn i gwestiynau fod yn gwestiynau.

**Mick Bates:** Diolch ichi am yr arweiniad

Presiding Officer.

hwnnw, Lywydd.

Accessibility on the web is one thing, but some areas in my constituency still do not have good internet connections because of the infrastructure. For example, there is old aluminium in the ground, which restricts access to this wonderful £3 million-worth website that you have developed. Will you undertake to talk to the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks to address the problem of access to the Assembly's website in areas such as Cefn Coch in Montgomeryshire?

Mae hygyrchedd ar y we yn un peth, ond nid oes gan rai ardaloedd yn fy etholaeth i gysylltiadau rhynggrwyd da o hyd oherwydd y seilwaith. Er enghraifft, mae hen alwminiwm yn y ddaear, sy'n cyfyngu mynediad i'r wefan ryfeddol hon gwerth £3 miliwn sydd wedi ei datblygu gennych. A ymrwymwch i gael trafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau i ymdrin â phroblem cysylltu â gwefan y Cynulliad mewn ardaloedd megis Cefn-coch yn sir Drefaldwyn?

**Jane Hutt:** I will discuss that point with the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks, but the expansion of broadband, and addressing those difficult areas, are high up on the agenda. We also need to ensure that our website is available at public sites that are accessible to people in local communities.

**Jane Hutt:** Trafodaf y pwynt hwnnw gyda'r Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau, ond mae ehangu band eang, ac ymdrin â'r ardaloedd anodd hynny, ar frig yr agenda. Mae angen inni hefyd sicrhau bod ein gwefan ar gael ar safleoedd cyhoeddus sy'n hygyrch i bobl mewn cymunedau lleol.

**Brynle Williams:** What steps has the Assembly Government taken since 1 October 1999 to implement its responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995? Why, as of today, does the National Assembly for Wales's website still not allow the enlargement of text for the visually impaired?

**Brynle Williams:** Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi'u cymryd er 1 Hydref 1999 i weithredu ei chyfrifoldebau o dan y Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 1995? Pam mae gwefan Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, o heddiw ymlaen, yn dal i wrthod caniatáu i bobl sydd â nam ar eu golwg gynyddu maint y testun?

**Jane Hutt:** I must question which website you are talking about, because there is the existing National Assembly for Wales website and the new Welsh Assembly Government website. As I said, Brynle, we seek to deliver the best possible access in terms of meeting the standards outlined in UK Government guidelines. We are currently testing the website with Shaw Trust, which, as you know, is at the forefront of the disability movement. I will come back to you on whether or not text can be enlarged, which is a part of access. However, we must distinguish between the different websites. Next week, we finish our consultation on a disability equality scheme, which will drive the Assembly Government's duty.

**Jane Hutt:** Rhaid imi ofyn am ba wefan yr ydych yn sôn, gan fod yna wefan bresennol Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru a gwefan newydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Fel y dywedais, Brynle, yr ydym yn anelu at ddarparu'r mynediad gorau posibl o ran bodloni'r safonau a amlinellir yng nghanllawiau Llywodraeth y DU. Yr ydym ar hyn o bryd wrthi'n profi'r wefan gydag Ymddiriedolaeth Shaw sydd, fel y gwyddoch, ar y blaen mewn materion i'r anabl. Dof yn ôl atoch i gadarnhau a ellir cynyddu maint y testun ai peidio, sy'n rhan o ganiatau mynediad. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng y gwahanol wefannau. Yr wythnos nesaf, ddaw ein hymgyngoriad ar gynllun cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl i ben, a fydd yn llywio dyletswydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

**Alun Cairns:** The Welsh Assembly Government is spending significant sums of money on this website, well over the original

**Alun Cairns:** Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gwario arian sylweddol ar y wefan hon, ymhell dros y gyllideb wreiddiol a



planned budget. It would be useful to receive a report on that, if possible. Can you assure us that the cost of making it more accessible to disabled groups was included in the original budget and that you have not been charged extra for that? What plans do you have to use the website to consult with these interested groups? Research indicates that many of these individuals will access the website quite late at night because they cannot sleep due to pain and so on. It is a good way of accessing many groups effectively, so what plans do you have to expand that programme?

**Jane Hutt:** We look forward to the recommendations of the Shaw Trust, which, as I said, has undertaken an independent audit of the website's accessibility and I will bring those recommendations back to the Assembly.

fwriadwyd. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol cael adroddiad ar hynny, os yw'n bosibl. A allwch ein sicrhau bod y gost o'i gwneud yn fwy hygyrch i grwpiau anabl wedi'i chynnwys yn y gyllideb wreiddiol ac na chodwyd tâl ychwanegol arnoch am hynny? Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i ddefnyddio'r wefan i ymgynghori â'r grwpiau hyn sydd â diddordeb? Dengys ymchwil y bydd nifer o'r unigolion hyn yn cysylltu â'r wefan yn gymharol hwyr yn y nos am na allant gysgu oherwydd poen ac ati. Mae'n ffordd dda i gysylltu'n effeithiol â nifer o grwpiau, felly, pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i ehangu'r rhaglen honno?

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydym yn edrych ymlaen at argymhellion Ymddiriedolaeth Shaw sydd, fel y dywedais, wedi gwneud archwiliad annibynnol o hygyrchedd y wefan, a byddaf yn cyflwyno'r argymhellion hynny i'r Cynulliad.

### **Hyrwyddo Cyfle Cyfartal Promoting Equal Opportunities**

**Q3 Carl Sargeant:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to promote equal promotion opportunities for women in the workplace? OAQ0278(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** The Welsh Assembly Government seeks to promote equality of opportunity for women in the workplace, for example, by supporting the Equal programme gender equality theme and the unique strategic Genesis Wales programme.

**Carl Sargeant:** The Trades Union Congress states that during her lifetime, a woman will earn around £250,000 less than a man on average. That is without taking motherhood into account, which adds around £140,000. That not only reduces a family's income, but contributes to poverty in Wales. What is the Assembly Government doing to encourage employers to create a working environment in which staff are promoted regardless of gender and which is more attractive to women?

**Jane Hutt:** A key issue is trying to ensure that we have good work-life balance in the workforce, which benefits men as well as women. Interestingly, the Assembly has

**C3 Carl Sargeant:** Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo cyfleoedd dyrchafiad cyfartal i ferched yn y gweithle? OAQ0278(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ceisio hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal i ferched yn y gweithle, er enghraifft, drwy gefnogi'r thema cydraddoldeb rhyw yn y rhaglen Equal a'r rhaglen strategol unigryw Genesis Cymru.

**Carl Sargeant:** Dywed Cyngres yr Undebau Llafur y bydd merch, yn ystod ei hoes, yn ennill tua £250,000 yn llai na dyn ar gyfartaledd. Nid yw hynny'n ystyried cyfnod magu plant, sy'n ychwanegu tua £140,000. Mae hynny nid yn unig yn lleihau incwm teulu, ond mae'n cyfrannu at dlodi yng Nghymru. Beth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i annog cyflogwyr i greu amgylchedd gwaith lle y caiff staff eu dyrchafu waeth beth fo'u rhyw ac sy'n fwy deniadol i ferched?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae ceisio sicrhau cydbwysedd da rhwng bywyd a gwaith yn y gweithlu, sydd o fudd i ddyinion yn ogystal â merched, yn fater allweddol. Yn ddiddorol, mae'r

introduced a flexible working policies and practices scheme, called 'work choices', which is about recognising that a balanced lifestyle and outside interests and experiences add value to staff opportunities. There is also a range of opportunities regarding childcare. However, our equal pay campaign is crucial to the point that you raised.

**Mark Isherwood:** I am pleased to support the equal pay campaign and to be a member of the cross-party committee. As David Cameron has stated,

'flexible working and high quality, affordable childcare [should] become the basic entitlement of every working family'.

To this end, my wife—who is a Flintshire county councillor—and I have promised to help Chwarae Teg to target the business community and key stakeholders for an event in north Wales, which I am sure Carl would be happy to participate in. In addition to, I hope, confirming your support for this, what action are you taking to allow parents to return to work at the level which they would have reached had they not taken a career break to raise children?

**Jane Hutt:** That relates to statutory duties in terms of return-to-work opportunities. A seminal case has just gone to the European court in relation to time taken out in maternity leave, the impact that that has on service, and how that is addressed in terms of pay. Chwarae Teg is a key organisation that is taking forward these issues to ensure that we have work-life balance and opportunities for career development. I am sure that events throughout Wales will be well supported.

**Eleanor Burnham:** I have raised this point and asked your advice about this on many occasions, Minister. However, despite what you are doing—and I commend you on your good work—it remains the case that major positions in Welsh employment are held by men, whether you look at the chief executives of local authorities, the leaders of local authorities, or the police. What can you

Cynulliad wedi cyflwyno cynllun polisïau ac arferion gweithio hyblyg, o'r enw 'work choices', sy'n seiliedig ar gydnabod bod ffordd o fyw gytbwys a diddordebau a phrofiadau allanol yn ychwanegu gwerth at gyfleoedd staff. Mae yna amrywiaeth o gyfleoedd gofal plant hefyd. Fodd bynnag, mae ein hymgyrch cyflog cyfartal yn hanfodol i'r pwynt a godwyd gennyh.

**Mark Isherwood:** Mae'n bleser gennyf gefnogi'r ymgyrch cyflog cyfartal ac i fod yn aelod o'r pwyllgor trawsbleidiol. Fel y mae David Cameron wedi ei ddweud,

dylai gweithio hyblyg a gofal plant fforddiadwy o safon uchel ddod yn hawl sylfaenol i bob teulu sy'n gweithio.

I'r perwyl hwn, yr wyf fi a'm gwraig—sy'n gynghorydd sir yn sir y Fflint—wedi addo helpu Chwarae Teg i dargedu'r gymuned fusnes a rhanddeiliaid allweddol ar gyfer digwyddiad yn y Gogledd. Byddai Carl, mae'n siŵr, yn fwy na pharod i gymryd rhan ynddo. Yn ogystal â chadarnhau eich cefnogaeth i'r digwyddiad hwn, gobeithio, pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i ganiatau i rieni ddychwelyd i'r gwaith ar y lefel y byddent wedi'i chyrraedd pe na byddent wedi cymryd seibiant gyrfa i fagu plant?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae a wnelo hynny â dyletswyddau statudol o ran cyfleoedd dychwelyd i'r gwaith. Mae achos arloesol newydd ei gyflwyno yn llys Ewrop am yr amser a gymerir ar absenoldeb mamolaeth, effaith hynny ar wasanaeth, a sut yr ymdrinnir â hynny o ran cyflog. Mae Chwarae Teg yn sefydliad allweddol sy'n gweithredu ar y materion hyn er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn cael cydbwysedd rhwng bywyd a gwaith a chyfleoedd i ddatblygu gyrfa. Yr wyf yn siŵr y caiff digwyddiadau ledled Cymru gefnogaeth gref.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Yr wyf wedi codi'r pwynt hwn ac wedi gofyn am eich cyngor ar hyn droeon, Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, er yr hyn yr ydych yn ei wneud—a chymeradwyaf eich gwaith caled—dynion sy'n llenwi'r prif swyddi yng Nghymru o hyd, boed yn brif weithredwyr awdurdodau lleol, arweinwyr awdurdodau lleol, neu'r heddlu. Beth y gallwch ei wneud i helpu, oherwydd mae'r

do to help, because the fact that salaries are 31 per cent lower for women in part-time work, and 12 per cent lower for women in full-time work, also means that women have reduced pensions? What can you and the Welsh Labour Government do to help in this regard?

**Jane Hutt:** The public services management Wales initiative is important in driving this forward, particularly with regard to the activities that it is taking forward in highlighting equal pay, encouraging the use of best practice and helping to develop the capacity and competence of the Welsh public sector workforce. The equal pay campaign, which has cross-party support, is key to this across the public, private and voluntary sectors.

ffaith fod cyflogau merched mewn swyddi rhan amser 31 y cant yn is, a merched mewn swyddi llawn amser 12 y cant yn is, hefyd yn golygu bod gan ferched bensiynau is? Beth y gallwch chi a Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru ei wneud i helpu yn y cyswllt hwn?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae menter rheoli gwasanaethau cyhoeddus Cymru yn bwysig o ran llywio'r gwaith hwn, yn arbennig y gweithgareddau y mae'n eu rhoi ar waith i dynnu sylw at gyflog cyfartal, annog defnyddio arfer gorau a helpu datblygu gallu a medrusrwydd gweithlu'r sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Mae'r ymgyrch cyflog cyfartal, sy'n cael ei chefnogi gan bob plaid, yn allweddol i hyn ar draws y sectorau cyhoeddus, preifat a gwirfoddol.

### **Blaenoriaethau Portffolio Portfolio Priorities**

**Q5 Lisa Francis:** Will the Minister make a statement on the priorities for her portfolio for the next six months? OAQ0285(BM)

**C5 Lisa Francis:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am flaenoriaethau ei phortffolio am y chwe mis nesaf? OAQ0285(BM)

**Q12 Nick Bourne:** Will the Minister make a statement on the priorities for her portfolio for the next months? OAQ0274(BM)

**C12 Nick Bourne:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am flaenoriaethau ei phortffolio am y misoedd i ddod? OAQ0274(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** My current priorities include a commitment to promote equality for all people in Wales, maintaining a coherent government strategy for children and young people, improving communications, and ensuring the continued good handling of freedom of information requests.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae fy mlaenoriaethau ar hyn o bryd yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb i bawb yng Nghymru, cynnal strategaeth gydlynus gan y llywodraeth ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc, gwella cysylltiadau, a sicrhau parhau i ymdrin â cheisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth mewn ffordd effeithiol.

**Lisa Francis:** Is it your priority to ensure that requests to the Members' research service, which falls under the code of practice on Members' access to information—particularly paragraph 11, which refers to the First Minister's expectation that Welsh Assembly Government officials should be as open and helpful as possible in response to such requests—are properly and fully undertaken? There seems to be a problem with the Department for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks releasing information without the Minister's approval, which goes against the code of practice on Members' access to information, does it not?

**Lisa Francis:** A yw'n flaenoriaeth gennych i sicrhau bod ceisiadau i wasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau, sy'n dod dan y cod ymarfer ar ganiatáu i Aelodau weld gwybodaeth—yn arbennig paragraff 11, sy'n cyfeirio at ddisgwyliad y Prif Weinidog y dylai swyddogion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fod mor agored a pharod eu cymwynas â phosibl wrth ymateb i geisiadau o'r fath—yn cael ymateb priodol a llawn? Ymddengys fod problem lle nad yw'r Adran Menter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau yn gallu rhyddhau gwybodaeth heb gymeradwyaeth y Gweinidog, ac onid yw hynny'n mynd yn groes i'r cod ymarfer ar ganiatáu i Aelodau weld gwybodaeth?

**Jane Hutt:** The Assembly Government is committed to working with the Members' research service to provide the information that is sought wherever it is appropriate to do so. It is important for the Assembly Government officials and Members' research service officials to reach an agreement on timescales for responding to requests. It is all established and laid down in the code of practice on Members' access to information.

**Nick Bourne:** Also relating to your responsibility for freedom of information, Minister, you will recall a statement made in Parliament in Westminster by the Prime Minister on nuclear energy which gave Scotland the power to decide on nuclear energy. England has the power to decide on nuclear energy, but we do not even get a say on any possible nuclear energy plant in Wales as a consultee, and every question that I put down is blocked for reply. Will you have a look at that and at why I am not getting responses about any discussions that the Government has had with Westminster on this important issue?

3.40 p.m.

**Jane Hutt:** I am not sure how this fits into the issue of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This relates to devolved and non-devolved responsibilities. Where there is discussion, where appropriate, it is fed back by the Minister concerned.

**Jenny Randerson:** On your responsibilities in relation to equality issues, I hope that you share my concern about the level of homophobic bullying in our schools. What discussions have you had with the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills to ensure that, in future, the issue of homophobic bullying is specifically tackled in the bullying policies produced by schools in Wales?

**Jane Hutt:** Jane Davidson addressed a conference organised by Stonewall Cymru last year to launch a new leaflet and

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i weithio gyda gwasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau i ddarparu'r wybodaeth a fyddir ble bynnag y mae'n briodol gwneud hynny. Mae'n bwysig i swyddogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a swyddogion gwasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau ddod i gytundeb ar derfynau amser ar gyfer ymateb i geisiadau. Mae hynny oll wedi'i gadarnhau a'i bennu yn y cod ymarfer ar ganiatáu i Aelodau weld gwybodaeth.

**Nick Bourne:** Hefyd o ran eich cyfrifoldeb dros ryddid gwybodaeth, Weinidog, fe gofiwch ddatganiad a wnaed yn y Senedd yn San Steffan gan y Prif Weinidog ar ynni niwclear a oedd yn rhoi'r pŵer i'r Alban wneud penderfyniadau ar ynni niwclear. Mae'r pŵer gan Loegr i wneud penderfyniadau ar ynni niwclear, ond ni chawn ni leisio barn am unrhyw safle ynni niwclear posibl yng Nghymru, hyd yn oed fel corff i ymgynghori ag ef, a chaiff pob cwestiwn a gyflwynaf ei atal rhag cael ymateb. A edrychwch ar hynny a pham nad wyf yn cael ymatebion am unrhyw drafodaethau y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'u cael gyda San Steffan ar y mater pwysig hwn?

**Jane Hutt:** Nid wyf yn siŵr sut y mae hyn yn rhan o'r Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000. Mae a wnelo hyn â chyfrifoldebau sydd wedi'u datganoli a chyfrifoldebau nad ydynt wedi'u datganoli. Lle bydd trafodaeth, lle y mae hynny'n briodol, rhoddir adborth i'r Gweinidog perthnasol.

**Jenny Randerson:** O ran eich cyfrifoldebau mewn perthynas â chydarddoldeb, gobeithio eich bod chi fel finnau yn pryderu am lefel y bwlio homoffobaidd yn ein hysgolion. Pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi eu cael gyda'r Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau i sicrhau, yn y dyfodol, yr eir i'r afael yn benodol â bwlio homoffobaidd yn y polisiau bwlio a gynhyrchir gan ysgolion yng Nghymru?

**Jane Hutt:** Anerchodd Jane Davidson gynhadledd a drefnwyd gan Stonewall Cymru y llynedd i lansio taflen a gwybodaeth

information. We have strengthened and extended the Stonewall Cymru funding and work plan, which includes addressing that issue. It has now been taken into account in the Respecting Others anti-bullying policies in schools.

**Jenny Randerson:** Bullying policies, as a whole, are significantly undermined by the lack of resources available in schools, particularly school counsellors. It is desirable that counsellors should be available to all young people. Have you done any work with the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills on this to ensure that more school counsellors are employed, so that anti-bullying policies are meaningfully applied and young people who suffer from bullying are given the help and support that they need?

**Jane Hutt:** This is being taken forward as a result of the Clywch inquiry and the recommendations regarding counsellors in schools. There has been consultation on this to make sure that we have a co-ordinated approach. Therefore, it is being addressed.

The setting up of a statutory requirement to have school councils is important. I have been impressed by this at the primary school level. You have primary school councils, and children in buddying schemes; there is a whole range of ways in which children are now addressing this themselves proactively. We have to engage children and young people in this, as well as, as you say, Jenny, having the appropriate provision of school counsellors.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Ynglŷn â'ch blaenoriaethau yn y portffolio hwn dros y chwe mis nesaf, gwn am eich ymrwymiad personol i'r strategaeth ar gyfer awtistiaeth. Beth a wnewch i sicrhau bod y strategaeth honno'n mynd allan i ymgynghoriad, ei bod yn gynhwysfawr, a bod digon o arian wedi'i glustnodi ar gyfer sicrhau bod y strategaeth yn effeithiol?

**Jane Hutt:** I was speaking about this only today at a conference on the future of child health in Wales, and told people from the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Paediatrics that we are now in a

newydd. Yr ydym wedi atgyfnerthu ac wedi ehangu cyllid Stonewall Cymru a'i gynllun gwaith, sy'n cynnwys ymdrin â'r mater hwnnw. Bellach mae wedi ei ystyried o fewn y polisiau gwrth-fwlio Parchu Eraill gan ysgolion.

**Jenny Randerson:** Caiff polisiau gwrth-fwlio, ar y cyfan, eu tanseilio'n sylweddol gan y diffyg adnoddau sydd ar gael mewn ysgolion, yn arbennig cynghorwyr ysgol. Yn ddelfrydol, dylai pob person ifanc allu cysylltu â chynghorwr. A ydych wedi gwneud unrhyw waith gyda'r Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau ar hyn i sicrhau y caiff mwy o gynghorwyr ysgol eu cyflogi, er mwyn i bolisiau gwrth-fwlio gael eu defnyddio mewn ffordd ystyrlon, ac er mwyn i bobl ifanc sy'n cael eu bwlio gael yr help a'r cymorth y mae eu hangen arnynt?

**Jane Hutt:** Datblygir hyn o ganlyniad i ymchwiliad Clywch a'r argymhellion ynglŷn â chynghorwyr mewn ysgolion. Cafwyd ymgynghori ar hyn i sicrhau ein bod yn mabwysiadu ymagwedd gydgyssylltiedig. Felly, mae'r mater yn cael sylw.

Mae sefydlu gofyniad statudol i gael cynghorau ysgol yn bwysig. Mae'r sefyllfa mewn ysgolion cynradd yn y cyswllt hwn wedi gwneud argraff dda arnaf. Mae gennyh cynghorau ysgolion cynradd, a phlant sy'n rhan o gynlluniau cyfeillio; mae plant yn gweithredu mewn amrywiaeth eang o ffyrdd i ymdrin â'r broblem hon eu hunain. Rhaid inni gynnwys plant a phobl ifanc yn y broses hon yn ogystal â sicrhau darpariaeth briodol o gynghorwyr ysgol, fel yr oeddech yn sôn, Jenny.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** In relation to your priorities for this portfolio over the next six months, I know of your personal commitment to the autism strategy. What will you do to ensure that that strategy will go out to consultation, that it is comprehensive, and that sufficient money is earmarked to ensure that it is effective?

**Jane Hutt:** Yr oeddwn yn sôn am y mater hwn heddiw mewn cynhadledd ar ddyfodol iechyd plant yng Nghymru, a dywedais wrth bobl o Goleg Brenhinol y Nyrsys a'r Coleg Brenhinol Pediatreg ein bod bellach mewn

position to move forward in consulting on this strategy. It has to be comprehensive, joined-up and co-ordinated, and it is due to be consulted upon, and will take on board all the contributions made by organisations such as Autism Cymru and the National Autistic Society.

sefyllfa i symud ymlaen i ymgynghori ar y strategaeth hon. Rhaid iddi fod yn gynhwysfawr, yn gydgyssylltiedig ac yn gydlynus, a bwriedir ymgynghori arni, a bydd yn ystyried yr holl gyfraniadau a wnaed gan sefydliadau megis Awtistiaeth Cymru a'r Gymdeithas Awtistiaeth Genedlaethol.

### **Mynediad y Cyhoedd at Wybodaeth Public Access to Information**

**Q6 William Graham:** Will the Minister make a statement concerning public access to information from the Welsh Assembly Government? OAQ0283(BM)

**C6 William Graham:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar allu'r cyhoedd i gael gwybodaeth gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? OAQ0283(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Our 'Code of Practice on Public Access to Information' establishes our policy for maximising openness. The policy has been extensively tested and we have responded to some 1,350 requests for information since 1 January 2005, when the new laws were commenced.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae ein 'Cod Ymarfer ar Ganiatáu i'r Cyhoedd Weld Gwybodaeth' yn pennu ein polisi ar gyfer bod mor agored â phosibl. Mae'r polisi wedi ei brofi'n helaeth, ac yr ydym wedi ymateb i tua 1,350 o geisiadau am wybodaeth er 1 Ionawr 2005, pan ddaeth y cyfreithiau newydd i fodolaeth.

**William Graham:** I am sure that you will agree that it is important to the perception of a transparent Government that you make answers available, provided that it is safe to answer. Why, therefore, are you still withholding the legal advice regarding free school breakfasts?

**William Graham:** Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch ei bod yn bwysig i'r amgyffrediad o Lywodraeth agored eich bod yn darparu atebion, ar yr amod ei bod yn ddiogel gwneud hynny. Pam, felly, yr ydych yn parhau i gelu'r cyngor cyfreithiol ar freewast am ddim mewn ysgolion?

**Jane Hutt:** We have returned to this on many occasions in relation to these questions. This is being dealt with appropriately under our code and policy on freedom of information requests. As I have said on every occasion, the key issue is that every local authority in Wales is being encouraged to take up free school breakfasts and the scheme is now expanding so that over 500 schools are taking part in it.

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydym wedi dychwelyd at y mater hwn droeon mewn perthynas â'r cwestiynau hyn. Ymdrinnir â'r mater hwn yn briodol o dan ein cod a'n polisi ar geisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth. Fel yr wyf wedi ei ddweud bob tro, y mater allweddol yw bod pob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru yn cael ei annog i gynnig brechwast am ddim yn yr ysgol, ac y mae'r cynllun bellach ar gynnydd a mwy na 500 o ysgolion yn cymryd rhan ynddo.

### **Rhyddid Gwybodaeth Freedom of Information**

**Q8 Kirsty Williams:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to develop an internet portal for the public to view freedom of information requests and answers? OAQ0275(BM)

**C8 Kirsty Williams:** Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i ddatblygu parth rhyngrwyd lle gall y cyhoedd weld ceisiadau ac atebion am ryddid gwybodaeth? OAQ0275(BM)

**Q13 Mick Bates:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to develop an

**C13 Mick Bates:** Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i ddatblygu

internet portal for the public to view freedom of information requests and answers?  
 OAQ0281(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** We already have an internet-based disclosure log, where responses to requests can be viewed. We are now developing a more advanced search facility, making it a part of our new website.

**Kirsty Williams:** I trust that the improvements will make it easier for members of the public to access the freedom of information requests that have been made. I am sure that you will agree that these requests are increasingly being made, and their inclusion on the website is an important part of ensuring that the Assembly is as accessible to the people of Wales as possible.

**Jane Hutt:** I am sure that all Members know that they can access this via a link on the home page. In terms of the disclosure log, it is vital that people are made aware of that opportunity, because it does detail all the information, including dates in terms of timescales for responding to requests, and any other information that is passed back to the inquirer and to the appellant.

**Mick Bates:** I am sure that we all welcome that availability and increased access for the public. However, Minister, what does the Government do with all of that information? Do you have anyone monitoring it in order to ensure that you are also learning from the requests for information, which, in my experience, have often exposed inadequate management at all levels of government?

**Jane Hutt:** We have had over 1,400 requests for information since 1 January 2005. In terms of the efforts that we have made to deal with the volume of requests—and there are many complex requests—the access to information unit has progressed the requests, and we have been congratulated on the way in which we have handled them. The key point, as you say, Mick, is what we have learnt from those requests, which is important for the Government. On the point about transparency, the fact that we have gone further than the requirement of our code of

parth rhyngwyd lle gall y cyhoedd weld ceisiadau ac atebion am ryddid gwybodaeth?  
 OAQ0281(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Mae gennym eisoes gofnod datgelu ar y rhyngwyd, lle gellir gweld ymatebion i geisiadau. Yr ydym bellach yn datblygu cyfleuster chwilio mwy manwl, a'i wneud yn rhan o'n gwefan newydd.

**Kirsty Williams:** Gobeithio y bydd y gwelliannau yn ei gwneud yn haws i'r cyhoedd weld y ceisiadau a wnaed am ryddid gwybodaeth. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod y ceisiadau hyn yn cynyddu, a bod eu cynnwys ar y wefan yn rhan bwysig o'r gwaith o sicrhau bod y Cynulliad mor hygyrch â phosibl i bobl Cymru.

**Jane Hutt:** Yr wyf yn siŵr fod yr holl Aelodau yn gwybod y gallant gael mynediad i'r cyfleuster hwn drwy'r cyswllt ar yr hafan. O ran y cofnod datgelu, mae'n hanfodol i bobl fod yn ymwybodol o'r cyfle hwn, am ei fod yn rhoi manylion yr holl wybodaeth, gan gynnwys dyddiadau o ran amseroedd ymateb i geisiadau, ac unrhyw wybodaeth arall a gaiff ei hanfon yn ôl ar yr ymholwr a'r apelydd.

**Mick Bates:** Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod i gyd yn croesawu bod hyn ar gael a'r cynnydd mewn mynediad i'r cyhoedd. Fodd bynnag, Weinidog, beth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud â'r holl wybodaeth honno? A oes unrhyw un yn ei monitro i sicrhau eich bod chi hefyd yn dysgu o'r ceisiadau am wybodaeth, sydd yn aml, yn fy marn i, wedi datgelu rheolaeth annigonol ar bob haen o lywodraeth?

**Jane Hutt:** Cawsom dros 1,400 o geisiadau am wybodaeth er 1 Ionawr 2005. O ran yr ymdrech a wnaethom i fynd i'r afael â nifer y ceisiadau—ac mae yna nifer o geisiadau cymhleth—mae'r uned mynediad a gwybodaeth wedi gweithio ar y ceisiadau, a chawsom ein llongyfarch am y ffordd yr ydym wedi ymdrin â hwy. Y pwynt allweddol, fel y dywedwch, Mick, yw'r hyn a ddysgwyd gennym o'r ceisiadau hynny, sy'n bwysig i'r Llywodraeth. O ran y pwynt ar dryloywder, mae'r ffaith ein bod wedi mynd y tu hwnt i'r gofyniad yn ein cod ymarfer

practice over the past five years is testament to our desire to be transparent and to learn from freedom of information.

**Laura Anne Jones:** The freedom of information watchdog often receives complaints from members of the public who have been refused information from Government departments and other organisations. How are you working with your colleagues in Westminster to ensure that adequate resources are available to deal with these sorts of complaints?

**Jane Hutt:** We are ensuring that we are dealing with this, and we are providing adequate resources for our team in handling this, and across-the-board training is being carried out. If you look at issues relating to complaints, we have only received complaints in relation to 3 per cent of the requests that we have dealt with. Some of these relate to time-limit issues, and others, perhaps, were questions about the balance of public interest regarding disclosure rather than withholding information. However, we have put the resources in to be as open and transparent as possible, and I hope that other Governments not far from here can learn from us.

dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf yn dystiolaeth o'n hawydd i fod yn dryloyw ac i ddysgu o ryddid gwybodaeth.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Bydd y corff gwarchod rhyddid gwybodaeth yn cael cwynion yn aml gan y cyhoedd lle mae eu cais am wybodaeth gan adrannau'r Llywodraeth a sefydliadau eraill wedi ei wrthod. Sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda'ch cyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan i sicrhau bod adnoddau digonol ar gael i ymdrin â'r mathau hyn o gwynion?

**Jane Hutt:** Yr ydym yn sicrhau ein bod yn ymdrin â hyn, ac yr ydym yn darparu adnoddau digonol i'n tîm wrth fynd i'r afael â hyn, a darperir hyfforddiant i bawb. Os edrychwch ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â chwynion, yr ydym wedi cael cwynion mewn cysylltiad â 3 y cant yn unig o'r ceisiadau yr ydym wedi ymdrin â hwy. Mae rhai o'r rhain yn ymwneud â materion sydd â chyfyngiad amser, ac eraill, efallai, yn gwestiynau am gydbwysedd lles y cyhoedd o ran datgelu, yn hytrach nag atal gwybodaeth. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi darparu'r adnoddau er mwyn bod mor agored a thryloyw â phosibl, a gobeithio y gall Llywodraethau eraill nid nepell i ffwrdd ddysgu gennym.

### **Annog Llywodraeth Agored Encouraging Open Government**

**Q9 Lisa Francis:** Will the Minister make a statement on what she is doing to encourage 'open government'? OAQ0284(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Our code of practice already gives us a framework for maximising openness in government. We have been closely monitoring the effect of the code and we continue to strengthen and embed good practice so that we can go on meeting the expectations of the public, as well as of the Information Commissioner.

**Lisa Francis:** I note what you said about your Government's record on openness and transparency. I am in possession of two e-mails from the Members' research service—one is dated 7 June, which I wrote to you about, and another dated 21 September. Both e-mails advise me that information that I

**C9 Lisa Francis:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud i annog 'llywodraeth agored'? OAQ0284(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Mae ein cod ymarfer eisoes yn rhoi fframwaith inni sicrhau bod llywodraeth mor agored â phosibl. Yr ydym wedi bod yn monitro effaith y cod gyda llygad barcud, ac yr ydym yn parhau i atgyfnerthu ac ymsefydlu arfer da fel y gallwn barhau i fodloni disgwyliadau'r cyhoedd, yn ogystal â disgwyliadau'r Comisiynydd Gwybodaeth.

**Lisa Francis:** Nodaf yr hyn a ddywedasocho am record eich Llywodraeth o ran bod yn agored a thryloyw. Mae gennyf ddau e-bost gan wasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau—y naill ddyddiedig 7 Mehefin yr ysgrifennais atoch amdano, a'r llall yn ddyddiedig 21 Medi. Mae'r ddau e-bost yn dweud wrthyf nad



requested from the Department for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks could not be released without the Minister's sanction. In the first instance, it transpired that the information that I had asked for had been in the public domain for 6 months. I ask you to outline again how you think that this paranoid withholding of information is meant to be in the interests of open government and transparency?

**Jane Hutt:** You know that there are many routes available to you to secure the information that you need: access to Ministers through committees, questions through letters, oral and written questions, the Members' research service and the freedom of information and other routes. You have had every opportunity to raise these issues with the Minister. That is testament to our openness, and to his willingness to share that information.

3.50 p.m.

### **Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Rhyw Sex Discrimination**

**Q10 Kirsty Williams:** What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to counter gender discrimination?  
OAQ0277(OAQ)

**Jane Hutt:** The Assembly Government is committed to countering gender discrimination. For example, we are providing match funding to the Women's Workshop, which aims to address the cultural and institutional barriers that deter women from embarking on and continuing in careers in engineering, construction and technology throughout Wales.

**Kirsty Williams:** You will be aware that one reason that often keeps women out of the workplace is the lack of affordable and accessible childcare. Could you give us an update on what progress you have been able to make to secure a crèche or other childcare provision in the National Assembly for Wales?

**Jane Hutt:** That is probably a question for the House Committee, rather than for me. However, I am happy to respond, because I

yw'n bosibl rhyddhau'r wybodaeth y gofynnais amdani gan yr Adran Menter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau heb ganiatâd y Gweinidog. Yn y lle cyntaf, daeth yn amlwg fod y wybodaeth y gwneuthum gais amdani wedi bod yn gyhoeddus ers 6 mis. Gofynnaf i chi amlinellu eto sut y mae'r ymdrech baranoid hon i atal gwybodaeth i fod o les i lywodraeth agored a thryloywder?

**Jane Hutt:** Fe wyddoch fod nifer o lwybrau ar gael ichi gael y wybodaeth y mae arnoch ei hangen: mynediad i Weiniogion drwy bwyllgorau, cwestiynau drwy lythyrau, cwestiynau llafar ac ysgrifenedig, gwasanaeth ymchwil yr Aelodau a rhyddid gwybodaeth a llwybrau eraill. Fe gawsoch bob cyfle i drafod y materion hyn gyda'r Gweinidog. Mae hyn yn dystiolaeth o'r ffaith ein bod yn agored, a'i barodrwydd yntau i rannu'r wybodaeth honno.

**C10 Kirsty Williams:** Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i wrthsefyll gwahaniaethu ar sail rhyw?  
OAQ0277(OAQ)

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwmo i wrthsefyll gwahaniaethu ar sail rhyw. Er enghraifft, yr ydym yn darparu arian cyfatebol i'r Gweithdy i Fenywod, sy'n ceisio mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau diwylliannol a sefydliadol sy'n atal menywod rhag cychwyn gyrfaedd ym maes peirianeg, adeiladu a thechnoleg ledled Cymru a pharhau â'r gyrfaedd hynny.

**Kirsty Williams:** Byddwch yn gwybod mai un rheswm sy'n aml yn cadw menywod o'r gweithle yw diffyg gofal plant hwylus y gellir ei fforddio. A allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am y cynnydd yr ydych wedi gallu ei wneud i sefydlu crèche neu ddarpariaeth gofal plant arall yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae'n debyg mai cwestiwn i Bwyllgor y Tŷ yw hynny, yn hytrach nag i mi. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn fodlon ymateb,

recently attended a meeting about this. I am keen, as Minister with responsibility for children, to explore all the opportunities. A feasibility study has been undertaken by the Daycare Trust, which is considering, for example, one option of converting part of this building into a children's facility—a crèche or a day nursery. I hope that Members will take an interest in that as it develops.

**Mark Isherwood:** How have you responded to last month's Equal Opportunities Commission's report, which found that young women of Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Caribbean descent are doing well in school, but are still being penalised in the workplace? The Confederation of British Industry said that the report showed that the young women were confident and ambitious, and just the sort of employee that businesses are looking for. However, employers report that they receive too few applications from women and ethnic minority groups, and they recognise that they need to take positive steps to attract these young women.

**Jane Hutt:** This is key in terms of addressing the discrimination that, again, too many young people face. Our race equality scheme is crucial to this in terms of addressing the barriers that face those young people, particularly from that community. We are working on that with the Commission for Racial Equality, and the race equality councils across Wales, as well as with organisations such as the Women's Workshop here in Cardiff bay, and Chwarae Teg; they are all addressing how we can promote opportunities for minority ethnic young women.

gan imi fod mewn cyfarfod ar hyn yn ddiweddar. Fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am blant, yr wyf yn awyddus i archwilio'r holl gyfleoedd. Ymgwymerwyd ag astudiaeth ddichonoldeb gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth Gofal Dydd astudiaeth ddichonoldeb sy'n ystyried, er enghraifft, un dewis o droi rhan o'r adeilad hwn yn gyfleuster i blant—sef crèche neu feithrinfa ddydd. Gobeithio y bydd gan yr Aelodau ddiddordeb yn hynny wrth iddo ddatblygu.

**Mark Isherwood:** Sut yr ydych wedi ymateb i adroddiad y Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal y mis diwethaf, a ddarganfu fod menywod ifanc o dras Pacistani, Bangladeshi a Charibiaidd yn llwyddo yn yr ysgol ond yn parhau i gael eu cosbi yn y gweithle? Dywedodd Cydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain fod yr adroddiad yn dangos bod y menywod ifanc yn hyderus ac yn uchelgeisiol, a'r union fath o weithwyr y mae busnesau'n chwilio amdanynt. Fodd bynnag, dywed cyflogwyr nad ydynt yn cael digon o geisiadau gan fenywod a grwpiau lleiafrifoedd ethnig, ac y maent yn cydnabod yr angen i gymryd camau cadarnhaol i ddenu'r menywod ifanc hyn.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae hyn yn allweddol o ran mynd i'r afael â'r gwahaniaethu y mae gormod o bobl ifanc, unwaith eto, yn ei wynebu. Mae ein cynllun cydraddoldeb hiliol yn hanfodol i hyn o ran mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau sy'n wynebu'r bobl ifanc hynny, yn arbennig o'r gymuned honno. Yr ydym yn gweithio ar hynny gyda'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol, a'r cynghorau cydraddoldeb hiliol ledled Cymru, yn ogystal â sefydliadau fel y Gweithdy i Fenywod yma ym mae Caerdydd, a Chwarae Teg; maent i gyd yn ystyried sut y gallwn hybu cyfleoedd i fenywod ifanc o leiafrifoedd ethnig.

### **Cyfle Cyfartal i Bobl Anabl Equal Opportunities for Disabled People**

**Q11 Jenny Randerson:** What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to ensure equal opportunities for disabled people?  
OAQ0267(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Our disabled equality scheme will be published in December. We have set out how we intend to promote equality of opportunity for disabled people. That has

**C11 Jenny Randerson:** Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau cyfle cyfartal i bobl anabl?  
OAQ0267(BM)

**Jane Hutt:** Cyhoeddir ein cynllun cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl ym mis Rhagfyr. Yr ydym wedi gosod allan sut y bwriadwn hybu cyfle cyfartal i bobl anabl. Mae hynny

been subject to consultation, and it will set out how we promote equal opportunities for disabled people.

**Jenny Randerson:** A key issue in terms of equal opportunities for young disabled people is the provision of early speech and language therapy. How do you respond to the inspection report for a special school in my constituency, which referred specifically to the extraordinarily long length of time that children must wait for speech and language therapy in their school? Furthermore, how do you respond to the figures for Wales as a whole, which show excessive lengths of time for children throughout Wales waiting for speech and language therapy? Have you had discussions with the Minister for Health and Social Services on this issue?

**Jane Hutt:** This is a key issue, relating to ensuring that there is that early intervention, and then, with assessed need, provision, particularly if it involves a statement of speech and language therapy, as well as other therapy interventions. It is a workforce issue; I worked with Jane Davidson on this when I was the Minister for Health and Social Services, and Brian Gibbons is taking that forward, to improve the numbers of speech and language therapists, and to support parents, which is key in terms of supporting them with their children's skills and needs. However, it is also a commissioning issue for local health boards and local education authorities to work together. There are also opportunities through the Learning and Skills Act 2000, and through the response to the committee report on special needs.

**Helen Mary Jones:** I know that you will agree that the Scope Time to Get Equal campaign is a welcome voluntary sector initiative, and I know that you will join me in being pleased that Scope was here in the Senedd with us today. Do you also agree that it is important that voluntary-sector initiatives of this kind are co-ordinated across the voluntary sector and with statutory work? What steps are you taking, as Minister, to ensure that that co-ordination takes place?

**Jane Hutt:** Disability Wales is a kind of umbrella organisation that brings disability

wedi bod yn destun ymgynghori, a bydd yn gosod allan sut yr ydym yn hybu cyfle cyfartal i bobl anabl.

**Jenny Randerson:** Un ystyriaeth allweddol o ran cyfle cyfartal i bobl ifanc anabl yw darparu therapi lleferydd ac iaith yn gynnar. Sut yr ydych yn ymateb i'r adroddiad arolygu ar ysgol arbennig yn fy etholaeth i a gyfeiriodd yn benodol at yr amser anarferol o hir y mae'n rhaid i blant aros i gael therapi lleferydd ac iaith yn eu hysgol? Yn ogystal, sut yr ydych yn ymateb i'r ffigurau ar gyfer Cymru gyfan sy'n dangos cyfnodau aros eithafol o hir i blant ledled Cymru sy'n aros am therapi lleferydd ac iaith? A ydych wedi cael trafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar y mater hwn?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae hwn yn fater allweddol sy'n ymwneud â sicrhau bod ymyriad cynnar ac yna, gydag asesiad o angen, ddarpariaeth, yn arbennig os yw'n golygu datganiad therapi lleferydd ac iaith, yn ogystal ag ymyriadau therapi eraill. Mae'n fater gweithlu; gweithiais ar hyn gyda Jane Davidson pan oeddwn yn Weindog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ac mae Brian Gibbons yn parhau'r gwaith hwnnw, i gynyddu nifer y therapyddion lleferydd ac iaith, ac i gefnogi rhieni, sy'n allweddol o ran eu cynorthwyo gyda sgiliau ac anghenion eu plant. Fodd bynnag, mae hefyd yn fater o gomisiynu i fyrddau iechyd lleol ac awdurdodau addysg lleol gydweithio arno. Mae yna gyfleoedd hefyd drwy'r Ddeddf Dysgu a Medrau 2000, a thrwy'r ymateb i adroddiad y pwyllgor ar anghenion arbennig.

**Helen Mary Jones:** Gwn y byddwch yn cytuno bod yr ymgyrch Time to Get Equal gan Scope yn fenter i'w chrosawu gan y sector gwirfoddol, a gwn y byddwch mor falch â minnau fod Scope wedi ymuno â ni yma yn y Senedd heddiw. A gytunwch hefyd ei bod yn bwysig fod mentrau fel hyn gan y sector gwirfoddol yn cael eu cydlynu ar draws y sector gwirfoddol a'u cysylltu â gwaith statudol? Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd, fel Gweinidog, i sicrhau bod y cydlynu hwnnw'n digwydd?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae Anabled Cymru yn fath o sefydliad ymbarél sy'n dwyn grwpiau

groups together and has membership across the board. It will shortly hold its annual general meeting. As Minister with responsibility for equalities, I meet with the voluntary sector and with disability groups in relation to equalities. It is key that there is that co-ordination at a voluntary level, but that the national co-ordination is vested in the Assembly, with the monitoring and scrutiny of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity. I believe that the Commission for Equality and Human Rights will also bring about the statutory cohesion that we need in terms of supporting disabled people.

anabledd at ei gilydd gydag aelodaeth o bob tu. Bydd yn cynnal ei gyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol cyn bo hir. Fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am gydraddoldebau, byddaf yn cwrdd â'r sector gwirfoddol a grwpiau anabledd i drafod cydraddoldebau. Mae'n allweddol cael y gwaith cydlynu hwn ar lefel wirfoddol, ond bod y Cynulliad yn gyfrifol am y gwaith cydlynu cenedlaethol, a'r gwaith yn destun monitro a chraffu gan y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal. Credaf y bydd y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol hefyd yn cyflwyno'r cydlyniad statudol y mae arnom ei angen o ran cefnogi pobl anabl.

### **Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order**

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Yesterday, I asked the First Minister to comment on the withholding of £38.5 million, which had been committed by the Minister for Health and Social Services to the Children's Hospital for Wales. The First Minister challenged me to look at the Record and to withdraw my statement, which he described as a 'fable'. I have looked at the Record and I can confirm that it is the clear understanding of the Noah's Ark Appeal that that money was committed and that it is being withheld. Presiding Officer, have you received a request from the Minister for Health and Social Services to make a statement to correct the misleading statement made by the First Minister and to confirm my statement on this issue?

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Ddoe, gofynnais i'r Prif Weinidog roi sylwadau am fod £38.5 miliwn a oedd wedi ei ymrwmo gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Ysbyty Plant Cymru wedi ei atal. Fe'm heriwyd gan y Prif Weinidog i edrych ar y Cofnod a thynnu fy natganiad, a ddisgrifiodd fel 'chwedl', yn ôl. Yr wyf wedi edrych ar y Cofnod, a gallaf gadarnhau mai dealltwriaeth glir Apêl Arch Noa yw bod yr arian hwnnw wedi ei ymrwmo a'i fod yn cael ei atal. Lywydd, a ydych wedi cael cais gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i wneud datganiad i gywiro'r datganiad camarweiniol a wnaeth y Prif Weinidog ac i gadarnhau fy natganiad i ar y mater hwn?

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. It is not considered appropriate to regard—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid ystyrir ei bod yn briodol ystyried—

**The First Minister:** Withdraw.

**Y Prif Weinidog:** Tynnwch yn ôl.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. Before the First Minister gets excited, I am about to deal with this. It is not within our normal courtesies—and is regarded as disorderly—to assert that a Minister has misled the Chamber. As regards the request for statements, I will always, as long as I am in this chair, accommodate any Government statement, as you know. Therefore, I ask Rhodri Glyn Thomas to reconsider the word 'misleading'.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Cyn i'r Prif Weinidog gynhyrfu, yr wyf ar fin ymdrin â hyn. Nid yw o fewn ein cwrteisi arferol—a chaiff ei ystyried yn anhrefnus—i ddatgan bod Gweinidog wedi camarwain y Siambr. O ran y cais am ddatganiadau, byddaf bob amser, cyhyd ag y byddaf yn y gadair hon, yn caniatáu unrhyw ddatganiad gan y Llywodraeth, fel y gwyddoch. Felly, gofynnaf i Rhodri Glyn Thomas ailystyried y gair 'camarweiniol'.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** I accept your guidance, Presiding Officer, and I withdraw the statement that the First Minister misled the Chamber. However—

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Derbyniaf eich arweiniad, Lywydd, a thynnaf yn ôl fy natganiad fod y Prif Weinidog wedi camarwain y Siambr. Fodd bynnag—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. That is enough.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Dyna ddigon.

**Cymeradwyo Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 29**

**Approval of the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No. 3) (Wales) Determination 2006 under Standing Order No. 29**

Motion (NDM3225): to propose that

Cynnig (NDM3225): cynnig bod

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order Rhif 29.3(iii):*

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog No. 29.3(iii):*

*considers the principle of the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No. 3) (Wales) Determination 2006, a draft of which was laid in the Table Office on 26 September 2006.*

*yn ystyried egwyddor Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 y gosodwyd drafft ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006.*

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

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

*requires the Welsh Assembly Government to support research into the causes of excess winter deaths in Wales so that the home energy efficiency scheme can be further developed to address these.*

*yn mynnu bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cefnogi ymchwil i achosion marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf yng Nghymru fel bo'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref yn cael ei ddatblygu ymhellach i roi sylw i'r rhain.*

Motion (NDM3226): to propose that

Cynnig (NDM3226): cynnig bod

*the National Assembly:*

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol*

*considers the report of the Legislation Committee in relation to the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No. 3) (Wales) Determination 2006 laid in the Table Office on 26 September 2006; and*

*yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau ynghylch Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006; a*

*acting under Standing Order No. 29.3 (iii) approves the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No. 3) (Wales)*

*chan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 29.3 (iii) yn cymeradwyo bod Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant)*

*Determination 2006 made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 26 September 2006.*

**The Presiding Officer:** I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Lisa Francis.

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

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 29.3(iii):*

*considers the principle of the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No.3) (Wales) Determination 2006, a draft of which was laid in the Table Office on 26 September 2006. (NDM3225)*

I propose that

*the National Assembly:*

*considers the report of the Legislation Committee in relation to the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No. 3) (Wales) Determination 2006 laid in the Table Office on 26 September 2006; and*

*acting under Standing Order No. 29.3(iii) approves the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant) (No. 3) (Wales) Determination 2006 made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 26 September 2006. (NDM3226)*

I am pleased to propose this motion today. We have, as a Government, put in an additional £10 million over the next two years to tackle fuel poverty across Wales. We have had a very good partnership approach in the way that we have dealt with this. Members are intensely interested in the home energy efficiency scheme and, obviously, they receive a lot of letters from constituents on it. However, when you consider that we are assisting 64,000 households across Wales, the volume of correspondence shows that the scheme is working.

*(Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006.*

**Y Llywydd:** Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Lisa Francis.

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

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 29.3(iii):*

*yn ystyried egwyddor Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 y gosodwyd drafft ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006. (NDM3225)*

Cynigiau fod

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:*

*yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau ynghylch Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006; a*

*chan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 29.3(iii) yn cymeradwyo bod Dyfarniad Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3) (Cymru) 2006 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006. (NDM3226)*

Yr wyf yn falch o gynnig y cynnig hwn heddiw. Yr ydym, fel Llywodraeth, wedi darparu £10 miliwn yn ychwanegol dros y ddwy flynedd nesaf i fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd ledled Cymru. Bu gennym ymagwedd bartneriaeth dda iawn yn ein ffordd o ymdrin â hyn. Mae gan yr Aelodau ddiddordeb brwd yn y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref ac y maent, yn amlwg, yn cael nifer o lythyrau am hyn gan etholwyr. Fodd bynnag, os ystyriwch ein bod yn cynorthwyo 64,000 o gartrefi ledled Cymru, mae maint yr ohebiaeth yn dangos bod y cynllun yn llwyddo.

What is important about these measures is the assistance given to pensioners' households. With the proposed increase, people over the age of 60 who own their own home and would otherwise not qualify for assistance under the scheme, will be able to apply for a partial grant of up to £500 towards the cost of improvements, which is good news. The introduction of oil central heating allows the scheme to provide an option for hard-to-heat households that otherwise might not have received any assistance. We are also offering the benefits entitlement check under the scheme; that continues to be an important element in helping people. When people talk about the scheme and the issue of benefit entitlement is raised, it is amazing to see how many people in Wales are not claiming properly for benefits. It is important that, across all parties, we say to people, 'Please go out to see what your entitlement is'. A lot of people have worked hard all their lives, are entitled to this money and they should be claiming it.

We have also been able to help with funding the cost of the gas network extension in a number of areas, and that has been particularly important. I was delighted to visit a project with Ann Jones in her constituency, and I know that many Members would like to see other areas helped with the gas network. There are issues of concern, such as rising fuel prices—questions were raised yesterday on that particular item—but the winter fuel payment is given to all households containing people over the age of 60, regardless of their fuel poverty status, and that is also helpful. We will support the amendment by the Welsh Conservative Party, and I would urge Members from across all parties to support these great improvements to the scheme.

**Mark Isherwood:** I propose amendment 1 in the name of Lisa Francis. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

*requires the Welsh Assembly Government to support research into the causes of excess winter deaths in Wales so that the home energy efficiency scheme can be further*

Yr hyn sy'n bwysig am y mesurau hyn yw'r cymorth a roddir i gartrefi lle mae yna bensiywyr. Gyda'r cynnydd arfaethedig, bydd pobl dros 60 oed sy'n berchen ar eu cartref eu hunain, ac na fyddent fel arall yn gymwys i gael cymorth o dan y cynllun, yn gallu gwneud cais am grant rhannol hyd at £500 at gost gwelliannau, sy'n newyddion da. Mae'r broses o gyflwyno gwres canolog olew yn galluogi'r cynllun i ddarparu dewis ar gyfer cartrefi sy'n anodd eu cynhesu ac na fyddent fel arall wedi cael unrhyw gymorth. Yr ydym hefyd yn cynnig yr archwiliad hawl i fudd-daliadau o dan y cynllun; ac mae hynny'n dal yn elfen bwysig wrth helpu pobl. Pan fydd pobl yn trafod y cynllun ac phan gaiff mater hawl i fudd-daliadau ei godi, mae'n syndod gweld cynifer o bobl yng Nghymru nad ydynt yn hawlio budd-daliadau'n briodol. Mae'n bwysig inni, ar draws yr holl bleidiau, ddweud wrth bobl, 'Ewch allan i weld beth y mae gennych hawl i'w gael'. Mae nifer o bobl wedi gweithio'n galed drwy gydol eu bywyd ac yn gymwys i gael yr arian hwn y dylent fod yn ei hawlio.

Yr ydym hefyd wedi gallu helpu ariannu costau'r gwaith i ymestyn y rhwydwaith nwy mewn nifer o ardaloedd, ac mae wedi bod yn bwysig iawn. Yr oedd yn bleser gennyf ymweld â phrosiect gydag Ann Jones yn ei hetholaeth hi, a gwn yr hoffai nifer o'r Aelodau weld ardaloedd eraill yn cael cymorth gyda'r rhwydwaith nwy. Mae rhai materion sy'n achosi pryder, megis y cynnydd ym mhrisiau tanwydd—codwyd cwestiynau ddoe am y mater penodol hwnnw—ond rhoddir y taliad tanwydd gaeaf i bob cartref lle mae pobl dros 60 oed, waeth beth fo'u statws o ran tlodi tanwydd, ac mae hynny hefyd yn ddefnyddiol. Byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliant Plaid Geidwadol Cymru, a byddwn yn annog Aelodau o bob plaid i gefnogi'r gwelliannau mawr hyn yn y cynllun.

**Mark Isherwood:** Cynigiau welliant 1 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn mynnu bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cefnogi ymchwil i achosion marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf yng Nghymru fel bo'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref yn*

*developed to address these.*

*cael ei ddatblygu ymhellach i roi sylw i'r rhain.*

I welcome that support and we will, of course, be supporting the motion.

Croesawaf y gefnogaeth honno a byddwn, wrth gwrs, yn cefnogi'r cynnig.

4.00 p.m.

I have an e-mail here from Energywatch about the oil heating systems to which you referred, confirming that this will help many consumers who live off the gas network and have been unable to benefit from the home energy efficiency scheme. It is important that these consumers are given adequate energy efficiency information to help them to use their heating systems effectively and efficiently.

Mae gennyf neges e-bost yma gan Golwg ar Ynni ynghylch y systemau gwres olew yr oeddech yn cyfeirio atynt, gan gadarnhau y bydd hyn yn helpu nifer o ddefnyddwyr sy'n byw mewn mannau y tu allan i'r rhwydwaith nwy ac nad ydynt wedi gallu manteisio ar y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref. Mae'n bwysig i'r defnyddwyr hyn gael digon o wybodaeth am effeithlonrwydd ynni i'w helpu i ddefnyddio'u systemau gwres yn effeithiol ac effeithlon.

The amendment that you are supporting—and I hope that we can rely on all-party support—states that it will require

Mae'r gwelliant a gefnogwch—a gobeithio y gallwn ddibynnu ar gefnogaeth pob plaid—yn nodi y bydd yn ofynnol bod

'the Welsh Assembly Government to support research into the causes of excess winter deaths in Wales so that the home energy efficiency scheme can be further developed to address these'.

'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cefnogi ymchwil i achosion marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf yng Nghymru fel bo'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref yn cael ei ddatblygu ymhellach i roi sylw i'r rhain'.

That amendment has been tabled because of the increase in excess winter deaths during recent winters, despite the implementation of the home energy efficiency scheme. I have raised this matter in questions to the First Minister on a couple of occasions and I think that there may have been an element of misunderstanding. I hope that clarity can now be confirmed, if I provide a little more of the information that was given to me by Help the Aged, from which this proposal originated. It says, in its e-mail to me, that it wants to establish exactly why, despite the home energy efficiency scheme, a greater number of older people are dying during the winter months than at any other time of the year.

Mae'r gwelliant hwnnw wedi'i gyflwyno oherwydd y cynnydd yn nifer y marwolaethau ychwanegol yn ystod y gaeafau diwethaf, er gwaethaf gweithredu'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref. Yr wyf wedi codi'r mater hwn yn ystod cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog ddwywaith, a chredaf efallai fod camddealltwriaeth wedi digwydd. Gobeithio y gellir egluro'r sefyllfa bellach, os rhoddaf ychydig fwy o'r wybodaeth a roddwyd imi gan Help the Aged. O hynny y deilliodd y cynnig hwn. Yn ei neges e-bost ataf, dywed ei bod am gadarnhau'n union pam y mae nifer fwy o bobl hŷn, er gwaethaf y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, yn marw yn ystod y gaeaf nag ar unrhyw adeg arall o'r flwyddyn.

We feel that this information could be utilised by the Welsh Assembly to devise a strategy to enable it to make some real inroads into tackling the causes of excess winter deaths among older people in Wales. Despite Health Challenge Wales's 'Keep

Teimlwn y gallai'r Cynulliad ddefnyddio'r wybodaeth hon i lunio strategaeth i'w alluogi i fynd i'r afael â'r hyn sy'n achosi marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf ymhlith pobl hŷn yng Nghymru. Er gwaethaf yr ymgyrchoedd codi ymwybyddiaeth a



Well this Winter' and Help the Aged's 'The cold can kill' awareness-raising and information campaigns, excess winter deaths have increased over recent winters. Help the Aged in Wales feels that there are cultural and behavioural issues that need to be looked at in order to understand why excess winter deaths are a continuing problem in Wales. Of course, it urges that this research be funded through the older people's advisory network, which is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government, to improve and enhance the wellbeing of older people in Wales by increasing the research capacity around this issue. It has suggested areas of research, which include whether older people have central heating, and, if so, whether they are using it and, if not, why not. Another area is about whether older people can afford to keep their homes warm, and whether they are sacrificing other necessities, such as food, at this time of year, when eating properly is so important, in order to keep their homes warm. Also suggested is the issue of whether older people are aware of the Government's schemes, such as the home energy efficiency scheme plus, through which central heating and insulation is installed free of charge to some members of society. Another area refers to whether there are behavioural issues among older people that need to be addressed, and whether some older people are nipping to the shop to buy some milk and not bothering to dress up warmly enough because they will only be gone for five minutes. It also asks whether the discontinuation of the 75-plus cheques is contributing to this problem. I hope and trust, therefore, that all Members can see that the wellbeing of many of the most vulnerable members of their constituencies will depend on this research being undertaken, and I urge all Members across the Chamber to support this amendment.

**Ann Jones:** Minister, I was grateful that you mentioned the project that is getting gas into houses in Bodelwyddan. That was a good example of how everyone worked together in partnership for the good and the betterment of that community; I am sure that they will look forward to reduced energy bills, but also to being warm in their homes this winter.

gwybodaeth 'Gofal Piau Hi y Gaeaf Hwn' Her Iechyd Cymru a 'The cold can kill' gan Help the Aged, mae nifer y marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf wedi cynyddu yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae Help the Aged yn teimlo bod yna faterion diwylliannol ac ymddygiadol y mae angen eu hystyrid er mwyn deall pam y mae marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf yn dal yn broblem yng Nghymru. Wrth gwrs, mae'n pwyso am i'r ymchwil hon gael ei hariannu drwy'r rhwydwaith cynghori pobl hŷn a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, er mwyn gwella lles pobl hŷn yng Nghymru drwy gynyddu'r gallu ymchwil yn y maes hwn. Mae wedi awgrymu meysydd ymchwil, sy'n cynnwys y cwestiwn a oes gan bobl hŷn wres canolog, ac os felly a ydynt yn ei ddefnyddio ac os nad ydynt, pam. Maes arall yw a all pobl hŷn fforddio cadw'u cartrefi'n gynnes ac a ydynt yn aberthu angenrheidiau eraill, megis bwyd, ar yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn er mwyn cadw'u cartrefi'n gynnes. Awgrymwyd y cwestiwn hefyd a yw pobl hŷn yn ymwybodol o gynlluniau'r Llywodraeth, megis y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref a mwy, lle y caiff gwres canolog ac inswleiddio eu gosod am ddim yng nghartrefi rhai aelodau o gymdeithas. Mae maes arall yn cyfeirio at y cwestiwn a oes yna faterion ymddygiad ymhlith pobl hŷn y mae angen ymdrin â hwy, ac a yw rhai pobl hŷn yn mynd i'r siop i brynu llaeth heb fynd i'r drafferth o wisgo dillad digon cynnes oherwydd am mai pum munud yn unig mae hynny'n ei gymryd. Mae hefyd yn gofyn a yw'r ffaith fod y sieciau dros 75 oed wedi dod i ben yn cyfrannu at y broblem hon. Felly, yr wyf yn gobeithio ac yn ffyddiog y gall pob Aelod weld y bydd lles rhai o aelodau mwyaf diamddiffyn eu hetholaethau yn ddibynnol ar wneud y gwaith ymchwil hwn, ac anogaf bob Aelod ar draws y Siambr i gefnogi'r gwelliant hwn.

**Ann Jones:** Weinidog, yr oeddwn yn ddiolchgar ichi sôn am y prosiect sy'n sicrhau bod nwy yn cyrraedd tai ym Modelwyddan. Yr oedd honno'n enghraifft dda o'r ffordd y gweithiodd pawb gyda'i gilydd mewn partneriaeth er lles y gymuned honno; yr wyf yn siŵr y byddant yn edrych ymlaen at filiau ynni llai, ond hefyd at fod yn gynnes yn eu cartref y gaeaf hwn.

Minister, would you consider whether oil-fired central heating could qualify for the same sort of scheme. We could perhaps look at lump sums for people who are on oil-fired central heating at the moment? With the cost of oil being what it is, if they wanted to transfer over to gas central heating, what would be the ways in which they could perhaps do that, again, for the benefit of the community?

I am pleased to support the home energy efficiency scheme and I must pay tribute to Crispin Jones for all his work on this and the way in which he takes forward the Welsh Assembly Government's initiatives and takes them all out into the community. I think that that should be recognised here today. I would be interested to know how we can ensure that everyone in the community, whatever heating arrangements they have, will be able to take advantage of the home energy efficiency scheme in future.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Mae Plaid Cymru yn croesawu'r cynigion hwn ac yr ydym yn cefnogi'r gwelliant hefyd. Nodaf mai tri mater a gododd y Gweinidog, gan dystio y bydd pob un ohonynt yn cyfrannu at wella sefyllfa'r henoed.

Mae sicrhau bod yr henoed, a phawb sy'n gymwys, yn hawlio'r budd-dal priodol yn eithriadol o bwysig, a gwn hynny o waith a wnaed yn Nyffryn Nantlle a Gwynedd yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf.

Tynnais sylw at sefyllfa anodd y bobl hynny sy'n byw mewn pentrefi nad ydynt ar y rhwydwaith nwy, sydd wedi dioddef dros y blynyddoedd, a'r ffaith na chawsant fanteisio ar HEES yn y gorffennol. Mae amryw o gartrefi'r pentrefi hyn ar dir uchel, lle mae'r gaeafau yn gallu bod yn eithriadol o oer, ac yr wyf yn falch bod y Llywodraeth wedi derbyn y dadleuon am hynny, a bod dyddiad pendant ar gyfer dechrau'r cynllun.

Wrth gwrs, mae mater arbed ynni yn ehangach na hyd yn oed y mesurau sy'n cael eu cynnig yn awr, a dylai unrhyw Lywodraeth yng Nghymru roi mwy fyth o bwyslais nid yn unig ar sicrhau bod y rhai mwyaf bregus yn gynnes a'u bod yn cael

Weinidog, a fydddech yn fodlon ystyried a allai gwres canolog olew fod yn gymwys ar gyfer yr un math o gynllun? Efallai y gallech ystyried rhoi cyfandaliadau i bobl sydd â gwres canolog olew ar hyn o bryd? Gyda chost olew fel y mae, pe byddent am drosglwyddo i wres canolog nwy, ym mha ffyrdd y gallent wneud hynny efallai, unwaith eto er lles y gymuned?

Yr wyf yn falch o gefnogi'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, a rhaid imi roi teyrnged i Crispin Jones am ei holl waith yn hyn a'r ffordd y mae'n gweithredu mentrau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac yn cyflwyno pob un ohonynt yn y gymuned. Credaf y dylid cydnabod hynny yma heddiw. Hoffwn wybod sut y gallwn sicrhau y bydd pawb yn y gymuned, pa drefniadau gwres bynnag sydd ganddynt, yn gallu manteisio ar y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref yn y dyfodol.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Plaid Cymru welcomes these motions and we also support the amendment. I note that the Minister has raised three matters, saying that each of them would contribute to improving the situation of the elderly.

Ensuring that older people, and everyone who is eligible, claim the appropriate benefit is very important, and I know that from work done in the Nantlle valley and Gwynedd in recent years.

I drew attention to the difficult situation facing those who live in villages that are not connected to the gas network and who have suffered over the years, and the fact that they have not been able to take advantage of HEES in the past. Some of the homes in these villages are on high ground, where winters can be extremely harsh, and I am pleased that the Government has accepted those arguments and that there is a definite date for the commencement of the scheme.

Of course, the issue of saving energy is broader than the measures being proposed now, and any Government in Wales should place even greater emphasis not only on ensuring that the most vulnerable people are warm and that their bills are kept low, but,

biliau isel, ond, gyda golwg ar y newid yn yr hinsawdd, ar ddefnyddio llai o ynni yn gyffredinol. Wrth groesawu ehangu'r cynllun i gynnwys bwyleri olew, rhaid cydnabod mai ynni ffosil yw olew, ac efallai, yn y dyfodol, y dylem edrych ar gynlluniau ynni adnewyddadwy a chynlluniau microgynhyrchu ynni hefyd fel rhan o'r cynllun hwn pan fo'i gostau wedi gostwng. Yn gyffredin, fodd bynnag, croesawn y cynigion hyn yn fawr, ac yr ydym yn falch o'u cefnogi.

**Brynle Williams:** Gan ddilyn yr hyn a ddywedodd Alun Ffred ac Ann, gyda chost olew a nwy yn codi, onid yw'n amser inni edrych mewn rhai ardaloedd ar opsiwn y pwmp gwres? A oes lle i gynghorau edrych i mewn i hyn yn y dyfodol, gan ei fod yn cynnig modd o arbed llawer o arian? Yr ydym yn gosod systemau cynhesu olew i mewn i dai ar hyn o bryd; pam nad ydym yn edrych ar y system newydd hon? Mae Cyngor Sir y Fflint yn edrych ar redeg prosiect peilot ar bympiau gwres, a chredaf y bydd hyn yn arbed llawer i bawb, gyda'r posibilrwydd o arbed arian hefyd.

**Mick Bates:** The Welsh Liberal Democrats welcome these regulations. We are happy that 64,000 homes have received some support from the home energy efficiency scheme. However, is this is enough? Yesterday, I quoted statistics from British Gas that showed that winter fuel prices will pass the £1,000-per-household mark this year. That would place 260,000 homes in fuel poverty. I accept the response that you gave yesterday that the increase in fuel prices is beyond your control, but, on further investigation, having looked at your official website, I found another figure for home energy and fuel; it states that 130,000 households have difficulty with heating their homes properly. Your Government therefore admits that 130,000 homes are affected, and yet the current target for HEES is only 90,000 homes. Minister, I would like you to address this issue because, as the amendment indicates, people die because their homes are cold. I believe that, having seen the figure on your website, you should answer us and address how you will invest the money to reach those 130,000 homes.

with a view to climate change, on reducing the use of energy in general. In welcoming the expansion of the scheme to include oil-fired boilers, it must be acknowledged that oil is a fossil fuel and that perhaps we should also look in the future at renewable energy schemes and microgeneration schemes as part of this scheme, when those have come down in cost. In general, however, we welcome these motions greatly, and we are pleased to support them.

**Brynle Williams:** Following on from what Alun Ffred and Ann have said, given the increasing cost of gas and oil, is it not time we looked at the option of heat pumps in some areas? Is there room for councils to look into this in future, as it offers the possibility of savings? We are putting oil heating systems into houses at the moment; why are we not looking at this new system? Flintshire County Council is considering a pilot project on heat pumps, and I think this would save everyone a great deal, with the possibility of financial savings also.

**Mick Bates:** Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn croesawu'r rheoliadau hyn. Yr ydym yn falch fod 64,000 o gartrefi wedi cael rhywfaint o gymorth dan y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni yn y cartref. Fodd bynnag, a yw hyn yn ddigon? Ddoe, dyfynnais ystadegau gan Nwy Prydain yn dangos y bydd prisiau tanwydd gaeaf dros £1,000 i bob cartref eleni. Byddai hynny'n golygu bod 260,000 o gartrefi'n wynebu tlodi tanwydd. Derbyniaf yr ymateb a roddwyd gennych ddoe fod y cynnydd ym mhrisiau tanwydd y tu hwnt i'ch rheolaeth. Ond ar ôl ymchwilio pellach, ac edrych ar eich gwefan swyddogol, gwelais ffigur arall ynghylch ynni cartref a thanwydd; dywed fod 130,000 o deuluoedd yn cael anhawster i wresogi eu cartrefi'n briodol. Felly, mae eich Llywodraeth yn cyfaddef yr effeithir ar 130,000 o gartrefi, ond dim ond 90,000 o gartrefi yw targed presennol y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref. Weinidog, hoffwn ichi ddelio â'r mater hwn, oherwydd fel y dywed y gwelliant mae pobl yn marw am fod eu cartrefi'n oer. Ar ôl gweld y ffigur ar eich gwefan, credaf y dylech ein hateb a dweud sut y byddwch yn buddsoddi'r arian i

You gave an undertaking in committee to review the use of renewable energy in the HEES scheme, and that is obviously to be welcomed for all the reasons that we know about, namely climate change and wanting to reduce carbon emissions.

Finally, I hope that you have spoken to the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks, because he has a microgeneration strategy, which actually could help this process of placing renewable energy systems in houses that are hard to heat.

**The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart):** I thank Members for their comments on this issue and the general welcome for what we are doing.

4.10 p.m.

It is the Assembly Government and not Andrew Davies that has a microgeneration strategy, which means that we do joined-up business on this side of the Chamber in terms of what we want to do on these particular issues. The notion that I have conceded on the figure of 130,000 is wrong—I have not conceded anything if I publish something on my website. The analysis of the ‘Living in Wales’ survey shows that the number of households in Wales in fuel poverty in 2004 was 130,000. That is a fact—it was a survey that I commissioned. Therefore, there is no question of getting information out of me or getting me to admit to it, because I have been honest and truthful about the extent of fuel poverty in Wales, hence the decision of the Finance Minister to allocate all those additional resources to the scheme to tackle these issues. There is also a commitment to pensioners so that we can deal with some of the most vulnerable households. Therefore, we do have a strategy on this particular issue.

In terms of cash, there will never be enough cash to deal with all these problems. Cash is finite and the budget is finite, and you must

gyrraedd y 130,000 hynny o gartrefi.

Rhoesoch ymrwymiad yn y pwyllgor i adolygu defnyddio ynni adnewyddadwy yn y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, ac y mae'n amlwg y dylid croesawu hynny am yr holl resymau sy'n hysbys inni, sef newid yn yr hinsawdd ac awydd i leihau gollyngiadau carbon.

Yn olaf, gobeithio eich bod wedi siarad â'r Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau, gan fod ganddo strategaeth ficrogynhyrchu a allai helpu'r broses hon o osod systemau ynni adnewyddadwy mewn cartrefi sy'n anodd eu gwresogi.

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart):** Diolch i'r Aelodau am eu sylwadau ar y mater hwn a'r croeso cyffredinol i'r hyn a wnawn.

Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn hytrach nag Andrew Davies, sydd â strategaeth ficrogynhyrchu, sy'n golygu ein bod yn gweithio mewn ffordd gydgysylltiedig ar yr ochr hon o'r Siambr ar yr hyn a wnawn yn y materion penodol hyn. Mae'r syniad fy mod wedi cyfaddef y ffigur o 130,000 yn anghywir—ni fyddaf wedi cyfaddef dim os cyhoeddaf rywbeth ar fy ngwefan. Dengys y dadansoddiad o'r arolwg ‘Byw yng Nghymru’ mai 130,000 oedd nifer y cartrefi yng Nghymru a oedd yn wynebu tlodi tanwydd yn 2004. Mae hynny'n ffaith—arolwg a gomisiynwyd gennyf fi ydoedd. Felly, nid oes a wnelo hyn â llwyddo i gael gwybodaeth gennyf neu fy mod yn cyfaddef rhywbeth, oherwydd yr wyf wedi bod yn onest ac yn eirwir ynglŷn â graddau tlodi tanwydd yng Nghymru. Dyna'r rheswm, felly, dros benderfyniad y Gweinidog Cyllid i ddyrannu'r holl adnoddau ychwanegol hynny i'r cynllun i fynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn. Mae yna ymrwymiad i bensiywyr hefyd fel y gallwn ymdrin â rhai o'r cartrefi mwyaf diamddiffyn. Felly, mae gennym strategaeth ar y mater penodol hwn.

O ran arian, ni fydd ddigon o arian byth i ateb yr holl broblemau hyn. Mae terfyn ar yr arian sydd ar gael ac ar y gyllideb, a rhaid ichi

do the best that you can within the resources that are allocated. We have an excellent record on this. Additional cash is going in and we are looking at the system in an innovative way.

As you are aware, the sustainable development plan includes a commitment to a pilot scheme on renewable energy solutions for hard-to-heat households, and work is in hand to develop the pilot scheme to offer alternative measures as options for other properties, because there are many issues regarding what is allocated to some properties in Wales.

I was interested in Brynle's contribution, and I will ask my officials to contact Flintshire County Council to make further enquiries about the system that he outlined. We must recognise that the home energy efficiency scheme is an ongoing developing scheme, and we will try to adapt it to get the best benefits for the citizens of Wales.

I welcome Alun Ffred's comments, and particularly his support on benefit system issues. It is essential that we encourage people to take up the benefits to which they are entitled. The money comes out of the UK Government Treasury, and it should be taken up because it will improve the quality of people's lives. A number of people are only entitled to a relatively small amount per week, but it can make a tremendous difference in terms of how they can live their lives. As Alun Ffred said, we must look at the renewables issue, but we must also look at oil because it is quite expensive in some areas, although I welcome the fact that we are delivering in terms of this agenda.

On Ann's comments, I was impressed by the scheme, but I was really impressed with the commitment that Ann gave to citizens and her work on that scheme. Crispin Jones does an excellent job in this area, and it is wonderful that he has the confidence of Members in the way that he deals with them and communities. It is important that I look at some of the issues that you have raised, Ann. I will speak to Transco and ask officials about the cost and distances involved, and the likely opportunities in this area. I could look

wneud eich gorau o fewn yr adnoddau sy'n cael eu dyrannu. Mae gennym record ardderchog yn hyn. Mae arian ychwanegol yn cael ei roi, ac yr ydym yn edrych ar y system mewn ffordd arloesol.

Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i gynnal cynllun peilot ar atebion ynni adnewyddadwy ar gyfer cartrefi sy'n anodd eu gwresog. Mae mae gwaith ar droed hefyd i ddatblygu'r cynllun peilot i gynnig mesurau amgen fel dewisiadau i gartrefi eraill, gan fod nifer o broblemau ynghylch yr hyn a ddyrennir i rai cartrefi yng Nghymru.

Yr oedd cyfraniad Brynle yn ddiddorol, a byddaf yn gofyn i'm swyddogion gysylltu â Chyngor Sir y Fflint i wneud ymholiadau pellach am y system a amlinellodd. Rhaid inni gydnabod bod y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref yn gynllun sy'n datblygu'n barhaus, a byddwn yn ceisio'i addasu i sicrhau'r manteision gorau i bobl Cymru.

Croesawaf sylwadau Alun Ffred, ac yn arbennig ei gefnogaeth i faterion yn ymwneud â'r system budd-daliadau. Mae'n hanfodol inni annog pobl i fanteisio ar y budd-daliadau hyn y mae ganddynt yr hawl i'w cael. Daw'r arian o Drysorlys Llywodraeth y DU, a dylid ei ddefnyddio oherwydd bydd yn gwella ansawdd bywydau pobl. Mae gan nifer o bobl hawl i gael dim ond swm cymharol fach yr wythnos, ond gall wneud gwahaniaeth mawr yn y ffordd y gallant fyw eu bywydau. Fel y dywedodd Alun Ffred, rhaid inni ystyried ynni adnewyddadwy, ond rhaid inni ystyried olew hefyd am ei fod yn eithaf drud mewn rhai ardaloedd, er fy mod yn croesawu'r ffaith ein bod yn cyflawni'r agenda hon.

O ran sylwadau Ann, gwnaeth y cynllun argraff arnaf, ond yr oedd ymrwymiad Ann i ddinasyddion a'i gwaith ar y cynllun hwnnw yn glodwiw iawn. Mae Crispin Jones yn gwneud gwaith ardderchog yn y maes hwn, ac mae'n beth gwych fod gan Aelodau ffydd yn y ffordd y mae'n ymdrin â hwy a chymunedau. Mae'n bwysig imi edrych ar rai o'r materion a godwyd gennych, Ann. Byddaf yn siarad â Transco ac yn gofyn i swyddogion am y gost a'r pellteroedd dan sylw, a'r cyfleoedd tebygol yn y maes hwn.

at a different limit for multi-property installations, if that would help. That might take the scheme forward a bit more to help some of the harder-to-reach areas. Therefore, I will look at that as an issue.

On Mark Isherwood's comments, in terms of the winter deaths issue, we must understand that the home energy efficiency scheme is about combating fuel poverty—that is its primary aim. However, if there is any research out there with which we can assist, it will help in the deliberations on how we take the scheme forward. That is why I am happy to accept the amendment from the Welsh Conservatives. I ask Members across the Chamber to support the amendment and the resolutions before them.

**The Presiding Officer:** Although the amendment has been accepted, we have a quaint procedure whereby we vote for things that we have accepted. I will continue this tradition, at least until the end of this Assembly.

Gallwn ystyried terfyn gwahanol am osod mewn nifer o gartrefi, pe byddai hynny o gymorth. Gallai hynny ddod â'r cynllun y nes er mwyn helpu rhai o'r ardaloedd sy'n anos eu cyrraedd. Felly, byddaf yn ystyried hynny.

O ran sylwadau Mark Isherwood, ynghylch marwolaethau yn ystod y gaeaf, rhaid inni ddeall bod a wnelo'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref gwrthsefyll tlodi tanwydd—dyna'i nod sylfaenol. Fodd bynnag, os oes yna unrhyw waith ymchwil y gallwn ei gynorthwyo, bydd yn helpu'r penderfyniadau ynghylch sut y byddwn yn datblygu'r cynllun. Dyna pam yr wyf yn barod i dderbyn gwelliannau Ceidwadwyr Cymru. Gofynnaf i Aelodau ar draws y Siambr gefnogi'r gwelliant a'r cynigion ger eu bron.

**Y Llywydd:** Er bod y gwelliant wedi'i dderbyn, mae gennym weithdrefn hen ffasiwn lle yr ydym yn pleidleisio dros bethau yr ydym wedi'u derbyn. Byddaf yn parhau'r traddodiad hwnnw, o leiaf tan ddiwedd y Cynulliad hwn.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 47, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amendment 1: For 47, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
Isherwood, Mark  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin

Jones, Helen Mary  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Law, Trish  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
 Amendment carried.*

Motion NDM3225 as amended:

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting  
 under Standing Order No. 29.3(iii):*

*1. considers the principle of the Home  
 Energy Efficiency Scheme (Categories of  
 Works and Maximum Amounts of Grant)  
 (No.3) (Wales) Determination 2006, a draft  
 of which was laid in the Table Office on 26  
 September 2006; and*

*2. requires the Welsh Assembly Government  
 to support research into the causes of excess  
 winter deaths in Wales so that the home  
 energy efficiency scheme can be further  
 developed to address these.*

Cynnig NDM3225 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan  
 weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif  
 29.3(iii):*

*1. yn ystyried egwyddor Dyfarniad Cynllun  
 Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref (Categoriâu o  
 Waith ac Uchafsymiau Grant) (Rhif 3)  
 (Cymru) 2006 y gosodwyd drafft ohono yn y  
 Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 26 Medi 2006; ac*

*2. yn mynnu bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad  
 Cymru yn cefnogi ymchwil i achosion  
 marwolaethau ychwanegol dros y gaeaf yng  
 Nghymru fel bo'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd  
 ynni cartref yn cael ei ddatblygu ymhellach i  
 roi sylw i'r rhain.*

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
 Amended motion: For 46, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
 Barrett, Lorraine  
 Bates, Mick  
 Black, Peter  
 Burnham, Eleanor  
 Butler, Rosemary  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Cuthbert, Jeff  
 Davidson, Jane  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Janet

Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Idris Jones, Denise  
Isherwood, Mark  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Law, Trish  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Catherine  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Williams, Kirsty  
Wood, Leanne

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

*Cynnig (NDM3226): O blaid 47, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM3226): For 47, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Dunwoody, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane



Idris Jones, Denise  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Helen Mary  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Law, Trish  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

**Dirprwyo Swyddogaethau o dan Ddeddf Cymdogaethau Glân a'r Amgylchedd  
 2005 i'r Prif Weinidog  
 Delegation of Functions under the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act  
 2005 to the First Minister**

**The Minister for Environment, Planning  
 and Countryside (Carwyn Jones):** I  
 propose that

*the National Assembly for Wales*

*acting under section 62(1)(b) of the  
 Government of Wales Act 1998, resolves to  
 delegate the functions of the National  
 Assembly contained in or under the Clean  
 Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005  
 ('the 2005 Act') to the First Minister, save  
 those functions contained in or under section  
 104 of the 2005 Act (which were delegated to  
 the First Minister on 15 March 2006 by  
 NDM2920) and those functions under the  
 2005 Act which by law cannot be so  
 delegated. (NDM3227)*

I propose that the Assembly, in exercise of its  
 powers under section 62 of the Government  
 of Wales Act 1998, delegates the remaining  
 functions of the Clean Neighbourhoods and  
 Environment Act 2005 in the way described

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd,  
 Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones):**  
 Cynigiau fod

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru*

*gan weithredu dan adran 62(1)(b) o Ddeddf  
 Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, yn penderfynu  
 dirprwyo i'r Prif Weinidog swyddogaethau'r  
 Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a gynhwysir yn neu o  
 dan Ddeddf Cymdogaethau Glân a'r  
 Amgylchedd 2005 ('Deddf 2005'), ac  
 eithrio'r swyddogaethau hynny a gynhwysir  
 yn neu o dan adran 104 o Ddeddf 2005 (a  
 ddirprwywyd i'r Prif Weinidog ar 15 Mawrth  
 2006 gan NDM2920) a'r swyddogaethau  
 hynny dan Ddeddf 2005 na ellir, yn ôl y  
 gyfraith, eu dirprwyo yn y modd hwnnw.  
 (NDM3227)*

Cynigiau fod y Cynulliad, gan arfer ei bwerau  
 o dan adran 62 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru  
 1998, yn dirprwyo gweddill swyddogaethau  
 Deddf Cymdogaethau Glân a'r Amgylchedd  
 2005 fel y disgrifir yn y cynnig. Effaith hyn

in the motion. It will have the effect of delegating the Assembly's functions under this legislation to the First Minister. Among the functions being delegated are the Assembly's powers to give guidance to a local authority as to the exercise of its functions in relation to a range of environmental nuisances detailed in the papers before Members. I commend the motion to the Assembly.

**Lynne Neagle:** The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 is an important piece of legislation. Constituents of mine who suffer at the hands of nuisance neighbours and anti-social behaviour have been impatient for its implementation in Wales. Swift and thorough use of the new powers available under this Act must be forthcoming from local authorities across Wales.

These new measures, such as the immediate removal of abandoned vehicles, will be vital in tackling environmental crime and in creating safer, cleaner communities. From the use of gating schemes to tough penalties on nuisance parking, fly-tipping, vandalism and graffiti, people have the right to this protection from environmental crime, which can make their lives a misery.

Yes, these are environmental issues, but they are also social justice issues, because it is people in deprived communities who most often have to face these kinds of problems. The Tories can hug as many huskies or hoodies as they want, but while they are voting against this kind of legislation, as they did in Westminster, no-one will be fooled by their claims to be serious about the environment or about crime.

I am concerned, too, for those people who are unfortunate enough to live in a Liberal Democrat-controlled local authority. The Liberal Democrats' wishy-washy approach to implementing measures to tackle anti-social behaviour puts people at risk of environmental and violent crime.

fydd dirprwyo swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad o dan y ddeddfwriaeth hon i'r Prif Weinidog. Ymhlith y swyddogaethau i'w dirprwyo y mae pwerau'r Cynulliad i roi arweiniad i awdurdod lleol ar arfer ei swyddogaethau yng nghyd-destun amrywiaeth o achosion o niwsans amgylcheddol y mae manylion amdanynt i'w gweld yn y papurau sydd gerbron yr Aelodau. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Cynulliad.

**Lynne Neagle:** Mae Deddf Cymdogaethau Glân a'r Amgylchedd 2005 yn ddarn pwysig o ddeddfwriaeth. Bu rhai o'm hetholwyr sy'n dioddef oherwydd niwsans cymdogion ac ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn disgwyl yn ysu am i'r ddeddfwriaeth hon gael ei gweithredu yng Nghymru. Rhaid i awdurdodau lleol ledled Cymru weithredu'r pwerau sydd ar gael iddynt o dan y Ddeddf hon ar fyrder ac yn drwyadl.

Bydd y mesurau newydd hyn, fel symud cerbydau sydd wedi eu gadael, yn hanfodol wrth fynd i'r afael â throeddau amgylcheddol ac wrth greu cymunedau glanach, mwy diogel. O gynlluniau gosod gataiau i gosbau llym am achosion o barcio niwsans, tipio anghyfreithlon, fandaliaeth a graffiti, mae gan bobl yr hawl i gael eu hamddiffyn rhag y troseddau amgylcheddol hyn, sy'n gallu bod yn fwrn ar eu bywydau.

Wrth gwrs, materion amgylcheddol yw'r rhain, ond maent hefyd yn faterion cyfiawnder cymdeithasol, oherwydd pobl mewn cymunedau difreintiedig sy'n gorfod wynebu'r mathau hyn o broblemau amlaf. Gall y Torïaid gofleidio cynifer ag a fyddant o gŵn hysgi neu o hwdis, ond tra maent yn pleidleisio yn erbyn y math hwn o ddeddfwriaeth, fel y gwnaethant yn San Steffan, ni fyddant yn twyllo neb gyda'u honiadau eu bod o ddifrif ynglŷn â'r amgylchedd neu droseddau.

Yr wyf hefyd yn pryderu am y bobl hynny sy'n ddigon anffodus i fyw mewn awdurdod lleol a reolir gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Mae ymagwedd chwit-chwat y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol tuag at weithredu mesurau i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn rhoi pobl mewn perygl o droseddau amgylcheddol a threisgar.

This motion is welcome progress in giving local authorities the power that they need to tackle the day-to-day problems experienced by too many people in our communities. I would urge the Minister to speed up progress on the regulations that remain outstanding. Labour's vision for safer and cleaner communities is at the heart of this Act that we are discussing. While I am disappointed that we in Wales have been slow in acting on the legislation, I am hopeful that all local authorities in Wales will be quick to use these new weapons to cut down on littering, anti-social behaviour, vandalism and graffiti. Properly used, this Act has the power to change for the better and forever the living environment of people across Wales.

**Brynle Williams:** I am disappointed in the Member for her political views—[*Laughter.*] Not her political views, her views. You know what I mean.

I give a cautious welcome to the Act as it strengthens the penalties for activities that detract from the environment and quality of life. I will use my time to highlight the problems facing rural areas, as this Act focuses overwhelmingly on the urban movement. I am well aware of many of the issues that you have pointed out, Lynne, and they are not unique to where you live.

The fly-tipping measures in the Act are a step in the right direction, but I do not believe that they go far enough. Environment Agency officers still have no powers to arrest fly-tipping criminals, despite the serious environmental damage that these offenders cause the environment through contaminating land and polluting water courses. Likewise, it seems grossly unfair to me that when no-one has been prosecuted for fly-tipping the landowner becomes responsible for the cost of the disposal and removal of the rubbish.

I am concerned that local authorities and the Environment Agency are not receiving enough support and motivation to deal with fly-tipping and littering in rural and urban

Mae'r cynnig hwn yn gam derbyniol ymlaen yn y broses o roi i awdurdodau lleol y pŵer y mae arnynt ei angen i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau beunyddiol sy'n wynebu gormod o bobl yn ein cymunedau. Byddem yn annog y Gweinidog i gyflymu pethau parthed y rheoliadau sy'n weddill. Mae gweledigaeth Llafur ar gyfer cymunedau glanach a mwy diogel yn greiddiol i'r Ddeddf hon yr ydym yn ei thrafod. Er fy mod yn siomedig ein bod ni yng Nghymru wedi llusgo'n traed wrth weithredu'r ddeddfwriaeth, fy ngobaith yw y bydd pob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru yn gyflym iawn yn defnyddio'r arfau newydd hyn i leihau sbwriel, ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, fandaliaeth a graffiti. O'i defnyddio'n iawn, mae gan y Ddeddf hon y gallu i newid amgylchedd byw pobl ledled Cymru er gwell ac am byth.

**Brynle Williams:** Yr wyf wedi fy siomi gyda'r Aelod am ei safbwyntiau gwleidyddol—[*Chwerthin.*] Nid ei safbwyntiau gwleidyddol, ond ei safbwyntiau. Gwyddoch yr hyn a olygaf.

Croesawaf y Ddeddf hon yn betrus gan ei bod yn cryfhau'r cosbau am weithgareddau sy'n amharu ar yr amgylchedd ac ansawdd bywyd. Defnyddiaf fy amser i dynnu sylw at y problemau sy'n wynebu ardaloedd gwledig, gan fod y Ddeddf hon yn canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar ardaloedd trefol. Yr wyf yn hollol ymwybodol o nifer o'r materion a nodwyd gennych, Lynne, ac nid ydynt yn unigryw i'ch ardal chi.

Mae'r mesurau tipio anghyfreithlon yn y Ddeddf yn gam i'r cyfeiriad cywir, ond nid ânt yn ddigon pell, yn fy marn i. Nid oes gan swyddogion Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd o hyd bwerau i arestio troseddwy'r sy'n tipio'n anghyfreithlon, er y niwed amgylcheddol difrifol a achosir gan y troseddwy'r hyn i'r amgylchedd drwy lygru tir a chyrsgiau dŵr. Yn yr un modd, mae'n ymddangos yn gwbl annheg i mi mai'r tiffeddiannwr sy'n gyfrifol am gost gwaredu a symud y sbwriel pan na fydd neb wedi ei erlyn am dipio'n anghyfreithlon.

Yr wyf yn bryderus nad yw awdurdodau lleol ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn cael digon o gymorth a chymhelliant i ddelio â thipio anghyfreithlon a sbwriel mewn ardaloedd

areas. Only two weeks ago, I reported fly-tipping, damage and fouling on a site of special scientific interest on Halkyn mountain in Flintshire, only to be told that it was not a priority for the Environment Agency. If Wales's most important environmental sites are not a priority for authorities, ladies and gentlemen, then they are clearly failing the Welsh public.

4.20 p.m.

The Assembly Government has an obligation to ensure that local authorities and the Environment Agency are sufficiently funded to carry out their obligations under the Act. At the same time, the public also needs to be made aware of the new penalties and offences, and a concerted effort should be made to inform them of the environmental consequences of illegal dumping in the countryside and in urban areas.

**Mick Bates:** The Welsh Liberal Democrats welcome these regulations, which are good. There has been a need for these for many years to help to clean up our communities. This legislation gives us the ability to do just that. I listened to Lynne Neagle's comments with interest. When someone criticises people on unfounded grounds, it is always an expression of their fear, but I noticed that she had no criticism of Plaid Cymru. Is this a future possibility, perhaps? Lynne, do you want to intervene?

**Lynne Neagle:** I am here to talk about your record, Mick. Are you prepared to stand here and defend the record of the Liberal Democrats, who have consistently voted against a range of anti-social behaviour measures at Westminster? Is that a record you are proud of?

**Mick Bates:** What absolute rubbish. I hope that you refer to the Record to check our voting on all anti-social behaviour orders. Your disagreement with us on ASBOs is simply due to fact that we are not in favour of criminalising vast numbers of young people, which causes further dislocation and disengagement in society. There are many steps to take before you and your police state

gwledig a threfol. Gwta pythefnos yn ôl, rhoddais wybod i'r awdurdodau am dipio anghyfreithlon, difrod a llygredd ar safle o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig ar fynydd Helygain yn Sir y Fflint, ond dywedwyd wrthyf nad oedd yn flaenoriaeth i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd. Os nad yw safleoedd amgylcheddol pwysicaf Cymru yn flaenoriaeth i'r awdurdodau, foneddigion a boneddigesau, maent yn amlwg yn methu â gweithredu er lles y cyhoedd yng Nghymru.

Mae cyfrifoldeb ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd wedi'u hariannu'n ddigonol i gyflawni eu rhwymedigaethau o dan y Ddeddf. Ar yr un pryd, mae angen i'r cyhoedd fod yn ymwybodol o'r cosbau a'r troseddau newydd, a dylid gwneud ymdrech ar y cyd i ddweud wrthynt am ganlyniadau amgylcheddol tipio anghyfreithlon yng nghefn gwlad ac mewn ardaloedd trefol.

**Mick Bates:** Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn croesawu'r rheoliadau hyn: maent yn beth da. Mae angen am y rhain ers blynyddoedd lawer i helpu glanhau ein cymunedau. Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth hon yn rhoi inni'r gallu i wneud hynny'n union. Gwrandewais ar sylwadau Lynne Neagle gyda diddordeb. Pan fydd rhywun yn beirniadu pobl yn annheg, mae'n fynegiant o'u hofnau, ond sylwaf nad yw'n beirniadu Plaid Cymru. A yw hynny'n bosibilrwydd yn y dyfodol, tybed? Lynne, a ydych am ymyrryd?

**Lynne Neagle:** Yr wyf yma i siarad am eich record chi, Mick. A ydych yn barod i sefyll yma ac amddiffyn record y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, sydd wedi pleidleisio'n gyson yn San Steffan yn erbyn ystod o fesurau ar ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol? A yw hynny'n record yr ydych yn ymfalchio ynddi?

**Mick Bates:** Nonsens llwyr. Gobeithio y cyfeiriwch at y Cofnod i archwilio ein pleidleisiau ar bob gorchymyn ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Mae'r ffaith eich bod yn anghytuno â ni ar ASBOs i'w phriodoli i'r ffaith nad ydym o blaid rhoi label droseddol ar niferoedd fawr o bobl ifanc, sy'n achosi ymddieithrio pellach mewn cymdeithas. Mae nifer o gamau i'w cymryd cyn i chi a'ch

arrive. I only hope that more people listen to the Liberal Democrats' view, because we still value liberty.

Returning to the regulations, I have some points for the Minister to address. I would like to hear his views on the cost of implementing this, because, while we all support regulations relating to illegal and nuisance parking and so on, we are also aware that there are pressures in local government budgets. To implement much of this, there will be a demand for resources. Has any scoping work been undertaken to ascertain the increased cost to many agencies? Brynle mentioned the Environment Agency, and the need to clean up after fly-tipping. There are great costs attached to all these measures. Can you assure me that you have reached a kind of balance, enabling us to see that you are taking action to provide the funds to make this legislation a success?

**Carl Sargeant:** As you seem to have assumed the role of the Liberal Democrats' new crime guru, do you condemn your colleagues in Wrexham for reducing the number of neighbourhood wardens who protect our environment and our streets? Do you think that that is a pretty bad decision made by a Liberal Democrat-led council? Ask your friends for some help with that one.

**Mick Bates:** I am being inundated with advice. Carl, I am walking on egg shells and I fear to tread on others' territory. However, I draw your attention to the fact that the bids for community support officers are legitimate, and they provide a better service than a host of wardens could. Therefore, I will enter into a debate with you outside the Chamber on issues in Wrexham. I see that Peter wants to intervene now. [*Laughter.*]

**Peter Black:** Are you aware of the comments made by the chief constable of North Wales Police on his weblog? He made the point that Labour Ministers have got it completely wrong on Wrexham and that, in fact, the police were working in partnership with

gwladwriaeth heddlu gyrraedd. Gobeithio y bydd mwy o bobl yn gwrando ar farn y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, oherwydd yr ydym ni'n dal i roi gwerth ar ryddid.

I ddychwelyd at y rheoliadau, mae gennyf rai pwyntiau i'r Gweinidog fynd i'r afael â hwy. Hoffwn glywed ei farn am gost gweithredu hyn, oherwydd, er ein bod i gyd yn cefnogi rheoliadau'n ymwneud â pharcio anghyfreithlon a pharcio niwsans ac yn y blaen, gwyddom hefyd fod pwysau ar gyllidebau llywodraeth leol. Er mwyn gweithredu llawer o hyn, bydd galw am adnoddau. A oes unrhyw waith cwmpasu wedi ei wneud i bennu'r gost gynyddol i nifer o asiantaethau? Crybwyllodd Brynle Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd, a'r angen am lanhau ar ôl tipio anghyfreithlon. Mae llawer o gostau ynghlwm wrth bob un o'r mesurau hyn. A allwch fy sicrhau eich bod wedi cyrraedd rhyw fath o gydbwysedd, a fydd yn ein galluogi i weld eich bod yn cymryd camau i ddarparu'r arian i sicrhau bod y ddeddfwriaeth hon yn llwyddo?

**Carl Sargeant:** Gan eich bod yn ymddangos wedi ymgymryd â mantell guru troseddau newydd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, a ydych yn condemnio'ch cydweithwyr yn Wrecsam am leihau nifer y wardeniaid cymdogaeth sy'n diogelu'n hamgylchedd a'n strydoedd? Oni chredwch ei fod yn benderfyniad digon gwael gan gyngor a reolir gan Ddemocratiaid Rhyddfrydol? Gofynnwch i'ch ffrindiau am gymorth gyda'r cwestiwn hwnnw.

**Mick Bates:** Yr wyf yn cael cyngor o bob cyfeiriad. Carl, yr wyf yn troedio'n ofalus iawn rhag sathru ar diriogaeth eraill. Fodd bynnag, tynnaf eich sylw at y ffaith fod y cynigion am swyddogion cymorth cymunedol yn ddilys, ac y maent yn rhoi gwell gwasanaeth nag y gallai byddin o wardeiniaid ei roi. Felly, caf ddadlau â chi y tu allan i'r Siambr ar faterion yn Wrecsam. Gwelaf fod Peter am ymyrryd yn awr. [*Chwerthin.*]

**Peter Black:** A ydych yn ymwybodol o'r sylwadau a wnaed gan brif gwnstabl Heddlu Gogledd Cymru ar ei flog? Gwnaeth y pwynt fod Gweinidogion Llafur wedi gwneud camgymeriad llwyr am Wrecsam a bod yr heddlu, mewn gwirionedd, yn gweithio

Wrexham council to invest in law-and-order measures through the provision of police community support officers?

**Mick Bates:** I rise only to thank my colleague, Peter Black, for that wonderful intervention, which puts on record what the chief constable thinks.

**Mark Isherwood:** On a similar theme, I have had a discussion with the leader of Wrexham County Borough Council; he is a Liberal Democrat who takes a multiparty, open approach. [*Laughter.*] I have to say that, because he has done so.

He has told me that, because Home Office funding for community safety officers is being reduced for the second year, North Wales Police has to cut the subsidy that it gives to Wrexham for the wardens to whom you referred. The only way in which Wrexham can expand the scheme based upon the tiny budget that the previous Labour council put in is by bidding for officers from North Wales Police, to ensure that the community of Wrexham receives the support on the ground that it should receive.

**Mick Bates:** Thank you for allowing me to intervene in this debate.

Finally, Minister, this is a large and complex piece of legislation. What plans do you have to monitor it so that you may learn from its implementation and particularly make sure that communities are satisfied that what is contained in here is being used?

**The Presiding Officer:** I call on the Minister to respond to a wide-ranging debate.

**The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones):** Thank you, Llywydd. I am disturbed to hear what Brynle Williams said about the conversation that he had with someone from the Environment Agency. If he provides me with their name and details, I will be more than happy to investigate that, because it is a priority for us, the Environment Agency and local authorities to make sure that fly-tipping

mewn partneriaeth â chyngor Wrecsam i fuddsoddi mewn mesurau cyfraith a threfn drwy ddarparu swyddogion cymorth cymunedol yr heddlu?

**Mick Bates:** Codaf dim ond er mwyn diolch i'm cyd-Aelod, Peter Black, am yr ymyriad gwych hwnnw, sy'n cofnodi'r hyn y mae'r prif gwnstabl yn ei feddwl.

**Mark Isherwood:** Ar thema debyg, cefais drafodaeth gydag arweinydd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam; mae'n Ddemocrat Rhyddfrydol sydd ag ymagwedd agored, amlbleidiol. [*Chwerthin.*] Rhaid imi ddweud hynny gan ei fod ef wedi gwneud hynny.

Dywedodd wrthyf y bu'n rhaid i Heddlu Gogledd Cymru ostwng y cymhorthdal a rydd i Wrecsam ar gyfer y wardeiniaid yr oeddech yn cyfeirio oherwydd bod arian y Swyddfa Gartref ar gyfer swyddogion diogelwch cymunedol yn cael ei ostwng am yr ail flwyddyn. Yr unig ffordd y gall Wrecsam ehangu'r cynllun, ar y gyllideb fechan a ddarparwyd gan y cyngor Llafur blaenorol, yw drwy wneud cais am swyddogion gan Heddlu Gogledd Cymru, i sicrhau bod cymuned Wrecsam yn cael y cymorth a ddylai ar lawr gwlad.

**Mick Bates:** Diolch am adael imi ymyrryd yn y ddadl hon.

Yn olaf, Weinidog, mae hwn yn ddarn mawr a chymhleth o ddeddfwriaeth. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i'w monitro fel y gallwch ddysgu wrth ei gweithredu, ac yn arbennig i sicrhau bod cymunedau'n fodlon fod yr hyn a gynhwysir ynddi yn cael ei ddefnyddio?

**Y Llywydd:** Galwaf ar y Gweinidog i ymateb i ddadl gynhwysfawr.

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones):** Diolch, Lywydd. Mae'n bryder imi glywed yr hyn a ddywedodd Brynle Williams am y sgwrs a gafodd gyda rhywun o Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd. Os gall roi ei enw a'i fanylion imi, byddaf yn fwy na pharod i ymchwilio i hyn, oherwydd mae'n flaenoriaeth i ni, i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ac i awdurdodau lleol sicrhau mynd i'r afael â thipio

is dealt with. The Flycapture scheme, which many Members will be aware of, emphasises how important we regard this issue to be.

The points raised by Lynne were well made and would make parties on the other side of the Chamber uncomfortable—and rightly so.

Mick Bates mentioned many things, but two things in particular. First, the financial situation of local authorities. There will be certain costs on local authorities and they will make the situation known to my colleague, the Finance Minister. However, there are opportunities for local authorities to recoup some of the costs, because they can keep the receipts from fixed-penalty notices issued for many of the offences mentioned here. It gives the local authorities powers, not duties, to enforce. It is therefore up to the local authorities to use those powers wisely. I am sure that they will be accountable to their local electors for what they do. We will certainly monitor the situation to ensure that the philosophy contained in the Act becomes action on the ground as far as local authorities are concerned.

I was interested in what Mick Bates said about us wanting to introduce a police state here. The last person to use words like that was Churchill in the 1945 general election, when he said that Clement Attlee—that offensive and loud-mouthed man—would introduce a Gestapo to Britain if Labour were elected in 1945. At least we now know on what side of the political divide the Liberal Democrats stand.

anghyfreithlon. Mae cynllun Flycapture, y bydd llawer Aelod yn ymwybodol ohono, yn pwysleisio mor bwysig yw'r mater hwn yn ein golwg.

Yr oedd y pwyntiau a godwyd gan Lynne yn dda, a byddent yn gwneud i'r pleidiau ar ochr arall y Siambr deimlo'n anghyfforddus—a hynny'n hollol gywir.

Crybwyllodd Mick Bates lawer o bethau, ond dau beth yn benodol. Yn gyntaf, sefyllfa ariannol awdurdodau lleol. Bydd rhai costau ar awdurdodau lleol, a byddant yn rhoi gwybod i'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Cyllid am y sefyllfa. Fodd bynnag, mae cyfleoedd i awdurdodau lleol adennill rhai o'r costau, oherwydd gallant gadw'r hyn a gânt drwy rybuddion cosb benodol am nifer o'r troseddau a grybwyllwyd yma. Mae'n rhoi i'r awdurdodau lleol bwerau, nid dyletswyddau, i'w gorfodi. Felly, cyfrifoldeb yr awdurdodau lleol yw defnyddio'r pwerau hynny'n ddoeth. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddant yn atebol i'w hetholwyr lleol am yr hyn a wnânt. Byddwn yn sicr yn monitro'r sefyllfa i sicrhau gwireddu athroniaeth y Ddeddf ar lawr gwlad cyn belled ag y mae awdurdodau lleol yn y cwestiwn.

Yr oedd yn ddiddorol clywed yr hyn a ddywedodd Mick Bates am ein hawydd i gyflwyno gwladwriaeth heddlu yma. Y person olaf i ddefnyddio geiriau tebyg oedd Churchill yn etholiad cyffredinol 1945, pan ddywedodd y byddai Clement Attlee—y dyn anfoesgar hwnnw ac uchel ei gloch—yn cyflwyno Gestapo i Brydain pe bai'r blaid Lafur yn cael ei hethol yn 1945. O leiaf gwyddom ar ba ochr i'r gagendor gwleidyddol y mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn sefyll.

*Cynnig (NDM3227): O blaid 48, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.*

*Motion (NDM3227): For 48, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine

Cuthbert, Jeff  
 Davidson, Jane  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Janet  
 Dunwoody, Tamsin  
 Essex, Sue  
 Francis, Lisa  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Graham, William  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Idris Jones, Denise  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Melding, David  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

### **Cynnig gan Lisa Francis o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31 Proposal by Lisa Francis under Standing Order No. 31**

**Lisa Francis:** I propose that

*the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 31.2, supports in principle legislation to:*

*amend article 10(2) of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995, to:*

*(a) extend the definition of a playing field to include any land in the open air which is used for the purposes of physical education or recreation; and*

**Lisa Francis:** Cynigiau fod

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31.2, yn cefnogi, mewn egwyddor, ddeddfwriaeth i:*

*ddiwgyio erthygl 10(2) o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Datblygu Cyffredinol) 1995, i:*

*(a) estyn y diffiniad o 'playing field' i gynnwys unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored a ddefnyddir at ddibenion addysg gorfforol neu hamdden; a*



*(b) revise the definition of a playing pitch to remove the minimum size requirement in relation to a delineated area. (NDM3186)*

There has certainly been disagreement as to whether there is an issue with regard to the loss of playing fields in Wales. There appears to be a perception—sadly, quite often among so-called experts—that, compared with England and Scotland, the loss of playing fields in Wales is not a major strategic issue. Back in June, the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport told the Assembly that the Sports Council Wales, which is our expert on this matter, has advised us that the sale of school land is not a significant issue in Wales. Conversely, I am in possession of a letter from the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills from February of last year, in which she states that she expects authorities, in drawing up their programmes for investment in schools, to have regard to the need for playing fields and playground facilities, but also to consider whether the disposal of sites that are surplus to requirements can facilitate new investment.

It seems to be pretty clear from that statement that the Minister expects authorities to consider disposing of surplus school playing fields in a bid to be fit for purpose. When the loss of playing fields occurs, many of us would be able to show from constituents' letters that it can be very serious, locally. Thusfar, the Welsh Assembly Government has no plans to collect statistics on playing field development applications, as is the case in England. However, here are a couple of interesting facts. For every acre of play space, there are 80 acres of golf club space in Wales. Across the UK, playing fields have been lost at a rate of one a day over the last eight years. The sports council uses the definition of a playing field provided in the town and country planning Order and it is this definition that needs to be changed. It states that local authorities must consult with the sports council on planning applications and defines a playing field as

'the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch'.

*(b) diwygio'r diffiniad o 'playing pitch' i ddileu'r gofyniad o ran maint ardal y gellir ei dynodi'n faes chwarae. (NDM3186)*

Bu anghytundeb, yn sicr, ar y cwestiwn a yw colli meysydd chwarae yng Nghymru yn broblem. Ymddengys fod yna syniad—yn anffodus, yn aml ymhlith y rheini a elwir yn arbenigwyr—nad yw colli meysydd chwarae yng Nghymru, o'u gymharu â Lloegr a'r Alban, yn broblem strategol o bwys. Yn ôl ym mis Mehefin, dywedodd y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon wrth y Cynulliad fod Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, ein harbenigwr ar y mater hwn, wedi dweud wrthym nad yw gwerthu tir ysgolion yn fater o bwys yng Nghymru. I'r gwrthwyneb, mae gennyf lythyr yn fy meddiant gan y Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau dyddiedig Chwefror y llynedd lle mae'n dweud ei bod yn disgwyl i awdurdodau, wrth lunio'u rhaglenni buddsoddi mewn ysgolion, ystyried yr angen am feysydd chwarae a chyfleusterau iard chwarae, ond hefyd y dylent ystyried a all cael gwared â safleoedd nad oes eu hangen hwyluso buddsoddi o'r newydd.

Ymddengys yn weddol glir o'r datganiad fod y Gweinidog yn disgwyl i awdurdodau ystyried cael gwared â meysydd chwarae ysgolion nad oes eu hangen mewn ymgais i fod yn addas at y diben. Pan fydd meysydd chwarae'n cael eu colli, byddai nifer ohonom yn gallu dangos o lythyrau etholwyr y gall fod yn ddifrifol iawn, yn lleol. Hyd yma, nid oes gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gynlluniau i gasglu ystadegau am geisiadau i ddatblygu meysydd chwarae, fel y gwneir yn Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, dyma ichi ychydig ffeithiau diddorol. Am bob erw o le chwarae, mae 80 erw o le i glybiau golff yng Nghymru. Ledled y DU, collwyd meysydd chwarae ar gyfradd o un y dydd dros yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf. Mae'r cyngor chwaraeon yn defnyddio'r diffiniad o faes chwarae a ddarperir yn y Gorchymyn cynllunio gwlad a thref, a'r diffiniad hwn y mae angen ei newid. Mae'n dweud bod yn rhaid i awdurdodau lleol ymgynghori â'r cyngor chwaraeon ynglŷn â cheisiadau cynllunio, ac mae'n diffinio maes chwarae fel

safle cyfan sy'n cwmpasu o leiaf un cae chwarae.

4.30 p.m.

In this context, a playing pitch means a delineated area which, together with any run-off area, is of 0.4 ha or more, and which is used for a variety of field games. In terms of scale, 0.4 ha is approximately the size of an adult football pitch. Therefore, children's pitches, which are approximately 0.2 ha, or half of that size, are not classed as playing pitches, and as a result, are unable to be classed as playing fields. Land containing these unclassified children's pitches is therefore more vulnerable to building development or sale at the hands of local authorities.

The minimum-size requirement included within the definition of a playing pitch also means that smaller areas of open green space—local playgrounds, for instance—cannot be defined as a designated recreation area. In order to protect this land, the National Playing Fields Association would prefer the definition of a playing field to be extended to include any open space used and laid out for the purpose of play, sport and recreation. It is currently aware of 15 sites that could be so described that are under threat in Wales.

I propose that, through the use of legislative powers, the current definition of what constitutes a playing field should be amended to mean any land in the open air that is used for the purposes of physical education or recreation. This does not encroach upon public space, and it does not pose any risk to alternative outdoor recreation facilities. It does, however, enable open and green space to be officially documented as land designated for recreation—a sorely lacking element in Wales today, unless you count golf courses, of course.

Without this documentation, it is impossible to collate the statistical impact of playing field losses in Wales. We may lose numerous children's pitches in every town or village in our country, but their loss is easily brushed under the carpet—and all because they are below an arbitrary measurement of size.

Yn y cyd-destun hwn, mae cae chwarae yn golygu ardal ddynodedig sydd, ynghyd ag unrhyw dir ymylol, yn 0.4 ha neu'n fwy, ac a ddefnyddir ar gyfer amrywiaeth o gemau maes. O ran maint, mae 0.4 ha tua maint cae pêl-droed oedolion. Felly, ni chaiff caeau plant, sydd tua 0.2 ha, neu hanner y maint hwnnw, eu dosbarthu'n gaeau chwarae, ac o ganlyniad ni ellir eu dosbarthu'n feysydd chwarae. O ganlyniad, mae tir sy'n cynnwys y caeau chwarae hyn i blant sydd heb eu dosbarthu yn fwy agored i ddatblygiadau adeiladu neu i gael ei werthu gan awdurdodau lleol.

Mae'r gofyniad o ran maint lleiaf sy'n cael ei gynnwys yn y diffiniad o gae chwarae hefyd yn golygu na ellir diffinio darnau llai o fannau gwyrdd agored—mannau chwarae lleol, er enghraifft—fel manau hamdden dynodedig. Er mwyn diogelu'r tir hwn, byddai'n well gan Feysydd Chwarae Cymru pe bai'r diffiniad o faes chwarae yn cael ei ehangu i gynnwys unrhyw fan agored sy'n cael ei ddefnyddio a'i osod allan at ddibenion chwarae, campau a hamdden. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'n ymwybodol o 15 safle yng Nghymru y gellid eu disgrifio felly ac sydd mewn perygl.

Cynigiad, drwy ddefnyddio pwerau deddfwriaethol, y dylid diwygio'r diffiniad cyfredol o'r hyn sy'n gyfystyr â maes chwarae i olygu unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored a ddefnyddir at ddibenion addysg gorfforol neu hamdden. Nid yw hyn yn tresmasu ar fannau cyhoeddus, ac nid yw'n peri unrhyw risg i gyfleusterau hamdden eraill yn yr awyr agored. Fodd bynnag, mae'n galluogi manau agored a manau gwyrdd i gael eu dogfennu'n swyddogol fel tir wedi ei ddynodi ar gyfer hamdden—elfen sy'n sicr ar goll yng Nghymru heddiw, oni chyfrifwch gyrsiau golff, wrth gwrs.

Heb y ddogfennaeth hon, mae'n amhosibl coladu'r effaith ystadegol o gollu meysydd chwarae yng Nghymru. Efallai y byddwn yn colli nifer o gaeau chwarae plant ym mhob tref neu bentref yn ein gwlad, ond caiff y colledion hyn eu hanwybyddu'n hawdd—a hynny oherwydd eu bod yn llai na mesuriadau mympwyol.

The sports council has stated that:

‘some strengthening of existing policy would be beneficial, particularly as increasing participation in sport and physical activity to improve health is now a significant policy goal of this Government.’

It would be prudent if we could monitor more of such areas rather than just fields with pitches the size of an adult football pitch.

To move away from this technical speak for a minute, the point that I am trying to make is that there is a world of difference between play and organised sport. It follows, therefore, that there is a world of difference between a playing field and a playing pitch.

I was fortunate to attend a primary school in the village of Dinas Mawddwy in Meirionydd. To the rear of the school was a grassy field of approximately three acres known to all as *cae'r ysgol*—an imaginative name by all accounts. For me and my fellow school mates, this represented our safe, visible space to play in, on school days and at weekends. I believe that it was crucial and vital to our development as children. The field was equipped with a couple of climbing frames, on which some of us aspired to be Olga Corbett, although I know that that might be difficult to imagine now. We also played team games such as cricket, rounders and football, using sweaters, school bags and shoes for goal posts and stumps. I am sure that that strikes a chord with many Members. At other times we used our imagination and invented our own games, such as cops and robbers, and cowboys and indians. We would be horses, aeroplanes or whirling dervishes, and, when the grass was mown, we would weave it into the perimeter fence and build dens and grass houses. We learned to bowl a ball, to catch, to climb, to fly kites, and we also learned how to share, take part, join in, watch out for each other, inspire and aspire.

In this wonderful protected environment of freedom and fresh air, which was all free of

Mae'r cyngor chwaraeon wedi dweud:

y byddai ychydig atgyfnerthu ar y polisi presennol yn fuddiol, yn enwedig gan fod cynyddu cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon a gweithgarwch corfforol i wella iechyd bellach yn un o nodau polisi allweddol y Llywodraeth hon.

Byddai'n ddoeth pe gallem fonitro mwy o ardaloedd o'r fath, yn hytrach na dim ond meysydd sydd â chaeau o faint cae pêl-droed oedolion.

I droi oddi wrth y siarad technegol hwn am funud, y pwynt yr wyf yn ceisio'i wneud yw bod byd o wahaniaeth rhwng chwarae a chwaraeon wedi eu trefnu. Mae'n dilyn, felly, fod byd o wahaniaeth rhwng maes chwarae a chae chwarae.

Yr oeddwn yn ddigon ffodus i fynychu ysgol gynradd ym mhentref Dinas Mawddwy ym Meirionydd. Yng nghefn yr ysgol yr oedd cae gwelltog tua thair erw o faint a elwid yn *gae'r ysgol* gan bawb—enw llawn dychymyg ym mhob ystyr. I mi a'm ffrindiau ysgol, dyma oedd ein man chwarae diogel, gweladwy, ar ddiwrnodau ysgol ac ar benwythnosau. Credaf ei bod yn hollbwysig ac yn hanfodol i'n datblygiad fel plant. Yr oedd ychydig fframiau dringo ar y cae, lle byddai rhai ohonom yn dyheu am fod yn Olga Corbett, er y gwn y gallai fod yn anodd dychmygu hynny yn awr. Byddem yn chwarae gemau tîm fel criced, rownderi a phêl-droed hefyd, gan ddefnyddio siwmperi, bagiau ysgol ac esgidiau fel pyst gôl a wicedi. Yr wyf yn siŵr fod nifer o Aelodau yn gwneud yr un fath. Ar adegau eraill byddem yn defnyddio ein dychymyg ac yn dyfeisio ein gemau ein hunain, fel 'cops and robbers', a 'cowbois ac indiaid cochion'. Byddem yn geffylau, yn awyrennau neu'n dderfisiaid chwyrlïol, a phan fyddai'r gwair wedi'i dorri byddem yn ei wau drwy'r ffens ar hyd y terfyn ac yn adeiladu lleoedd cuddio a thai gwair. Cawsom ddysgu sut i fowlio pêl, dal pêl, dringo, hedfan barcut, a hefyd sut i rannu, cymryd rhan, ymuno, gofalu am ein gilydd, ysbrydoli a dyheu.

Yn yr amgylchedd diogel hyfryd hwn o ryddid ac awyr iach, a'r cyfan am ddim. Yr

charge, we were superbly confident and fearless. There were no hire charges and no need to telephone to pre-book this facility, and for most of us living in the village, it was less than a six-minute walk down the road.

This Government says that it recognises the crucial importance of play to the development of children's physical, mental, social, emotional and creative skills. The play policy was published in 2002 and the implementation action plan followed earlier this year. This Government says it is committed to ensuring that all children have access to rich, stimulating environments in which to play freely. The environment strategy states that every community should have a high-quality, well-planned built environment, providing access to green spaces and areas for recreation. It also acknowledges that a lack of such places can have a detrimental effect on our health and wellbeing.

Similar messages have been drummed out by this Government over the last few years in a plethora of publications, including the Wales spatial plan, 'Climbing Higher', the child poverty strategy, and 'Planning Policy Wales'. This Government has not stinted in the publication of documents that aspire to create a healthier nation, and supporting my proposal today will afford it another rung on the ladder in seeking to achieve its aims.

While 'Planning Policy Wales' advocated the protection of just about all playing fields, the list of exceptions it provides has been open to too loose an interpretation by many local authorities. For example, where planning permission is given for development, instruction is provided to

'make alternative provision of community benefit'.

Theoretically, that should allow for the immediate replacement of recreational areas. In reality, this all too often means that the original facility is replaced two or three years later in a distant and inaccessible location. That is unacceptable. Also, in determining what might represent 'an excess of provision', it has been widely acknowledged

oeddem yn gwbl hyderus a di-ofn. Nid oedd costau hurio o gwbl nac angen ffonio i archebu'r cyfleuster hwn ymlaen llaw, ac i'r rhan fwyaf ohonom a oedd yn byw yn y pentref yr oedd yn llai na chwe munud i lawr y ffordd ar droed.

Dywed y Llywodraeth ei bod yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd hanfodol chwarae i ddatblygiad sgiliau corfforol, meddyliol, cymdeithasol, emosiynol a chreadigol plant. Cyhoeddwyd y polisi chwarae yn 2002 a dilynodd y cynllun gweithredu yn gynharach eleni. Dywed y Llywodraeth hon ei bod wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod pob plentyn yn gallu cael amgylchedd da, symbylol lle y gall chwarae'n rhydd. Mae strategaeth yr amgylchedd yn dweud y dylai fod gan bob cymuned amgylchedd adeiledig o safon uchel, wedi ei gynllunio'n dda, sy'n rhoi mynediad i fannau gwyrdd ac ardaloedd hamdden. Mae'n cydnabod hefyd y gall prinder lleoedd o'r fath gael effaith niweidiol ar ein hiechyd a'n lles.

Cafwyd negeseuon tebyg gan y Llywodraeth hon dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf mewn llu o gyhoeddiadau, gan gynnwys cynllun gofodol Cymru, 'Dringo'n Uwch', y strategaeth tlodi plant, a 'Pholisi Cynllunio Cymru'. Nid yw'r Llywodraeth hon wedi ymatal rhag cyhoeddi dogfennau sy'n dyheu am greu gwlad iachach, a bydd cefnogi fy nghynnig heddiw yn ei symud gam yn nes at geisio cyflawni ei nodau.

Er bod 'Polisi Cynllunio Cymru' yn dadlau o blaid diogelu bron pob maes chwarae, mae'r rhestr o eithriadau a ddarperir ganddo yn agored i'w dehongli'n rhy lac gan lawer awdurdod lleol. Er enghraifft, lle y rhoddir caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer datblygiad, darperir cyfarwyddyd

i sicrhau darpariaeth amgen o fudd cymunedol.

Yn ddamcaniaethol, dylai hynny sicrhau darparu cyfleusterau ar unwaith yn lle manau hamdden. Mewn gwirionedd, mae hyn yn rhy aml yn golygu darparu cyfleuster newydd yn lle'r cyfleuster gwreiddiol ddwy neu dair blynedd yn ddiweddarach mewn lleoliad pell ac anghyfleus. Mae hynny'n annerbyniol. Hefyd, wrth benderfynu'r hyn a

that few local authorities have undertaken any rigorous assessments of provision.

The most recent Welsh Assembly Government publication concerning playing fields is the 'Consultation on Draft Revised Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space'. Boy, have we waited a long time for this, and it does seem to hint that the authors may have at last grasped how to differentiate between playing pitches and playing fields, although it states—just like 'Planning Policy Wales' did before it—that it will still be for the local authority to determine what it regards as better or at least equivalent in terms of the size, characteristics, location and accessibility of any replacement sites offered. The Minister will know that it is not within the remit of TAN 16 to amend the definition of a playing field, which is why I stand before you today.

Good local authorities should keep up-to-date and accurate information about open spaces and sport and recreational facilities. Sadly, they are not so conscientious. The National Playing Fields Association champions what is called the 'six-acre standard', which requires as a minimum standard for outdoor playing space six acres per 1,000 people, and it states that within these six acres, four acres should be set aside for sport and two acres for children's play. Childhood obesity and early-onset diabetes are becoming the greatest medical concerns in our country. In Wales, 22 per cent of boys and 17 per cent of girls aged over 13 are now classed as overweight or obese.

Today presents an opportunity for this Government to show that it is genuinely committed to improving the health and welfare of our children by accepting these proposals. I ask today for support for amendments to legislation that will enable every child and member of a community in Wales to enjoy the freedom of a free-of-charge, sizable, protected, green recreational

allai olygu 'gormod o ddarpariaeth', cydnabuwyd yn eang mai ychydig awdurdodau lleol sydd wedi gwneud unrhyw asesiadau trylwyr o ddarpariaeth.

Cyhoeddiad diweddaraf Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru sy'n ymwneud â meysydd chwarae yw 'Diwygio Nodyn Cyngor Technegol 16: Chwaraeon, Hamdden a Mannau Agored—Drafft Ymgynghori'. Yr ydym yn sicr wedi aros yn hir am hyn, ac ymddengys ei fod yn awgrymu efallai fod yr awduron o'r diwedd wedi deall sut i wahaniaethu rhwng caeau chwarae a meysydd chwarae, er ei fod yn dweud—yn union fel yr oedd 'Polisi Cynllunio Cymru' o'i flaen—mai cyfrifoldeb yr awdurdod lleol o hyd fydd penderfynu beth y mae'n ei ystyried yn ddarpariaeth well, neu o leiaf yn ddarpariaeth gyfatebol, o ran maint, nodweddion, lleoliad a hwylustod unrhyw safleoedd a gynigir yn lle'r rhai gwreiddiol. Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwybod nad yw o fewn cylch gwaith Nodyn Cyngor Technegol 16 i ddiwygio'r diffiniad o faes chwarae, a dyna pam yr wyf yn sefyll ger eich bron heddiw.

Dylai awdurdodau lleol da gadw gwybodaeth gyfredol a chywir am fannau agored a chyfleusterau chwaraeon a hamdden. Yn anffodus, nid ydynt mor gydwbybodol â hynny. Mae Meysydd Chwarae Cymru yn hyrwyddo'r hyn a elwir yn 'safon chwe erw', sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol cael manau chwarae yn yr awyr agored o chwe erw o leiaf am bob 1,000 o bobl, ac y mae'n dweud y dylid neilltuo pedair erw o'r chwe erw hynny ar gyfer chwaraeon a dwy erw ar gyfer chwarae plant. Mae gordewdra ymhlith plant a diabetes sy'n dechrau'n gynnar yn dod yn bryderon meddygol sylweddol yn ein gwlad. Yng Nghymru, mae 22 y cant o fechgyn a 17 y cant o ferched dros 13 oed bellach yn cael eu galw'n dew neu'n ordew.

Mae heddiw'n gyfle i'r Llywodraeth hon ddangos ei bod yn wirioneddol wedi ymrwymo i wella iechyd a lles ein plant drwy dderbyn y cynigion hyn. Gofynnaf heddiw am gefnogaeth i ddiwygio deddfwriaeth a fydd yn galluogi bob plentyn ac aelod o gymuned yng Nghymru i fwynhau rhyddid man hamdden gwyrdd diogel, o faint sylweddol, am ddim, a allai fod yn ddigon

area, which could be close enough to home to be accessed by toddlers, parents with buggies and wheelchair users. I believe that that is essential and fundamental to every person's wellbeing in Wales. I hope that you all do, too.

**Y Llywydd:** Weinidog, hoffech ymateb yn awr neu nes ymlaen?

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones):** A oes gennyf ddewis?

**Y Llywydd:** Oes, wrth reswm. Gwelaf eich bod am ateb nes ymlaen.

**Karen Sinclair:** I would love to support this Standing Order No. 31 proposal by Lisa today, and I genuinely believe that it has been put forward with the best of intentions. Indeed, there have been instances in my constituency of Clwyd South when such a designation would have protected an important children's playing area that was under threat. In the village of Tan-y-fron in my constituency, the local community felt that the local authority had stripped it of one of its most important assets, for what appeared to be pure financial gain—indeed, it was absolutely right about that.

4.40 p.m.

Unfortunately, I fear that the Standing Order No. 31 proposal before the Assembly today will, in its present form, cause more problems than it attempts to solve. I tried to get hold of Rhodri Edwards today, Lisa, to talk the wording of this through with him, as no-one could argue with the second half of your motion. I tried to speak to him, but he was on holiday, unfortunately. I went through to London, and spoke to an officer there, who said, 'This is just too woolly'. I really wanted to come in on the back of this one.

One issue that I have with this motion is the potential catch-all nature of its approach, which is why I rang that officer. Conceivably, under these new regulations, landlords could be forced into a protectionist position, which is what worries me—we could see them fencing areas off and keeping people out purely to protect their assets. I

agos i'r cartref fel y gall plant bach, rhieni gyda bygis a phobl mewn cadeiriau olwyn ei ddefnyddio. Credaf fod hynny'n hanfodol ac yn sylfaenol i les bob person yng Nghymru. Gobeithio eich bod i gyd yn cytuno.

**The Presiding Officer:** Minister, do you wish to reply now or later?

**The Minister for the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones):** Do I have a choice?

**The Presiding Officer:** Yes, of course. I see you wish to reply later on.

**Karen Sinclair:** Byddwn wrth fy modd yn cefnogi'r cynnig Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31 hwn gan Lisa heddiw, a chredaf yn wirioneddol ei fod wedi'i gyflwyno gyda'r bwriadau gorau. Yn wir, bu achlysuron yn fy etholaeth i yn Ne Clwyd pan fyddai dynodiad o'r fath wedi diogelu man chwarae pwysig i blant a oedd mewn perygl. Ym mhentref Tan-y-fron yn fy etholaeth yr oedd y gymuned leol yn teimlo bod yr awdurdod lleol wedi cymryd un o'i hasedau pwysicaf oddi arni, er mwyn yr hyn a oedd yn ymddangos yn elw ariannol pur— yn wir, yr oedd yn hollol iawn ynglŷn â hynny.

Yn anffodus, ofnaf y bydd y cynnig Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31 sydd gerbron y Cynulliad heddiw, yn ei ffurf bresennol, yn achosi mwy o broblemau nag y mae'n ceisio'u datrys. Ceisiais gael gafael ar Rhodri Edwards heddiw, Lisa, i drafod geiriad hwn gydag ef, oherwydd na allai neb anghytuno ag ail hanner eich cynnig. Ceisiais siarad ag ef, ond yr oedd ar ei wyliau, yn anffodus. Euthum drwodd i Lundain, a siaradais â swyddog yno a ddywedodd fod hyn yn rhy amwys o lawer. Yr oeddwn yn wir am gefnogi hyn.

Un pryder sydd gennyf ynglŷn â'r cynnig hwn yw natur gyffredinol bosibl ei ymagwedd, sef y rheswm pam y ffoniais y swyddog hwnnw. Byddai'n bosibl, o dan y rheoliadau newydd hyn, y gellid gorfodi landlordiaid i ymddwyn yn amddiffynnol, a dyna sy'n fy mhoeni—gallem eu gweld yn codi ffensys o amgylch ardaloedd a chadw

have open, green areas at the side of the road. If someone was to walk a dog on there, or play on there, would it then be designated? There would, therefore, be a real fear about what 'recreation' means. That is my problem.

**Lisa Francis:** I am rather confused about what you say about recreation, because it is clearly set out on the paper. The motion states that this relates to areas used 'for the purposes of physical education or recreation'. I would not class walking a dog or bird watching, for example, as physical education.

**Karen Sinclair:** 'Physical education or recreation' means either/or—that is the problem. The phrasing is problematic; it would be in danger of creating the opposite of the outcome that I imagine was the intention of your Standing Order No. 31 proposal. I am aware that the Minister is working hard to introduce voluntary measures. I would like more than voluntary measures, and I will say that publicly here to Carwyn.

**John Marek:** I believe that you are just misreading this—the sentence is 'physical education and recreation'. However, look at the beginning of the motion, which refers to 'supports in principle'. We will get the legislation back if we support this in principle. If you support this in principle, you should vote for this, or are you trying to face two ways at the same time again?

**Karen Sinclair:** I am not practised at facing two ways, unlike you. I know that you are a past master at it, but I am not.

**John Marek:** Give me an example.

**Karen Sinclair:** The motion clearly states 'physical education or recreation'. I have read it. [*Interruption.*] I would support it if the wording was different—I have made that clear— [*Interruption.*]

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. Already the integrity of my distinguished colleague, the Deputy Presiding Officer, has been

pobl i ffwrdd dim ond er mwyn diogelu eu hasedau. Mae gennyf fannau gwyrdd, agored ar ochr y ffordd. Pe bai rhywun yn cerdded y ci yno, neu'n chwarae arno, a fyddai'n cael ei ddynodi wedyn? Byddai ofn gwirioneddol, felly, ynglŷn ag ystyr 'hamdden'. Dyna yw fy mhroblem.

**Lisa Francis:** Yr wyf wedi drysu braidd ynglŷn â'r hyn a ddywedwch am hamdden, oherwydd mae wedi ei osod allan yn glir yn y papur. Mae'r cynnig yn datgan bod hyn yn ymwneud ag ardaloedd a ddefnyddir 'at ddibenion addysg gorfforol neu hamdden'. Ni fyddwn yn galw cerdded y ci neu wyllo adar, er enghraifft, yn addysg gorfforol.

**Karen Sinclair:** Mae 'addysg gorfforol neu hamdden' yn golygu naill ai/neu—dyna'r broblem. Mae'r geiriad yn achosi problemau; byddai mewn perygl o greu'r gwrthwyneb i'r canlyniad a ddychmygaf oedd yn fwriad gan eich cynnig Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31. Gwn fod y Gweinidog yn gweithio'n galed i gyflwyno mesurau gwirfoddol. Hoffwn fwy na mesurau gwirfoddol, a dywedaf hynny'n gyhoeddus yma wrth Carwyn.

**John Marek:** Credaf eich bod yn camddarllen hyn—'addysg gorfforol a hamdden' yw'r frawddeg. Fodd bynnag, edrychwch ar ddechrau'r cynnig, sy'n cyfeirio at 'cefnogi, mewn egwyddor'. Cawn y ddeddfwriaeth yn ôl os cefnogwn egwyddor hyn. Os cefnogwch egwyddor hyn, dylech bleidleisio dros hyn, neu a ydych yn ceisio wynebu'r ddwy ffordd ar yr un pryd eto?

**Karen Sinclair:** Nid wyf yn gyfarwydd ag wynebu'r ddwy ffordd, yn wahanol i chi. Gwn eich bod yn hen law arno, ond nid felly fi.

**John Marek:** Rhowch enghraifft imi.

**Karen Sinclair:** Mae'r cynnig yn dweud yn glir 'addysg gorfforol neu hamdden'. Yr wyf wedi ei ddarllen. [*Torri ar draws.*] Byddwn yn ei gefnogi pe bai'r geiriad yn wahanol—yr wyf wedi egluro hynny— [*Torri ar draws.*]

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Lladdwyd geirwiredd fy nghyd-Aelod nodedig, y Dirprwy Lywydd, eisoes wedi ei niweidio; yr oeddwn ar fin

impugned; I was about to intervene then, and now I hear Members speaking while sitting down. If you want to get up to speak—[ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: ‘She is already sitting down.’] Order. What I mean is that Members are trying to intervene on someone else’s speech—you knew what I meant; I was rather terse.

I see that Peter Black wishes to intervene. Will you accept an intervention from Peter Black?

**Karen Sinclair:** Yes, but I have no intention of standing.

**The Presiding Officer:** That is fine—that is your choice; I am also sitting down.

**Peter Black:** Would you accept, Karen, that the Standing Order No. 31 process is a deliberative one, with several stages, and that, once we approve the motion here, it will then go to the Minister and the committee for them to thrash out the sorts of problems that you mention? If they can come back with a solution to those problems, Plenary would then consider this in more detail at a later stage. Do you not believe, therefore, that in this instance we should look at the principle of the proposal, and allow the details to be dealt with later on, as the process is designed to do?

**Karen Sinclair:** It is important that you look at the original wording. I stand by what I say about that. I would dearly love to support this. As I have said, at least four times, in response to nearly everyone who has intervened, had the wording been different—and it is a great pity that it was not—I would have been delighted to support it.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Tell that to the children.

**Karen Sinclair:** I will.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. Have you finished?

**Karen Sinclair:** I have finished.

**Janet Ryder:** Plaid Cymru is happy to

ymyrryd bryd hynny, ac yn awr clywaf Aelodau yn siarad ar eu heistedd. Os ydych am godi i siarad—[AELODAU’R CYNULLIAD: ‘Mae hi eisoes yn eistedd.’] Trefn. Yr hyn a olygaf yw bod Aelodau yn ceisio ymyrryd yn araith rhywun arall—gwyddoch beth a olygwn; yr oeddwn ychydig yn gwtá.

Gwelaf fod Peter Black am ymyrryd. A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad gan Peter Black?

**Karen Sinclair:** Gwnaf, ond nid wyf yn bwriadu sefyll.

**Y Llywydd:** Mae hynny’n iawn—eich dewis chi yw hynny; yr wyf fi hefyd yn eistedd i lawr.

**Peter Black:** A fyddech yn derbyn, Karen, fod proses Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 31 yn un gydgynghorol, gyda nifer o gamau, ac ar ôl inni gymeradwyo’r cynnig yma, cyfrifoldeb y Gweinidog a’r pwyllgor wedyn fydd mynd i’r afael â’r math o broblemau a grybwyllwch? Os gallant lunio ateb i’r problemau hynny, byddai’r Cyfarfod Llawn wedyn yn ystyried hyn yn fanylach yn ddiweddarach. Oni chredwch, felly, yn yr achos hwn y dylem edrych ar egwyddor y cynnig, a chaniatáu ymdrin â’r manylion yn ddiweddarach, yn ôl bwriad y broses?

**Karen Sinclair:** Mae’n bwysig ichi edrych ar y geiriad gwreiddiol. Yr wyf yn dal at yr hyn a ddywedais am hynny. Byddwn wrth fy modd yn cefnogi hyn. Fel y dywedais, o leiaf bedair gwaith, wrth ymateb i bawb bron sydd wedi ymyrryd, pe bai’r geiriad wedi bod yn wahanol—ac mae’n drueni mawr nad ydoedd—byddwn wrth fy modd yn cefnogi hyn.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Dywedwch hynny wrth y plant.

**Karen Sinclair:** Gwnaf.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. A ydych wedi gorffen?

**Karen Sinclair:** Yr wyf wedi gorffen.

**Janet Ryder:** Mae Plaid Cymru yn falch o



support this in-principle motion; we think it is worthwhile and we are pleased that Lisa has brought it forward. It is a big issue. I can sympathise with Karen, having to conform to her party whip, but I wish that she would stand her ground for once and agree to this principle. It is a major issue in Wrexham and in the Clwyd South area, as she well knows. I will return to one or two of the things that Lisa said. She referred to the startling fact that, for every acre of play space, there are now 80 acres of golf clubs. Who gets the biggest play area may relate to who votes and who can influence the political system, but play areas are absolutely vital for children and for young people.

**Lisa Francis:** What I should have said is that those facts are on the National Playing Fields Association's website. Karen mentioned that she was not able to contact Rhodri Edwards—[*Interruption.*] I know who he is. However, he has representatives in the Chamber today, and they are supporting my proposal.

**Janet Ryder:** I was about to say that that was one of the statistics put forward in the national play day in August 2005, so it has been around for some time.

It is a great shame that, every time that this issue has been raised in the Chamber, usually with the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport, he has said that it is not an issue in Wales. It is an issue in Wales; we are seeing many fields sold off. If they are not whole fields, they are parts of fields, as in Barker's Lane Community School in Wrexham, where 27 per cent of the field was sold off, which is a significant proportion.

You cannot say that every blade of grass is sacrosanct; sometimes, there are reasons for selling off some parts of school playing fields. If you have a very boggy part of a field that you cannot use—

**John Marek** *rose*—

**Janet Ryder:** I will just finish this point. If a very boggy part of a field is rarely usable due to weather conditions, it may be worth considering selling it off, if it is replaced on

gefnogi egwyddor y cynnig hwn; credwn ei fod yn fuddiol ac yr ydym yn falch fod Lisa wedi ei gyflwyno. Mae'n fater pwysig. Gallaf gydymdeimlo â Karen, yn gorfod ufuddhau i orchmynion ei phlaidd, ond hoffwn pe bae'n dal ei thir am unwaith a chytuno â'r egwyddor hon. Mae'n fater pwysig yn Wrecsam ac ardal De Clwyd, fel y gŵyr. Byddaf yn dychwelyd at un neu ddau o'r pethau a ddywedodd Lisa. Cyfeiriodd at y ffaith ddychrynlyd fod 80 erw o glybiau golff bellach am bob erw o fannau chwarae. Efallai fod cysylltiad rhwng pwy sy'n cael yr ardal chwarae fwyaf a phwy sy'n pleidleisio a phwy a all ddylanwadu ar y system wleidyddol, ond mae'n hollbwysig cael ardaloedd chwarae i blant a phobl ifanc.

**Lisa Francis:** Dylwn fod wedi dweud bod y ffeithiau hynny ar wefan Meysydd Chwarae Cymru. Soniodd Karen ei bod wedi methu cysylltu â Rhodri Edwards—[*Torri ar draws*]. Yr wyf yn gwybod pwy ydyw. Fodd bynnag, mae ganddo gynrychiolwyr yn y Siambr heddiw, ac maent yn cefnogi fy nghynnig.

**Janet Ryder:** Yr oeddwn ar fin dweud mai dyna oedd un o'r ystadegau a gyflwynwyd yn ystod y diwrnod chwarae cenedlaethol ym mis Awst 2005, felly, mae'n bodoli ers tro.

Mae'n bechod mawr, bob tro wrth i hyn gael ei godi yn y Siambr, fod y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon fel rheol wedi dweud nad yw hyn'n broblem yng Nghymru. Mae'n broblem yng Nghymru; mae nifer o gaeau'n cael eu gwerthu. Os nad ydynt yn gaeau cyfan, maent yn rhannau o gaeau, fel yn Ysgol Gymunedol Barker's Lane yn Wrecsam, lle y gwerthwyd 27 y cant o'r cae, sy'n gyfran sylweddol.

Ni allwch ddweud bod pob glaswelltyn yn gysegredig; weithiau mae rhesymau dros werthu rhannau o gaeau chwarae ysgolion. Os oes gennych ran gorsiog iawn mewn cae na allwch ei defnyddio-

**John Marek** *a gododd*—

**Janet Ryder:** Gorffennaf y pwynt hwn. Os bydd rhan gorsiog iawn o gae yn methu cael ei defnyddio'n aml oherwydd y tywydd, gallai fod yn werth ystyried ei gwerthu, os

the same school campus with good indoor sports facilities. The issue is that, if you sell some land off, it must be replaced by sports and leisure facilities in the area.

**John Marek:** Do you agree, Janet, that all these sell-offs in Wrexham are not due to the present coalition council, but to the old Labour council that was thrown out a year ago? I hope that the Assembly is clear about that.

**Janet Ryder:** Absolutely.

**The Presiding Officer:** I call on Karen Sinclair, who is standing up.

**Karen Sinclair:** Just for clarification, John Marek will find that Labour has not been in control in Wrexham for some 17 years. I think that that is the case.

**Janet Ryder:** I do not think that that is many people's perception as to who has been leading the council until very recently, when there has been a marked change.

To get back to the issue that we are debating, which is not who controls the council in Wrexham, but playing fields, which are much more important, this is about ensuring that such spaces are maintained. There are many issues around playing fields. Many school playing fields, in particular, are misused by the many people who, unfortunately, still use them to exercise their dogs; they do not clean up after them, thus making the area totally unusable as a playing field for children and adults. The issue of those who are not sensible and mature dog-owners, and who let their pets use school playing fields as open-air toilets, needs to be addressed. Having said that, it is still not a reason for selling off school playing fields, and Plaid Cymru will certainly support the motion proposed today.

I will touch on two issues that I have often raised with both Jane Hutt and Jane Davidson in questions, on which they have both agreed to come back to me, but have not done so. The first is the issue of the amount of open space that is allocated in primary schools for team games. A minimum team-game area is

gellir cael cyfleusterau chwaraeon da o dan do yn ei lle yn yr ysgol. Y pwynt yw, os gwerthwch ddarn o dir, rhaid cael cyfleusterau chwaraeon a hamdden yn yr ardal yn ei le.

**John Marek:** A gytunwch, Janet, nad yw'r holl dir a werthwyd yn Wrecsam yn ganlyniad i'r cyngor clymblaid presennol, ond yn hytrach yn ganlyniad i'r hen gyngor Llafur a gollodd rym flwyddyn yn ôl? Gobeithio bod y Cynulliad yn glir ynghylch hynny.

**Janet Ryder:** Cytunaf yn llwyr.

**Y Llywydd:** Galwaf ar Karen Sinclair, sydd ar ei thraed.

**Karen Sinclair:** Hoffwn egluro wrth John Marek na fu Llafur mewn grym yn Wrecsam ers tua 17 o flynyddoedd. Credaf fod hynny'n wir.

**Janet Ryder:** Ni chredaf mai dyna yw syniad nifer o bobl o ran pwy a fu'n arwain y cyngor tan yn ddiweddar iawn, pan fu newid amlwg.

I ddychwelyd at y mater yr ydym yn ei drafod, sef nid pwy sy'n rheoli'r cyngor yn Wrecsam, ond meysydd chwarae, sydd lawer yn bwysicach, mater yw hyn o sicrhau cadw mannau o'r fath. Mae yna lawer o broblemau'n gysylltiedig â meysydd chwarae. Mae nifer o feysydd chwarae ysgolion, yn benodol, yn cael eu camddefnyddio gan nifer o bobl sydd, yn anffodus, yn dal i'w defnyddio i fynd â'u cŵn am dro; nid ydynt yn glanhau ar eu hôl, sy'n golygu na ellir defnyddio'r fan fel maes chwarae i blant ac oedolion. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â phroblem perchnogion cŵn nad ydynt yn synhwyrol ac yn aeddfed ac sy'n gadael i'w cŵn faeddu meysydd chwarae ysgolion. Wedi dweud hynny, nid yw hyn yn rheswm dros werthu meysydd chwarae ysgolion, a bydd Plaid Cymru yn cefnogi'r cynnig a gynigir heddiw.

Soniaf am ddau fater yr wyf wedi eu codi'n aml gyda Jane Hutt a Jane Davidson mewn cwestiynau, ac er i'r ddwy gytuno i ddod yn ôl ataf, nid ydynt wedi gwneud hynny. Y mater cyntaf yw faint o fannau agored a ddyrennir mewn ysgolion cynradd ar gyfer gemau tîm. Mae arwynebedd lleiaf penodol

required for school fields, but only for over-8s. That is due to something in the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999.

4.50 p.m.

We all know that we are developing the foundation phase in Wales, which requires much greater outdoor facilities, and many schools now have teams of under-8s. We need to look at that again and it is an area where Wales can lead the way and show England what it should be doing, by providing open-space areas for young children.

Finally, I turn to technical advice note 16, which is currently out for consultation, and particularly note 2.8, where it says that

‘the retention and enhancement of facilities may best be achieved through the redevelopment of a small part of a site, particularly where this would be related to playing field use, for example the provision of changing facilities’.

That is fine, but you would need to clearly define that small area. Perhaps it should be stated that it should be no more than 10 per cent of the site, otherwise that concept of a small space could be open to misinterpretation by authorities. That needs to be looked at, but, apart from that, we are happy to support this proposal today.

**Mick Bates:** The Welsh Liberal Democrats are also pleased to support this suggestion under Standing Order No. 31. As Lisa said in her opening speech, it encompasses a whole range of sustainability issues, which the Government is meant to be promoting. Mention has been made of health and exercise and the ability to keep green spaces close to people’s homes.

I will start by emphasising that, in protecting school playing fields and green spaces, we are enabling an important social function—like on your *cae’r ysgol* in Dinas Mawddwy—that allows young people to meet and play, close to their homes. In a day and age when security is an extremely important feature of people’s lives, it is of

yn ofynnol ar gyfer gemau tîm ar feysydd chwarae, ond ar gyfer plant dros 8 oed yn unig. Mae hynny oherwydd rhywbeth yn y Rheoliadau Addysg (Eiddo Ysgol) 1999.

Gwyddom i gyd ein bod yn datblygu’r cyfnod sylfaen yng Nghymru, sy’n galw am gyfleusterau llawer gwell yn yr awyr agored, ac mae gan lawer ysgol bellach dimau plant o dan 8 oed. Mae angen inni edrych ar hynny eto, ac mae hwn yn faes lle y gallai Cymru arwain y ffordd a dangos i Loegr beth y dylai fod yn ei wneud, drwy ddarparu mannau awyr agored i blant ifanc.

Yn olaf, hoffwn droi at nodyn cyngor technegol 16 yr ydym yn ymgynghori arno ar hyn o bryd, a nodyn 2.8 yn benodol, lle mae’n dweud

y ffordd orau i gadw a gwella cyfleusterau yw drwy ailddatblygu rhan fach o safle, yn arbennig lle y byddai hyn yn gysylltiedig â defnyddio maes chwarae, er enghraifft, darparu cyfleusterau newid.

Digon teg, ond byddai angen ichi ddiffinio’r ardal fechan honno yn glir. Efallai y dylid nodi na ddylai fod yn fwy na 10 y cant o’r safle, neu gallai awdurdodau gamddehongli’r cysyniad o fan bach. Mae angen ystyried hynny, ond fel arall yr ydym yn falch o gefnogi’r cynnig hwn heddiw.

**Mick Bates:** Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru hefyd yn falch o gefnogi’r cynnig hwn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31. Fel y dywedodd Lisa yn ei haraith agoriadol, mae’n cwmpasu amryw faterion cynaliadwyedd y dylai’r Llywodraeth fod yn eu hyrwyddo. Soniwyd am iechyd ac ymarfer corff a’r gallu i sicrhau bod mannau gwyrdd yn agos i gartrefi pobl.

Dechreuaf drwy bwysleisio, wrth ddiogelu meysydd chwarae a meysydd gwyrdd, ein bod yn galluogi swyddogaeth gymdeithasol bwysig—fel ar *gae’r ysgol* yn Ninas Mawddwy—sy’n galluogi pobl ifanc i gwrdd a chwarae, yn agos i’w cartrefi. Mewn oes lle mae diogelwch yn nodwedd hynod o bwysig ym mywydau pobl, mae’n hollbwysig i

vital importance that green spaces and playing fields are protected wherever possible. I believe that the Labour Party's refusal to support this piece of work reflects its Members' inability to understand that there are structures, as my colleague Peter Black has said, that would enable Lisa's great idea to be carried forward.

I look forward to hearing the Minister's response to this piece of suggested legislation, because there must be mechanisms by which a joint working party, including Members from three committees, if necessary—Environment, Planning and Countryside, Education Lifelong Learning and Skills and Culture, Welsh Language and Sport—could take this idea forward. The public who have heard this debate will be saying, 'This is a great idea that Lisa Francis has had today; why is the Labour Party not willing to support it?' Why is the Labour Party not even offering to take the idea forward and work up the legislation, which has been described by Karen Sinclair as being a bit 'fluffy'?

**Karen Sinclair:** I said 'woolly'.

**Mick Bates:** Sorry; it was a rural reference, of course. I believe that there is a great opportunity for the Minister to stand up today—I am certain that he understands the value of this—and create something that could, in the last months of the second Assembly, be a great legacy for the future citizens of Wales.

Furthermore, within the English system, there is a protective layer, under section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998: in order to sell off playing fields in England, a local authority has to ask permission of the Secretary of State and it has to show that the land is not needed by other schools or the local community. I believe that therein lies a mechanism that could assist a joint working party in carrying forward this brilliant suggestion. The people who will have been watching this debate today, waiting to see if it works, will be expecting the Government to understand that and take it forward.

**Mark Isherwood:** I commend Lisa Francis for bringing this proposal for in-principle

fannau gwyrdd a meysydd chwarae gael eu diogelu ble bynnag y mae'n bosibl. Credaf fod penderfyniad y Blaid Lafur i wrthod cefnogi'r gwaith hwn yn adlewyrchu anallu ei Haelodau i ddeall fod yna strwythurau, fel y dywedodd fy nghyd-Aelod, Peter Black, a fyddai'n ei gwneud yn bosibl datblygu syniad gwych Lisa.

Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed ymateb y Gweinidog i'r darn arfaethedig hwn o ddeddfwriaeth, oherwydd rhaid cael mecanweithiau y gall gweithgor ar y cyd, gan gynnwys Aelodau o dri phwyllgor, os bydd angen—yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad, Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau a Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon—eu defnyddio i ddatblygu'r syniad hwn. Bydd y cyhoedd sydd wedi clywed y ddatl hon yn dweud, 'Mae hwn yn syniad gwych gan Lisa Francis heddiw, felly, pam nad yw'r Blaid Lafur yn barod i'w gefnogi?' Pam nad yw'r Blaid Lafur hyd yn oed yn cynnig datblygu'r syniad a'r ddeddfwriaeth, a ddisgrifiwyd fel deddfwriaeth 'niwlog' gan Karen Sinclair?

**Karen Sinclair:** 'Amwys' ddywedais i.

**Mick Bates:** Mae'n ddrwg gennyf. Credaf fod cyfle gwych i'r Gweinidog sefyll i fyny heddiw—ac yr wyf yn siŵr ei fod yn deall gwerth hyn—a chreu rhywbeth a allai, yn ystod misoedd diwethaf yr ail Gynulliad, fod yn etifeddiaeth ardderchog i bobl Cymru yn y dyfodol.

At hynny, yn system Lloegr, mae yna haen amddiffynnol, o dan adran 77 o'r Ddeddf Safonau a Fframwaith Ysgolion 1998: er mwyn gwerthu meysydd chwarae yn Lloegr, rhaid i awdurdod lleol ofyn am ganiatâd yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol, a rhaid iddo ddangos nad oes angen y tir ar ysgolion eraill na'r gymuned leol. Credaf fod yn hynny proses a allai gynorthwyo gweithgor ar y cyd i ddatblygu'r awgrym gwych hwn. Bydd y bobl a fu'n gwyllo'r ddatl hon heddiw, sy'n aros i glywed a fydd yn gweithio, yn disgwyl i'r Llywodraeth ddeall hynny a'i ddatblygu.

**Mark Isherwood:** Hoffwn ganmol Lisa Francis am gyflwyno'r cynnig hwnnw ar

legislation before us today. With regard to the first half of the motion, my understanding is that this would mean that the Sports Council for Wales would have to be consulted on planning applications affecting all sites within this definition. Even if the in-principle matter before us was to become a concrete measure, it would not become unmanageable in the way that has been suggested.

Earlier this year, John Marek tabled a statement of opinion on protecting playing fields. He secured the cross-party support of 18 Members, including Karen Sinclair. I commend Karen for that, as she was, regrettably, the only Member of her party to do so.

I questioned the First Minister about this matter on 16 June, reminding him of his 2003 manifesto statement that Labour wants to see more people of all ages and abilities taking part in sport, and that it would open up school playing fields to community use. As the National Playing Fields Association says,

‘School fields are...under threat as hard-pressed schools and education authorities seek to turn their valuable land assets into cash’,

It goes on to say that there is no statutory protection for playing fields in Wales.

In fact, John’s statement of opinion said that, with regard to protecting playing fields in Wales, no statistics are available for the loss of playing fields, that pupils under 8 years of age are excluded from the calculation of the minimum area required for team-games playing fields, and that, unlike England, maintained schools in Wales are not required to seek the prior consent of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills before disposing, or changing the use, of school playing fields.

The First Minister stated that the National Playing Fields Association Cymru had misunderstood the situation, and that it was wrong to claim that his target for all schools to be fit for purpose by 2010 would not be met because of the disposal of playing fields.

gyfer deddfwriaeth mewn egwyddor ger ein bron heddiw. O ran hanner cyntaf y cynnig, yn ôl a ddeallaf byddai hyn yn golygu y byddai’n rhaid ymgynghori â Chyngor Chwaraeon Cymru ar geisiadau cynllunio sy’n effeithio ar bob safle o fewn y diffiniad hwn. Hyd yn oed pe byddai’r mater hwn yn dod yn fesur pendant, ni fyddai’n amhosibl ei reoli fel yr awgrymwyd.

Yn gynharach eleni, cyflwynodd John Marek ddatganiad barn ar ddiogelu meysydd chwarae. Cafodd gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol 18 o Aelodau, gan gynnwys Karen Sinclair. Hoffwn ganmol Karen am hynny oherwydd, yn anffodus, hi oedd yr unig Aelod o’i phlaid i wneud hynny.

Holais y Prif Weinidog am y mater hwn ar 16 Mehefin, gan ei atgoffa o’i ddatganiad ym maniffesto 2003 fod Llafur am weld mwy o bobl o bob oed a gallu yn cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon, ac y byddai’n agor meysydd chwarae ysgolion i’r gymuned. Fel y dywed Meysydd Chwarae Cymru,

‘Mae meysydd chwarae...dan fygythiad wrth i’r ysgolion a’r awdurdodau addysg sydd dan gryn bwysau ariannol geisio troi’r tir gwerthfawr a feddant yn arian parod’,

Aiff ymlaen i ddweud nad oes diogelwch statudol o gwbl ar gyfer meysydd chwarae yng Nghymru.

Yn wir, dywedodd John yn ei ddatganiad barn, mewn perthynas â diogelu meysydd chwarae yng Nghymru, nad oes dim ystadegau ar gael ar golli meysydd chwarae, bod disgyblion o dan 8 oed yn cael eu heithrio o’r cyfrifiad o’r arwynebedd gofynnol ar gyfer gemau tîm ar feysydd chwarae, ac, yn wahanol i Loegr, nad yw’n ofynnol i ysgolion a gynhelir yng Nghymru geisio caniatâd y Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau cyn cael gwared â meysydd chwarae ysgolion, neu newid y ffordd o’u defnyddio.

Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog fod Meysydd Chwarae Cymru wedi camddeall y sefyllfa, a’i bod yn anghywir honni na fyddai ei darged, sef bod pob ysgol yn addas at y diben erbyn 2010, yn cael ei fodloni oherwydd cael gwared â meysydd chwarae. Ychwanegodd

He added that there is a genuine misunderstanding by the National Playing Fields Association, and that he had attempted to set the matter straight in his letter of 31 May. I fear that it was he who had a genuine misunderstanding—I am sure that it was genuine. Therefore, at this late moment, I call on him to urge his group to support this measure.

The letter to the National Playing Fields Association to which he referred, which I have confirmed with its representatives as being accurate—I have confirmed with them that my statements to the First Minister were also accurate—states that the disposal or change of use of school playing fields is a matter for local authorities and that the matter is only deferred to the National Assembly if the proposals raise matters of more than local importance, but that the Sports Council for Wales must be consulted on planning applications that affect playing fields that include a full-sized sports pitch. We need much more than that. They added that, in trying to reach the Assembly's target of being fit for purpose by 2010, schools are being encouraged to consider disposing of school playing fields over and above their minimum, as defined by the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999.

A school should be required to consider community as well as educational use of its playing fields before disposal can be made.

**Nick Bourne:** Would you not agree with me that, when 60 people come together and say, 'Here is a good proposal', and you have a contribution such as that from Karen Sinclair, who said that she wished that she 'could support this but...', you know that the Labour Party collective has lost the argument? It demonstrates how out of touch and arrogant the Labour Party has become when there is a measure such as this one, to take care of young children, which its Members are unable to support. They are not talking about how to improve this situation; they are talking about how they can block this. That is how out of touch the Labour Party in Wales has become.

**Mark Isherwood:** I fully agree with you

fod Meysydd Chwarae Cymru wedi camddeall y sefyllfa'n llwyr a'i fod ef wedi ceisio egluro'r mater yn ei lythyr dyddiedig 31 Mai. Ofnaf mai ef sydd wedi camddeall—a hynny'n anfwriadol, yr wyf yn siŵr. Felly, yn hwyr fel hyn, galwaf arno i annog ei grŵp i gefnogi'r mesur hwn.

Dywed y llythyr at Feysydd Chwarae Cymru y cyfeiriodd ato—ac yr wyf wedi cadarnhau gyda'i gynrychiolwyr ei fod yn gywir, ac yr wyf wedi cadarnhau gyda hwy fod fy natganiadau at y Prif Weinidog hefyd yn gywir—fod cael gwared â meysydd chwarae ysgolion neu newid y ffordd o'u defnyddio yn fater i'r awdurdodau lleol, ac y caiff y mater ei gyfeirio at y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol dim ond os bydd y cynigion yn codi mater sy'n fwy nag o bwysigrwydd lleol, ond bod yn rhaid ymgynghori â Chyngor Chwaraeon Cymru ar geisiadau cynllunio sy'n effeithio ar feysydd chwarae sy'n cynnwys cae chwaraeon maint llawn. Mae angen llawer mwy na hynny. Ychwanegwyd bod ysgolion, wrth geisio bodloni targed y Cynulliad o fod yn addas at y diben erbyn 2010, yn cael eu hannog i ystyried cael gwared â mwy o feysydd chwarae ysgolion na'r hyn sy'n ofynnol, fel y diffinnir gan y Rheoliadau Addysg (Eiddo Ysgol) 1999.

Dylai fod yn ofynnol i ysgol ystyried defnydd cymunedol ei meysydd chwarae yn ogystal â'r defnydd addysgol cyn y gellir cael gwared â hwy.

**Nick Bourne:** Oni fyddech yn cytuno â mi, pan fydd 60 o bobl yn dod ynghyd ac yn dweud, 'Dyma gynnig da', a phan gewch gyfraniad o'r fath gan Karen Sinclair, a ddywedodd 'yr hoffai gefnogi hyn ond...', eich bod yn gwybod bod y Blaid Lafur wedi colli'r ddadl? Mae'n dangos mor drahaus yw'r Blaid Lafur a'r graddau y mae wedi colli cysylltiad â'r hyn sy'n digwydd pan fydd mesur fel hwn, i ofalu am blant ifanc, na all ei Haelodau ei gefnogi. Nid ydynt yn trafod sut i wella'r sefyllfa hon; maent yn trafod sut y gallant ei hatal. Dyna'r graddau y mae'r Blaid Lafur yng Nghymru erbyn hyn wedi colli cysylltiad â'r hyn sy'n digwydd.

**Mark Isherwood:** Cytunaf yn llwyr â'ch

remarks. A further statement of opinion from a Labour colleague in north Wales on a local playing field in Flintshire shows that he was concerned about this matter; in fact, I was the only Assembly Member to attend the public meeting on that issue. I subsequently received a letter thanking me for attending that meeting, stating that the unanimous view of those at the meeting was that, while supporting the proposal for a new health centre in the area, they were opposed to its location on their playing field.

In conclusion, I urge that Member, and his Labour colleagues, to support their constituents, wherever they may be, to support their own manifesto pledges, and to join us in support of this proposal for in-principle legislation. If they do not, the people of Wales will want to know why.

sylwadau. Dengys datganiad barn arall gan gyd-aelod yn y gogledd am faes chwarae lleol yn sir y Fflint ei fod yn pryderu am y mater hwn; yn wir, fi oedd yr unig Aelod o'r Cynulliad yn y cyfarfod cyhoeddus ar y mater hwnnw. O ganlyniad, cefais lythyr yn diolch imi am fod yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, gan ddweud mai barn unfrydol y bobl yn y cyfarfod oedd, er eu bod yn cefnogi'r cynnig i gael canolfan iechyd newydd yn yr ardal, eu bod yn gwrthwynebu ei lleoli ar eu maes chwarae.

I gloi, anogaf yr Aelod hwnnw, a'i gyd-aelodau Llafur, i gefnogi ei etholwyr, lle bynnag y bônt, i gefnogi addewidion eu maniffesto eu hunain, ac ymuno â ni i gefnogi'r cynnig hwn am ddeddfwriaeth mewn egwyddor. Os na wnânt hynny, bydd pobl Cymru am gael gwybod pam.

### Cynnig Trefnidiadol Procedural Motion

**The Presiding Officer:** I invite the Business Minister to propose a procedural motion to extend this Plenary meeting for 30 minutes.

**Y Llywydd:** Gwahoddaf y Trefnydd i gynnig cynnig trefniadol i ychwanegu 30 munud at hyd y Cyfarfod Llawn hwn.

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

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

*the National Assembly, under Standing Order No. 6.21, extends Plenary this afternoon by 30 minutes.*

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21, yn ychwanegu 30 munud at hyd y Cyfarfod Llawn hwn.*

**Y Llywydd:** A oes 10 Aelod o blaid? Gwelaf fod 10, felly galwaf bleidlais.

**The Presiding Officer:** Are there 10 Members in support? I see that there are, so I call a vote.

*Cynnig: O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 5.*

*Motion: For 38, Abstain 0, Against 5.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Dunwoody, Tamsin

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Butler, Rosemary  
Jones, Ann  
Lewis, Huw  
Wood, Leanne

German, Michael  
 Graham, William  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Marek, John  
 Melding, David  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Catherine  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

### **Cynnig gan Lisa Francis o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31—Parhad Proposal by Lisa Francis under Standing Order No. 31—Continued**

**Glyn Davies:** As with most speakers, I support the motion proposed by Lisa Francis, as it is an important motion. I would have expected it to have attracted the Government's support, because it meets so many of the Government's stated objectives.

**Glyn Davies:** Fel y rhan fwyaf o siaradwyr, cefnogaf y cynnig a gyflwynwyd gan Lisa Francis, gan ei fod yn gynnig pwysig. Byddwn wedi disgwyl iddo gael cefnogaeth y Llywodraeth, gan ei fod yn bodloni cynifer o amcanion datganedig y Llywodraeth.

5.00 p.m.

Over recent years, there has been recognition of the importance of playing fields and physical activity among young people. That is something that I would have expected the Assembly Government to support. I have asked questions, as have other Members, about the number of playing fields—

Dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, cydnabuwyd pwysigrwydd meysydd chwarae a gweithgarwch corfforol ymhlith pobl ifanc. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y byddwn wedi disgwyl i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ei gefnogi. Yr wyf wedi gofyn cwestiynau, fel Aelodau eraill, ynghylch nifer y meysydd chwarae—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. There is a bit of muttering. I would like to hear my colleague from mid Wales.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Mae yna siarad isel. Hoffwn glywed fy nghyd-Aelod o'r canolbarth.

**Glyn Davies:** I was aware of the muttering, and another disappointment is the lack of attention that Labour is giving this important motion.

**Glyn Davies:** Yr oeddwn yn ymwybodol o'r siarad, a siom arall yw'r diffyg sylw y mae Llafur yn ei roi i'r cynnig pwysig hwn.

I have asked questions about the number of Yr wyf wedi gofyn cwestiynau am nifer y



playing fields that have been lost, and, as with other examples, we have been told that the information is not collected, or that it is not particularly significant. I have never accepted that. It has just been a measure of the lack of attention that Labour has paid to what I think is a very important matter.

There are two reasons why we should support this issue. The first reason is the promotion of physical activity across all ages. One of the greatest problems facing us across the western world is the lack of physical activity in which people participate.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Do you now regret the fact that it was the Tory party that started selling off playing fields in the first place?

**Glyn Davies:** That was a fairly stupid intervention. [*Laughter.*] It was totally inappropriate in terms of the speech that I was making. It was clearly planned beforehand and, therefore, it is not a debating strategy of any sort.

It is an important issue to tackle in the western world in terms of keeping people fit. I have suggested in the past that we should have a gym in the Assembly. Persuading young, middle-age or older people to take part in physical activity should be one of the Assembly's most important objectives. That is one of the reasons why I support Lisa's motion.

The other reason is the importance of the urban environment. Many references to Wrexham have been made today, and over the past year Wrexham County Council has taken some innovative steps to protect open spaces, by recognising how important it is to retain open spaces in terms of developing the environment of our urban areas. I would have expected all of us to want to sign up, in principle, to what is being put before us. I listened to Karen's contribution, and I could see that she is very supportive of the motion in principle. I accept that the Labour Party has decided to oppose this, and the Minister will tell us later why that is the case. All I can say, Minister, is that I am hugely disappointed that you have done this. There is a political reason behind this, in that you simply do not want to support something put

meysydd chwarae a gollwyd, ac fel gydag enghreifftiau eraill dywedwyd wrthym na chesglir y wybodaeth, neu nad yw'n arbennig o arwyddocaol. Nid wyf erioed wedi derbyn hynny. Mae'n dangos y diffyg sylw y mae Llafur wedi ei roi i fater a gredaf sy'n bwysig iawn.

Mae dau reswm dros gefnogi'r mater hwn. Y rheswm cyntaf yw hyrwyddo gweithgarwch corfforol i bob oed. Un o'r problemau mwyaf a wynebwn yn y byd gorllewinol yw'r diffyg cyfranogi mewn gweithgarwch corfforol.

**Eleanor Burnham:** A ydych yn awr yn edifarhau mai'r Torïaid a ddechreuodd werthu meysydd chwarae yn y lle cyntaf?

**Glyn Davies:** Yr oedd hwnnw'n ymyriad digon gwirion. [*Chwerthin.*] Yr oedd yn gwbl amhriodol yn yr araith yr oeddwn yn ei gwneud. Yr oedd yn amlwg wedi'i gynllunio ymlaen llaw, ac felly nid yw'n strategaeth dadlau o unrhyw fath.

Mae'n fater pwysig i fynd i'r afael ag ef yn y byd gorllewinol o ran cadw pobl yn heini. Yr wyf wedi awgrymu yn y gorffennol y dylem gael campfa yn y Cynulliad. Dylai darbwyllo pobl ifanc, pobl canol oed neu bobl hŷn i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgarwch corfforol fod yn un o amcanion pwysigaf y Cynulliad. Dyna un o'r rhesymau pam y cefnogaf gynnig Lisa.

Y rheswm arall yw pwysigrwydd yr amgylchedd trefol. Cyfeiriwyd droeon heddiw at Wrecsam, ac yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf mae Cyngor Sir Wrecsam wedi cymryd rhai camau arloesol i ddiogelu mannau agored, drwy gydnabod mor bwysig yw cadw mannau agored o ran datblygu'r amgylchedd yn ein hardaloedd trefol. Byddwn wedi disgwyl y byddai pob un ohonom yn awyddus i ymrwymo, mewn egwyddor, i'r hyn a gyflwynir ger ein bron. Gwrandewais ar gyfraniad Karen, a gallwn weld ei bod yn gefnogol iawn i egwyddor y cynnig. Derbyniaf fod y Blaid Lafur wedi penderfynu gwrthwynebu hyn, a bydd y Gweinidog yn dweud wrthym yn ddiweddarach. Y cyfan y gallaf ei ddweud, Weinidog, yw fy mod yn hynod siomedig eich bod wedi gwneud hyn. Mae rheswm

forward by the Conservatives. You have more of an eye on the next Assembly election than you have on the activities in the Chamber today.

Like Karen, I am not sure about the form of the detail, but if this were to go forward, we can only change things on the basis of regulations. We must have a debate on how this regulation is formed, and that will be an interesting debate. You and the Labour Members supporting you are stopping us from getting to a position where we can have a motion that deals with the details of how this should go forward, and brings forward a change in behaviour patterns across Wales. That is something that you and everyone else in the Chamber support, and it is disappointing, not only to Lisa, who has brought forward a very good motion, but to those of us who think that the principle behind her motion is right for the Assembly and for Wales. You are letting down the Assembly and Wales by listening to the Minister perhaps—I do not know whether it is the Minister, but he is very good at arguing the Assembly Government's cause. I suspect that you have taken a vote in the cabal of your group to undermine—

**Karen Sinclair:** Come on, Glyn. I refer you to the wording of the motion. It says:

‘extend the definition of a playing field to include any land in the open air which is used for the purposes of physical education or recreation’.

What does it mean? It is flawed, unfortunately.

**Glyn Davies:** I think that almost everyone in the Chamber, except you, Karen, understands perfectly well that this is an in-principle motion. If we agree to it, we can come back and deal with the very point that you make. You have made a political stand today that is nonsensical.

**Janet Ryder:** Glyn, would you agree that it is strange, if somebody felt so strongly about a motion and wanted to support it, but had realised that perhaps some of the wording needed to change, that an amendment was

gwleidyddol y tu ôl i hyn, sef nad ydych am gefnogi rhywbeth a gyflwynwyd gan y Ceidwadwyr. Yr ydych yn canolbwyntio mwy ar etholiad nesaf y Cynulliad nag ar y gweithgareddau yn y Siambr heddiw.

Fel Karen, nid wyf yn siŵr o'r manylion, ond os aiff hyn yn mynd yn ei flaen, gallwn newid pethau dim ond ar sail rheoliadau. Rhaid inni gael ar y modd y mae'r rheoliad hwn i gael ei lunio, a bydd honno'n ddadl ddi-ddorol. Yr ydych chi a'r Aelodau Llafur sy'n eich cefnogi yn ein hatal rhag bod mewn sefyllfa lle y gallwn gael cynnig sy'n ymdrin â manylion y modd y dylai hyn ddatblygu, ac yn cyflwyno newid mewn patrymau ymddygiad ledled Cymru. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth yr ydych chi a phawb arall yn y Siambr yn ei gefnogi, ac mae'n siom, nid yn unig i Lisa, sydd wedi cyflwyno cynnig da iawn, ond i'r rheini ohonom sy'n credu bod yr egwyddor sy'n sail i'w chynnig yn briodol i'r Cynulliad ac i Gymru. Yr ydych yn gwneud cam â'r Cynulliad a Chymru drwy wrando ar y Gweinidog efallai—ni wn ai'r Gweinidog sydd ar fai, ond mae'n dda iawn am ddadlau achos Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Tybiaf eich bod wedi pleidleisio yn eich grŵp i danseilio—

**Karen Sinclair:** Dewch, dewch, Glyn. Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at eiriad y cynnig. Mae'n dweud:

‘estyn y diffiniad o ‘playing field’ i gynnwys unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored a ddefnyddir at ddibenion addysg gorfforol neu hamdden’.

Beth yw ystyr hynny? Mae'n ddiffygiol, yn anffodus.

**Glyn Davies:** Credaf fod bron pawb yn y Siambr ar wahân i chi, Karen, yn deall yn iawn bod hwn yn gynnig mewn egwyddor. Os cytunwn iddo, gallwn ddychwelyd a thrafod yr union bwynt a wnewch. Yr ydych wedi gwneud safiad gwleidyddol ffôl heddiw.

**Janet Ryder:** Glyn, a gytunech ei bod yn rhyfedd, os oedd rhywun yn teimlo mor gryf am y cynnig ac yn awyddus i'w gefnogi, ond yn sylweddoli efallai fod angen newid rhai o'r geiriau, na chyflwynwyd gwelliant bryd

not put forward on that point?

**Glyn Davies:** I do and that thought has also come to my mind.

It is fairly obvious to all of us here that Members on the Government side simply cannot bring themselves to support a motion that everybody in and outside the Chamber believes to be the right way forward. They want to claim all the credit for everything that is beneficial to themselves, and their eye is on next May.

**The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones):** I do not think that there is any disagreement with the principle of what Lisa is trying to do here. We all know that it is important that there should be school playing fields and, in my part of the world, we still have them; they have never been under threat, although I know that in other parts of Wales there may have been difficulties in the past.

I would have listened more to what the opposition parties had to say had they taken any notice whatsoever of 'Technical Advice Note 16: Sport and Recreation' in the past. How many opposition Members have put in submissions to TAN 16? The consultation has not closed yet; it is open until 22 October. I see that not one has done so—well, well.

**Nick Bourne:** I wanted to allow you a little time to get into your stride, but I do not think that you are doing that. Your opening words were that nobody can disagree with the principle that we have put forward. This is an in-principle motion. Given that you do not disagree with the principle, why on Earth can you not support in principle what is being put forward?

**Carwyn Jones:** This is a proposal for legislation. It is one of the worst-drafted proposals for legislation that I have ever seen in the Chamber. This is meant to be a professional legislative Chamber. If this sort of legislation goes through—and God help us post-May—then my old profession will have a field day with what is going on here.

hynny?

**Glyn Davies:** Cytunaf, ac yr wyf hefyd wedi meddwl am y pwynt hwnnw.

Mae'n weddol amlwg i bawb yma heddiw na all Aelodau ar ochr y Llywodraeth gefnogi cynnig sydd, ym marn pawb yn y Siambr a'r tu allan iddi, yn gam cywir ymlaen. Maent am hawlio'r holl glod iddynt hwy eu hunain am bopeth sy'n fuddiol, ac mae eu llygad ar fis Mai nesaf.

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones):** Credaf nad oes neb yn anghytuno ag egwyddor yr hyn y mae Lisa yn ceisio'i wneud yma. Gwyddom i gyd ei bod yn bwysig sicrhau meysydd chwarae mewn ysgolion, ac yn fy rhan i o'r byd maent yn bodoli o hyd; nid ydynt erioed wedi bod o dan fygythiad, er y gwn mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru y gall fod anawsterau wedi codi yn y gorffennol.

Byddwn wedi gwranddo mwy ar yr hyn a oedd gan y gwrthbleidiau i'w ddweud pe byddent wedi rhoi unrhyw sylw i 'Nodyn Cyngor Technegol 16: Chwaraeon a Hamdden' yn y gorffennol. Faint o Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau sydd wedi cynnig cyflwyniadau i TAN 16? Nid yw'r ymgynghori hwn ar ben eto; mae'n parhau tan 22 Hydref. Gwelaf nad oes neb wedi gwneud hynny—wel, wel.

**Nick Bourne:** Yr oeddwn am roi ychydig amser i chi fynd at graidd y mater, ond ni chredaf eich bod yn gwneud hynny. Eich geiriau agoriadol oedd na all neb anghytuno â'r egwyddor a gyflwynwyd gennym. Mae hwn yn gynnig mewn egwyddor. O gofio nad ydych yn anghytuno â'r egwyddor, pam ar wyneb daear na allwch gefnogi'r hyn a gyflwynir mewn egwyddor?

**Carwyn Jones:** Mae hwn yn gynnig am ddeddfwriaeth. Hwn yw un o'r cynigion gwaethaf a ddrafftwyd am ddeddfwriaeth imi erioed ei weld yn y Siambr. Siambr ddeddfu broffesiynol yw hon i fod. Os caiff y math hwn o ddeddfwriaeth ei basio—a Duw a'n helpo ar ôl mis Mai—yna bydd fy hen broffesiwn i'n cael diwrnod i'r brenin gyda'r hyn sy'n digwydd yma.

**Alun Cairns:** Will you give way?

**Carwyn Jones:** No, I will carry on for a second.

TAN 16—[*Interruption.*] I said ‘no’.

Not one member of the opposition parties has mentioned TAN 16 in the Chamber before, as far as I can tell. Well, well, well. TAN 16 has been out since 28 July. The consultation closes on 22 October. Has any opposition party made a submission? The reason why they have not done so is because they could not be bothered to take an interest in the subject before now. Look at the Tories: they sold off all the playing fields to begin with. Now it is convenient as a bandwagon is trundling through. They showed no interest in TAN 16 or playing fields in years gone by, but now, with the bandwagon going through, they want to ensure that they get some votes. No wonder David Cameron is their leader.

**Eleanor Burnham:** I have been asking the Minister with responsibility for sport for months and months to do an audit of playing fields and leisure facilities throughout Wales so that we would at least know exactly what we have for the benefit of youngsters, and so that, instead of concentrating on anti-social behaviour orders, we would have something for them to do and places for them to play. It is absolute claptrap.

**Carwyn Jones:** That is a weak argument put forward to cover the Liberal Democrats’ culpability in not responding to the TAN.

Let me remind Members what is in this Labour-driven TAN. It is something that we have done; it was not asked for by any other party. One of the things that we are consulting on is the proposal to reduce the size of playing fields from 0.4 hectares to 0.2 hectares, in terms of the Sports Council for Wales being notified—that is precisely what Lisa has asked for. We have already started to do that, so I do not know why on Earth we should stop now and go back to square one and start doing it again.

**Alun Cairns:** A ildiwch?

**Carwyn Jones:** Na wnaif, af ymlaen am ychydig.

TAN 16—[*Torri ar draws.*] Dywedais ‘na’.

Nid oes un aelod o’r gwrthbleidiau wedi sôn am TAN 16 yn y Siambr o’r blaen, hyd y gwn i. Wel, wel, wel. Mae TAN 16 ar gael er 28 Gorffennaf. Daw’r ymgynghori i ben ar 22 Hydref. A oes unrhyw wrthblaid wedi gwneud cyflwyniad? Y rheswm na wnaethant hynny yw na allent drafferthu i ymddiddori yn y pwnc cyn hyn. Edrychwch ar y Toriaid: hwy a werthodd yr holl feysydd chwarae yn y lle cyntaf. Nawr mae’n bwnc cyfleus gan fod pawb arall yn ymwneud ag ef. Ni ddangoswyd unrhyw ddiddordeb ganddynt yn TAN 16 na meysydd chwarae yn y gorffennol, ond nawr, gan fod y mwyafrif yn gwneud hynny, maent am sicrhau eu bod yn cael rhai pleidleisiau. Nid yw’n syndod mai David Cameron yw eu harweinydd.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Yr wyf wedi bod yn gofyn am fisoedd lawer i’r Gweinidog sy’n gyfrifol am chwaraeon archwilio meysydd chwarae a chyfleusterau hamdden ledled Cymru, fel y byddem o leiaf yn gwybod yn union beth sydd gennym ar gyfer lles pobl ifanc, ac felly, yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio ar orchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, byddai gennym rywbeth iddynt ei wneud a manau iddynt chwarae. Mae’n nonsens llwyr.

**Carwyn Jones:** Dadl wan yw honno wedi ei chyflwyno i guddio euogrywydd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am beidio ag ymateb i’r TAN.

Gadewch imi atgoffa Aelodau o’r hyn sydd yn y TAN hwn a lywiwyd gan Lafur. Mae’n rhywbeth yr ydym ni wedi’i wneud; ni ofynnwyd amdano gan unrhyw blaid arall. Un o’r pethau yr ydym yn ymgynghori arnynt yw’r cynnig i leihau maint meysydd chwarae o 0.4 hectar i 0.2 hectar, o ran hysbysu Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru—dyna’n union y mae Lisa wedi gofyn amdano. Yr ydym eisoes wedi dechrau gwneud hynny, felly, ni wn pam ar wyneb daear y dylem roi’r gorau iddi yn awr a mynd yn ôl i’r cychwyn a

dechrau eto.

To inform other Members of what is in the TAN, because clearly people have not read it, there is a proposal to extend the definition of playing fields, including the definition of open space; there is detailed guidance for local planning authorities on preparing open-space assessments; and there is advice on identifying future needs for open space and recreational facilities and incorporating those needs into development plan policies—and so the list goes on. The Conservatives jabber away because they have nothing positive to offer in this regard. They have taken no interest at all in this issue, nor have other parties in the main, until now when they suddenly think, ‘We have done nothing’. This is what we have done as a party: we have ensured that playing fields in Wales will be protected in the future against the predatory instincts of Tory, Plaid Cymru and Liberal Democrat administrations—

Er mwyn hysbysu Aelodau eraill am yr hyn sydd yn y TAN, oherwydd mae’n amlwg nad yw pobl wedi’i ddarllen, mae yna gynnig i ymestyn y diffiniad o feysydd chwarae, gan gynnwys y diffiniad o fannau agored; ceir canllawiau manwl i awdurdodau cynllunio lleol ar baratoi asesiadau manau agored; a cheir cyngor ar nodi anghenion yn y dyfodol ar gyfer manau agored a chyfleusterau hamdden ac ymgorffori’r anghenion hynny mewn polisïau cynllun datblygu—ac mae’r rhestr yn un hirfaith. Mae’r Ceidwadwyr yn clebran am nad oes ganddynt ddim byd cadarnhaol i’w gynnig i’r perwyl hwn. Nid ydynt wedi cymryd dim diddordeb o gwbl yn y mater hwn, ac ar y cyfan nid yw’r pleidiau eraill ychwaith, ond nawr yn sydyn meddylant, ‘Nid ydym wedi gwneud dim’. Dyma yr ydym ni wedi’i wneud fel plaid: yr ydym wedi sicrhau y caiff meysydd chwarae yng Nghymru eu diogelu yn y dyfodol rhag greddfau rheibus gweinyddiaethau’r Torïaid, Plaid Cymru a’r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol-

**Eleanor Burnham:** Will you give way?

**Eleanor Burnham:** A ildiwch?

**Carwyn Jones:** No, you have had one intervention.

**Carwyn Jones:** Na wnaif, yr ydych wedi ymyrryd unwaith yn barod.

I now turn to the legislation itself. This is legislation; it is not a proposal, principle or woolly idea. It says here that we should extend the definition of a playing field to include any land in the open air. I disagree with that in principle, and that is why I will not be supporting it. It says:

Trof yn awr at y ddeddfwriaeth ei hun. Deddfwriaeth yw hon; nid cynnig, egwyddor na syniad amwys. Mae’n dweud yma y dylem ymestyn y diffiniad o faes chwarae i gynnwys unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored. Anghytunaf â’r egwyddor honno, a dyna pam na fyddaf yn ei gefnogi. Mae’n dweud:

‘revise the definition of a Playing Pitch to remove the minimum size requirement in relation to a delineated area.’

‘diwygio’r diffiniad o ‘Playing Pitch’ i ddileu’r gofyniad o ran maint ardal y gellir ei dynodi’n faes chwarae’.

I disagree with that in principle and that is why we are not supporting it.

Anghytunaf â’r egwyddor honno, a dyna pam nad ydym yn ei gefnogi.

5.10 p.m.

This is not about semantics; this is law that we propose here. It states that any land in the open air could potentially be subject to the Sports Council for Wales looking at an application before any work can take place on that land. That is your back garden—if there is a swing in your back garden, it is an

Nid oes a wnelo hyn â semanteg; cyfraith yw’r hyn a gynigiwn yma. Mae’n dweud y gallai Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru ystyried cais ar unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored cyn i unrhyw waith allu mynd rhagddo ar y tir hwnnw. Dyna ichi eich gardd—os oes siglen yn eich gardd gefn, mae’n ddarn o dir yn yr

area of open-air land that is not delineated. That also includes farmers' fields. If farmers have a right of access across their fields, this bites on them. I will take great pleasure, when I leave the Chamber, in telling the farmers of Wales that the Tories, Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats think that their fields should have an extra planning burden put on them. However, the opposition parties have not thought of that, but that is precisely what the legislation says. For example, roads are areas of open land and people ride bikes on roads; those are also bitten by this legislation.

**John Marek:** You are making great play of a difficult brief for you, I know, in terms of the reference to any land, but the proposal states:

'to amend article 10 (2) of The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995.'

That is not likely to be referring to private land, is it?

**Carwyn Jones:** It refers to any land in the open air, John; it does not define the property. You rightly point out the weakness in the drafting, and if this debate were solely about the principle without legislation, there would be no difficulty with it, but this is legislation and you cannot mess around with it. Ultimately, if the Assembly votes in favour of this, there will be no changing the legislation around in future, because the Assembly will be voting to include any land in the open air. That is quite clear and that is why I, along with others in my party, cannot agree with using that definition. It does not relate to not wanting to protect playing fields in any way. This is just duff legislation, which, in my view, cannot be permitted to go through the Assembly. As I have said, I wait to hear the other parties explaining why people's private land—because it does not talk about land that has been fenced off—which is used for recreational activities, such as walking and cycling, and as play areas for children, and anywhere where there is a swing and a slide are all included in the legislation. Lisa said that herself. I look forward to hearing you explain to farmers why you have supported this in this way.

awyr agored nad yw wedi'i ddynodi. Mae hynny hefyd yn cynnwys caeau ffermwyr. Os oes gan ffermwyr hawl tramwy ar draws eu caeau, mae hyn yn effeithio arnynt hwy. Pan adawaf y Siambr, bydd yn bleser gennyf mawr gennyf ddweud wrth ffermwyr Cymru fod y Torïaid, Plaid Cymru a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn credu y dylid rhoi baich cynllunio ychwanegol ar eu tir. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r gwrthbleidiau wedi meddwl am hynny, ond dyna'n union y mae'r ddeddfwriaeth yn ei ddweud. Er enghraifft, mae ffyrdd yn ardaloedd o dir agored ac mae pobl yn mynd ar feiciau ar ffyrdd; mae'r ddeddfwriaeth yn effeithio arnynt hwy hefyd.

**John Marek:** Yr ydych yn rhoi llawer o sylw i friff anodd i chi, mi wn, o ran y cyfeiriad at unrhyw dir, ond mae'r cynnig yn dweud:

'diwygio erthygl 10(2) o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Datblygu Cyffredinol) 1995'.

Mae'n annhebygol fod hynny'n cyfeirio at dir preifat.

**Carwyn Jones:** Cyfeiria at unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored, John; nid yw'n diffinio'r eiddo. Yr ydych yn tynnu sylw at y gwendid yn y gwaith drafftio, a hynny'n briodol, a phe bai hon yn ddadl am yr egwyddor yn unig heb y ddeddfwriaeth ni fyddai'n creu anhawster. Ond deddfwriaeth sydd dan sylw ac ni allwch chwarae o gwmpas â hi. Yn y pen draw, os bydd y Cynulliad yn pleidleisio o blaid hyn, ni chaiff y ddeddfwriaeth ei newid yn y dyfodol, oherwydd bydd y Cynulliad yn pleidleisio dros gynnwys unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored. Mae hynny'n ddigon clir a dyna pam na allaf, ynghyd ag eraill yn fy mhlaidd, gytuno â defnyddio'r diffiniad hwnnw. Nid yw'n ymwneud â pheidio â bod yn awyddus i ddiogelu meysydd chwarae o gwbl. Deddfwriaeth ddiwerth ydyw na ellir caniatáu iddi basio drwy'r Cynulliad, yn fy marn i. Fel y dywedais, arhosaf i glywed y pleidiau eraill yn esbonio pam y caiff tir preifat pobl—am nad yw'n sôn am dir sydd wedi'i amgylchynu gan ffensys—ac a ddefnyddir ar gyfer gweithgareddau hamdden, megis cerdded a seiclo, ac fel ardaloedd chwarae i blant, ac unrhyw fan lle mae siglen a llithren, ei gynnwys yn y ddeddfwriaeth. Dywedodd Lisa hynny ei hun.

Edrychaf ymlaen at eich clywed yn esbonio wrth ffermwyr pam yr ydych wedi cefnogi hyn fel hyn.

A fair question was raised about why no amendment was tabled to the motion. It was not amended because all this has already been covered in the technical advice note. It is pointless to amend something just to duplicate what is already happening. That is why it was never done in that way. When we pass legislation here, it is important that it is tight, because I guarantee that, post-May, the eyes of the lawyers in Wales and in the UK will be on this body. It will be no good to pass legislation that is woolly and vague. It has to be nailed down, and because this is legislation, we cannot support it.

Codwyd cwestiwn teg ynghylch pam na chyflwynwyd gwelliant i'r cynnig. Ni chyflwynwyd gwelliant oherwydd mae hyn i gyd wedi'i gwmpasu eisoes yn y nodyn cyngor technegol. Nid oes diben gwella rhywbeth dim ond er mwyn dyblygu'r hyn sydd eisoes yn digwydd. Dyna pam na wnaed hyn erioed fel hynny. Pan fyddwn yn deddfu yma, mae'n bwysig i'r ddeddfwriaeth fod yn dynn, oherwydd gallaf eich sicrhau, ar ôl mis Mai, y bydd llygaid cyfreithwyr yng Nghymru ac yn y DU wedi'u hoelio ar y corff hwn. Nid oes diben pasio deddfwriaeth sy'n amwys ac amhendant. Rhaid iddi fod yn bendant, ac am mai deddfwriaeth yw hon, ni allwn ei chefnogi.

We have done the work here as a party. We are the people who started to revise TAN 16. The six-acre standard that the National Playing Fields Association has suggested is an annex to the TAN, but, as usual, none of the opposition parties have bothered to read it. It is much better for them to try to have a debate in the Chamber and to claim the credit for something that we are already doing as a party. They then have the pure two-facedness to sit in the Chamber and claim to be the great champions of playing fields while, years ago, in the case of the Tories, they were quite happy to sell off playing fields to the highest bidder. Now they have the face to come here and say that they no longer believe that. Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats are happy to waddle in behind them, and tow the Tory party line that we know they will try to tow in years to come.

Yr ydym wedi gwneud y gwaith yma fel plaid. Ni oedd y bobl a ddechreuodd ddiwygio TAN 16. Mae'r safon chwe erw a awgrymwyd gan Feysydd Chwarae Cymru yn atodiad i'r TAN, ond, fel arfer, nid oes yr un o'r gwrthbleidiau wedi trafferthu ei ddarllen. Mae'n well o lawer ganddynt hwy gynnal dadl am y peth yn y Siambr a hawlio'r clod am rywbeth yr ydym eisoes yn ei wneud fel plaid. Yna, maent mor ddauwynebog ag eistedd yn y Siambr a honni mai hwy yw hyrwyddwyr pennaf meysydd chwarae er eu bod, flynyddoedd yn ôl, yn achos y Toriaid, yn ddigon bodlon gwerthu'r meysydd chwarae am y cynnig uchaf. Nawr, maent mor ewn â dod yma a dweud nad ydynt yn credu hynny mwyach. Mae Plaid Cymru a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn hapus i lusgo y tu ôl iddynt, a dilyn gorchymyn y Toriaid fel y gwyddom y byddant yn ceisio'i wneud mewn blynyddoedd i ddod.

**Lisa Francis:** I thank everyone who has taken part in this debate for their interesting and passionate contributions, some of which were very well researched.

**Lisa Francis:** Hoffwn ddiolch i bawb sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon am eu cyfraniadau diddorol a brwd, rhai wedi ymchwilio iddynt yn drwyadl.

I know that the National Playing Fields Association, which, as the Minister mentioned, was a key player in producing TAN 16, which I have read, is keen to support this proposal today. I also know that representatives are here in the Chamber and are anxious to hear the outcome of this

Gwn fod Meysydd Chwarae Cymru, a oedd, fel y soniodd y Gweinidog, yn gyfranogwr allweddol yn y gwaith o gynhyrchu TAN 16 yr wyf wedi ei ddarllen, yn awyddus i gefnogi'r cynnig hwn heddiw. Gwn hefyd fod cynrychiolwyr yma yn y Siambr sy'n awyddus i glywed canlyniad y ddadl hon. At

debate. Furthermore, you will know, Minister, because they have written to you, that they would like to see the definition of a playing field extended to include all land, and not just land used for sport, play and recreation, but land comprising sports facilities smaller than 0.2 ha such as tennis courts and bowling greens.

**Carwyn Jones** *rose*—

**Lisa Francis:** Just let me finish this point.

This would follow a proposal put forward by the Scottish Executive in its current draft consultation of Scottish planning policy on physical activity and open space. That draft proposes consultation with SportsScotland on any applications affecting tennis courts, bowling greens, athletics tracks and other community sports facilities, in addition to playing fields.

**Carwyn Jones:** I agree with you entirely. If you had phrased it that way, we would not be having this debate now. However, that is not how you phrased it. You used the phrase, ‘any land in the open air’. I do not believe that the National Playing Fields Association supports that definition. That is the difficulty. I know that this is an intervention, so I will simply say that you are quite welcome to make your observations as part of the TAN 16 consultation process, which ends on 26 October. You are more than welcome to take part in the process that we have launched on this side of the Chamber.

**Lisa Francis:** Going back to the Scottish planning policy on physical activity and open space, I am aware from my experiences on the Committee on Standing Orders of this Government’s love of all things Hibernian. It should see that a similar process of planning in Wales would further increase input from the sports council to the determination of planning applications. The additional benefits of this would be a better picture of the playing fields lost in Wales and greater information for the sports council enabling the identification of areas sufficient or deficient in certain facilities.

hynny, fe wyddoch, Weinidog, am eu bod wedi ysgrifennu atoch, eu bod am ymestyn y diffiniad o faes chwarae i gynnwys pob darn o dir, nid yn unig dir a ddefnyddir ar gyfer chwaraeon, campau a hamdden, ond tir sy’n cynnwys cyfleusterau chwaraeon o lai na 0.2 hectar, fel cyrtiau tenis a lawntiau bowlio.

**Carwyn Jones** *a gododd*—

**Lisa Francis:** Gadewch imi orffen y pwynt hwn.

Byddai hyn yn dilyn cynnig a gyflwynwyd gan Weithrediaeth yr Alban yn ei hymgyngori drafft cyfredol ar bolisi cynllunio’r Alban ar weithgarwch corfforol a manau agored. Mae’r drafft hwnnw’n cynnig ymgynghori â SportsScotland ar unrhyw geisiadau sy’n effeithio ar gyrtiau tenis, lawntiau bowlio, traciau athletau a chyfleusterau chwaraeon cymunedol eraill, yn ogystal â meysydd chwarae.

**Carwyn Jones:** Cytunaf â chi’n llwyr. Pe baech wedi ei eirio felly, ni fyddem yn cael y ddadl hon yn awr. Fodd bynnag, nid fel yna y cafodd ei eirio gennych. Defnyddiwyd yr ymadrodd ‘unrhyw dir yn yr awyr agored’ gennych. Ni chredaf fod Meysydd Chwarae Cymru yn cefnogi’r diffiniad hwnnw. Dyna’r anhawster. Gwn fod hwn yn ymyriad, felly, dywedaf yn syml fod croeso ichi wneud eich sylwadau fel rhan o broses ymgynghori TAN 16, sy’n dod i ben ar 26 Hydref. Mae croeso ichi gymryd rhan yn y broses sydd wedi ei lansio gennym ni ar yr ochr hon o’r Siambr.

**Lisa Francis:** I ddychwelyd at bolisi cynllunio’r Alban ar weithgarwch corfforol a manau agored, gwn o’r profiadau ar y Pwyllgor ar Reolau Sefydlog fod y Llywodraeth hon yn hoff o bopeth Albanaidd. Dylai allu gweld y byddai proses gynllunio debyg yng Nghymru yn cynyddu cyfraniad gan y cyngor chwaraeon i benderfyniadau ar geisiadau cynllunio ymhellach. Manteision ychwanegol hyn fyddai gwell darlun o’r meysydd chwarae sydd wedi eu colli yng Nghymru, a mwy o wybodaeth i’r cyngor chwaraeon er mwyn nodi ardaloedd lle mae digon o gyfleusterau penodol neu brinder ohonynt .



Minister, the argument that you cannot support my proposal today on the grounds that it does not properly fit the bill simply does not hold any water, and here is why: I remind you of the 'Changes to the Development Control System in Wales' consultation last July. Page 46 refers specifically to playing fields, and it represents a carbon copy of my proposal. Indeed, the partial regulatory appraisal to that document—annex 5, page 84—lists cost and benefit analyses associated. No significant costs are likely to result from the proposed Order. It refers to the inadequacy of consulting arrangements on planning applications affecting playing fields. It acknowledges that the changes will benefit Sports Council Wales and will give the public confidence in the quality of decisions made by local planning authorities. I think that your real problem here is that you do not want this to go through because it carries a Welsh Conservatives stamp and not your own—and it is supported by all opposition Members. That you choose not to support this proposal today is miserable, mean-spirited, small minded, bad for Wales, and it attests to the manipulative streak that runs through the seams of your Government. I would urge everyone with any real conviction in this Chamber to support my proposal.

**John Marek:** I thank Lisa for giving way. I would just like to take up the Minister's point that people's back gardens would be affected. Town and country planning Orders already affect back gardens. I can apply to put a mobile radio mast or whatever in the Minister's back garden and he cannot do anything about it. I might even get planning permission to do it. However, I cannot do anything about this proposal, because it is not my land. Does this not expose the fault in the Minister's argument?

Weinidog, nid yw'r ddadl na allwch gefnogi fy nghynnig heddiw am nad yw'n addas at y diben yn dal dŵr, a dyma pam: Hoffwn eich atgoffa o'r ymgynghori fis Gorffennaf diwethaf 'Newidiadau yn y System Rheoli Datblygu yng Nghymru'. Mae tudalen 46 yn cyfeirio'n benodol at feysydd chwarae, ac mae'n union yr un fath â'm cynnig i. Yn wir, mae'r arfarniad rheoliadol rhannol at y ddogfen honno—atodiad 5, tudalen 84—yn rhestru dadansoddiadau cost a budd cysylltiedig. Nid oes costau sylweddol o gwbl yn debygol o ddeillio o'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig. Mae'n cyfeirio at annigonolrwydd y trefniadau ymgynghori ar geisiadau cynllunio sy'n effeithio ar feysydd chwarae. Mae'n cydnabod y bydd y newidiadau'n fanteisiol i Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru ac y byddant yn rhoi hyder i'r cyhoedd yn ansawdd y penderfyniadau a wneir gan awdurdodau cynllunio lleol. Credaf mai eich problem wirioneddol chi yw nad ydych am i hyn lwyddo am fod stamp Ceidwadwyr Cymru arno, nid eich stamp chi—ac fe'i cefnogir gan bob un o Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau. Mae'r ffaith nad ydych yn dewis cefnogi'r cynnig hwn heddiw yn bitw, yn gul ac yn wael i Gymru, ac mae'n cadarnhau'r elfen gyfrwys sydd yn eich Llywodraeth. Anogaf bawb sydd ag unrhyw argyhoeddiad gwirioneddol yn y Siambr hon i gefnogi fy nghynnig.

**John Marek:** Diolch i Lisa am ildio. Hoffwn ddilyn pwynt y Gweinidog y byddai hyn yn effeithio ar erddi cefn pobl. Mae Gorchymynion cynllunio gwlad a thref eisoes yn effeithio ar erddi cefn. Gallaf wneud cais i osod mast radio symudol neu beth bynnag yng ngardd gefn y Gweinidog ac ni all ef wneud dim yn ei gylch. Gallaf hyd yn oed gael caniatâd cynllunio efallai i'w wneud. Fodd bynnag, ni allaf wneud dim ynglŷn â'r cynnig hwn, oherwydd nid fy nhir i ydyw. Onid yw hyn yn dangos y diffyg sydd yn nadl y Gweinidog?

*Cynnig (NDM3186): O blaid 27, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 26.  
Motion (NDM3186): For 27, Abstain 0, Against 26.*

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

Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter

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

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine

Bourne, Nick  
 Burnham, Eleanor  
 Cairns, Alun  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Janet  
 Francis, Lisa  
 German, Michael  
 Graham, William  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Helen Mary  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Lloyd, David  
 Marek, John  
 Melding, David  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Wood, Leanne

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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 5.19 p.m.  
 The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 5.19 p.m.*

## **Dadl Fer Short Debate**

### **Salwch Meddwl: Rhoi Terfyn ar Stigma? Mental Illness: An End to Stigma?**

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Order. Before I call Christine to present her short debate, I ask those Members who wish to leave the Chamber please to do so quietly and expeditiously. Order. Conversations should be held outside the Chamber. Christine is waiting to address us.

5.20 p.m.

**Christine Chapman:** I have given permission to Jenny Randerson, Leanne Wood, Jonathan Morgan, and Jeff Cuthbert to speak in this debate.

Those familiar with the Bible will know the story of doubting Thomas, who had to see and feel Jesus's wounds to believe that the man before him really was his resurrected spiritual leader. Similarly, how often do we require physical proof of something to know that it really exists? How much easier is it to

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Trefn. Cyn imi alw ar Christine i gyflwyno ei dadl fer, gofynnaf i'r Aelodau hynny sydd am adael y Siambr wneud hynny'n dawel ac yn gyflym. Trefn. Y tu allan i'r Siambr y dylid cynnal sgwrs. Mae Christine yn aros i'n hannerch.

**Christine Chapman:** Yr wyf wedi rhoi caniatâd i Jenny Randerson, Leanne Wood, Jonathan Morgan, a Jeff Cuthbert siarad yn y ddadl hon.

Bydd y rheini sy'n gyfarwydd â'r Beibl yn gwybod stori Thomas yr amheuwyr. Yr oedd yn rhaid iddo ef weld a theimlo clwyfau Crist i gredu mai'r dyn ger ei fron oedd ei arweinydd ysbrydol atgyfodedig. Yn yr un modd, pa mor aml y mae angen prawf corfforol arnom o rywbeth er mwyn gwybod

recognise and respond to something when it is clearly visible? Things that we cannot see and easily recognise often get ignored although they are very real. It is the same with mental illness, which is why I chose this topic to debate today. Mental illness is an important subject, and I am grateful to John Griffiths, who presented a short debate on this in the early years of the Assembly.

Mental illness has traditionally been neglected by society worldwide, in terms of the provision of services by governments and a lack of appreciation and understanding of conditions and their impact. That has been largely because of the stigma attached to mental health problems and the prejudices that people hold. How can this be when we know that one in four of us will suffer from mental illness at some point in our lives, and when one in six adults experience common mental problems, such as anxiety, panic attacks and depression at any time? What form does this stigma take? I will cite a couple of examples that I have come across.

I met a woman who had recently moved into an area and had been striking up a nice friendship with a neighbour, going into her house to have coffee and so forth. However, when the neighbour found out that she had mental health problems, she was never asked over again. This took away this new friendship. Another woman found that she had received very little sympathy from the health service after she had taken an overdose, which shows that we must not be complacent about elements of institutional prejudice.

Stigma and prejudice are often exacerbated by the media, particularly the tabloids, which are so influential but, sadly, often do not use their influence responsibly. In 2000, the mental health charity, Mind, published a research-based report highlighting the role of the media in feeding stigma and prejudice. Of the people whom the charity surveyed, 73 per cent said that coverage of mental health issues over the previous three years had been unfair, unbalanced or very negative. The

ei fod yn bodoli'n wirioneddol? Onid yw hi gymaint yn haws adnabod ac ymateb i rywbeth pan fydd yn amlwg iawn? Mae pethau na allwn eu gweld na'u hadnabod yn hawdd yn cael eu hanwybyddu'n aml er eu bod yn real iawn. Mae'r un peth yn wir am salwch meddwl, a dyna pam yr wyf wedi dewis y pwnc hwn ar gyfer y ddadl heddiw. Mae salwch meddwl yn bwnc pwysig, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i John Griffiths, a gyflwynodd ddadl fer ar hyn ym mlynnyddoedd cynnar y Cynulliad.

Yn draddodiadol, mae salwch meddwl wedi ei esgeuluso gan gymdeithas ledled y byd, o ran darparu gwasanaethau gan lywodraethau a diffyg gwerthfawrogiad a dealltwriaeth o gyflyrau a'u heffaith. Bu hynny'n bennaf o ganlyniad i'r stigma sy'n gysylltiedig â phroblemau iechyd meddwl a'r rhagfarnau sydd gan bobl. Sut y gall hyn ddigwydd pan wyddom y bydd un o bob pedwar ohonom yn dioddef gan salwch meddwl ar ryw adeg yn ein bywydau, a phan fydd un oedolyn o bob chwech yn yn cael problemau meddwl cyffredin, fel pryder, pyliau o banig ac iselder ysbryd ar unrhyw adeg? Beth yw ffurf y stigma hwn? Soniaf am rai enghreifftiau yr wyf wedi dod ar eu traws.

Cyfarfûm â menyw a oedd wedi symud i ardal yn ddiweddar ac wedi dod yn ffrind dymunol i gymydog, gan fynd i'w chartref i gael coffi, ac yn y blaen. Fodd bynnag, pan ddarganfu'r cymydog fod ganddi broblemau iechyd meddwl, ni chafodd ei gwahodd byth wedyn. Chwalodd hyn y berthynas newydd. Darganfu menyw arall nad oedd yn cael llawer o gydymdeimlad gan y gwasanaeth iechyd ar ôl iddi gymryd gorddos, sy'n dangos na ddylem laesu dwylo ynglŷn ag elfennau o ragfarn sefydliadol.

Caiff stigma a rhagfarn yn aml eu gwneud yn waeth gan y cyfryngau, yn arbennig y papurau tabloid, sydd mor ddylanwadol ond sydd, yn anffodus, yn defnyddio'u dylanwad mewn ffordd anghyfrifol. Yn 2000 cyhoeddodd Mind, yr elusen iechyd meddwl, adroddiad yn seiliedig ar ymchwil yn tynnu sylw at rôl y cyfryngau yn cynyddu stigma a rhagfarn. O'r bobl a arolygwyd gan yr elusen, dywedodd 73 y cant fod y sylw a roddwyd i faterion iechyd meddwl dros y tair blynedd

media do not always reflect the fact that one in four of us will experience mental health problems, or that symptoms such as depression and anxiety are quite widespread. Instead, the media often present mental illness only in terms of posing a danger to others, focusing on rare and tragic cases. This creates a misconception and a fear, which is misguided, given that only 5 per cent of murders are committed by people with a mental illness. The vast majority of mentally ill people are extremely vulnerable and far more likely to be the victims of violence and ill treatment, particularly older people.

However, what is the effect of this stigma? There is strong evidence to suggest that people with mental health problems are among the most socially excluded in society. This may be because the nature of mental illness causes people to withdraw from society, and it may be because those who are already on the fringes of society are more prone to mental illness. There is no doubt that stigma and prejudice are key forces in this link between mental illness and social exclusion.

According to research by Hafal, 84 per cent of people with a mental illness feel isolated whereas a much lower one in three of the general population experiences isolation. I welcome the fact that the Welsh Assembly Government has adopted the social model of disability. It is an important step, as the social model empowers disabled people by treating them equally and recognising that it is the way in which society is structured that is the chief disabling factor. In many ways, this presents a considerable challenge as it requires many of us to rethink the way in which we have traditionally viewed disabilities. If we are to apply this to mental health issues, we need to recognise that it is not mental illness that prevents someone from getting a job and keeping it, or from living a full and productive life; rather, it is the way in which society marginalises such people.

blaenorol wedi bod yn annheg, yn anghybwys neu'n negyddol iawn. Nid yw'r cyfryngau bob amser yn adlewyrchu'r ffaith y bydd un o bob pedwar ohonom yn cael problemau iechyd meddwl, neu bod symptomau megis iselder ysbryd a phryder yn ddigon cyffredin. Yn hytrach, y perygl i eraill yn unig y bydd y cyfryngau'n sôn amdano yng nghyd-destun salwch meddwl, gan ganolbwyntio ar achosion prin a thrasig. Mae hyn yn creu camdybiaeth ac ofn, sy'n gyfeiliornus o gofio mai 5 y cant yn unig o lofruddiaethau sy'n cael eu cyflawni gan bobl sydd â salwch meddwl. Mae mwyafrif helaeth y bobl sydd â salwch meddwl yn ddiamddiffyn iawn ac yn fwy tebygol o lawer o ddioddef trais a chamdriniaeth, yn arbennig pobl hŷn.

Fodd bynnag, beth yw effaith y stigma hwn? Mae yna dystiolaeth gref i awgrymu bod pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl ymhlith y bobl sy'n eu hallgáu fwyaf yn gymdeithasol mewn cymdeithas. Mae hyn efallai oherwydd bod natur salwch meddwl yn pery bod pobl yn cilio oddi wrth gymdeithas, a gall fod oherwydd bod y rhai sydd eisoes ar ymylon cymdeithas yn fwy tebygol o gael salwch meddwl. Mae stigma a rhagfarn yn ddiau yn rymoedd allweddol yn y cyswllt hwn rhwng salwch meddwl ac allgáu cymdeithasol.

Yn ôl ymchwil gan Hafal, mae 84 y cant o bobl sydd â salwch meddwl yn teimlo'n ynysig, ond mae un o bob tri o'r boblogaeth, sy'n ffigur tipyn is, yn profi unigedd. Croesawaf y ffaith fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi mabwysiadu model cymdeithasol o anabledd. Mae'n gam pwysig, gan fod y model cymdeithasol yn grymuso pobl anabl drwy eu trin yn gyfartal a thrwy gydnabod mai'r ffordd y caiff cymdeithas ei strwythuro yw'r prif ffactor anablu. Mewn llawer ffordd mae hyn yn achosi her sylweddol gan ei fod yn golygu bod yn rhaid i nifer ohonom ailfeddwl am y ffordd yr ydym yn draddodiadol wedi ystyried anableddau. Os ydym i gymhwyso hyn at faterion iechyd meddwl, mae angen inni gydnabod nad salwch meddwl sy'n atal rhywun rhag cael swydd a'i chadw, neu rhag byw bywyd llawn a chynhyrchiol; yn hytrach, y modd y mae cymdeithas yn gyrru pobl felly i'r cyrion ydyw.

Living life on the fringes of society without adequate support and not being able to fully participate makes the effects of mental illness worse. Many of these illnesses could be quite easily managed if there were sufficient help and support available. Surely we should be doing our utmost to end the isolation and social exclusion of our mentally ill citizens. Yet, from a survey of 450 people carried out this year across all county boroughs in Wales, 50 per cent of those with mental illness had felt lonely within the last month.

On this issue, I want to pay tribute to a group in my constituency, which is called Friends R Us, which seeks to overcome that loneliness and isolation while providing a relaxed setting for sufferers and their carers to talk about their problems and to share their experiences. Friends R Us is an excellent example of the benefits of bringing people together to try to overcome the social exclusion that makes mental illness so much worse. Let us look at what is being done to improve mental health services in Wales. I know that the Welsh Assembly Government's revised national service framework and action plan is recognition of how much this agenda needs to be taken forward. I was pleased this time last year when the Minister announced additional funding, but I am keen to hear of progress in taking the action plan forward.

One specific matter that I would like to raise with the Minister is the specific action that is being undertaken to reduce stigma and discrimination. There are some concerns about the fact that funded anti-stigma campaigns exist in England, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and in Scotland—the best-funded example—but not in Wales at the moment. Standard 1 of the national service framework clearly acknowledges the need for such a campaign, but the local and national publicity and awareness campaigns in key action 2 will not happen until 2008-09. I am aware that there was first a need to look at where we started from and that there have been reviews looking at how services can be improved, but intervention to reduce stigma needs to occur as soon as possible. I also know that good work is being undertaken locally in my area.

Mae byw ar gyrion cymdeithas heb ddigon o gefnogaeth a heb allu cymryd rhan lawn yn gwaethygu effeithiau salwch meddwl. Gallai llawer o'r afiechydon hyn gael eu rheoli'n hawdd pe bai digon o help a chefnogaeth ar gael. Oni ddylem fod yn gwneud ein gorau glas i ddileu'r unigedd a'r allgáu cymdeithasol a ddioddefir gan bobl sydd â salwch meddwl. Ac eto, o arolwg o 450 o bobl eleni ym mhob bwrdeistref sirol yng Nghymru, yr oedd 50 y cant o'r rheini sydd â salwch meddwl wedi teimlo'n unig yn ystod y mis diwethaf.

Ar y mater hwn, yr wyf am roi teyrnged i grŵp yn fy etholaeth i o'r enw Friends R Us, sy'n ceisio goresgyn yr unigedd hwnnw gan ddarparu lleoliad cartrefol i ddioddefwyr a'u gofawyr gael siarad am eu problemau a rhannu eu profiadau. Mae Friends R Us yn enghraifft wych o fanteision dod â phobl at ei gilydd i geisio goresgyn yr allgáu cymdeithasol sy'n gwneud salwch meddwl gymaint yn waeth. Gadewch inni edrych ar yr hyn sy'n cael ei wneud i wella gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yng Nghymru. Gwn fod fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol a chynllun gweithredu diwygiedig Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn dangos cymaint y mae angen datblygu'r agenda hon. Yr oeddwn yn falch yr adeg hon y llynedd pan gyhoeddodd y Gweinidog gyllid ychwanegol, ond yr wyf yn awyddus i glywed am y cynnydd a wnaed i ddatblygu'r cynllun gweithredu.

Un mater penodol yr hoffwn ei godi gyda'r Gweinidog yw'r camau penodol sy'n cael eu cymryd i leihau stigma a gwahaniaethu. Mae yna rai pryderon am y ffaith fod ymgyrchoedd gwrth-stigma wedi eu hariannu ar gael yn Lloegr, Gogledd Iwerddon, Gweriniaeth Iwerddon ac yn yr Alban—yr enghraifft orau sy'n cael ei hariannu—ond nid yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd. Mae Safon 1 yn y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol yn amlwg yn cydnabod yr angen am ymgyrch o'r fath, ond ni fydd yr ymgyrchoedd cyhoeddusrwydd ac ymwybyddiaeth lleol a chenedlaethol yng ngham allweddol 2 yn digwydd tan 2008-09. Gwn fod angen edrych yn gyntaf ar ein man cychwyn, a gwn fod adolygiadau wedi eu gwneud sy'n edrych ar y ffordd y gellir gwella gwasanaethau, ond mae angen ymyrryd i leihau stigma cyn gynted â phosibl. Gwn hefyd fod gwaith da

For example, Rhondda Cynon Taff Local Health Board has, with its partners, completed a review of current service provision and is developing an implementation plan with actions, such as setting up a crisis resolution team, which I very much welcome.

I will finish with a personal example of someone I have met in the last few months, whose experiences demonstrate the challenge that we must overcome as a society. The man, whom I shall call John, told me that he would like to work and find a job that he could put his energy into, but that severe depression and the debilitating effect that it had on him prevented him from finding an employer who would take him on under these circumstances. When I spoke to him, the first thing that I felt was what a huge waste of potential and what a tragedy it was in this day and age. We know that this is a situation that is widely replicated, because, at present, only 20 per cent of adults with long-term mental health problems are in work.

The incapacity benefit statistics tell us two important things. First, 70 per cent of recipients are people with mental illness. Secondly, the longer people are out of work, the less likely they are ever to return to employment. John is someone who could do a good job if he had the right support and if he was in the right environment. That would allow him to lead a much more fulfilling life, with the local economy benefiting more because of his contribution.

5.30 p.m.

We all know that next week is Mental Health Week, and that is an important way of increasing the profile of this issue. However, as much as I welcome that, this must be an all-year-round programme. If we are to strip away one of the last remaining prejudices in the twenty-first century, we cannot afford to be complacent. We would not—or at least should not—accept the discrimination and neglect of people on the basis of physical ill health, and we should not do so in relation to those who suffer mentally.

yn cael ei wneud yn lleol yn fy ardal i. Er enghraifft, mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Rhondda Cynon Taf, gyda'i bartneriaid, wedi cwblhau adolygiad o'r gwasanaethau presennol a ddarperir, ac mae'n datblygu cynllun gweithredu gyda chamau, megis sefydlu tîm datrys argyfwng yr wyf yn ei groesawu'n fawr.

Gorffennaf gydag enghraifft bersonol o rywun y cyfarfûm ag ef yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf. Mae ei brofiadau'n dangos yr her y mae'n rhaid inni ei goresgyn fel cymdeithas. Dywedodd y dyn wrthyf, ac fe'i galwaf yn John, yr hoffai weithio a chael swydd y gallai ymroi iddi'n llwyr, ond bod iselder ysbryd difrifol a'r effaith wanychol yr oedd y salwch yn ei chael arno wedi ei atal rhag dod o hyd i gyflogwr a fyddai'n ei gyflogi o dan yr amgylchiadau hyn. Pan siaradais ag ef, y peth cyntaf a deimlais oedd cymaint o botensial oedd yn cael ei golli a chymaint o drasiedi ydoedd yn yr oes hon. Gwyddom fod hon yn sefyllfa sy'n codi'n gyson, oherwydd ar hyn o bryd dim ond 20 y cant o oedolion sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl hirdymor sy'n gweithio.

Mae'r ystadegau budd-daliadau analluogrwydd yn dweud dau beth pwysig wrthym. Yn gyntaf, mae 70 y cant o'r rhai sy'n cael y budd-dal yn bobl sydd â salwch meddwl. Yn ail, po hwyaf y bydd pobl allan o waith, y lleiaf tebygol ydynt o ddychwelyd i weithio byth. Mae John yn rhywun a allai wneud gwaith da pe bai'n cael y gefnogaeth gywir a phe bai yn yr amgylchedd cywir. Byddai hynny'n caniatáu iddo fyw bywyd gwell o lawer, a byddai'r economi leol yn elwa mwy oherwydd ei gyfraniad.

Gwyddom i gyd ei bod yn Wythnos Iechyd Meddwl yr wythnos nesaf, sy'n ffordd bwysig o gynyddu proffil y mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, er fy mod yn croesawu hynny, rhaid iddi fod yn rhaglen drwy gydol y flwyddyn. Os ydym am ddileu un o'r rhagfarnau olaf sy'n bodoli yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain, ni allwn fforddio bod yn hunanfodlon. Ni fyddem—neu o leiaf ni ddylem—dderbyn achosion o wahaniaethu ac esgeuluso pobl ar sail salwch corfforol, ac ni ddylem wneud hynny mewn perthynas â phobl sydd â

salwch meddwl.

**Jenny Randerson:** Thank you, Christine, for raising this important issue, and for giving me time in which to speak.

The problem of stigma for those with mental illness is exacerbated by the lack of support for people who suffer from mental illness in the community, particularly those who suffer from serious mental illness. I note the high percentage of those people on disability benefit who suffer from mental illness, which is a real issue for us.

I will raise one specific issue, which is my concern about the delays in closing Whitchurch Hospital in Cardiff. That is one of a tiny handful of Victorian asylums that are still open in the UK. The lack of progress on this is a matter of considerable concern. The way in which changes to the services provided have been attempted is also a matter of concern. I specifically raise the mishandling of the proposals to close the Tegfan Day Hospital; the way in which it has been handled has seriously worried those who use this important facility.

**Leanne Wood:** I also thank Christine Chapman for raising this issue.

I will focus on the issue of employment, which you touched on towards the end of your speech, Christine—79 per cent of mental health service users or survivors are currently unemployed. A major reason for this, according to research, is discrimination as a result of the stigma. Disability Rights Commission research has found that only 37 per cent of employers said that they would, in future, take on someone with a mental illness. There are other statistics that I could use to show that large numbers of employers say that nothing could persuade them to recruit from core jobless groups, which includes people with mental health problems.

Therefore, these facts are worrying in the context of incapacity benefit reform, which you did not mention, Christine. The carrot-and-stick approach may force unwell people

**Jenny Randerson:** Diolch, Christine, am godi'r mater pwysig hwn, ac am roi amser imi siarad.

Mae problem stigma i'r rheini sydd â salwch meddwl yn gwaethygu oherwydd y diffyg cymorth a roddir i bobl sydd â salwch meddwl yn y gymuned, yn enwedig pobl sydd â salwch meddwl difrifol. Sylwaf ar y ganran uchel o bobl ar fudd-daliadau anabledd sydd â salwch meddwl, sy'n broblem wirioneddol inni.

Yr wyf am godi un mater pwysig, sef fy mhryder ynghylch yr oedi wrth gau Ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd yng Nghaerdydd. Mae'r ysbyty hwn yn un o nifer fach o seilams o oes Victoria sy'n dal ar agor yn y DU. Mae'r diffyg cynnydd a wnaed mewn perthynas â hyn yn peri pryder sylweddol. Hefyd, mae'r ffordd y ceisiwyd newid y gwasanaethau a ddarperir yn peri pryder. Yr wyf yn cyfeirio'n benodol at y ffordd anghywir y deliwyd â'r cynigion i gau Ysbyty Dydd Tegfan; mae'r ffordd y gwnaed hynny wedi peri pryder difrifol i'r rheini sy'n defnyddio'r cyfleuster pwysig hwn.

**Leanne Wood:** Hoffwn i hefyd ddiolch i Christine Chapman am godi'r mater hwn.

Fe ganolbwyntiaf ar fater cyflogaeth y cyfeiriwyd ato tua diwedd eich araith, Christine—ar hyn o bryd mae 79 y cant o ddefnyddwyr gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl neu oroeswyr yn ddi-waith. Un o'r prif resymau dros hyn, yn ôl yr ymchwil, yw gwahaniaethu o ganlyniad i'r stigma. Mae ymchwil gan y Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd wedi dangos mai 37 y cant yn unig o gyflogwyr a ddywedodd y byddent, yn y dyfodol, yn cyflogi rhywun sydd â salwch meddwl. Gallem ddefnyddio ystadegau eraill i ddangos bod niferoedd mawr o gyflogwyr yn dweud na allai dim byd eu darbwyllo i recriwtio o grwpiau di-waith craidd, sy'n cynnwys pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl.

Felly, mae'r ffeithiau hyn yn peri pryder yng nghyd-destun diwygio budd-daliadau analluogrwydd, na soniwyd amdano gennych, Christine. Gallai mabwysiadu dull

to sign up to schemes for fear of losing of their benefits. Mind has expressed concerns about the training of the Benefits Agency staff who do the assessments that decide whether someone can or cannot work. Given the large numbers of people in Wales who claim incapacity benefit for mental health reasons—as you pointed out, it is 70 per cent—I would argue that this issue concerns every Assembly Member.

By all means, we should help people into work, and do everything that we can to provide the support to get them back into work. However, we should all oppose the forcing of vulnerable people into employment that they cannot sustain.

**Jonathan Morgan:** I also thank Christine Chapman for raising this extremely important matter. I know that we will have to return to it in the future.

It is not until you start working with people who have suffered or are still suffering from a mental illness, that you realise how much of a contribution they have to make. Jenny Randerson referred to the Tegfan Day Hospital in the north of Cardiff. This is an interesting and vital part of service provision for a vulnerable group of people. They were completely overlooked by the health bodies when they made their proposals to restructure services. When you work with these people you understand the extent to which they are able to give a considered and intelligent view as to what they need and what services they require.

Effectively, we in the Assembly must now achieve a culture change. We must get the people running the NHS trusts and the local health boards to understand that having a mental illness does not make any difference to your being able to contribute to which services work well, and which do not work as well. We must understand that people with a mental illness can contribute to that, and we must effect that culture change, and sooner rather than later.

**Jeff Cuthbert:** I also extend my thanks to Christine for raising this subject.

gweithredu gwobr a chosb orfodi pobl sâl i ymuno â chynlluniau am eu bod yn ofni colli eu budd-daliadau. Mae Mind wedi mynegi pryderon ynghylch hyfforddi staff yr Asiantaeth Budd-daliadau sy'n gwneud yr asesiadau ac sy'n penderfynu a all rhywun weithio ai peidio. O gofio'r niferoedd mawr o bobl yng Nghymru sy'n hawlio budd-dal analluogrwydd am resymau iechyd meddwl—fel yr oeddech yn dweud, mae'n 70 y cant—byddwn yn dadlau bod hwn yn fater i bob Aelod o'r Cynulliad.

Dylem helpu pobl i gael gwaith, ym mhob ffordd bosibl, a gwneud popeth a allwn i ddarparu'r cymorth iddynt allu dychwelyd i weithio. Fodd bynnag, dylem i gyd wrthwynebu gorfodi pobl ddiamddiffyn i wneud gwaith na allant ei gynnal.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Hoffwn i hefyd ddiolch i Christine Chapman am godi'r mater pwysig iawn hwn. Gwn y bydd yn rhaid inni ddychwelyd ato yn y dyfodol.

Ni fyddwch yn sylweddoli'r cyfraniad y gall pobl sydd â salwch meddwl, neu sydd wedi bod â salwch meddwl, ei wneud nes y dechreuwch gweithio gyda hwy. Cyfeiriodd Jenny Randerson at Ysbyty Dydd Tegfan yng ngogledd Caerdydd. Mae'r ysbyty yn rhan ddiddorol a hanfodol o'r gwasanaeth a ddarperir i grŵp diamddiffyn o bobl. Fe'u hanwybyddwyd yn llwyr gan y cyrff iechyd pan wnaed eu cynigion i ailstrwythuro gwasanaethau. Pan weithiwyd gyda'r bobl hyn, byddwch yn deall y graddau y gallant gynnig barn ystyriol a deallus ynghylch yr hyn y mae arnynt ei angen a pha wasanaethau y mae eu hangen.

I bob pwrpas, rhaid i'r Cynulliad yn awr sicrhau newid diwylliannol. Rhaid inni gael y bobl sy'n rhedeg ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG a'r byrddau iechyd lleol i ddeall nad yw salwch meddwl yn gwneud gwahaniaeth o gwbl i'ch gallu i gyfrannu at ba wasanaethau sy'n gweithio'n dda, a pha rai nad ydynt yn gweithio cystal. Rhaid inni ddeall y gall pobl sydd â salwch meddwl gyfrannu at hynny, a rhaid inni sicrhau'r newid diwylliannol hwnnw, cyn gynted â phosibl.

**Jeff Cuthbert:** Hoffwn i hefyd ddiolch i Christine am godi'r pwnc hwn.



Like Leanne Wood, I wish to talk briefly about the issues relating to employment, because, as has been pointed out, the majority of people on disability or incapacity benefit have a mental health problem, and they face the greatest prejudice of all. Jobcentre Plus is embarking on a number of programmes—Pathways to Work and Want to Work—and it is absolutely essential that the staff of Jobcentre Plus are properly trained to be able to give counselling support to those who have mental health problems, and to explain and break down the prejudices that exist among many employers. One of the programmes that it has is the condition management programme, which encourages people to understand—

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** Order. Sadly, your time has run out.

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons):** I, too, would like to thank Chris for raising this important issue and for taking the initiative to ensure that mental health issues remain high on our agenda. I have a strong personal commitment to this, and I am very pleased that dealing with mental health continues to be one of the Welsh Assembly Government's top priorities. Over the last few years, we have tried to ensure that the profile of this issue is further raised, and I think that we have succeeded in doing this in launching a revised national service framework at the end of last year.

Mental health affects us all, and it is a great shame that there is so much ignorance and lack of understanding about mental health in general; many of the speakers have highlighted that. It is good to have an opportunity to debate this issue and to be able to highlight some of the measures that we are taking in Wales to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the population and to deliver better treatment and care for people who have a mental illness. Unfortunately, the media tends to focus on the more negative aspects of mental illness, and, because a few high-profile cases are linked to homicide or criminality, people always make an association between mental illness and violence and criminality. Three quarters of all

Fel Leanne Wood, hoffwn sôn yn gyflym am y materion sy'n ymwneud â chyflogaeth, oherwydd, fel y dywedwyd, mae gan y mwyafrif o bobl sy'n cael budd-dal anabledd neu fudd-dal analluogrwydd broblem iechyd meddwl, ac maent yn wynebu'r rhagfarn fwyaf oll. Mae'r Ganolfan Byd Gwaith yn bwrw ati i gyflwyno nifer o raglenni—Llwybrau at Waith ac Yn Awyddus i Weithio—ac mae'n gwbl hanfodol i staff y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith gael yr hyfforddiant cywir i allu rhoi cymorth cynghori i'r rheini sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl, ac i egluro a dadansoddi'r rhagfarnau sy'n bodoli ymhlith nifer o gyflogwyr. Un o'r rhaglenni sydd ganddi yw'r rhaglen rheoli cyflyrau, sy'n annog pobl i ddeall—

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

**Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons):** Hoffwn i hefyd ddiolch i Chris am godi'r mater pwysig hwn ac am sicrhau bod materion yn ymwneud ag iechyd meddwl yn dal yn uchel ar ein hagenda. Mae gennyf ymrwymiad personol cryf i hyn, ac yr wyf yn falch iawn fod ymdrin ag iechyd meddwl yn dal yn un o brif flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf yr ydym wedi ceisio sicrhau bod proffil uwch i'r mater hwn, a chredaf ein bod wedi llwyddo i wneud hyn drwy lansio fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol diwygiedig ddiwedd y llynedd.

Mae iechyd meddwl yn effeithio ar bob un ohonom, ac mae'n drueni mawr bod cymaint o ddiffyg gwybodaeth a dealltwriaeth am iechyd meddwl yn gyffredinol; mae nifer o siaradwyr wedi tynnu sylw at hynny. Mae'n dda cael cyfle i gynnal dadl ar y mater hwn a gallu tynnu sylw at rai o'r mesurau sydd gennym yng Nghymru i wella iechyd meddwl a lles y boblogaeth, ac i roi gwell triniaeth a gofal i bobl sydd â salwch meddwl. Yn anffodus, mae'r cyfryngau'n tueddu i ganolbwyntio ar yr agweddau mwy negyddol ar salwch meddwl, ac oherwydd bod rhai achosion amlwg iawn yn gysylltiedig â llofruddiaethau neu droseddoldeb, mae pobl bob amser yn cysylltu salwch meddwl â thrais a throseddoldeb. Mae tri chwarter yr

items about mental illness in newspapers focus on the link to violence, and this not only reinforces a certain stereotype, but it encourages negative attitudes that lead to the prejudice, discrimination and stigma that Chris has so graphically highlighted.

The reality is that maintaining good mental health and wellbeing is important to us all, and poor mental health affects many families and communities throughout Wales. We have heard the statistics already—one in four of us will be affected by a mental disorder at some stage in our lives, and it has been found that depression is, in fact, the leading cause of disability worldwide. The World Health Organization projects that by 2020 depression will be the second largest cause of the disease burden globally. Therefore, mental illness is not just about the few high-profile cases that we read about in our newspapers or hear of in the media. It concerns ordinary families and citizens, who are just like each and every one of us in the Assembly. It occurs among many people of all ages, ranging from the young person who is engaging in self harm or is diagnosed as having schizophrenia through to people who suffer from dementia and depression in old age. A wide range of conditions come under the label of mental illness, just as many conditions come under the label of physical illness. They are diverse and have a wide range of care and treatment options.

We know that if we do not manage these issues properly, and if we do not take care of people who need our help and treatment, a burden will not only fall on those who suffer from mental illness, but their families and friends, and, ultimately, it will have a severe and adverse effect on our communities. We have heard the statistic that 24 per cent of adults with a long-term mental health problem are in work; this is the lowest employment rate of any main group of disabled people. People may have diabetes or a heart condition, asthma or another chronic disease, but it is mental illness that is most likely to result in social exclusion. People with mental health problems are at more than double the risk of losing their job than those who do not have a mental illness, and people with mental health problems are nearly three

holl eitemau am salwch meddwl mewn papurau newydd yn canolbwyntio ar y cysylltiad â thrais, ac mae hyn nid yn unig yn atgyfnerthu stereoteip penodol, ond mae'n annog agweddau negyddol sy'n arwain at y rhagfarn, y gwahaniaethu a'r stigma y mae Chris wedi tynnu sylw atynt mor glir.

Y realiti yw bod cynnal iechyd a lles meddwl da yn bwysig i bawb, ac mae iechyd meddwl gwael yn effeithio ar nifer o deuluoedd a chymunedau ledled Cymru. Yr ydym eisoes wedi clywed yr ystadegau—bydd anhwylder meddwl yn effeithio ar un o bob pedwar ohonom ryw bryd yn ein bywyd, a gwelwyd mai iselder, mewn gwirionedd, yw prif achos anabledd ledled y byd. Yn ôl rhagamcan Sefydliad Iechyd y Byd, erbyn 2020 iselder fydd ail brif achos y baich clefydau ledled y byd. Felly, mae salwch meddwl yn ymwneud nid yn unig â'r nifer fach o achosion proffil uchel y darllenwn amdanynt yn ein papurau newydd neu y clywn amdanynt yn y cyfryngau: mae a wnelo â theuluoedd a dinasyddion cyffredin, sy'n union yr un fath â ni a phob un ohonom yn y Cynulliad. Mae'n digwydd ymhlith nifer o bobl o bob oed, yn amrywio o'r person ifanc sy'n niweidio'i hun neu sydd â sgitsoffrenia i'r henoed sydd â demensia ac iselder. Mae ystod eang o gyflyrau yn dod o dan label salwch meddwl, fel y mae nifer o gyflyrau'n dod o dan label salwch corfforol. Maent yn amrywiol, ac mae nifer o opsiynau ar gael o ran gofal a thriniaeth.

Gwyddom os na reolwn y problemau hyn yn gywir, ac os na ofalwn am bobl sydd ag angen ein help a thriniaeth, y bydd baich nid yn unig ar y rhai sydd â salwch meddwl, ond hefyd ar eu teuluoedd a'u ffrindiau, ac yn y pen draw caiff effaith ddifrifol a niweidiol ar ein cymunedau. Yr ydym wedi clywed yr ystadegyn mai 24 y cant yn unig o oedolion sydd â phroblem iechyd meddwl hirdymor sy'n gweithio; dyma'r gyfradd gyflogaeth isaf o unrhyw brif grŵp o bobl anabl. Gall pobl fod â diabetes neu gyflwr y galon, asthma neu glefyd cronig arall, ond salwch meddwl sydd fwyaf tebygol o arwain at allgáu cymdeithasol. Mae pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yn wynebu mwy na dwywaith y risg o golli eu swydd na phobl nad oes arnynt salwch meddwl, ac mae pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl bron

times more likely to be in debt.

The Cabinet Office report on social exclusion, which was published in the last three or four weeks, pointed out that 2.5 per cent of the population seems to be stuck for a lifetime in deep and persistent disadvantage. Among this group are people with severe and enduring health problems, who are heavily represented, as well as young parents, particularly those under 20 years of age, and looked-after children, whom we have also dealt with in the Assembly on many occasions. These are a key group of people upon whom, if we are committed to securing social justice and social inclusion, we must concentrate our efforts. The result of all of this is that many people with mental health problems are socially excluded, and are living in poverty, debt and poor housing. The stigma inhibits their ability to enjoy full citizenship. This is not just a question of people's right to good mental health; it is a question of the fundamental right of people in Wales to live their lives as full and active citizens.

5.40 p.m.

Next week, on World Mental Health Day, I will be launching a consultation on the Assembly Government's mental health promotion action plan for Wales. This aims to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the population of Wales and to attack the key issues that we are debating now—the stigma and discrimination that are associated with mental health problems—and to establish a programme of action to promote social inclusion.

Jeff Cuthbert hit the nail on the head when he said that one of the biggest challenges that we face is allowing people to get back into work and training. Indeed, that will be the litmus test. If we are going to have a barometer of how well we are doing, we should look at how many people who have been out of work because they have a mental health problem are going back into work, as a result of the schemes that we are promoting with the use of Objective 1 money, as well as through our work with the Department for Work and Pensions, such as the Pathways to Work and Want to Work schemes. We have

deirgwaith yn fwy tebygol o fod mewn dyled.

Yr oedd adroddiad Swyddfa'r Cabinet ar allgáu cymdeithasol, a gyhoeddwyd yn y tair neu bedair wythnos diwethaf, yn egluro bod 2.5 y cant o'r boblogaeth yn ymddangos dan anfantais fawr a pharhaus am weddill ei hoes. Ymhlith y grŵp hwn mae pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd difrifol a pharhaus, sydd wedi eu cynrychioli'n helaeth, yn ogystal â rhieni ifanc, yn enwedig y rheini o dan 20 oed, a phlant sy'n cael gofal, sydd hefyd wedi cael sylw yn y Cynulliad droeon. Mae'r rhain yn grŵp allweddol o bobl y mae'n rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ein hymdrechion arnynt, os ydym wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau cyfiawnder cymdeithasol a chynhwysiant cymdeithasol. Canlyniad hyn oll yw bod nifer o bobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yn cael eu hallgáu'n gymdeithasol ac yn byw mewn tldi, dyled a thai gwael. Mae'r stigma yn eu rhwystro rhag mwynhau dinasyddiaeth lawn. Nid mater o hawl pobl i iechyd meddwl da yn unig yw hyn; mater ydyw o hawl sylfaenol pobl yng Nghymru i fyw eu bywydau fel dinasyddion llawn a gweithgar.

Yr wythnos nesaf, ar Ddiwrnod Iechyd Meddwl y Byd, byddaf yn lansio ymgynghoriad ar gynllun gweithredu hybu iechyd meddwl Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Gymru. Ei nod yw gwella iechyd meddwl a lles pobl Cymru a mynd i'r afael â'r materion allweddol sy'n cael eu dadlau yn awr—y stigma a'r gwahaniaethu sy'n gysylltiedig â phroblemau iechyd meddwl—a sefydlu rhaglen weithredu i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol.

Tarwyd yr hoelen ar ei phen gan Jeff Cuthbert pan ddywedodd mai un o'r heriau mwyaf sy'n ein hwynebu yw galluogi pobl i weithio a chael hyfforddiant unwaith eto. Yn wir, dyna fydd y prawf litmws. Os ydym am fesur pa mor dda yr ydym yn ei wneud, dylem edrych ar faint o bobl sydd wedi bod heb waith oherwydd problem iechyd meddwl ac sy'n dychwelyd i weithio, o ganlyniad i'r cynlluniau yr ydym yn eu hyrwyddo gydag arian Amcan 1, yn ogystal â thrwy ein gwaith gyda'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, megis cynllun Llwybrau at Waith a'r cynllun Yn Awyddus i Weithio. Yr ydym eisoes wedi

already heard today from Andrew Davies about the Genesis project, which was launched in Rhondda Cynon Taf and is an exemplar of good practice. Also, there have been individual projects, such as Cam Ymlaen, which I have seen operating in Llandudno in north Wales. To meet the people who are working in these projects is a humbling experience. It is life enriching to visit those projects and see the commitment of the people who are working on them, and to speak to the people who have benefited. In many cases, it is literally a life-transforming experience.

The stigma associated with mental illness is more than just a health issue—it is also a human rights issue, as I said, because stigma deprives people of the opportunity to live full and enriching lives. There is a consensus in the Assembly that the narrow medical model that focuses on doctors and nurses, tablets and injections, is not sufficient to address the wider challenge that mental health presents to us all. We need to do this working with the patients and the professionals. We also need to engage the voluntary sector, because it has an important role here as an advocate for those who often struggle to get their voices heard. Indeed, one of the great ironies is that, due to the stigma associated with mental illness, although between a quarter and a third of us will suffer from mental illness at some time, people are rarely willing to speak out about the condition. Even though vast numbers of people suffer from the condition, it is largely unchampioned. The voluntary sector is a key champion in ensuring that we hear voices that are often otherwise unheard. The voluntary sector has a key role to play in advocacy and helping those who find it difficult, because of their illness, to advocate their own interests. The voluntary sector also has a role, as a partner with the statutory organisations, in making sure that the quality of care available will be much improved through their participation.

We have re-launched the national service framework. That was an acknowledgment by us, as an Assembly Government, that the services that we had provided to date were not good enough. We acknowledged that the progress that was being made was not

clywed heddiw gan Andrew Davies am brosiect Genesis, a lansiwyd yn Rhondda Cynon Taf ac sy'n esiampl o arfer da. Cafwyd hefyd brosiectau unigol, megis Cam Ymlaen a welais ar waith yn Llandudno yn y gogledd. Mae cwrdd â'r bobl sy'n gweithio yn y prosiectau hyn yn brofiad gostyngedig. Mae ymweld â'r prosiectau hyn a gweld ymrwymiad y bobl sy'n gweithio arnynt, a siarad â'r bobl sydd wedi cael budd ohonynt, yn brofiad sy'n cyfoethogi bywyd. Mewn llawer achos mae'n brofiad sy'n trawsnewid bywyd, yn llythrennol.

Mae'r stigma sy'n gysylltiedig â salwch meddwl yn fwy na mater iechyd yn unig—mae hefyd yn fater o hawliau dynol, fel y dywedais, oherwydd mae stigma yn atal pobl rhag byw bywydau llawn a chyfoethog. Mae consensws yn y Cynulliad nad yw'r model meddygol cul sy'n canolbwyntio ar feddygon a nyrsys, tabledi a chwistrelliadau, yn ddigon i fynd i'r afael â'r her ehangach a achosir gan iechyd meddwl. Mae angen inni wneud hyn gan weithio gyda'r cleifion a'r gweithwyr proffesiynol. Mae angen hefyd inni ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol, oherwydd mae iddo rôl bwysig yn hyn fel eiriolwr i'r rheini sy'n aml yn ei chael hi'n anodd cael eu clywed. Yn wir, un o'r eironïau mwyaf, oherwydd y stigma sy'n gysylltiedig â salwch meddwl, er y bydd rhwng chwarter a thraean ohonom yn cael salwch meddwl rywbyrd, yw mai anaml y bydd pobl yn barod i siarad am y cyflwr. Er bod gan niferoedd lawer o bobl y cyflwr, ni chaiff ei hyrwyddo i bob pwrpas. Mae'r sector gwirfoddol yn hyrwyddwr allweddol wrth sicrhau ein bod yn clywed lleisiau nad ydynt i'w clywed yn aml fel arall. Mae i'r sector gwirfoddol rôl allweddol mewn eiriolaeth ac wrth helpu'r rheini sy'n ei chael hi'n anodd, oherwydd eu salwch, i siarad dros eu buddiannau eu hunain. Mae i'r sector gwirfoddol rôl hefyd, fel partner gyda'r sefydliadau statudol, i sicrhau y bydd ansawdd y gofal sydd ar gael lawer yn well drwy eu cyfranogiad.

Yr ydym wedi ail-lansio'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol. Yr oedd hynny'n gydnabyddiaeth gennym, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, nad oedd y gwasanaethau a ddarparwyd gennym hyd yma yn ddigon da. Cydnabuwyd nad oedd y cynnydd a wnaed

happening quickly enough; re-launching of the national service framework and its associated action plan is an indication of our commitment to it.

I now turn to some of the points raised that I have not yet touched on, particularly that of Whitchurch. I have been to that hospital, and certainly, it is one of those Victorian edifices that are long past their sell-by-date. Even though the people who work there are highly committed to their jobs, in many cases, when you approach those Victorian buildings, you almost have a sinking feeling in your heart. When you compare Whitchurch with the Llanfair unit at Llandough, which I had the opportunity to formally open some months ago, it shows what we can achieve if we work with service users, and it shows that we can provide facilities that we genuinely can be proud of.

In my visit to Whitchurch, I was greatly impressed by the staff's commitment, and I was particularly impressed by the work that the community mental health teams based there were doing, particularly the crisis resolution teams, given the difficult and intensive work that they are doing with people who are suffering the most severe types of mental illness. They were committed to providing around-the-clock support to those people in a community setting, trying to provide the opportunity for people to continue their lives in some sort of social or normal community. That is very much the answer to the problem of Whitchurch, working with the community mental health teams, the crisis resolution teams and the type of organisations that Jeff Cuthbert mentioned to provide people with the training and job opportunities to allow people get back into normal life.

I thank Chris for raising this important issue, and if we can maintain the cross-party consensus on this issue, we will be able to make substantial progress.

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** That brings today's business to a close.

yn digwydd yn ddigon cyflym; mae ail-lansio'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol a'i gynllun gweithredu cysylltiedig yn arwydd o'n hymrwymiad iddo.

Hoffwn droi yn awr at rai o'r pwyntiau nad wyf wedi sôn amdanynt eto, yn enwedig ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd. Yr wyf wedi ymweld â'r ysbyty hwnnw, ac yn sicr mae'n un o'r adeiladau hynny o oes Victoria sydd wedi hen ddyddio. Er bod y bobl sy'n gweithio yno wedi ymrwymo'n llwyr i'w swyddi, mewn llawer achos, pan welwch yr adeiladau Fictoriaidd hyn, mae eich calon yn suddo. Pan gymharwch yr Eglwys Newydd ag uned Llanfair yn Ysbyty Llandoche, a agorwyd yn ffurfiol gennyf ychydig fisoedd yn ôl, mae'n dangos yr hyn y gallwn ei gyflawni os gweithiwn gyda defnyddwyr y gwasanaethau, ac mae'n dangos y gallwn ddarparu cyfleusterau y gallwn yn wir ymfalchio ynddynt.

Yn ystod fy ymweliad ag ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd, gwnaeth ymrwymiad y staff argraff fawr arnaf, yn enwedig y gwaith yr oedd y timau iechyd meddwl cymunedol yno yn ei wneud, yn arbennig y timau datrys argyfwng, o gofio'r gwaith anodd a dwys y maent yn ei wneud gyda phobl sydd â'r mathau mwyaf difrifol o salwch meddwl. Yr oeddent wedi ymrwymo i ddarparu cymorth 24 awr y dydd i'r bobl hynny yn y gymuned, gan geisio rhoi'r cyfle i bobl barhau i fyw eu bywydau mewn rhyw fath o gymuned gymdeithasol neu normal. Dyna yw'r ateb i broblem yr Eglwys Newydd ar y cyfan, sef gweithio gyda'r timau iechyd meddwl cymunedol, y timau datrys argyfwng a'r math o sefydliadau a grybwyllwyd gan Jeff Cuthbert i roi cyfleoedd hyfforddi a swyddi i bobl i'w galluogi i fyw bywyd normal unwaith eto.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Chris am godi'r mater pwysig hwn, ac os gallwn gynnal y consensws trawsbleidiol ar y mater hwn, byddwn yn gallu gwneud cynnydd sylweddol.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.46 p.m.*

*The meeting ended at 5.46 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)

