



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

**Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings**

**Dydd Mercher, 2 Mawrth 2011
Wednesday, 2 March 2011**

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.

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 has been included.

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 1.30 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd (Dafydd Elis-Thomas) yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 1.30 p.m. with the Presiding Officer (Dafydd Elis-Thomas) in the Chair.*

Y Llywydd: Trefn ar gyfer cwestiynau i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol. **The Presiding Officer:** Order for questions to the Counsel General.

Cwestiynau i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol Questions to the Counsel General

Prosesau Deddfwriaethol

1. Val Lloyd: A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am y cynnydd gydag adolygiad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o brosesau deddfwriaethol. OAQ(3)0166(CGE)

The Counsel General and Leader of the Legislative Programme (John Griffiths): I expect to make a statement to Plenary on the results of my review within the next two weeks.

Val Lloyd: Thank you very much for that reply, Counsel General. I understand and endorse the fact that a review of the legislative process, such as you are currently conducting, has to take into account that any changes in the process must continue to uphold the principles of rigorous and focused scrutiny. However, during the legislative processes for Measures—as Chair of a legislation committee, and as a committee member on others—particularly at Stages 2 and 3, I often felt that process takes precedent over content, and that I was sometimes living in an earlier century. Therefore, can you consider in your review that legislative processes should reflect the needs of a modern legislature, while still fulfilling a rigorous scrutiny role?

John Griffiths: I hope that we can continue to make improvements to our legislative processes. That is what my review is designed to deliver. I therefore look forward to making that statement to Plenary, and to hearing Members' views, and answering their questions. However, what we have is similar to the Westminster parliamentary process, in many ways, apart from our initial committee stage. Therefore, what we need to do as a modern legislature is to reflect on experience

Legislative Processes

1. Val Lloyd: Will the Counsel General make a statement on progress with the Welsh Assembly Government's review of legislative processes. OAQ(3)0166(CGE)

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Rhaglen Ddeddfwriaethol (John Griffiths): Yr wyf yn disgwyl gwneud datganiad i'r Cyfarfod Llawn ar ganlyniadau fy adolygiad o fewn y pythefnos nesaf.

Val Lloyd: Diolch yn fawr iawn ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Gwnsler Cyffredinol. Yr wyf yn deall ac yn cymeradwyo'r ffaith bod adolygiad o'r broses ddeddfwriaethol, fel yr ydych yn ei gynnal ar hyn o bryd, yn gorfod cymryd i ystyriaeth bod yn rhaid i unrhyw newidiadau yn y broses barhau i gynnal egwyddorion craffu sy'n drylwyr ac yn canolbwyntio. Fodd bynnag, yn ystod y prosesau deddfwriaethol ar gyfer Mesurau—fel Cadeirydd y pwyllgor deddfwriaeth, ac fel aelod o bwyllgor ar eraill—yn enwedig yng Nghyfnodau 2 a 3, yr oeddwn yn aml yn teimlo bod y broses yn cymryd blaenoriaeth dros y cynnwys, ac fy mod weithiau'n byw mewn canrif cynharach. Felly, a allwch ystyried yn eich adolygiad y dylai prosesau deddfwriaethol adlewyrchu anghenion deddfwrfa fodern, tra'n parhau i gyflawni rôl craffu trylwyr?

John Griffiths Yr wyf yn gobeithio y gallwn barhau i wneud gwelliannau i'n prosesau deddfwriaethol. Dyna'r hyn y mae fy adolygiad wedi ei gynllunio i'w gyflawni. Yr wyf, felly, yn edrych ymlaen at wneud y datganiad i'r Cyfarfod Llawn, ac at glywed barn yr Aelodau ac ateb eu cwestiynau. Fodd bynnag, mae'r hyn sydd gennym yn debyg i'r broses seneddol yn San Steffan, mewn nifer o ffyrdd, heblaw am ein cam pwyllgor cychwynnol. Felly, yr hyn y mae angen inni

to date, particularly in the third Assembly, and ensure that we make the necessary improvements as we go forward.

William Graham: I endorse the previous speaker's remarks, based on my own experience on legislation committees. You will know that the Constitutional Affairs Committee is interested in receiving your report in due course. However, have you had the opportunity to review some of the evidence that we have received in that committee—some of which has been critical, and some of which has been most encouraging—and does that form part of your report?

John Griffiths: I have looked at the Constitutional Affairs Committee report, and I will respond officially as Counsel General in due course. It is an encouraging report for the Assembly and the Assembly Government, because it points to improvements that have been made as we have gone through the third Assembly. However, everything is not perfect as yet, and I very much hope that my review, and the efforts of the Constitutional Affairs Committee, will lead to further improvement.

Leanne Wood: As you know, many myths have been perpetuated during recent discussions on tomorrow's referendum on Assembly powers. One of the key falsehoods is that Welsh laws will receive less scrutiny in the event of a successful 'yes' vote. Robust scrutiny of legislation is important if we are to get good laws, so I can understand people's concern about this. However, in the interests of setting the record straight, can you confirm that scrutiny will not be diminished in the event of a successful 'yes' vote in tomorrow's referendum?

John Griffiths: I am happy to confirm that scrutiny will not be diminished in any way if we get the 'yes' vote that I hope we will get when people vote tomorrow on the Assembly's law-making processes. A lot of misinformation has been put about, unfortunately, which implies that, at present, the scrutiny of our Measures takes place at

ei wneud fel deddfwrfa fodern yw myfyrio ar brofiad hyd yma, yn enwedig yn y trydydd Cynulliad, a sicrhau ein bod yn gwneud y gwelliannau angenrheidiol wrth inni symud ymlaen.

William Graham Ategaf sylwadau'r siaradwr blaenorol, yn seiliedig ar fy mhrofiad fy hun ar bwyllgorau deddfwriaeth. Fe wyddoch bod y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol yn awyddus i dderbyn eich adroddiad maes o law. Fodd bynnag, a ydych wedi cael cyfle i adolygu rhywfaint o'r dystiolaeth yr ydym wedi'i chael yn y pwyllgor hwnnw—mae rhai ohonynt wedi bod yn hollbwysig, ac mae rhai ohonynt wedi bod yn galonogol iawn—ac a yw hynny'n rhan o'ch adroddiad?

John Griffiths Yr wyf wedi edrych ar adroddiad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol, a byddaf yn ymateb yn swyddogol fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol maes o law. Mae'n adroddiad calonogol ar gyfer y Cynulliad a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, gan ei fod yn tynnu sylw at welliannau a wnaed wrth inni fynd drwy'r trydydd Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, nid yw popeth yn berffaith hyd yn hyn, ac yr wyf yn gobeithio yn fawr y bydd fy adolygiad, ac ymdrechion y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol, yn arwain at welliant pellach.

Leanne Wood: Fel y gwyddoch, mae llawer o chwedlau wedi eu parhau yn ystod trafodaethau diweddar ar refferendwm yfory ar bwerau'r Cynulliad. Un o'r anwireddau allweddol yw y bydd deddfau Cymreig yn derbyn llai o graffu yn achos pleidlais lwyddiannus 'ie'. Mae craffu cadarn ar ddeddfwriaeth yn bwysig os ydym i gael cyfreithiau da, felly rwy'n gallu deall pryder pobl am hyn. Fodd bynnag, er mwyn egluro'r sefyllfa, a allwch gadarnhau na fydd craffu yn lleihau yn achos pleidlais lwyddiannus 'ie' yn y refferendwm yfory?

John Griffiths: Yr wyf yn hapus i gadarnhau na fydd craffu yn lleihau mewn unrhyw ffordd os byddwn yn cael y bleidlais 'ie' yr wyf yn gobeithio inni ei chael pan fydd pobl yn pleidleisio yfory ar brosesau deddfu'r Cynulliad. Mae llawer o wybodaeth anghywir wedi cael ei ledu, yn anffodus, sy'n awgrymu bod, ar hyn o bryd, y gwaith craffu

Westminster, which of course it does not. Many of us have tried to get the true picture across, but there have been conflicting statements and information from various sources, so I am happy to help, I hope, to put the record straight today.

Trafodaethau gyda Swyddogion y Gyfraith

2. Jeff Cuthbert: *Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol wedi'u cael gyda swyddogion y gyfraith mewn manau eraill ynghylch materion sy'n effeithio ar y proffesiwn cyfreithiol. OAQ(3)0162(CGE)*

John Griffiths: I regularly meet with the other UK law officers to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Jeff Cuthbert: In those discussions with law officers, are you due to consider the benefits of the alternative dispute resolution and the role it can play as an alternative to litigation, particularly when the latter is realistically unnecessary?

John Griffiths: I am very keen, as is the Welsh Assembly Government, on the alternative dispute resolution because it saves time and money, and we would like to see it used more in Wales by both the public and private sectors. I have had meetings with interested parties in Wales looking to further develop the alternative dispute resolution on a more comprehensive basis across Wales, and I know that the current UK Government, like the previous UK Government, is also keen on alternative dispute resolution. There is a UK Government commitment to taking forward a pledge on this method of resolving disputes, and I hope that we can take it forward effectively and comprehensively in Wales in future.

Y Rhaglen Ddeddfwriaethol

3. Ann Jones: *A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am y cynnydd gyda rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. OAQ(3)0165(CGE)*

ar ein Mesurau yn digwydd yn San Steffan, sydd yn anwir wrth gwrs. Mae llawer ohonom wedi ceisio cyfleu'r darlun cywir, ond cafwyd datganiadau a gwybodaeth o wahanol ffynonellau yn gwrthdaro, felly yr wyf yn hapus i helpu, yr wyf yn gobeithio, er mwyn egluro'r sefyllfa heddiw.

Discussions with Law Officers

2. Jeff Cuthbert: *What discussions has the Counsel General had with law officers elsewhere regarding issues affecting the legal profession. OAQ(3)0162(CGE)*

John Griffiths: Yr wyf yn cyfarfod yn rheolaidd â swyddogion eraill y gyfraith yn y DU i drafod materion o ddiddordeb cyffredin.

Jeff Cuthbert: Yn y trafodaethau hynny gyda swyddogion y gyfraith, a ydych i fod i ystyried manteision y dull amgen o ddatrys anghydfod a'r rôl y gall ei chwarae fel dewis arall i ymglyfreitha, yn enwedig pan fydd yr olaf yn ddiangen yn realistig?

John Griffiths: Yr wyf yn awyddus iawn, fel y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, i gael y dull amgen o ddatrys anghydfod oherwydd ei fod yn arbed amser ac arian, a byddem yn hoffi ei weld yn cael ei ddefnyddio yn fwy yng Nghymru gan y sectorau cyhoeddus a phreifat. Yr wyf wedi cael cyfarfodydd â phartion â diddordeb yng Nghymru sydd yn awyddus i ddatblygu'r dull amgen o ddatrys anghydfod ymhellach mewn ffordd mwy cynhwysfawr ar draws Cymru, a gwn fod Llywodraeth bresennol y DU, fel Llywodraeth flaenorol y DU, hefyd yn awyddus i gael dull amgen o ddatrys anghydfod. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi ymrwmo i weithredu ar addewid i ddefnyddio'r dull hwn o ddatrys anghydfodau, ac yr wyf yn gobeithio y gallwn ei weithredu yn effeithiol ac yn gynhwysfawr yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol.

The Legislative Programme

3. Ann Jones: *Will the Counsel General make a statement on progress with the Welsh Assembly Government's legislative programme. OAQ(3)0165(CGE)*

John Griffiths: We have now introduced all items contained in the Welsh Assembly Government's legislative programme. We will continue to progress items currently going through the legislative process with the aim of delivering all items before the end of this Assembly term.

Ann Jones: I hope you will agree that the Assembly has worked constructively to progress laws within the competence of the institution on a genuinely democratic basis, not just Government legislation, but backbench legislation. My Proposed Domestic Fire Safety (Wales) Measure and the LCO process has borne testament to the rigorousness of the scrutiny process. Do you agree that the vote tomorrow is extremely important to make the system more credible for the people of Wales, and that by hopefully having a 'yes' vote tomorrow, the people of Wales will be able to understand and engage properly with the law-making powers of the Assembly?

John Griffiths: I very much agree with that, Ann. As others did just the other week, I pay tribute to your work in taking forward that LCO and Measure on fire sprinklers in Wales. We can rightly expect a 'yes' vote tomorrow to produce greater engagement with the people of Wales because it will be more meaningful in terms of the Assembly having greater powers and people understanding that we will be able to do more and that it is more worthwhile for them to engage with us. I hope also that my review will centre on that engagement with people and organisations in Wales, so that we get better legislation as a result.

Swyddogion y Gyfraith

4. Joyce Watson: *Pa eitemau sydd wedi bod ar yr Agenda yng nghyfarfodydd diweddar y Cwnsler Cyffredinol gyda swyddogion y gyfraith eraill y DU. OAQ(3)0164(CGE)*

John Griffiths: I regularly meet with the other UK law officers to discuss matters of mutual interest.

John Griffiths: Rydym bellach wedi cyflwyno'r holl eitemau a gynhwysir yn rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Byddwn yn parhau i wneud cynnydd gyda'r eitemau sy'n mynd drwy'r broses ddeddfwriaethol ar hyn o bryd, gyda'r nod o gyflwyno pob eitem cyn diwedd tymor y Cynulliad hwn.

Ann Jones: Yr wyf yn gobeithio y byddwch yn cytuno bod y Cynulliad wedi gweithio'n adeiladol i ddatblygu cyfreithiau o fewn cymhwysedd y sefydliad ar sail wirioneddol ddemocrataidd, ac nid deddfwriaeth y Llywodraeth yn unig ond deddfwriaeth meinciau cefn. Mae fy Mesur Arfaethedig Diogelwch Tân Domestig (Cymru) a'r broses LCO wedi bod yn destament o drylwyrdd y broses graffu. A ydych yn cytuno bod y bleidlais yfory yn hynod o bwysig i wneud y system yn fwy credadwy i bobl Cymru, ac wrth gael 'ie' pleidlais yfory, gobeithio, y bydd pobl Cymru yn gallu deall ac ymgysylltu'n briodol â phwerau creu deddfwriaeth y Cynulliad?

John Griffiths: Cytunaf yn llwyr â hynny, Ann. Fel y gwnaeth eraill yr wythnos o'r blaen, hoffwn dalu teyrnged i'ch gwaith wrth fwrw ymlaen â'r LCO a'r Mesur hwnnw ar systemau chwistrellu tân yng Nghymru. Gallwn yn briodol ddisgwyl pleidlais 'ie' yfory i greu mwy o ymgysylltu â phobl Cymru oherwydd y bydd yn fwy ystyrion o safbwynt y Cynulliad yn cael mwy o bwerau a phobl yn sylweddoli y gallwn wneud mwy a'i bod yn fwy gwerth chweil iddynt ymgysylltu â ni. Yr wyf yn gobeithio hefyd y bydd fy adolygiad yn canolbwyntio ar yr ymgysylltu hwnnw â phobl a sefydliadau yng Nghymru, er mwyn inni gael gwell deddfwriaeth o ganlyniad.

Law Officers

4. Joyce Watson: *What items have been on the Agenda in the Counsel General's recent meetings with other UK law officers. OAQ(3)0164(CGE)*

John Griffiths: Yr wyf yn cyfarfod yn rheolaidd â swyddogion eraill y gyfraith yn y DU i drafod materion o ddiddordeb cyffredin.

Joyce Watson: Thank you for that answer, Counsel General. When you next meet your Westminster counterparts, will you call upon the Government to opt into the EU directive on human trafficking? As you know, Britain is refusing to opt in, despite the Government previously saying that human trafficking would be a priority for it. The Tories and Lib-Dems in London have already dismantled the UK human trafficking centre, the child exploitation and online protection centre, and are threatening to close the Gangmasters Licensing Authority as well. At the same time, the Border Agency's reflection time for deciding whether or not a person is trafficked is proposed to be reduced from 45 to 30 days, which will undoubtedly put pressure on victims and make correct decisions less likely in the European Union. Only in Greece and Bulgaria is the time allowed so short. All the while, the UK Government is making swingeing cuts to voluntary groups that will leave many vulnerable people without support. Do you agree that an EU directive will strengthen the laws to protect trafficked victims and also help to bring prosecutions for those who enslave them? Would you therefore agree that David Cameron should stop pandering to the Eurosceptics in his party and back this vital Europe-wide action by signing the directive immediately?

John Griffiths: The Welsh Assembly Government is very concerned about human trafficking. We have had discussions and debates in the Assembly that have clearly demonstrated Assembly Members' strong feelings and concerns, and rightly so in my view. The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to working with others, including European and Westminster partners, to do what we can together to combat human trafficking. It is largely a matter for my colleague, Carl Sargeant. It is significant that we recently appointed our first anti-human trafficking co-ordinator in Wales, which demonstrates our commitment to this agenda.

Joyce Watson Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Gwnsler Cyffredinol. Pan fyddwch yn cwrdd â'ch cymheiriaid yn San Steffan nesaf, a wnewch chi alw ar y Llywodraeth i optio i mewn i'r gyfarwyddeb UE ar fasnachu mewn pobl? Fel y gwyddoch, mae Prydain yn gwrthod optio i mewn, er gwaethaf y Llywodraeth flaenorol yn dweud y byddai masnachu mewn pobl yn un o'i blaenoriaethau. Mae'r Torïaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn Llundain eisoes wedi datgymalu'r ganolfan masnachu mewn pobl yn y DU, y ganolfan ecsbloetio plant ac amddiffyn ar-lein, yn ogystal â bygwth cau'r Awdurdod Trwyddedu Meistri Gangiau. Ar yr un pryd, bwriedir lleihau amser myfyrio'r Asiantaeth Ffiniau ar gyfer penderfynu a yw person yn cael ei fasnachu o 45 diwrnod i 30 niwrnod a fydd, heb os, yn rhoi pwysau ar ddiodefwyr ac yn gwneud penderfyniadau cywir yn llai tebygol yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Dim ond yng Ngwlad Groeg a Bwlgaria y caniateir i'r amser fod mor fyr. Drwy'r adeg, mae Llywodraeth y DU yn gwneud toriadau llym i grwpiau gwirfoddol a fydd yn gadael llawer o bobl sydd yn agored i niwed heb gymorth. A ydych yn cytuno y bydd cyfarwyddeb gan yr UE yn cryfhau'r deddfau i amddiffyn diodefwyr masnachu mewn pobl a hefyd yn helpu i ddod ag erlyniadau ar gyfer y rhai sy'n eu caethiwo? A fydech felly yn cytuno y dylai David Cameron roi'r gorau i borthi'r Eurosceptics yn ei blaid a chefnogi'r camau hanfodol hyn ledled Ewrop drwy lofnodi'r gyfarwyddeb ar unwaith?

John Griffiths: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn bryderus iawn am fasnachu mewn pobl. Yr ydym wedi cael trafodaethau a dadleuon yn y Cynulliad sydd wedi dangos yn glir deimladau a phryderon cryf Aelodau'r Cynulliad, a hynny'n briodol yn fy marn i. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwmo i weithio gydag eraill, gan gynnwys partneriaid yn Ewrop a San Steffan, i wneud yr hyn y gallwn ni gyda'n gilydd i frwydro yn erbyn masnachu mewn pobl. Mater i'm cyd-Aelod, Carl Sargeant, ydyw i raddau helaeth. Mae'n arwyddocaol ein bod wedi penodi ein cydgysylltydd cyntaf ar gyfer atal masnachu mewn pobl yng Nghymru yn ddiweddar, sy'n dangos ein hymrwymiad i'r agenda hon.

Jenny Randerson: In the week of the referendum on further powers for the Assembly, it is important to remember that we can also seek framework powers in Bills from Westminster. Have you discussed this issue with other law officers? Wales has not been as proactive as Scotland has been, for example, on the issue of framework powers, and opportunities have been missed. It seems that the problem is that there is no Minister with overall core responsibility to ensure that opportunities for framework powers are maximised. Do you agree with that view, or is there someone in charge? Whose ultimate responsibility is it to ensure that the Welsh Assembly Government has a proactive approach and always looks closely and scrutinises every Bill?

John Griffiths: It is a matter for individual Ministers and their officials, working closely with their UK counterparts, to abide by devolution guidance and ensure that we get early notice of proposals for UK Bills. We can then consider whether those Bills are suitable to bestow framework powers upon the Assembly. We are clear that UK Bills will remain an important source of legislation for Wales in devolved areas after a 'yes' vote in the referendum because there will be clear advantages in terms of timeliness, resource and, sometimes, ensuring consistency between Wales and the other UK countries in using UK Bills in that way. As we go on with devolution, there is a greater awareness at Westminster among Ministers and officials that we need early notice in the Assembly of intentions to legislate. If we can receive information in a timely way, we will be able to take forward framework powers in UK Bills and Acts through greater advantage for Wales.

Gwella Amrywiaeth

5. Christine Chapman: *Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol wedi'u cael gyda swyddogion y gyfraith mewn manau eraill ynghylch gwaith i wella amrywiaeth yn y proffesiwn cyfreithiol. OAQ(3)0163(CGE)*

John Griffiths: In my role as Counsel

Jenny Randerson: A hithau'n wythnos y refferendwm ar bwerau pellach i'r Cynulliad, mae'n bwysig cofio y gallwn hefyd geisio pwerau fframwaith mewn Mesurau o San Steffan. A ydych wedi trafod y mater hwn gyda swyddogion eraill y gyfraith? Nid yw Cymru wedi bod mor rhagweithiol ag y mae'r Alban wedi bod, er enghraifft, ar fater pwerau fframwaith, ac mae cyfleoedd wedi eu colli. Mae'n ymddangos mai'r broblem yw nad oes Gweinidog sydd â chyfrifoldeb craidd cyffredinol i sicrhau bod cyfleoedd ar gyfer pwerau fframwaith yn cael eu maxsimeiddio. A ydych yn cytuno â'r farn honno, neu a oes rhywun wrth y llyw? Pwy yn y pen draw sy'n gyfrifol am sicrhau bod gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ymagwedd ragweithiol a'i bod bob amser yn edrych yn agos ac yn craffu ar bob Mesur?

John Griffiths: Mater i Weinidogion unigol a'u swyddogion ydyw, wrth gydweithio'n agos â'u cymheiriaid yn y DU, i gadw at ganllawiau datganoli a sicrhau ein bod yn cael rhybudd cynnar o gynigion ar gyfer Mesurau'r DU. Yna gallwn ystyried a ydyw'r Mesurau hynny yn addas i roi pwerau fframwaith i'r Cynulliad. Rydym yn glir y bydd Mesurau'r DU yn parhau i fod yn ffynhonnell bwysig o ddeddfwriaeth i Gymru mewn meysydd datganoledig ar ôl pleidlais 'ie' yn y refferendwm oherwydd bydd manteision clir o ran prydlondeb, adnoddau ac, weithiau, sicrhau cysondeb rhwng Cymru a gwledydd eraill y DU wrth ddefnyddio Mesurau'r DU yn y ffordd honno. Wrth i ni fynd ymlaen â datganoli, mae mwy o ymwybyddiaeth yn San Steffan ymhlith Gweinidogion a swyddogion bod angen rhybudd cynnar yn y Cynulliad o'r bwriad i ddeddfu. Os byddwn yn gallu derbyn gwybodaeth yn brydlon, byddwn yn gallu bwrw ymlaen â phwerau fframwaith mewn Mesurau a Deddfau'r DU gyda mwy o fantais i Gymru.

Improving Diversity

5. Christine Chapman: *What discussions has the Counsel General had with law officers elsewhere regarding work to improve diversity within the legal profession. OAQ(3)0163(CGE)*

John Griffiths: Yn fy rôl fel Cwnsler

General, I have sought to raise and address issues of diversity within the legal profession at every opportunity.

Christine Chapman: Research was published at the end of last year which showed that the top law firms were increasingly rejecting applicants from working-class backgrounds. Diversity programmes aimed at ensuring the recruitment of black and minority ethnic candidates have met with some success, but the report shows that over 70 per cent of lawyers were privately educated with Oxbridge candidates being favoured above others. This reinforces the findings of the Milburn report that the legal profession is effectively a closed shop. Do you agree that we need to do all that we can, Minister, to ensure that those from poorer backgrounds, with the requisite skills, find employment within the legal profession, so that recruitment is on the basis of merit rather than background?

John Griffiths: I am extremely happy to agree with your comments, Chris. As far as we are concerned, it is a big social justice issue to ensure greater social mobility in Wales. There is a considerable way to go in terms of the professions in general, as Alan Milburn's work showed on a UK-wide basis. In particular, as far as I am concerned, it is important to get a more representative legal profession in Wales. It is also important to ensure that lawyers providing important advice—as they are—and judges sitting in judgment on others, are drawn from a wide spectrum of society and have a good understanding of the way that different sections of society live their lives. Therefore, it is important in all sorts of ways. I have been keen to hold meetings, and I have held a number of meetings with the legal profession: with top law firms in Wales, Cardiff Law School, the bar and the Law Society.

1.45 p.m.

Everyone understands the importance of this

Cyffredinol, yr wyf wedi ceisio codi a mynd i'r afael â materion o amrywiaeth o fewn y proffesiwn cyfreithiol ar bob cyfle.

Christine Chapman: Cyhoeddwyd ymchwil ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn ddiwethaf a oedd yn dangos bod y cwmnïau cyfreithiol gorau yn gwrthod ymgeiswyr o gefndiroedd dosbarth gweithiol fwyfwy. Mae rhaglenni amrywiaeth wedi'u hanelu at sicrhau recriwtio ymgeiswyr duon a'r rheiny o leiafrifoedd ethnig wedi cael rhywfaint o lwyddiant, ond dengys yr adroddiad bod dros 70 y cant o gyfreithwyr wedi cael addysg breifat, gydag ymgeiswyr Rhydychen a Chaergrawnt yn cael ei ffafrio uwchlaw eraill. Mae hyn yn atgyfnerthu'r canfyddiadau yn adroddiad Milburn bod y proffesiwn cyfreithiol, mewn ffordd, yn siop gaeedig. A ydych yn cytuno bod angen i ni wneud popeth y gallwn, Weinidog, i sicrhau bod y rheiny sydd o gefndiroedd tlodach, sydd â'r sgiliau angenrheidiol, yn dod o hyd i gyflogaeth o fewn y proffesiwn cyfreithiol, fel bod pobl yn cael eu recriwtio ar sail teilyngdod yn hytrach na chefnidir?

John Griffiths: Yr wyf yn hynod falch o gytuno â'ch sylwadau, Chris. O'n safbwynt ni, mae'n fater cyfiawnder cymdeithasol mawr i sicrhau mwy o symudedd cymdeithasol yng Nghymru. Mae cryn ffordd i fynd o ran y proffesiynau yn gyffredinol, fel y dangosodd gwaith Alan Milburn o safbwynt y DU gyfan. Yn arbennig, o'm safbwynt i, mae'n bwysig cael proffesiwn cyfreithiol mwy cynrychioladol yng Nghymru. Mae hefyd yn bwysig sicrhau bod cyfreithwyr sy'n darparu cyngor pwysig—fel y maen' nhw'n ei wneud—a barnwyr sy'n dwyn barn ar eraill, yn cael eu tynnu o sbectrwm eang o gymdeithas a bod ganddynt ddealltwriaeth dda o'r ffordd y mae gwahanol rannau o'r gymdeithas yn byw eu bywydau. Felly, mae'n bwysig mewn pob math o ffyrdd. Rwyf wedi bod yn awyddus i gynnal cyfarfodydd, ac yr wyf wedi cynnal nifer o gyfarfodydd gyda'r proffesiwn cyfreithiol: gyda chwmnïau cyfreithiol gorau Cymru, Ysgol y Gyfraith Caerdydd, y bar a Chymdeithas y Cyfreithwyr.

Mae pawb yn deall pwysigrwydd yr agenda

agenda, but we need more action. There are all sorts of well-known ways of encouraging greater diversity in the legal profession, particularly on a social class basis, because, as you said, there has been some success in terms of gender and ethnicity, but in terms of social class, there is a long way to go.

hon, ond mae angen mwy o weithredu. Mae nifer o ffyrdd cyfarwydd o annog mwy o amrywiaeth ym mhroffesiwn y gyfraith, yn enwedig ar sail dosbarth cymdeithasol, oherwydd, fel y dywedasoeh, cafwyd rhywfaint o lwyddiant o ran rhyw ac ethnigrwydd, ond o ran dosbarth cymdeithasol, mae pellter i fynd.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol **Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government**

Menter Gymdeithasol

1. David Melding: Pa fesurau sydd ar waith i gefnogi menter gymdeithasol yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)1515(SJL)

The Minister for Social Justice and Local Government (Carl Sargeant): In accordance with the aims of our social enterprise action plan, the Assembly Government has a number of measures in place to support social enterprise. These include core funding to specialist organisations to support and advise social enterprises and to access Assembly Government business advice structures.

David Melding: The average social enterprise in Wales has a turnover of £175,000 and employs fewer than 10 people. It would be of great benefit if many of these social enterprises were to expand. For that to happen, they need the best quality of business support advice and that must be tailored to social enterprises rather than being generic. More public service contracts need to be opened and made available to social enterprises so that they can bid for them. We also need to encourage more social enterprises, which, at the minute, overwhelmingly remain local, to become regional or even national so that we have more all-Wales social enterprises. There are many benefits to this business model and they deliver one heck of a social punch when they perform well. Many communities across Wales would benefit from a stronger social enterprise sector.

Social Enterprise

1. David Melding: What measures are in place to support social enterprise in Wales. OAQ(3)1515(SJL)

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol (Carl Sargeant): Yn unol ag amcanion ein cynllun gweithredu menter gymdeithasol, mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad sawl mesur ar waith i gefnogi menter gymdeithasol, ac yn eu mysg y mae cyllid craidd ar gyfer sefydliadau arbenigol i gefnogi a chyngori mentrau cymdeithasol ac i gael mynediad at strwythurau cyngor busnes Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

David Melding: Mae gan y fenter gymdeithasol gyffredin yng Nghymru drosiant o £175,000 ac mae'n cyflogi llai na 10 o bobl. Byddai o fudd mawr pe bai llawer o'r mentrau cymdeithasol hyn yn ehangu. Er mwyn i hynny ddigwydd, rhaid iddynt gael cyngor a chymorth busnes o'r radd flaenaf, a'r rheini wedi'u teilwra at fentrau cymdeithasol yn hytrach na'u bod yn generig. Mae angen gwneud mwy o gontractau gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn agored i fentrau cymdeithasol allu gwneud cais amdanynt. Mae mwyafrif llethol o'r mentrau cymdeithasol yn parhau i fod yn rhai lleol, felly rhaid annog mwy ohonynt i ddod yn rhai rhanbarthol neu'n rhai cenedlaethol hyd yn oed, fel y bydd gennym fwy o fentrau cymdeithasol Cymru gyfan. Mae llawer o fanteision i'r model busnes hwn, a phan fyddant yn perfformio'n dda, mae eu heffaith gymunedau ledled Cymru yn elwa ar sector menter gymdeithasol cryfach.

Carl Sargeant: Thank you for your question, David. I do not disagree with much of what you said about building and enabling support for social enterprise. I have a ministerial advisory group that consists of a wide-ranging group of members from the sector who actively seek to encourage me to develop our policies in a way that supports businesses directly. I am keen for that to continue in the future, but that will be subject to the decision of the next Minister. I hope that they will continue to ensure that their voices are heard and influence Government decisions on social enterprise.

Leanne Wood: We are all aware of the £1 billion profits of the banks and of the astronomical bonuses paid to bankers, while, at the same time, small businesses and social enterprises are struggling because many banks are not helping them. It is a problem because it is an obstacle to the development of social enterprises and co-operatives, which have tremendous potential in Wales. In the light of that, what options have you been able to explore or that you can explore around the possibility of opening up some sort of Government-backed lending scheme, specifically to provide affordable funds for start-ups and ongoing finance for social enterprises and co-operatives?

Carl Sargeant: That is an important question. I think that we have cross-party agreement on the opportunity to develop social enterprise in Wales. We must create an environment in which that can happen. As the recent report from the Enterprise and Learning Committee indicated, there are many opportunities but still lots to learn. I have asked my department to look at how additional funding structures could be put in place, whether that is grant or loan funding. Again, I glean a lot of information from the advisory group members who run these businesses across Wales and tell me exactly what is needed and what is not. Work is also under way with the social enterprise support group, which is operated through the Wales Co-operative Centre. These great initiatives can only grow, but I fully recognise how difficult it is for social enterprises to access funding through mainstream banking. I am

Carl Sargeant: Diolch am eich cwestiwn, David. Nid wyf yn anghytuno â llawer o'r hyn a ddywedasoch am adeiladu a galluogi cefnogaeth i fentrau cymdeithasol. Mae gennyf grŵp cynghori'r Gweinidog gydag amrywiaeth o aelodau o'r sector sydd yn ceisio fy annog yn gryf i ddatblygu ein polisiau mewn ffordd sy'n cefnogi busnesau yn uniongyrchol. Rwy'n awyddus i hynny barhau yn y dyfodol, ond penderfyniad y Gweinidog nesaf yw hynny. Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd yn parhau i sicrhau bod eu lleisiau'n cael clust a'u bod yn dylanwadu ar benderfyniadau Llywodraeth ar fentrau cymdeithasol.

Leanne Wood: Yr ydym i gyd yn gwybod bod y banciau yn gwneud elw o biliynau o bunnoedd, a gwyddom am y taliadau bonws enfawr i fancwyr, tra bo busnesau bach a mentrau cymdeithasol yn straffaglu am mai prin yw'r banciau sy'n eu helpu. Mae'n broblem am ei bod yn rhwystro datblygiad mentrau cymdeithasol a chwmnïau cydweithredol, sydd â photensial aruthrol yng Nghymru. Yng ngoleuni hynny, pa opsiynau a archwiliwyd gennych, neu ba rai y gallwch eu harchwilio, o ran y posibilrwydd o agor rhyw fath o gynllun benthyca a gefnogir gan y Llywodraeth, yn benodol er mwyn darparu cyllid fforddiadwy ar gyfer busnesau newydd a chyllid parhaus ar gyfer mentrau cymdeithasol a chwmnïau cydweithredol?

Carl Sargeant: Mae hwnnw'n gwestiwn pwysig. Credaf fod gennym gytundeb trawsbleidiol ar y cyfle i ddatblygu mentrau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru. Rhaid inni greu amgylchedd lle y gall hynny ddigwydd. Fel y nodwyd gan adroddiad diweddar y Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu, mae llawer o gyfleoedd, ond llawer eto i'w ddysgu. Rwyf wedi gofyn i fy adran i edrych ar sut y gellir rhoi strwythurau cyllid ychwanegol ar waith, naill ai ar ffurf arian grant neu ar ffurf benthyciad. Unwaith eto, mae aelodau'r grŵp cynghori sy'n rhedeg y busnesau hyn yng Nghymru yn rhoi llawer o wybodaeth i mi ac yn dweud wrthyf beth yn union sydd ei angen neu beidio. Mae gwaith ar y gweill hefyd gyda'r grŵp cefnogi mentrau cymdeithasol, a weithredir drwy Ganolfan Cydweithredol Cymru. Ni all y mentrau gwych hyn ond tyfu, ond rwyf yn llwyr sylweddoli pa mor anodd ydyw i fentrau cymdeithasol gael gafael ar gyllid gan

aware that it is extremely difficult and we are working to resolve that.

Jenny Randerson: The Enterprise and Learning Committee's report on social enterprise recommended locating social enterprise in the economic development portfolio. You rejected that recommendation. When we debated the committee's report, you said that the reason for rejecting it was that social enterprise was one of the cross-cutting themes that all Ministers had an opportunity to influence. Nevertheless, you said that you had met the Minister for economic development to discuss how you could strengthen your commitment across both departments to promote growth and support on both sides. Could you give us some details of the outcome of those discussions in terms of hard, practical actions that you can take to encourage and develop social enterprise in Wales?

Carl Sargeant: I have met the Deputy First Minister to discuss the recommendations. We did not reject it lightly. The fact of the matter is that we are genuine in our concern that we need to build better relationships across departments. I understand that the recommendation from the committee was to re-establish social enterprise under the Department of Economy and Transport. We have already set in place discussions with officials about how we can improve interaction between departments in terms of support. I would be happy to write to you in detail about further proposals that we have discussed, and how we might take them forward in a positive way to support social enterprise.

Blaenoriaethau Cyllidebol

2. Darren Millar: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau cyllidebol ar gyfer gweddill tymor hwn y Cynulliad. OAQ(3)1539(SJL)*

Carl Sargeant: The supplementary budget motion debated yesterday sets out my budgetary priorities for 2010-11. They are to fulfil the 'One Wales' commitments for which I am responsible and to protect key

fanciau'r brif ffrwd. Rwy'n ymwybodol ei bod yn anodd iawn ac rydym yn gweithio i ddatrys hynny.

Jenny Randerson: Mae adroddiad y Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu ar fentrau cymdeithasol yn argymhell cynnwys menter gymdeithasol ym mhorthffolio datblygu economaidd. Gwrthod yr argymhelliad hwnnw wnaethoch chi. Pan gawsom ddatl ar adroddiad y pwyllgor, dywedasoch mai'r rheswm dros ei wrthod oedd bod mentrau cymdeithasol yn un o'r themâu trawsbynciol y mae gan bob Gweinidog gyfle i ddylanwadu arnynt. Serch hynny, dywedasoch ichi gwrdd â'r Gweinidog dros ddatblygu economaidd i drafod sut y gallech gryfhau eich ymrwymiad yn y ddwy adran er mwyn i hybu twf a chefnogaeth ar y ddwy ochr. A allech roi rhywfaint o fanylion am ganlyniad y trafodaethau hynny o ran y camau gweithredu cadarn ac ymarferol y gallwch eu cymryd i annog a datblygu mentrau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru?

Carl Sargeant: Rwyf wedi cyfarfod â'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog i drafod yr argymhellion. Nid ar chwarae bach y gwnaethom ei wrthod. Y ffaith amdani yw ein bod o ddifrif yn ein pryder bod angen meithrin gwell perthynas rhwng adrannau. Deallaf i'r pwyllgor argymhell ailsefydlu menter gymdeithasol o dan Adran yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth. Rydym eisoes yn cynnal trafodaethau â swyddogion ynglŷn â sut y gallwn wella rhyngweithio rhwng adrannau o ran cefnogaeth. Byddwn yn fodlon ysgrifennu atoch yn manylu ar y cynigion pellach yr ydym wedi eu trafod, a sut y gallem fynd â hwy ymlaen mewn ffordd gadarnhaol er mwyn cefnogi menter gymdeithasol.

Budgetary Priorities

2. Darren Millar: *Will the Minister make a statement on his budgetary priorities for the remainder of this Assembly term. OAQ(3)1539(SJL)*

Carl Sargeant: Mae cynnig y gyllideb atodol, a drafodwyd ddoe, yn nodi fy mlaenoriaethau cyllidebol ar gyfer 2010-11. Eu nod yw cyflawni'r ymrwymadau hynny yn 'Cymru'n Un' yr wyf i'n gyfrifol

front-line public services for the citizens of Wales.

Darren Millar: Thank you for that answer. You will be aware that there has been concern among the local government family for some years now, particularly in rural parts of Wales, about the funding formula for the revenue support grant. Many councils in rural communities feel that insufficient weighting is given to the difficulty of providing services across sparsely populated rural areas. They feel that they are disadvantaged by the funding formula as a result. Can you give us an assurance that you will look at the funding formula over the remainder of the term to see what you can do to rectify these deficiencies and ensure that rural councils get a fair deal?

Carl Sargeant: I am slightly surprised that you have framed the question in that way because I am sure that you are aware that the formula is devised with the local government family of 22 authorities, including the rural ones—they advise me on the formula that we should take forward. It has only just been amended after further discussions. For this year's revenue support grant settlement, I have put in place a floor, as you will also be aware, which deviates from the recommendations of the local government family. I take on board your comments and I will pass them on to the financial unit. However, this is the result of a collective discussion, not a decision that I make on my own as Minister. I am advised by the budget forum.

Chris Franks: We are all aware of the difficult and challenging financial times facing local councils. Hard decisions are having to be made. However, thanks to the support of the Assembly Government, public services have been protected. What talks have you had with the officers and councillors of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council regarding the pay and conditions of their workers? What recent discussions have you had with the trade unions that represent the people who serve their communities in the local government sector?

amdanynt a diogelu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus rheng flaen allweddol i ddinasyddion Cymru.

Darren Millar: Diolch i chi am yr ateb hwnnw. Byddwch yn ymwybodol y bu pryder yn rheulu llywodraeth leol ers rhai blynyddoedd bellach, yn enwedig yn rhannau gwledig o Gymru, am y fformiwla cyllido ar gyfer y grant cynnal refeniw. Mae sawl cyngor mewn cymuned wledig yn teimlo nad yw'r anhawster o ddarparu gwasanaethau mewn ardaloedd gwledig prin eu poblogaeth yn cael pwysiad digonol. Maent yn teimlo bod y fformiwla cyllido yn eu rhoi o dan anfantais o ganlyniad. A allwch chi roi sicrwydd y byddwch yn edrych ar y fformiwla cyllido yn yr hyn sy'n weddill o'r tymor i weld beth y gallwch ei wneud i gywiro'r diffygion hyn a sicrhau bod cynghorau gwledig yn cael bargaen deg?

Carl Sargeant: Rwyf yn synnu braidd eich bod chi wedi gosod y cwestiwn yn y ffordd honno oherwydd rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod y fformiwla yn cael ei llunio ar y cyd â'r 22 awdurdod yn rheulu llywodraeth leol, gan gynnwys y rhai gwledig—maent yn fy nghynghori ar y fformiwla y dylem fwrw ymlaen â hi. Newydd gael ei diwygio ar ôl trafodaethau pellach y mae hi. Ar gyfer setliad grant cynnal refeniw eleni, rwyf wedi gosod llawr, fel y byddwch yn ymwybodol, sy'n gwyro oddi wrth argymhellion teulu llywodraeth leol. Rwy'n derbyn eich sylwadau a byddaf yn eu hanfon at yr uned ariannol. Fodd bynnag, canlyniad i drafodaeth ar y cyd yw hyn, nid penderfyniad yr wyf i'n ei wneud ar fy mhen fy hun fel Gweinidog. Fe'm cynghorir gan y fforwm cyllideb.

Chris Franks: Yr ydym i gyd yn ymwybodol o'r cyfnod ariannol anodd a heriol sy'n wynebu cynghorau lleol. Mae penderfyniadau anodd yn gorfod cael eu gwneud. Fodd bynnag, diolch i gefnogaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, mae gwasanaethau cyhoeddus wedi cael eu diogelu. Pa drafodaethau yr ydych chi wedi'u cael â swyddogion a chynghorwyr Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf ynghylch tâl ac amodau eu gweithwyr? Pa drafodaethau diweddar yr ydych chi wedi'u cael â'r undebau llafur sy'n cynrychioli'r bobl sy'n gwasanaethu eu cymunedau yn y sector

llywodraeth leol?

Carl Sargeant: I would not wish to be accused of micromanaging local government or the decisions that it makes. I am often accused of it, but I do not believe that it is ever true. The fact is that this is a matter for Rhondda Cynon Taf council, but my officials and I meet the leaders and chief executives of the authorities on a regular basis, including those of Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Carl Sargeant: Ni fyddwn yn dymuno cael fy nghyhuddo o ficro-reoli llywodraeth leol a'r penderfyniadau a wna. Caf fy nghyhuddo ohono yn aml, ond nid wyf yn credu ei bod yn wir erioed. Y ffaith yw bod hyn yn fater i gyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf, ond yr wyf i a'm swyddogion yn cwrdd ag arweinwyr a phrif weithredwyr yr awdurdodau yn rheolaidd, gan gynnwys y rhai yn Rhondda Cynon Taf.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats (Kirsty Williams): Minister, would you consider helping businesses with the affordability of business rates, even at this late stage in the Assembly term? As you will know, many businesses in my constituency saw a significant rise in their rateable value following the most recent revaluation exercise, and that rise has come at a time when many of them are suffering from a significant drop in income due to current economic circumstances. Affordability has become a real issue for some of those businesses in the short term until the economy picks up. Will you give some consideration as to what the Welsh Assembly Government could do to provide a pot of funding to assist those businesses that currently find themselves in particular difficulties regarding the affordability of their rates, such as those that have seen a significant jump and are not assisted under the small business rate relief scheme?

Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Kirsty Williams): Weinidog, a fydech yn ystyried helpu busnesau gyda fforddiadwyedd ardrethi busnes, hyd yn oed mor hwyr â hyn yn nhymor y Cynulliad? Fel y gwyddoch, gwelodd llawer o fusnesau yn fy etholaeth eu gwerth ardrethol yn codi'n sylweddol ar ôl yr ymarfer ailbriso diweddaraf, ac mae'r cynnydd hwynnw wedi dod ar adeg y mae llawer ohonynt yn dioddef o gwmp sylweddol yn eu hincwm oherwydd yr amgylchiadau economaidd presennol. Mae fforddiadwyedd wedi mynd yn broblem go iawn i rai o'r busnesau hynny yn y tymor byr, nes y bydd yr economi yn gwella. A wnewch chi roi rhywfaint o ystyriaeth i'r hyn y gallai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ei wneud i ddarparu pot o gyllid i gynorthwyo'r busnesau hynny sy'n eu cael eu hunain ar hyn o bryd mewn trafferthion arbennig o ran fforddiadwyedd eu hardrethi, megis y rhai sydd wedi gweld naid sylweddol nad ydynt yn cael cymorth y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach?

Carl Sargeant: I recognise the issues that you raise with regard to individual businesses that have been affected by the increase in business rates. I am pleased that you made reference to the business rate relief scheme because over 50 per cent of small businesses across Wales no longer pay any rates at all, and will not pay any rates until October. That was a decision taken to try to take us through the most difficult periods that we find ourselves in.

Carl Sargeant: Rwy'n cydnabod y materion a godwch yng nghyswllt busnesau unigol y mae'r cynnydd mewn ardrethi busnes wedi effeithio arnynt. Rwy'n falch eich bod wedi cyfeirio at y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi busnes am nad yw dros 50 y cant o fusnesau bach ledled Cymru yn talu unrhyw ardrethi o gwbl bellach, ac ni fyddant yn talu unrhyw ardrethi tan fis Hydref. Gwnaed y penderfyniad hwynnw fel y byddai'n gefn i ni yn y cyfnodau mwyaf anodd i ni.

The rise in value added tax across the UK will not help businesses in Wales or the rest of the UK. I am not responsible for that, but if there was any additional money from Westminster that could be brought into

Ni fydd y codiad yn y dreth ar werth ledled y DU yn helpu busnesau yng Nghymru na gweddill y DU. Nid wyf yn gyfrifol am hynny, ond pe bai unrhyw arian ychwanegol gan San Steffan y gellid ei drosglwyddo i

Wales for business rate support, I would be happy to enter into a dialogue with Westminster Ministers on that.

Mick Bates: Regarding your budgetary priorities for key public services, will you be meeting the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service to discuss its proposed budget that seems to indicate the loss of all full-time operational firefighters from the Newtown fire station? I appreciate that there is always a need for efficiencies to be made, but no risk assessment or public consultation on the proposed changes has taken place. Are you satisfied with that and will you engage with the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service to help it to identify a better solution for Powys, so that we can keep full-time operational firefighters in our stations?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you for that important question, Mick. I have received correspondence from you and other Members on this issue. I have raised the issue with the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and I am awaiting its response to see what the outcome will be. I do not want to interfere with local budgets and local decision-making processes; that is not my place. It is for each authority or public body to demonstrate to the public the reasoning behind their decision-making processes.

Cydweithrediad Gwasanaethau

3. David Lloyd: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gydweithrediad gwasanaethau mewn llywodraeth leol. OAQ(3)1547(SJL)*

7. Veronica German: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gydweithrediad llywodraeth leol. OAQ(3)1519(SJL)*

Carl Sargeant: Local authorities have a good track record in collaboration, but they need to do more if they are to continue to improve the services that they deliver in this difficult financial climate. Better and cheaper services are more important now than ever. Working together will help them to deliver

Gymru ar gyfer cymorth ardrethi busnes, byddwn yn fodlon cael deialog gyda Gweinidogion San Steffan ynghylch hynny.

Mick Bates: O ran eich blaenoriaethau cyllidebol ar gyfer gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol, a fyddwch yn cwrdd â Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru i drafod ei gyllideb arfaethedig, sy'n dangos, mae'n debyg, y bydd gorsaf dân y Drenewydd yn colli pob un o'i diffoddwyr tân gweithredol amser llawn? Rwy'n sylweddoli bod yna bob amser angen am effeithlonrwydd, ond ni chynhaliwyd asesiad risg nac ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar y newidiadau arfaethedig. A ydych yn fodlon ar hynny, ac a fyddwch yn ymgysylltu â Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru i'w helpu i ganfod ateb gwell ar gyfer Powys, fel y gallwn ni gadw diffoddwyr tân gweithredol llawn-amser yn ein gorsafoddd?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch am y cwestiwn pwysig hwnnw, Mick. Rwyf wedi cael gohebiaeth gennych chi ac Aelodau eraill ar y mater hwn. Rwyf wedi codi'r mater gyda Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru ac rwy'n aros am ei ymateb i weld canlyniad hynny. Nid wyf i am ymyrryd â chyllidebau lleol a phrosesau gwneud penderfyniadau lleol; nid fy lle i yw gwneud hynny. Mater i bob awdurdod neu gorff cyhoeddus yw dangos i'r cyhoedd y rhesymeg y tu ôl i'w prosesau gwneud penderfyniadau.

Collaboration of Services

3. David Lloyd: *Will the Minister make a statement on the collaboration of services within local government. OAQ(3)1547(SJL)*

7. Veronica German: *Will the Minister make a statement on local government collaboration. OAQ(3)1519(SJL)*

Carl Sargeant: Mae gan awdurdodau lleol hanes da o ran cydweithredu, ond mae angen iddynt wneud mwy os ydynt i barhau i wella'r gwasanaethau y maent yn eu darparu yn yr hinsawdd ariannol anodd hon. Mae gwasanaethau gwell a rhatach yn bwysicach yn awr nag erioed. Bydd gweithio gyda'n

good public services.

David Lloyd: Diolch am yr ateb, Weinidog. Ymhellach at hynny, beth ydych yn ei wneud fel Llywodraeth i hybu cydweithio rhwng awdurdodau lleol ar raddfa wirfoddol er mwyn arbed arian?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you for that important question. I have been driving collaboration since I came into post over 12 months ago. I have regular meetings with the Welsh Local Government Association and I have an ongoing review regarding the provision of better services through collaboration, which has involved the WLGA and the local government family. There is a great opportunity to improve public services by collaboration, but there are some partners that are more willing than others to do that. As you are aware, we are currently taking through the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure. Some Members have more issues with it than others, however, the driver behind it is the delivery of good-quality public services. Everyone in this Chamber, and everyone in the gallery, will be hoping for good public services.

Veronica German: Your last-minute plans to give you the power to amalgamate local authorities is greatly concerning people in my region of South Wales East. Could you give them a cast-iron guarantee today that you will not be amalgamating authorities such as Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr or Monmouthshire in the future?

Carl Sargeant: It is astonishing that the Member wishes to speculate on authorities. Some authorities, such as the ones that the Member mentioned, are delivering very good public services. It would be much more constructive if the Member were to join me in celebrating and supporting the drive for better efficiencies throughout public services, as opposed to trying to frustrate the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure or attempting every trick in the book to destabilise it.

2.00 p.m.

Veronica German: So, you cannot give

gilydd yn eu helpu i ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus da.

David Lloyd: Thank you for that response, Minister. Further to that, what are you doing as a Government to promote collaboration between local authorities on a voluntary basis in order to save money?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch am y cwestiwn pwysig hwnnw. Rwyf wedi bod yn gyrru cydweithio ers i mi ddod i'r swydd hon dros 12 mis yn ôl. Rwyf yn cael cyfarfodydd rheolaidd â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ac mae gennyf adolygiad parhaus ynglŷn â darparu gwasanaethau gwell drwy gydweithio, sydd wedi cynnwys CLILC a'r teulu llywodraeth leol. Mae cyfle gwych i wella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus drwy gydweithio, ond mae rhai partneriaid sy'n barotach nag eraill i wneud hynny. Fel y gwyddoch, yr ydym yn gyrru Mesur arfaethedig Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) drwodd ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n fwy o broblem i rai Aelodau nag i eraill, ond yr hyn sy'n ei yrru yw darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus o ansawdd dda. Mae pawb yn y Siambr hon, a phawb yn yr oriel, yn gobeithio am wasanaethau cyhoeddus da.

Veronica German: Mae eich cynlluniau munud olaf i roi'r pŵer i uno awdurdodau lleol yn destun pryder mawr i bobl yn fy rhanbarth i, sef Dwyrain De Cymru. A allech roi sicrwydd cadarn fel y graig iddynt heddiw na fyddwch yn cyfuno awdurdodau megis Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr neu sir Fynwy yn y dyfodol?

Carl Sargeant: Mae'n rhyfeddol bod yr Aelod yn dymuno bwrw amcan ynghylch awdurdodau. Mae rhai awdurdodau, megis y rhai y soniodd yr Aelod amdanynt, yn darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus da iawn. Byddai'n llawer mwy adeiladol pe bai'r Aelod yn ymuno â mi i ddathlu a chefnogi'r ymgyrch am well effeithlonrwydd drwy gydol y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, yn hytrach na cheisio rhwystro'r Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) neu roi cynnig ar bob tric i'w ansefydlogi.

Veronica German: Felly, ni allwch warantu

them that guarantee. Would it not be more honest and, indeed, fairer to these and other local authorities across Wales for you to be absolutely clear about your plans and your mini reorganisations?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you, Veronica, for your question. I am not quite sure what bit of the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure you do not understand. I have explained clearly the consultation period and the process that a Minister would have to go through in terms of explaining the practicalities, the rationale, the distribution of funding and the changes in the electoral circumstances of each individual authority that may be subject, following consultation and in line with the process of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, to an amalgamation order. Amalgamation orders should not be taken lightly by me or any future Minister. The fact of the matter is—this goes back to my response to your first question—that we should be committed to delivering good-quality public services. If you are not in favour of delivering that, I am afraid that you are not on the same page as us.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Weinidog, yr ydych wedi cyfeirio at y ffaiith eich bod yn gyrru'r agenda hon yn ei blaen o sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn cydweithredu. Yr wyf yn sicr y byddech yn cytuno bod lle mewn meysydd fel addysg a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ar gyfer cydweithio ar draws ffiniau awdurdodau lleol a, drwy wneud hynny, osgoi y gwaethaf o'r toriadau sy'n cael eu gorfodi arnom gan Lwydoraeth glymblaid San Steffan. Yn yr ychydig wythnosau sydd ar ôl cyn diwedd y Cynulliad hwn, a ydych yn mynd i sicrhau bod yr agenda honno'n cael ei gosod yn glir ar gyfer llywodraeth leol, ac y bydd pwy bynnag sy'n eich dilyn yn y swydd wedi'r etholiad yn gallu symud ymlaen yn syth â'r agenda honno?

Carl Sargeant: You are absolutely right; we cannot stand still. Across the border in England, the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Westminster Government has imposed 25 per cent reductions in local government budgets in some areas. We have not done that in Wales; we have made a

hynny iddynt. Oni fyddai'n fwy gonest ac, yn wir, yn decach i'r awdurdodau lleol hyn a'r rhai eraill ar draws Cymru petaech yn gwbl glir am eich cynlluniau a'ch mân ad-drefnu?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch, Veronica, am eich cwestiwn. Nid wyf yn siŵr pa ran o'r Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) nad ydych yn deall. Rwyf wedi esbonio'n glir beth yw'r cyfnod ymgynghori a'r broses y byddai'n rhaid i Weinidog fynd drwyddi o ran egluro'r agweddau ymarferol, y rhesymeg, dosbarthiad y cyllid a'r newidiadau yn amgylchiadau etholiadol pob awdurdod unigol a allai fod yn ddarostyngedig, yn dilyn ymgynghoriad ac yn unol â phroses y Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009, i orchymyn uno. Ni ddylwn i neu unrhyw Weinidog yn y dyfodol drin gorchmynion uno yn ysgafn. Y gwir yw—ac mae hyn yn mynd yn ôl at fy ymateb i'ch cwestiwn cyntaf—y dylem fod wedi ymrwymo i ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus o safon uchel. Os nad ydych o blaid darparu hynny, mae arnaf ofn nad ydych ar yr un dudalen â ni.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Minister, you have referred to the fact that you are driving this agenda of ensuring that local authorities collaborate. I am sure that you would agree that there is scope in areas such as education and social services for collaboration across local authority boundaries, thereby avoiding the worst of the cuts that are being forced upon us by the Westminster coalition Government. In the few remaining weeks of this Assembly, will you ensure that that agenda is clearly laid out for local government, and that whoever succeeds you in your post after the election will be able to move that agenda forward immediately?

Carl Sargeant: Rydych yn llygad eich lle; ni allwn sefyll yn ein hunfan. Ar draws y ffin yn Lloegr, mae Llywodraeth y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn San Steffan wedi torri 25 y cant o gyllidebau llywodraeth leol mewn rhai ardaloedd. Nid ydym wedi gwneud hynny yng Nghymru; rydym wedi

decision to protect public services, but it does not mean that we should not change the way that we do business. That is why I am telling local government that, while the opportunity is here and while that window of funding is still available, they must change themselves and make changes to their services. I am working closely with my colleagues Leighton Andrews in education and Gwenda Thomas in social services. We have three ongoing reviews, which will give us a framework for an opportunity to provide the good-quality public services that the people of Wales deserve.

Jonathan Morgan: Minister, on 17 February, you issued a written statement outlining recent developments within the Isle of Anglesey County Council. The statement concludes by saying that you have asked the Auditor General for Wales to undertake a further inspection of the council. I am sure that you would join with me in agreeing that there are large numbers of people on that island who want to ensure that the local authority is working effectively, and that services are being delivered. I understand that the recovery board, which reports directly to you, has met some eight times since October 2009 and that its reports are published on the Assembly Government's website. I also understand that the last report was in July last year. However, no further reports from that recovery board have appeared in the public domain. Why is that the case, and what can you do to rectify this position to ensure that members of the public have full access to the information that you have so that they can make an informed judgment as to how well their authority is working?

Carl Sargeant: You are absolutely right, Jonathan. I will look into the detail on the publication of the recovery board's reports. I have nothing to hide with regard to the services that Anglesey residents are receiving or are being delivered by the council. I am being very careful, Presiding Officer, that I do not prejudice any decisions that I will have to make following reports from the auditor general and others, and I want to ensure that my answer is brief. I will be happy to share details with members of the public about the recovery board. I do not

penderyfynu diogelu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, ond nid yw'n golygu na ddylem newid y ffordd yr ydym yn gwneud busnes. Dyna pam rwy'n dweud wrth lywodraeth leol, tra bod y cyfle yma a thra bod y cyllid hwnnw ar gael o hyd, fod yn rhaid iddynt newid eu hunain a gwneud newidiadau i'w gwasanaethau. Rwy'n gweithio'n agos gyda fy nghydweithwyr Leighton Andrews yn addysg a Gwenda Thomas yng ngwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae tri adolygiad ar y gweill, a fydd yn rhoi fframwaith i ni ar gyfer darparu'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus o ansawdd uchel y mae pobl Cymru yn eu haeddu.

Jonathan Morgan: Weinidog, ar 17 Chwefror, cyhoeddoch ddatganiad ysgrifenedig yn amlinellu'r datblygiadau diweddar yng Nghyngor Sir Ynys Môn. Mae'r datganiad yn dod i ben drwy ddweud eich bod wedi gofyn i Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru archwilio'r cyngor ymhellach. Rwy'n siŵr y byddech yn cytuno â mi bod nifer o bobl ar yr ynys honno am sicrhau bod yr awdurdod lleol yn gweithio'n effeithiol, a bod gwasanaethau'n cael eu darparu. Deallaf fod y bwrdd adfer, sy'n adrodd yn uniongyrchol i chi, wedi cwrdd tua wyth gwaith ers mis Hydref 2009 a bod ei adroddiadau yn cael eu cyhoeddi ar wefan Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Deallaf hefyd i'r adroddiad diwethaf gael ei gyhoeddi ym mis Gorffennaf y llynedd. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r bwrdd adfer wedi cyhoeddi unrhyw adroddiadau ers hynny. Pam hynny, a beth allwch ei wneud i unioni'r sefyllfa i sicrhau bod aelodau'r cyhoedd yn gallu cael gafael ar y wybodaeth sydd gennych fel y gallant ddod i benderfyniad gwybodus ynghylch pa mor dda mae eu hawdurdod yn gweithio?

Carl Sargeant: Rydych yn llygad eich lle, Jonathan. Byddaf yn edrych ar fanylion cyhoeddi adroddiadau'r bwrdd adfer. Nid oes gennyf ddim i'w guddio o ran y gwasanaethau y mae trigolion Ynys Môn yn eu cael gan y cyngor neu sy'n cael eu darparu gan y cyngor. Rwy'n bod yn ofalus iawn, Lywydd, i beidio â rhagfarnu unrhyw benderfyniadau y bydd yn rhaid i mi eu gwneud ar ôl adroddiadau'r archwilydd cyffredinol ac eraill, ac rwyf am gadw fy ateb yn gryno. Byddaf yn hapus i rannu manylion am y bwrdd adfer gyda'r cyhoedd. Ni wn

know why they are not available, but it is something that I will look into and rectify as soon as possible.

Jonathan Morgan: I am grateful to the Minister for that clarity. I would also appreciate some clarity from the Minister as to how he would define 'effective local government'. The amendments that the Minister tabled to the proposed local government Measure at Stage 2, which mention the possibility of amalgamation orders to ensure effective local government, were agreed. However, 'effective local government' is not defined—is it an issue of governance and leadership, or of the delivery of public services? People throughout Wales, regardless of the local authority area in which they live, need some clarity from you, Minister, as to how the Government defines 'effective local government'. Is it down to some independent analysis of how well those authorities are delivering their services, or is it a judgment that the Government makes about whether key politicians are working well together? Some clarity on that would be appreciated.

Carl Sargeant: 'Effective' is a term that is well established in local government legislation. It has been used in the 2009 Measure and in other areas of Government legislation. I will be happy to write to you on the definition of 'effectiveness', or to place it in the Library, and we will formulate that in the explanatory memorandum that will accompany the proposed Measure. It is about evidencing to Assembly Members and members of the public who have an interest with regard to a potential amalgamation. It is not about reorganisation, because the order would not lend itself to that. There are so many hoops to jump through, from making sure that you cover the 2009 Measure to those relating to the amendment to the proposed local government Measure. There are many evidence bases, and the auditor general plays a big part in the process of measuring outcomes and improvements. That is the case in governance as well as in service delivery—and, as you will be aware, Jonathan, the auditor general's report with regard to Anglesey was based on governance issues as opposed to service failures. I would be happy to give you the definition of

pam nad ydynt ar gael, ond byddaf yn edrych ar hynny ac yn ei gywiro cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Jonathan Morgan: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr eglurhad. Byddwn hefyd yn gwerthfawrogi cael eglurhad gan y Gweinidog o sut y byddai'n diffinio 'llywodraeth leol effeithiol'. Cafodd gwelliannau'r Gweinidog i'r Mesur llywodraeth leol arfaethedig yng Nghyfnod 2, a oedd yn sôn am y posibilrwydd o orchmynion uno i sicrhau llywodraeth leol effeithiol, eu derbyn. Fodd bynnag, nid yw 'llywodraeth leol effeithiol' yn cael ei ddiffinio—ai llywodraethu ac arweinyddiaeth ydyw neu ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus? Mae pobl ledled Cymru, waeth pa ardal awdurdod lleol maent yn byw ynnddi, angen rhywfaint o eglurder gennyh, Weinidog, o ran sut y mae'r Llywodraeth yn diffinio 'llywodraeth leol effeithiol'. A oes dadansoddiad annibynnol o ba mor dda mae'r awdurdodau yn darparu eu gwasanaethau, neu ai'r Llywodraeth sy'n penderfynu a yw gwleidyddion allweddol yn gweithio'n dda gyda'i gilydd? Byddwn yn gwerthfawrogi eglurhad ynghylch hynny.

Carl Sargeant: Mae'r term 'effeithiol' wedi hen ennill ei blwyf yn neddfwriaeth llywodraeth leol. Cafodd ei ddefnyddio ym Mesur 2009 ac mewn deddfwriaeth arall gan y Llywodraeth. Byddaf yn hapus i ysgrifennu atoch gyda diffiniad 'effeithiolrwydd', neu ei roi yn y Llyfrgell, a byddwn yn cynnwys hynny yn y memorandwm esboniadol a fydd yn cyd-fynd â'r Mesur arfaethedig. Mae'n ymwneud â rhoi tystiolaeth i Aelodau'r Cynulliad a'r cyhoedd sydd â diddordeb mewn uno posibl. Nid yw'n ymwneud ag ad-drefnu, gan na fyddai'r gorchymyn yn addas ar gyfer hynny. Mae cymaint o gamau i fynd drwyddynt, o wneud yn siŵr eich bod yn cynnwys Mesur 2009 i'r rhai sy'n ymwneud â'r diwygiad i'r Mesur llywodraeth leol arfaethedig. Mae llawer o dystiolaeth, ac mae'r archwilydd cyffredinol yn chwarae rhan fawr yn y broses o fesur canlyniadau a gwelliannau. Mae hynny'n wir ar gyfer llywodraethu yn ogystal ag o ran darparu gwasanaethau—ac, fel y gwyddoch, Jonathan, roedd adroddiad yr archwilydd cyffredinol am Ynys Môn yn seiliedig ar faterion llywodraethu yn hytrach na methiannau gyda gwasanaethau. Byddwn yn

‘effectiveness’ that we are working to, and I will put a copy of that in the Library.

Peter Black: Minister, you have made many claims in support of the amendments that you tabled to the proposed local government Measure, and in particular about the savings that can be achieved through collaboration. You have also just made claims with regard to the fact that ‘effectiveness’ is defined in local government law, which was news to me. When you publish your definition of ‘effectiveness’, could you also publish the objective criteria against which you will be measuring effectiveness? Could you also publish cost-benefit analyses of collaboration projects to show the savings that have been achieved and sustained over a period of time?

Carl Sargeant: This is a rehearsal of this morning’s committee meeting—but yes, absolutely. The powers are enabling powers, and they will be used in the process of following through from the 2009 Measure to the amendments on amalgamation. Once the authorities have been identified—and I have not named any, just for clarity, in case one of you wishes to send out a press release to say that I mentioned three authorities earlier today, because I have not—we will have to publish a cost-benefit analysis, and we will have to show the rationale behind the decision-making process. The term ‘effectiveness’ is commonly used in local government, and I would be happy to demonstrate to Members where the phrase ‘effective local government’ is used.

I understand that some Members are reluctant to support the proposed local government Measure. I get that; that is a result of policy differences. The issue for me is that I or whoever is the Minister in the future should have the tools to ensure that local government provides good-quality services. We should not take our eye off the ball, and we should be delivering, with public money, good public services for the people of Wales. They deserve those services, and we should drive this agenda forward.

Allgáu Ariannol

hapus i roi’r diffiniad o ‘effeithiolrwydd’ yr ydym yn gweithio tuag ato i chi, a byddaf yn rhoi copi ohono yn y Llyfrgell.

Peter Black: Weinidog, rydych wedi gwneud llawer o honiadau i gefnogi eich gwelliannau i’r Mesur llywodraeth leol arfaethedig, ac yn benodol am yr arbedion y gellir eu cyflawni drwy gydweithio. Rydych hefyd newydd honni bod ‘effeithiolrwydd’ wedi’i ddiffinio mewn cyfraith llywodraeth leol, a oedd yn newyddion i mi. Pan fyddwch yn cyhoeddi eich diffiniad o ‘effeithiolrwydd’, a allech hefyd gyhoeddi’r meini prawf gwrthrychol y byddwch yn mesur effeithiolrwydd yn eu herbyn? A allech hefyd gyhoeddi dadansoddiadau cost a budd o brosiectau cydweithio i ddangos yr arbedion sydd wedi cael eu cyflawni a’u cynnal dros gyfnod o amser?

Carl Sargeant: Mae hwn yn ailadrodd cyfarfod pwyllgor y bore yma—ond iawn, yn sicr. Mae’r pwerau yn bwerau galluogi, a chânt eu defnyddio yn y broses o ddilyn drwodd o Fesur 2009 i’r gwelliannau am uno. Ar ôl dod o hyd i’r awdurdodau—ac nid wyf wedi enwi unrhyw rai, er eglurder, rhag ofn y bydd un ohonoch yn dymuno gwneud datganiad i’r wasg yn dweud fy mod wedi enwi tri awdurdod yn gynharach heddiw, oherwydd ni wnes—bydd rhaid i ni gyhoeddi dadansoddiad cost a budd, a bydd rhaid i ni ddangos y rhesymeg tu ôl i’r broses o wneud penderfyniadau. Mae’r term ‘effeithiolrwydd’ yn gyffredin mewn llywodraeth leol, a byddwn yn hapus i ddangos i Aelodau lle mae’r ymadrodd ‘llywodraeth leol effeithiol’ yn cael ei ddefnyddio.

Rwy’n deall bod rhai Aelodau yn amharod i gefnogi’r Mesur llywodraeth leol arfaethedig. Rwy’n deall hynny; gwahaniaeth mewn polisïau yw achos hynny. Yr hyn sy’n bwysig i mi yw bod gennyf i neu bwy bynnag fydd y Gweinidog yn y dyfodol fodd i sicrhau bod llywodraeth leol yn darparu gwasanaethau o safon uchel. Ni ddylem gymryd ein llygaid oddi ar y bêl, a dylem fod yn darparu, gydag arian cyhoeddus, gwasanaethau cyhoeddus da i bobl Cymru. Maent yn haeddu’r gwasanaethau hynny, a dylem yrru’r agenda hon yn ei blaen.

Financial Exclusion

4. Joyce Watson: *Beth yw blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer mynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol. OAQ(3)1543(SJL)*

6. Alun Davies: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gamau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i fynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol. OAQ(3)1532(SJL)*

Carl Sargeant: Our financial inclusion strategy outlines our key priorities in tackling financial exclusion. These are improving access to mainstream financial services, providing affordable credit and savings, improving access to financial and debt advice, and increasing financial capability and income maximisation.

Joyce Watson: Thank you for that answer, Minister. I applaud the Assembly Government's commitment to this agenda. I am sure that you are aware that the Westminster Government has caused considerable confusion over the future of the financial inclusion fund, which resulted in Citizens Advice issuing redundancy notices to 900 of its staff, including 500 money advisers. There continues to be real uncertainty over the future of the programme, especially as the Westminster Government has announced its intention to move towards a flexible and cost-effective response to debt problems—which we all know is Tory-speak for cuts. Will you, therefore, ensure that the financial inclusion steering group will look at maintaining free face-to-face debt advice services in Wales? Also, do you agree with the evidence that suggests that people who are in financial distress tend to stick to the first organisation that offers them help, and that this tips the scales in favour of the fee-chargers with the biggest budgets and the most aggressive advertising, even when a free option is available?

Carl Sargeant: Yes, Joyce. I am very concerned about the implications of the Westminster spending review, as the budgets

4. Joyce Watson: *What are the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities for addressing financial exclusion. OAQ(3)1543(SJL)*

6. Alun Davies: *Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Assembly Government action to tackle financial exclusion. OAQ(3)1532(SJL)*

Carl Sargeant: Mae ein strategaeth cynhwysiant ariannol yn amlinellu ein blaenoriaethau allweddol o ran mynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol. Ein blaenoriaethau yw gwella mynediad i wasanaethau ariannol prif ffrwd, darparu credyd a chynilion fforddiadwy, gwella mynediad i gyngor ariannol a chyngor am ddyledion, a chynyddu gallu ariannol a sicrhau'r incwm mwyaf posibl.

Joyce Watson: Diolch am eich ateb, Weinidog. Rwy'n cymeradwyo ymrwymiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i'r agenda hon. Rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod Llywodraeth San Steffan wedi achosi dryswch sylweddol am ddyfodol y gronfa cynhwysiant ariannol, a arweiniodd at Gyngor ar Bopeth yn rhoi rhybudd diswyddo i 900 o'i staff, gan gynnwys 500 o gynghorwyr arian. Mae'r ansicrwydd am ddyfodol y rhaglen yn parhau, yn enwedig gan fod Llywodraeth San Steffan wedi cyhoeddi bwriad i symud tuag at ymateb hyblyg a chost-effeithiol i broblemau dyled—a gwyddwn oll mai ffordd y Toriaid o ddweud toriadau yw hynny. A wnewch chi, felly, sicrhau y bydd y grŵp llywio cynhwysiant ariannol yn edrych ar gynnal gwasanaethau cyngor ar ddyledion wyneb i wyneb ac am ddim yng Nghymru? Hefyd, a ydych yn cytuno â'r dystiolaeth sy'n awgrymu bod pobl sydd mewn trallod ariannol yn tueddu i lynu gyda'r sefydliad cyntaf sy'n cynnig eu helpu, a bod hyn yn ffafrio'r rhai sy'n codi tâl a sydd gyda'r cyllidebau mwyaf a'r hysbysebion mwyaf ymosodol, hyd yn oed pan fydd opsiwn am ddim ar gael?

Carl Sargeant: Ydw, Joyce. Rwy'n pryderu am oblygiadau adolygiad gwariant San Steffan, am fod y cyllidebau sy'n cael eu

being set there will have a direct impact on Welsh constituents. I cannot commit to further funding from the Assembly Government to compensate for the UK Government's spending cuts. We will try to mitigate their effects as best we can, working with our partners in the voluntary sector and the public sector to see how we can achieve that. However, there are issues, such as those to do with the online take-up of certain universal benefits. I am concerned about that situation, as there are people who do not have access to computers or the internet, and they will miss out if they cannot apply for certain things online. That is not acceptable, so I have written to the Minister expressing my concerns.

Alun Davies: Minister, you will be aware of the crucial role that credit unions play in addressing issues of financial exclusion. I am sure that you will also be aware that the Landsker Community Credit Union in east Pembrokeshire was dissolved last year by the Financial Services Authority. Funding from the service of general economic interest grant from the Welsh Assembly Government enabled the Haven Credit Union to extend its services to former members of the Landsker credit union to protect loan payments, shares and other facilities provided. Minister, can you assure my constituents that the Welsh Assembly Government will look favourably upon extending this fund when convergence funding runs out, so that credit unions are able to operate effectively, and that all our constituents can have confidence in the credit union system and in the safety and security of their savings and borrowings with credit unions?

Carl Sargeant: It is always unwise to ask a Minister to consider any additional funding for the future, because you know that the answer will always be 'I cannot give you a positive answer on that'. Nonetheless, I hear what you are saying and recognise the important issues that you raise. I have been working very closely with the credit union network in Wales; we produced a strategy in December with an attached £1.3 million to develop a network of support to develop credit unions. We must have a strong base for credit unions to grow, and having a safe place to save with and borrow from is an important

pennu yno yn cael effaith uniongyrchol ar etholwyr Cymru. Ni allaf ymrwymo i gyllid pellach gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i wneud iawn am doriadau gwariant Llywodraeth y DU. Byddwn yn ceisio lleihau eu heffeithiau hyd eithaf ein gallu, gan weithio gyda'n partneriaid yn y sector gwirfoddol a'r sector cyhoeddus i weld sut y gallwn gyflawni hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae problemau, megis defnydd ar-lein o fuddion cyffredinol penodol. Rwy'n pryderu am y sefyllfa honno, gan fod yna bobl heb fynediad i gyfrifiaduron neu'r rhyngwyd, a byddant yn colli allan os na allant wneud cais am rai pethau ar-lein. Nid yw hynny'n dderbyniol, felly rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog yn mynegi fy mhryder.

Alun Davies: Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol o rôl hanfodol undebau credyd o ran mynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol. Rwy'n siŵr y byddwch hefyd yn ymwybodol i Undeb Credyd Cymunedol Landsker yn nwyrain sir Benfro gael ei ddiddymu gan yr Awdurdod Gwasanaethau Ariannol y llynedd. Galluogodd arian gan grant budd economaidd cyffredinol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i Undeb Credyd Haven ymestyn ei wasanaethau i gyn-aelodau undeb credyd Landsker i ddiogelu taliadau benthyciad, cyfranddaliadau a chyfleusterau eraill a ddarparwyd. Weinidog, a allwch sicrhau fy etholwyr y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn edrych yn ffafriol ar ymestyn y gronfa hon pan ddaw arian cydgyfeiriant i ben, er mwyn i undebau credyd allu gweithredu'n effeithiol, ac y gall ein holl etholwyr gael hyder yn y system undebau credyd ac yn niogelwch eu cynilion a'u benthyciadau gydag undebau credyd?

Carl Sargeant: Nid yw byth yn ddoeth i ofyn i Weinidog ystyried cyllid ychwanegol ar gyfer y dyfodol, oherwydd gwyddoch mai'r ateb bob tro fydd 'Ni allaf roi ateb cadarnhaol'. Serch hynny, gwn beth yr ydych yn ei ddweud ac rwy'n cydnabod y materion pwysig yr ydych yn eu codi. Rwyf wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos iawn gyda rhwydwaith yr undebau credyd yng Nghymru; ym mis Rhagfyr, cynhyrchwyd strategaeth gydag £1.3 miliwn ynghlwm iddi i ddatblygu rhwydwaith o gefnogaeth i ddatblygu undebau credyd. Rhaid inni gael sylfaen gref er mwyn i undebau credyd dyfu, ac mae cael

part of the sector's growth in Wales. That is something that I will continue to work on while I am Minister, and I hope that some future Minister in the next administration will take that work on board, too.

Mohammad Asghar: Minister, in your response to the Communities and Culture Committee's recent report, you rejected the recommendation calling for a sustained media campaign aimed at addressing financial exclusion, citing funding issues. Given that, can you provide an update on what alternative steps you are taking, in collaboration with the Welsh financial education unit and other partners, to promote to the Welsh public wherever possible the impact of financial exclusion and the importance of financial education in Wales?

2.15 p.m.

Carl Sargeant: I am slightly disappointed that I was not able to accept the recommendation. It was not because I did not want to, or because I thought that it was a bad idea. It was because it would have committed us to financial obligations and I did not have the finance available for that. I did, however, give you a commitment relating to credit unions. I am working with Sandy Mewies in north Wales on this. I have asked my department to talk to all of the relevant stakeholders to see how, collectively, we can encourage and create a better environment for marketing, support and so forth across the whole credit union network. My officials are taking on that work now. I hope that that gives you some encouragement in terms of this agenda being driven forward. This is a genuine opportunity to develop credit unions. My train of thought is that credit unions that work in isolation find it much more difficult to operate, due to overheads and other costs. This is therefore about how they work together to share best practice. I was in Newtown the other day with Joyce Watson. The credit union there had just done some work on translating a leaflet for Polish customers. Only months before, I was in Llanelli, and the credit union there had already translated a document for Polish workers. I think that the only thing that was different in the leaflet was the picture, and

lle diogel i gynilo a benthyg yn rhan bwysig o dwf y sector yng Nghymru. Byddaf yn parhau i weithio ar hynny tra byddaf yn Weinidog, a gobeithio y bydd rhyw Weinidog yn y dyfodol yn y weinyddiaeth nesaf yn gwneud yr un peth.

Mohammad Asghar: Weinidog, yn eich ymateb i adroddiad diweddar y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant, gwrthodoch yr argymhelliad yn galw am ymgyrch parhaus yn y cyfryngau gyda'r nod o fynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol, gan nodi materion ariannu. O ystyried hynny, a allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y camau amgen rydych yn eu cymryd, ar y cyd ag uned addysg ariannol Cymru a phartneriaid eraill, i hyrwyddo effaith allgau ariannol a phwysigrwydd addysg ariannol yng Nghymru i'r cyhoedd yng Nghymru lle bynnag bo modd?

Carl Sargeant: Rwy'n eithaf siomedig nad oeddwn yn gallu derbyn yr argymhelliad. Nid oedd hynny oherwydd nad oeddwn eisiau, neu oherwydd fy mod yn credu ei fod yn syniad gwael. Roedd hynny oherwydd y byddai wedi ein hymrwymo i rwymedigaethau ariannol, ac nid oedd gennyf y cyllid ar gael ar gyfer hynny. Fe wnes, fodd bynnag, roi ymrwymiad i chi ynghylch undebau credyd. Rwy'n gweithio ar hyn gyda Sandy Mewies yng ngogledd Cymru. Rwyf wedi gofyn i'm hadran siarad â'r holl randdeiliaid perthnasol i weld sut, gyda'n gilydd, gallwn annog a chreu gwell amgylchedd ar gyfer marchnata a chymorth ac ati ledled rhwydwaith yr undebau credyd. Mae fy swyddogion yn dechrau ar y gwaith hwnnw yn awr. Gobeithio bod hynny'n rhoi rhywfaint o anogaeth i chi o ran gyrru'r agenda hon yn ei blaen. Mae hwn yn gyfle gwirioneddol i ddatblygu undebau credyd. Rwy'n meddwl bod undebau credyd sy'n gweithio ar eu pen eu hun yn ei chael yn anoddach o lawer i weithredu, oherwydd costau cyffredinol a chostau eraill. Mae hyn, felly, yn ymwneud â sut maent yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i rannu arfer gorau. Roeddwn yn y Drenewydd gyda Joyce Watson y diwrnod o'r blaen. Roedd yr undeb credyd yno newydd gyfieithu taflen ar gyfer cwsmeriaid o Wlad Pwyl. Ychydig fisoedd ynghynt, roeddwn yn Llanelli, ac roedd yr

the fact it referred to Newtown and not Llanelli. It is common sense that we should have a network that would enable credit unions to pick up leaflets that have already been translated, rather than having them translated 20 times. It makes economic sense. I am working to drive that agenda forward.

Bethan Jenkins: Minister, you may recall that I raised, some time ago, the issue of automated teller machine charges being levelled more frequently in areas that suffer from severe hardship. I know that the situation has changed substantially, especially in areas where people may not be able to access banks easily. However, at the time, I was promised that the issue would be raised with banks in Wales in the meetings held between Ministers and the big financial institutions. Could you give us an update on that so that we can know the progress that has been made on this to date?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you for your question, Bethan. I agree that it is unacceptable for people to be charged £2.50 to get £10 out of an ATM. I think that it is immoral, as it is these people's own money. I will have to write to you on the details of how we have moved this agenda forward. It is not an easy issue, because many of these ATMs are privately owned. My department is very aware of this issue, and I know you have raised it several times. I will write to you to provide you with more details.

Eleanor Burnham: To go back to the issue of raising awareness of financial matters, when we were discussing on 19 January the Government's response to the report published by the Communities and Culture Committee, I asked, quite pointedly, about the campaign to raise awareness. You said that you did not have any money for a media campaign. However, I suggested that a more enlightened approach would be to use web pages, Twitter, Facebook and other social networking tools, which surely would not have any cost implications. Could you update us on that? You have accepted in principle

undeb credyd yno eisoes wedi cyfieithu dogfen ar gyfer gweithwyr o wlad Pwyl. Credaf mai'r unig wahaniaeth yn y daflen oedd y llun, a'r ffaith ei fod yn cyfeirio at y Drenewydd ac nid Llanelli. Synnwyr cyffredin fyddai cael rhwydwaith sy'n galluogi undebau credyd i gael gafael ar daflenni sydd eisoes wedi'u cyfieithu, yn hytrach na chyfieithu'r un daflen 20 gwaith. Mae'n gwneud synnwyr economaidd. Rwy'n gweithio i yrru'r agenda honno ymlaen.

Bethan Jenkins: Weinidog, efallai y byddwch yn cofio i mi godi'r mater, beth amser yn ôl, bod taliadau peiriannau ATM yn cael eu codi'n amlach mewn ardaloedd sy'n dioddef o galedi difrifol. Gwn fod y sefyllfa wedi newid yn sylweddol, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd lle na all bobl gyrraedd banciau yn hawdd. Fodd bynnag, ar y pryd, cefais addewid y byddai'r mater yn cael ei godi gyda'r banciau yng Nghymru yn y cyfarfodydd rhwng Gweinidogion a'r sefydliadau ariannol mawr. Beth yw'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ar y cynnydd sydd wedi'i wneud hyd yn hyn?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch am eich cwestiwn, Bethan. Rwy'n cytuno ei bod yn annerbyniol bod pobl yn talu £2.50 i dynnu £10 o beiriant ATM. Mae hynny'n anfoesol am mai eu harian hwy ydyw. Bydd yn rhaid i mi ysgrifennu atoch i roi'r manylion am sut rydym wedi symud yr agenda hon yn ei blaen. Nid yw'n fater hawdd, gan fod llawer o'r peiriannau ATM hyn yn eiddo preifat. Mae fy adran yn ymwybodol iawn o'r mater hwn, a gwn eich bod wedi'i godi sawl gwaith. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch gyda rhagor o fanylion.

Eleanor Burnham: I fynd yn ôl at y mater o godi ymwybyddiaeth o faterion ariannol, pan oeddem yn trafod ar 19 Ionawr ymateb y Llywodraeth i'r adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd gan y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant, gofynnais, yn benodol, am yr ymgyrch i godi ymwybyddiaeth. Dywedoch nad oedd gennych unrhyw arian ar gyfer ymgyrch yn y cyfryngau. Fodd bynnag, awgrymais y byddai'n well syniad i ddefnyddio tudalennau gwe, Twitter, Facebook a dulliau rhwydweithio cymdeithasol eraill, am na fyddai goblygiadau cost iddynt. A allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni am hynny?

recommendation 8, which is about raising awareness among 14 to 16-year-olds. However, those young people are not likely to be influenced by conventional advertising, because advertising campaigns for them these days are more subliminal and done through social networking platforms. Could you not revise your views on this and come back to us with some positive thoughts on what is possibly a more appropriate method of raising awareness?

Carl Sargeant: Your question is perhaps a little unkind, in that it sounds as if we are doing nothing at all to support financial literacy and capability among young people. That could not be further from the truth. The Welsh financial education unit, funded by the Welsh Assembly Government in partnership with the Consumer Financial Education Body, is providing support to practitioners for financial education for 17 to 19-year-olds in schools. So, we are already doing that. Another project that we are pursuing with CFEB is CU@theCU—a bit of text talk there for you, Eleanor—which is about young people understanding how they can access credit unions and so on. So, it is not that we are not doing anything at all, but there is always room for improvement. I am keen to drive that agenda forward. I am a big supporter of credit unions and I know that many in this room are. Therefore, things can only go from strength to strength.

Irene James: The UK Government's welfare reforms will see the introduction of a single universal credit that will replace existing benefits. It intends that the new system will mostly be administered through the internet, with people expected to make claims and check their payments as they would for an on-line banking account. Next time you meet with your counterparts in Westminster, will you express to them the difficulties that this move will create for the estimated 1.5 million unemployed who do not currently have internet access—according to the Government's own figures—and explain to them the problems that this move will create for unemployed people in accessing and

Rydych wedi derbyn argymhelliad 8 mewn egwyddor, sy'n ymwneud â chodi ymwybyddiaeth ymysg pobl ifanc rhwng 14 ac 16 oed. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r bobl ifanc hynny'n debygol o gael eu dylanwadu gan hysbysebion confensiynol, gan fod ymgyrchoedd hysbysebu ar eu cyfer y dyddiau hyn yn fwy isganfyddol ac yn cael eu gwneud drwy lwyfannau rhwydweithio cymdeithasol. A oes modd i chi ailystyried a dod yn ôl atom gyda sylwadau cadarnhaol ar yr hyn a allai fod yn ddull mwy priodol o godi ymwybyddiaeth?

Carl Sargeant: Mae eich cwestiwn efallai ychydig yn angharedig, gan ei bod yn swnio fel pe baem yn gwneud dim byd o gwbl i gefnogi llythrennedd a gallu ariannol ymhlith pobl ifanc. Nid yw hynny'n wir. Mae uned addysg ariannol Cymru, a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru mewn partneriaeth â'r Corff Addysg Ariannol Defnyddwyr, yn darparu cymorth i ymarferwyr ar gyfer addysg ariannol i bobl ifanc rhwng 17 a 19 oed mewn ysgolion. Felly, rydym eisoes yn gwneud hynny. Mae gennym brosiect arall ar y gweill â'r Corff Addysg Ariannol Defnyddwyr, sef CU@theCU—dyna ychydig o iaith decstio i chi, Eleanor—sydd yn ymwneud â phobl ifanc yn dod i ddeall sut y gallant ddefnyddio undebau credyd ac ati. Felly, nid yw'n wir nad ydym yn gwneud dim byd o gwbl, ond mae bob amser lle i wella. Rwy'n awyddus i ddatblygu'r agenda honno. Rwy'n gefnogwr brwd o undebau credyd, a gwn fod llawer yn yr ystafell hon yn eu cefnogi hefyd. Felly, ni all pethau ond fynd o nerth i nerth.

Irene James: Bydd diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU yn arwain at gyflwyno un credyd cyffredinol i ddisodli'r budd-daliadau presennol. Y bwriad yw gweinyddu'r system newydd yn bennaf drwy gyfrwng y rhyngwyd, gyda disgwyl i bobl wneud ceisiadau a chadw golwg ar eu taliadau fel y byddent yn gwneud ar gyfer cyfrif bancio ar-lein. Y tro nesaf i chi gwrdd â'ch cymheiriaid yn San Steffan, a wnewch chi fynegi'r anawsterau y byddai hynny'n creu i'r amcangyfrif o 1.5 miliwn o bobl ddi-waith nad oes ganddynt ffordd o ddefnyddio'r rhyngwyd ar hyn o bryd—yn ôl ffigurau'r Llywodraeth—ac esbonio'r problemau y byddai'n creu i bobl ddi-waith o ran cael

managing their limited finances?

Carl Sargeant: I mentioned earlier the issues that have come to my attention around the universal credit, and you, quite rightly, raise that issue in your question. I am also responsible for ensuring that Communities 2.0, which is about internet support for people in deprived areas, is supported. We have a handle on that, and we recognise that there is a void there in terms of people having access to the digital media in relation to internet and computer access. My department has contacted the Department for Work and Pensions about the concerns that you raised. I share those concerns. In the digital age, we must ensure that no-one is left behind without access to these services.

Mark Isherwood: It was refreshing to see a Government responding positively to consultation when the UK announced that funding for the financial inclusion fund will be extended for a further year and that the provision would then be put on a sustainable footing. It is great that Citizens Advice Cymru is launching the free Money Guidance Cymru service next month, funded by the Consumer Financial Education Body levy on financial institutions. However, Age Cymru has expressed concern about a profound lack of financial education for older people across the UK. How do you respond to its concern that the Welsh Government's financial inclusion strategy does not adequately address improving financial literacy among older people in Wales?

Carl Sargeant: I will not take any lessons from you or your party about looking after people in Wales. Your party has just scrapped the child trust fund, has scrapped the future jobs fund for Wales, and is increasing VAT, which affects the elderly and all the people of Wales. I will not take any lessons from you on financial inclusion in Wales.

Trafodaethau gyda Llywodraeth y DU

5. Nerys Evans: Pa drafodaethau diweddar y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gyda Llywodraeth y DU. OAQ(3)1530(SJL)

mynediad at a rheoli eu harian prin?

Carl Sargeant: Soniais yn gynharach am y materion sydd wedi dod i'm sylw mewn perthynas â chredyd cyffredinol, ac rydych chi, yn ddigon teg, yn codi'r mater hwnnw yn eich cwestiwn. Rwyf hefyd yn gyfrifol am sicrhau cefnogaeth i Cymunedau 2.0, sy'n rhoi cefnogaeth rhyngwyd i bobl mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig. Rydym wedi cael trefn ar hynny, ac rydym yn cydnabod bod bwlbh o ran pobl yn gallu defnyddio cyfryngau digidol fel y rhyngwyd a chyfrifiaduron. Mae fy adran wedi cysylltu â'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau am y pryderon yr ydych wedi'u codi. Rwy'n rhannu'r pryderon hynny. Yn yr oes ddigidol, rhaid i ni sicrhau nad oes neb yn cael eu gadael heb fynediad at y gwasanaethau hyn.

Mark Isherwood: Roedd yn braf gweld Llywodraeth yn ymateb yn gadarnhaol i ymgynghoriad pan gyhoeddodd y DU y byddai cyllid ar gyfer y gronfa cynhwysiant ariannol yn cael ei ymestyn am flwyddyn arall ac y byddai'r ddarpariaeth yna ar sylfaen fwy cynaliadwy. Mae'n wych bod Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru yn lansio'r gwasanaeth am ddim, Canllaw ar Arian Cymru, fis nesaf, a ariennir gan ardoll y Corff Addysg Ariannol Defnyddwyr ar sefydliadau ariannol. Fodd bynnag, mae Age Cymru wedi mynegi pryder ynghylch y diffyg difrifol o addysg ariannol ar gyfer pobl hŷn ar draws y DU. Beth yw eich ymateb i'w bryder nad yw strategaeth cynhwysiant ariannol Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi sylw digonol i wella llythrennedd ariannol ymysg pobl hŷn yng Nghymru?

Carl Sargeant: Ni chymeraf unrhyw wersi gennych chi a'ch plaid am sut i ofalu am bobl yng Nghymru. Mae eich plaid newydd sgrapio'r gronfa ymddriedolaeth plant a chronfa swyddi'r dyfodol i Gymru, ac mae'n cynyddu TAW, sy'n effeithio ar yr henoed a holl bobl Cymru. Ni chymeraf unrhyw wersi oddi wrthych ar gynhwysiant ariannol yng Nghymru.

Discussions with UK Government

5. Nerys Evans: What recent discussions has the Minister had with the UK Government. OAQ(3)1530(SJL)

Carl Sargeant: I have discussed the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill and the big society with the Minister of State with responsibility for policing and the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Wales.

Nerys Evans: Gwyddom fod gan Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig gynlluniau i dorri cyllideb heddlu Cymru, ac yr ydym hefyd wedi clywed bod yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref wedi dweud wrth yr heddlu i dderbyn cwtogiad cyflog neu wynebu colli swyddi, sydd yn sefyllfa annerbyniol. Yr wyf wedi bod yn siarad â Heddlu Dyfed-Powys yn benodol a gwn am yr her sy'n ei wynebu wrth iddo geisio plismona a gwarchod ein harfordir. Mae'r sefyllfa yn un heriol, ac mae'n ddibynnol ar waith gwylwyr y glannau o ran rhannu gwybodaeth ac adrodd am ddiwyddiadau ac yn y blaen, sy'n digwydd yn ddyddiol. Gwyddom hefyd fod gan Lywodraeth y DU gynlluniau i gau gorsaf gwylwyr y glannau yn Aberdaugleddau. Mae pobl Sir Gaerfyrddin a Sir Benfro yn poeni'n fawr am ddiogelwch ar arfordir gorllewin Cymru. Yn sgîl cwtogiadau ffyrnig i'r heddlu, cau gorsafoedd gwylwyr y glannau a diswyddo eu staff, a ydych yn rhannu fy mhryder ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa? A yw'r pryder hwn wedi cael ei fynegi ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru i Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig?

Carl Sargeant: Absolutely, and in the strongest terms. The National Assembly recently historically voted down a legislative consent motion applied for by Westminster relating to police commissioners and their panels. I share your concern. We recognise the reality of the decisions made by the UK Government—by the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats. We see their crocodile tears about the coastguards—[*Interruption.*] But they are cutting them; there is no doubt about it, they are cutting them—[*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. I am unable to hear the Minister. This is a very important constitutional matter, which I was discussing with a very distinguished chief constable in this building this morning, and I wish to be further informed.

Carl Sargeant: The fact of the matter is that

Carl Sargeant: Rwyf wedi trafod y Bil Diwygio'r Heddlu a Chyfrifoldeb Cymdeithasol a'r gymdeithas fawr gyda'r Gweinidog Gwladol sy'n gyfrifol am blismona ac Is-ysgrifennydd Gwladol Seneddol Cymru.

Nerys Evans: We know that the UK Government has plans to cut the police budget in Wales, and we have also heard that the Home Secretary has told the police to accept a pay cut or to face losing jobs, which is unacceptable. I have spoken to Dyfed-Powys Police specifically and I know of the challenge facing it as it tries to police and protect our coastline. The situation is challenging, and it depends upon the work of the coastguards in relation to sharing information and reporting incidents and so on, which happens daily. We also know that the UK Government plans to close the coastguard station in Milford Haven. The people of Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire are very concerned about safety along the coastline of west Wales. Following the terrible cuts to the police, the closing of coastguard stations, and staff redundancies, do you share my concern about the situation? Has this concern been expressed on behalf of the Welsh Government to the UK Government?

Carl Sargeant: Yn bendant, ac yn gadarn iawn. Bu pleidlais hanesyddol yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ddiweddar yn gwrthod cynnig cydsyniad deddfwriaethol gan San Steffan yn ymwneud â chomisiynwyr heddlu a'u paneli. Rwy'n rhannu eich pryder. Rydym yn cydnabod realiti penderfyniadau Llywodraeth y DU—gan y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Rydym yn gweld eu dagrau ffug am wylwyr y glannau—[*Torri ar draws.*] Ond maent yn eu torri; nid oes amheuaeth am hynny, maent yn eu torri—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid wyf yn gallu clywed y Gweinidog. Mae hwn yn fater cyfansoddiadol pwysig iawn yr oeddwn yn ei drafod gyda phrif gwnstabl nodedig iawn yn yr adeilad hwn y bore yma, a hoffwn gael rhagor o wybodaeth.

Carl Sargeant: Y gwir amdani yw y bydd

election expenses relating to the delivery of police commissioners in Wales will be around £5 million to £6 million. That equates to around 2,000 police officers in Wales. Let us scrap the idea of police commissioners and let us have 2,000 more police officers in Wales. The cuts that we are already receiving from the Westminster Government equate to about 1,600 police officers and staff. That equates to the whole of Dyfed-Powys Police or North Wales Police being completely taken away from our front-line services. That is not acceptable to me; it is not acceptable to the people of Wales, and I have made those statements in the strongest terms to Ministers in Westminster.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Minister, given your responsibility for veterans, what sort of discussions do you have with your Westminster colleagues? Much of the employment and engagement with the Ministry of Defence is based in Whitehall. On this side of the Chamber, we have announced that we are prepared to stand by our veterans by launching a veterans' card, offering some sort of appreciation for the valuable service they have given. What sort of formal structure do you as lead Minister on this have with colleagues in Westminster to ensure that the voice of veterans in Wales is heard and that their concerns are addressed?

Carl Sargeant: I have had recent correspondence with the Secretary of State for Wales, Andrew Robathan and the chair of the House of Commons Defence Select Committee about the Armed Forces Bill and covenant. I have regular discussions with the Ministry of Defence through my armed forces ministerial advisory group. This is something we are keen to support. As you will be aware, following the debate the other week, I offered to open my door to parties who wish to have further discussions about the armed forces and veterans in Wales. To date, I have had no contact from other parties.

Blaenoriaethau

8. Mohammad Asghar: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer Dwyrain De Cymru yn ystod*

costau ethol comisiynwyr heddlu yng Nghymru tua £5 miliwn i £6 miliwn. Mae hynny'n cyfateb i tua 2,000 o swyddogion heddlu yng Nghymru. Gadewch i ni gael gwared ar y syniad o gomisiynwyr heddlu a chael 2,000 yn fwy o swyddogion heddlu yng Nghymru. Mae toriadau Llywodraeth San Steffan eisoes yn cyfateb i tua 1,600 o swyddogion a staff heddlu. Mae hynny'n cyfateb â Heddlu Dyfed-Powys neu Heddlu Gogledd Cymru yn cael eu dileu yn gyfan gwbl o wasanaethau ar y rheng flaen. Nid yw hynny'n dderbyniol i mi; nid yw'n dderbyniol i bobl Cymru, ac rwyf wedi datgan hynny'n gadarn i Weinidogion yn San Steffan.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Weinidog, o ystyried eich cyfrifoldeb am gyn-filwyr, pa fath o drafodaethau ydych yn eu cael gyda'ch cydweithwyr yn San Steffan? Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r gwaith cyflogi ac ymgysylltu â'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn yn digwydd yn Whitehall. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, rydym wedi cyhoeddi ein bod yn barod i gefnogi ein cyn-filwyr drwy lansio cerdyn i gyn-filwyr, a fyddai'n cynnig rhyw fath o werthfawrogiad am y gwasanaeth gwerthfawr maent wedi'i roi. Pa fath o strwythur ffurfiol sydd gennych, fel y Gweinidog sy'n arwain ar hyn, gyda'ch cydweithwyr yn San Steffan i sicrhau bod lleisiau cyn-filwyr yng Nghymru yn cael eu clywed a bod eu pryderon yn cael sylw?

Carl Sargeant: Rwyf wedi gohebu'n ddiweddar gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, Andrew Robathan, a chadeirydd Pwyllgor Dethol Amddiffyn Tŷ'r Cyffredin am y Bil Lluoedd Arfog a'r cyfamod. Rwy'n trafod yn rheolaidd gyda'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn drwy Grŵp Cyngori'r Gweinidog ar y lluoedd arfog. Rydym yn awyddus i gefnogi hyn. Fel y gwyddoch, ar ôl y ddadl yr wythnos o'r blaen, cynigiais i agor fy nrws i bleidiau sydd am gael trafodaethau pellach am y lluoedd arfog a chyn-filwyr yng Nghymru. Hyd yn hyn, nid oes unrhyw blaid arall wedi cysylltu â mi.

Priorities

8. Mohammad Asghar: *Will the Minister make a statement on his priorities for South Wales East for the remainder of this*

gweddill y Cynulliad hwn. OAQ(3)1533(SJL) Assembly. OAQ(3)1533(SJL)

Carl Sargeant: I will continue to promote safe, sustainable and fair communities while protecting core services and the most vulnerable people in south-east Wales and across the country. A review of local authority services is under way and the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure will strengthen the operation of local government.

Mohammad Asghar: Thank you very much for your answer, Minister. Can you outline why the Assembly Government thinks it is acceptable not to cancel the back-dated business rates imposed on many port-based businesses in South Wales East and across Wales, given that similar businesses in England have had such rates cancelled by the UK Government and that the Assembly Government had the funds Barnettised for this purpose? Do you agree that, by failing to match the support that the UK Government is giving to ports in England, the Assembly Government risks placing the future of a substantial number of port-based businesses in Wales in jeopardy?

Carl Sargeant: I have made a strategic decision not to cancel the port rates on the basis that we are supporting businesses right across Wales. If you are suggesting that we should now take money away from the businesses across Wales that have 100 per cent-rate relief in order to put it into the ports, I would be interested to hear that argument. I suggest that we have a fair system in Wales. If you wish to lobby anybody, I believe that it should be your colleagues in Westminster so that we can have our fair share of port support in Wales.

2.30 p.m.

This is a non-devolved issue, which has not come as a consequential. Ports in England are being supported, but not those in Wales, so perhaps you should lobby your colleagues in Westminster.

Carl Sargeant: Byddaf yn parhau i hyrwyddo cymunedau diogel, cynaliadwy a theg wrth ddiogelu gwasanaethau craidd a'r bobl sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yn neddwyrain Cymru ac ar draws y wlad. Mae adolygiad o wasanaethau awdurdodau lleol ar y gweill a bydd y Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) Arfaethedig yn cryfhau gweithrediad llywodraeth leol.

Mohammad Asghar: Diolch yn fawr am eich ateb, Weinidog. A allwch amlinellu pam y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o'r farn ei bod yn dderbyniol peidio â dileu ardrethi busnes sydd wedi'u hól-ddyddio ar gyfer llawer o fusnesau sydd wedi'u lleoli mewn porthladdoedd yn Nwyrain De Cymru a ledled Cymru, o gofio bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi canslo ardrethi o'r fath ar gyfer busnesau tebyg yn Lloegr a bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi defnyddio fformiwla Barnett ar gyfer y cyllid hwnnw? A ydych yn cytuno, drwy fethu â chyd-fynd â'r gefnogaeth y mae Llywodraeth y DU yn ei rhoi i borthladdoedd yn Lloegr, bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn rhoi dyfodol nifer sylweddol o fusnesau sydd wedi'u lleoli mewn porthladdoedd yng Nghymru yn y fantol?

Carl Sargeant: Rwyf wedi gwneud penderfyniad strategol i beidio â chanslo'r ardrethi yn achos porthladdoedd ar y sail ein bod yn cefnogi busnesau ledled Cymru gyfan. Os ydych yn awgrymu y dylem yn awr gymryd arian oddi wrth y busnesau ledled Cymru sy'n cael rhyddhad ardrethi o 100 y cant er mwyn ei roi i'r porthladdoedd, byddai gennyf ddiddordeb mewn clywed y ddadl honno. Rwy'n awgrymu bod gennym system deg yng Nghymru. Os ydych am lobio unrhyw un, credaf y dylech lobio eich cydweithwyr yn San Steffan er mwyn i ni gael ein cyfran deg o gefnogaeth ar gyfer porthladdoedd yng Nghymru.

Nid yw'r mater hwn wedi'i ddatganoli, ac nid yw'n swm canlyniadol. Mae porthladdoedd yn Lloegr yn cael eu cefnogi, ond nid y rhai yng Nghymru, felly efallai y dylech lobio eich cydweithwyr yn San Steffan.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes
Questions to the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning

Tlodi Plant

***1. Alun Davies:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gamau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)1679(CEL)*

The Deputy Minister for Children (Huw Lewis): The First Minister and I launched our new child poverty strategy for Wales on 3 February 2011. The strategy sets out our three strategic objectives to direct our cross-Government action on child poverty, which will enable us to improve the lives and futures of children and parents living in low-income families.

Alun Davies: Thank you very much for that response, Deputy Minister. We know the extent and the depth of the problem that faces us in terms of child poverty. A Save the Children report that was published last week reinforced the issues that we are addressing. At the same time, we have seen an aggressive policy being pursued by the new UK Government in terms of families and children first, cutting away much of the fundamental family and child support that would have helped to take children out of poverty. Therefore, action from the Welsh Assembly Government is more necessary now than has ever been. How are the Welsh Assembly Government's actions being rolled out on the ground, how will the Government address child poverty, and how will it ensure that families and children across Wales will see the benefit of the policies that are being pursued by this Government?

Huw Lewis: I continue to hope and pray for partnership working, and constructive co-working, with my colleagues in Westminster. However, so far, it is difficult to see any pattern other than that children should be required to pay for the current recession, perhaps more than any other portion of the population, with the axing of the child trust fund, the housing benefit changes, which do not augur well for family finances, child

Child Poverty

***1. Alun Davies:** Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Assembly Government action to combat child poverty in Wales. OAQ(3)1679(CEL)*

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Blant (Huw Lewis): Lansiodd y Prif Weinidog a minnau ein strategaeth tlodi plant newydd ar gyfer Cymru ar 3 Chwefror 2011. Mae'r strategaeth yn nodi'r tri amcan strategol a fydd yn llywio camau gweithredu'r Llywodraeth ar dlodi plant, a fydd yn ein galluogi i wella bywydau a dyfodol plant a rhieni sy'n byw mewn teuluoedd incwm isel.

Alun Davies: Diolch am eich ymateb, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Gwyddwn hyd a lled a dyfnder y broblem tlodi plant sy'n ein hwynebu. Atgyfnerthodd adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd gan Achub y Plant yr wythnos ddiwethaf y materion yr ydym yn mynd i'r afael â hwy. Ar yr un pryd, mae Llywodraeth newydd y DU yn dilyn polisi ymosodol o ran teuluoedd a phlant yn gyntaf, gan dorri llawer o'r cymorth sylfaenol i deuluoedd a phlant a allai wedi helpu tynnu plant allan o dlodi. Felly, mae gweithredu gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn fwy angenrheidiol nawr nag a fu erioed. Sut mae camau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cael eu cyflwyno'n ymarferol, sut bydd y Llywodraeth yn mynd i'r afael â thlodi plant, a sut bydd yn sicrhau bod teuluoedd a phlant ar draws Cymru yn cael budd polisïau'r Llywodraeth hon?

Huw Lewis: Rwy'n parhau i obeithio a gweddio am weithio mewn partneriaeth a chydweithio adeiladol gyda fy nghydweithwyr yn San Steffan. Fodd bynnag, hyd yma, yr unig batrwm sydd i'w weld yw y dylai plant dalu am y dirwasgiad presennol, efallai yn fwy nag unrhyw ran arall o'r boblogaeth, gyda thorri'r gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant, y newidiadau i fudd-dal tai, nad ydynt yn argoeli'n dda ar gyfer

benefit changes, tax credits, and so on—the list goes on. That is all the more reason for us in Wales to step up to a new level of determination when it comes to combatting child poverty.

There will be three parts to the on-the-ground roll-out. We now have a legal framework, thanks to the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010, which compels every part of the devolved Welsh public sector to play its part, and to plan to play its part, in alleviating child poverty. The second part of the machinery, if you like, is our strategy and delivery plan, which was launched by the First Minister and me, as I mentioned. As a delivery and funding mechanism on the ground, we will have the development of Families First, which is currently being worked through our pioneer local authority partners, and will come to fruition and all-Wales roll-out in 2012.

Mark Isherwood: We learned two years ago from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation that one in three children were living in poverty in Wales, which is the highest figure in the UK, and that previous improvements had already been lost by then. Save the Children reported that efforts to reduce child poverty had not only stalled in Wales, but had slid into reverse. This was all before a change in the UK Government and before the recession, and happened because the Welsh Government concentrated on the top 2 to 3 per cent of the poorest, and neglected the most vulnerable. Save the Children has now called for measures that are more focused and are more targeted on severe poverty. How do you therefore respond to concerns that have been expressed by third sector bodies, including Barnardo's, which took part in the pilot project for Families First, that the evaluation of those projects has still not been considered by the Welsh Government, and that no-one knows whether anything has been done with the findings?

Huw Lewis: I am not surprised that you want me to respond to what bodies such as Save the Children say about child poverty; I will gladly respond to those points, and to the research that that body has undertaken. It would be difficult for you to ask me to

arian y teulu, newidiadau i fudd-dal plant, credydau treth, ac ati—mae'r rhestr yn mynd yn ei blaen. Mae hynny'n fwy o reswm byth i ni yng Nghymru gamu fyny i lefel newydd o benderfyniad o ran brwydro yn erbyn tlodi plant.

Bydd yn cael ei gyflwyno'n ymarferol mewn tair rhan. Erbyn hyn, mae gennym fframwaith cyfreithiol, diolch i Fesur Plant a Theuluoedd (Cymru) 2010, sy'n gorfodi pob rhan o'r sector cyhoeddus datganoledig yng Nghymru i chwarae ei rhan, ac i gynllunio i chwarae ei rhan, o ran lliniaru tlodi plant. Ail ran y peiriant, os hoffech, yw ein cynllun strategaeth a chyflenwi a lansiwyd gan y Prif Weinidog a minnau, fel y soniais. O ran y mecanwaith darparu ac ariannu ar lawr gwlad, bydd gennym Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, sydd wrthi'n cael ei ddatblygu gan ein partneriaid awdurdod lleol arloesol, a bydd yn dwyn ffrwyth ac yn cael ei gyflwyno ledled Cymru yn 2012.

Mark Isherwood: Dywedodd Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree ddwy flynedd yn ôl bod un o bob tri o blant yn byw mewn tlodi yng Nghymru, sef y ffigur uchaf yn y DU, a bod gwelliannau blaenorol eisoes wedi'u colli erbyn hynny. Dywedodd Achub y Plant bod ymdrechion i leihau tlodi plant wedi dod i ben yng Nghymru, yn ogystal â dechrau mynd am yn ôl. Roedd hyn cyn y newid i Lywodraeth y DU a chyn y dirwasgiad. Digwyddodd am fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn canolbwyntio ar y 2 i 3 y cant ar y brig o'r tlotaf, gan esgeuluso'r rhai oedd yn fwyaf agored i niwed. Mae Achub y Plant wedi galw am fesurau mwy penodol sy'n targedu tlodi difrifol yn fwy. Beth yw eich ymateb i bryderon a fynegwyd gan gyrff trydydd sector, gan gynnwys Barnardo's, a gymerodd ran ym mhrosiect peilot Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, bod Llywodraeth Cymru heb ystyried gwerthusiad y prosiectau hynny o hyd, ac ni wŷr neb beth sydd wedi'i wneud gyda'r canfyddiadau?

Huw Lewis: Nid wyf yn synnu eich bod am i mi i ymateb i'r hyn y mae sefydliadau megis Achub y Plant yn ei ddweud am dlodi plant; byddaf yn falch o ymateb i'r pwyntiau hynny, ac i'r ymchwil gan y sefydliad. Byddai'n anodd i chi ofyn i mi i ymateb i

respond to the Conservative Party stance on child poverty, since no-one knows what it is. The track record of the Tory Party in this regard, and the only contribution that the Tory Party has ever made to child poverty in the UK, is to have trebled it during the Thatcher and Major years.

It is disappointing that the most recent figures that we have available on child poverty, which are now a couple of years old, show that progress has stalled, but it is also very important to realise that the figures in Wales have either stood still over time or moved downwards. There have been a couple of blips during the last couple of instalments of figures coming through. That is important to understand in the context of the Save the Children report in particular. The Save the Children report showed very clearly, apart from the fact that headline writers are not very good at mathematics, that the epicentre of child poverty within the UK is London by a very long way. Figures in parts of London and Manchester are twice as bad as the worst figures evidenced in Wales, in Blaenau Gwent. The Welsh average of child poverty is moving along at about the same as the English average, certainly within the margin of error. So, it is important not to misinterpret the research that we are presented with and flap around using it as some kind of smokescreen for inaction and lack of policy in the case of the Tory party.

Bethan Jenkins: As you can appreciate, in my role as child poverty spokesperson for Plaid Cymru, I deal quite frequently with charities and organisations involved with this particular area. I hear them say time and again that they are concerned about the fact that the targets are not being met. Do you have an opinion as to how realistic it is for the Welsh Government to eradicate child poverty alone? Can this be done without the UK reaching the targets, by looking at the taxation and benefit system, for example? If we cannot reach a target alone, should we perhaps look at other options? It is possible that the targets are not something to which we can aspire without the UK Government adhering to the same targets as well.

Huw Lewis: You are absolutely right that the UK Government targets for 2010 were not

safiad y Blaid Geidwadol ar dlodi plant, oherwydd ni wŷr neb beth ydyw. Hanes y Blaid Doriaidd yn hyn o beth, a'r unig gyfraniad mae'r Blaid Doriaidd wedi'i wneud i dlodi plant yn y DU, yw ei dreblu yn ystod blynyddoedd Thatcher a Major.

Mae'n siomedig bod y ffigurau diweddaraf ar dlodi plant, sydd bellach yn rai blynyddoedd oed, yn dangos bod cynnydd wedi arafu, ond mae hefyd yn bwysig iawn i sylweddoli bod y ffigurau yng Nghymru naill ai wedi aros yn yr unfan neu wedi lleihau. Bu rhai camgymeriadau gyda'r setiau o ffigurau diweddaraf. Mae'n bwysig deall hynny yng nghyd-destun adroddiad Achub y Plant. Dangosodd adroddiad Achub y Plant yn glir, ar wahân i'r ffaith nad yw mathemateg awduron penawdau'r newyddion yn dda iawn, mai Llundain sydd â'r tlodi plant mwyaf yn y DU o bell ffordd. Mae ffigurau ar gyfer rhannau o Lundain a Manceinion ddwywaith mor wael â'r ffigurau gwaethaf ar gyfer Cymru, ym Mlaenau Gwent. Mae ffigwr tlodi plant Cymru ar gyfartaledd yn dilyn yr un patrwm â Lloegr, yn sicr o fewn lwfans gwallau. Felly, mae'n bwysig peidio â chamddehongli'r gwaith ymchwil sy'n cael ei gyflwyno i ni a drysu a'i ddefnyddio fel llen fwg am beidio â gweithredu a diffyg polisi yn achos y blaid Doriaidd.

Bethan Jenkins: Fel y gallwch werthfawrogi, yn fy rôl fel llefarydd tlodi plant Plaid Cymru, byddaf yn delio yn eithaf aml ag elusennau a sefydliadau sy'n ymwneud â'r maes hwn. Rwy'n eu clywed yn dweud dro ar ôl tro eu bod yn pryderu am y ffaith nad oedd y targedau yn cael eu cyflawni. Pa mor realistig yw hi i Lywodraeth Cymru ddileu tlodi plant ar ei phen ei hun? A ellir gwneud hynny heb i'r DU gyrraedd ei thargedau, drwy edrych ar y system trethi a budd-daliadau, er enghraifft? Os na allwn gyrraedd targed ar ein pen ein hunain, a ddylem efallai edrych ar opsiynau eraill? Mae'n bosibl na allwn obeithio cyflawni'r targedau os nad yw Llywodraeth y DU yn cadw at yr un targedau hefyd.

Huw Lewis: Rydych yn llygad eich lle na chafodd targedau Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer

met. Everyone recognises that and no-one is more deeply disappointed by that fact than me. It is also important to understand that, given the ambiguous attitude, at the very best, of the Tory/Lib-Dem coalition in Westminster to this issue at the moment, it is even more important that the Welsh Assembly Government stands by the one-third of Welsh children who are caught up in these statistics and the disabling effects of those statistics on their life chances in reality. We have 10 years to go in terms of reaching the 2020 targets that we have set ourselves here in Wales. We are on-track with most of those targets, and the Welsh Assembly Government is firmly set on this. We will continue to do our damnedest to stand by these children and not let go of their hand in terms of removing these negative effects on their life and development. We think of them as statistics, but they are blows to the life chances of these children. We will continue to redouble our efforts in spite of, and perhaps because of, the attitude of the UK Government in Westminster.

Plant dan Anfantais Gymdeithasol

2. Eleanor Burnham: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am helpu plant sydd dan anfantais gymdeithasol i ragori mewn lleoliad addysgol. OAQ(3)1689(CEL)*

Huw Lewis: Our child poverty strategy for Wales, which was published in February, includes a strategic objective to reduce current inequalities in educational outcomes in Wales. In recent speeches, I have made it clear that tackling the link between poverty and poor attainment is one of our three priorities for school effectiveness.

Eleanor Burnham: You may or may not have been in the Chamber when I mentioned an experience I had a few months ago where I went into a particular school in north Wales—the name of which I will obviously not mention—and discovered some wonderful stuff being exhibited, but it was all spelt wrongly. When I asked the head very diplomatically why the spelling was not correct, she said that it was done in order to

2010 eu cyflawni. Mae pawb yn cydnabod hynny ac nid oes unrhyw un wedi siomi mwy am hynny na fi. Mae hefyd yn bwysig deall, o ystyried agwedd amwys, ar y gorau, y glymblaid Toriaid/Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn San Steffan at y mater hwn ar hyn o bryd, ei bod hyd yn oed yn fwy pwysig bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cefnogi'r traean o blant Cymru sydd wedi'u cynnwys yn yr ystadegau hyn ac yn teimlo effeithiau andwyol yr ystadegau ar eu cyfleoedd bywyd mewn gwirionedd. Mae 10 mlynedd i fynd er mwyn cyrraedd y targedau 2020 i ni osod i'n hunain yng Nghymru. Rydym ar y trywydd iawn gyda'r rhan fwyaf o'r targedau hynny, ac mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gadarn ar hynny. Byddwn yn parhau i wneud ein gorau glas i gefnogi'r plant hyn ac i beidio â gadael i fynd o'u llaw o ran cael gwared ar yr effeithiau negyddol hyn ar eu bywyd a'u datblygiad. Rydym yn meddwl amdanynt fel ystadegau, ond ergydion ydynt i gyfleoedd bywyd y plant hyn. Byddwn yn parhau i ddyblu'n hymdrechion er gwaethaf, ac efallai oherwydd, agwedd Llywodraeth y DU yn San Steffan.

Socially Disadvantaged Children

2. Eleanor Burnham: *Will the Minister make a statement on helping socially disadvantaged children excel in an educational setting. OAQ(3)1689(CEL)*

Huw Lewis: Mae ein strategaeth tlogi plant ar gyfer Cymru, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Chwefror, yn cynnwys amcan strategol i leihau anghydraddoldebau cyfredol mewn canlyniadau addysgol yng Nghymru. Mewn areithiau diweddar, rwyf wedi ei gwneud yn glir bod mynd i'r afael â'r cyswllt rhwng tlogi a chyrhaeddiad gwael yn un o'n tair blaenoriaeth ar gyfer effeithiolrwydd ysgolion.

Eleanor Burnham: Mae'n bosibl yr oeddech yn y Siambr pan soniais am brofiad a gefais rai misoedd yn ôl lle es i ysgol yn y gogledd—yn amlwg, ni fyddaf yn ei henwi—a darganfod bod rhai pethau gwych yn cael eu harddangos, ond bod y cyfan wedi'i sillafu'n anghywir. Pan ofynnais i'r pennaeth yn ddiplomyyddol pan nad oedd y sillafu yn gywir, dywedodd bod hynny er mwyn sicrhau nad oedd yn amharu ar greadigrwydd

ensure that the children's creative flow was not stemmed. My contention, and surely yours Minister, is that if we are not helping pupils to spell, and be numerate as well as literate, we are not going to help what you term, and what we know as, 'socially disadvantaged children' to excel in an educational setting. In view of the recent, fairly abysmal programme for international student assessment and Estyn results, notwithstanding your sincerity, what strategies do you have within Families First to help these wonderful children, who do not have such assistance, to get out of this rut?

Huw Lewis: Perhaps some elements of your question are best directed towards my colleague, the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning, but there is an overlap. You are quite right to raise the question. Programmes like raising attainment and individual standards in education in Wales are taking place in schools, and attempt to narrow the gap in attainment between the better-off and the least well-off in our school system. You will also be aware that the Minister responsible for schools, my colleague, Leighton Andrews, has been very candid in terms of the action that will be taken as a result of the PISA statistics that shocked us all. I know that Leighton has continually used the word 'rigour' in terms of our future approach to educational attainment. All of our children deserve rigour, whether they are well off or not, in the approach that we take to their educational attainment.

Rhodri Morgan: Some socially disadvantaged children are additionally disadvantaged by speech problems. Although this was highlighted in the Oscar ceremony last week with the film, *The King's Speech*, winning four Oscars, do you agree that one of the problems is that speech therapy services are jointly provided by teams of NHS-employed speech therapists and local education-employed speech therapists and that, if one of the local authority speech therapists becomes pregnant, maternity cover is provided through the local authority insurance pool for providing maternity cover; whereas if an NHS speech therapist at the same school becomes pregnant, there is no

y plant. Fy nadl, a'ch un chi Weinidog, yw, os nad ydym yn helpu disgyblion i sillafu, a chael sgiliau rhifedd yn ogystal â sgiliau llythrennedd, ni fyddwn yn helpu'r hyn yr ydych yn galw, a'r hyn y gwyddom yw, 'plant dan anfantais yn gymdeithasol' i ragori mewn lleoliad addysgol. O ystyried asesiad diweddar ac ofnadwy'r rhaglen ryngwladol asesu myfyrwyr, er gwaethaf eich didwylledd, pa strategaethau sydd gennych o fewn Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf i helpu'r plant gwych hyn, nad oes ganddynt gymorth o'r fath, i ddod allan o'r twll hwn?

Huw Lewis: Efallai y byddai'n well cyfeirio rhai elfennau o'ch cwestiwn at fy nghydweithiwr, y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, ond mae gorgyffwrdd. Rydych yn llygad eich lle i godi'r cwestiwn. Mae rhaglenni i godi cyrhaeddiad a safonau unigol mewn addysg yng Nghymru yn cael eu cynnal mewn ysgolion, ac maent yn ceisio lleihau'r bwch mewn cyrhaeddiad rhwng y rhai gwell eu byd a'r rhai lleiaf cefnog yn ein system ysgol. Byddwch hefyd yn ymwybodol bod y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am ysgolion, fy nghydweithiwr, Leighton Andrews, wedi bod yn onest iawn o ran y camau a fydd yn cael eu cymryd o ganlyniad i'r ystadegau PISA a oedd yn sioc ni i gyd. Gwn fod Leighton wedi dweud y byddwn yn drylwyr o ran ein ffordd o weithio ar gyrrhaeddiad addysgol yn y dyfodol. Mae pob un o'n plant yn haeddu trylwyredd, p'un ai ydynt yn gefnog neu beidio, o ran y ffordd y byddwn yn gweithio ar eu cyrrhaeddiad addysgol.

Rhodri Morgan: Mae rhai plant sydd dan anfantais yn gymdeithasol hefyd o dan anfantais oherwydd nam ar eu lleferydd. Er i hynny gael ei amlygu yn seremoni'r Oscars yr wythnos ddiwethaf pan enillodd y ffilm, *The King's Speech*, bedair Oscar, a ydych yn cytuno mai un o'r problemau yw bod gwasanaethau therapi lleferydd yn cael eu darparu ar y cyd gan dimau o therapyddion lleferydd sy'n cael eu cyflogi gan y GIG a therapyddion lleferydd sy'n cael eu cyflogi gan yr awdurdod addysg lleol ac felly os bydd therapydd lleferydd o'r awdurdod lleol yn beichiogi bod y gwasanaeth ar gyfer y cyfnod mamolaeth yn cael ei ddarparu gan gronfa yswiriant yr awdurdod lleol ar gyfer

such maternity cover? This currently causes acute problems at Meadowbank School in Cardiff, which my constituents' children attend. Will the Deputy Minister agree to speak to Leighton Andrews, the Minister for education, and Edwina Hart to consider what we can do to provide a seamless service for speech therapists whether they are employed by the NHS or the local education authority?

Huw Lewis: Thank you for highlighting that problem, Rhodri. You are quite right to point out that, before school, literacy and numeracy, the first educational attainment, if you like, of our youngest and most vulnerable children are questions around speech and language. That is why our Flying Start programme, for instance, concentrates very much upon children achieving in the development of their speech and language, without which, of course, literacy and numeracy are impossible. Even at that very early stage, the stage is being set for the life chances of many of our youngest children.

In terms of the specific details regarding speech therapy, I will work with my ministerial colleagues on this. Thank you, Rhodri, for bringing it to my attention. The whole purpose surrounding the Families First strategy, which will roll out across Wales by 2012, is that we should approach seamlessness in respect of all of the support services that surround all of Wales's children. Although we initially concentrate upon the least well-off, Families First would be a universal way of working across the country, and around the child and the family.

William Graham: Touching on your comments about Flying Start, Minister, I think that everyone endorses it as an excellent scheme. Do you have any plans to encourage greater use of it by local authorities? You will be aware of the previous disappointment by some local authorities, where your department insisted on a rigid spend rather than the larger amount of children to be helped.

darparu gwasanaethau adeg cyfnodau mamolaeth; ond os bydd therapydd lleferydd y GIG yn yr un ysgol yn beichiogi, nid oes gwasanaeth o'r fath ar gyfer y cyfnod mamolaeth? Mae hyn yn achosi problemau difrifol yn Ysgol Meadowbank yng Nghaerdydd ar hyn o bryd, lle mae plant o fy etholaeth yn ddisgyblion. A wnaiff y Dirprwy Weinidog gytuno i siarad â Leighton Andrews, y Gweinidog dros addysg, ac Edwina Hart i ystyried beth allwn ei wneud i ddarparu gwasanaeth di-dor gan therapyddion lleferydd, os ydynt yn cael eu cyflogi gan y GIG neu'r awdurdod addysg lleol?

Huw Lewis: Diolch am dynnu sylw at y broblem honno, Rhodri. Rydych yn llygad eich lle i nodi, cyn cyraeddiadau ysgol, llythrennedd a rhifedd, mai cyrhaeddiad addysgol cyntaf, os mynnwch chi, ein plant ieuengaf a mwyaf agored i niwed yw lleferydd ac iaith. Dyna pam mae ein rhaglen Dechrau'n Deg, er enghraifft, yn canolbwyntio i raddau helaeth ar blant yn cyflawni datblygiad eu lleferydd ac iaith, achos heb hynny, wrth gwrs, mae llythrennedd a rhifedd yn amhosibl. Hyd yn oed yn y cyfnod cynnar iawn hwnnw, mae'r paratodau'n cael eu gwneud ar gyfer cyfleoedd bywyd llawer o'n plant ieuengaf.

O ran y manylion penodol am therapi lleferydd, byddaf yn gweithio gyda fy nghyd-Weinidogion ar hyn. Diolch i chi, Rhodri, am ddod a hynny i fy sylw. Holl bwrpas strategaeth Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, a fydd yn cael ei gyflwyno ledled Cymru erbyn 2012, yw y dylai ein holl wasanaethau cymorth i blant Cymru fod mor ddi-dor â phosibl. Er y byddwn yn dechrau drwy ganolbwyntio ar y lleiaf cefnog, byddai Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf yn ffordd gyffredin o weithio ar draws y wlad, ac o amgylch y plentyn a'r teulu.

William Graham: O ran eich sylwadau am Dechrau'n Deg, Weinidog, credaf fod pawb yn ei gefnogi am ei fod yn gynllun rhagorol. A oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau i annog mwy o ddefnydd ohono gan awdurdodau lleol? Byddwch yn ymwybodol o siom blaenorol rhai awdurdodau lleol, lle gwnaeth eich adran fynnu ar wariant penodol yn hytrach na helpu mwy o blant.

Huw Lewis: I assume that you are referring obliquely to the situation in Newport, William. I hope that it was worked through amicably to the advantage of all sides, particularly the children of Newport. As far as I am aware, that arrangement is now working well.

Huw Lewis: Rwy'n cymryd eich bod yn cyfeirio'n anuniongyrchol at y sefyllfa yng Nghasnewydd, William. Rwy'n gobeithio bod hynny wedi'i ddatrys yn gyfeillgar er budd i bawb, yn enwedig i blant Casnewydd. Hyd y gwn i, mae'r trefniant yn gweithio'n dda erbyn hyn.

On the expansion of Flying Start, I am sure that the political parties will have something to say to the electorate in the run-up to the election. I look forward to seeing the Conservative Party throwing its weight behind Flying Start as a matter of political principle.

O ran ehangu Dechrau'n Deg, rwy'n siŵr y bydd gan y pleidiau gwleidyddol rywbeth i'w ddweud wrth yr etholwyr yn y cyfnod cyn yr etholiad. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld y Blaid Geidwadol yn taflu ei phwysau tu ôl i Dechrau'n Deg fel mater o egwyddor wleidyddol.

Ariannu Prifysgolion Cymru

Funding for Welsh Universities

3. Leanne Wood: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ariannu Prifysgolion Cymru. OAQ(3)1685(CEL)*

3. Leanne Wood: *Will the Minister make a statement on the funding of Welsh Universities. OAQ(3)1685(CEL)*

The Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning (Leighton Andrews): In 2011-12, nearly £400 million will be made available to Welsh universities via the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, and I have made clear my expectation that the sector maximises the return on this significant investment to drive forward for our future to meet the needs of the people and the economy of Wales.

Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Leighton Andrews): Yn 2011-12, bydd bron i £400 miliwn ar gael i brifysgolion Cymru drwy'r Cyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru, ac rwyf wedi gwneud yn glir fy mod yn disgwyl bod y sector yn gwneud y gorau o'r adenillion ar y buddsoddiad sylweddol hwn i yrru ymlaen ar gyfer ein dyfodol i ddiwallu anghenion pobl ac economi Cymru.

2.45 p.m.

Leanne Wood: I have received representations about the implications of proposed changes by the UK Border Agency that would place stringent restrictions on foreign students coming to Wales. These include restricting work entitlements, having to be on campus during the week, raising the level of English fluency and abolishing the post-study work route. Apart from ruling out large numbers of foreign students, those who would still be eligible might choose not to come because of all the hoops that they would have to jump through. Universities are concerned about the impact on their income, given that many receive a lot of students from overseas every year and that they are facing financially difficult years without restrictions on their ability to attract students from overseas. Can you tell us whether you

Leanne Wood: Rwy'n derbyn y sylwadau am oblygiadau'r newidiadau arfaethedig gan Asiantaeth Ffiniau'r DU a fyddai'n gosod cyfyngiadau llym ar fyfyrwyr tramor yn dod i Gymru. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys cyfyngu ar hawliau gwaith, gorfod bod ar y campws yn ystod yr wythnos, codi lefel rhuglder Saesneg a dileu'r llwybr gwaith ôl-astudio. Ar wahân i ddiystyru nifer fawr o fyfyrwyr tramor, efallai y byddai'r rhai sy'n dal i fod yn gymwys yn dewis peidio â dod oherwydd yr holl brosesau y byddai'n rhaid iddynt eu cwblhau. Mae prifysgolion yn pryderu am yr effaith ar eu hincwm, o gofio bod llawer yn cael nifer fawr o fyfyrwyr o dramor bob blwyddyn a'u bod yn wynebu blynyddoedd anodd yn ariannol heb y cyfyngiadau ar eu gallu i ddenu myfyrwyr o dramor. A ydych wedi gwneud unrhyw sylwadau at eich

have made any representations to your counterparts in the UK Government about the effect of this policy on Welsh universities and, if you have not done so yet, whether you intend to do so in the near future?

Leighton Andrews: Yes, we are concerned about the impact that the approach being taken by the UK Government could have on the recruitment of students from overseas to Welsh institutions. Our views on that are well known to the UK Government. Many higher education institutions in Wales have been highly successful in attracting students from a wide variety of international backgrounds. We would be concerned to see anything that restricted the flow of students from overseas and damaged the excellent relationships that higher education institutions in Wales have developed with many countries overseas in recent years.

Mark Isherwood: Your party voted against an opposition motion in the last Assembly to scrap top-up fees for Welsh-domiciled students. You then insisted to all the other parties, on the basis of legal and financial advice, that assistance should be restricted to Welsh-domiciled students at Welsh universities. You then decided to scrap the grant offsetting the cost of student top-up fees in Wales, but now you have executed a big u-turn and are saying that you can do all the things that you previously stated that you could not and would not. The council of the Learned Society of Wales has now said that the funding gap between Wales and England over the first 10 years of devolution is £360 million, the gap between Wales and Scotland is over £1 billion and your decision will mean that a further sum will be taken from the budget of Welsh universities. Why are you pursuing a strategy that you previously voted against and advised Members, following legal and financial advice, could not be implemented? This strategy will lead to subsidies for large numbers of overseas students, will reduce the number of Welsh-domiciled students receiving funding to go to university and will further cut the funding going into our cash-strapped universities.

cymheiriaid yn Llywodraeth y DU am effaith y polisi hwn ar brifysgolion Cymru ac, os nad ydych wedi gwneud hynny eto, a ydych yn bwriadu gwneud hynny yn y dyfodol agos?

Leighton Andrews: Ydym, rydym yn pryderu am effaith posibl penderfyniad Llywodraeth y DU ar sefydliadau yng Nghymru yn recriwtio myfyrwyr o dramor. Gŵyr Llywodraeth y DU beth yw ein barn ar hynny. Mae llawer o sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru wedi bod yn hynod lwyddiannus wrth ddenu myfyrwyr o amrywiaeth eang o gefndiroedd rhyngwladol. Byddem yn pryderu i weld unrhyw beth a fyddai'n cyfyngu ar lif myfyrwyr tramor ac yn difrodi'r berthynas ardderchog y mae sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru wedi ei datblygu gyda llawer o wledydd tramor yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf.

Mark Isherwood: Pleidleisiodd eich plaid yn erbyn cynnig gan yr wrthblaid yn y Cynulliad diwethaf i ddileu ffioedd ychwanegol ar gyfer myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru. Yna, roeddech yn mynnu i bob un o'r pleidiau eraill, ar sail cyngor cyfreithiol ac ariannol, y dylid cyfyngu cymorth i fyfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru ac yn mynd i brifysgol yng Nghymru. Yna, penderfynasoch ddiddymu'r grant a oedd yn gwrthbwysu cost ffioedd ychwanegol myfyrwyr yng Nghymru, ond nawr rydych wedi newid cyfeiriad yn llwyr ac yn dweud eich bod yn gallu gwneud y pethau blaenorol nad oeddech yn gallu neu nad oeddech yn fodlon eu gwneud. Mae cyngor Cymdeithas Ddysgedig Cymru wedi dweud bod y bwlch cyllido rhwng Cymru a Lloegr dros 10 mlynedd gyntaf datganoli yn £360 miliwn a bod y bwlch rhwng Cymru a'r Alban yn fwy na £1 biliwn ac y bydd eich penderfyniad yn golygu y bydd swm ychwanegol yn cael ei gymryd o gyllideb prifysgolion Cymru. Pam ydych yn dilyn strategaeth y gwnaethoch bleidleisio yn ei herbyn yn flaenorol a chynghori Aelodau arno, yn dilyn cyngor cyfreithiol ac ariannol, na ellir ei gweithredu? Bydd y strategaeth hon yn arwain at gymorthdaliadau ar gyfer nifer fawr o fyfyrwyr tramor, bydd yn lleihau nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru sy'n derbyn cyllid i fynd i brifysgol a bydd yn cwtdogi ymhellach yr arian sy'n mynd i mewn

i'n prifysgolion sy'n brin o arian.

Leighton Andrews: This Government is supporting Welsh students wherever they study. Welsh-domiciled students will not face the cost of higher fees, whether they study in Wales, England, Northern Ireland or Scotland. Your party would not give that support to Welsh students. It has made it absolutely clear that its policy is not to give support to Welsh-domiciled students. In fact, your party would punish Welsh-domiciled students. On the point that you raised in respect of the Learned Society of Wales, I read its press release and I was rather surprised to see that it did not recognise that the investment that was going to support Welsh students was an investment in students. It was a very curious press release. We are the party and the Government that are delivering a made-in-Wales policy that delivers for Welsh students and continues investment in our universities. The UK Government's policy is to cut support to universities radically at the same time as jacking up student fees.

Peter Black: You will be aware of the paper by the Learned Society of Wales that was published today, which effectively identified a cumulative funding gap of more than £360 million between universities in England and Wales in the 10 years between 2000 and 2009, which now amounted, it said, to a gap per student of £900. I do not think that anyone expects you to be able to conjure up additional money from thin air, especially given the present financial climate. However, what financial rigours and requirements are you putting on higher education institutions to try to find better ways of using the money that they have, so as to send more to the front line?

Leighton Andrews: You can only come up with that figure per student if you ignore the amount of money that we are putting into student support and to subsidising tuition fees in future. I find it rather surprising that a party that stood for election at a UK level last year on a platform of scrapping tuition fees without cutting university income, but is now in Government in Westminster implementing

Leighton Andrews: Mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn cefnogi myfyrwyr o Gymru lle bynnag y maent yn astudio. Ni fydd myfyrwyr sy'n byw yng Nghymru yn wynebu'r gost o ffioedd uwch, os ydynt yn astudio yng Nghymru, Lloegr, Gogledd Iwerddon neu'r Alban. Nid oedd eich plaid chi am roi'r cymorth hwnnw i fyfyrwyr o Gymru. Mae wedi gwneud yn gwbl glir mai ei pholisi yw peidio â rhoi cymorth i fyfyrwyr o Gymru. Yn wir, byddai eich plaid chi yn cosbi myfyrwyr o Gymru. O ran eich pwynt am Gymdeithas Ddysgedig Cymru, darllenais y datganiad i'r wasg a synnu i weld nad oedd yn cydnabod bod y buddsoddiad a oedd yn mynd i gefnogi myfyrwyr o Gymru yn fuddsoddiad mewn myfyrwyr. Roedd yn ddatganiad i'r wasg rhyfedd iawn. Ni yw'r blaid a'r Llywodraeth sy'n darparu polisi a luniwyd yng Nghymru ar gyfer myfyrwyr o Gymru ac sy'n parhau i fuddsoddi yn ein prifysgolion. Polisi Llywodraeth y DU yw cwtogi cefnogaeth i brifysgolion yn sylweddol ar yr un pryd â chynyddu ffioedd myfyrwyr.

Peter Black: Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r papur gan Gymdeithas Ddysgedig Cymru a gyhoeddwyd heddiw, sydd i bob pwrpas yn nodi bwlch ariannu cronus o fwy na £360 miliwn rhwng prifysgolion yng Nghymru a Lloegr yn ystod y 10 mlynedd rhwng 2000 a 2009, sydd nawr yn gyfanswm, mae'n dweud, o fwlch o £900 i bob myfyriwr. Nid wy'n meddwl bod unrhyw un yn disgwyl i chi allu creu arian ychwanegol o ddim byd, yn enwedig o ystyried yr hinsawdd ariannol bresennol. Fodd bynnag, beth yw'r gofynion ariannol llym yr ydych yn eu rhoi ar sefydliadau addysg uwch er mwyn ceisio dod o hyd i ffyrdd gwell o ddefnyddio'r arian sydd ganddynt, er mwyn anfon mwy i'r rheng flaen?

Leighton Andrews: Mae'r ffigur hwnnw am bob myfyriwr ond yn gywir os ydych yn anwybyddu'r swm o arian yr ydym yn cyfrannu at gymorth i fyfyrwyr ac i roi cymhorthdal ffioedd dysgu yn y dyfodol. Mae'n fy synnu bod plaid a safodd yn yr etholiad ar lefel y DU y llynedd gan ddweud ei bod am sgrapio ffioedd dysgu heb gwtogi incwm prifysgolion, ond sydd nawr mewn

the trebling of university fees and the cutting of university income, including a cut of 80 per cent in the teaching grants for universities in England, should be lecturing us when we have come up with a policy that supports Welsh students and Welsh institutions of higher education.

Ad-drefnu Ysgolion

4. Rhodri Glyn Thomas: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ad-drefnu ysgolion yn Nwyrain sir Gaerfyrddin. OAQ(3)1675(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: The Carmarthen 14-19 partnership has published an outline business case describing proposals for reform in the Dinefwr area, in line with its transformation agenda. Approval in principle has been given by the Assembly Government for £23.7 million of capital funding to be made available to support the first phase of this programme, subject to statutory processes.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Diolch am yr eglurhad hwnnw, Weinidog, oherwydd mae cryn dipyn o gymysgwch yn bodoli yn nwyrain sir Caerfyrddin ynghylch beth yn union sy'n digwydd gyda'r ad-drefnu. Mae'n weddol glir beth sy'n mynd i ddigwydd yng nghwm Gwendraeth, gyda chyfuno Ysgol y Gwendraeth ac Ysgol Gyfun Maes yr Yrfa. Fodd bynnag, mae cryn ansicrwydd am y dyfodol yn nyffryn Tywi, oherwydd y bwriad gwreiddiol oedd cael ysgol gyfun newydd i gyfuno ysgolion Llandeilo a Llanymddyfri, ond erbyn hyn mae ansicrwydd a fydd yr arian ar gael. Yr ydych wedi sôn am y cam cyntaf, a'r arian sydd ar gael ar gyfer hwnnw. A ydych mewn sefyllfa i ddweud faint yn union bydd Llywodraeth Cymru'n buddsoddi yn yr ad-drefnu arbennig hwn? A ydych yn hyderus fod gan Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin y gallu i gyfrannu'r arian cyfatebol bydd ei angen?

Leighton Andrews: I am not in a position to comment on the final decisions that we will be reaching on school capital. As I said in my first answer, the local authority in Carmarthen has published an outline business case, and we have given approval in principle for £23.7 million of capital funding to be

Llywodraeth yn San Steffan ac yn treblu ffioedd prifysgol ac yn cwtogi incwm prifysgolion, gan gynnwys toriad 80 y cant yn y grantiau dysgu ar gyfer prifysgolion yn Lloegr, yn pregethu atom ni pan yr ydym wedi creu polisi sy'n cefnogi myfyrwyr o Gymru a sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru.

School Reorganisation

4. Rhodri Glyn Thomas: *Will the Minister make a statement on school reorganisation in East Carmarthenshire. OAQ(3)1675(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: Mae partneriaeth 14-19 Caerfyrddin wedi cyhoeddi achos busnes amlinellol bras yn disgrifio'r cynigion ar gyfer diwygiadau yn ardal Dinefwr, yn unol â'i agenda trawsnewid. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cymeradwyo mewn egwyddor £23.7 miliwn o gyllid cyfalaf i gefnogi cam cyntaf y rhaglen, yn amodol ar brosesau statudol.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Thank you, for that explanation, Minister, because there has been quite a bit of confusion in east Carmarthenshire about what exactly is happening with the reorganisation. It is quite clear what will happen in the Gwendraeth valley, with the merger of Ysgol y Gwendraeth and Ysgol Gyfun Maes yr Yrfa. However, there is uncertainty in the Tywi valley, because the original intention was to build a new comprehensive school to merge Llandeilo and Llandovery schools, but it is now not clear that the money will be available. You have mentioned the first step and the money that is available for that. Are you in a position to say exactly how much the Government of Wales is investing in this specific reorganisation? Are you confident that Carmarthenshire County Council has the ability to contribute the necessary match funding?

Leighton Andrews: Nid wyf mewn sefyllfa i roi sylwadau ar ein penderfyniadau terfynol ar gyfalaf ysgolion. Fel y dywedais yn fy ateb cyntaf, mae'r awdurdod lleol yng Nghaerfyrddin wedi cyhoeddi achos busnes bras, ac rydym wedi cymeradwyo mewn egwyddor i ryddhau £23.7 miliwn o gyllid

made available. We will reach decisions in due course based on the available capital that we have. As the Member knows, our capital budgets have been significantly reduced by the UK Government in the budget settlement, therefore, at this stage, I will not be able to give him any further figures, but we hope to do so before summer.

Ieithoedd Tramor Modern

5. Paul Davies: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddysgu Ieithoedd Tramor Modern. OAQ(3)1677(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to improving opportunities to learn a foreign language was set out in the action plan, 'Making languages count—Modern foreign languages in secondary schools and Learning Pathways 14–19', published in July 2010. The plan details how we will support the teaching of languages in schools and improve the take-up of languages in learning pathways 14-19.

Paul Davies: I am grateful to the Minister for that response. While I am aware of the 'Making languages count' action plan, I continue to receive representations regarding the lack of modern foreign language courses in west Wales. One worrying claim that has been put to me by a constituent, which I am currently looking into, is that from September 2011, not a single school in Pembrokeshire will teach A-level German. This is particularly disappointing given that Haverfordwest Town Council and local schools have spent the last 20 years forming important links with places like Oberkirch. Recent figures that you have provided show that the number of students studying modern foreign languages has declined substantially in the last five years. Will you outline what the Assembly Government is doing to encourage the uptake of modern foreign languages such as German?

Leighton Andrews: We have been working with CILT Cymru, the national centre for language in Wales, to give support to the development of foreign language learning.

cyfalaf. Byddwn yn gwneud penderfyniadau maes o law yn seiliedig ar y cyfalaf a fydd gennym. Fel y gŵyr yr Aelod, mae ein cyllidebau cyfalaf wedi'u cwtogi'n sylweddol gan Lywodraeth y DU yn setliad y gyllideb, felly, ar hyn o bryd, ni allaf roi rhagor o ffigurau iddo, ond rydym yn gobeithio gwneud hynny cyn yr haf.

Modern Foreign Languages

5. Paul Davies: *Will the Minister make a statement on the teaching of Modern Foreign Languages. OAQ(3)1677(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: Mae ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wella cyfleoedd i ddysgu ieithoedd tramor wedi'i nodi yn y cynllun gweithredu, 'Sicrhau bod ieithoedd yn cyfrif—Ieithoedd tramor modern mewn ysgolion uwchradd a Llwybrau Dysgu 14–19', a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Gorffennaf 2010. Mae'r cynllun yn nodi ar sut y byddwn yn cefnogi addysgu ieithoedd mewn ysgolion a chynyddu'r niferoedd sy'n dewis ieithoedd mewn llwybrau dysgu 14-19.

Paul Davies: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb. Er fy mod yn ymwybodol o'r cynllun gweithredu 'Sicrhau bod ieithoedd yn cyfrif', rwy'n dal i dderbyn sylwadau am y diffyg cyrsiau ieithoedd tramor modern yng ngorllewin Cymru. Un mater sy'n peri pryder a ddaeth i'n sylw gan etholwr, ac rwy'n edrych i mewn i'r mater ar hyn o bryd, yw na fydd un ysgol yn Sir Benfro yn addysgu Safon Uwch Almaeneg o fis Medi 2011. Mae hyn yn arbennig o siomedig o ystyried bod Cyngor Tref Hwlfordd ac ysgolion lleol wedi treulio'r 20 mlynedd diwethaf yn ffurfio cysylltiadau pwysig gyda llefydd fel Oberkirch. Mae'r ffigurau diweddar a ddarparwyd gennych yn dangos bod nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n astudio ieithoedd tramor modern wedi gostwng yn sylweddol yn y pum mlynedd diwethaf. A wnewch chi amlinellu'r hyn y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i annog pobl i ddewis ieithoedd tramor modern, fel Almaeneg?

Leighton Andrews: Rydym wedi bod yn gweithio gyda CILT Cymru, canolfan iaith genedlaethol Cymru, i gefnogi datblygiad dysgu ieithoedd tramor. Mae CILT Cymru yn

CILT Cymru provides secondary schools with practical support and advice on their provision, including continuing professional development for practitioners, and works very closely with a range of schools across Wales. We also offer training incentives for initial teacher training in certain areas, such as modern foreign languages. We have a programme that is quite extensive; if there are particular problems in Pembrokeshire, I suggest that you take them up with the local authority.

Safonau Addysgol

6. Nick Ramsay: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am safonau addysgol yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)1659(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: I refer the Member to the written statement that I issued on 2 February.

Nick Ramsay: I thank the Minister for that answer. As we are all aware in this Chamber, the recent Programme for International Student Assessment results showed that our performance as a country has been getting worse, as reflected in Estyn's recently published annual report.

One of the key concerns has been the lack of strategic direction. The fluctuating trend in pupils' performance at the end of key stage 2 is a damning indictment of the policies that have been pursued not just during your tenure, Minister, but prior to it. You are on record as saying that this is not just about money. Indeed, Wales was outperformed by former eastern bloc countries that spend far less on education. However, it is not all bad and there are examples of good practice in schools across Wales, for example, in my constituency, and I am sure that other Assembly Members can mention good practice as well. What are you doing to roll out the best practice that is happening in certain schools in Wales, so that all areas of Wales can benefit from that good practice?

Leighton Andrews: Best practice is being rolled out through our school effectiveness framework. We have established professional

rhoi cefnogaeth a chynghor ymarferol i ysgolion uwchradd ar eu darpariaeth, gan gynnwys datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus ar gyfer ymarferwyr, ac mae'n gweithio'n agos iawn gydag ystod o ysgolion ledled Cymru. Rydym hefyd yn cynnig cymhellion hyfforddiant ar gyfer hyfforddiant athrawon cychwynnol mewn rhai meysydd, megis ieithoedd tramor modern. Mae gennym raglen helaeth; os oes problemau penodol yn Sir Benfro, rwy'n awgrymu eich bod yn eu trafod gyda'r awdurdod lleol.

Educational Standards

6. Nick Ramsay: *Will the Minister make a statement on educational standards in Wales. OAQ(3)1659(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: Cyfeiriaf yr Aelod at y datganiad ysgrifenedig a gyhoeddais ar 2 Chwefror.

Nick Ramsay: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. Fel y gwyr pawb yn y Siambr, dangosodd canlyniadau diweddar y Rhaglen Ryngwladol Asesu Myfyrwyr fod ein perfformiad fel gwlad wedi gwaethygu, fel y dangosodd yr adroddiad blynyddol a gyhoeddodd Estyn yn ddiweddar.

Un o'r pryderon allweddol oedd y diffyg cyfeiriad strategol. Mae'r duedd amrywiol ym mherfformiad disgyblion ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 2 yn ddiad damniol o'r polisïau sydd wedi'u dilyn nid yn unig yn ystod eich cyfnod, Weinidog, ond cyn hynny. Rydych wedi dweud ar goedd nad yw hyn yn ymwneud ag arian yn unig. Yn wir, perfformiodd rhai gwledydd yn y bloc dwyreiniol cynt sy'n gwario llawer llai ar addysg yn well na Chymru. Fodd bynnag, nid oedd popeth yn wael ac mae enghreifftiau o arfer da mewn ysgolion ledled Cymru, er enghraifft, yn fy etholaeth, ac rwy'n siŵr y gall Aelodau Cynulliad eraill hefyd sôn am arferion da. Beth ydych yn ei wneud i ledaenu'r arfer gorau sy'n digwydd mewn rhai ysgolion yng Nghymru, fel y gall pob ardal yng Nghymru elwa o'r arferion da hynny?

Leighton Andrews: Caiff arferion gorau eu cyflwyno drwy ein fframwaith effeithiolrwydd ysgolion. Rydym wedi

learning communities across the whole of Wales, where practitioners can learn from one another. As I have said in several speeches and often this Chamber, this is very much a matter of leadership. We must concentrate more on rolling that best practice out and we must learn from the best practice in Wales. That is why I outlined 20 specific actions that are geared to raising standards in the speech that I delivered and in the written statement that I published on 2 February.

Nerys Evans: Rhoddwyd llawer o sylw yn ddiweddar i safonau addysgol ac nid oes dwywaith bod angen mynd i'r afael â'r methiannau presennol. Un o lwyddiannau Llywodraeth Cymru yn y maes addysg yw'r cyfnod sylfaen, sy'n newid sylfaenol o ran addysgu ein plant ieuengaf ac sy'n creu system addysg wedi'i theilwra ar gyfer anghenion a datblygiad unigolion. Wrth i'r cyfnod sylfaen gael ei ehangu dros Gymru gyfan, pryd y rhagwelwch y bydd tystiolaeth gadarn ar gael ynghylch canlyniadau'r cyfnod sylfaen? Yr ydym oll yn gwybod am dystiolaeth anecdotal sy'n dangos fod y cyfnod sylfaen yn gwella sgiliau sylfaenol a datblygiad personol ein plant ieuengaf, sy'n newyddion gwych, ond pa bryd y bydd tystiolaeth gadarn ar gael i gefnogi hynny?

Leighton Andrews: The foundation phase has been fully rolled out since last September.

Paul Davies: In your written statement to Members on 2 February, you said that you would be creating a standards unit to lead performance and provide challenge on a national basis. Are you in a position to tell us when that unit is likely to be fully functional and when you will be providing more information on its role and operation?

Leighton Andrews: I have had a number of meetings to discuss the creation of the standards unit and we are making good progress in identifying people to work with the unit. I expect to have more to say about that later this month. We are also going through, in some detail, the expectations that we have for that unit and the leadership role that we anticipate that it will provide for

sefydlu cymunedau dysgu proffesiynol ledled Cymru, lle y gall ymarferwyr ddysgu oddi wrth ei gilydd. Fel yr wyf wedi ei ddweud mewn sawl araith ac yn aml yn y Siambr, mae hyn yn ymwneud ag arweinyddiaeth. Mae'n rhaid i ni ganolbwyntio mwy ar ledaenu'r arfer gorau hwnnw ac mae'n rhaid i ni ddysgu o'r arfer gorau yng Nghymru. Dyna pam yr wyf wedi amlinellu 20 o gamau gweithredu penodol sydd wedi'u hanelu at godi safonau yn yr araith a gyflwynais ac yn y datganiad ysgrifenedig a gyhoeddais ar 2 Chwefror.

Nerys Evans: A great deal of attention has been paid recently to educational standards and there is no doubt that we need to deal with current failings. One of the successes of the Welsh Government in education is the foundation phase, which is a fundamental change to the way in which our youngest children are taught and which creates an education system that is tailored to the needs and development of individuals. As the foundation phase is expanded across Wales, when do you foresee that we will have firm evidence on its outcomes? We all know of anecdotal evidence that demonstrates that the foundation phase improves basic skills and the personal development of our youngest children, which is great news, but when will firm evidence be available to support that?

Leighton Andrews: Mae'r cyfnod sylfaen wedi'i gyflwyno'n llawn ers mis Medi diwethaf.

Paul Davies: Yn eich datganiad ysgrifenedig i'r Aelodau ar 2 Chwefror, dywedasoch y byddech yn creu uned safonau i arwain perfformiad a herio yn genedlaethol. A ydych mewn sefyllfa i ddweud wrthym pryd y bydd yr uned honno yn debygol o fod yn gwbl weithredol a phryd y byddwch yn rhoi mwy o wybodaeth ar ei rôl a'i gweithrediad?

Leighton Andrews: Rwyf wedi cael nifer o gyfarfodydd i drafod y broses o greu'r uned safonau ac rydym yn gwneud cynnydd da o ran dod o hyd i bobl i weithio gyda'r uned. Rwy'n disgwyl cael mwy i'w ddweud am hynny yn hwyrach yn y mis hwn. Rydym hefyd yn trafod, yn eithaf manwl, ein disgwyliadau ar gyfer yr uned a'r rôl arweinyddiaeth yr ydym yn rhagweld y bydd

education in Wales.

Paul Davies: I thank the Minister for that answer. In the written statement, you also talked about producing statutory guidance on school improvement that would set out the best practice currently available in Wales and elsewhere. Are you now in a position to tell us when that guidance is likely to be made available?

Leighton Andrews: We are working through each one of the actions that I outlined in order to put in place a concrete timetable for the implementation of those actions. At this stage, I do not anticipate being able to publish that written guidance before dissolution, but on the assumption that a series of similar ministerial appointments will be made after the elections, I anticipate that it will be published shortly after that.

Irene James: Minister, I read your recent statements and speeches about educational standards in Wales and agree that it is not just spend per pupil that affects attainment. However, do you not agree that the fact that the Welsh spend per pupil is not weighed down with the same scale of private finance initiative costs as it is in England means that our spend can be more effective in helping to raise standards?

3.00 p.m.

Leighton Andrews: You raise an important point, because the data that are published on spend include significant sums in parts of the English system for support for the private finance initiative and other developments, such as the private investment that has gone into academy schools, which we do not have in Wales. It is always important to stress that, at the end of the day, this is not simply a question of money. We know that some of the highest-spending authorities in Wales are not necessarily the best performers. Equally, we know from the PISA results that countries that spend less than Wales can do better than Wales. So, there is not necessarily a link between spending and attainment. What we have to ensure is that the money that we are putting into the system is well spent, which means best practice being rolled out across

yn darparu ar gyfer addysg yng Nghymru.

Paul Davies: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb. Yn y datganiad ysgrifenedig, soniasoch hefyd am gynhyrchu canllawiau statudol ar wella ysgolion a fyddai'n nodi'r arferion gorau sydd ar gael yng Nghymru ac mewn mannau eraill ar hyn o bryd. A ydych yn awr mewn sefyllfa i ddweud wrthym pryd y bydd y canllawiau hynny yn debygol o fod ar gael?

Leighton Andrews: Rydym yn gweithio drwy bob un o'r camau gweithredu y soniais amdanynt i sefydlu amserlen benodol ar gyfer gweithredu'r camau hynny. Ar hyn o bryd, nid wyf yn disgwyl gallu cyhoeddi'r canllawiau ysgrifenedig cyn y diddymiad, ond gan dybio y bydd cyfres o benodiadau gweinidogol tebyg yn cael eu gwneud ar ôl yr etholiadau, rwy'n rhagweld y byddant yn cael eu cyhoeddi yn fuan ar ôl hynny.

Irene James: Weinidog, darllenais eich datganiadau ac areithiau diweddar am safonau addysgol yng Nghymru ac rwy'n cytuno nad y gwariant fesul disgybl sy'n effeithio ar gyrhaeddiad yn unig. Fodd bynnag, a ydych yn cytuno bod y ffaith nad yw'r gwariant fesul disgybl yng Nghymru yn cael ei bwysu i lawr gyda'r un raddfa o gostau menter cyllid preifat ag sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr yn golygu y gallai ein gwariant fod yn fwy effeithiol o ran helpu i godi safonau?

Leighton Andrews: Rydych yn codi pwnt pwysig, oherwydd mae'r data sydd wedi'u cyhoeddi ar wariant yn cynnwys symiau sylweddol mewn rhannau o'r system yn Lloegr ar gyfer cymorth i'r fenter cyllid preifat a datblygiadau eraill, megis y buddsoddiad preifat mewn ysgolion academi, nad oes gennym yng Nghymru. Mae bob amser yn bwysig pwysleisio, ar ddiwedd y dydd, nad mater syml o arian yw hwn. Gwyddom nad yw rhai o'r awdurdodau sy'n gwario fwyaf yng Nghymru o reidrwydd ymysg y perfformwyr gorau. Yn yr un modd, gwyddom o ganlyniadau PISA y gall gwledydd sy'n gwario llai na Chymru wneud yn well na Chymru. Felly, nid oes cyswllt rhwng gwariant a chyrhaeddiad o reidrwydd. Rhaid i ni sicrhau bod yr arian yr ydym yn ei roi i mewn i'r system yn cael ei wario'n dda,

the whole of Wales.

Jenny Randerson: From your answer to my colleague Peter Black, am I to understand that you are arguing that the Learned Society of Wales was wrong when it pointed out the funding gap that has existed for the last 10 years for university students, comparing the money spent on their education in Wales with that spent in England and Scotland? Following that logic, was the retiring chairman of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales also wrong when he pointed out three years ago the dangers of the growing funding gap?

Leighton Andrews: There are several issues bound up with the press release from the learned society, one of which is that it does not appear to accept that the investment that goes to students that we are putting into the system should be counted. We are investing in students through student support and through the measures that we are taking to mitigate the future rise in fees, but the society does not seem to want to recognise that investment. If you add together the totality of what we invest in higher education institutions and student support, it is pretty comparable with what is spent elsewhere.

Jenny Randerson: We are not discussing the same thing, Minister, because you are talking about the future, and the society was examining the past. That is important. If you apply that logic to the past, you will find that there is a considerable funding gap.

I will move on to the issue of the potential for some universities in Wales to charge £4,000 in student tuition fees. It will make no difference to students from Wales, because they will pay the current level of fees, but it will make a difference to the universities concerned, because they will have considerably less income, both from English students going to university in Wales and from Welsh students who are subsidised by your Government. Which universities felt that £4,000 was an appropriate amount to charge? If that idea did not come from the

sy'n golygu cyflwyno arfer gorau ledled Cymru.

Jenny Randerson: O'ch ateb i'm cyd-Aelod Peter Black, a wyf i gymryd eich bod yn dadlau bod Cymdeithas Ddysgedig Cymru yn anghywir i ddwyn sylw at y bwlch cyllido sydd wedi bodoli ers y 10 mlynedd diwethaf i fyfyrwyr prifysgol, gan gymharu'r arian sy'n cael ei wario ar eu haddysg yng Nghymru â'r hyn sy'n cael ei wario yn Lloegr a'r Alban? I dilyn y resymeg honno, a oedd cadeirydd Cyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru, a oedd ar fin ymddeol, hefyd yn anghywir pan soniodd dair blynedd yn ôl am beryglon y bwlch cyllido cynyddol?

Leighton Andrews: Mae nifer o faterion ynghlwm wrth y datganiad i'r wasg gan y gymdeithas ddysgedig, ac un ohonynt yw nad yw'n ymddangos fel ei bod yn derbyn y dylai'r buddsoddiad sy'n mynd i fyfyrwyr yr ydym yn ei roi mewn i'r system gael ei gyfrif. Rydym yn buddsoddi mewn myfyrwyr trwy gymorth i fyfyrwyr a thrwy'r mesurau yr ydym yn eu cymryd i liniaru'r cynnydd yn y ffioedd yn y dyfodol, ond ymddengys nad yw'r gymdeithas am gydnabod y buddsoddiad hwnnw. Os ychwanegwch yr hyn rydym yn fuddsoddi mewn sefydliadau addysg uwch a chymorth i fyfyrwyr at ei gilydd, mae'n eithaf tebyg i'r hyn sy'n cael ei wario mewn manau eraill.

Jenny Randerson: Nid ydym yn trafod yr un peth, Weinidog, oherwydd rydych chi'n sôn am y dyfodol, ac roedd y gymdeithas yn edrych ar y gorffennol. Mae hynny'n bwysig. Drwy ddefnyddio'r rhesymeg honno ar gyfer y gorffennol, fe welwch fod bwlch ariannu sylweddol.

Rwyf am symud ymlaen at y potensial y gallai rhai prifysgolion yng Nghymru godi tâl o £4,000 am ffioedd dysgu myfyrwyr. Ni fydd yn gwneud unrhyw wahaniaeth i fyfyrwyr o Gymru, gan y byddant yn talu ffioedd ar y lefel gyfredol, ond bydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth i'r prifysgolion dan sylw, oherwydd bydd ganddynt gryn dipyn yn llai o incwm, o'r myfyrwyr o Loegr sy'n mynd i brifysgol yng Nghymru ac o'r myfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n cael cymhorthdal gan eich Llywodraeth. Pa brifysgolion sy'n credu bod £4,000 yn swm priodol i'w godi?

universities, where did it come from? The universities that I have spoken to suggest that they need very much more than £4,000 to deal with the funding problems that they face.

Leighton Andrews: Let me take you back to the first point, which is that the issues raised in the learned society press release about past funding do not appear to take into account the money that we have invested as an Assembly Government in giving support to students, both through the Assembly learning grant and the fee support that we have offered in the past. That applies in the past as well as in the future. In respect of the decision that we have taken to seek a basic fee of £4,000, we will be debating the regulations concerning those fees plans on 15 March, I think. There was a consultation exercise on the basic and maximum fees. Representations were made to us in the course of those discussions, and we held a seminar on the proposals. Strong representations were made to us, not least by the National Union of Students and student unions in Wales, that we should set a basic fee of £4,000. The outcome of that will be, I expect, that every higher education institution in Wales that wants to charge more than £4,000 will have to justify why it wishes to do so. For example, they will have to explain what they are going to do about access to higher education and set out extensively how they intend to improve the student experience. Those things should be welcomed and I am delighted that we are putting forward recommendations that will oblige higher education institutions in Wales to demonstrate what they are doing for access and to improve the student experience.

Plant sy'n Derbyn Gofal

7. David Melding: *Faint o blant sy'n derbyn gofal a aeth i addysg uwch yn y flwyddyn ddiweddaraf y mae ffigurau ar gael ar ei chyfer. OAQ(3)1687(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: No definitive figures are available for the number of looked-after children in higher education. However, estimates range from 12 to 18 children from Wales entering further or higher education per academic year.

Os na ddaeth y syniad hwnnw o'r prifysgolion, o le y daeth? Mae'r prifysgolion yr wyf wedi siarad â hwy wedi awgrymu bod angen llawer mwy na £4,000 arnynt i ddelio â'r problemau ariannu sy'n eu hwynebu.

Leighton Andrews: Gadewch i mi fynd â chi yn ôl at y pwynt cyntaf, sef nad oedd y materion a godwyd yn y datganiad i'r wasg gan y gymdeithas ddysgedig am ariannu yn y gorffennol fel pe bai yn cymryd i ystyriaeth yr arian a fuddsoddodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad mewn rhoi cymorth i fyfyrwyr, drwy grant dysgu'r Cynulliad a'r cymorth ffioedd yr ydym wedi gynnig yn y gorffennol. Mae hynny'n wir am y gorffennol yn ogystal ag am y dyfodol. O ran ein penderfyniad i geisio am ffi sylfaenol o £4,000, credaf y byddwn yn trafod rheoliadau'r cynlluniau ffioedd hynny ar 15 Mawrth. Bu ymgynghoriad ar y ffioedd sylfaenol a'r ffioedd uchaf. Cyflwynwyd sylwadau i ni yn ystod y trafodaethau hynny, ac fe gynhaliom seminar ar y cynigion. Cawsom sylwadau cryf, gan Undeb Cenedlaethol y Myfyrwyr ac undebau myfyrwyr yng Nghymru, y dylem osod ffi sylfaenol o £ 4,000. Canlyniad hynny, rwy'n disgwyl, fydd bod rhaid i bob sefydliad addysg uwch yng Nghymru sy'n awyddus i godi mwy na £4,000 gyfiawnhau pam y mae'n dymuno gwneud hynny. Er enghraifft, bydd rhaid iddynt egluro'r hyn maent yn mynd i'w wneud ynghylch mynediad i addysg uwch a nodi'n fanwl sut maent yn bwriadu gwella profiad y myfyrwyr. Dylid croesawu hynny ac rwyf wrth fy modd ein bod yn cyflwyno argymhellion a fydd yn gorfodi sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru i ddangos yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud ar gyfer mynediad ac i wella profiad y myfyrwyr.

Looked-After Children

7. David Melding: *How many looked after children entered higher education in the last year for which figures are available. OAQ(3)1687(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: Nid oes ffigurau pendant ar gael ar gyfer nifer y plant sy'n derbyn gofal sydd mewn addysg uwch. Fodd bynnag, yr amcangyfrif yw bod rhwng 12 a 18 plentyn o Gymru yn mynd i addysg bellach neu addysg uwch fesul flwyddyn

academaidd.

David Melding: Minister, these data are shocking, but are well-established. You have mentioned an estimate of between 12 and 18 students for further and higher education. I remind Assembly Members that, in 2010, there were 391 care leavers. At best, 18 have ended up in full-time education. This is sobering. We must start by gathering more effective data. There are some good points: the Frank Buttle Trust's charter mark has been taken up by all higher education institutions in Wales, and I understand that there are now 55 students who were formerly in care in Wales supported by that scheme and that there are about 1,000 care leavers across the UK being supported. It is important that we ensure that the institutions are able to support these children and young people when they enter higher education. However, we must remember the pitiful numbers that are put in a position where they can enter higher education as a result of the schooling, support and quality of placements that they receive. All agencies—including education—have to focus on outcomes for these looked-after children, because if they are not going on to higher education or other suitable opportunities, their life expectations are truly dismal.

Leighton Andrews: I recognise that the Member has had a long-standing interest in this issue and that he has raised this issue with me before. The points that he makes are well-heard around the Chamber and I am sure that people will agree with what he has to say. One of the difficulties in collecting clear data is that 18-year-olds who go on to higher education may choose not to reveal their previous status, which makes it hard to get an accurate picture of the situation. For understandable reasons, some young people may not wish to reveal that they were formally in care. However, the general point that he makes is a good one; we need to look at whether there are ways in which we can do more to collect relevant data. He is right to praise higher education institutions in Wales, all of which have adopted the Frank Buttle Trust's quality mark for care leaders. That is a positive move by Welsh higher education

David Melding: Weinidog, mae'r data yn frawychus, ond maent wedi bod felly ers tro. Sonioch am amcangyfrif rhwng 12 a 18 o fyfyrwyr ar gyfer addysg bellach ac addysg uwch. Hoffwn atgoffa Aelodau'r Cynulliad bod 391 o bobl wedi gadael gofal yn 2010. Ar y gorau, 18 aeth i addysg amser llawn. Mae hynny'n ddifrifol. Mae'n rhaid i ni ddechrau drwy gasglu data mwy effeithiol. Mae rhai pwyntiau da: mae marc siarter Ymddiriedolaeth Frank Buttle yn cael ei ddefnyddio gan holl sefydliadau addysg uwch Cymru, ac rwy'n deall bod 55 o fyfyrwyr a oedd yn arfer bod mewn gofal yng Nghymru yn cael cefnogaeth gan y cynllun hwnnw a bod tua 1,000 o bobl sydd wedi gadael gofal ar draws y DU yn cael eu cefnogi. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn sicrhau bod sefydliadau yn gallu cefnogi'r plant a'r bobl ifanc hyn pan fyddant yn mynd i addysg uwch. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid i ni gofio'r niferoedd truenus sydd mewn sefyllfa i fynd i addysg uwch o ganlyniad i'r addysg, y gefnogaeth ac ansawdd y lleoliadau y maent yn gael. Rhaid i bob asiantaeth—gan gynnwys addysg—ganolbwyntio ar ganlyniadau i blant sy'n derbyn gofal, oherwydd os nad ydynt yn mynd ymlaen i addysg uwch neu gyfleoedd addas eraill, mae eu disgwyliadau bywyd yn wirioneddol ddigalon.

Leighton Andrews: Rwy'n cydnabod diddordeb hir sefydlog yr Aelod yn y mater hwn a'i fod eisoes wedi codi'r mater gyda mi. Mae'r pwyntiau mae'n eu codi yn cael eu clywed yn aml yn y Siambr, ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd pobl yn cytuno â'r hyn sydd ganddo i'w ddweud. Un o'r anawsterau gyda chasglu data clir yw y gallai pobl 18 oed sy'n mynd ymlaen i addysg uwch ddewis peidio â datgelu eu statws blaenorol, sy'n ei gwneud yn anodd cael darlun cywir o'r sefyllfa. Am resymau dealladwy, efallai na fydd rhai pobl ifanc yn dymuno datgelu iddynt fod mewn gofal yn ffurfiol. Fodd bynnag, mae ei bwynt cyffredinol yn un da, sef bod angen i ni edrych i weld a oes ffyrdd y gallwn wneud mwy i gasglu data perthnasol. Mae'n iawn i ganmol sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru, gan fod pob un ohonynt wedi mabwysiadu marc ansawdd Ymddiriedolaeth Frank Buttle ar gyfer arweinwyr gofal. Mae

institutions, but I am willing to look at the general points that he has raised.

Blaenoriaethau

8. Nick Ramsay: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer y gyllideb addysg. OAQ(3)1660(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: We have pledged to protect funding for schools and skills, and to protect front-line services that impact directly on children and the most vulnerable, despite the difficult settlement received from the UK Government. These priorities are reflected in our budget for 2011-12, which was agreed on 8 February 2011.

Nick Ramsay: I want to ask you superficially about literacy. I know that you have made statements about literacy and the need to improve the situation in Wales. Specifically with regard to the literacy programme that you have announced in the Chamber, a number of teachers have commented to me on the foundation phase and its role in improving literacy. Clearly there is a lot of satisfaction with the foundation phase; it has been an incredibly successful policy of the Assembly Government over the last few years, but it does rely heavily on learning support staff and there have been issues regarding the number of learning support staff available for the policy because the take-up has been so great in many respects. How are your policies designed to increase the number of support staff that are available for the foundation phase, and how do you see the training of support staff for the foundation phase being improved over the months and years to come, so that, when schoolchildren get to the all-important age of seven, they are ready to hit the ground running in respect of their literacy?

Leighton Andrews: You make a very important point. The foundation phase is reliant on support staff, and particularly higher-level teaching assistants. In rolling out the foundation phase, we essentially created an expansion of the workforce, and had to reach out to other childcare sectors in order

hynny'n gam cadarnhaol gan sefydliadau addysg uwch Cymru, ond rwy'n barod i edrych ar y pwyntiau cyffredinol iddo eu codi.

Priorities

8. Nick Ramsay: *Will the Minister make a statement on his priorities for the education budget. OAQ(3)1660(CEL)*

Leighton Andrews: Rydym wedi ymrwymo i ddiogelu cyllid ar gyfer ysgolion a sgiliau, ac i ddiogelu gwasanaethau rheng flaen sy'n effeithio'n uniongyrchol ar blant a'r bobl sy'n fwyaf agored i niwed, er gwaethaf y setliad anodd a dderbyniwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU. Mae'r blaenoriaethau hyn wedi'u hadlewyrchu yn ein cyllideb ar gyfer 2011-12, y cytunwyd arno ar 8 Chwefror 2011.

Nick Ramsay: Rwyf am ofyn i chi am lythrennedd yn arwynebol. Gwn eich bod wedi gwneud datganiadau am lythrennedd a'r angen i wella'r sefyllfa yng Nghymru. Yn benodol o ran y rhaglen llythrennedd i chi ei chyhoeddi yn y Siambr, rwyf wedi cael sylwadau gan nifer o athrawon am y cyfnod sylfaen a'i rôl gyda gwella llythrennedd. Mae'n amlwg bod llawer o foddhad gyda'r cyfnod sylfaen; mae wedi bod yn bolisi anhygoel o lwyddiannus i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, ond mae'n dibynnu'n helaeth ar staff cymorth dysgu a bu problemau gyda nifer y staff cymorth dysgu sydd ar gael ar gyfer y polisi gan fod cynifer yn ei ddefnyddio. Sut mae eich polisiau wedi'u cynllunio i gynyddu nifer y staff cymorth sydd ar gael ar gyfer y cyfnod sylfaen, a sut ydych yn gweld hyfforddiant cyfnod sylfaen i staff cymorth yn gwella dros y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod, er mwyn sicrhau, pan fydd plant ysgol yn cyrraedd yr oedran hollbwysig o saith, eu bod yn barod i fynd o ran eu llythrennedd?

Leighton Andrews: Rydych yn gwneud pwynt pwysig iawn. Mae'r cyfnod sylfaen yn ddibynnol ar staff cymorth, ac yn enwedig ar gynorthwyr addysgu ar lefel uwch. Wrth gyflwyno'r cyfnod sylfaen, gwnaethom ehangu'r gweithlu, ac roedd angen estyn allan at sectorau gofal plant eraill i recriwtio ar ei

to recruit for it. We as an Assembly Government are committed to developing a national support structure for support staff in schools, and some of the powers that we hope to obtain from the Education Bill that is currently passing through Westminster in respect of the General Teaching Council for Wales may allow us to take that work forward. I will want to look at the situation following the full rollout of the foundation phase this year to see precisely what we may need to do in respect of the further training of support staff, and with regard to the balance of provision between support staff and teaching staff for the foundation phase. I am certain that one thing that we have to ensure is that, while young children are learning through doing, they are also gaining the relevant skills that are appropriate to their ages.

Chris Franks: Minister, would you provide information regarding additional resources that may be available for the merged Cardiff and Vale College? Further, would you join me in congratulating the pupils who took part in the Wales launch of Celebrating Religious Education Month in Stanwell School in Penarth, which I had the pleasure of attending this morning? It was highlighted to me that educationalists in England are jealous of the resources that the Welsh Government has made available for the teaching of religious education.

Leighton Andrews: I have seen many adverse comments recently about the teaching of religious education across the border, particularly in relation to the English baccalaureate. I am very happy to endorse what the Member said about the events at Stanwell School. In respect of support for the Cardiff and Vale College, we welcome very much the development of the merger, and we have, over time, given support to a number of FE college mergers. I will write to the Member with further details in relation to that merger.

Kirsty Williams: Minister, I have been approached by several parents who have found it incredibly difficult to go through the process of obtaining a statement for their children who have special educational needs. Often the process is incredibly time-

gyfer. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i ddatblygu strwythur cymorth cenedlaethol ar gyfer staff cymorth mewn ysgolion, a gallai rhai o'r pwerau y gobeithiwn eu cael oddi wrth y Mesur Addysg sydd ar hyn o bryd yn pasio drwy San Steffan o ran Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru ein galluogi i ddatblygu'r gwaith hwnnw. Byddaf eisiau edrych ar y sefyllfa yn dilyn cyflwyniad llawn y cyfnod sylfaen eleni i weld yn union beth fydd angen ei wneud mewn perthynas â hyfforddiant pellach i staff cymorth, ac o ran cydbwysu'r ddarpariaeth rhwng staff cymorth a staff addysgu'r cyfnod sylfaen. Rwy'n sicr mai un peth y bydd rhaid i ni sicrhau yw, tra bo plant ifanc yn dysgu drwy wneud, eu bod hefyd yn dysgu'r sgiliau perthnasol sy'n briodol i'w hoedran.

Chris Franks: Weinidog, a allwch roi gwybodaeth am adnoddau ychwanegol a allai fod ar gael ar gyfer Coleg Caerdydd a'r Fro sydd wedi ei uno? Hefyd, a wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch y disgyblion a gymerodd ran yn lansiad Dathlu Mis Addysg Grefyddol yng Nghymru yn Ysgol Stanwell ym Mhenarth, y cefais y pleser o'i fynychu'r bore yma? Amlygwyd i mi fod addysgwyr yn Lloegr yn genfigennus o'r adnoddau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi eu darparu ar gyfer addysgu addysg grefyddol.

Leighton Andrews: Rwyf wedi gweld llawer o sylwadau negyddol yn ddiweddar am addysgu addysg grefyddol ar draws y ffin, yn enwedig o ran bagloriaeth Lloegr. Rwy'n hapus i ategu'r hyn a ddywedodd yr Aelod am y digwyddiadau yn Ysgol Stanwell. O ran y cymorth i Goleg Caerdydd a'r Fro, rydym yn croesawu'r uniad yn fawr, ac rydym, yn y gorffennol, wedi cefnogi nifer o uniadau gan golegau addysg bellach. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu at yr Aelod gyda manylion pellach am yr uno.

Kirsty Williams: Weinidog, mae nifer o rieni wedi cysylltu â mi ar ôl ei chael yn anodd iawn mynd drwy'r broses o gael datganiad ar gyfer eu plant sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig. Mae'r broses yn aml yn hynod o lafurus, yn straen ac yn

consuming, stressful and expensive for the parents involved, and, indeed, it seems that the local education authorities often try to block the wishes and desires of the parents regarding the educational needs of their children. Do you have any plans to introduce an element of independence to the process of obtaining a statement of special educational needs, which could potentially shorten the process? Do you have plans to cut down on the costs incurred not only by parents but by local education authorities in settling disputes? The most recent case with which I have dealt is one where the parents have been battling the local education authority for two and a half years, only for it to settle two days before the upper tribunal finally made a decision. That is a totally inappropriate system, and it is a very costly one, too.

Leighton Andrews: All constituency Members have probably been involved in giving support to parents in similar cases, so we all understand what the Member is saying. We have been doing quite a lot to look at alternatives to statementing, and that is part of the approach that we would like to see being developed. I am concerned about what we can do in the medium term. We have a number of pilot schemes that are currently under way, and I hope that, when they have been reported on, we will be able to make some new policy decisions that will be more beneficial for parents and children in the long term.

3.15 p.m.

Hawliau Plant

9. Val Lloyd: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am fentrau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i amddiffyn hawliau plant yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)1663(CEL)*

Huw Lewis: The Assembly Government adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as the basis for children and young people's policy in 2004. In November 2009, we published 'Getting it Right', our UNCRC action plan, which we are implementing with partners. The Proposed Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure shows everyone, I

gostus i'r rhieni, ac ymddengys fel bod awdurdodau addysg lleol yn aml yn ceisio atal dymuniadau a dyheadau rhieni ynghylch anghenion addysgol eu plant. A oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau i gyflwyno elfen o annibyniaeth i'r broses o gael datganiad o anghenion addysgol arbennig, a allai gyflymu'r broses? A oes gennych gynlluniau i leihau'r costau i rieni ac awdurdodau addysg lleol wrth ddatrys anghydfodau? Yn yr achos mwyaf diweddar i mi fod ynghlwm ag ef, roedd y rhieni wedi bod yn brwydro'r awdurdod addysg lleol am ddwy flynedd a hanner, ond cafodd y mater ei setlo deuddydd cyn i'r tribiwnlys uchaf ddod i benderfyniad. Mae'n system gwbl amhriodol, ac mae'n un gostus iawn, hefyd.

Leighton Andrews: Mae pob Aelod etholaeth yn debyg o fod wedi rhoi cymorth i rieni mewn achosion tebyg, felly rydym oll yn deall yr hyn mae'r Aelod yn ei ddweud. Rydym wedi gwneud cryn dipyn o ran edrych ar system amgen i ddatganiadau, ac mae hynny'n rhan o'r dull o weithio yr hoffem ei weld yn cael ei ddatblygu. Rwy'n canolbwyntio ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud yn y tymor canolig. Mae gennym nifer o gynlluniau peilot ar y gweill ar hyn o bryd, ac rwy'n gobeithio, pan fyddwn wedi cael adroddiadau arnynt, y byddwn yn gallu gwneud penderfyniadau polisi newydd a fydd yn fwy buddiol i rieni a phlant yn y tymor hir.

Rights of Children

9. Val Lloyd: *Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Assembly Government initiatives to protect the rights of children in Wales. OAQ(3)1663(CEL)*

Huw Lewis: Mabwysiadodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad Gofensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn fel sail i bolisi plant a phobl ifanc yn 2004. Ym mis Tachwedd 2009, gwnaethom gyhoeddi 'Gwneud Pethau'n Iawn', ein cynllun gweithredu CCUHP, yr ydym yn ei weithredu gyda phartneriaid. Mae'r Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Hawliau Plant a Phobl

hope, the evidence of our commitment.

Val Lloyd: Thank you for that comprehensive reply, Deputy Minister. UNICEF's award for respecting rights and responsibilities recognises schools' achievements in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of their planning, their policies, their practice and their ethos. You may well be aware that, last month, Hafod Primary School in my constituency became, I am delighted to say, the first school in Wales to achieve level 2 of that prestigious UNICEF award. I am also delighted that the First Minister and the children's commissioner came to the school to present the award. It was a wonderful occasion. Deputy Minister, what encouragement is the Welsh Assembly Government giving to primary and secondary schools to participate in working towards gaining that UNICEF award for respecting rights and responsibilities?

Huw Lewis: I add my congratulations to Hafod Primary School on its achievement.

This RRS award is a worthwhile initiative in principle, and, insofar as it operates within a Welsh context, we are keen that it should slot in properly with our rights-based approach, which we have worked with now for some time. WAG officials have been working closely with UNICEF for some time to address the concerns that we have about the model as it is and how it can be adapted to work in a Welsh context. There are issues in that the model currently used by UNICEF is based on English policy, which is fine for across the border, but we feel that it does not take sufficient account of the rights-based approach in Wales. So, there is some work to do, but we are working through these issues. It is worth mentioning that UNICEF has agreed to provide bilingual resources for use in Wales, which is important. So, there is still some work to do, but I am sure that we will get there on the RRS award before too long.

Ifanc (Cymru) yn dangos i bawb, gobeithio, dystiolaeth ein hymrwymiad.

Val Lloyd: Diolch am eich ateb cynhwysfawr, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Mae gwobr UNICEF am barchu hawliau a chyfrifoldebau yn cydnabod cyflawniadau ysgolion o ran gosod Confensiwn y Cenedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn wrth wraidd eu cynllunio, eu polisïau, eu harferion a'u hethos. Efallai eich bod yn ymwybodol, y mis diwethaf, i Ysgol Gynradd Hafod yn fy etholaeth—mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud—gael ei henwi fel yr ysgol gyntaf yng Nghymru i gyrraedd lefel 2 o'r wobwr fawreddog honno gan UNICEF. Rwyf hefyd wrth fy modd i'r Prif Weinidog a'r comisiynydd plant ddod i'r ysgol i gyflwyno'r wobwr. Roedd yn achlysur gwych. Ddirprwy Weinidog, pa anogaeth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei rhoi i ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd i weithio tuag at ennill y wobwr UNICEF am barchu hawliau a chyfrifoldebau?

Huw Lewis: Rwyf hefyd yn llongyfarch Ysgol Gynradd Hafod ar ei chyflawniad.

Mae'r wobwr parchu hawliau a chyfrifoldebau yn fenter gwerth chweil mewn egwyddor, ac, i'r graddau y mae'n gweithredu yng nghydestun Cymru, rydym yn awyddus iddi gydfynd gyda'n dull o weithio sy'n seiliedig ar hawliau, sydd wedi bod yn weithredol gennym ers peth amser. Mae swyddogion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gydag UNICEF ers peth amser i fynd i'r afael â'r pryderon sydd gennym am y model fel y mae a sut y gellir ei addasu i weithio yng nghydestun Cymru. Mae problemau achos bod y model mae UNICEF yn ei ddefnyddio ar hyn o bryd yn seiliedig ar bolisi Lloegr, sy'n iawn dros y ffin, ond teimlwn nad yw'n rhoi digon o ystyriaeth i'r dull o weithio yng Nghymru sy'n seiliedig ar hawliau. Felly, mae peth gwaith i'w wneud, ond rydym yn ceisio datrys y problemau hyn. Mae'n werth nodi bod UNICEF wedi cytuno i ddarparu adnoddau dwyieithog i'w defnyddio yng Nghymru, sy'n bwysig. Felly, mae peth gwaith i'w wneud o hyd, ond rwy'n siŵr y gallwn ddatrys pethau ar gyfer y wobwr parchu hawliau a chyfrifoldebau cyn bo hir.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Deputy Minister, I appreciate that, in the field of education, the Minister leads on this matter, but school governors have an important role to play in looking after children's rights, and, as members of the governing body, they need adequate training, and the special skills that some governors can bring to the governing body need to be identified. How does the Government promote training to enable school governors to perform their role and, importantly, how does it actively promote the role of school governors in the community so that when there are vacancies on governing bodies—in some areas, it is very difficult to attract people to take on the role of school governor—they can be filled in such a way that the governing bodies are representative of the communities that the schools serve?

Huw Lewis: You are right, Andrew, that that does not fall within my area of responsibility. I can assure you, however, that Leighton Andrews, the Minister concerned, is rightly and deeply engaged in dealing with those issues surrounding school governors, including the ones that you raised specifically. The Minister will write to you along those lines.

Helen Mary Jones: Deputy Minister, I know that you and, I think, everybody else in this Chamber, will be pleased with the steps that we have taken in enshrining children's rights not only in the heart of Welsh Government policy, but in the heart of legislation. However, we will depend on local service providers, local authorities and local health boards for the delivery of those rights. What discussions have you had with your ministerial colleagues to ensure that once the Proposed Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure has been passed—without wishing to pre-empt the Assembly's democratic processes—all Ministers will be able to issue effective guidance to the public bodies within their remit on how the legislation will change the Government's expectations of how they deliver services for children and, indeed, all their other services?

Huw Lewis: You will be aware that we are

Andrew R.T. Davies: Ddirprwy Weinidog, rwy'n gwerthfawrogi, ym maes addysg, mai'r Gweinidog sy'n arwain ar y mater hwn, ond mae gan lywodraethwyr ysgol rôl bwysig i'w chwarae o ran gofalu am hawliau plant, ac, fel aelodau o'r corff llywodraethu, mae angen hyfforddiant digonol arnynt, ac mae angen dod o hyd i'r sgiliau arbennig y gall rhai llywodraethwyr eu cyfrannu at y corff llywodraethu. Sut mae'r Llywodraeth yn hyrwyddo hyfforddiant i alluogi llywodraethwyr ysgol i gyflawni eu rôl ac, yn bwysig, sut mae'n mynd ati i hyrwyddo rôl llywodraethwyr ysgol yn y gymuned fel pan fydd swyddi gwag ar gyrff llywodraethu—mewn rhai ardaloedd, mae'n anodd iawn denu pobl i ymgymryd â rôl llywodraethwr ysgol—y gellir eu llenwi gan sicrhau bod y gyrff llywodraethol yn cynrychioli'r cymunedau y mae'r ysgolion yn eu gwasanaethu?

Huw Lewis: Rydych yn iawn, Andrew, nad yw hynny yn gyfrifoldeb i mi. Gallaf eich sicrhau, fodd bynnag, fod Leighton Andrews, y Gweinidog dan sylw, yn ymdrechu i ddatrys y materion sy'n ymwneud â llywodraethwyr ysgol, gan gynnwys y rhai a sonioch amdanynt yn benodol. Bydd y Gweinidog yn ysgrifennu atoch am hynny.

Helen Mary Jones: Ddirprwy Weinidog, gwn y byddwch chi a, rwy'n meddwl, phawb arall yn y Siambr yn falch o'r camau yr ydym wedi'u cymryd i gynnwys hawliau plant wrth wraidd polisi Llywodraeth Cymru ac wrth wraidd deddfwriaeth. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn dibynnu ar ddarparwyr gwasanaethau lleol, awdurdodau lleol a byrddau iechyd lleol i ddarparu'r hawliau hynny. Pa drafodaethau ydych wedi'u cael gyda'ch cyd-Weinidogion i sicrhau, ar ôl i'r Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Hawliau Plant a Phobl Ifanc (Cymru) gael ei basio—heb geisio achub y blaen ar brosesau democrataidd y Cynulliad—y bydd pob Gweinidog yn gallu cyhoeddi canllawiau effeithiol i'r sefydliadau cyhoeddus o fewn eu cylch gwaith ar sut bydd y ddeddfwriaeth yn newid disgwyliadau'r Llywodraeth o sut maent yn darparu gwasanaethau ar gyfer plant ac, yn wir, eu holl wasanaethau eraill?

Huw Lewis: Byddwch yn ymwybodol ein

awaiting Royal Approval of the legislation, which will possibly be within a few weeks. In itself, that will mark Wales out as the first part of the United Kingdom to embed the issue of children's rights in legislation. You will also be aware, I am sure, that we have allowed ourselves some bedding-in time in terms of how each department, wing and arm of the Welsh Assembly Government gets to grips with the change in practice that will be demanded of them by that new legislation. Therefore, we are making sure, in the time that we have allowed ourselves, that everyone fully understands that this is not a cosmetic change, that this is real and that this will have an effect on every aspect of WAG activity.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i'r Gweinidogion am eu hatebion.

bod yn aros am Gymeradwyaeth Frenhinol i'r ddeddfwriaeth, a fydd o bosib yn digwydd mewn ychydig wythnosau. Yn ei hun, bydd hynny'n nodi Cymru fel rhan gyntaf y Deyrnas Unedig i gynnwys hawliau plant mewn deddfwriaeth. Byddwch hefyd yn ymwybodol, rwy'n siŵr, ein bod wedi caniatáu amser i bob adran, adain ac asiantaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fynd i'r afael â'r newid mewn arferion a fydd yn ofynnol ohonynt gan y ddeddfwriaeth newydd. Felly, rydym yn gwneud yn siŵr, o fewn yr amser yr ydym wedi caniatáu i ni ein hunain, fod pawb yn deall nad newid cosmetig yw hwn, ei fod yn real ac y bydd yn effeithio ar bob agwedd o weithgarwch Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the Ministers for their answers.

Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question

Trydaneiddio'r Prif Linell Rheilffordd rhwng Abertawe a Llundain Electrification of the Main Line between Swansea and London

David Lloyd: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynghylch cyhoeddiad Llywodraeth y DU ynghylch cynlluniau ar gyfer trydaneiddio'r prif linell rheilffordd rhwng Abertawe a Llundain. EAQ(3)1843(ECT)

David Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on the UK government's announcement regarding plans for the electrification of the mainline between Swansea and London. EAQ(3)1843(ECT)

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Croesawaf rhai elfennau o gyhoeddiad Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig ddoe, yn benodol ei hymrwymiad i drydaneiddio prif reilffordd y de rhwng Llundain a Chaerdydd. Ymhellach i hynny, croesawaf y cyhoeddiad bod Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig wedi cydnabod yr achos busnes o blaid trydaneiddio rhwydwaith rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd sy'n mynd i mewn ac allan o Gaerdydd, a'i bod wedi ymrwymo i weithio'n agos â Llywodraeth Cymru a therfynoli manylion yr achos busnes.

The Deputy First Minister and the Minister for the Economy and Transport (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I welcome some elements of the announcement made by the UK Government yesterday, specifically its commitment to electrify the south Wales main line between London and Cardiff. Further to that, I welcome the announcement that the UK Government has recognised the business case in favour of electrification of the Valleys lines network into and out of Cardiff, and that it has committed to working closely with the Welsh Government on finalising the details of the business case.

Datganais eisoes bod trydaneiddio llinellau'r Cymoedd yn flaenoriaeth allweddol inni yn y rownd nesaf o gyllido a fydd ar gael gan Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig ar gyfer cyfnod rheoli 5 Network Rail, o 2014 hyd at

I have already stated that electrification of the Valleys lines is a key priority for us in the next funding round that will be available from the UK Government for Network Rail's management 5 period, from 2014 to 2018.

2018. Cynaliasom drafodaethau eisoes am y mater hwn â Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig, ac yr ydym yn falch ei bod wedi cytuno â'n gweledigaeth. Er mwyn i hyn symud ymlaen, bydd angen i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r cwmni sy'n rhedeg ein gwasanaethau wneud ymrwymiad sylweddol i brynu fflyd newydd o gerbydau trydanol i'w defnyddio ar y rhwydwaith. Yn hyn o beth, bydd gofyn inni lunio gwerthusiad achos busnes.

Ar yr un pryd, yr wyf yn siomedig iawn ag un elfen sylweddol o gyhoeddiad Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig, sef ei bod wedi penderfynu peidio ag anrhydeddu'r ymrwymiad blaenorol i drydaneiddio'r llinell hyd at Abertawe. Yr oedd adran drafnidiaeth Llywodraeth flaenorol y Deyrnas Unedig wedi cydnabod yr achos busnes cryf o blaid hynny. Mae'r penderfyniad hwn yn ergyd i'r economi ac i'n hymdrechion i adfer economi Abertawe a de-orllewin Cymru. Ysgrifennais at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth yn San Steffan, Philip Hammond, yn gynharach heddiw i ofyn iddo ailystyried ei benderfyniad. Mae angen inni yn awr barhau i gydweithio'n agos ar yr achos busnes a'r manteision ehangach sy'n gysylltiedig â pharhau â'r cynllun trydaneiddio hyd at Abertawe fel rhan o brosiect prif linell Great Western. Yn fy marn i, ac ym marn y Llywodraeth hon, byddai hynny'n sicrhau arbedion sylweddol o ran maint y cynllun, ac, wrth gwrs, yn sicrhau bod buddiannau i Abertawe a'r gorllewin yn cael eu sicrhau ochr yn ochr â buddiannau i'r de-ddwyrain.

David Lloyd: Thank you very much indeed for that response, Deputy First Minister. Following yesterday's announcement by Philip Hammond, the Secretary of State for Transport at Westminster, I would like to welcome at last the brave new dawn of electrified railways for Wales. It is late in the day, but Wales is no longer one of the last remaining bastions of non-electrified railways in Europe. We are in the process of moving away from that league, which includes Albania. There is no getting away from it: this is great news for Cardiff and Newport, and the construction of 33.5 miles of electrified railway by 2017 will provide a huge boost to the economy of south-east Wales.

We have already held discussions on this matter with the UK Government, and we are pleased that it has agreed with our vision. In order for this to progress, the Welsh Government and the company running our services will have to make a significant commitment to buy a new fleet of electric rolling stock to use on the network. In that regard, we will need to carry out an evaluation of a business case.

At the same time, I am very disappointed with one substantial element of the UK Government's announcement, namely that it has decided not to honour the previous commitment to electrify the line to Swansea. The transport department of the previous UK Government recognised the strong business case in favour of this. This decision is a blow to the economy and our efforts to regenerate the economy of Swansea and south-west Wales. I wrote to the Secretary of State for Transport in Westminster, Philip Hammond, earlier today to ask him to reconsider his decision. We need now to continue to work closely together on the business case and the broader benefits related to continuing the electrification scheme to Swansea as part of the Great Western main line project. In my opinion, and the opinion of this Government, this would deliver great savings in terms of the scale of the project, and, of course, would ensure that benefits for Swansea and west Wales would be delivered alongside those for south-east Wales.

David Lloyd: Diolch am eich ymateb, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog. Yn dilyn cyhoeddiad ddoe gan Philip Hammond, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth yn San Steffan, hoffwn groesawu o'r diwedd y wawr newydd a dewr o drydaneiddio rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru. Gwell hwyr na hwyrach; bellach, nid yw Cymru yn un o'r cadarnleoedd olaf heb reilffyrdd wedi'u trydaneiddio yn Ewrop. Rydym yn y broses o symud oddi wrth y gynghair honno, sy'n cynnwys Albania. Nid oes dianc rhag y peth: mae hyn yn newyddion gwych ar gyfer Caerdydd a Chasnewydd, a bydd y gwaith o adeiladu 33.5 milltir o reilffordd wedi'i drydaneiddio erbyn 2017 yn hwb enfawr i economi de-ddwyrain Cymru.

However, Members will be aware that my regional constituency includes Swansea, a city of 0.25 million people, and people there see this announcement as a huge blow. I know that this is a non-devolved matter, as you mentioned, Deputy First Minister. However, for years there has been an ongoing campaign in Swansea and south-west Wales to have electrification of the line all the way from London to Swansea, as you know. Swansea is the only city in the Objective 1 area, now the convergence area. The business community region-wide has been firmly behind the proposals to electrify the railway line, as it knows that that would provide a vital boost to the economy locally—infrastructure is what it is all about.

This week, we have heard both the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats in the Assembly bemoaning the GVA figures for west Wales and the Valleys, and here is something that the London Government—this being a non-devolved matter—can do something constructive about. There is a perception of and confidence around electrified railways that does much to boost business and, as the Minister knows, railways are being electrified everywhere else. Last November, six other business plans for electrification were accepted; the only business plan that was not accepted was for the Great Western main line from London to Swansea project. Electrification is proposed without hindrance on the Liverpool to Manchester, Huyton to Wigan, Preston to Blackpool, and Manchester to Preston lines. All those cities will have electrified railways, and let us not forget that Cambridge is already served by four electrified railway lines. There is huge rail investment elsewhere, as the Minister knows, in the western main line, and in the proposal to cut the travelling time between London and Birmingham down to 30 minutes.

As I and the Minister have already mentioned, good transport links are a key plank of economic recovery, performance

Fodd bynnag, bydd Aelodau'n ymwybodol bod fy etholaeth ranbarthol yn cynnwys Abertawe, dinas o 0.25 miliwn o bobl, ac mae'r cyhoeddiad hwn yn ergyd enfawr i'r bobl yno. Gwn fod hwn yn fater sydd heb ei ddatganoli, fel y dywedoch, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, bu ymgyrch barhaus am flynyddoedd yn Abertawe a de-orllewin Cymru i drydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yr holl ffordd o Lundain i Abertawe, fel y gwyddoch. Abertawe yw'r unig ddinas yn ardal Amcan 1, sydd bellach yn ardal gydgyfeirio. Mae'r gymuned fusnes ledled y rhanbarth yn cefnogi'r cynigion i drydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yn llawn, am y gŵyr y byddai hynny'n hwb hanfodol i'r economi lleol—mae'r cyfan yn ymwneud â seilwaith.

Yr wythnos hon, rydym wedi clywed y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn y Cynulliad yn cwyno am ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd, a dyma rywbeth y gall y Llywodraeth yn Llundain—am fod hwn yn fater heb ei ddatganoli—wneud rhywbeth defnyddiol yn ei gylch. Mae canfyddiad ynghylch trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd a hyder o'i amgylch sy'n gwneud llawer i hybu busnes ac, fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, mae rheilffyrdd yn cael eu trydaneiddio ym mhob man arall. Fis Tachwedd diwethaf, cafodd chwe chynllun busnes arall ar gyfer trydaneiddio eu derbyn; yr unig gynllun busnes nas dderbyniwyd oedd yr un ar gyfer prosiect y brif reilffordd Great Western o Lundain i Abertawe. Mae cynigion am drydaneiddio wedi'u derbyn heb rwystr ar gyfer y rheilffyrdd rhwng Lerpwl a Manceinion, Huyton a Wigan, Preston a Blackpool, a Manceinion a Preston. Bydd gan bob un o'r dinasoedd hynny reilffyrdd wedi'u trydaneiddio, a heb anghofio bod gan Gaergrawnt bedwar rheilffordd sydd eisoes wedi'u trydaneiddio. Mae buddsoddiad enfawr mewn manau eraill, fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, ar hyd y brif reilffordd orllewinol, ac ar gyfer y cynnig i dorri'r amser teithio rhwng Llundain a Birmingham i 30 munud.

Rwyf i a'r Gweinidog eisoes wedi sôn bod cysylltiadau trafniadaeth da yn elfen allweddol o adferiad economaidd,

and investment. In this context, that means electrified rail to the convergence area of south-west Wales. Perception is almost everything. I had a public engagement in Swansea last night and the perception was that Swansea was being viewed not as at the end of the line, but beyond the end of the line, and that it seemed that anything west of Cardiff did not count anymore. Deputy First Minister, what can you do, and what are you doing, to impress upon the UK Government how imperative it is that the line is electrified all the way to Swansea? There is a new confidence in the people of Swansea these days: no longer will they take decisions, particularly those made in London, lying down. A campaign demanding electrification of the line all the way to Swansea has already been instigated, and its efforts will be redoubled. After all, the cost-efficient way is to electrify the whole of the main line in one go, not in a second stage that may well never happen. There is no getting away from the fact that we are hugely disappointed and angry, although not surprised, in Swansea. We want to know where the plan for a better connected Swansea and west Wales is now. We also remain more determined than ever on a cross-party basis. I welcome Andrew Davies's comments overnight on the determination to fight for Swansea and south-west Wales's economy so that we do not allow the area to further fall behind, as the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats attempted to say that it was in questions yesterday. Electrification of the line all the way from London to Swansea would have provided a major boost to the economy of Swansea and west Wales.

The Deputy First Minister: I acknowledge that the decision yesterday is good news for south-east Wales. The case for electrification to Cardiff is very good. We take issue with the Secretary of State about the extent of electrification of the Valleys lines, but that is a matter that we can discuss as we build the case for electrification in the next control period, from 2014 to 2018. We thought that we had won the battle to electrify the line to Swansea in 2009 when the then Secretary of State, Andrew Adonis, on a visit to Wales,

perfformiad a buddsoddiad. Yn y cyd-destun hwn, mae hynny'n golygu trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd i'r ardal gydgyfeirio yn ne-orllewin Cymru. Mae canfyddiad yn hollbwysig. Roeddwn mewn digwyddiad cyhoeddus yn Abertawe neithiwr a'r canfyddiad oedd bod Abertawe yn cael ei gweld ddim hyd yn oed fel diwedd y rheilffordd ond fel rhywbeth ymhellach eto na diwedd y rheilffordd a'i bod yn ymddangos fel bod unrhyw beth i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd yn cael ei ddiystyru. Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, beth allwch ei wneud, a beth ydych yn ei wneud, i berswadio Llywodraeth y DU o bwysigrwydd trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yr holl ffordd i Abertawe? Mae gan bobl yn Abertawe fwy o hyder bellach; ni fyddant yn derbyn penderfyniadau heb frwydr, yn enwedig rhai sy'n cael eu gwneud yn Llundain. Mae ymgyrch sy'n mynnu trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yr holl ffordd i Abertawe eisoes wedi cychwyn, a bydd yr ymdrechion yn cael eu dyblu. Wedi'r cyfan, mae'n fwy cost effeithiol i drydaneiddio'r holl brif reilffordd ar yr un pryd, yn hytrach na'i wneud mewn dau gam, ac efallai na fyddai'r ail yn digwydd. Nid oes dianc rhag y ffaith ein bod ni yn Abertawe yn hynod siomedig ac yn ddig, er ddim wedi'n synnu. Rydym eisieu gwybod lle mae'r cynllun ar gyfer gwell cysylltiadau i Abertawe a gorllewin Cymru arni bellach. Rydym yn fwy penderfynol nag erioed ar draws y pleidiau. Croesawaf sylwadau Andrew Davies ar y penderfyniad i ymladd dros economi Abertawe a de-orllewin Cymru fel nad ydym yn caniatáu i'r ardal gilio ymhellach, fel yr honnodd y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol adeg cwestiynau ddoe. Byddai trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yr holl ffordd o Lundain i Abertawe wedi rhoi hwb sylweddol i economi Abertawe a gorllewin Cymru.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Rwy'n cydnabod bod penderfyniad ddoe yn newyddion da i dde-ddwyrain Cymru. Mae'r achos dros trydaneiddio i Gaerdydd yn dda iawn. Rydym yn anghytuno gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol am hyd a lled trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd, ond gallwn drafod hynny wrth ddatblygu'r achos o blaid trydaneiddio yn y cyfnod rheoli nesaf, rhwng 2014 a 2018. Roeddem yn meddwl i ni ennill y frwydr i drydaneiddio'r rheilffordd i Abertawe yn 2009 pan ddywedodd Andrew

said that there was a business case for electrification of the line to Swansea. I think that there was a misunderstanding that this was the Welsh Government's business case. It was not. It was the business case that was prepared by the Department for Transport. It was based on that business case that the then Secretary of State made his announcement, and I believe that the record will show that.

3.30 p.m.

The issue then was that the decision to electrify the whole of the line was put on hold after the election, despite the fact that many of the programmes for England went ahead. My officials have been working hard with Department for Transport officials. I have spoken to Philip Hammond, and I have written to him. I have also met the Minister of State who is responsible for the railways. Therefore, we have done everything possible to ensure that electrification went all the way to Swansea. We now need to speak to the Secretary of State, who I have written to today—redoubling our efforts. I very much welcome the fact that there will now be a campaign to electrify the line all the way to Swansea. This is a good announcement as far as it goes, but it could have gone much further.

Darren Millar: I welcomed the initial comments from the Deputy First Minister about the announcement, which welcomed the hundreds of millions of pounds of investment that will come to Wales as a result of the actions of the UK Government. I am surprised that Dai Lloyd is whingeing so much about the situation at Swansea. Everyone was disappointed that the business case was insufficient to be able to deliver electrification to Swansea, but Swansea, and communities west of Cardiff, will benefit as a result of the announcement that was made yesterday, because there will still be shorter journey times, improvements to the rolling stock, a greener, quieter fleet of trains for people to enjoy, and people will still be able to go beyond Cardiff. There will be a reduction of some 22 minutes on journey times to Swansea, and therefore Swansea will benefit.

Adonis, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ar y pryd, adeg ymweliad â Chymru, fod yna achos busnes o blaid trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd i Abertawe. Credaf y bu camddealltwriaeth mai achos busnes Llywodraeth Cymru oedd hwnnw. Nid oedd hynny'n wir. Yr achos busnes hwnnw oedd yr un a baratowyd gan yr Adran Drafnidiaeth. Gwnaeth yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ar y pryd ei gyhoeddiad yn seiliedig ar yr achos busnes hwnnw, a chredaf y bydd cofnod o hynny.

Bryd hynny, gohiriwyd y penderfyniad i drydaneiddio'r rheilffordd gyfan tan ar ôl yr etholiad, er i nifer o'r cynlluniau yn Lloegr fynd yn eu blaen. Mae fy swyddogion wedi bod yn gweithio'n galed gyda swyddogion yr Adran Drafnidiaeth. Rwyf wedi siarad â Philip Hammond, ac wedi ysgrifennu ato. Rwyf hefyd wedi cwrdd â'r Gweinidog Gwladol sy'n gyfrifol am y rheilffyrdd. Felly, rydym wedi gwneud popeth posibl i sicrhau bod y trydaneiddio yn mynd yr holl ffordd i Abertawe. Mae arnom angen i ni nawr siarad â'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol—rwyf wedi ysgrifennu ato heddiw—gan ddyblu ein hymdrechion. Rwy'n croesawu'r ymgyrch i drydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yr holl ffordd i Abertawe. Mae hwn yn gyhoeddiad da cyn belled ag y mae'n mynd, ond gallai fod wedi mynd yn llawer pellach.

Darren Millar: Croesewais sylwadau cychwynnol y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog am y cyhoeddiad, a oedd yn croesawu'r cannoedd o filiynau o bunnoedd o fuddsoddiad a fydd yn dod i Gymru o ganlyniad i gamau gweithredu Llywodraeth y DU. Rwy'n synnu bod Dai Lloyd yn swnian cymaint am y sefyllfa yn Abertawe. Roedd pawb yn siomedig nad oedd yr achos busnes yn ddigonol i ddenu trydaneiddio i Abertawe, ond bydd Abertawe, a chymunedau i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd, yn elwa yn sgil cyhoeddiad ddoe, oherwydd bydd amserau teithio yn fyrrach, bydd gwelliannau i'r cerbydau, bydd fflyd o drenau gwyrdd a thawelach i bobl eu mwynhau, a bydd pobl yn gallu teithio y tu hwnt i Gaerdydd o hyd. Bydd amseroedd teithio i Abertawe yn gostwng gan ryw 22 munud, felly bydd Abertawe yn elwa.

Let us not forget that, under the previous UK Labour Government, not a single inch of railway in Wales was electrified, despite the promises that were made in 2009. That is another promise that was broken by that Government. The fact of the matter is that there was not a business case that stacked up before the current UK Government began to look at it. The funds were not committed previously by your Government, and were not available because of the disastrous state of public finances. Therefore, let us just forget some of the whingeing that is coming from some parts of the Chamber.

We all know that the geometry of the line between Cardiff and Swansea makes it difficult to derive significant time-saving benefits from electrification further west from Cardiff. However, the UK Government has not said that it will never electrify the line between Cardiff and Swansea; it has said that it wants to continue to develop the business case. As any sensible person will know, when you are dealing with public finances, you want to ensure that there is a decent return on investment, and that, if the business case stacks up, it will be signed off by the Secretary of State. Therefore, this is not negative news for anywhere west of Cardiff; this is good news for the whole of the south Wales economy, which we need to recognise.

I have a few questions for you, Deputy First Minister. Do you accept that there will be benefits west of Cardiff to those communities that are on and are served by the Great Western Railway, even though the line is not being electrified beyond Cardiff at present? I was encouraged by your response that you are working with the UK Government on the electrification of the Valleys lines; it is important to stress that there is also a pretty good case for the electrification of links between Cardiff and Barry and Penarth, which will also stand to benefit. The preliminary exercise in terms of the work that is being done seems to stack up. What actions are you taking to look at the rolling stock investment, which may need to take place when the existing franchise in Wales comes to an end for the Valleys lines, and the

Rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio, o dan Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol y DU, na chafodd modfedd o reilffordd yng Nghymru ei thrydaneiddio, er gwaethaf yr addewidion a wnaed yn 2009. Dyna addewid arall a gafodd ei dorri gan y Llywodraeth. Y gwir amdani yw nad oedd achos busnes digon da cyn i Lywodraeth gyfredol y DU ddechrau edrych arno. Ni chafodd arian ei ymrwymo gan eich Llywodraeth flaenorol, ac nid oedd arian ar gael oherwydd cyflwr trychinebus cyllid cyhoeddus. Felly, gadewch i ni anwybyddu'r swnian sy'n dod o rai rhannau o'r Siambr.

Gwyddom oll bod geometreg y rheilffordd rhwng Caerdydd ac Abertawe yn gwneud cyflawni buddion sylweddol o ran arbed amser yn anodd drwy drydaneiddio ymhellach i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd. Fodd bynnag, nid yw Llywodraeth y DU wedi dweud na fyddai byth yn trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd rhwng Caerdydd ac Abertawe; mae wedi dweud ei bod am barhau i ddatblygu'r achos busnes. Fel y bydd unrhyw berson synhwyrol yn gwybod, pan fyddwch yn delio â chyllid cyhoeddus, rydych am sicrhau adenillion da ar fuddsoddiad, ac, os bydd yr achos busnes yn ddigon da, bydd yn cael ei gymeradwyo gan yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol. Felly, nid yw hyn yn newyddion gwael i unrhyw le i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd; mae hyn yn newyddion da ar gyfer economi de Cymru, mae angen i ni gydnabod hynny.

Mae gen i rai cwestiynau ar eich cyfer, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog. A ydych yn derbyn y bydd manteision i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd i'r cymunedau hynny sydd ar reilffordd Great Western neu'n cael eu gwasanaethu ganddi, er nad yw'r llinell yn cael ei thrydaneiddio y tu hwnt i Gaerdydd ar hyn o bryd? Cefais fy nghalonogi gan eich ymateb eich bod yn gweithio gyda Llywodraeth y DU ar drydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd; mae'n bwysig pwysleisio bod yna hefyd achos da o blaid trydanu cysylltiadau rhwng Caerdydd a'r Barri a Phenarth, a fydd hefyd yn cael budd. Mae'r ymarfer cychwynol o ran y gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud yn ymddangos i ddal dŵr. Pa gamau ydych yn cymryd i edrych ar y buddsoddiad mewn cerbydau, y gallai fod angen iddo ddigwydd pan fydd y fasnachfrait bresennol yng Nghymru yn dod

Cardiff to Penarth link in particular? What role are you now playing in seeking to continue to develop the business case—because the door is not shut on electrification to Swansea—to ensure that, if the business case is there, it is fully developed?

The Deputy First Minister: That was a surprising statement from Darren. I did not expect him to make an apology on behalf of the UK Government. He is the transport spokesperson for the Welsh Conservatives, and yet what we heard from him today was a defence of the UK Secretary of State for Transport's position. It was just an apology, nothing else. I was very sorry to hear him say that, and I did not actually hear him say that he would now be supporting our campaign to electrify to Swansea—

Darren Millar: I do support that campaign.

The Deputy First Minister: I wish you had said that, Darren. You put three questions to me. The first was about the main benefits west of Cardiff and that being the electrification of the line to Swansea; there is no question whatsoever about that. To open up investment opportunities—*[Interruption.]*

The Presiding Officer: Order. We will listen to the Deputy First Minister, and then I will call other Members to speak.

The Deputy First Minister: To open up investment opportunities for the economy of south-west Wales, the best announcement that could have been made yesterday was electrification to Swansea. There is a correlation between electrification and investment—there is no question about that whatsoever. If you look at that pattern across the United Kingdom and across Europe, that is undoubtedly the case. Therefore, it is a blow—and I will repeat this—for the economy of south-west Wales. Frankly, it should be electrified at the same time because of the economies of scale. The other point I want to make is this: the announcement made

i ben ar gyfer rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd, a'r cyswllt rhwng Caerdydd a Phenarth yn benodol? Pa rôl ydych yn chwarae o ran ceisio parhau i ddatblygu'r achos busnes—achos nid yw'r drws ar gau o ran trydaneiddio i Abertawe—i sicrhau, os bydd yr achos busnes yn dal dŵr, y caiff ei ddatblygu'n llawn?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Roedd hwnnw'n ddatganiad rhyfedd gan Darren. Nid oeddwn yn disgwyl iddo ymddiheuro ar ran Llywodraeth y DU. Ef yw llefarydd trafniadaeth y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, ac eto yr hyn yr ydym wedi clywed ganddo heddiw yw amddiffyniad o safbwynt Ysgrifennydd Gwladol y DU dros Drafniadaeth. Ymddiheuriad oedd ganddo, dim byd arall. Roeddwn yn flin iawn i'w glywed yn dweud hynny, ac ni chlywais ef yn dweud y byddai'n awr yn cefnogi ein hymgyrch i drydaneiddio i Abertawe—

Darren Millar: Rwyf yn cefnogi'r ymgyrch honno.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Trueni na fydech wedi dweud hynny, Darren. Holoch dri chwestiwn i mi. Roedd y cyntaf am y prif fanteision i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd a bod hynny'n ymwneud a thrydaneiddio'r rheilffordd i Abertawe; nid oes amheuaeth am hynny o gwbl. I greu cyfleoedd buddsoddi—*[Torri ar draws.]*

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Byddwn yn gwrandao ar y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, ac yna byddaf yn galw ar Aelodau eraill i siarad.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: I greu cyfleoedd buddsoddi ar gyfer economi de-orllewin Cymru, y cyhoeddiad gorau y gallai fod wedi'i wneud ddoe oedd trydaneiddio i Abertawe. Mae perthynas rhwng trydaneiddio a buddsoddiad—nid oes amheuaeth am hynny. Os edrychwch ar y patrwm ledled y Deyrnas Unedig ac Ewrop, gwelwch fod hynny'n wir. Felly, mae hyn yn ergyd—ac rwyf am ailadrodd hyn—i economi de-orllewin Cymru. A dweud y gwir, dylid ei drydaneiddio ar yr un pryd oherwydd arbedion maint. Y pwynt arall yr wyf am ei wneud yw hyn: gwnaeth Andrew Adonis ei gyhoeddiad yn 2009—ac mae

by Andrew Adonis in 2009—and we need to put this on the record—was on the basis of the business case that he established. That is the position; there was a business case and my officials worked with the Department for Transport to produce that business case. It was on the basis of that business case that the Treasury agreed that the funds should be released. Can you imagine the Treasury releasing funds for a project without a business case? That is astounding.

The second point is that because this is a non-devolved issue, the business case for the Valleys lines will again be made by the Department for Transport under the current system. Therefore, we have agreed to work with the Department for Transport to ensure that electrification of the Valleys lines proceeds, we would hope, at the same time as electrification of the Great Western line because of the benefits of scale. The decision as it was announced made clear that rolling stock would have to be procured at the same time to ensure that when the electrification of the Valleys lines is complete, there is sufficient rolling stock to enable us to benefit from those electric lines. Clearly, a business case will have to be separately worked up for that.

My final point is that we believe that there is a case for the electrification of the Valleys lines beyond that which was announced yesterday. I understand the point Darren is making about services in the Vale of Glamorgan, but there are other services, both on the Valleys lines, and in the Vale of Glamorgan, that could be included now in this package. I hope that despite the defence of the UK Government position today that we heard from Darren, that the Welsh Conservatives will support us in electrifying the line to Swansea.

Andrew Davies: I thank Dai Lloyd for asking the question and for your response, Deputy First Minister. Make no bones about this; this decision by Philip Hammond yesterday was a political decision. The fact that it happened on St David's Day, a few days before the Welsh Conservative conference smacked of political game-playing. I rarely get into the game of Swansea versus Cardiff; I do not think that it

angen rhoi hyn ar goedd—yn seiliedig ar yr achos busnes a ddatblygodd ef. Dyna'r sefyllfa; roedd achos busnes ac fe weithiodd fy swyddogion â'r Adran Drafnidiaeth i gynhyrchu'r achos busnes hwnnw. Ar sail yr achos busnes hwnnw y cytunodd y Trysorlys y dylai'r arian gael ei ryddhau. Allwch chi ddychmygu'r Trysorlys yn rhyddhau arian ar gyfer prosiect heb achos busnes? Mae hynny'n syfrdanol.

Yr ail bwynt yw hyn: gan fod hwn yn fater sydd heb ei ddatganoli, bydd yr achos busnes ar gyfer rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd yn cael ei wneud eto gan yr Adran Drafnidiaeth o dan y system bresennol. Felly, rydym wedi cytuno i weithio gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth i sicrhau bod trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd yn digwydd, gobeithio, ar yr un pryd â thrydaneiddio rheilffordd Great Western oherwydd yr arbedion maint. Roedd y penderfyniad a gyhoeddwyd yn ei gwneud yn glir y byddai angen caffael cerbydau ar yr un pryd i sicrhau, pan fyddai trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd wedi'i gwblhau, bod digon o gerbydau ar gael i'n galluogi i elwa o'r llinellau trydan. Yn amlwg, bydd angen creu achos busnes ar wahân ar gyfer hynny.

Fy mhwynt olaf yw ein bod yn credu bod achos o blaid trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd y tu hwnt i'r hyn a gyhoeddwyd ddoe. Rwy'n deall pwynt Darren am wasanaethau ym Mro Morgannwg, ond gellir cynnwys gwasanaethau eraill yn y pecyn hwn, ar reilffyrdd y Cymoedd ac ym Mro Morgannwg. Rwy'n gobeithio, er gwaethaf amddiffyniad Darren o safle Llywodraeth y DU heddiw, y bydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn ein cefnogi o ran trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd i Abertawe.

Andrew Davies: Diolch i Dai Lloyd am ofyn y cwestiwn ac am eich ymateb, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog. A siarad yn blwmp ac yn blaen, roedd penderfyniad Philip Hammond ddoe yn benderfyniad gwleidyddol. Mae'r ffaith iddo ddigwydd ar Ddydd Gŵyl Dewi, ychydig ddyddiau cyn cynhadledd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, â blas gêm wleidyddol iddo. Anaml y byddaf yn gosod Abertawe yn erbyn Caerdydd; nid wyf yn credu bod hynny

does anyone any good, and I certainly do not think it does my city and my constituents any good, but this is not good news for Swansea and west Wales. I have been inundated with messages and e-mails from businesses, not just from Swansea, but across west Wales, about the negative perception this decision conveys.

There seems to be a view by the Department for Transport, the Secretary of State and the UK Government that somehow the line beyond Cardiff is a commuter line and is not worthy of being part of the UK network. Darren Millar asked about investment, and under the last Labour Government, there was considerable investment into the main line infrastructure in Wales—£400 million was invested in upgrading the signalling from the Severn tunnel through to Swansea and Port Talbot. It did not go from the Severn tunnel to Cardiff, because it was regarded by the then UK Government, a Labour Government, as part of the UK network. The First Great Western franchise extends from Swansea to Paddington, not from Paddington to Cardiff. Therefore, I welcome what you have said today, Deputy First Minister. You have my party's support for continuing this very strong case. This was a commitment made by the then Labour Government, as you said, and Andrew Adonis clearly made the commitment in July 2009.

When you strip away all the promises about Valleys lines, business cases and kicking into the long grass the consideration of the business case for extension to Swansea, what was actually announced yesterday? It was a step backwards. It was yet another broken promise by the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats, because all that was announced yesterday was electrification to Cardiff, not Swansea. I just hope, Deputy First Minister, that the Prime Minister's grasp of transport and geography are better than his grasp of international affairs in announcing in Prime Minister's question time this afternoon the electrification of the west coast line to Cardiff. I hope that he gets on the right train to the Conservative conference at the weekend.

o les i unrhyw un, ac rwy'n sicr nad yw o les i fy ninas a fy etholwyr, ond nid yw hyn yn newyddion da i Abertawe a gorllewin Cymru. Rwyf wedi derbyn lluo o negeseuon ac e-byst gan fusnesau, nid yn unig o Abertawe, ond ledled gorllewin Cymru, am y canfyddiad negyddol y mae'r penderfyniad hwn yn ei gyfleu.

Mae'n ymddangos bod yr Adran Drafnidiaeth, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol a Llywodraeth y DU o'r farn mai rheilffordd i gymudwyr yw'r rheilffordd y tu hwnt i Gaerdydd ac nid yw'n deilwng o fod yn rhan o rwydwaith y DU. Gofynnodd Darren Millar am fuddsoddi, ac o dan y Llywodraeth Lafur ddiwethaf, bu buddsoddiad sylweddol yn seilwaith y prif reilffyrdd yng Nghymru—cafodd £400 miliwn ei fuddsoddi yn uwchraddio'r signalau o dwannel Hafren i Abertawe a Phort Talbot. Nid oedd yn mynd o dwannel Hafren i Gaerdydd, oherwydd roedd Llywodraeth y DU ar y pryd, Llywodraeth Lafur, o'r farn ei bod yn rhan o rwydwaith y DU. Mae masnachfrait First Great Western yn ymestyn o Abertawe i Paddington, nid o Paddington i Gaerdydd. Felly, croesawaf yr hyn rydych wedi'i ddweud heddiw, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog. Mae fy mhlaid yn cefnogi'r achos cadarn hwn. Cafodd ymrwymiad ei wneud gan y Llywodraeth Lafur ar y pryd, fel y dywedoch, a gwnaeth Andrew Adonis ymrwymiad clir ym mis Gorffennaf 2009.

Pan fyddwch yn tynnu ymaith yr holl addewidion am reilffyrdd y Cymoedd, yr achosion busnes a neilltuo'r achos busnes o blaid estyniad i Abertawe, beth gafodd ei gyhoeddi ddoe mewn gwirionedd? Roedd yn gam am yn ôl. Tor-addewid arall gan y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, oherwydd trydaneiddio i Gaerdydd yn unig gafodd ei gyhoeddi ddoe, nid i Abertawe. Rwy'n gobeithio, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, fod amgyffred y Prif Weinidog o drafnidiaeth a daearyddiaeth yn well na'i amgyffred o faterion rhyngwladol, wrth iddo gyhoeddi yn y sesiwn cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog y prynhawn yma drydaneiddio'r rheilffordd ar hyd arfordir y gorllewin i Gaerdydd. Gobeithio y bydd yn dal y trê'n iawn i gynhadledd y Ceidwadwyr dros y penwythnos.

I would like to ask you some specific questions. Do you agree that it does not make any sense on economic, financial or, indeed, transport grounds to have separate electrification west of Cardiff to Swansea? If this was to be done at a later date, the costs would be considerably higher than if it was done in one fell swoop. Can you also let me know what the cost of electrification at current prices would be according to the business case for the Department for Transport? My third question may seem to be a technical one, but I am told by experts in the industry that, with regard to the resilience of the network, the Swindon to Kemble line needs to be doubled in order to allow for managing disruption for maintenance in the Severn tunnel. I am told that the Department for Transport has cut the funding for that, which would make electrification and the disruption that goes with it even more problematic than it is already likely to be. I look forward to your answers.

The Deputy First Minister: You have obviously made your point about the timing of the announcement, Andrew, and I am pretty sure that it will surprise no-one that it was made a few days before the conference in Cardiff. To deal with your specific points, I very much agree that electrification to Swansea should happen at the same time as electrification to Cardiff. It makes sense. It makes business sense and economic sense, because if you separate them out with two phases you will obviously increase the cost substantially. I will write to you with what those differences could be, because I think that it is important for people to understand the significance of the increase in costs that that would entail. I also very much agree with the point you made about the retrograde decision not to redouble the line between Swindon and Kemble, because that gives you a relief to the main line. If that is not done, it obviously makes life a lot more difficult, because it means that you are not able to divert trains and so on.

Therefore, we need to make it absolutely clear that electrification to Swansea should happen at the same time as it happens to Cardiff and that the Swindon to Kemble line should be redoubled. I will publish when I am able the cost relative to both.

Hoffwn ofyn rai cwestiynau penodol. Ydych yn cytuno nad yw'n gwneud synnwyr yn economaidd, yn ariannol nac o ran trafnidiaeth, i drydaneiddio i'r gorllewin o Gaerdydd i Abertawe ar wahân? Os byddai hynny'n cael ei wneud rywbryd eto, byddai'r costau'n sylweddol uwch na phe bai'n cael ei wneud ar yr un pryd. A allwch chi hefyd roi gwybod i mi beth fyddai cost trydaneiddio yn ôl y prisiau cyfredol yn yr achos busnes i'r Adran Drafnidiaeth? Efallai bydd fy nhrydydd cwestiwn yn ymddangos yn dechnegol, ond mae arbenigwyr yn y diwydiant wedi dweud wrthyf, o ran cadernid y rhwydwaith, bod angen dyblu'r rheilffordd rhwng Swindon a Kemble i reoli'r amhariad o ganlyniad i gynnal a chadw yn nhwnnel Hafren. Rwy'n clywed bod yr Adran Drafnidiaeth wedi cwtogi'r arian ar gyfer hynny, a fyddai'n gwneud trydaneiddio a'r aflonyddwch yn sgil hynny'n hyd yn oed yn fwy o broblem nag ydyw'n debygol o fod eisoes. Edrychaf ymlaen at eich atebion.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Rydych wedi gwneud eich pwynt am amseriad y cyhoeddiad, Andrew, ac rwy'n eithaf sicr na fydd yn synnu neb ei fod wedi'i wneud ychydig ddyddiau cyn y gynhadledd yng Nghaerdydd. O ran eich pwyntiau penodol, rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr y dylid trydaneiddio i Abertawe ar yr un pryd â thrydaneiddio i Gaerdydd. Mae'n gwneud synnwyr. Mae'n gwneud synnwyr busnes a synnwyr economaidd, oherwydd os gwneir hynny mewn dau gam bydd y gost yn amlwg yn cynyddu'n sylweddol. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch gyda'r gwahaniaethau posibl hynny, gan fy mod yn meddwl ei bod yn bwysig i bobl ddeall arwyddocâd y cynnydd mewn costau y byddai hynny'n ei olygu. Rwyf hefyd yn cytuno'n gryf â'ch pwynt am yr ôl-benderfyniad i beidio â dyblu'r rheilffordd rhwng Swindon a Kemble, oherwydd byddai hynny'n help i'r brif reilffordd. Os na wneir hynny, bydd pethau'n llawer anoddach, oherwydd ni fydd modd ailgyfeirio trenau ac ati.

Felly, rhaid inni ei wneud yn gwbl glir y dylai trydaneiddio i Abertawe ddigwydd ar yr un pryd ac y mae'n digwydd i Gaerdydd ac y dylid dyblu'r rheilffordd rhwng Swindon a Kemble. Byddaf yn cyhoeddi costau'r ddau pan fyddaf yn gallu.

Peter Black: Deputy First Minister, may I start by saying that I too was disappointed that the electrification will not extend to Swansea. Having said that, I take note of the words of the Labour MP for Swansea West, who said that the overall improvements to the transport network will benefit Swansea in terms of inward investment. Clearly, the journey times between Swansea and London would not change significantly, if at all, if the electrification were to go as far as Swansea. Nevertheless, it is a clear signal and message that needs to be addressed with regard to business confidence. That is the main reason why we need to persuade the Government to extend the electrification.

3.45 p.m.

Peter Black continues: Given that the business case to take electrification beyond Cardiff was marginal—and I understand that it could be swung back in a favourable way—and that the actual work will not be carried out for some years to come, there seems to be a window of opportunity to persuade the Government to carry out the work as a seamless whole without having to stop at Cardiff and then carry on during some future project. What work will you do over the next few months with the local authorities and elected politicians of South Wales West and the UK Government to try to get the business case for the extension of electrification accepted by the Treasury as deliverable?

It seems that the decision some years ago to run half-hourly trains from Cardiff to London, and not on to Swansea, played a significant part in making that business case marginal and went against the interests of Swansea. As part of that, perhaps we could also prevail upon the various authorities to look again at whether the half-hourly service could run from Swansea rather than just from Cardiff. I believe that that would add significantly to the traffic on that line, and also to the business case to persuade the Government to continue electrification for those extra 40 miles.

The Deputy First Minister: Thank you for the comments, Peter, which showed that there

Peter Black: Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddweud fy mod hefyd yn siomedig na fydd trydaneiddio'n ymestyn i Abertawe. Wedi dweud hynny, rwy'n nodi geiriau AS Llafur Gorllewin Abertawe, a ddywedodd y byddai Abertawe yn elwa o fewnfuddsoddi yn sgil y gwelliannau cyffredinol i'r rhwydwaith trafniadaeth. Yn amlwg, ni fydd amseroedd teithio rhwng Abertawe a Llundain yn newid yn sylweddol, os o gwbl, os byddai trydaneiddio'n ymestyn i Abertawe. Serch hynny, mae'n arwydd clir ac yn neges y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hi o ran hyder busnes. Dyna'r prif reswm pam y mae angen dwyn perswâd ar y Llywodraeth i ymestyn y trydaneiddio.

O ystyried bod yr achos busnes i gymryd trydaneiddio y tu hwnt i Gaerdydd yn ymylol—a deallaf y gallai gael ei wrthdroi mewn modd ffafriol—ac na fydd y gwaith gwirioneddol yn cael ei wneud am rai blynyddoedd i ddod, ymddengys bod cyfle i ddwyn perswâd ar y Llywodraeth i gwblhau'r gwaith yn ddi-dor, heb orfod stopio yng Nghaerdydd ac yna parhau gyda'r prosiect yn y dyfodol. Pa waith fyddwch yn ei wneud dros y misoedd nesaf gydag awdurdodau lleol a gwleidyddion etholedig Gorllewin De Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU i geisio cael y Trysorlys i dderbyn y gellir cyflawni'r achos busnes o blaid ymestyn trydaneiddio?

Ymddengys bod y penderfyniad, rai blynyddoedd yn ôl, i redeg trenau bob hanner awr o Gaerdydd i Lundain, ac nid ymlaen i Abertawe, wedi chwarae rhan sylweddol o ran gwneud yr achos busnes yn ymylol ac fe aeth yn erbyn buddiannau Abertawe. Fel rhan o hynny, efallai y gallem hefyd ddarbwyllio'r gwahanol awdurdodau i edrych eto ar p'un a allai'r gwasanaeth bob hanner awr redeg o Abertawe yn hytrach nac o Gaerdydd yn unig. Credaf y byddai hynny'n ychwanegu'n sylweddol at y traffig ar y rheilffordd honno, a hefyd at yr achos busnes i ddwyn perswâd ar y Llywodraeth i ymestyn trydaneiddio ar gyfer y 40 milltir ychwanegol hynny.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Diolch am y sylwadau, Peter, a oedd yn dangos bod yna

is a willingness to work together to deliver electrification to Swansea. You are absolutely right to say that there is a window of opportunity, which is why I have invited Philip Hammond to ask his officials to work with mine to look again at the business case for electrification to Swansea. We believe that a business case can be made. We should not look at it purely in terms of the narrow vision of the business case that traditionally operates in relation to railways, but we must look at this in the widest possible sense. Consideration of the economic impact of not electrifying the line should also be part of the process. We need to engage and I am happy to give you the confirmation that we will do so. We will also welcome the support of the local authorities to ensure that our business case is as robust as possible. The business community in Swansea and the surrounding region will also be important to us.

The issue of the half-hourly service is a matter primarily between the franchisee, First Great Western, and the Department for Transport. I am sure that they will be listening carefully to the demand for those extra services. In my view, we are primarily saying that the electrification of the line would increase capacity and the opportunity for increased services.

Val Lloyd: Although I welcome the announcement that Wales is to benefit from the electrification of the GWR main line between Cardiff and London, I feel bitterly disappointed, frustrated, angry and very much let down by our national Westminster Government that Swansea is to miss out on this. It is vital inward investment in south Wales.

The rail link between Swansea and Cardiff provides an important social and economic link between Wales's two biggest cities. The full electrification, between Swansea and London, would have brought a number of economic benefits to Swansea and the locality, as well as further west, particularly in terms of job creation. Many of my constituents, including me, see this decision as a blow to the city of Swansea. Wales needs as many thriving, vibrant and economically active cities and conurbations as possible, rather than having everything concentrated in

barodrwydd i weithio gyda'n gilydd i gyflawni trydaneiddio i Abertawe. Rydych yn iawn i ddweud bod gennym gyfle, a dyna pam rwyf wedi gwahodd Philip Hammond i ofyn i'w swyddogion i weithio gyda'm swyddogion innau i edrych eto ar yr achos busnes o blaid trydaneiddio i Abertawe. Credwn y gall achos busnes gael ei wneud. Ni ddylem greu achos busnes gyda gweledigaeth gul, fel sy'n draddodiad ar gyfer rheilffyrdd, dylem fod mor eang â phosibl. Dylai ystyried yr effaith economaidd o beidio â thrydaneiddio'r rheilffordd hefyd fod yn rhan o'r broses. Mae angen i ni ymgysylltu ac rwy'n hapus i gadarnhau y byddwn yn gwneud hynny. Byddwn hefyd yn croesawu cefnogaeth awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau bod ein hachos busnes mor gadarn â phosibl. Bydd y gymuned fusnes yn Abertawe a'r ardal gyfagos hefyd yn bwysig i ni.

Mae'r gwasanaeth bob hanner awr yn fater rhwng deiliad y fasnachfaint, First Great Western, a'r Adran Drafnidiaeth. Rwy'n siŵr y byddant yn gwrando'n ofalus ar y galw am y gwasanaethau ychwanegol hynny. Yn fy marn i, rydym yn bennaf yn dweud y byddai trydaneiddio'r llinell yn cynyddu gallu a'r cyfle am fwy o wasanaethau.

Val Lloyd: Er fy mod yn croesawu'r cyhoeddiad y bydd Cymru yn elwa o drydaneiddio prif reilffordd Great Western rhwng Caerdydd a Llundain, rwy'n hynod o siomedig, rhwystredig a dig ac yn teimlo i Lywodraeth genedlaethol San Steffan ein gadael i lawr am i Abertawe fethu â chael hyn. Mae'n fewnfuddsoddiad hanfodol yn ne Cymru.

Mae'r cyswllt rheilffordd rhwng Abertawe a Chaerdydd yn gyswllt cymdeithasol ac economaidd pwysig rhwng dwy ddinas fwyaf Cymru. Byddai trydaneiddio llawn, rhwng Abertawe a Llundain, wedi dod â nifer o fanteision economaidd i Abertawe a'r ardal leol, yn ogystal ag ymhellach i'r gorllewin, yn enwedig o ran creu swyddi. Mae llawer o fy etholwyr, gan gynnwys fi, yn teimlo bod y penderfyniad hwn yn ergyd i ddinas Abertawe. Mae Cymru angen cymaint â phosibl o ddinasoedd a chytrefi ffyniannus, bywiog ac economaidd weithgar, yn hytrach

one place. That is not good for Wales. Electrification to Swansea would help to promote such economic activity in Swansea and west Wales.

From what I have read in the business case considered by the Department for Transport to electrify the main line, it seems that the only train service to be considered was the Swansea to London 125 service, which mainly runs—as has been mentioned—during off-peak hours and on an hourly basis, although there are differences in late afternoon. From my own experience as a regular train user, I know that a number of other trains run on this route on a frequent basis throughout the hour. Deputy First Minister, do you know whether the Secretary of State for Transport, when deliberating on the business case, took account of the full customer base and the use made of the many non-125 train services that run between Swansea and Cardiff, as well as the detrimental effect that the stopping of the electrification of the line at Cardiff would have on services to and from west Wales?

The Deputy First Minister: To deal with your first point, I share your view that it was a blow to Swansea. You rightly made the point about the economic impact of the decision. We have made it clear in our economic renewal programme that we see infrastructure as one of the drivers of economic renewal, and that means infrastructure in its widest sense—it is not just about broadband and other infrastructure investment, but also transport. We saw the electrification of the main line to Swansea as one of the key drivers of economic renewal in the Swansea area. We share your disappointment around that, not only with regard to traditional economic development, but also tourism, because we heard from tourist operators in the area that this is also a disappointing decision for them.

You are quite right to say that when Philip Hammond talked about hourly services, he was talking about the inter-city services and not the Arriva services, which are within our franchise. What I think that he was trying to allude to was the fact that in order to

na chael popeth mewn un lle. Nid yw hynny'n dda i Gymru. Byddai trydaneiddio i Abertawe yn helpu i hyrwyddo gweithgaredd economaidd o'r fath yn Abertawe a gorllewin Cymru.

O'r hyn rwyf wedi darllen yn yr achos busnes a ystyriodd yr Adran Drafnidiaeth o blaid trydaneiddio'r brif reilffordd, ymddengys mai'r unig wasanaeth trên i gael ei ystyried oedd y gwasanaeth 125 rhwng Abertawe a Llundain, sy'n bennaf yn rhedeg—fel y soniwyd eisoes—tu allan i oriau brig a phob awr, er ei fod yn wahanol yn hwyr yn y prynhawn. O'm profiad fel defnyddiwr trên rheolaidd, gwn fod nifer o drenau eraill yn defnyddio'r llwybr hwn yn rheolaidd drwy gydol yr awr. Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, a ydych yn gwybod a wnaeth yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth, wrth ystyried yr achos busnes, ystyried yr holl gwsmeriaid a'r holl ddefnydd a wneir o'r nifer o wasanaethau trên, nad ydynt yn wasanaethau 125, sy'n rhedeg rhwng Abertawe a Chaerdydd, yn ogystal â'r effaith niweidiol y byddai stopio trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd yng Nghaerdydd yn ei gael ar wasanaethau i orllewin Cymru ac oddi yno?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: I ddelio â'ch pwynt cyntaf, rwy'n rhannu eich barn ei bod yn ergyd i Abertawe. Roedd eich pwynt am effaith economaidd y penderfyniad yn gywir. Mae ein rhaglen adnewyddu economaidd yn dangos yn glir bod seilwaith yn un o'r ffactorau sy'n sbarduno adferiad economaidd, sef seilwaith yn ei ystyr ehangaf—nid band eang a buddsoddiad mewn seilwaith eraill yn unig, ond trafnidiaeth hefyd. Roedd trydaneiddio'r brif reilffordd i Abertawe yn un o'r prif ffactorau i sbarduno adferiad economaidd yn ardal Abertawe i ni. Rydym yn rhannu eich siom am hynny, nid yn unig o ran datblygiad economaidd traddodiadol, ond hefyd o ran twristiaeth, oherwydd clywsom gan gwmnïau twristiaeth yn yr ardal bod y penderfyniad yn siomedig iddyn nhw hefyd.

Rydych yn llygad eich lle i ddweud, pan siaradodd Philip Hammond am wasanaethau bob awr, roedd yn siarad am wasanaethau rhwng dinasoedd, ac nid gwasanaethau Arriva, sydd o fewn ein masnachfaint. Rwy'n meddwl ei fod yn ceisio dweud bod

maximise the efficiency of electric trains, they need to be run at more frequent intervals. However, that decision should be made; there is no question around that. If you are increasing capacity and driving electric trains to Swansea, my view is that that would drive up the customer base, because if you have a choice of going on an electric train or a diesel train, you would much rather choose the electric train. Therefore, there is a customer base there that could justify the service, which is the point that you are making, and we will want to revisit that when we discuss the business case going forward.

Nick Bourne: The Deputy First Minister has been gracious and fair enough to acknowledge that there was good news here for Wales—a point perhaps unintentionally also made by Andrew Davies, when he accused us of capitalising on the good news by issuing it on St David’s Day just before the party conference. However, he did rather undermine that by the hyperbole of saying that it was a step backwards for Wales. If that really were the case, I am surprised that we would be capitalising on it just before our conference. It is good news for Wales and it has been widely welcomed by business, as the Deputy First Minister will know, and also by elements in the media that are not always sympathetic to the Conservative Party’s cause, particularly at Westminster. So, we need to recognise that there is some very good news here.

The Deputy First Minister has acknowledged that we were on a par with Albania and that 13 years of a Labour Government did not see an inch of electrification in Wales. Against a very unpromising economic background, we now have a commitment to electrify the line into Wales, and thank goodness for that. I welcome the Deputy First Minister’s statement in that regard. I take on board what the Deputy First Minister said about the electrification of the Valleys lines as being something to be welcomed, and also the electrification of the line to Penarth, Barry and beyond. That is good news. This is a first step and it is not the end of the journey, as there is much work to be done. As the Deputy First Minister said, the scheme is in three parts.

angen i drenau trydan redeg yn fwy aml er mwyn gwneud y mwyaf o’u heffeithiolrwydd. Fodd bynnag, dylid gwneud y penderfyniad hwnnw; nid oes amheuaeth am hynny. Os ydych yn cynyddu gallu ac yn gyrru trenau trydan i Abertawe, byddai hynny’n cynyddu nifer y cwsmeriaid yn fy marn i, oherwydd os oes gennych ddewis o fynd ar drên trydan neu drên disel, byddai’n llawer gwell gennych ddewis y trên trydan. Felly, mae cwsmeriaid yno i gyfiawnhau’r gwasanaeth, sef y pwynt yr ydych yn ei wneud, a byddwn yn dychwelyd at hynny wrth drafod yr achos busnes eto.

Nick Bourne: Mae’r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog wedi bod yn ddigon graslon a theg i gydnabod bod newyddion da yma i Gymru—pwynt a wnaed yn anfwriadol efallai hefyd gan Andrew Davies, wrth ein cyhuddo o fanteisio ar y newyddion da drwy ei gyhoeddi ar Ddydd Gŵyl Dewi, cyn cynhadledd y blaidd. Fodd bynnag, fe danseiliodd hynny gyda’r ormodiaith o ddweud ei fod yn gam yn ôl i Gymru. Os yw hynny’n wir, rwy’n synnu y byddem yn manteisio arno ychydig cyn ein cynhadledd. Mae’n newyddion da i Gymru ac mae wedi’i groesawu’n eang gan fusnesau, fel y gŵyr y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, a hefyd gan elfennau o’r cyfryngau nad ydynt bob amser yn sympathetig i achos y Blaidd Geidwadol, yn enwedig yn San Steffan. Felly, mae angen i ni gydnabod bod rhywfaint o newyddion da iawn yma.

Mae’r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog wedi cydnabod yr oeddwn ar yr un lefel ag Albania ac na chafodd modfedd o reilffordd ei thrydaneiddio yng Nghymru ar hyd 13 mlynedd o Lywodraeth Lafur. Yn erbyn cefndir economaidd anaddawol iawn, mae gennym bellach ymrwymiad i drydaneiddio’r rheilffordd i Gymru, a diolch byth am hynny. Rwy’n croesawu datganiad y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn hynny o beth. Rwy’n derbyn yr hyn ddywedodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog am drydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd fel rhywbeth i’w groesawu, a hefyd trydaneiddio’r rheilffordd i Benarth, y Barri a thu hwnt. Mae hynny’n newyddion da. Mae hwn yn gam cyntaf, ac nid yw’n ddiwedd y daith, gan fod llawer o waith i’w wneud. Fel dywedodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, mae tair rhan i’r cynllun.

In relation to Swansea, if Andrew Adonis had a business case that had been worked on jointly with the Welsh Assembly Government in 2008-09, if I have understood the Deputy First Minister correctly, then I presume that you have a copy of it, because it seems to have been lost. I do not know whether he took it with him when he left the job, but there is no established business case. Believe me on that as I have had meetings with many people on this issue, as has the Deputy First Minister. I am happy to lend my shoulder to the wheel to get this service to Swansea, as it is something that we need to do, but it is dependent on the business case; it cannot be signed off by the chief accounting officer without it.

Peter Black is right about the timetabling issues, to which others have also alluded. It is tied in with those issues, and I do not think that that can be easily revised until the franchise is revised. The half-hourly service was withdrawn under the last Government and the restoration of a more regular service to Swansea is an element that would help the business case. Of course, we need to work on this. This is good news, but we need to ensure that it comes beyond Cardiff to Swansea and other parts of Wales, including the north. It would be marvellous to see Wales totally electrified before anywhere else in the country. Why do we not set that as an aspiration?

However, to be fair to the Deputy First Minister, he has indicated a willingness to work on this with the Department for Transport, and they will be willing partners in this. Geraint Davies was referred to as someone who welcomes this and Val was fair enough to say that there was some good news here, but it has to be built on. We must do that, but we must recognise, as was done by the Member for Swansea West when he accused us of trying to grandstand on the issue on St David's Day before our conference, that there is good news here. Let us recognise that and take it further.

The Deputy First Minister: Can we leave out conference dates and other things for the moment? [*Interruption.*] Yes, I think that you

O ran Abertawe, os oedd gan Andrew Adonis achos busnes a gafodd ei ddatblygu ar y cyd â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn 2008-09, os wyf wedi deall y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn gywir, yna rwy'n tybio bod gennych gopi ohono, oherwydd ymddengys ei fod ar goll. Ni wn i os aeth â'r copi gydag ef pan adawodd y swydd, ond nid oes achos busnes sefydledig. Credwch fi ar hynny gan fy mod wedi cael cyfarfodydd gyda llawer o bobl ar y mater hwn, fel y mae'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog wedi gwneud hefyd. Rwy'n hapus i dorchi llewys er mwyn cael y gwasanaeth hwn i Abertawe, am fod angen i ni ei wneud, ond mae'n dibynnu ar yr achos busnes; ni all y prif swyddog cyfrifo ei gymeradwyo hebdo.

Mae Peter Black yn iawn am y materion gyda'r amserlen, y mae eraill hefyd wedi'u crybwyll. Mae ynghlwm â'r materion hynny, ac nid wyf yn meddwl y gellir eu hadolygu'n hawdd hyd nes i'r fasnachfaint gael ei diwygio. Cafodd y gwasanaeth bob hanner awr ei dynnu'n ôl o dan y Llywodraeth ddiwethaf a byddai adfer gwasanaeth mwy rheolaidd i Abertawe yn helpu'r achos busnes. Wrth gwrs, mae angen i ni weithio ar hyn. Mae hyn yn newyddion da, ond mae angen i ni sicrhau ei fod yn dod y tu hwnt i Gaerdydd i Abertawe a rhannau eraill o Gymru, gan gynnwys y gogledd. Byddai'n wych pe byddai rheilffyrdd Cymru'n cael eu trydaneiddio'n llwyr cyn unrhyw le arall yn y wlad. Beth am osod hynny fel dyhead?

Fodd bynnag, i fod yn deg i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, mae wedi dangos parodrwydd i weithio ar hyn gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth, a byddant yn bartneriaid parod. Cyfeiriwyd at Geraint Davies fel rhywun sy'n croesawu hyn ac roedd Val yn ddigon teg i ddweud bod rhywfaint o newyddion da yma, ond rhaid adeiladu arno. Mae'n rhaid inni wneud hynny, ond rhaid inni gydnabod, fel gwnaeth Aelod Gorllewin Abertawe wrth ein cyhuddo o geisio manteisio ar y mater ar Ddydd Gŵyl Dewi cyn ein cynhadledd, bod newyddion da yma. Dylem gydnabod hynny a'i ddatblygu ymhellach.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: A allwn ni osgoi dyddiadau cynhadledd a phethau eraill am ennyd? [*Torri ar draws.*] Do, rwy'n meddwl i

mentioned it as well, Nick. However, let us concentrate on where we are and to where we need to move.

I have acknowledged that the electrification to Cardiff and the proposal to electrify the Valleys lines, which we believe can be extended, is good news. There is no question about that. Our difficulty is that we believe that there was a good business case for electrification to Swansea. The original announcement that was made in 2009 was based on the business case that had been presented, and the funding was to be provided on the basis of that business case, and the electrification was to go all the way to Swansea. People seem to think that I have this business case somewhere, but I do not. It was never my responsibility to prepare it. The business case was prepared by the Department for Transport and the previous announcement was made on that basis. I think that Nick knows that. You cannot make an announcement that you will electrify the line from Paddington to Swansea without a business case. The Treasury would simply not have allowed that to happen. We do not want this to be shrouded in fog. There was a business case, a statement was made based on that business case, and we worked with the Department for Transport to ensure that it was robust. Therefore, we believe that there is a good case for taking electrification to Swansea.

I think that, from what Nick said, he also believes that we can make a better case for going to Swansea. Therefore, all the parties in the Assembly should agree that ensuring that there is electrification to Swansea is a key objective. If we can all pull together and make it absolutely clear that electrification to Swansea would benefit the economy of south-west Wales, we should do it. I am happy to work with people to deliver that objective. I do not think that we should suggest that, somehow or other, business cases have been hidden somewhere, because all decisions are based on business cases.

Rhodri Morgan: I know that, at first sight, as a Cardiff Assembly Member, I should be dancing a jig—[ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: ‘Go on.’]—but I am sorry to disappoint you. In a genuine spirit of inquiry, I ask the Deputy

chi sôn amdano hefyd, Nick. Fodd bynnag, gadewch i ni ganolbwyntio ar ble yr ydym ac i le mae angen i ni symud.

Rwyf wedi cydnabod bod trydaneiddio i Gaerdydd a'r cynnig i drydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd, y credwn y gellir ei ymestyn, yn newyddion da. Nid oes amheuaeth am hynny. Yr anhawster yw ein bod yn credu bod yna achos busnes da o blaid trydaneiddio i Abertawe. Roedd y cyhoeddiad gwreiddiol a wnaed yn 2009 yn seiliedig ar yr achos busnes a gyflwynwyd, ac roedd yr arian i gael ei ddarparu ar sail yr achos busnes, ac roedd y trydaneiddio i fynd yr holl ffordd i Abertawe. Mae pobl yn meddwl bod gennyf gopi o'r achos busnes hwn yn rhywle, ond nid oes. Nid fy nghyfrifoldeb i oedd ei baratoi. Cafodd yr achos busnes ei baratoi gan yr Adran Drafnidiaeth a chafodd y cyhoeddiad blaenorol ei wneud yn seiliedig arno. Credaf fod Nick yn gwybod hynny. Ni allwch gyhoeddi y byddwch yn trydaneiddio'r rheilffordd o Paddington i Abertawe heb achos busnes. Ni fyddai'r Trysorlys wedi caniatáu i hynny ddigwydd. Nid ydym am i hyn gael ei guddio dan len o niwl. Roedd achos busnes, cafodd datganiad ei wneud yn seiliedig ar yr achos busnes, ac fe wnaethom weithio gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth i sicrhau ei fod yn gadarn. Felly, credwn fod achos da o blaid trydaneiddio i Abertawe.

Credaf, o'r hyn a ddywedodd Nick, ei fod ef hefyd yn credu y gallwn wneud gwell achos o blaid mynd i Abertawe. Felly, dylai'r holl bleidiau yn y Cynulliad gytuno bod sicrhau trydaneiddio i Abertawe yn amcan allweddol. Os gall pawb gyd-dynnu a'i gwneud yn gwbl glir y byddai trydaneiddio i Abertawe o fudd i economi de-orllewin Cymru, dylem wneud hynny. Rwy'n hapus i weithio gydag eraill i gyflawni'r amcan hwnnw. Nid wyf yn credu y dylem awgrymu bod, rywsut neu'i gilydd, achosion busnes wedi cael eu cuddio yn rhywle, gan fod pob penderfyniad yn seiliedig ar achos busnes.

Rhodri Morgan: Gwn, ar yr olwg gyntaf, fel Aelod Cynulliad yng Nghaerdydd, y dylwn fod yn dawnsio jig—[AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: ‘Ewch amdani’]—ond mae'n ddrwg gennyf eich siomi. Yng ngwir ysbryd

First Minister to confirm that the dual-mode diesel electric trains that Philip Hammond announced yesterday would be provided on the route from London to Newport and Cardiff, which will be ordered by the end of the year, if all goes well, from the Hitachi and John Laing Agility Trains consortium, are not significantly different in their design from the plan announced by Andrew Adonis in 2009. Although it is very much cut back, not only by taking out the Cardiff-Swansea leg, but by reducing the number of carriages to be ordered from 1,400 to 500, what he has done, after nine months, is to avoid the necessity of retendering under European Union procurement rules. He has essentially confirmed the wisdom of Andrew Adonis's original announcement in terms of the train design, but taken away 900 out of the 1,400 carriages and the Cardiff-Swansea leg. Therefore, he has wasted nine months and laboured mightily not so much to bring forth a mouse as a rabbit for the Tory party conference in two days' time.

The Deputy First Minister: You are right on the carriages, because he could not make the announcement about electrification unless he made an announcement about the carriages at the same time. Had he gone through another procurement exercise, that would have delayed matters even longer. Therefore, you are right in that sense and about the dual-mode trains, because these trains can now be driven all the way to Swansea, even though the lines between Cardiff and Swansea will not be electrified.

4.00 p.m.

We should all be saying that we welcome the announcement as far as it goes, but that we are bitterly disappointed that the electrified track is not going on to Swansea. Let us now work together to deliver electrification to Swansea; gauging the mood of the Assembly today, I think that everybody agrees that that should be our next goal.

Jenny Randerson: Deputy First Minister, I think that you might share—at least privately—my amusement that Labour politicians here seem simultaneously to believe that the announcement is bad news,

ymholi, gofynnaf i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog gadarnhau na fydd y trenau deuol disel a thrydan a gyhoeddwyd gan Philip Hammond ddoe ac a fyddai'n cael eu defnyddio ar y llwybr rhwng Llundain a Chasnewydd a Chaerdydd, a fydd yn cael eu harchebu erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn, os aiff popeth yn iawn, o gonsortiw Agilith Trains Hitachi a John Laing, yn sylweddol wahanol o ran eu dyluniad i'r cynllun a gyhoeddwyd gan Andrew Adonis yn 2009. Er ei fod wedi'i gwtogi'n sylweddol, drwy gael gwared ar y rhan rhwng Caerdydd ac Abertawe a lleihau nifer y cerbydau a fydd yn cael eu harchebu o 1,400 i 500, yr hyn y mae wedi'i wneud, ar ôl naw mis, yw osgoi'r angen i ail-dendro o dan reolau caffael yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Mae wedi cadarnhau doethineb cyhoeddiad gwreiddiol Andrew Adonis am ddyluniad y trêrn, ond mae wedi cymryd 900 o 1,400 o gerbydau allan o'r daith rhwng Caerdydd ac Abertawe. Felly, mae wedi gwastraffu naw mis, ac ofer fu ei ymdrechion, cyn cynhadledd y blaid Doriaidd mewn deuddydd.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Rydych yn iawn am y cerbydau, oherwydd ni allai fod wedi gwneud cyhoeddiad am drydaneiddio oni bai iddo wneud cyhoeddiad am y cerbydau ar yr un pryd. Pe bai wedi mynd trwy ymarfer caffael arall byddai wedi gohirio pethau hyd yn oed yn hirach. Felly, rydych yn iawn yn hynny o beth ac am y trenau deuol, oherwydd gellir gyrru'r trenau hyn yr holl ffordd i Abertawe, er na fydd y rheilffordd rhwng Caerdydd ac Abertawe wedi'i thrydaneiddio.

Dylem oll ddweud ein bod yn croesawu'r cyhoeddiad cyn belled ag y mae'n mynd, ond ein bod yn siomedig iawn nad yw'r trac wedi'i drydaneiddio yn ymestyn i Abertawe. Gadewch i ni weithio gyda'n gilydd i sicrhau trydaneiddio i Abertawe; o'r awyrgylch yn y Cynulliad heddiw, credaf fod pawb yn cytuno mai hynny ddylai fod ein nod nesaf.

Jenny Randerson: Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn rhannu—yn breifat o leiaf—fy nifyrrwch bod gwleidyddion Llafur yma yn ymddangos i gredu, ar yr un pryd, bod y cyhoeddiad yn newyddion drwg,

that the coalition Government has gone out of its way to make the announcement to celebrate St David's Day and that it has been made to draw attention to the conferences of the Welsh Conservatives and Welsh Liberal Democrats this weekend. I have never in the past found the Welsh Liberal Democrat conference to be a matter of such significance that the Government has spent billions of pounds on it.

When we looked at the issue of electrification we, as a committee, heard expert evidence that the economic case for the route beyond Cardiff was more difficult to make than that for the route to Cardiff. The latter is strong, and that has been proved by the decision made by the Government, which I strongly support. Like everyone else, I would have loved the journey to carry on to Swansea, as I believe that it is logical that it should do so. Electrification was once described to me as being like a moving factory conveyor belt, and that having gone down the line as far as Cardiff, it should then go on to Swansea or the Valleys; I shall be continuing to press that issue.

We also heard evidence that the track beyond Cardiff was more bendy than on the route to Cardiff, which means that, although there are environmental benefits to electrification, the speed difference would be much less. If a journey from London to Cardiff on electrified tracks gives a saving of 20 minutes, and you go slower after Cardiff because of the bends in the track, do you have an estimate of how many minutes' saving we are talking about between Cardiff and Swansea? How much faster would it be? Although all of us here can say that we are united in the desire to build a strong case for going beyond Cardiff, and to not let up in our efforts to press that case, I am concerned that the picture that is being given to the outside world is that Swansea is being left out. Swansea is benefitting from being 20 minutes closer to London, which is exactly the same amount as Cardiff; Newport will be slightly less than 20 minutes closer because it is nearer. We should be united in saying that this is good news for the whole of the south Wales economy and beyond; it is good news for

bod y Llywodraeth glymblaid wedi mynd allan o'i ffordd i wneud y cyhoeddiad i ddatlu Dydd Gŵyl Dewi a'i fod wedi'i wneud i dynnu sylw at gynadleddau'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig a Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru y penwythnos hwn. Nid wyf erioed yn y gorffennol wedi canfod cynhadledd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru i fod yn fater o gymaint o arwyddocâd fel bod y Llywodraeth wedi gwario biliynau o bunnoedd arno.

Pan edrychasom ar drydaneiddio, clywsom, fel pwyllgor, dystiolaeth gan arbenigwyr fod yr achos economaidd ar gyfer y llwybr tu hwnt i Gaerdydd yn anos i'w wneud nag ar gyfer y llwybr i Gaerdydd. Mae'r achos i Gaerdydd yn gryf, ac mae penderfyniad y Llywodraeth wedi profi hynny, rwy'n cefnogi hynny'n fawr. Fel pawb arall, byddwn wrth fy modd pe bai'r daith wedi parhau i Abertawe, gan fy mod yn credu bod hynny'n rhesymegol. Clywais trydaneiddio yn cael ei ddisgrifio unwaith fel belt sy'n cludo nwyddau o amgylch ffatri, a gan ei fod yn mynd i lawr y rheilffordd cyn belled â Chaerdydd, dylai fynd ymlaen wedyn i Abertawe neu'r Cymoedd; byddaf yn parhau i bwysleisio'r mater hwnnw.

Clywsom hefyd dystiolaeth bod y trac tu hwnt i Gaerdydd yn fwy troellog na'r trac i Gaerdydd, sy'n golygu, er bod manteision amgylcheddol i drydaneiddio, na fyddai llawer o wahaniaeth o ran cyflymder. Os bydd taith o Lundain i Gaerdydd ar draciau sydd wedi'u trydaneiddio yn arbed 20 munud, a'ch bod yn arafu ar ôl Caerdydd oherwydd y troeon yn y trac, a oes gennych amcangyfrif o faint o amser fydd yn cael ei arbed rhwng Caerdydd ac Abertawe? Faint yn gyflymach fyddai? Er y gall pob un ohonom ddweud ein bod yn unedig yn ein hawydd i adeiladu achos cryf ar gyfer mynd y tu hwnt i Gaerdydd, ac i beidio â cholli gafael ar ein hymdrechion i bwysleisio'r achos hwnnw, rwy'n pryderu mai'r darlun sy'n cael ei roi i'r byd y tu allan i Gymru yw bod Abertawe yn cael ei gadael allan. Bydd Abertawe yn elwa o fod 20 munud yn nes at Lundain, sy'n union yr un faint â Chaerdydd; bydd Casnewydd ychydig yn llai nag 20 munud yn nes oherwydd ei fod yn agosach. Dylem fod yn unedig wrth ddweud bod hyn yn newyddion da ar gyfer economi de Cymru

Newport, Cardiff and Swansea, because there will be new trains, a swifter service for everyone and it will be better for the environment. We will build our case for Swansea later on, but do you agree that we need to be selling the advantages for the Welsh economy today? We will build on that from now on, rather than complain about something that is now down to us to work on?

The Deputy First Minister: I agreed with some of the things that Jenny said, but I do not think that we should be making case for Swansea later on; it is of key importance that we make that case now. Jenny will acknowledge that making a business case for electrification to Swansea at the same time as Cardiff and the Valley lines makes economic and business sense; let us do it all together. If we can all work together, we can ensure that that happens.

We are getting a little too hung up on the journey time here. You can get diesel trains to run as fast to Cardiff, and I think that Phillip Hammond has said in the past that he could strip out some of the stops on the line between London and Cardiff and still achieve journey savings. That is not the issue here. The issue is that electric trains are much more comfortable, give much better customer satisfaction and are better for the environment. It has also been proved that electric lines open up investment opportunities. There is no question about that; it has always been the case. That is why we wanted to look at the wider economic impact, not just the narrow, traditional business case. That is what the previous Government acknowledged in its decision to take the electrification as far as Swansea—it was because of that wider economic impact. That is despite what you are saying, Jenny. I understand that this is a difficult one for you, because this decision was made by a coalition Government in London of which your party is a member, but the truth is that there is a good case to deliver this to Swansea to open up investment opportunities for south-west Wales. Let us ensure that that happens, and that we work together to deliver it.

a thu hwnt; mae'n newyddion da i Gasnewydd, Caerdydd ac Abertawe, oherwydd bydd trenau newydd, gwasanaeth cyflymach i bawb a bydd yn well ar gyfer yr amgylchedd. Byddwn yn datblygu ein hachos o blaid Abertawe yn nes ymlaen, ond a ydych yn cytuno bod angen i ni werthu'r manteision i economi Cymru heddiw? Byddwn yn adeiladu ar hynny maes o law, yn hytrach na chwyno am rywbeth sydd yn gyfrifoldeb i ni ei ddatblygu?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Roeddwn yn cytuno â rhai o'r pethau a ddywedodd Jenny, ond nid wyf yn credu y dylem fod yn gwneud yr achos dros Abertawe maes o law; mae'n hollbwysig ein bod yn gwneud yr achos nawr. Bydd Jenny yn cydnabod bod gwneud achos busnes ar gyfer trydaneiddio i Abertawe ar yr un pryd â Chaerdydd a rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd yn gwneud synnwyr economaidd a busnes; gadewch i ni wneud y cyfan gyda'i gilydd. Os gallwn oll weithio gyda'n gilydd, gallwn sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd.

Rydym yn canolbwyntio gormod ar hyd y daith. Mae trenau disel yn gallu teithio ar yr un cyflymder i Gaerdydd, a chredaf fod Phillip Hammond wedi dweud yn y gorffennol y gallai cael gwared ar rai o'r arosfannau ar y rheilffordd rhwng Llundain a Chaerdydd arbed amser ar y daith. Nid dyna'r pwynt yma. Y pwynt yw bod trenau trydan yn llawer mwy cyfforddus, yn rhoi mwy o foddhad i gwsmeriaid ac yn well i'r amgylchedd. Mae hefyd wedi'i brofi bod rheilffyrdd trydan yn creu cyfleoedd buddsoddi. Nid oes amheuaeth am hynny; mae hynny wedi bod yn wir erioed. Dyna pam yr oeddem am edrych ar yr effaith economaidd ehangach, nid yr achos busnes cul a thraddodiadol yn unig. Roedd y Llywodraeth flaenorol yn cydnabod hynny gyda'i benderfyniad i ymestyn trydaneiddio cyn belled ag Abertawe—yr oedd oherwydd yr effaith economaidd ehangach hwnnw. Mae hynny er gwaethaf yr hyn yr ydych yn ei ddweud, Jenny. Rwy'n deall bod hyn yn anodd i chi, oherwydd cafodd y penderfyniad ei wneud gan Lywodraeth glymblaid yn Llundain y mae eich plaid yn aelod ohoni, ond y gwir yw bod achos da o blaid darparu hyn i Abertawe i greu cyfleoedd buddsoddi ar gyfer de-orllewin Cymru. Gadewch inni

sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd, a'n bod yn gweithio gyda'n gilydd i'w gyflawni.

Jeff Cuthbert: As Val Lloyd pointed out, Cardiff and Swansea are the two principal cities in Wales, and this announcement offers no benefit whatsoever to those who wish to travel between the two cities, bendy though the track may be. However, the sharper curvature—to give it its proper title—can be addressed through improving the camber on the track. Those are well-established techniques.

My question is about the Valley lines, because they were part of this announcement. As you say, the Department for Transport is working with the Welsh Assembly Government to establish a viable business case for electrification of the Valley lines. Could you confirm whether the purchase of rolling stock for the Valley lines will be the responsibility of the Welsh Assembly Government or part of the deal involving the Department for Transport? Today's *South Wales Echo*—I appreciate that you are not responsible for what is written there—says that the UK Government has agreed to look at plans to electrify some of the Valley lines. Are you able to clarify what is proposed in terms of the Valley lines, or will the business case be for all the Valley lines?

The Deputy First Minister: First of all, I will mention the new fleet. If you electrify the Valley lines, the infrastructure is the responsibility of the UK Government and Network Rail. They have made it clear that the decision on the rolling stock is a matter for us and the franchise holder, whoever that would be in 2018 and beyond. We would then need to work out a business case and a procurement method for delivery.

The statement yesterday was limited to some of the Valley lines, not all of them. Perhaps for the record I should say that they would be the commuter lines via Pontypridd to Treherbert, Merthyr Tydfil and Aberdare, and the railway lines to Coryton, the Rhymney valley, Penarth and Barry Island. That is the plan. We believe that there is a case to extend that, for example—though not exclusively—

Jeff Cuthbert: Fel y nododd Val Lloyd, Caerdydd ac Abertawe yw'r ddwy ddinas bennaf yng Nghymru, ac nid yw'r cyhoeddiad hwn o unrhyw fudd i'r bobl sydd am deithio rhwng y ddwy ddinas, waeth pa mor droellog yw'r trac. Fodd bynnag, gellir mynd i'r afael â'r crymedd fwy main—i roi'r teitl cywir iddo—drwy wella'r cambr ar y trac. Mae'r technegau hynny wedi'u hen sefydlu.

Mae fy nghwestiwn yn ymwneud â rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd, oherwydd roeddent yn rhan o'r cyhoeddiad hwn. Fel y dywedasoch, mae'r Adran Drafnidiaeth yn gweithio gyda Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i sefydlu achos busnes hyfyw o blaid trydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd. A allwch gadarnhau ai cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fydd prynu'r cerbydau ar gyfer rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd neu a fydd hynny'n rhan o'r cytundeb gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth? Mae *South Wales Echo* heddiw—ac rwy'n sylweddoli nad chi sy'n gyfrifol am yr hyn sydd wedi'i ysgrifennu ynddo—yn dweud bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi cytuno i edrych ar gynlluniau i drydaneiddio rhai o reilffyrdd y Cymoedd. A allwch egluro beth yw'r cynigion ar gyfer rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd, neu a fydd yr achos busnes ar gyfer holl reilffyrdd y Cymoedd?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Yn gyntaf oll, soniaf am y fflyd newydd. Os caiff rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd eu trydaneiddio, bydd y seilwaith yn gyfrifoldeb i Lywodraeth y DU a Network Rail. Maent wedi gwneud yn glir mai ni a deiliad y fasnachfaint, pwy bynnag fydd hwnnw yn 2018 a thu hwnt, fydd yn gyfrifol am benderfyniadau am y cerbydau. Yna, byddai angen i ni lunio achos busnes a dull caffael ar gyfer eu darparu.

Roedd datganiad ddoe wedi'i gyfyngu i rai o reilffyrdd y Cymoedd, nid pob un ohonynt. Efallai y dylwn ddweud ar goedd mai'r rheilffyrdd hynny fyddai'r rheilffyrdd cymudo drwy Bontypridd i Dreherbert, Merthyr Tudful ac Aberdâr, a'r rheilffyrdd i Coryton, cwm Rhymni, Penarth ac Ynys y Barri. Dyna'r cynllun. Credwn fod achos o blaid ymestyn hynny, er enghraifft—ond nid

between Cardiff and Bargoed, and Cardiff and Ebbw Vale. In the Vale of Glamorgan, there is also a case for the line via Llantwit Major to Bridgend. We believe that the scope should be wider, and perhaps we should now be working with the Department for Transport to extend it beyond the Valley lines that it has identified to those lines that we think should also be included. We made it clear that we want that to happen when we met with the Office of Rail Regulation and Network Rail. In the next control period, this will be one of our priorities. We have made it clear where we are coming from, and we will be pushing hard for that. I still believe—I will make this my final point—that electrification to Swansea and the Valley lines should go together: it makes business and economic sense.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, fel yr ydych wedi dweud fwy nag unwaith wrth ateb y cwestiynau hyn y prynhawn yma, mae trydaneiddio'r gwasanaeth trên yn cynnig cyfleoedd ar gyfer buddsoddiad sylweddol yn yr economi. Yr ydym oll yn croesawu'r ffaith y bydd buddsoddiad yn yr economi yn y de-ddwyrain yn dilyn y penderfyniad i drydaneiddio'r gwasanaeth trên hyd at Gaerdydd. Fodd bynnag, y canfyddiad sy'n dilyn gan bobl fusnes, nid yn unig yn Abertawe ond hefyd i'r gorllewin o Abertawe, yw na fydd mantais i'r economi o ran buddsoddiad a chwmnïau'n sefydlu yn y de-orllewin gan y bydd y llinell sydd wedi'i thrydaneiddio yn dod i ben yng Nghaerdydd. Yr ydym yn gwybod na fyddai llawer o arbediad o ran hyd y daith o Gaerdydd i Abertawe, ond rhaid ystyried effaith y canfyddiad hwnnw ar economi'r de-orllewin.

A dderbyniwch, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, mai un o brif egwyddorion cytundeb 'Cymru'n Un', y cytunwyd arno gan Blaid Cymru a'r Blaid Lafur, oedd sicrhau adfywiad i'r economi drwy Gymru gyfan, a bod y cyhoeddiad hwn o Lundain, tra'n newyddion da iawn i'r de-ddwyrain, yn newyddion drwg iawn i fuddsoddiad yn economi'r de-orllewin?

Y Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog: Cytunaf â chi, ac

yn unig—rhwng Caerdydd a Bargoed, a Chaerdydd a Glyn Ebwy. Ym Mro Morgannwg, mae yna hefyd achos o blaid y rheilffordd drwy Lanilltud Fawr i Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr. Credwn y dylai'r cwmpas fod yn ehangach, ac efallai y dylem nawr fod yn gweithio gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth i ymestyn hynny y tu hwnt i'r rheilffyrdd yn y Cymoedd sydd eisoes wedi'u nodi i'r rheilffyrdd yr ydym o'r farn y dylid eu cynnwys hefyd. Gwnaethom yn glir ein bod am i hynny ddigwydd pan gawsom gyfarfod â Swyddfa Rheoleiddio'r Rheilffyrdd a Network Rail. Yn y cyfnod rheoli nesaf, bydd hynny'n un o'n blaenoriaethau. Rydym wedi gwneud ein safbwynt yn glir, a byddwn yn gwthio'n galed am hynny. Rwy'n dal i gredu—hwn fydd fy mhwynt olaf—y dylai trydaneiddio i Abertawe ac i reilffyrdd y Cymoedd ddigwydd gyda'i gilydd: mae'n gwneud synnwyr busnes ac economaidd.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Deputy First Minister, as you have said more than once in replying to these questions this afternoon, electrification of the train service presents opportunities for significant investment in the economy. We all welcome the fact that there will be investment in the economy of south-east Wales as a result of the decision to electrify the railway to Cardiff. However, the resulting perception for businesspeople, not only in Swansea but further west, is that there will be no economic benefits in terms of investment and companies setting up in south-west Wales given that the electrification of the railway will end in Cardiff. We know that there would not be a huge saving in terms of the journey time from Cardiff to Swansea, but we must consider the effect of this perception on the economy of south-west Wales.

Do you accept, Deputy First Minister, that one of the main principles of 'One Wales', agreed between Plaid Cymru and the Labour Party, was to achieve economic regeneration across the whole of Wales, and that this announcement from London, while very good news for south-east Wales, is very bad news for investment in the economy of south-west Wales?

The Deputy First Minister: I agree with

mae eich pwynt am y canfyddiad yn un hynod o bwysig. Wrth sôn am fuddsoddi mewn ardal, mae'n sicr yn atyniad i fuddsoddwyr eich bod yn gallu dweud wrthynt bod llinell wedi'i thrydaneiddio bob cam i'r lle y maent yn ystyried buddsoddi ynddo. Mae'n fater o bryder felly bod y penderfyniad i beidio â thrydaneiddio hyd at Abertawe wedi'i gymryd. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn gweithio gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth.

Cytunaf y dylem fod yn edrych i drydaneiddio nid yn unig y rheilffordd i Abertawe ond y rheilffordd yn y gogledd hefyd, oherwydd pwysigrwydd economaidd cynllun o'r fath. Mawr hyderaf fod unoliaeth barn yn y Cynulliad i symud y mater hwn yn ei flaen.

Y Llywydd: Diolch i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog am ymestyn cwestiwn brys yn ddatganiad, oherwydd y galw amlwg iawn i wneud hynny gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Diolch yn fawr.

you, and your point about perception is very important. When you are talking about investing in an area, it is clearly attractive to investors to know that there is an electrified railway line all the way to where they are considering investing. It is, therefore, a matter of concern that the decision has been taken not to electrify the line all the way to Swansea. However, we will work with the Department for Transport.

I agree that we should look to not only electrify the line to Swansea but also the railway in north Wales, given the economic importance of such a scheme. I very much trust that there is consensus in the Assembly on moving this issue forward.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you, Deputy First Minister, for making this urgent question more of a statement, given the obvious desire among Assembly Members for that to happen. Thank you.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives Debate

Gwasanaethau Gofal Lliniarol Palliative Care Services

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jane Hutt.

Cynnig NDM4673 Nick Ramsay

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn croesawu'r camau sydd wedi cael eu cymryd o ran chyffuriau rheoli poen a nifer o therapïau lliniarol eraill;

2. Yn canmol gwaith y sector gwirfoddol o ran cyflenwi gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol;

3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gynyddu'r cyllid a'r gefnogaeth ar gyfer hosbisau, ac i ddatblygu gwasanaethau lliniarol allgymorth.

Nick Ramsay: I move the motion.

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jane Hutt.

Motion NDM4673 Nick Ramsay

The National Assembly for Wales:

1. Welcomes the advances that have been made with pain controlling drugs and many other palliative therapies;

2. Commends the work of the voluntary sector in the delivery of palliative care services;

3. Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to increase funding and support for hospices, and to develop outreach palliative services.

Nick Ramsay: Cynigiau y cynnig.

It is a great pleasure to open this debate this afternoon. I start by paying tribute to the hard work and the dedication of all those who work on the front-line in our health services and within our hospice movement. The hospice movement has been an outstanding success and has given dignity and quality of life to many people who are at the end of their lives for a considerable length of time.

Palliative care services should be an integral part of the national health service in Wales and not just ancillary. Of the British public, 87 per cent believes that everyone with a terminal illness should have the right to receive hospice care, and 78 per cent believes that the Government should contribute at least half of the cost of that care. That shows that, despite the economic downturn, palliative care remains at the top of the electorate's concerns. We have brought this debate to the Chamber today because it is certainly at the top of my party's concerns as we move towards the Assembly elections in May, as I am sure that it is for many Assembly Members from different parties across the Chamber.

The first point of our motion welcomes the advantages that have been made with pain controlling drugs and many other helpful palliative therapies in recent years. There is this idea that palliative care only applies to cancer patients, but there are various life-limiting terminal and palliative conditions, such as severe strokes and motor neurone disease, which require the same sort of long-term intensive nursing care.

The second point of our motion commends the work of the voluntary sector and the work that is done across Wales in local communities. That work has been at the forefront of developing palliative care in Wales. There are more than 50 palliative care providers in Wales, 13 of which are independently managed. These charitable hospices provide more than a quarter of Wales's palliative care provision. I have had extensive meetings with St David's Foundation Hospice Care in my area, and also with St Anne's Hospice, and I am sure that every Assembly Member has had interaction with hospices in their areas over

Mae'n bleser mawr cael agor y ddadl hon y prynhawn yma. Dechreuaf drwy dalu teyrnged i waith caled ac ymroddiad pawb sy'n gweithio ar y rheng flaen yn ein gwasanaethau iechyd ac o fewn ein mudiad hosbis. Mae'r mudiad hosbisau wedi bod yn llwyddiant ysgubol ac mae wedi rhoi urddas ac ansawdd bywyd i lawer o bobl sydd ar ddiwedd eu hoes am gyfnod sylweddol o amser.

Dylai gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol fod yn rhan annatod o'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru, nid rhywbeth ategol. Cred 87 y cant o'r cyhoedd ym Mhrydain y dylai pawb sydd â salwch terfynol gael yr hawl i dderbyn gofal hosbis a chred 78 y cant y dylai'r Llywodraeth gyfrannu at o leiaf hanner cost y gofal hwnnw. Dengys hynny, er gwaethaf y dirywiad economaidd, bod gofal lliniarol yn parhau i fod ar frig pryderon yr etholwyr. Rydym wedi dod â'r ddadl hon i'r Siambr heddiw oherwydd ei fod yn sicr ar frig pryderon fy mhlaid wrth i ni symud tuag at etholiadau'r Cynulliad ym mis Mai, fel rwy'n siŵr ei fod hefyd ar gyfer nifer o Aelodau'r Cynulliad o wahanol bleidiau ar draws y Siambr.

Mae pwynt cyntaf ein cynnig yn croesawu'r manteision sydd wedi'u cyflawni gyda chyffuriau rheoli poen a nifer o therapïau lliniarol cynorthwyol eraill yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae yna syniad bod gofal lliniarol ond yn berthnasol i gleifion canser, ond mae amryw o gyflyrau terfynol a lliniarol sy'n cyfyngu ar fywyd, megis strôc ddifrifol a chlefyd niwronau motor, sydd angen yr un fath o ofal nyrsio dwys hirdymor.

Mae ail bwynt ein cynnig yn canmol gwaith y sector gwirfoddol a'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud ledled Cymru mewn cymunedau lleol. Mae'r gwaith hwnnw wedi bod ar flaen y gad o ran datblygu gofal lliniarol yng Nghymru. Mae mwy na 50 o ddarparwyr gofal lliniarol yng Nghymru, ac mae 13 ohonynt yn cael eu rheoli'n annibynnol. Mae'r hosbisau elusennol hyn yn darparu mwy na chwarter o'r ddarpariaeth gofal lliniarol yng Nghymru. Rwyf wedi cael llawer o gyfarfodydd gyda Gofal Hosbis Sefydliad Dewi Sant yn fy ardal, a hefyd gyda Hosbis y Santes Anne, ac rwy'n siŵr bod pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad wedi bod yn ymwneud â'r hosbisau yn eu

the past four years, and, indeed, beyond that for those Assembly Members who have been here since the start.

4.15 p.m.

It is a superb example of how communities and charities work together to provide hospice care. Without the incredible work carried out by the voluntary sector, it is clear that the NHS would face massive extra costs. It is right, therefore, that these voluntary charitable organisations should be supported financially in the tremendous work that they do. Now more than ever we need a commitment by the Assembly Government to safeguard the long-term future of palliative care services in Wales. Point 3 of our motion calls on the Assembly Government to increase funding and support for hospices and to develop outreach palliative services. I fully support the objectives and ethos of the national health service, and I am completely committed to the principle that NHS services should be free at the point of delivery, based on clinical need and not on the ability to pay. I also accept that, sometimes, resources need to be shifted around, but I do not accept that that shift should abandon the most distressed and vulnerable in our society. Frankly, when people are in need of palliative care they are at the most vulnerable point that they will ever be in their lives and they look for services that will deliver the sort of care that a civilised society would expect and require them to receive.

When you consider the things that the Assembly Government spends its money on, with millions of pounds being spent on all sorts of projects—albeit that it is restricted at the moment because of the economic situation, the Assembly Government's budget is still large by historic standards—it is shameful that the terminally ill and the long-term sick too often feel that they are denied access to hospices in Wales and to the sort of care that they need and expect. I am particularly concerned about the finances of Tŷ Hafan in the Vale of Glamorgan, George Thomas Hospice in Whitchurch, Tŷ Olwen in Swansea, and St Kentigern hospice, which serves Denbighshire. Before this debate, we had an interesting set of questions to the Minister for economic development

hardaloedd dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf, ac, yn wir, cyn hynny ar gyfer yr Aelodau Cynulliad sydd wedi bod yma ers y dechrau.

Mae'n enghraifft wych o gymunedau ac elusennau yn cydweithio i ddarparu gofal hosbis. Heb waith anhygoel y sector gwirfoddol, mae'n amlwg y byddai'r GIG yn wynebu costau ychwanegol enfawr. Mae'n iawn, felly, bod sefydliadau gwirfoddol elusennol yn cael cymorth ariannol i'w gwaith. Nawr, yn fwy nag erioed, mae angen ymrwymiad gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i ddiogelu dyfodol hirdymor gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol yng Nghymru. Mae pwynt 3 ein cynnig yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i gynyddu'r cyllid a'r gefnogaeth i hosbisau ac i ddatblygu gwasanaethau lliniarol allgymorth. Rwy'n llwyr gefnogi amcanion ac ethos y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, ac rwyf wedi ymrwymo'n llwyr i'r egwyddor y dylai gwasanaethau GIG gael eu darparu am ddim, ar sail angen clinigol ac nid ar sail gallu i dalu. Derbyniaf fod angen symud adnoddau, ar adegau, ond nid wyf yn derbyn y dylai'r symud hwnnw gefnu ar y bobl sydd yn fwyaf gofidus ac yn fwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymdeithas. A dweud y gwir, pan fydd pobl angen gofal lliniarol, dyna'r mwyaf agored i niwed y byddant wedi bod yn eu bywydau a byddant yn chwilio am wasanaethau a fydd yn darparu'r math o ofal y byddai cymdeithas wâr yn ei ddisgwyl ac yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol iddynt dderbyn.

Pan fyddwch yn ystyried y pethau mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gwario ei harian arno, gyda miliynau o bunnoedd yn cael eu gwario ar bob math o brosiectau—er bod hynny wedi'i gyfyngu ar hyn o bryd oherwydd y sefyllfa economaidd, mae cyllideb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad dal yn fawr yn ôl safonau hanesyddol—mae'n gywilyddus bod pobl sy'n dioddef salwch terfynol a salwch hirdymor yn rhy aml yn teimlo eu bod yn methu â chael lle mewn hosbisau yng Nghymru ac yn methu â chael y math o ofal sydd ei angen arnynt ac y maent yn ei ddisgwyl. Rwy'n pryderu'n arbennig am gyllid Tŷ Hafan ym Mro Morgannwg, Hosbis George Thomas yn yr Eglwys Newydd, Tŷ Olwen yn Abertawe, a hosbis Sant Kentigern yn Sir Ddinbych. Cyn y ddadl

regarding electrification of the railways. I am very pleased that strides forward have been made in the electrification of the Great Western main line in Wales, but let us not forget that, even as we were having that debate, in cities such as Swansea, there are big issues surrounding hospice care that need to be dealt with. If they are not going to be dealt with by us here, then by whom are they going to be dealt with?

Hospices in England and Scotland receive as much as 40 per cent of their funding from Government, while hospices in Wales receive 15 per cent. The Minister has done a fair bit to address this situation over the last few years. I have had meetings with her and I know that the hospice movement in my area of Monmouthshire in south-east Wales is pleased about some of the developments that have taken place. However, this is such an important area of care that we feel that more needs to be done. I know that it is very easy to say that. It is always easy to overlook the developments that have been made and to say that more could be done, when resources are clearly stretched. However, I know that this is an area that the Minister herself believes is vital, and it is crucial that, over the months and years to come, we see resources diverted into this phenomenally important area of the NHS and of healthcare in general in Wales. That is particularly true for palliative care, which seems to have been neglected for too long. A comprehensive palliative care service needs to be provided in the primary care sector, and not only in GPs' surgeries. It has to be an aspect of all primary healthcare professionals' work. Within a palliative care framework, funding is required for many aspects, not only for hospice support. There now seems to be more of a movement towards the hospice at home, that is, outreach facilities from existing hospices. Many people would much prefer to receive even quite extensive interventions at home, if at all possible. That is crucial. In my visits to hospices and in my discussions with St David's Foundation Hospice and St Ann's Hospice—to name only two in my area—it has become apparent that, if we are to deal with this situation progressively, being able to provide people at home with the sort of care that they would very much like to

hon, cawsom set ddiddorol o gwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros ddatblygu economaidd ynghylch trydaneiddio'r rheilffyrdd. Rwy'n falch iawn bod camau breision wedi'u gwneud o ran trydaneiddio prif reilffordd Great Western yng Nghymru, ond rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio, hyd yn wrth gael y ddadl honno, mewn dinasoedd fel Abertawe, bod angen datrys problemau mawr ynghylch gofal hosbis. Os na wnawn ni eu datrys yma, pwy wnaiff?

Mae hosbisau yn Lloegr a'r Alban yn cael cymaint â 40 y cant o'u cyllid gan y Llywodraeth, tra bo hosbisau yng Nghymru yn cael 15 y cant. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi gwneud cryn dipyn i fynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa hon dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Rwyf wedi cael cyfarfodydd â hi, a gwn fod y mudiad hosbis yn fy ardal yn Sir Fynwy yn neddwyrain Cymru yn falch am rai o'r datblygiadau sydd wedi digwydd. Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn faes gofal mor bwysig fel y teimlwn fod angen gwneud mwy. Gwn mai hawdd iawn yw dweud hynny. Mae'n hawdd anghofio am y datblygiadau sydd wedi digwydd a dweud y gellir gwneud mwy, pan fydd adnoddau wedi'u hystyn. Fodd bynnag, gwn fod y Gweinidog o'r farn bod y maes hwn yn hanfodol, ac mae'n hanfodol, dros y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod, bod adnoddau'n cael eu hailgyfeirio i'r maes hynod o bwysig hwn o'r GIG a gofal iechyd yn gyffredinol yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n arbennig o wir ar gyfer gofal lliniarol, yr ymddengys iddo gael ei esgeuluso am rhy hir. Mae angen darparu gwasanaeth gofal lliniarol cynhwysfawr yn y sector gofal sylfaenol, nid mewn meddygfeydd meddygon teulu yn unig. Mae'n rhaid iddo fod yn agwedd ar waith pob gweithiwr proffesiynol gofal iechyd sylfaenol. O fewn fframwaith gofal lliniarol, mae angen cyllid ar gyfer sawl agwedd, nid i gefnogi hosbisau'n unig. Ymddengys fod mwy o symud tuag at hosbis yn y cartref, hynny yw, cyfleusterau allgymorth gan hosbisau sydd eisoes yn bodoli. Byddai'n well gan lawer o bobl dderbyn gwasanaethau, hyd yn oed rhai dwys, adref, lle bo modd. Mae hynny'n hanfodol. Wrth i mi ymweld â hosbisau a thrafod gyda Hosbis Sefydliad Dewi Sant a Hosbis y Santes Anne—i enwi ond dau yn fy ardal—daeth i'r amlwg, os ydym am ddelio â'r sefyllfa hon mewn modd blaengar, bod y

receive at home if at all possible is a good thing in two respects. It is good for the patient and also good for the health service.

The role of practice nurses is key. There is a severe shortage of paediatric nurses and bereavement counsellors for families, and there is a desperate need to develop a third children's hospice to cover south-west Wales. All of that will require significant resources and additional staffing. In the long term, by focusing more resources on palliative care, the NHS could save a significant amount of money. Thousands of hospital bed spaces every year that are taken up as a result of unnecessary admissions could be freed up by developing palliative care services in the community, and in that way we could make hospital resources go further.

We will reject the Government's amendment 1, because we feel that it seeks to kick this issue into the long grass. Palliative care providers need a significant long-term funding commitment, not irregular ad-hoc payments from the Minister for health as and when she or her successor feels that it is right. There is a place for intervention and for a Minister to carry out that important role of putting the brakes on when things have gone wrong, but that should not be the norm. I hate to use that awful word 'holistic', but we need a strategy that deals with this issue in the long term, in a way that is measured, reasonable and that, ultimately, is sustainable. That has not happened up to now. Ad-hoc, voluntary donations and sporadic payments from the Welsh Assembly Government can never allow that to happen. For all those reasons, I am delighted to move the motion. I hope that we are pushing at an open door in asking the Assembly Government to give palliative care a favourable wind in its passage through the Assembly, and I hope that the debate does its bit to raise awareness of these issues.

I was looking through some quotations made by healthcare providers in Wales, and I was struck by the words of Baroness Finlay, the Professor of Palliative Medicine at Cardiff University, who described the difference between the situation now and the situation

gallu i ddarparu'r math o ofal yr hoffai pobl ei dderbyn yn eu cartrefi, os yn bosibl, yn dda am ddau reswm. Mae'n dda i'r claf ac yn dda i'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

Mae rôl nyrsys practis yn allweddol. Mae prinder difrifol o nyrsys pediatrig a chynghorwyr profedigaeth i deuluoedd, ac mae angen dybryd am drydedd hosbis i blant yn ne-orllewin Cymru. Bydd angen adnoddau sylweddol a staff ychwanegol ar gyfer hynny. Yn yr hirdymor, drwy roi mwy o adnoddau i ofal lliniarol, gallai'r GIG arbed swm sylweddol o arian. Gellir rhyddhau miloedd o welyau mewn ysbytai bob blwyddyn rhag cael eu defnyddio ar gyfer achosion diangen pe bai gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol yn y gymuned yn cael eu datblygu, a thrwy hynny gallai adnoddau'r ysbytai fynd ymhellach.

Byddwn yn gwrthod gwelliant 1 y Llywodraeth, oherwydd teimlwn ei fod yn ceisio bwrw'r mater hwn o'r neilltu. Mae angen ymrwymiad ariannol hirdymor sylweddol ar ddarparwyr gofal lliniarol, nid taliadau afreolaidd ac ad-hoc gan y Gweinidog dros iechyd pryd bynnag y mae hi, neu ei holynydd, yn teimlo fod hynny'n iawn. Mae gan ymyrraeth ei le, ac mae rôl bwysig gan y Gweinidog o ran atal pethau pan fydd rhywbeth wedi mynd o'i le, ond ni ddylai hynny fod yn norm. Mae'n gas gen i ddefnyddio'r gair ofnadwy 'cyfannol', ond mae angen strategaeth arnom sy'n ymdrin â'r mater hwn yn yr hirdymor, mewn modd pwylllog, rhesymol, ac, yn y pen draw, chynaliadwy. Nid yw hynny wedi digwydd hyd yn hyn. Mae'r rhoddion gwirfoddol ac ad-hoc a'r taliadau achlysurol gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn rhwystro hynny rhag digwydd. Am yr holl resymau hynny, mae'n bleser gennyf gynnig y cynnig hwn. Rwy'n gobeithio ein bod yn gwthio yn erbyn drws agored wrth ofyn i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad roi help llaw i ofal lliniarol, ac rwy'n gobeithio bydd y ddadl hon yn codi ymwybyddiaeth o'r materion hyn.

Roeddwn yn edrych ar ddyfyniadau gan ddarparwyr gofal iechyd yng Nghymru, a gwnaeth geiriau'r Farwnes Finlay, yr Athro Meddygaeth Lliniarol ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, argraff arnaf wrth ddisgrifio'r gwahaniaeth rhwng y sefyllfa bresennol a'r

as it was when she was a junior doctor. She said that

‘patients who were dying were often abandoned in side wards, without effective pain and symptom control; terrible deaths were commonplace... That is not the situation today’.

It is great that things have developed as well as they have. Every Member in every party here recognises the importance of palliative care, and how changes that are made at the end of a person’s life can make such a difference to the way in which they and their families perceive their lives in general. We have come a long way, but we have so much further to go. Minister, please take this debate in the spirit in which it is meant, and let us all do what we can to improve palliative care services in Wales, so that we have the palliative care sector that the people of Wales deserve and one of which they can be proud.

Gwelliant 1 Jane Hutt

Dilëwch bwynt tri a rhowch yn ei le:

3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gynyddu'r cyllid a'r gefnogaeth ar gyfer hosbisau, ac i ddatblygu gwasanaethau allgymorth, ac mae'n nodi hefyd y caiff hyn ei ystyried yn ystod tymor Llywodraeth nesaf Cynulliad Cymru gyda'r pwysau eraill arni am gyllid ac yng ngoleuni ein setliad ariannol.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Edwina Hart): I move amendment 1.

Helen Mary Jones: I will begin by expressing my gratitude to the Conservative group for having chosen to put this important subject on the agenda this afternoon. As Nick Ramsay has said, this issue is close to many of our hearts. I agree wholeheartedly with the first two parts of the motion. I have some doubts about the second, and I will come on to my reasons for that in a moment. However, I can fully see what they are attempting to achieve, and I support that.

I am sure that Nick Ramsay and the rest of the Conservative group would agree that

sefyllfa pan oedd yn feddyg iau. Dywedodd fod

cleifion oedd yn marw yn aml yn cael eu gadael mewn wardiau ochr, heb ffyrdd o reoli eu poen a'u symptomau'n effeithiol, a bod marwolaethau ofnadwy yn gyffredin, ond nad hynny yw'r sefyllfa heddiw.

Mae'n wych bod pethau wedi datblygu cymaint. Mae pob Aelod o bob plaid yma yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd gofal lliniarol, a sut y gall newidiadau ar ddiwedd bywyd rhywun wneud cymaint o wahaniaeth i'r ffordd y maent hwy a'u teuluoedd yn teimlo am eu bywyd yn gyffredinol. Rydym wedi cyflawni llawer, ond mae cymaint mwy i'w wneud eto. Weinidog, dylech dderbyn y ddatl hon yn yr ysbryd y'i bwriadwyd, a gadewch i ni oll wneud yr hyn a allwn i wella gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol yng Nghymru, fel bod gan bobl Cymru'r sector gofal lliniarol y maent yn ei haeddu, ac un y gallant fod yn falch ohono.

Amendment 1 Jane Hutt

Delete point three and replace with:

3. Notes the calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to increase funding and support for hospices and to develop outreach services and further notes that this will be considered during the term of the next Welsh Assembly Government alongside other funding pressures and in light of our financial settlement.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Edwina Hart): Cynigiau welliant 1.

Helen Mary Jones: Dechreuaf drwy ddiolch i'r grŵp Ceidwadol am ddewis rhoi'r pwnc pwysig hwn ar yr agenda'r prynhawn yma. Fel y dywedodd Nick Ramsay, mae'r mater hwn yn agos at lawer o'n calonnau. Cytunaf yn llwyr â dwy ran gyntaf y cynnig. Mae gennyf rywfaint o amheuan am yr ail, a byddaf yn dod at fy rhesymau dros hynny mewn eiliad. Fodd bynnag, gwelaf beth maent yn ceisio ei gyflawni, ac rwy'n cefnogi hynny.

Rwy'n siŵr y byddai Nick Ramsay a gweddill y grŵp Ceidwadol yn cytuno nad

appropriate end-of-life care is not just about hospice care or the hospice at home. There are all sorts of other factors and organisations that have a vital role to play. I have been pleased to support Macmillan Cancer Support's campaign on the right to die at home. In some cases, people will be supported by outreach from a hospice to make that happen, whereas in other circumstances specialist nurses will be provided by Macmillan, Marie Curie, and, indeed, directly by our national health service. Like many of us, I am sure, I have had reason to be very grateful for this specialist nursing care: it enabled my mother to die of cancer in her own home, surrounded by her family. Insofar as one can ever have a good death, that was the best possible death imaginable. My mother and others like her were supported not only by the specialist nurses but by mainstream health service staff who felt confident to look after people dying at home. We know that since the dreadful Shipman case many GPs have become nervous about training to provide high-end opiates and the pain relief necessary to control people's symptoms at home. We know that that has led to some patients dying in hospital beds when, with the right community care, they could have been supported at home. So, as well as supporting the voluntary sector, as this motion seeks to do, we must also look—I know that this is being done in the work that the Minister asked Professor Finlay to do—at how we enable community services more broadly to support those patients who choose to die at home, as well as their families.

Turning briefly to the third point of the Conservative's motion, as I said, I fully accept what they are trying to do. We need long-term core funding for hospice services. I would suggest, however, that there is a question about whether that should be direct funding from the Government, or whether we should mainstream this into our health services and make it a core responsibility of the local health boards. I say that because I support what Nick Ramsay said about the hospice movement in that it should not have to rely on one-off payments or special grants

yw gofal diwedd bywyd priodol yn ymwneud â gofal hosbis neu hosbis yn y cartref yn unig. Mae pob math o ffactorau a sefydliadau eraill â rôl hanfodol i'w chwarae. Rwyf wedi bod yn falch o gefnogi ymgyrch Cymorth Canser Macmillan ar yr hawl i farw gartref. Mewn rhai achosion, bydd pobl yn cael cefnogaeth gwasanaethau allgymorth hosbis ar gyfer hynny, tra mewn achosion eraill bydd nyrsys arbenigol yn cael eu darparu gan Macmillan, Marie Curie, ac, yn wir, yn uniongyrchol gan ein gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Fel llawer ohonom, mae'n siŵr, rwyf wedi cael rheswm i fod yn ddiolchgar iawn am y gofal nyrsio arbenigol hynny: galluogodd fy mam i farw o ganser yn ei chartref ei hun, gyda'i theulu o'i hamgylch. I'r graddau y gall rhywun gael marwolaeth dda, dyna'r farwolaeth gorau posibl. Cafodd fy mam, ac eraill fel hi, gymorth gan nyrsys arbenigol yn ogystal â staff o brif ffrwd y gwasanaeth iechyd a oedd yn teimlo'n hyderus i ofalu am bobl sy'n marw gartref. Gwyddom, ers achos ofnadwy Shipman, bod llawer o feddygon teulu yn nerfus i gael hyfforddiant i ddarparu opiadau cryf a'r feddyginiaeth i leddfu poen sydd eu hangen i reoli symptomau pobl yn eu cartrefi. Gwyddom fod hynny wedi arwain at rywfaint o gleifion yn marw mewn gwelyau ysbyty pan y gallent, gyda'r gofal cywir yn y gymuned, fod wedi cael cefnogaeth yn y cartref. Felly, yn ogystal â chefnogi'r sector gwirfoddol, fel mae'r cynnig yn ceisio wneud, rhaid i ni hefyd edrych—gwn fod hyn yn digwydd yn y gwaith mae'r Gweinidog wedi gofyn i'r Athro Finlay ei wneud—ar sut rydym yn galluogi gwasanaethau cymunedol mwy eang i gefnogi'r cleifion hynny sy'n dewis marw yn eu cartref, yn ogystal â'u teuluoedd.

Gan droi yn fyr at drydydd pwynt cynnig y Ceidwadwyr, fel y dywedais, rwy'n llwyr dderbyn yr hyn y maent yn ceisio ei wneud. Mae angen arian craidd hirdymor ar wasanaethau hosbis. Awgrymaf, fodd bynnag, fod cwestiwn ynghylch a ddylai fod yn arian uniongyrchol gan y Llywodraeth, neu a ddylem ei brif ffrydio yn ein gwasanaethau iechyd a'i wneud yn gyfrifoldeb craidd i fyrddau iechyd lleol. Dywedaf hynny oherwydd fy mod yn cefnogi'r hyn a ddywedodd Nick Ramsay na ddylai'r mudiad hosbis orfod dibynnu ar

from the Assembly Government, but that funding should be built in.

In that regard, I commend to the Minister and to the Assembly the model of service that has been developed at Tŷ Bryngwyn hospice in my constituency in partnership with the local health board. There is a long history to this, because when the hospice was first planned, the health service publicly and clearly committed to providing the medical and nursing care. That plan went wrong, due to some changes among the decision makers, but I am happy to say that that has now been put right and we have at Tŷ Bryngwyn a system in which the key, basic health services—the nursing, the medical care, the drugs—are all funded through the health service. We are fortunate that the hospice is co-located on the site of the hospital, so it is easy for professionals to work in both locations, and the leading palliative care specialist works both at Prince Philip Hospital and at the hospice.

The hospice committee fundraises for extra services, some of which we would want to see become core services over time, such as counselling and bereavement support for relatives, as well as counselling for patients, and to keep the hospice as the beautiful place it is—the bedrooms are like those in the nicest hotel imaginable. That is the element that comes in through voluntary fundraising. In the longer term, is that not the way forward? I know that there are challenges, and I know that some of the independent hospices are concerned that, should they become integrated in the NHS in that way, they will lose their independence, but, with properly written agreements, such as the one that exists between Tŷ Bryngwyn and the Hywel Dda Local Health Board, we can ensure that the independence and flexibility, and the very special environment that can be created in a hospice, can be maintained while the core services are provided and funded in a mainstream way by the health service.

Another advantage to this approach for us in Carmarthenshire is that it has enabled the health service to learn from the hospice movement in terms of its attitude and

daliadau unigol neu grantiau arbennig oddi wrth Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, ond y dylai'r cyllid fod yn un craidd.

O ran hynny, cymeradwyaf i'r Gweinidog ac i'r Cynulliad y model o wasanaeth sydd wedi'i ddatblygu yn hosbis Tŷ Bryngwyn yn fy etholaeth mewn partneriaeth â'r bwrdd iechyd lleol. Mae hanes hir i hyn, oherwydd pan gafodd yr hosbis ei gynllunio i ddechrau, gwnaeth y gwasanaeth iechyd ymrwymiad cyhoeddus a chilir i ddarparu'r gofal meddygol a nyrsio. Fe aeth y cynllun hwnnw o chwith, oherwydd newidiadau ymhlith y rhai oedd yn gwneud y penderfyniadau, ond rwy'n falch o ddweud bod hynny bellach wedi'i gywiro a bod gan Tŷ Bryngwyn system lle mae'r gwasanaethau iechyd allweddol a sylfaenol—y nyrsio, y gofal meddygol, y cyffuriau—yn cael eu hariannu gan y gwasanaeth iechyd. Rydym yn ffodus bod yr hosbis wedi'i leoli ar safle'r ysbyty, felly mae'n hawdd i weithwyr proffesiynol weithio yn y ddau le, ac mae'r arbenigwr blaenllaw mewn gofal lliniarol yn gweithio yn Ysbyty'r Tywysog Philip ac yn yr hosbis.

Mae pwyllgor yr hosbis yn codi arian ar gyfer gwasanaethau ychwanegol, rhai ohonynt yr hoffem eu gweld yn dod yn wasanaethau craidd maes o law, megis cynghori a chefnogaeth adeg profedigaeth i berthnasau, yn ogystal â chynghori i gleifion, a chynnal yr hosbis fel y lle hardd ag ydyw—mae'r ystafelloedd gwely fel rhai mewn gwesty hyfyrd. Dyna sy'n digwydd drwy godi arian yn wirfoddol. Yn y tymor hwy, ai hynny yw'r ffordd ymlaen? Gwn fod heriau, a gwn fod rhai o'r hosbisau annibynnol yn pryderu, pe byddent yn cael eu hintegreiddio yn y GIG, y byddent yn colli eu hannibyniaeth, ond, gyda chytundebau ysgrifenedig priodol, fel yr un rhwng Tŷ Bryngwyn a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda, gallwn sicrhau y gall annibyniaeth a hyblygrwydd, a'r amgylchedd arbennig iawn y gellir ei greu mewn hosbis, gael eu cynnal tra bo gwasanaethau craidd yn cael eu darparu a'u hariannu drwy brif ffrwd y gwasanaeth iechyd.

Mantais arall i'r ffordd hwn o weithio yn Sir Gaerfyrddin yw ei fod wedi galluogi'r gwasanaeth iechyd i ddysgu gan y mudiad hosbisau o ran ei agwedd tuag at farw.

approach to dying. I was struck by Nick Ramsay quoting Professor Finlay's words on how things used to be. We have moved on so much since then. In Carmarthenshire, health professionals tell me that working so closely with the hospice movement has helped them to develop not only different skills, but also a different mindset that sees death and dying as a natural part of life.

In conclusion, I welcome this motion. I will support the Government amendment, because I think that those of us fortunate enough to be elected to the next Assembly will need to come back to this issue. In the long term, we have to get the health service as a whole to take its responsibility for palliative care and for enabling a good death, and not leave it in the hands of the voluntary sector alone.

William Graham: Assembly Members and constituents alike value and admire the work done daily by hospices and palliative care units across Wales. Services such as those provided in my region by the St David's Foundation—the United Kingdom's largest provider of hospice-at-home care—are thoroughly professional, providing invaluable hospice-at-home services and care for over 2,600 patients at a cost of over £4.6 million per annum.

As previous speakers have already outlined, there is a pressing need to give hospices throughout Wales a stable and predictable source of funding: £8 million, perhaps sourced from a small prescription charge, would enable hospices to plan their operations for the long term at a time when a number of them warn that it has become increasingly difficult for them to stay afloat in the wake of reduced charitable donations from the public.

4.30 p.m.

Not only would additional funds support existing hospices, but money could be used to assist the founding of new facilities, such as the planned permanent base for the Hospice of the Valleys in Ebbw Vale. The history of the Hospice of the Valleys is indicative of the

Gwnaeth Nick Ramsay yn dyfynnu'r Athro Finlay argraff arnaf o ran sut oedd pethau'n arfer bod. Rydym wedi symud ymlaen cymaint ers hynny. Yn Sir Gaerfyrddin, mae gweithwyr iechyd proffesiynol yn dweud wrthyf fod gweithio mor agos gyda'r mudiad hosbisau wedi'u helpu i ddatblygu sgiliau gwahanol yn ogystal â meddylfryd gwahanol o ran gweld marwolaeth a marw fel rhan naturiol o fywyd.

I gloi, croesawaf y cynnig hwn. Byddaf yn cefnogi gwelliant y Llywodraeth, oherwydd credaf y bydd angen i'r rhai ohonom a fydd yn ddigon ffodus i gael ein hethol i'r Cynulliad nesaf ddod yn ôl at y mater hwn. Yn yr hirdymor, rhaid i'r gwasanaeth iechyd dderbyn cyfrifoldeb am ofal lliniarol ac am alluogi pobl i gael marwolaeth dda, ac nid ei adael yn nwylo'r sector gwirfoddol yn unig.

William Graham: Mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac etholwyr fel ei gilydd yn gwerthfawrogi ac edmygu gwaith dyddiol hosbisau ac unedau gofal lliniarol ledled Cymru. Mae gwasanaethau fel y rhai a ddarperir yn fy rhanbarth gan Sefydliad Dewi Sant—y sefydliad mwyaf o ran darparu gofal hosbis yn y cartref yn y Deyrnas Unedig—yn hollol broffesiynol, gan ddarparu gwasanaethau a gofal hosbis amhrisiadwy yn y cartref i dros 2,600 o gleifion am gost o dros £4.6 miliwn y flwyddyn.

Fel y mae siaradwyr blaenorol wedi nodi eisoes, mae angen dybryd i roi ffynhonnell sefydlog a rhagweladwy o gyllid i hosbisau ledled Cymru: byddai £8 miliwn, efallai drwy godi tâl presgripsiwn bach, yn galluogi hosbisau i gynllunio sut byddant yn gweithredu yn yr hirdymor ar adeg pan mae nifer ohonynt yn rhybuddio ei bod wedi dod yn fwyfwy anodd iddynt gadw deupen llinyn ynghyd yn sgîl llai o roddion elusennol gan y cyhoedd.

Byddai cyllid ychwanegol nid yn unig yn cefnogi hosbisau sydd eisoes yn bodoli, ond gellid defnyddio'r arian i helpu i sefydlu cyfleusterau newydd, megis y safle parhaol arfaethedig ar gyfer Hosbis y Cymoedd yng Nglyn Ebwy. Mae hanes Hosbis y Cymoedd

great demand for palliative care in the region, which will only increase with an ageing population. I give way to Brian Gibbons.

Brian Gibbons: Your suggestion of a small prescription charge is an interesting idea. Nonetheless, do you not accept that many people who suffer from cancer and are in terminal care are in receipt of many drugs, and that one of the great advantages of our free prescription scheme in Wales is that people do not have to worry about the cost of their drugs? Therefore, is your suggestion not counterproductive?

William Graham: Thank you for your remarks, Brian. You will know that our position on prescriptions has been quite clear: we strongly believe that there should be specific categories in which specific charges are not paid for.

The number of people for whom the hospital provides palliative care has increased by 88 per cent in the past 14 years, to 550 people. Some £350,000 of the £2.3 million required for the construction of the new facility has been raised so far. I also recall a very valuable visit with the Minister for Health and Social Services to the St Anne's Hospice in Newport. One of the things that came across very strongly to me there was that hospices of this kind are no longer places where people just go to die. Very often, while patients are receiving treatment there, they recover sufficiently to go home or to receive other treatment at a hospital. It has therefore become very necessary for hospices to be located close to general hospitals.

The voluntary sector has a strong tradition of providing excellent end-of-life care in Wales, with institutions often funded by people inspired to establish charities from their own experiences of dealing with terminally ill relatives or friends. Such was the case with the establishment of the Hospice of the Valleys by Jayne Medlicott in 1991, or the Gwent hospice group in the late 1970s, which has grown to become the St David's Foundation. The Welsh Assembly Government must empower and support the

yn arwydd o'r galw mawr am ofal lliniarol yn yr ardal, a fydd ond yn cynyddu gyda phoblogaeth sy'n heneiddio. Ildiaf i Brian Gibbons.

Brian Gibbons: Mae eich awgrym o dâl presgripsiwn bach yn syniad diddorol. Serch hynny, onid ydych yn derbyn bod llawer o bobl sy'n dioddef o ganser, ac sy'n derbyn gofal terfynol, yn derbyn nifer o gyffuriau, ac mai un o fanteision mawr ein cynllun presgripsiynau am ddim yng Nghymru yw nad oes yn rhaid i bobl boeni am gost eu cyffuriau? Felly, onid yw eich awgrym yn wrthgynhyrchiol?

William Graham: Diolch am eich sylwadau, Brian. Gwyddoch fod ein safbwynt ar bresgripsiynau wedi bod yn ddigon clir: yr ydym yn credu'n gryf y dylai fod categorïau penodol lle nad yw taliadau penodol yn cael eu talu.

Mae nifer y bobl y mae'r ysbyty yn darparu gofal lliniarol iddynt wedi cynyddu 88 y cant yn y 14 mlynedd diwethaf, i 550 o bobl. Mae tua £350,000 o'r £2.3 miliwn sydd ei angen ar gyfer adeiladu'r cyfleuster newydd wedi ei godi hyd yn hyn. Rwyf hefyd yn cofio ymweliad gwerthfawr iawn gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Hosbis y Santes Anne yng Nghasnewydd. Un o'r pethau a ddaeth drosodd yn gryf iawn i mi yno oedd y ffaith nad yw hosbisau o'r math yma yn fannau lle mae pobl bellach ddim ond yn mynd i farw. Yn aml iawn, tra bod cleifion yn derbyn triniaeth yno, maent yn gwella'n ddigonol i fynd adref neu i dderbyn triniaeth arall mewn ysbyty. Mae felly wedi dod yn angenrheidiol i hosbisau gael eu lleoli yn agos at ysbytai cyffredinol.

Mae gan y sector gwirfoddol draddodiad cryf o ddarparu gofal diwedd oes ardderchog yng Nghymru, gyda sefydliadau wedi cael eu hariannu yn aml gan bobl a ysbrydolwyd i sefydlu elusennau yn deillio o'u profiadau eu hunain o ddelio â pherthnasau neu ffrindiau â salwch terfynol. Dyna oedd yr achos gyda sefydlu Hosbis y Cymoedd gan Jayne Medlicott yn 1991, neu grŵp hosbis Gwent yn y 1970au hwyr, sydd wedi tyfu i fod yn Sefydliad Dewi Sant. Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru rymuso a chefnogi'r

groups and individuals concerned in the provision of palliative care in their respective constituencies.

Veronica German: There is no doubt, as we have heard from other speakers today, that we have come a long way with palliative care in recent years. That is to be welcomed. We have come a long way in Wales too. The work done by Professor Finlay and the implementation board is certainly welcomed by the people to whom I have spoken and those who are involved with palliative care and the hospice movement. We all recognise also that further challenges lie ahead, as treatments improve and patients live longer—not just those with malignant diseases, but those with chronic conditions, which often have similar symptoms and problems to malignant diseases. The pressure to provide good services, underpinned by the principles of palliative care, will be even greater.

The patients with non-malignant diseases to whom I just referred often have similar and distressing symptoms. There is an increasing recognition of those people's need to have the same sort of palliative care as people with cancer. Often, their symptoms may be present over an ever longer period of time, interspersed with periods of acute problems. This is a very difficult issue, and one that Kirsty Williams and I raised during a recent visit to the Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth. We also talked about how far removed many of us had become from death and dying within our homes. In the past, and certainly in my grandmother's day, many people died at home. People were used to it; it was something that they took for granted. Many people now choose to die at home, and it is their choice to do so. However, the family members around them may not be quite so in tune with that. This is something that we all need to talk about and think about for the future. The capacity for people to die in hospices or even in hospitals is going to be increasingly reduced as the population ages.

While we were at the hospice, we had a glimpse of some of the incredible work

grwpiau a'r unigolion sydd yn gyfrifol am ddarparu gofal lliniarol yn eu hetholaethau eu hunain.

Veronica German: Nid oes amheuaeth, fel yr ydym wedi clywed gan siaradwyr eraill heddiw, ein bod wedi dod ymhell o ran gofal lliniarol yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae hynny i'w groesawu. Rydym wedi dod ymhell yng Nghymru hefyd. Mae'r gwaith a wneir gan yr Athro Finlay a'r bwrdd gweithredu yn sicr yn cael ei groesawu gan y bobl yr wyf wedi siarad â hwy, a chan y rhai sy'n ymwneud â gofal lliniarol a'r mudiad hosbis. Rydym i gyd yn cydnabod hefyd fod heriau pellach o'n blaenau, wrth i driniaethau wella ac i gleifion fyw'n hirach—nid dim ond y rhai â chlefydau malaen, ond y rhai â chyflyrau cronig, sy'n aml â symptomau a phroblemau tebyg i glefydau malaen. Bydd y pwysau i ddarparu gwasanaethau da, a ategir gan egwyddorion gofal lliniarol, hyd yn oed yn fwy.

Mae'r cleifion sydd â chlefydau anfalaen yr wyf newydd gyfeirio atynt yn aml â symptomau tebyg a phoenus. Mae cydnabyddiaeth gynyddol o angen y bobl hynny i gael yr un math o ofal lliniarol â phobl sydd â chanser. Yn aml, gall eu symptomau fod yn bresennol dros gyfnod hirach fyth o amser, yn gymysg â chyfnodau o broblemau difrifol. Mae hwn yn fater anodd iawn, ac yn un a godwyd gan Kirsty Williams a minnau yn ystod ymweliad diweddar â Hosbis Marie Curie ym Mhenarth. Buom hefyd yn siarad am y ffaith bod llawer ohonom wedi pellhau oddi wrth farwolaeth ac oddi wrth farw yn ein cartrefi. Yn y gorffennol, ac yn sicr yn nyddiau fy nain, byddai llawer o bobl yn marw gartref. Roedd pobl wedi arfer â hynny; yr oedd yn rhywbeth yr oeddent yn ei gymryd yn ganiataol. Mae llawer o bobl bellach yn dewis marw gartref, a'u dewis hwy yw hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, efallai na fydd aelodau o'u teulu mor ymwybodol o hynny. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth y mae'n rhaid i ni i gyd siarad a meddwl amdano ar gyfer y dyfodol. Bydd gallu pobl i farw mewn hosbisau, neu hyd yn oed mewn ysbytai, yn gostwng yn gynyddol wrth i'r boblogaeth heneiddio.

Tra ein bod yn yr hosbis, cawsom gipolwg ar beth o'r gwaith anhygoel a wneir yno. Wrth

undertaken there. This work is obviously done at other hospices across Wales as well. We also saw how volunteers play a huge role in the day-to-day operation of some services provided there. In particular, I pay tribute to some of the day services that we saw there. We had the privilege of speaking to some patients attending the day hospice and we learned how much they valued the volunteers, who became friends of theirs, and how they look forward to their visit to the day hospice. One person told us that it is the highlight of her week and that she looked forward to it from one week to the next—that is where she really wanted to go. One of the principles of palliative care is to keep people as active as possible, and this is certainly what was happening there. Perhaps this is one of those add-ons that Helen Mary was speaking about—we are not talking about the medicine and the general nursing, but those extra things. It was certainly those extra things that were valued; they are part of that movement and we would not want them to be lost. I understand Helen Mary's ideas; it is difficult, because you worry that, if a service is provided by the national health service, then all of a sudden you lose all of the extra things that lead to the hospice service and palliative care being regarded so highly by the people who use those services.

In particular, I would like to raise the issue of day care. As I understand it, this was not included in the original Sugar report about day care services, but it is something that we need to be looking at. We need to consider how this is going to work, especially when more people will require day services because in-patient beds will not be available. Therefore, this is an area that is bound to expand and is bound to need more funding. I hope that this is something that will be looked at by the implementation board. Obviously, the implementation board was looking at a specific set of proposals, but this is something that should be taken forward, perhaps by the same group. We also need to consider how community pharmacists could be used with the medicine management of people who are being treated at home. They play a big role at the moment, but they could

gwrs, caiff y gwaith hwn ei wneud mewn hosbisau eraill ledled Cymru hefyd. Gwelsom hefyd sut mae gwirfoddolwyr yn chwarae rhan enfawr yn y gwaith o ddydd i ddydd o ddarparu rhai gwasanaethau yno. Yn arbennig, talaf deyrnged i rai o'r gwasanaethau dydd a welsom yno. Cawsom y fraint o siarad â rhai cleifion sy'n mynychu yr hosbis dydd a dysgom faint y maent yn gwerthfawrogi'r gwirfoddolwyr, sydd wedi dod yn ffrindiau iddynt, a sut y maent yn edrych ymlaen at eu hymweliad â'r hosbis dydd. Dywedodd un person wrthym mai dyma uchafbwynt ei hwythnos a'i bod yn edrych ymlaen ato o un wythnos i'r nesaf—dyna lle yr oedd wirioneddol eisiau mynd. Un o egwyddorion gofal lliniarol yw cadw pobl mor brysur â phosibl, a dyna'n sicr beth oedd yn digwydd yno. Efallai fod hyn yn un o'r ychwanegiadau y soniodd Helen Mary amdanynt—nid ydym yn sôn am y feddyginiaeth a'r nyrsio cyffredinol, ond y pethau ychwanegol hynny. Y pethau ychwanegol hynny a oedd yn cael eu gwerthfawrogi, yn sicr; maent yn rhan o'r mudiad hwnnw, ac ni fyddem am iddynt gael eu colli. Yr wyf yn deall syniadau Helen Mary; mae'n anodd, oherwydd eich bod yn poeni, os y caiff gwasanaeth ei ddarparu gan y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, yna yn sydyn byddwch yn colli yr holl bethau ychwanegol sy'n golygu bod y gwasanaeth hosbis a gofal lliniarol mor uchel ei barch gan y bobl sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaethau hynny.

Yn benodol, hoffwn sôn am ofal dydd. Yn ôl a ddeallaf, nid oedd hyn wedi'i gynnwys yn yr adroddiad Sugar gwreiddiol am wasanaethau gofal dydd, ond mae'n rhywbeth y mae angen i ni ei ystyried. Mae angen i ni ystyried sut mae hyn yn mynd i weithio, yn enwedig pan fydd mwy o bobl angen gwasanaethau dydd oherwydd na fydd gwelyau cleifion mewnol ar gael. Felly, mae hwn yn faes sy'n sicr o ehangu ac yn sicr o fod angen mwy o gyllid. Gobeithiaf y bydd y bwrdd gweithredu yn ystyried hyn. Yn amlwg, yr oedd y bwrdd gweithredu yn edrych ar set benodol o gynigion, ond mae hyn yn rhywbeth y dylid ei symud ymlaen, efallai gan yr un grŵp. Mae angen i ni ystyried hefyd sut y gallai fferyllwyr cymunedol gael eu defnyddio i reoli meddyginiaethau pobl sy'n cael eu trin yn y cartref. Maent yn chwarae rhan fawr ar hyn o

probably play an even bigger role.

As Nick said, if we move more people into this type of care, then you will free up funds in hospitals. There will be fewer people in hospitals receiving that treatment and hopefully fewer people dying there as well. I realise that I have now run out of time. I hope that this will be an area that the Minister will consider and take forward in the future.

Mohammad Asghar: Palliative care has progressed significantly over the last four decades in Wales. Baroness Finlay, professor of palliative medicine at Cardiff University, has outlined how, years ago, patients who were dying were often abandoned without any effective pain control. Thankfully, that is a thing of the past. Palliative care is a medical specialty. New treatments are constantly being developed and already doctors estimate that some 95 per cent of patients can have their pain relieved with palliative and hospice care.

It is important that we all recognise and commend the work undertaken by the voluntary sector in delivering a high standard of end-of-life care in Wales. Presently, there are 13 independent hospices in Wales that are run by charities, which provide some 26 per cent of palliative care in Wales. I will take this opportunity to pay tribute to everyone working in the sector and mention especially Jayne Medlicott, who helped set up the Hospice of the Valleys in my region many years ago and who stepped down from her position as clinical services director at the end of last year.

Sadly, some hospices have stated that they are finding it increasingly difficult to stay afloat financially. Unfortunately, due most probably to the financial climate, the levels of donations received by these hospices have fallen sharply over the last two years. This further emphasises the point that the Assembly Government must support the fantastic work that these hospices are doing in Wales. Hospices in Wales save the NHS considerable sums of money and deserve

bryd, ond mae'n siŵr y gallent chwarae rôl hyd yn oed yn fwy.

Fel y dywedodd Nick, os byddwn yn symud mwy o bobl i'r math hwn o ofal, yna caiff arian ei ryddhau mewn ysbytai. Bydd llai o bobl mewn ysbytai yn derbyn y driniaeth honno a gobeithio y bydd llai o bobl yn marw yno yn ogystal. Yr wyf yn sylweddoli fy mod wedi rhedeg allan o amser. Gobeithiaf y bydd hwn yn faes y bydd y Gweinidog yn ei ystyried ac yn ei symud ymlaen yn y dyfodol.

Mohammad Asghar: Mae gofal lliniarol wedi gwneud cynnydd sylweddol dros y ddeugain mlynedd diwethaf yng Nghymru. Mae'r Farwnes Finlay, athro meddygaeth liniarol ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, wedi amlinellu sut, flynyddoedd yn ôl, y câi cleifion a oedd yn marw eu gadael yn aml heb unrhyw reolaeth poen effeithiol. Diolch byth, mae hynny'n perthyn i'r gorffennol. Mae gofal lliniarol yn arbenigedd meddygol. Caiff triniaethau newydd eu datblygu'n gyson ac eisoes mae meddygon yn amcangyfrif y gall tua 95 y cant o gleifion gael eu rhyddhau o'u poen gyda gofal lliniarol a gofal hosbis.

Mae'n bwysig ein bod i gyd yn cydnabod ac yn cymeradwyo'r gwaith a wneir gan y sector gwirfoddol wrth ddarparu safon uchel o ofal diwedd-oes yng Nghymru. Ar hyn o bryd, mae 13 o hosbisau annibynnol yng Nghymru sy'n cael eu rhedeg gan elusennau, sy'n darparu 26 y cant o ofal lliniarol yng Nghymru. Cymeraf y cyfle hwn i dalu teyrnged i bawb sy'n gweithio yn y sector, gan sôn yn arbennig am Jayne Medlicott, a helpodd i sefydlu Hosbis y Cymoedd yn fy rhanbarth i flynyddoedd lawer yn ôl ac a gamodd i lawr o'i swydd fel cyfarwyddwr gwasanaethau clinigol ddiwedd y llynedd.

Yn anffodus, mae rhai hosbisau wedi datgan eu bod yn ei chael yn fwyfwy anodd cadw deupen llinyn ynghyd yn ariannol. Yn anffodus, oherwydd yr hinsawdd ariannol yn ôl pob tebyg, mae lefelau'r rhoddion a dderbyniwyd gan yr hosbisau hyn wedi gostwng yn sylweddol dros y ddwy flynedd diwethaf. Mae hyn yn pwysleisio'r pwynt ymhellach fod yn rhaid i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gefnogi'r gwaith gwyb y mae'r hosbisau hyn yn ei wneud yng Nghymru.

strong support, and yet the Minister has previously admitted that services across Wales are patchy and the Sugar review highlighted major problems, including a lack of funding, a lack of staff, poor provision in rural areas and a lack of hospices.

Although we welcome the fact that some improvements were made following the Sugar review, progress seems to have stalled. Many hospices have been forced to consider ways of cutting costs, including letting hard-working staff go. For these reasons, we propose allocating an additional £8 million annually to the development of crucial palliative care services in Wales. As my colleagues have suggested, this would be funded simply by asking people who can afford it to pay a small fee for their prescriptions. On this side of the Chamber, we do not believe that funding the prescriptions of the wealthiest in society should take precedence over proper funding for hospices and palliative care services in Wales. An annual investment of £8 million could, for example, help to fund a new, proposed hospice of the Valleys in Blaenau Gwent, in my region. Such funding could also help train new staff and deal with a host of other long-running problems that affect services in Wales. For these reasons, I urge Members to support our motion this afternoon.

Finally, I would also say, Minister, that I do not agree with Lady German, who said that people should consider the views of those who wish to die at home. What impact would that have on the little children in the family? I think that that would be awful. We would certainly think twice before anything like that happened. I think that we should move on further to do things better in life. This debate is about the crucial issue of palliative care. We must care for people and we must do better for them.

Lorraine Barrett: I did not want to make this personal, and I am not going to get too

Mae hosbisau yng Nghymru yn arbed symiau sylweddol o arian i'r GIG ac maent yn haeddu cefnogaeth gref, ac eto mae'r Gweinidog wedi cyfaddef yn y gorffennol bod gwasanaethau ar draws Cymru yn anghyson, a thynnodd adolygiad Sugar sylw at broblemau mawr, gan gynnwys diffyg cyllid, diffyg staff, darpariaeth wael yn yr ardaloedd gwledig a diffyg hosbisau.

Er ein bod yn croesawu'r ffaith bod rhai gwelliannau wedi cael eu gwneud yn dilyn adolygiad Sugar, ymddengys bod cynnydd wedi arafu. Mae llawer o hosbisau wedi cael eu gorfodi i ystyried ffyrdd o dorri costau, gan gynnwys diswyddo staff sy'n gweithio'n galed. Am y rhesymau hyn, rydym yn cynnig dyrannu £8 miliwn ychwanegol bob blwyddyn i ddatblygu gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol hanfodol yng Nghymru. Fel yr awgrymodd fy nghydweithwyr, byddai hyn yn cael ei ariannu drwy ofyn yn syml i bobl a all fforddio hynny dalu ffi fach am eu presgripsiynau. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, nid ydym yn credu y dylai cyllido presgripsiynau pobl gyfoethocaf cymdeithas gymryd blaenoriaeth dros gyllid priodol ar gyfer hosbisau a gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol yng Nghymru. Gallai buddsoddiad blynyddol o £8 miliwn, er enghraifft, helpu i ariannu hosbis newydd arfaethedig y Cymoedd ym Mlaenau Gwent, yn fy rhanbarth. Gallai cyllid o'r fath hefyd helpu i hyfforddi staff newydd a delio â llu o broblemau hirdymor eraill sy'n effeithio ar wasanaethau yng Nghymru. Am y rhesymau hyn, yr wyf yn annog Aelodau i gefnogi ein cynnig y prynhawn yma.

Yn olaf, hoffwn ddweud hefyd, Weinidog, nad wyf yn cytuno â'r Fonesig German, a ddywedodd y dylai pobl ystyried barn y rhai sy'n dymuno marw gartref. Pa effaith a gâi hynny ar y plant bach yn y teulu? Credaf y byddai hynny'n ofnadwy. Byddem yn sicr yn meddwl ddwywaith cyn i unrhyw beth o'r fath ddigwydd. Credaf y dylem symud ymlaen ymhellach i wneud pethau'n well mewn bywyd. Mae'r ddadl hon ynglŷn â mater hollbwysig gofal lliniarol. Mae'n rhaid i ni ofalu am bobl a rhaid i ni wneud yn well ar eu rhan.

Lorraine Barrett: Nid oeddwn am wneud hyn yn bersonol, ac nid wyf yn mynd i fod yn

emotional about it, but I have to take issue with the comments made by the last speaker. I think that that is an appalling attitude to take. Dying at home is a privilege, when you have the support. I am going to talk about that in a minute. My sister died at home recently. Her children and her grandchildren were there, and it was a privilege to be there. I would like to speak to you afterwards about it. My mother died at home. My father died in hospital. They were different experiences, and I know which one I would prefer, and I would like my children and grandchildren there if I should be in that position. So, I ask you to think carefully about what you have said there, Oscar.

As patron of Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth, I obviously support the charity. I do a lot of work for it, and I am glad that Veronica had a good experience and was impressed with the work that goes on there. That is rightly the case. Helen Mary Jones, I could have written your speech for you; or perhaps you read my thoughts. What you said is exactly what I was thinking. I know that the independent hospices wanted to keep their independence and their individuality. Of course they would like more funding; everybody would like more funding. I must take issue with the Conservative group on this. I thought you said a 'subscription', but it was a subscription-from-a-prescription sort of fee. You could apply that to any area of the health service, whether it was palliative care, cancer care or any other area. I just do not support that. There are lots of needy areas where you could apply that principle.

Nick was right that it is not just about cancer. There are lots of illnesses and diseases that mean that people need palliative care. I think that the main point that I want to make is that it is not just about hospice care. That is what I was saying wearing my Marie Curie hat. The right to die campaign that was so successful was Marie Curie's, not Macmillan's. More people want to be at home at that time.

4.45 p.m.

rhy emosiynol am y peth, ond mae'n rhaid i mi anghytuno â'r sylwadau a wnaed gan y siaradwr olaf. Credaf fod honno'n agwedd ofnadwy i'w chymryd. Mae marw yn y cartref yn ffrain, pan gewch y cymorth. Soniaf am hynny yn y funud. Bu fy chwaer farw yn ei chartref yn ddiweddar. Yr oedd ei phlant a'i hwyrion yno, ac roedd yn ffrain cael bod yno. Hoffwn siarad â chi wedyn am hynny. Bu fy mam farw yn ei chartref. Bu fy nhad farw yn yr ysbyty. Yr oeddent yn brofiadau gwahanol, a gwn pa un a fyddai'n well gen i, a hoffwn i fy mhllant a'm hwyrion fod yno pe bawn yn y sefyllfa honno. Felly, gofynnaf i chi feddwl yn ofalus am yr hyn yr ydych wedi ei ddweud, Oscar.

Fel noddwr Hosbis Marie Curie ym Mhenarth, yr wyf yn amlwg yn cefnogi'r elusen. Rwy'n gwneud llawer o waith iddi, ac rwy'n falch fod Veronica wedi cael profiad da ac yn llawn edmygedd o'r gwaith a wneir yno. Dyna fel y mae, yn sicr. Helen Mary Jones, gallwn fod wedi ysgrifennu eich araith drosoch; neu efallai i chi ddarllen fy meddyliau. Dywedasoeh yn union yr hyn yr oeddwn i'n ei feddwl. Gwn fod yr hosbisau annibynnol eisiau cadw eu hannibyniaeth a'u hunaniaeth. Wrth gwrs, byddent yn hoffi mwy o arian; byddai pawb yn hoffi mwy o arian. Mae'n rhaid i mi anghytuno â'r grŵp Ceidwadol ar hyn. Yr oeddwn yn credu eich bod wedi dweud 'tanysgrifiad', ond roedd yn fath o ffi tanysgrifio o bresgripsiwn. Gallech gymhwyso hynny i unrhyw ran o'r gwasanaeth iechyd, pa un a oedd yn ofal lliniarol, yn ofal canser neu unrhyw faes arall. Nid wyf yn cefnogi hynny o gwbl. Mae llawer o ardaloedd anghenus lle y gallech ddefnyddio'r egwyddor honno.

Mae Nick yn iawn nad yw hyn yn ymwneud â chanser yn unig. Mae llawer o afiechydon a chlefydau sy'n golygu bod ar bobl angen gofal lliniarol. Credaf mai'r prif bwynt yr wyf am ei wneud yw nad yw hyn yn ymwneud â gofal hosbis yn unig. Dyna yr oeddwn yn ei ddweud yn gwisgo fy het Marie Curie. Ymgyrch Marie Curie oedd yr un am yr hawl i farw lwyddiannus, nid un Macmillan. Mae mwy o bobl am fod gartref ar yr adeg honno.

It is much more comfortable to be in your own surroundings; you can make a cup of tea, read a book, watch the television and relax. To me, it is a special sort of experience, if you like.

The support that we had, as a family, came almost entirely from the health service. We had some support from a Macmillan nurse, which provided emotional support for us more than anything else. As I mentioned to the Minister for health, the district nursing service is absolutely incredible. It was amazing, as were the GP and the pharmacists. I am glad that Veronica mentioned the pharmacists because they know their patients and they will go out of their way to ensure that you get the medicines when you need them, on time. To me, there is a place for the voluntary sector, which is fine—as I have said, I support the voluntary sector, particularly Marie Curie Cancer Care—but we must not forget that the majority of this care is provided through the national health service, and we must not forget the district nursing service. When we talk about palliative care, we hardly ever talk about the district nurses who are there 24 hours a day. You only have to pick up the phone and they are there if you need them.

I welcome the opportunity to say what I have said. I would say to Nick, however, that I think that some of his comments were a little overemotional, if you like, although I know that we are talking about an emotional issue. I also know that we are approaching the elections. I also wish to pay tribute to the Minister for health. Iloria Finlay's name has been bandied about the Chamber this afternoon. I am sure that she would appreciate that, but she was also appreciative of the response of the Minister for health to the review that she conducted on palliative care a few years ago.

Nick Ramsay: Forgive me if I was overemotional at any point during that, Lorraine. It is clearly an emotive subject. When I quoted Baroness Finlay, towards the end of my speech, I was trying to make the point that things have come so far since the

Mae'n llawer mwy cyfforddus i fod yn eich cynefin eich hun; gallwch wneud paned o de, darllen llyfr, gwyllo'r teledu ac ymlacio. I mi, mae'n rhyw fath arbennig o brofiad, os y mynnwch.

Daeth y gefnogaeth a gawsom, fel teulu, bron yn gyfan gwbl oddi wrth y gwasanaeth iechyd. Cawsom rywfaint o gymorth gan nyrs Macmillan, a ddarparodd gefnogaeth emosiynol i ni yn fwy na dim. Fel y soniais wrth y Gweinidog dros iechyd, mae'r gwasanaeth nyrsio ardal yn un cwbl anhygoel. Roedd yn anhygoel, fel yr oedd y meddyg teulu a'r fferyllwyr. Yr wyf yn falch i Veronica sôn am y fferyllwyr, oherwydd maent yn adnabod eu cleifion a byddant yn mynd allan o'u ffordd i sicrhau eich bod yn cael y meddyginiaethau pan fydd eu hangen arnoch, ar amser. I mi, mae lle ar gyfer y sector gwirfoddol, sy'n iawn—fel y dywedais, yr wyf yn cefnogi'r sector gwirfoddol, yn enwedig Gofal Canser Marie Curie—ond rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio bod y rhan fwyaf o'r gofal hwn yn cael ei ddarparu drwy'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, a rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio'r gwasanaeth nyrsio ardal. Pan fyddwn yn sôn am ofal lliniarol, yn anaml y soniwn am y nyrsys ardal sydd yno 24 awr y dydd. Nid oes ond rhaid i chi godi'r ffôn ac maent yno os oes eu hangen arnoch.

Yr wyf yn croesawu'r cyfle i ddweud yr hyn a ddywedais. Byddwn yn dweud wrth Nick, fodd bynnag, fy mod yn meddwl bod rhai o'i sylwadau braidd yn oremosiynol, os y mynnwch, er fy mod yn gwybod ein bod yn trafod mater emosiynol. Rwyf hefyd yn gwybod ein bod yn agosáu at yr etholiadau. Hoffwn hefyd dalu teyrnged i'r Gweinidog dros iechyd. Mae enw Iloria Finlay wedi cael ei daflu o gwmpas y Siambr y prynhawn yma. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai'n gwerthfawrogi hynny, ond yr oedd hi hefyd yn gwerthfawrogi ymateb y Gweinidog dros iechyd i'r adolygiad a gynhaliodd ar ofal lliniarol ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl.

Nick Ramsay: Maddeuwch imi os oeddwn yn oremosiynol ar unrhyw adeg yn ystod hynny, Lorraine. Mae'n amlwg yn bwnc emosiynol. Pan ddyfynnais y Farwnes Finlay, tua diwedd fy araith, yr oeddwn yn ceisio gwneud y pwynt fod pethau wedi dod mor

points that she made. I was not using that in any way to make political capital and I just wanted to clarify that.

Lorraine Barrett: Actually, Deputy Presiding Officer, it was not Nick that I was thinking of as I think that nearly every Member who has spoken this afternoon has mentioned Ilora; therefore, I thought that I would also mention her. However, I know that she worked closely with the Minister for health. The palliative care providers were grateful at the time for the increase in funding that they received from the Minister.

I see that the light is now illuminated, therefore I will conclude by saying that I cannot support your motion today. I am sure that we all agree that the palliative care that patients receive in Wales is well received. We would like to pay tribute to the entire nursing staff in the voluntary sector or in the national health service for looking after patients at such a difficult time. Thank you.

Mark Isherwood: The quotes in my contribution will come straight from north Wales hospices not from me.

In 2006, I organised an event in the Assembly that was attended by almost every hospice based or working in Wales. They had argued for years that they provided respite care, residential palliative care and hospice care in the home as add-on services that save the NHS money, but that requests for core funding had fallen on deaf ears. The Welsh Government then slipped £2 million for palliative care into its budget, knowing that we had defeated its draft budget and were going to vote against their final budget on other concerns. The Welsh Conservatives then pledged £10 million per annum to address the needs identified to us by Welsh hospices. Despite the reports that have been mentioned and the Wales palliative care implementation board, concerns are being raised now that things are far from well.

A letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services, dated 13 December, stated

bell ers y pwyntiau a wnaeth hi. Nid oeddwn yn defnyddio hynny mewn unrhyw ffordd i sgorio pwyntiau gwleidyddol ac roeddwn eisiau egluro hynny.

Lorraine Barrett: A dweud y gwir, Ddirprwy Lywydd, nid am Nick yr oeddwn yn meddwl gan y credaf fod bron pob Aelod sydd wedi siarad y prynhawn yma wedi sôn am Ilora; felly, credais y byddwn innau hefyd yn sôn amdani. Fodd bynnag, gwn iddi weithio'n agos gyda'r Gweinidog dros iechyd. Yr oedd y darparwyr gofal lliniarol yn ddiolchgar ar y pryd am y cynnydd yn y cyllid a gawsant gan y Gweinidog.

Gwelaf fod y golau wedi ei oleuo yn awr, felly byddaf yn cloi drwy ddweud na allaf gefnogi eich cynnig heddiw. Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod i gyd yn cytuno bod y gofal lliniarol a dderbynnir gan gleifion yng Nghymru yn cael ei groesawu. Hoffem dalu teyrnged i'r holl staff nyrsio yn y sector gwirfoddol neu yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol am ofalu am gleifion ar adeg mor anodd. Diolch.

Mark Isherwood: Bydd y dyfyniadau yn fy nghyfraniad yn dod yn syth o hosbisau yng ngogledd Cymru nid oddi wrthyf fi.

Yn 2006, trefnais ddigwyddiad yn y Cynulliad, a fynychwyd gan bron i bob hosbis sydd wedi ei leoli neu sy'n gweithio yng Nghymru. Roeddent wedi dadlau ers blynnyddoedd eu bod yn darparu gofal seibiant, gofal lliniarol preswyl a gofal hosbis yn y cartref fel gwasanaethau ychwanegol sy'n arbed arian i'r GIG, ond bod ceisiadau am gyllid craidd wedi disgyn ar glustiau byddar. Rhoddodd Llywodraeth Cymru £2 filiwn wedyn ar gyfer gofal lliniarol yn ei chyllideb, gan wybod ein bod wedi trechu ei chyllideb ddrafft ac yn mynd i bleidleisio yn erbyn ei chyllideb derfynol oherwydd pryderon eraill. Addawodd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig wedyn £10 miliwn y flwyddyn i fynd i'r afael â'r anghenion a amlinellwyd i ni gan hosbisau Cymru. Er gwaethaf yr adroddiadau sydd wedi cael eu crybwyll a bwrdd gweithredu gofal lliniarol Cymru, mae pryderon yn cael eu codi yn awr fod pethau ymhell o fod yn dda.

Nododd llythyr gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, â dyddiad 13

that the central palliative care funding to hospices is based on a robust and fair funding formula. However, north Wales hospices tell me that, while the formula has provided some degree of equity in funding allocations, taking into consideration Welsh Government and health board contributions, it still falls far short of meeting core clinical costs. Although it is acknowledged that hospices are not seeking 100 per cent funding for core services, they state that there is still some way to go to achieve a baseline that gives independent hospices a financial platform on which to build their own fundraising efforts and to provide stability. They question the level at which voluntary hospices are funded in Wales to provide core services that would otherwise have to be provided by the NHS at a higher cost.

The Welsh Government's final budget for 2011-12 allocated £7 million a year for the next three years for hospice support. Speaking at the cross-party group on neurosciences last February, Baroness Finlay, chair of the implementation board, stated that the children's hospice, Claire House, is doing virtually nothing in Wales and that Hope House/Tŷ Gobaith is becoming the centre of excellence in north Wales. Let me put on record that Tŷ Gobaith is excellent, however, so is Claire House, which also provides vital services to north Wales.

In the Minister's letter to Members two months ago, she stated that her main priority is to ensure that good-quality palliative and end-of-life care is available where and when it is needed across Wales. She added that palliative care provision at Claire House is not required on any significant scale. In reality, however, Claire House emphasises that there are occasions when it is the best location, especially as there is no charge at the point of delivery of the service. It currently cares for a number of children from north-east Wales at a cost of £20,000 per child per annum. One of these, a young lady from Connah's Quay who was staying at Claire House to recover from an operation at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, found the 20-minute journey from Alder Hey to Claire

Rhagfyr arno, fod cyllid canolog gofal lliniarol i hosbisau yn seiliedig ar fformiwla ariannu gadarn a theg. Fodd bynnag, dywed hosbisau yng ngogledd Cymru wrthyf, er bod y fformiwla wedi darparu rhywfaint o ecwiti o ran dyraniadau cyllid, gan ystyried cyfraniadau Llywodraeth Cymru a'r byrddau iechyd, mae'n dal i fod ymhell o gyrraedd costau clinigol craidd. Er y cydnabyddir nad yw hosbisau yn ceisio 100 y cant o gyllid ar gyfer gwasanaethau craidd, maent yn dweud bod tipyn o ffordd i fynd i gyrraedd llinell sylfaen sy'n rhoi llwyfan ariannol i hosbisau annibynnol i adeiladu eu hymdrechion codi arian eu hunain ac i roi sefydlogrwydd. Maent yn cwestiynu lefel y cyllid i hosbisau gwirfoddol yng Nghymru ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau craidd a fyddai fel arall yn gorfod cael eu darparu gan y GIG ar gost uwch.

Dyrannodd cyllideb derfynol Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer 2011-12 £7 miliwn y flwyddyn am y tair blynedd nesaf ar gyfer cefnogi hosbisau. Wrth siarad yn y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar niwrowyddorau fis Chwefror diwethaf, nododd y Farwnes Finlay, cadeirydd y bwrdd gweithredu, fod yr hosbis plant, Claire House, yn gwneud nemor ddim yng Nghymru a bod Hope House/Tŷ Gobaith yn dod yn ganolfan rhagoriaeth yng ngogledd Cymru. Gadewch i mi ddweud ar goedd bod Tŷ Gobaith yn ardderchog; fodd bynnag, mae Claire House yn ardderchog hefyd, ac mae hefyd yn darparu gwasanaethau hanfodol i ogledd Cymru.

Yn llythyr y Gweinidog i Aelodau ddau fis yn ôl, nododd mai ei phrif flaenoriaeth yw sicrhau bod gofal lliniarol a gofal diwedd oes o ansawdd da ar gael lle a phryd y mae ei angen ar draws Cymru. Ychwanegodd nad oedd angen darpariaeth gofal lliniarol yn Claire House ar unrhyw raddfa sylweddol. Mewn gwirionedd, fodd bynnag, mae Claire House yn pwysleisio bod adegau pan mai dyna'r lleoliad gorau, yn enwedig gan nad oes tâl yn y fan y darperir y gwasanaeth. Ar hyn o bryd mae'n gofalu am nifer o blant o ogledd-ddwyrain Cymru ar gost o £20,000 y plentyn y flwyddyn. Mae un o'r rhain, merch ifanc o Gei Conna a oedd yn aros yn Claire House i wella ar ôl llawdriniaeth yn Ysbyty Plant Alder Hey, yn credu bod y daith 20 munud o Alder Hey i Claire House yn rhyddhad mawr,

House a clear relief, as it would be a relief to others in this situation. We must therefore plan and deliver our services on a cross-border basis and address the funding crisis that is damaging our hospices and holding them back at a time when we should be asking them to do more.

As Independent Hospices Cymru stated at last month's meeting of the cross-party hospice group, hospices could help the NHS deliver more for less if only the NHS in Wales would let them. However, only last month, a vital north Wales hospice wrote to me to state that it still does not have a service level agreement in place with the local health board.

The Welsh Conservatives will protect free prescriptions for the young, older people, and everyone else previously exempt. We will extend them to people with certain chronic conditions and we will introduce a lower charge than that in England for the remainder. By scrapping universal free prescriptions, we will release additional resources for our hospices and stroke services, including an extra £8 million for hospices, taking the annual hospice support budget to £15 million to allow our hospices to expand the range of services that they can provide for the NHS, therefore enhancing care and delivering more for the resource available. As a hospice chief executive recently told me, to state that central palliative care funding is based on a fair and robust funding formula is open to debate. As an independent hospice chair also told me recently, there is lots of publicity on hospices from the Minister for health, but the reality is different to the dogma.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Edwina Hart): I will try to tackle the issues that are at hand about palliative care provision, because it is important that we discuss this in a rational manner. I was listening to *Woman's Hour* on the radio this morning, when the benefits of Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres were being discussed, and the differences between Maggie's centres in the voluntary sector and

fel y byddai'n rhyddhad i eraill yn y sefyllfa hon. Rhaid inni felly gynllunio a darparu ein gwasanaethau ar sail draws-ffiniol a mynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng ariannol sy'n niweidio ein hosbisau ac yn eu dal yn ôl ar adeg pan ddylem fod yn gofyn iddynt wneud mwy.

Fel y nododd Hosbisau Annibynnol Cymru yng nghyfarfod y grŵp hosbis trawsbleidiol fis diwethaf, gallai hosbisau helpu'r GIG i ddarparu mwy am lai pe bai'r GIG yng Nghymru yn gadael iddynt wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, dim ond y mis diwethaf, ysgrifennodd hosbis hanfodol yng ngogledd Cymru ataf i ddweud nad oes cytundeb lefel gwasanaeth ganddo gyda'r bwrdd iechyd lleol o hyd.

Bydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn amddiffyn presgripsiynau am ddim ar gyfer pobl ifanc, pobl hŷn, a phawb arall a oedd eisoes wedi eu heithrio. Byddwn yn eu hystyngi i bobl â chyflyrau cronig penodol a byddwn yn cyflwyno tâl is nag yn Lloegr ar gyfer y gweddill. Drwy gael gwared ar bresgripsiynau am ddim i bawb, byddwn yn rhyddhau adnoddau ychwanegol ar gyfer ein hosbisau a gwasanaethau strôc, gan gynnwys £8 miliwn yn ychwanegol ar gyfer hosbisau, gan fynd â'r gyllideb flynyddol ar gyfer cefnogi hosbisau i £15 miliwn i alluogi ein hosbisau i ehangu'r ystod o wasanaethau y gallant eu darparu ar gyfer y GIG, ac felly wella gofal a darparu mwy o'r adnodd sydd ar gael. Fel y dywedodd prif weithredwr un hosbis wrthyf yn ddiweddar, mae dweud bod cyllid canolog gofal lliniarol yn seiliedig ar fformiwla ariannu deg a chadarn yn agored i drafodaeth. Fel y dywedodd cadeirydd hosbis annibynnol hefyd wrthyf yn ddiweddar, mae llawer o gyhoeddusrwydd ar hosbisau gan y Gweinidog dros iechyd, ond mae'r realiti yn wahanol i'r dogma.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Edwina Hart): Ceisiaf fynd i'r afael â'r materion sydd wrth law o ran darpariaeth gofal lliniarol, oherwydd mae'n bwysig ein bod yn trafod hyn mewn modd rhesymegol. Roeddwn yn gwranddo ar *Woman's Hour* ar y radio y bore yma, pan gafodd manteision Canolfannau Gofal Canser Maggie eu trafod, a'r gwahaniaethau rhwng canolfannau Maggie yn y sector gwirfoddol

hospitals—the Assembly Government is helping to fund one in Swansea with match funding—and how important a kitchen and a cup of tea are when you enter a Maggie’s centre, and the contrast with a hospital, which is about treatment in a clinical environment. We have to see the benefit of the NHS in terms of what it delivers and what the voluntary sector delivers.

I was interested in the issues that Veronica raised about death and dying, and generations almost being protected from it. However, the fact that people want to die at home means that we must make those services available. That is an important issue and I am sure that Members across the Chamber would agree that it must be about choice. On some days you might want to be at home, but on other days you might feel that you want to go into a hospice or somewhere else for a period of time, and then come home. So, it is about that choice and experience.

It is opportune to discuss these issues at the moment because Baroness Finlay has just submitted a report to the Government, detailing the progress made in improving palliative and end-of-life care over the last three years, which I will be considering shortly.

I am sorry that the motion did not recognise the significant additional funding that is already being made available by the Government to NHS hospices to ensure fairness of access to high-quality palliative and end-of-life care services. We must remember that, in addition to the money that we give from the centre, some hospices receive the benefit of consultants’ cover, which is also funded through the NHS. Therefore, there is substantial national health service involvement.

I cannot accept some of the points made in Mark Isherwood’s contribution. People will always want more money and they will always say that they do not like what is in place, but at least we now have a strategy in place for dealing with this particular agenda.

ac ysbytai—mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn helpu i ariannu un yn Abertawe gyda chyllid cyfatebol—a pha mor bwysig yw cegin a phaned o de pan fyddwch yn mynd i mewn i ganolfan Maggie, a’r cyferbyniad ag ysbyty, sydd yn ymwneud â thriniaeth mewn amgylchedd clinigol. Mae’n rhaid inni weld budd y GIG o ran yr hyn y mae’n ei ddarparu a’r hyn y mae’r sector gwirfoddol yn ei ddarparu.

Yr oedd gennyf ddiddordeb yn y materion a gododd Veronica am farwolaeth a marw, a chenedlaethau bron yn cael eu gwarchod rhag hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae’r ffaith fod pobl eisiau marw gartref yn golygu bod yn rhaid inni ddarparu’r gwasanaethau hynny. Mae hwnnw’n fater pwysig ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai Aelodau ar draws y Siambr yn cytuno bod yn rhaid i hyn ymwneud â dewis. Ar rai dyddiau efallai y byddwch am fod adref, ond ar ddiwrnodau eraill efallai y byddwch yn teimlo eich bod eisiau mynd i hosbis neu rywle arall am gyfnod, ac yna ddod adref. Felly, mae’n ymwneud â’r dewis a’r profiad hwnnw.

Mae’n gyfle da i drafod y materion hyn yn awr oherwydd bod y Farwnes Finlay newydd gyflwyno adroddiad i’r Llywodraeth, yn nodi manylion y cynnydd a wnaed o ran gwella gofal lliniarol a gofal diwedd oes dros y tair blynedd ddiwethaf, a byddaf yn ei ystyried cyn bo hir.

Mae’n drueni nad yw’r cynnig yn cydnabod y cyllid ychwanegol sylweddol sydd eisoes yn cael ei ddarparu gan y Llywodraeth i hosbisau GIG er mwyn sicrhau tegwch o ran mynediad at wasanaethau gofal lliniarol a gofal diwedd oes. Rhaid inni gofio, yn ychwanegol at yr arian yr ydym yn ei roi o’r canol, bod rhai hosbisau yn derbyn budd sicrwydd ymgynghorwyr, a ariennir yn ogystal trwy’r GIG. Felly, mae ymwneud sylweddol gan y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol.

Ni allaf dderbyn rhai o’r pwyntiau a wnaed gan Mark Isherwood yn ei gyfraniad. Bydd pobl wastad eisiau mwy o arian a byddant wastad yn dweud nad ydynt yn hoffi yr hyn sydd mewn lle, ond o leiaf mae gennym bellach strategaeth ar waith ar gyfer delio â’r agenda penodol hwn.

In amendment 1, I am looking to confirm that any further financial support will be considered alongside competing financial pressures by the next Welsh Assembly Government. I very much accept the points that Helen Mary Jones made on the budget issue and some of the other arguments that she made about how this could be done.

We must also look at improving outreach palliative care, which was a valid point in the motion. Improving primary, community and outreach services generally is the key to achieving a more sustainable health and social care service for the future. We must rebalance the whole system, led by a strong primary and community-based approach with less reliance on institutional forms of care. To deliver such a whole-system change requires effort across a number of different fronts. Our work on chronic conditions management is showing service improvements as a result of service redesign. This has laid the foundations for wider improvements across the board—we have only to look at Dr Chris Jones’s report, ‘Setting the Direction: Primary and Community Services Strategic Delivery Programme’—to see that. Progress to date indicates the momentum of changes and improvements. We are beginning to see that step change in moving services from hospitals closer to people’s homes. LHBs have shown that improvements in community-based services are now having a direct impact on patient care.

On palliative care, the work that is being taken forward by the palliative care implementation board has ensured that the needs of patients are at the centre of palliative care provision, wherever the patient’s bed is, whether it is at home, in a nursing home, in a hospice or in a hospital. Significant improvements have been made in palliative and end-of-life care across Wales, particularly over the last three years, to ensure that patients receive high-quality, flexible palliative care when and where they need it, irrespective of where they live. Most patients express the wish to be in their own homes, because people are fearful of the

Yng ngwelliant 1, yr wyf eisiau cadarnhau y bydd unrhyw gymorth ariannol pellach yn cael ei ystyried ochr yn ochr â phwysau ariannol cystadleuol gan Lywodraeth nesaf Cynulliad Cymru. Yr wyf yn derbyn y pwyntiau a wnaeth Helen Mary Jones ar fater y gyllideb a rhai o’i dadleuon eraill am sut y gallai hyn gael ei wneud.

Rhaid inni hefyd edrych ar wella gofal lliniarol allanol, a oedd yn bwynt dilys yn y cynnig. Gwella gwasanaethau sylfaenol, cymunedol ac allanol yn gyffredinol yw’r allwedd i sicrhau gwasanaeth iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol mwy cynaliadwy ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mae’n rhaid inni ail-gydbwysu’r system gyfan, wedi ei harwain gan sail sylfaenol a chymunedol gref, a chyda llai o ddibyniaeth ar ffurfiau sefydliadol o ofal. Mae cyflawni newid system gyfan o’r fath yn galw am ymdrech ar draws nifer o feysydd gwahanol. Mae ein gwaith ar reoli cyflyrau cronig yn dangos gwelliannau i’r gwasanaeth o ganlyniad i ailgynllunio gwasanaethau. Mae hyn wedi gosod y sylfeini ar gyfer gwelliannau ehangach ar draws y bwrdd—ni raid ond edrych ar adroddiad Dr Chris Jones, ‘Gosod y Cyfeiriad: Gwasanaethau Cychwynnol a Chymuned: Rhaglen Strategol ar gyfer Cyflenwi’—i weld hynny. Mae cynnydd hyd yma yn dangos momentwm y newidiadau a’r gwelliannau. Rydym yn dechrau gweld y newid sylweddol hwnnw wrth symud gwasanaethau o ysbytai yn nes at gartrefi pobl. Mae byrddau iechyd lleol wedi dangos bod gwelliannau mewn gwasanaethau yn y gymuned bellach yn cael effaith uniongyrchol ar ofal cleifion.

O ran gofal lliniarol, mae’r gwaith sy’n cael ei symud ymlaen gan y bwrdd gweithredu gofal lliniarol wedi sicrhau bod anghenion cleifion yn ganolog i’r ddarpariaeth gofal lliniarol, lle bynnag y bo gwely’r claf, boed hynny yn y cartref, mewn cartref nyrsio, mewn hosbis neu mewn ysbyty. Mae gwelliannau sylweddol wedi cael eu gwneud mewn gofal lliniarol a diwedd oes ledled Cymru, yn enwedig dros y tair blynedd ddiwethaf, er mwyn sicrhau bod cleifion yn cael gofal lliniarol hyblyg ac o ansawdd uchel, pryd a lle y maent ei angen, waeth lle maent yn byw. Mae’r rhan fwyaf o gleifion yn dymuno bod yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, gan fod pobl yn

unknown, are they not? If their condition suddenly gets worse, they have to be able to access services. There has been work across services to establish community teams that work seven days a week to ensure that all specialist nurses have the necessary skills and competencies. Each community nurse specialist is linked to one or more nursing homes with a direct responsibility for taking forward improvements in those nursing homes in end-of-life care and to empower staff to care for dying patients rather than feeling that they have to send residents to hospitals, even when death is clearly expected. These are good changes.

As the majority of patients who require palliative and end-of-life care will be cared for in the community by their primary healthcare team, the implementation board has worked closely with GPs and the royal college to address the educational needs within primary care. That was also a point that was well made in the debate. GP training has improved and we have been able to equip the teams with the skills to care for these patients, to manage their symptoms and to refer onward to specialist palliative care, if appropriate.

I very much welcome the contribution made by Lorraine Barrett. As you know, Lorraine has had an exceptionally long association with Marie Curie and has always taken an interest in these issues. It must have been very difficult for her to speak of her experience with her sister today, but it gave all of us an illustration of how all families in Wales are affected by some of these issues. I concur with her about the excellent provisions made by the district nursing service across Wales to assist patients.

We also have access to expert consultant advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week, which was a real issue in rural areas, but it has been dealt with by on-call rotas and so on. We have access to around-the-clock expert clinical advice about pain relief issues, and Veronica German spoke about pain management. Difficulties had been

ofni'r anhysbys, onid ydynt? Os yw eu cyflwr yn gwaethgu'n sydyn, rhaid iddynt allu cael mynediad at wasanaethau. Bu gweithio ar draws gwasanaethau i sefydlu timau cymunedol sy'n gweithio saith diwrnod yr wythnos i sicrhau bod gan yr holl nyrsys arbenigol y sgiliau a'r cymwyseddau angenrheidiol. Mae pob nyrs gymuned arbenigol wedi'i chysylltu ag un neu fwy o gartrefi nyrsio ac â chyfrifoldeb uniongyrchol am sicrhau gwelliannau yn y cartrefi nyrsio hynny mewn gofal diwedd oes ac i rymuso staff i ofalu am gleifion sy'n marw yn hytrach na themlo bod yn rhaid iddynt anfon preswylwyr i ysbytai, hyd yn oed pan ddisgwylir marwolaeth yn bendant. Mae'r rhain yn newidiadau da.

Gan y bydd y rhan fwyaf o gleifion sydd angen gofal lliniarol a gofal diwedd oes yn cael gofal yn y gymuned gan eu tîm gofal iechyd sylfaenol, y mae'r bwrdd gweithredu wedi gweithio'n agos gyda meddygon teulu a'r coleg brenhinol i fynd i'r afael ag anghenion addysgol o fewn gofal sylfaenol. Dyna bwynt arall a wnaed yn dda yn ystod y ddadl. Mae hyfforddiant meddygon teulu wedi gwella ac rydym wedi gallu sicrhau bod gan y timau y sgiliau i ofalu am y cleifion hyn, i reoli eu symptomau a chyfeirio pobl ymlaen at ofal lliniarol arbenigol, os yw hynny'n briodol.

Rwy'n croesawu'n fawr y cyfraniad a wnaed gan Lorraine Barrett. Fel y gwyddoch, mae Lorraine wedi cael cysylltiad eithriadol o hir gyda Marie Curie ac mae wastad wedi cymryd diddordeb yn y materion hyn. Mae'n rhaid ei bod wedi bod yn anodd iawn iddi siarad am ei phrofiad gyda'i chwaer heddiw, ond rhoddodd enghraifft i ni i gyd o sut yr effeithir ar bob teulu yng Nghymru gan rai o'r materion hyn. Yr wyf yn cytuno â hi am y darpariaethau ardderchog a wneir gan y gwasanaeth nyrsio ardal ar draws Cymru i gynorthwyo cleifion.

Mae gennym hefyd fynediad i gyngor arbenigol gan ymgynghorwyr 24 awr y dydd, saith niwrnod yr wythnos, a oedd yn broblem wirioneddol mewn ardaloedd gwledig, ond mae wedi cael ei datrys gan rota ar alwad ac yn y blaen. Mae gennym fynediad i gyngor clinigol arbenigol o amgylch y cloc ar faterion lleddfu poen, a siaradodd Veronica German

highlighted by patients and specialist teams in accessing drugs, particularly out of hours. They have been addressed with the provision of 'just in case' boxes, which are standard boxes containing the core minimum of drugs that are likely to be needed in the event of a patient's health deteriorating at home. They should be available and rolled out across Wales by April 2011.

I think that we all agree that the voluntary sector plays a significant role in the provision of high-quality specialist palliative care—we have only to look at the excellent services of hospice-at-home services in Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Gwent, Gwynedd and Flintshire. The palliative care implementation board is working with stakeholders in Powys to create a hospice-at-home service there.

Andrew R.T. Davies: One of the points that came across to me when I used to visit hospices was the issue of support for children, especially in education. We have talked a lot in this afternoon's debate about support for people who are dying, but there is also a critical need to ensure that there is support for young people and the relatives left behind. Do you agree that there is scope to improve the level of that provision?

5.00 p.m.

Edwina Hart: I concur. I do not seek to publicise this issue to win a political debate; as a Minister, I have only ever sought to try to improve palliative care, and that is what I will continue to do if I have any role in future. It is important that we recognise that not everything is working 100 per cent. We have to strive to do better across Wales in terms of palliative care provision, particularly for children. We also have ring-fenced funding; our funding formula has proved to be robust, and it is important to recognise that the majority of hospices are pleased that they understand how their funding is worked out and how they are able to deal with particular issues.

William mentioned three hospices that I know very well, and I will use these as a

am reoli poen. Mae anawsterau wedi cael eu hamlygu gan gleifion a thimau arbenigol o ran cael gafael ar gyffuriau, yn enwedig y tu allan i oriau. Maent wedi cael sylw drwy flychau 'rhag ofn', sef blychau safonol sy'n cynnwys isafswm craidd o gyffuriau sy'n debygol o fod eu hangen pe bai iechyd claf yn dirywio yn y cartref. Dylent fod ar gael ac yn cael eu cyflwyno ar draws Cymru erbyn Ebrill 2011.

Credaf ein bod i gyd yn cytuno bod y sector gwirfoddol yn chwarae rhan sylweddol o ran darparu gofal lliniarol arbenigol o ansawdd uchel—nid oes ond rhaid edrych ar wasanaethau rhagorol y gwasanaethau hosbis yn y cartref yn sir Benfro, Ceredigion, Gwent, Gwynedd a sir y Fflint. Mae'r bwrdd gweithredu gofal lliniarol yn gweithio gyda rhanddeiliaid ym Mhowys i greu gwasanaeth hosbis yn y cartref yno.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Un o'r pwyntiau a godais pan oeddwn yn arfer ymweld â hosbisau oedd mater cefnogaeth ar gyfer plant, yn enwedig ym maes addysg. Yr ydym wedi sôn llawer yn y ddadl y prynhawn yma am gymorth i bobl sy'n marw, ond mae angen mawr i sicrhau bod cefnogaeth i bobl ifanc a'r perthnasau sydd ar ôl hefyd. A ydych yn cytuno bod lle i wella lefel y ddarpariaeth honno?

Edwina Hart: Rwy'n cytuno. Nid wyf yn ceisio rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r mater hwn er mwyn ennill dadl wleidyddol; a minnau'n Weinidog, rwyf erioed ond wedi ceisio gwella gofal lliniarol, a dyna'r hyn y byddaf yn parhau i wneud os bydd gennyf unrhyw rôl yn y dyfodol. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod nad yw popeth yn gweithio 100 y cant. Mae'n rhaid i ni ymdrechu i wneud yn well ar draws Cymru o ran darpariaeth gofal lliniarol, yn enwedig i blant. Rydym hefyd wedi neilltuo cyllid; mae ein fformiwla gyllid wedi profi'n gadarn, ac mae'n bwysig cydnabod bod y rhan fwyaf o hosbisau yn falch eu bod yn deall sut mae eu harian yn cael ei gyfrifo a sut y maent yn gallu ymdrin â materion penodol.

Soniodd William am dair hosbis yr wyf yn gyfarwydd iawn â nhw, a byddaf yn

good illustration of the work that has been done. Hospice of the Valleys is looking at what can be done in services for non-cancerous conditions, which is important. St David's Foundation is looking at issues related to paediatric services, which is pertinent for Andrew's point. St Ann's Hospice has good links with cardiac and renal failure units, which is important because we are not only looking at cancer but at other conditions too. You can see how the hospice movement is developing.

I am pleased with the improvements that have been made, and we are committed to increasing our efforts. Nick alluded to the funding of services elsewhere in the UK, but it is interesting and gratifying to note that other parts of the UK want to look at what we are doing. We have received a request from the palliative care funding team in England to share information, advice and expertise via my palliative care implementation board to help the English team to develop and enhance its work to improve its palliative care services. I have agreed to share that information because I think that it is important that good palliative care is provided everywhere. I am not complacent, and neither is Baroness Finlay, who has been much praised today. I place on record my belief that she has done, and continues to do, an excellent job in giving me independent advice, which I hope allows me to make the right decisions on palliative care in Wales.

Nick Bourne: In many ways, this has been an excellent debate, with recognition around the Chamber of the incredible work that is done by people in the national health service, public servants, people in the voluntary sector providing help through the hospice movement, Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Care. People have spoken about their personal experiences of that work. In my area, fantastic work is done through the hospice movement. I know that the Minister is familiar with Usk House day hospice in Brecon, while the Bracken Trust does a lot of palliative work, and the Minister accompanied me on a very valuable visit there. The Beacon of Hope in Ceredigion also

defnyddio'r rhain fel enghreifftiau da o'r gwaith sydd wedi'i wneud. Mae Hosbis y Cymoedd yn edrych ar yr hyn y gellir ei wneud mewn gwasanaethau ar gyfer cyflyrau nad ydynt yn ganser, sy'n bwysig. Mae St David's Foundation yn edrych ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â gwasanaethau pediatrig, sy'n berthnasol i bwynt Andrew. Mae gan Hosbis Santes Ann gysylltiadau da gydag unedau methiant y galon a methiant yr arenau, sy'n bwysig oherwydd nid ydym yn edrych ar ganser yn unig, ond ar gyflyrau eraill hefyd. Gallwch weld sut mae mudiad yr hosbisau yn datblygu.

Rwy'n blesd â'r gwelliannau sydd wedi eu gwneud, ac rydym wedi ymrwymo i ymdrechu ymhellach. Cyfeiriodd Nick at gyllido gwasanaethau mewn mannau eraill yn y DU, ond mae'n ddiddorol ac yn galonogol nodi bod rhannau eraill o'r DU eisiau edrych ar yr hyn rydym ni yn ei wneud. Rydym wedi cael cais gan y tîm cyllid gofal lliniarol yn Lloegr i rannu gwybodaeth, cyngor ac arbenigedd drwy fy mwrdd gweithredu gofal lliniarol i helpu tîm Lloegr i ddatblygu a gwella ei waith i wella ei wasanaethau gofal lliniarol. Rwyf wedi cytuno i rannu'r wybodaeth honno gan fy mod yn credu ei fod yn bwysig bod gofal lliniarol da yn cael ei ddarparu ym mhobman. Nid wyf i na'r Farwnes Finlay, a gafodd ganmoliaeth fawr heddiw, yn hunanfodlon. Rwy'n cofnodi fy nghred bod y gwaith y mae hi wedi ei wneud, ac yn parhau i wneud, yn rhagorol o ran rhoi cyngor annibynnol i mi, sydd, gobeithio, yn fy ngalluogi i wneud y penderfyniadau cywir ar ofal lliniarol yng Nghymru.

Nick Bourne: Mewn sawl ffordd, mae hyn wedi bod yn ddadl ardderchog, gyda chydabyddiaeth o gwmpas y Siambr o'r gwaith anhygoel a wneir gan bobl yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, gweision cyhoeddus, pobl yn y sector gwirfoddol sy'n darparu cymorth drwy'r mudiad hosbisau, Cymorth Canser Macmillan a Gofal Canser Marie Curie. Mae pobl wedi sôn am eu profiadau personol o'r gwaith hwnnw. Yn fy ardal i, mae gwaith gwych yn cael ei wneud drwy gyfrwng y mudiad hosbisau. Gwn fod y Gweinidog yn gyfarwydd â hosbis dydd Usk House yn Aberhonddu, ac mae Ymddiriedolaeth Bracken yn gwneud llawer o waith lliniarol, a daeth y Gweinidog gyda

does terrific work. The point has been made that, on occasion, the people who attend these hospices on a day-patient basis recover, and many of these places have former patients to help out; that, too, is awesome.

People's end-of-life needs and desires will vary, and it is important that these are accommodated. Helen Mary and Lorraine spoke movingly about their recent experiences, which cannot have been an easy thing to do. It is important that we recognise the great strides that have been made in this area, but we must also recognise that there is more to be done for the living as well as the dying, if I can put it that way—particularly for young children, as Andrew R.T. Davies mentioned and the Minister acknowledged. You can never spend enough on a health service, and it is clear that there is always more to be done. However, based on the excellent work of the great Ilora Finlay, we need to take forward the idea that we can do more. We may disagree on the particular funding mechanism, and perhaps we need a debate on it—I hope that there is always room for that debate. I agree that it is important that we preserve the independent status of the hospice movement and its ability to provide those add-ons and do something a little different outside the NHS framework, as it were. That is important. I am pleased to hear that the Minister is expecting, or has just received, a report on this subject from Ilora Finlay, which she will be studying, and which will perhaps take forward the agenda from the Viv Sugar review. It is important, and we need to put more into this sector. It will become increasingly important, not just because people are living longer, but because they are living longer in that kind of position—where hospice care would be appropriate—because of new treatment and new drugs. Therefore, it is important that the environment is appropriate for that.

It has been a valuable debate, and I thank all Members for their contributions. It is important that we take this forward in a united way, finding ways of making the resources available throughout Wales, and recognising areas of geographic need as well

mi ar ymweliad gwerthfawr iawn â'r lle. Mae Ffagl Gobaith yng Ngheredigion hefyd yn gwneud gwaith gwyb. Mae'r pwynt wedi'i wneud bod y bobl sy'n mynychu'r hosbisau hyn am y dydd, weithiau, yn gwella, ac mae gan y lleoedd hyn cyn gleifion i'w helpu; ac mae hynny hefyd yn ardderchog.

Bydd anghenion a dyheadau pobl ar ddiwedd eu bywydau yn amrywio, ac mae'n bwysig bod y rhain yn cael sylw. Siaradodd Helen Mary a Lorraine yn deimladwy am eu profiadau diweddar, sy'n rhywbeth anodd ei wneud. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod y camau breision a wnaed yn y maes hwn, ond rhaid inni hefyd gydnabod bod mwy i'w wneud dros y byw yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n marw, os gallaf ei roi felly—yn enwedig ar gyfer plant ifanc, fel y soniodd Andrew R. T. Davies a bu i'r Gweinidog gydnabod hyn. Ni allwch fyth wario digon ar y gwasanaeth iechyd, ac mae'n amlwg bod bob amser mwy o waith i'w wneud. Fodd bynnag, yn seiliedig ar waith ardderchog Ilora Finlay, mae angen i ni fwrw ymlaen â'r syniad y gallwn wneud mwy. Efallai y byddwn yn anghytuno am yr union fecanwaith cyllid, ac efallai bod angen inni gael dadl arno—rwy'n gobeithio y bydd cyfle bob amser i gael y ddadl honno. Rwy'n cytuno ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn cadw statws annibynnol y mudiad hosbis a'i allu i ddarparu'r pethau ychwanegol hynny a gwneud rhywbeth ychydig yn wahanol y tu allan i fframwaith y GIG, fel petai. Mae hynny'n bwysig. Rwy'n falch o glywed bod y Gweinidog yn disgwyl, neu newydd gael, adroddiad ar y pwnc hwn gan Ilora Finlay. Bydd hi'n astudio hwnnw, ac efallai yn datblygu agenda adolygiad Viv Sugar. Mae'n bwysig, ac mae angen i ni roi mwy i mewn i'r sector hwn. Bydd yn dod yn fwyfwy pwysig, nid yn unig oherwydd bod pobl yn byw'n hirach, ond oherwydd eu bod yn byw yn hirach yn y math hwnnw o sefyllfa—lle byddai gofal hosbis yn briodol—oherwydd triniaeth newydd a chyffuriau newydd. Felly, mae'n bwysig bod yr amgylchedd yn briodol ar gyfer hynny.

Mae wedi bod yn ddadl werthfawr. Diolch i'r holl Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn bwrw ymlaen â hyn mewn ffordd unedig, yn dod o hyd i ffyrdd o sicrhau bod yr adnoddau ar gael ledled Cymru, a chydnabod meysydd o angen daearyddol yn

as sectoral need, particularly for children. I thank the Minister for the encouragement that she offered in taking this agenda forward.

ogystal ag angen ar sail sector, yn enwedig ar gyfer plant. Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr anogaeth y bu iddi hi ei chynnig wrth symud yr agenda hwn yn ei flaen.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Are there any objections? I see that there are, so all voting on this item is deferred till voting time.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod, felly caiff yr holl bleidleisio ar yr eitem hon ei ohirio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohirwyd y pleidleisiau tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Votes deferred until voting time.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives Debate

Digwyddiadau Mawr Major Events

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jane Hutt.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Rwyf wedi dewis gwelliant 1 yn enw Jane Hutt.

Cynnig NDM4674 Nick Ramsay

Motion NDM4674 Nick Ramsay

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

The National Assembly for Wales:

Yn nodi llwyddiant Cwpan Ryder a Gêm Brawf y Llundw fel digwyddiadau mawr neilltuoel a gynhaliwyd yng Nghymru.

Notes the success of the Ryder Cup and the Ashes Test Match as outstanding major events held in Wales.

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i adeiladu ar y llwyddiant hwn a chefnogi cynigion Cymru ar gyfer Gemau'r Gymanwlad a rownd derfynol cwpan clybiau UEFA Ewrop.

Calls upon the Welsh Assembly Government to build upon this success and support Welsh bids for the Commonwealth Games and a UEFA European club cup final.

Mohammad Asghar: I move the motion.

Mohammad Asghar: Cynigiau y cynnig.

It gives me great pleasure to open today's debate on an issue that both my colleagues and I feel very strongly about. We will be rejecting the Government's amendment, as it deletes a key element of our motion and does not properly address the specific events that we have highlighted.

Mae'n rhoi pleser mawr i mi agor y ddadl heddiw ar fater yr wyf i a fy nghydweithwyr yn teimlo'n gryf iawn yn ei gylch. Byddwn yn gwrthod gwelliant y Llywodraeth, gan ei fod yn dileu elfen allweddol yn ein cynnig ac nid yw'n mynd i'r afael yn briodol â'r digwyddiadau penodol yr ydym wedi eu nodi.

It is amazing to think that five months have now passed since Europe lifted the Ryder Cup at Newport's Celtic Manor. That was a fantastic event that saw images of Wales

Mae'n anhygoel meddwl bod pum mis wedi mynd heibio bellach ers i Ewrop godi'r Cwpan Ryder yn y Celtic Manor yng Nghasnewydd. Roedd yn ddigwyddiad

beamed across the globe, some of the world's biggest celebrities visit Newport and the third-biggest televised sporting event on earth come to our nation. Despite the rain, many pundits hailed the tournament as one of the best ever. It is unfortunate that we are still awaiting the publication of the Ryder Cup economic impact study. The First Minister said in December that it was coming shortly, and we all hope that it is favourable, as the event was excellent. The economic benefits that hosting the Ryder Cup will bring Wales is testimony to what can be achieved when the Assembly Government supports passionate individuals, like entrepreneur Sir Terry Matthews.

In 2009, we also saw an Ashes Test Match hosted in Wales, at Sophia Gardens. Many experts were deeply critical of the decision to hold a match here. I recall Shane Warne, the Australian spin bowler I admire most, saying that it was a disgrace. Yet, ultimately, the event was a big success and journalists were quick to praise Cardiff and the way the event was managed. Well done, Cardiff. Glamorgan Cricket Club has noted how hosting the match enabled engagement with over 65,000 children and young people in Wales. The club also believes that the event had a £20 million impact on the local economy, with longer term economic benefits too.

This highlights the success that can be gained from hosting outstanding major events in Wales. On this side of the Chamber, we want to see more. We want to see more world-class events coming to Wales. We note the major events strategy, but we also want to see the Assembly Government specifically support Welsh bids for the Commonwealth Games and a Union of European Football Associations European club cup final, preferably the Champions League final, in Cardiff. The Millennium Stadium's eligibility for hosting a Champions League final has been a bone of contention for many years. However, UEFA regards the Millennium Stadium as an elite, or category 4, stadium,

gwych a berodd i ddelweddau o Gymru gael eu darlledu dros y byd, i rai o enwogion mwyaf y byd ymweld â Chasnewydd a'r digwyddiad chwaraeon ar y teledu trydydd fwyaf yn y byd ymweld â'n cenedl ni. Er gwaethaf y glaw, roedd llawer o'r pynditiaid o'r farn mai dyma oedd un o'r gorau erioed. Mae'n anffodus ein bod yn dal i aros i astudiaeth effaith economaidd Cwpan Ryder i gael ei chyhoeddi. Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog ym mis Rhagfyr ei bod ar y ffordd, ac rydym i gyd yn gobeithio y bydd yn ffafriol, oherwydd roedd y digwyddiad yn ardderchog. Mae'r manteision economaidd yn sgîl cynnal Cwpan Ryder yng Nghymru yn tystio i'r hyn y gellir ei gyflawni pan fydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cefnogi unigolion angerddol, fel yr entrepreneur, Syr Terry Matthews.

Yn ogystal yn 2009, gwelsom Gêm Brawf y Llundw yn cael ei gynnal yng Nghymru, yng Ngerddi Sophia. Roedd llawer o arbenigwyr yn feiriadol iawn o'r penderfyniad i gynnal y gêm yma. Rwy'n cofio Shane Warne, y bowliwr troelli o Awstralia yr wyf yn ei edmygu fwyaf, yn dweud ei fod yn warthus. Eto, yn y pen draw, roedd y digwyddiad yn llwyddiant mawr ac roedd newyddiadurwyr yn gyflym i ganmol Caerdydd a'r modd y cafodd y digwyddiad ei reoli. Da iawn, Caerdydd. Mae Clwb Criced Morgannwg wedi nodi'r modd y roedd cynnal y gêm wedi galluogi ymwneud â thros 65,000 o blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru. Mae'r clwb hefyd yn credu y roedd y digwyddiad werth £20 miliwn i'r economi leol, gyda manteision economaidd hirdymor hefyd.

Mae hyn yn tynnu sylw at y llwyddiant y gellir ei gael o gynnal digwyddiadau mawr rhagorol yng Nghymru. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, rydym eisiau gweld mwy. Rydym eisiau gweld mwy o ddigwyddiadau o safon byd-eang yn dod i Gymru. Rydym yn nodi'r strategaeth digwyddiadau mawr, ond rydym hefyd yn awyddus i weld Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn benodol yn cefnogi ceisiadau Cymru i gael Gemau'r Gymanwlad a rownd derfynol cwpan un o glybiau Undeb Cymdeithasau Pêl-droed Ewrop, rownd derfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr yn ddelfrydol, yng Nghaerdydd. Mae cymhwysedd Stadiwm y Mileniwm i gynnal rownd derfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr

and quite rightly categorises it as one of the finest on this continent. The bottom line is that Glasgow and Manchester have hosted finals in recent years, and it will go to London this May. On this side of the Chamber, we feel that our capital, Cardiff, must be in a position to have the same opportunity. We believe that Cardiff is a Champions League city.

We want to see discussions taking place with UEFA that promote Cardiff as a fantastic location to host the Champions League final. We want to see all avenues explored so that a bid can be put forward. Champions League finals are now held on Saturday evenings, offering potential to a wider audience in the UK and Europe. A Mastercard study has also highlighted the wide-ranging economic benefits for host cities, further highlighting why Cardiff cannot be left behind in the bidding process. I was pleased that the First Minister said in Plenary last October that the Champions League final was his next major project. That is why I am increasingly mystified as to why the Government decided to amend our motion today.

Additionally, we feel that bringing the Commonwealth Games to Wales would have vast, major benefits and would really put Wales on the global map. Some 71 nations competed at the Games in Delhi last year, and a Commonwealth Games Organising Committee document estimated that the overall economic impact on India's gross domestic product between 2008 and 2012 would be £3.1 billion. The Commonwealth Games are going to Glasgow in 2014, and were in Manchester in 2002, so why not support a bid from Wales?

Janet Ryder: I have two points, Oscar. When the Commonwealth Games came to Manchester, Wales benefited very little, and that has been looked at by the tourist bodies. We got very little out of it, even though we

wedi profi'n asgwrn cynnen ers blynyddoedd lawer. Fodd bynnag, mae UEFA yn ystyried Stadiwm y Mileniwm yn stadiwm elit, neu gategori 4, ac yn gwbl gyfiawn mae'n ei gategoreiddio yn un o'r gorau ar y cyfandir hwn. Y gwir yw bod Glasgow a Manceinion wedi cynnal rowndiau terfynol yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, a bydd yn mynd i Lundain ym mis Mai. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, rydym yn teimlo bod yn rhaid i'n prifddinas, Caerdydd, fod mewn sefyllfa i gael yr un cyfle. Rydym yn credu bod Caerdydd yn ddinas sy'n haeddu cynnal Cynghrair y Pencampwyr.

Rydym eisiau gweld trafodaethau yn cael eu cynnal gyda UEFA sy'n hyrwyddo Caerdydd fel lleoliad gwych i gynnal rownd derfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr. Rydym yn awyddus i weld ystyriaeth o'r holl opsiynau fel bod modd cyflwyno cais. Mae rowndiau terfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr bellach yn cael eu cynnal nos Sadwrn, gan gynnig potensial am gynulleidfa ehangach yn y DU ac Ewrop. Mae astudiaeth Mastercard hefyd wedi amlygu manteision economaidd eang i'r dinasoedd sy'n cynnal y gemau, sy'n pwysleisio na all Caerdydd gael ei gadael ar ôl yn y broses ymgeisio. Roeddwn yn falch i'r Prif Weinidog ddweud yn y Cyfarfod Llawn fis Hydref diwethaf mai rownd derfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr oedd ei brosiect mawr nesaf. Dyna pam y mae'n ddirgelwch cynyddol i mi fod y Llywodraeth wedi penderfynu diwygio ein cynnig heddiw.

Yn ogystal, rydym yn teimlo y byddai dod â Gemau'r Gymanwlad i Gymru yn fanteisiol iawn ac yn rhoi Cymru ar fap byd-eang. Bu i oddeutu 71 o wledydd gystadlu yn y Gemau yn Delhi y llynedd, ac mae dogfen gan un o Bwyllgorau Trefnu Gemau'r Gymanwlad yn amcangyfrif y byddai effaith economaidd gyffredinol ar gynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth India rhwng 2008 a 2012 yn £3.1 biliwn. Mae Gemau'r Gymanwlad yn mynd i Glasgow yn 2014, ac roeddent ym Manceinion yn 2002, felly beth am gefnogi cais gan Gymru?

Janet Ryder: Mae gennyf ddau bwynt, Oscar. Pan ddaeth Gemau'r Gymanwlad i Fanceinion, bu i Gymru elwa ychydig iawn, ac mae'r cyrff twristiaeth wedi edrych ar hynny. Ychydig iawn bu i ni elwa yn ei sgil,

were hoping to get tourists staying here. We have a great deal of benefit from rugby league, however, which brings its Superleague here. The Millennium Magic weekend has just been held here, where every Superleague game was played, and, thankfully and fantastically, our own Superleague team won its game. That is a fantastic advert for Wales and Cardiff that was broadcast around the world on Sky.

Mohammad Asghar: Manchester is not Wales anyway. You heard me mention Shane Warne earlier, who said that it was a disgrace to bring one-day cricket to Wales. However, when the best match happened in this country, I think that everyone changed their minds. Let us have the Games first and then decide. They will bring prosperity, given the statistics demonstrating what other nations have achieved by having those great tournaments in their cities and countries. Why cannot we host them?

Cardiff Council has shown interest recently, and we think the Assembly Government has a responsibility to do all that it can to support such a bid. Any such bid to bring the Commonwealth Games to Wales could also be combined with increased promotion of Wales among the Commonwealth nations. For such bids to prove successful, the Assembly Government needs to have the correct framework in place. The Assembly Government must listen to complaints that have been made about its support for major events being both too slow and too bureaucratic. Others have also expressed concern about a top-down approach adopted by the Assembly Government.

5.15 p.m.

Effective collaboration alongside individuals and groups is essential if we are to successfully bring further events to Wales. Sadly, we have heard stories from business groups regarding the Assembly Government's suspicion of the private sector and of the role of profit, while the Hargreaves review highlights the need for a much improved working relationship between the

er i ni obeithio denu twristiaid i aros yma. Rydym yn elwa'n fawr o rygbi'r gynghrair, fodd bynnag, sy'n cynnal ei Superleague yma. Mae penwythnos hud y mileniwm newydd gael ei gynnal yma, lle cafodd pob gêm gynghrair ei chwarae, a, diolch byth ac yn wych, bu i'n tîm cynghrair ni ennill ei gêm. Mae hynny'n hysbyseb wych i Gymru ac i Gaerdydd a ddarllodeddwyd o amgylch y byd ar Sky.

Mohammad Asghar: Nid yw Manceinion yng Nghymru beth bynnag. Bu i chi fy nghlywed yn crybwyll Shane Warne yn gynharach, a ddywedodd ei fod yn warth i ddod â chriced undydd i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, pan gafwyd y gêm orau yn y wlad hon, rwy'n credu y gwelwyd pawb yn newid ei feddwl. Gadewch i ni gael y Gemau yn gyntaf ac yna penderfynu. Byddant yn dod â ffyniant, o ystyried yr ystadegau sy'n dangos yr hyn y mae gwledydd eraill wedi'i gyflawni drwy gynnal trwrnameintiau mawr yn eu dinasoedd a gwledydd. Pam na allwn ni eu cynnal nhw?

Mae Cyngor Caerdydd wedi dangos diddordeb yn ddiweddar, a chredwn fod gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gyfrifoldeb i wneud popeth y gall i gefnogi cais o'r fath. Gallai unrhyw gais o'r fath i ddod â Gemau'r Gymanwlad i Gymru gael ei chyfuno â hyrwyddo Cymru ymhellach ymysg cenhedloedd y Gymanwlad. Er mwyn i geisiadau o'r fath fod yn llwyddiannus, mae angen i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gael y fframwaith cywir yn ei le. Rhaid i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad wrando ar gwynion a wnaed am ei harafwch a'i biwrocratiaeth wrth gefnogi digwyddiadau mawr. Mae eraill hefyd wedi mynegi pryder am ddull o'r brig i lawr a fabwysiadwyd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Mae cydweithredu effeithiol ochr yn ochr ag unigolion a grwpiau yn hanfodol os ydym eisiau llwyddo i ddenu rhagor o ddigwyddiadau i Gymru. Yn anffodus, rydym wedi clywed straeon gan grwpiau busnes ynghylch amheuaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o'r sector preifat a rôl elw, tra bod adolygiad Hargreaves yn amlygu'r angen am berthynas llawer gwell rhwng Llywodraeth y

Assembly Government and the Arts Council of Wales to support major artistic events in this part of the world. Such examples are worrying when we look to the future and how this Assembly Government is building partnerships aimed at bringing more major events, sporting or otherwise, to Wales.

To conclude, I highlight again the success of the Ryder Cup and the Ashes test match for Wales, and emphasise the importance of seeing more big, top-level events coming to Wales. On this side of the Chamber, we feel that the Assembly Government should be doing all that it can to support Welsh bids for the Commonwealth Games and a UEFA European club cup final. I urge Members to join us and support this motion today.

Gwelliant 1 Jane Hutt

Dileu pwynt 2 ac rhoi ei le:

2. Yn croesawu cyhoeddi strategaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer digwyddiadau mawr a'i chefnogaeth i gynigion i ddod â rhagor o ddigwyddiadau mawr i Gymru, ac i adeiladu ar enw da cynyddol Cymru fel lle effeithiol a llwyddiannus i gynnal amrywiaeth eang o ddigwyddiadau ynddo ag iddynt arwyddocâd byd-eang.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Cynigiau welliant 1.

David Melding: I have to say, as a great sports fan, that it has been fantastic to watch major events—[*Interruption.*] I am sorry, but people are whispering. I have been called to speak, have I not, Deputy Presiding Officer?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Yes.

David Melding: I have witnessed some wonderful events and have been proud of Cardiff as a venue. It goes back to the world cup in 1999 when we realised, for the first time perhaps, that we could be the showcase for the world, if we had that ambition.

Cynulliad a Chyngor Celfyddydau Cymru i gefnogi digwyddiadau celfyddydol o bwys yn y rhan hon o'r byd. Mae enghreifftiau o'r fath yn achos pryder wrth edrych i'r dyfodol a sut mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn datblygu partneriaethau gyda'r nod o ddenu mwy o ddigwyddiadau mawr, ym maes chwaraeon neu feysydd eraill, i Gymru.

I gloi, rwy'n tynnu sylw unwaith eto at lwyddiant Cwpan Ryder a chyfres brawf y Llundw i Gymru, ac yn pwysleisio pwysigrwydd gweld mwy o ddigwyddiadau ar y lefel uchaf yn dod i Gymru. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, rydym ni'n teimlo y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wneud popeth y mae'n gallu i gefnogi ceisiadau Cymru i gynnal Gemau'r Gymanwlad a rownd derfynol cwpan clwb Ewropeaidd UEFA. Anogaf yr Aelodau i ymuno â ni a chefnogi'r cynnig hwn heddiw.

Amendment 1 Jane Hutt

Delete point 2 and replace with:

2. Welcomes the publication of the Welsh Assembly Government's Major events strategy and its support for bids to bring further major events to Wales, building upon Wales' growing reputation as an effective and successful host for a diverse range of globally significant events.

The Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I move amendment 1.

David Melding: Rhaid i mi ddweud, fel cefnogwr chwaraeon brwd, mae hi wedi bod yn wych gwyllo digwyddiadau mawr—[*Torri ar draws.*] Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ond mae pobl yn sibrwd. Onid wyf wedi cael fy ngalw i siarad, Ddirprwy Lywydd?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Ydych.

David Melding: Rwyf wedi gweld rhai digwyddiadau bendigedig ac wedi bod yn falch o Gaerdydd fel lleoliad. Mae'n mynd yn ôl at gwpan y byd yn 1999 pan wnaethom ni sylweddoli, am y tro cyntaf efallai, y gallem fod yn esiampl i'r byd, pe bai gennym yr

Although the final was not held here, we did have a semi-final, and it led to great projection across the world, in a traditional sport, it has to be said, in which Wales has long been one of the world's greatest teams. Shortly after that, we started to host the FA Cup final as a result of the rebuilding of Wembley stadium. That was a huge boost to the confidence of people in Wales that we could host major events. I am a radio addict, and I love listening to sport on the radio, particularly football. It is fair to say that many of Radio 5 Live's commentators were a little sceptical about the sojourn to Cardiff. When they got here, and reflected on the city and the fact that the stadium is right in the middle of the city, the friendliness of the Welsh people, and particularly the people of Cardiff, they were completely won over. In fact, there was some nostalgia for Cardiff by the end of that series of FA Cup finals. People were starting to talk about Wembley, which is in a rather vast vacuous suburb of London—I hope that they are not listening, or I could be in awful trouble, especially if Wembley is now a Conservative seat; let me anticipate and apologise—and the fact that it does not have the attractions of an established, close-knit city environment. It was a very interesting development that, all of a sudden, the whole question had been turned around and people were talking about whether London could do justice to the FA Cup final in the way that Cardiff had done.

I think very much along those lines of when we had the Ashes test match at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff, which is the most beautiful setting and recently developed as well. I have been a cricket fan for many years; I have watched Glamorgan over the decades and have been used to the highs and lows of that experience. In my early years, I remember watching cricket at St Helens, which is a wonderful ground. However, I would not have believed it had somebody said then that Sophia Gardens would be a test match venue. Now, not only is it a test match venue, but it is a hugely successful one. Indeed, the Radio 4 team went into all sorts of elaborate descriptions about the bird life—

uchelgais hwnnw. Er na chafodd y rownd derfynol ei chynnal yma, cynhaliwyd y rownd gynderfynol yma, ac arweiniodd at sylw ledled y byd, mewn camp draddodiadol, mae'n rhaid dweud, y mae Cymru wedi bod yn un o dimau gorau'r byd ynnddi ers cryn amser. Yn fuan wedi hynny, gwnaethom ddechrau cynnal rownd derfynol Cwpan yr FA, am fod gwaith ailadeiladu'n mynd rhagddo yn stadiwm Wembley. Roedd hynny'n hwb enfawr i hyder pobl yng Nghymru y gallem gynnal digwyddiadau mawr. Rwy'n gaeth i'r radio, ac rwy'n dwlu ar wrando ar chwaraeon ar y radio, yn enwedig pêl-droed. Mae'n deg dweud bod llawer o sylwebwyr Radio 5 Live ychydig yn amheus am deithio i Gaerdydd. Pan gyrrhaeddod nhw, a gweld y ddinas a lleoliad y stadiwm yng nghanol y ddinas, cyfeillgarwch pobl Cymru, ac yn benodol, pobl Caerdydd, roeddent yn llwyr argyhoeddedig. Yn wir, roedd rhywfaint o hiraeth am Gaerdydd erbyn diwedd y gyfres o rowndiau terfynol Cwpan yr FA. Roedd pobl yn dechrau siarad am Wembley, a leolir yn un o faestrefi mawr a di-nod Llundain—rwy'n gobeithio nad ydynt yn gwranddo, neu gallwn fod mewn trafferth ofnadwy, yn enwedig os yw Wembley bellach yn un o seddau'r Ceidwadwyr; gadewch i mi ragweld hynny ac ymddiheuro—a'r ffaith nad oes ganddo'r un atyniad â dinas glos sefydledig. Roedd yn ddatblygiad hynod ddiddorol: yn sydyn, cafodd y cwestiwn ei droi ar ei ben ac roedd pobl yn cwestiynu a allai Llundain wneud cyfiawnder â rownd derfynol Cwpan yr FA yn y modd y gwnaeth Caerdydd hynny.

Mae'r un peth yn wir, yn fy marn i, am y tro y cafwyd gêm brawf y Llundw yng Ngerddi Sophia yng Nghaerdydd, sy'n leoliad hardd iawn ac sydd wedi'i ddatblygu yn ddiweddar. Rwyf wedi bod yn gefnogwr criced ers blynyddoedd lawer; rwyf wedi gwyllo Morgannwg dros y degawdau ac wedi arfer ag uchafbwyntiau ac isafbwyntiau'r profiad hwnnw. Yn fy mlynyddoedd cynnar, rwy'n cofio gwyllo criced yn Sain Helen, sy'n faes gwych. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddwn wedi credu'r peth, bryd hynny, pe bai rhywun wedi dweud y byddai gêm brawf yng Ngerddi Sophia rhyw ddydd. Bellach, nid yn unig y mae'n cynnal gemau prawf ond mae'n hynod lwyddiannus wrth wneud hynny. Yn wir, bu

by which they meant mostly the seagulls—and where it would alight and whether it would cause any disturbance, as well as the wonders of the River Taff in Cardiff and the whole experience of being in a ground that is so close to the city centre.

I turn to the great success of the Ryder Cup. Golf is a huge world sport, and, to be slightly elitist, many businesspeople play golf, so when golf events that are based in Wales are beamed across the world you get into some pretty influential homes. Terry Matthews had the vision that the Ryder Cup, the world's greatest international golfing event, could be hosted in Wales. We now need to say to the British golfing authorities, including the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, that it is time that the British Open came to a venue in Wales. We have the courses to bid for that. The next stage, over the next 10 years or so, has to be for us to support such a bid, so that we see the British Open being held here in Wales—what a wonderful advertisement for Wales that would be.

I will conclude by saying that people sometimes question the direct economic benefit of these events. In the narrow sense, they do cost as well as bringing benefits. Usually the net benefit can be identified and is not inconsiderable. However, over the years, they bring incredible value in the form of the intangible goods of branding, self-confidence and projection, which are all part of driving a successful economy forward.

Bethan Jenkins: I know that, as an Assembly, we are often criticised for focusing on matters at the other end of the M4, but I will start anyway by noting that we are facing huge cuts from the UK Government and that we would not be looking at the near-complete destruction of the capital budget for the events strategy if those cuts were not being made. However, to park those comments, past experiences of the economic benefits have shown that it is important that events are spread throughout Wales. The Ryder Cup effect, which we heard about earlier, meant that bookings for

tîm Radio 4 yn disgrifio'r adar a'r bywyd gwyllt yn helaeth—gan sôn am y gwyfanod yn bennaf—a lle y byddent yn glanio ac a fyddai hynny'n achosi unrhyw aflonyddwch, yn ogystal â rhyfeddodau Afon Taf yng Nghaerdydd a'r profiad cyffredinol o fod mewn maes sydd mor agos i ganol y ddinas.

Trof at lwyddiant mawr Cwpan Ryder. Mae golff yn un o gampau mawr y byd, ac, i fod ychydig yn elitaidd, mae llawer o bobl fusnes yn chwarae golff, felly pan fydd digwyddiadau golff sydd wedi'u lleoli yng Nghymru yn cael eu dangos ledled y byd rydych yn cael mynediad i gartrefi eithaf dylanwadol. Roedd gan Terry Matthews y weledigaeth y gallai Cwpan Ryder, digwyddiad rhyngwladol golff mwyaf y byd, gael ei gynnal yng Nghymru. Mae angen i ni yn awr ddweud wrth awdurdodau golffio Prydain, gan gynnwys y Clwb Golff Brenhinol a Hynafol, ei fod yn bryd i'r British Open ddod i Gymru. Mae gennym y cyrsiau i wneud cais am hynny. Y cam nesaf, dros y 10 mlynedd nesaf, yw i ni gefnogi cais o'r fath, fel y gallwn weld y British Open yn cael ei gynnal yng Nghymru—dyna hysbyseb gwych i Gymru fyddai hynny.

Rwyf eisiau gorffen drwy ddweud bod pobl weithiau yn amau manteision economaidd uniongyrchol y digwyddiadau hyn. Yn yr ystyr gul, mae iddynt gostau yn ogystal â buddiannau. Fel arfer, mae modd gweld y buddiannau net ac nid ydynt yn ansylweddol. Fodd bynnag, dros y blynyddoedd, maent yn dod â gwerth anhygoel, anniriaethol, o ran brandio, hunanhyder a delwedd, sydd i gyd yn rhan o'r gwaith o yrru economi lwyddiannus yn ei blaen.

Bethan Jenkins: Gwn, fel Cynulliad, rydym yn cael ein beirniadu am ganolbwyntio ar faterion ym mhen arall yr M4, ond rwy'n dechrau, beth bynnag, drwy nodi ein bod yn wynebu toriadau enfawr gan Lywodraeth y DU ac na fyddem yn edrych ar yr hyn sy'n ddinistr, bron, o'r gyllideb gyfalaf ar gyfer y strategaeth ddigwyddiadau pe na bai'r toriadau hynny yn cael eu gwneud. Fodd bynnag, gan symud ymlaen, mae profiadau'r gorffennol o fanteision economaidd wedi dangos ei fod yn bwysig bod digwyddiadau yn cael eu cynnal ledled Cymru. Roedd effaith Cwpan Ryder, y clywsom amdani

one holiday operator in Gower were up by 20 per cent on the previous year, despite the recession. At the same time, the Vale Resort in Hensol recorded a 50 per cent increase in group bookings on the previous year. Therefore, we need to see what we can bring to Wales to produce similar benefits. Plaid believes that it is within our capabilities to bid for big events, and, as Janet Ryder mentioned earlier, we have been successful in bringing the Super League to Wales, and we were successful in our bid to host the 2013 Rugby League World Cup. In contrast to the Olympics, the home nations will be able to compete separately, and we in Wales should be celebrating that.

We can also look at music events. For example, the MTV music awards went to Scotland recently. The benefits in direct economic terms to the Scottish capital amounted to £8.9 million, which was more than double the original prediction of £4.2 million. I understand that Belfast will host the MTV music awards this year—perhaps Swansea or Cardiff could host them in future.

Similarly, I believe that we should be bidding for events such as the sailing world championships, which could be held in Pwllheli, or the mountain bike world cup, which could be held in Aberconwy, Builth Wells, or—I am obviously biased—in Afan Forest Park in my region. Another passion of mine is to encourage more global-scale events that feature boxing. It is a working-class sport in Wales, and we should prioritise it. I attended the Night of Champions last year in Cardiff, when the premiere of the film *Risen* about the boxing legend Howard Winstone, written by the young Welsh writer Neil Jones from Merthyr Tydfil, also took place. Big events can help economically, but they can also be a springboard for new talent and the development of the creative industries in Wales.

gynnau, yn golygu y cafodd un cwmni gwyliau ym Mhenrhyn Gŵyr 20 y cant yn rhagor o archebion o'i gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol, er gwaethaf y dirwasgiad. Ar yr un pryd, nododd gwesty hamdden y Vale yn Hensol iddynt gael 50 y cant yn rhagor o archebion grŵp o'i gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol. Felly, mae angen i ni weld beth y gallwn ddenu i Gymru i gael manteision tebyg. Mae Plaid Cymru o'r farn bod gennym ni'r gallu i wneud cais am ddigwyddiadau mawr, ac, fel y nododd Janet Ryder gynnau, rydym wedi bod yn llwyddiannus wrth ddenu'r Super League i Gymru, ac roeddem yn llwyddiannus yn ein cais i gynnal Cwpan Rygbi Cynghrair y Byd 2013. Yn wahanol i'r Gemau Olympaidd, bydd modd i'r gwledydd cartref gystadlu ar wahân, a dylem ni yng Nghymru ddathlu hynny.

Gallwn hefyd edrych ar ddigwyddiadau cerddoriaeth. Er enghraifft, cafodd yr Alban gynnal gwobrau cerddoriaeth MTV yn ddiweddar. Roedd y manteision mewn termau economaidd uniongyrchol i brifddinas yr Alban yn £8.9 miliwn, a oedd yn fwy na dwbl yr amcangyfrif gwreiddiol o £4.2 miliwn. Rwy'n deall y bydd Belfast yn cynnal gwobrau cerddoriaeth MTV eleni—efallai y gallai Abertawe neu Gaerdydd eu cynnal nhw yn y dyfodol.

Yn yr un modd, credaf y dylem wneud cais am ddigwyddiadau fel pencampwriaethau hwylio'r byd, y gellid eu cynnal ym Mhwillheli, neu gwpan beicio mynydd y byd, y gellid ei gynnal yn Aberconwy, Llanfair-ym-Muallt, neu—yn amlwg, nid wyf yn ddiuedd—ym Mharc Coedwig Afan yn fy rhanbarth i. Rwyf hefyd yn angerddol dros ddenu mwy o ddigwyddiadau ar raddfa fyd-eang sy'n cynnwys paffio. Mae'n gamp dosbarth gweithiol yng Nghymru, a dylem roi blaenoriaeth iddi. Roeddwn yn bresennol yn Noson y Pencampwyr y llynedd yng Nghaerdydd, pan ddangoswyd y ffilm *Risen* am y bocsiwr chwedlonol Howard Winstone am y tro cyntaf hefyd, sef ffilm a ysgrifennwyd gan awdur ifanc o Gymru, Neil Jones o Ferthyr Tudful. Gall digwyddiadau mawr fod o fudd economaidd, ond maent hefyd yn gallu bod yn sbardun i dalent newydd a datblygiad y diwydiannau creadigol yng Nghymru.

Plaid does not believe that it is enough to make bids for events here, there and everywhere; we have to be strategic, so that we know what is happening and where it can happen. I do not believe that there is anything wrong with aspiring to host the Commonwealth Games, but it is difficult to hear that being said by the Conservatives, as we know that budget cuts are being made to this area especially, and, as you know, we would have to build new stadia and centres to accommodate the Commonwealth Games. Just Google 'India and the Commonwealth Games' and you will see the difficulty that Governments have had with hosting the event.

David Melding: Obviously, the current economic gloom will be dissipated by the success of a Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition Government. That is our earnest expectation. I share your hope, but the next Commonwealth Games that could be bid for is likely to be that in 2026, and we need to see this issue in those terms. It is a long-term venture.

Bethan Jenkins: I acknowledge that. I just think that if we are to support such a bid, then we need to get things working as soon as possible, because we have to put all the financial structures in place and ensure not only that the sportspeople are behind it, but that hoteliers and others in the hospitality industry have a stake in it, because although the sector gains from the events are held in Wales, it does not put anything in at the beginning. I learned that from the boxing event last year.

Another element of what Plaid wants to create is the homecoming Wales year in 2015, to bring economic, sporting and cultural benefits to Wales, in addition to boosting our national identity. The Scottish Government did something similar, and it brought back to Scotland people from all over the world with Scottish blood. I hope that we can do the same in Wales in the future, particularly when you look at the population in the USA with Welsh lineage. I am sure that they would want to come back and attend events in Wales to celebrate their

Nid yw Plaid Cymru'n credu ei fod yn ddigon gwneud ceisiadau am ddigwyddiadau yma, acw ac ym mhob man; mae'n rhaid i ni fod yn strategol, fel ein bod yn gwybod beth sy'n digwydd a lle y gall ddigwydd. Nid wyf yn credu bod unrhyw beth o'i le ar anelu at gynnal Gemau'r Gymanwlad, ond mae'n anodd clywed hynny gan y Ceidwadwyr, gan y gwyddom fod toriadau yn cael eu gwneud i'r gyllideb yn y maes hwn yn arbennig, ac, fel y gwyddoch, byddai'n rhaid i ni adeiladu stadia a chanolfannau newydd i gynnal Gemau'r Gymanwlad. Dim ond i chi roi 'India a Gemau'r Gymanwlad' yn Google ac fe welwch yr anhawster y cafodd rhai Llywodraethau wrth gynnal y digwyddiad.

David Melding: Yn amlwg, bydd Llywodraeth glymblaid y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn codi'r tywyllwch economaidd presennol. Dyna rydym ni'n ei ddisgwyl o ddfrif. Rwy'n rhannu eich gobaith, ond mae'n debyg mai Gemau nesaf y Gymanwlad y gellid gwneud cais ar eu cyfer fydd gemau 2026, ac mae'n rhaid i ni weld y mater hwn yn y termau hynny. Mae'n fenter hirdymor.

Bethan Jenkins: Rwy'n cydnabod hynny. Ond rwy'n credu, os byddwn yn cefnogi cais o'r fath, bod angen i ni ddechrau mor fuan â phosibl, oherwydd mae'n rhaid i ni roi'r holl strwythurau ariannol yn eu lle a sicrhau nid yn unig fod pobl y byd chwaraeon yn ei gefnogi, ond bod gwestywyr a phobl eraill yn y diwydiant lletygarwch â rhan ynddo, oherwydd er bod y sector yn elwa o'r digwyddiadau sy'n cael eu cynnal yng Nghymru, nid yw'n cyfrannu unrhyw beth ar y dechrau. Dysgais hynny o'r digwyddiad paffio y llynedd.

Elfen arall o'r hyn y mae Plaid Cymru eisiau ei greu yw blwyddyn dod adref i Gymru yn 2015, i ddod â manteision economaidd, chwaraeon a diwylliannol i Gymru, yn ogystal â rhoi hwb i'n hunaniaeth genedlaethol. Fe wnaeth Llywodraeth yr Alban rywbeth tebyg, ac fe ddenodd pobl o linach Albanaidd o bob cwr o'r byd yn ôl i'r wlad. Rwy'n gobeithio y gallwn ni wneud yr un peth yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol, yn enwedig pan fyddwch yn edrych ar boblogaeth yr Unol Daleithiau sydd â llinach Gymreig. Rwy'n siŵr y byddent yn dymuno

heritage. We would link to such events as the Brecon Jazz festival, the RBS 6 Nations, the Sŵn festival and the Green Man festival to celebrate the homecoming year in 2015.

I also think that we should have St David's Day as a bank holiday, so that we could arrange big events on that day. Sadly, we do not celebrate it as much as St Patrick's Day is celebrated. In fact, St Patrick's Day is probably celebrated more in Wales than St David's Day is. So, I would like to have St David's Day as a bank holiday, not only in order to celebrate that day, but because it would allow us to hold big events in Wales.

To conclude, I think that Wales needs to celebrate the Olympics and to attend the events that will be held at the Millennium Stadium, especially the women's football, so that we will be supporting not only a large-scale event, but emerging sports in Wales.

Paul Davies: I am pleased to take part in this debate this afternoon. Attracting major sporting events undoubtedly has a number of positive outcomes for us as a nation—economically, culturally and socially. Major sporting events have the ability to lift the nation—take, for example, the over 35,000 spectators who attended on the final day of the Ryder Cup last year. However, it is essential that proper, strategic plans are put in place to ensure that major sporting events leave a real legacy. We need to ensure that major sporting events generate repeat business in their wake and that all areas of the country benefit from them. Events such as the Ryder Cup can increase the national and international profile of our country and of specific, key areas, such as tourism in my constituency of Preseli Pembrokeshire.

To ensure that peripheral areas such as Pembrokeshire benefit from such events, the infrastructure of our country needs to be improved. I note that in the Communities and Culture Committee's report last year on major sporting events the Football

dod yn ôl a mynychu digwyddiadau yng Nghymru i ddathlu eu treftadaeth. Byddem yn cysylltu digwyddiadau fel gŵyl Jazz Aberhonddu, twrnament RBS y 6 Gwlad, gŵyl Sŵn a gŵyl y Dyn Gwyrdd i ddathlu blwyddyn dod adref i Gymru yn 2015.

Credaf hefyd y dylem gael gŵyl banc ar Ddydd Gŵyl Dewi, er mwyn i ni drefnu digwyddiadau mawr ar y diwrnod hwnnw. Yn anffodus, nid ydym yn ei ddathlu cymaint â Diwrnod Sant Padrig. Yn wir, mae'n debyg bod mwy o ddathlu Sant Padrig yng Nghymru na Dydd Gŵyl Dewi. Felly, hoffwn gael Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn ŵyl banc, nid yn unig er mwyn dathlu'r diwrnod hwnnw, ond oherwydd y byddai'n caniatáu i ni gynnal digwyddiadau mawr yng Nghymru.

I gloi, rwy'n credu bod angen i Gymru ddathlu'r gemau Olympaidd a mynd i'r digwyddiadau y bydd yn cael eu cynnal yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm, yn enwedig pêl-droed y merched, fel y byddwn nid yn unig yn cefnogi digwyddiad ar raddfa fawr, ond chwaraeon sy'n datblygu yng Nghymru.

Paul Davies: Rwy'n falch i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon y prynhawn yma. Yn ddi-os, mae gan ddenu digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr nifer o ganlyniadau cadarnhaol i ni fel cenedl—yn economaidd, yn ddiwylliannol ac yn gymdeithasol. Mae gan ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr y gallu i godi'r genedl—er enghraifft, meddyliwch am y 35,000 a aeth i weld cystadleuaeth Cwpan Ryder ar y diwrnod olaf y llynedd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n hanfodol bod cynlluniau strategol priodol yn cael eu rhoi ar waith i sicrhau bod digwyddiadau chwaraeon yn gadael etifeddiaeth go iawn. Mae angen i ni sicrhau bod digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr yn ysgogi busnes yn eu sgil, a bod pob rhan o'r wlad yn elwa ohonynt. Gall digwyddiadau fel Cwpan Ryder godi proffil cenedlaethol a rhyngwladol ein gwlad a chodi proffil meysydd penodol, allweddol, fel twristiaeth yn fy etholaeth i, Preseli Sir Benfro.

Er mwyn sicrhau bod ardaloedd ymylol fel Sir Benfro yn elwa o ddigwyddiadau o'r fath, mae angen gwella seilwaith ein gwlad. Nodaf, yn adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant y llynedd ar ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr, y dyfynnwyd Cymdeithas

Association of Wales was quoted as saying that infrastructure in Wales is 'sadly...lacking in a number of major areas'.

This is a key area that needs to be prioritised by the Welsh Assembly Government so that we market all of the country's attractions to the full. That would help to ensure that the benefits of a major sporting event held in Cardiff or Newport would be felt throughout the entire country, especially at a time when bringing revenue into Wales is essential.

Mark Isherwood: I welcome your recognising that the benefits need to reach all corners of Wales, and I note your reference to the Football Association of Wales. Do you agree that we should be working with the Football Association of Wales, which has said that it is keen to bring international fixtures back to Wrexham's Racecourse ground? That would require much-needed infrastructure improvements and funding, which is something that it is working to achieve.

Paul Davies: I agree wholeheartedly, and I am sure that we all agree on the benefits of promoting Wales as a global sporting venue. It is essential that the Welsh Assembly Government is proactive in attracting major events to our country, and that it works closer with individuals and groups to do so.

5.30 p.m.

The Hargreaves review of the creative industries claimed that there needs to be a much-improved working relationship between the Welsh Assembly Government and the Arts Council of Wales to support major artistic events. I believe that the Welsh Assembly Government should liaise much more frequently with local authorities, private sector companies and sporting bodies to discuss good practice and greater partnership initiatives. Greater partnership should also involve local people and local communities. I am sure that we are all united in our support of Welsh bids for the Commonwealth Games and for a UEFA European cup final. I find it hard to believe that Wales has never hosted a UEFA Champions League final; since the

Bêl-droed Cymru yn dweud bod y seilwaith yng Nghymru yn anffodus yn ddiffygiol mewn nifer o ardaloedd pwysig.

Mae hwn yn faes allweddol y mae angen i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru roi blaenoriaeth iddo fel ein bod yn marchnata holl atyniadau'r wlad i'r eithaf. Byddai hynny'n helpu i sicrhau y byddai manteision digwyddiad chwaraeon pwysig a gynhaliwyd yng Nghaerdydd neu Gasnewydd yn cael eu teimlo ledled y wlad, yn enwedig ar adeg pan mae denu referniw i Gymru yn hanfodol.

Mark Isherwood: Rwy'n croesawu eich bod yn cydnabod bod angen i'r manteision gyrraedd pob cwr o Gymru, a nodaf eich cyfeiriad at Gymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru. A ydych chi'n cytuno y dylem weithio gyda Chymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru, sydd wedi dweud ei bod yn awyddus i weld gemau rhyngwladol yn dychwelyd i'r Cae Ras yn Wrecsam? Byddai hynny'n gofyn am welliannau o ran seilwaith a chyllid sydd eu hangen yn fawr, sy'n rhywbeth y mae'n gweithio i'w gyflawni.

Paul Davies: Rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr, ac rwy'n siŵr ein bod i gyd yn cytuno ar fanteision hyrwyddo Cymru fel lleoliad chwaraeon byd-eang. Mae'n hanfodol bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn rhagweithiol o ran denu digwyddiadau mawr i'n gwlad, a'i bod yn gweithio'n agosach ag unigolion a grwpiau i wneud hynny.

Honnodd adolygiad Hargreaves o'r diwydiannau creadigol bod angen perthynas weithio llawer gwell rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a Chyngor Celfyddydau Cymru i gefnogi digwyddiadau celfyddydol mawr. Credaf y dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gysylltu llawer mwy ag awdurdodau lleol, cwmnïau yn y sector preifat a chyrrff chwaraeon i drafod arferion da a rhagor o fentrau mewn partneriaeth. Dylai rhagor o weithio mewn partneriaeth hefyd gynnwys pobl leol a chymunedau lleol. Rwy'n siŵr fod pawb ohonom yn unfryd yn ein cefnogaeth i geisiadau Cymru i gynnal Gemau'r Gymanwlad a rownd derfynol cwpan UEFA Ewrop. Rwy'n ei chael hi'n anodd credu nad yw Cymru erioed wedi cynnal rownd

competition was rebranded in the early 1990s, finals have been held in Glasgow and Manchester, with another to be held in a couple of months' time in London. Again, it appears that Wales is missing out on golden opportunities, and the Welsh Assembly Government needs to work harder to ensure that this is not the case.

I acknowledge the 'Event Wales: A Major Events Strategy for Wales 2010–2020' document, and I support the aim to build a positive external reputation and brand image for Wales. Any sporting event that the Welsh Assembly Government looks to place a bid for should also complement the work that is being undertaken at the grass-roots level to promote physical activity and participation in sport. There should be a collaborative approach with groups such as Sport Wales to focus on key themes, such as communicating to the Welsh people the benefits of participating in sports. Major events can provide the necessary high-profile platform to inspire children and adults of all ages to take up sports and other activities. We need to expand on this to secure a longer-lasting legacy for major sporting events.

In recent years, Wales has been fortunate to host a number of major events, including the Ryder Cup, the 2009 Ashes cricket test match in Cardiff, the Green Man Festival and the Hay Festival. However, the focus must now be firmly on the future, and on securing major events on a regular basis. Momentum must be kept up following major sporting events, and it is essential that the participation trend is monitored effectively to ensure that current levels are maintained. It is absolutely vital that we continue to attract major sporting events to Wales, as they undoubtedly contribute to improving our physical and economic wellbeing.

Eleanor Burnham: Wales is a great country with a history of staging big events and there is the potential to play an even bigger role in the future, but none of this happens by

derfynol Cynghrair Pencampwyr UEFA; ers i'r gystadleuaeth gael ei hail-frandio yn y 1990au cynnar, cynhaliwyd rowndiau terfynol yn Glasgow a Manceinion, a chynhelir un arall mewn ychydig o fisoedd yn Llundain. Unwaith eto, ymddengys fod Cymru'n colli cyfleoedd aur, a rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru weithio'n galetach i sicrhau nad yw hyn yn digwydd.

Rwy'n cydnabod y ddogfen 'Digwyddiadau Cymru: Strategaeth Digwyddiadau Mawr ar gyfer Cymru 2010-2020', ac rwy'n cefnogi'r nod o adeiladu enw da cadarnhaol allanol a delwedd brand ar gyfer Cymru. Dylai unrhyw ddigwyddiad chwaraeon y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru am wneud cais amdano hefyd ategu gwaith a wneir ar lawr gwlad i hyrwyddo gweithgarwch corfforol a chymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon. Dylid sicrhau bod gennym ddull gweithredu cydweithredol, gyda grwpiau fel Chwaraeon Cymru yn canolbwyntio ar themâu allweddol, fel cyfathrebu â phobl Cymru am fanteision cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon. Gall digwyddiadau mawr ddarparu'r llwyfan proffil uchel sydd ei angen i ysbrydoli plant ac oedolion o bob oed i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon a gweithgareddau eraill. Mae angen inni ehangu yn hyn o beth, er mwyn sicrhau bod gennym etifeddiaeth sy'n para'n hwy ar gyfer digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr.

Yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf, bu Cymru'n ffodus i gynnal nifer o ddigwyddiadau mawr, gan gynnwys y Cwpan Ryder, gêm griced brawf y Lludw yng Nghaerdydd yn 2009, Gŵyl y Dyn Gwyrdd a Gŵyl y Gelli. Fodd bynnag, rhaid canolbwyntio'n gadarn yn awr ar y dyfodol, ac ar sicrhau y ceir digwyddiadau mawr yn rheolaidd. Rhaid cadw momentwm yn dilyn digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr, ac mae'n hanfodol bod y duedd i gymryd rhan yn cael ei fonitro'n effeithiol er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y lefelau cyfranogiad presennol yn cael eu cynnal. Mae'n gwbl hanfodol ein bod yn parhau i ddenu digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr i Gymru, gan eu bod yn ddi-os yn cyfrannu at wella ein lles corfforol ac economaidd.

Eleanor Burnham: Mae Cymru yn wlad fawr sydd â hanes o gynnal digwyddiadau mawr ac mae potensial i chwarae rhan fwy fyth yn y dyfodol, ond ni fydd dim o hyn yn

chance. In recent evidence given to the Communities and Culture Committee, the Welsh Sports Association suggested that it is not beyond anyone's wit to have a calendar for the next 15 years showing which events are possible within Wales, what levels of support they would need and the benefits they would bring to Wales. I believe that the Welsh Assembly Government needs this kind of vision, matched with tangible goals, to bring future major events to Wales. As has been mentioned previously, it is widely recognised, for instance, that the Millennium Stadium showed the world that it was a brilliant alternative venue to Wembley while renovations were being carried out there. Also, the Ryder Cup was a huge success, as was the first Ashes test to be held in Wales. We can host the biggest and most high-profile international events. The way that the Millennium Stadium has been run has shown that we can be up there with the best.

We, as a party, have been looking to the future, and we have made a manifesto commitment to bid for a National Football League American football game and a leg of the Tour de France to be held in our wonderful country. As most of us know, the Tour de France draws a huge number of viewers—about 4 million over three weeks—with huge television coverage extending to about 129 hours.

The major sporting events unit set up in 2008 has helped tremendously, and all of these events give us a feelgood factor. When the Communities and Culture Committee looked at making the most of major sporting events, it highlighted the fact that we should be doing much better. Invitees were in general agreement that major sporting events had the potential to progress Government policy and deliver on 'One Wales' objectives, and that a Government strategy could prove valuable. However, there was a distinct lack of evidence to support the view that major events would impact on policy. This view is supported by a recent European survey that found that, of all the European countries, only Latvia had lower levels of regular participation in sport than Wales, which I

digwydd ar hap. Yn y dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd i'r Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant yn ddiweddar, awgrymodd Cymdeithas Chwaraeon Cymru nad yw y tu hwnt i ddealltwriaeth unrhyw un i gael calendr ar gyfer y 15 mlynedd nesaf i ddangos pa ddigwyddiadau y byddai modd eu cynnal yng Nghymru, pa fath o gefnogaeth y byddai ei angen arnynt a pha fuddion y byddent yn dod i Gymru. Credaf fod angen y math hwn o weledigaeth ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, ynghyd â nodau pendant, i ddod â digwyddiadau mawr i Gymru yn y dyfodol. Fel y soniwyd eisoes, cydnabyddir yn eang, er enghraifft, bod Stadiwm y Mileniwm wedi dangos i'r byd ei fod yn lleoliad amgen gwyb i Wembley pan oedd gwaith adnewyddu yn cael ei wneud yno. Hefyd, roedd y Cwpan Ryder, a'r prawf Llundw cyntaf i'w gynnal yng Nghymru yn llwyddiant mawr. Gallwn gynnal y digwyddiadau rhyngwladol mwyaf a mwyaf uchel eu proffil. Mae'r ffordd y mae Stadiwm y Mileniwm wedi cael ei redeg wedi dangos y gallwn fod cystal â'r gorau.

Rydym ni, fel plaid, wedi bod yn edrych tua'r dyfodol, ac rydym wedi gwneud ymrwymiad yn ein manifesto i wneud cais am gynnal gêm Bêl-droed Americanaidd NFL a chymal o'r Tour de France yn ein gwlad fendigedig. Fel y gŵyr y rhan fwyaf ohonom, mae'r Tour de France yn denu nifer fawr o wylwyr—tua 4 miliwn dros dair wythnos—a bydd yn cael ei ddarlledu'r eang iawn ar y teledu dros oddeutu 129 awr.

Mae'r uned digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr, a sefydlwyd yn 2008, wedi helpu'n aruthrol, ac mae pob un o'r digwyddiadau hyn yn rhoi hwb i'r ysbryd. Pan edrychodd y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant ar wneud y mwyaf o ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr, tynnodd sylw at y ffaith y dylem fod yn gwneud yn llawer gwell. Roedd gwahoddedigion yn cytuno'n gyffredinol bod gan ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr y potensial i hyrwyddo polisi'r Llywodraeth ac i gyflawni amcanion 'Cymru'n Un', ac y gallai strategaeth gan y Llywodraeth fod yn werthfawr. Fodd bynnag, roedd diffyg tystiolaeth amlwg i gefnogi'r farn y byddai digwyddiadau mawr yn effeithio ar bolisi. Cefnogir y farn hon gan arolwg Ewropeaidd diweddar, a ganfu, o holl wledydd Ewrop, mai dim ond yn Latfia yr

find quite astounding.

The production of a co-ordinated and strategic calendar of events, which the committee has recommended and the Government has accepted, would prevent clashes of events. It should also reflect the ambition and ability of our nation to stage these prestigious global events. As the Deputy First Minister knows, the resulting document outlines a series of principles and ideas, but leans heavily towards organisation, taking initiative, and then meeting the criteria set in the events strategy about framework, performance indicators and criteria, to create a systematic, balanced and sustainable portfolio of world-class events that can deliver long-term economic, social and cultural legacy for the people of Wales.

As other Members have mentioned, this is for all of Wales and not just a small corner. As Bethan mentioned, in north Wales, Pwllheli is obviously built for sailing and other Members have noted the many other centres that we should be making more of. Disappointingly, there do not seem to be any specific plans within the document for initiating or promoting bids for named high-profile events. The production of a major events strategy is a start, but I do not think that we have been quick off the blocks. Even though it has been set up since October 2008, apart from the Ryder Cup, I would be interested in what the Minister has to say about what other events have been held and what they will be doing in the near future. I believe that we must have creativity and imagination to secure these major events, because on a global scene, the competition is huge. You have only to look at Beijing and how much it pumped into the recent Olympic Games. The amount of money, effort and energy that goes into these things is quite phenomenal. Therefore, I commend the motion and I am pleased to have spoken briefly. I think that we have to punch much more above our weight. I look forward to the Deputy First Minister's reply.

oedd llai o bobl yn cymryd rhan yn rheolaidd mewn chwaraeon na Chymru, ac mae hynny'n eithaf syfrdanol yn fy marn i.

Byddai cynhyrchu calendr digwyddiadau cydgysylltiedig a strategol, y mae'r pwyllgor wedi'i argymhell ac y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'i dderbyn, yn atal digwyddiadau rhag cael eu trefnu ar yr un pryd. Dylai hefyd adlewyrchu uchelgais a gallu ein gwlad i gynnal digwyddiadau o fri byd-eang fel hyn. Fel y gŵyr y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, mae'r ddogfen sy'n deillio yn amlinellu cyfres o egwyddorion a syniadau, ond mae'n gwyr'n bendant tuag at drefnu, a chymhelliad ar gyfer hynny, ac yna bodloni'r meini prawf a nodir yn y strategaeth digwyddiadau am fframwaith, dangosyddion perfformiad, a meini prawf, i greu portffolio systematig, cytbwys a chynaliadwy o ddiwyddiadau o safon fyd-eang a all ddarparu etifeddiaeth economaidd, gymdeithasol a diwylliannol ar gyfer pobl Cymru am yr hirdymor.

Fel y soniodd yr Aelodau eraill, mae hyn ar gyfer Cymru gyfan ac nid dim ond cornel fach ohoni. Fel y dywedodd Bethan, yn y gogledd, mae tref Pwllheli wedi'i hadeiladu i bwrpas hwylio mae'n amlwg, ac mae Aelodau eraill wedi nodi llawer o ganolfannau eraill y dylem fod yn gwneud defnydd helaethach ohonynt. Mae'n destun siom nad yw'n ymddangos bod unrhyw gynlluniau penodol o fewn y ddogfen ar gyfer cychwyn neu hybu ceisiadau am gynnal digwyddiadau proffil uchel a enwyd. Mae cynhyrchu strategaeth digwyddiadau mawr yn ein rhoi ar ben ffordd, ond ni chredaf ein bod wedi bod yn flaengar yn hyn o beth. Er ei bod wedi cael ei sefydlu ers mis Hydref 2008, ac eithrio Cwpan Ryder, byddai gennyf ddi-ddordeb yn yr hyn fydd gan y Gweinidog i'w ddweud ynghylch pa ddiwyddiadau eraill sydd wedi cael eu cynnal a'r hyn y byddant yn ei wneud yn y dyfodol agos. Credaf fod yn rhaid inni gael creadigrwydd a dychymyg er mwyn croesawu'r digwyddiadau mawr, oherwydd mae'r gystadleuaeth yn enfawr ar lwyfan byd-eang. Nid oes ond rhaid edrych ar Beijing a faint o arian a wariodd ar y Gemau Olympaidd yn ddiweddar. Mae faint o arian, ymdrech ac ynni sy'n angenrheidiol ar gyfer cynnal digwyddiadau fel hyn yn rhyfeddol. Felly, cymeradwyaf y cynnig ac rwy'n falch o fod

wedi siarad yn fyr. Credaf fod yn rhaid bod yn fwy uchelgeisiol yn hyn o beth. Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed ateb y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog.

Darren Millar: I also welcome the opportunity to contribute to this important debate. To be fair, the Assembly Government has taken some serious steps in the right direction with the establishment of the major events unit and with the development of its strategy. However, I think that there is a great deal more that can be done to attract major events into Wales—not just international events, but those that are important within the UK and wider Celtic countries. One of the barriers to having major international sporting events in Wales that is often cited is the state of the international transport links, and I think that the Minister needs to look carefully at how those international transport links, particularly to Cardiff Airport, can be developed further. Perhaps this could be done with Assembly Government support through subsidy, or simply through attracting flight operators into Cardiff—particularly those operating transatlantic routes, which are extremely important. Let us not forget that every time there is a sporting event, people do not only attend those sporting events when they come, they often stay on for holidays. That can be hugely beneficial to the economy, as we saw with the Ryder Cup.

I want to be a little parochial about some of the fantastic facilities in my own constituency, because in north Wales we have some of the best mountain biking in the world. Bethan has already referred to the fact that we ought to be able to hold a mountain bike world cup in Wales. We have some terrific facilities for training and some fantastic mountain biking territory in north and south Wales. As I said, I want to be parochial; the Llandegla forest is a wonderful place to train, and it is already on the map for some people who come from overseas to bike there. I think that we are missing a trick if we are not specifying such events in the major events strategy.

I was impressed with your speech, Bethan,

Darren Millar: Rwyf hefyd yn croesawu'r cyfle i gyfrannu at y ddatl bwysig hon. I fod yn deg, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cymryd rhai camau bras i'r cyfeiriad cywir wrth sefydlu uned ddigwyddiadau mawr a datblygu ei strategaeth. Fodd bynnag, credaf fod llawer iawn mwy y gellir ei wneud i ddenu digwyddiadau mawr, ac nid digwyddiadau rhyngwladol yn unig, i Gymru, ond y rhai sy'n bwysig o fewn y DU a'r gwledydd Celtaidd yn ehangach. Un o'r rhwystrau i gael digwyddiadau chwaraeon rhyngwladol mawr yng Nghymru sy'n cael ei nodi'n aml yw cyflwr y cysylltiadau trafniadaeth rhyngwladol, a chredaf y dylai'r Gweinidog ystyried yn ofalus sut y gellir datblygu cysylltiadau trafniadaeth rhyngwladol ymhellach, yn enwedig i Faes Awyr Caerdydd. Efallai y gellid gwneud hyn gyda chefnogaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad drwy gymhorthdal, neu'n syml drwy ddenu cwmnïau hedfan i Gaerdydd, yn enwedig y rhai sy'n gweithredu llwybrau ar draws Môr yr Iwerydd, sy'n hynod o bwysig. Gadewch inni beidio ag anghofio, bob tro y cynhelir digwyddiad chwaraeon, bydd pobl nid yn unig yn mynychu digwyddiadau chwaraeon pan fyddant yn dod, ond byddant yn aros ar gyfer gwyliau yn aml. Gall hynny fod o fudd mawr i'r economi, fel y gwelsom â Chwpan Ryder.

Rwyf am fod ychydig yn blwyfol am rai o'r cyfleusterau gwych yn fy etholaeth fy hun, oherwydd, yn y gogledd, mae gennym rai o'r cyfleusterau beicio mynydd gorau yn y byd. Mae Bethan wedi cyfeirio eisoes at y ffaith y dylem fod yn gallu cynnal cwpan beicio mynydd y byd yng Nghymru. Mae gennym gyfleusterau gwych ar gyfer hyfforddi a thiriogaeth beicio mynydd gwych yng ngogledd a de Cymru. Fel y dywedais, rwyf am fod yn blwyfol; mae coedwig Llandegla yn lle gwych i hyfforddi, ac mae eisoes ar y map gan rai pobl sy'n dod o dramor i feicio yno. Credaf ein bod yn colli cyfle os nad ydym yn nodi digwyddiadau o'r fath yn y strategaeth digwyddiadau mawr.

Roeddwn yn llawn edmygedd o'ch araith,

and your reference to MTV. I sometimes flick to MTV and then flick off quickly, usually when I am channel hopping. However, I recognise the worth of attracting an event such as that to Wales. Once again, some of our facilities are absolutely fantastic. One facility currently under construction in my constituency is the Parc Eirias development in Colwyn Bay. This is going to be the home of rugby in north Wales, but it will also be a significant facility that could be used for international purposes. Once again, I wish to pay credit where credit is due to the Assembly Government for its investment in that development in partnership with Conwy County Borough Council and the Welsh Rugby Union. It will provide a huge boost to the Colwyn Bay area.

Another sport that people may not be aware I have an interest in is crown green bowling, believe it or not. I am a patron of the Welsh Crown Green Bowling Association. In Rhyl, there are some wonderful facilities for crown green bowling—

Ann Jones *rose*—

Darren Millar: Yes, I will take an intervention. I thought you might want one.

Ann Jones: Thank you for mentioning the Rhyl crown green bowling site. Perhaps I should declare an interest as my husband plays what I call ‘old man’s marbles’, but I must say that I have thrown the bowls across a green myself and can get to 21 quite easily. I am a left-hander, and they do not like left-handed people. Do you agree that we should be looking at all sports and encouraging particularly those sports that are not mentioned very often—such as football and rugby—[*Laughter.*]—into north Wales?

Darren Millar: I agree with you, Ann. Crown green bowling is one of those intergenerational sports that everyone can enjoy and compete in regardless of their age. We have a wonderful facility in Rhyl in north Wales. These events are televised from Rhyl on Sky regularly, and we need to take advantage of that in terms of marketing Rhyl more widely within the United Kingdom and,

Bethan, a’ch cyfeiriad at MTV. Weithiau byddaf yn taro golwg ar MTV ac yna’n gwibio ymlaen drwy’r sianeli. Fodd bynnag, rwy’n cydnabod gwerth denu digwyddiad fel hwnnw i Gymru. Cofiw’n, mae rhai o’n cyfleusterau yn hollol wych. Un cyfleuster sy’n cael ei adeiladu yn fy etholaeth ar hyn o bryd yw datblygiad Parc Eirias ym Mae Colwyn. Bydd hwn yn gartref i rygbi yng ngogledd Cymru, ond bydd hefyd yn gyfleuster sylweddol y gellid ei ddefnyddio at ddibenion rhyngwladol. Unwaith eto, hoffwn roi clod haeddiannol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad am fuddsoddi yn y datblygiad hwn mewn partneriaeth â Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy ac Undeb Rygbi Cymru. Bydd yn rhoi hwb enfawr i ardal Bae Colwyn.

Camp arall nad yw pobl yn gwybod bod gennyf ddiddordeb ynddi efallai yw bowlio lawnt grom cofiwch. Rwy’n noddwr y Gymdeithas Bowlio Lawnt Grom yng Nghymru. Yn y Rhyl, mae rhai cyfleusterau gwych i fowlio lawnt grom—

Ann Jones *a gododd*—

Darren Millar: Ie, derbynïaf ymyriad. Roeddwn i’n meddwl efallai y byddech am ymyrryd.

Ann Jones: Diolch i chi am sôn am y safle bowlio lawnt werdd yn y Rhyl. Efallai y dylwn ddatgan diddordeb gan fod fy ngŵr yn chwarae yr hyn a alwaf yn ‘farblis hen ddyn’, ond mae’n rhaid dweud fy mod innau wedi taflu peli ar draws y lawnt fy hun a gallaf gael sgôr o 21 yn eithaf rhwydd. Llaw chwith wyf fi, ac nid ydynt yn hoffi pobl llaw chwith. A ydych yn cytuno y dylem edrych ar bob math o chwaraeon ac annog y campau hynny na chânt eu crybwyll yn aml iawn yn arbennig—fel pêl-droed a rygbi—[*Chwerthin.*]—i ddod i ogledd Cymru?

Darren Millar: Rwy’n cytuno â chi, Ann. Mae bowlio ar lawnt grom yn un o’r chwaraeon rhyng-genhedlaeth hynny y gall pawb eu mwynhau a chystadlu ynddi, beth bynnag fo’u hoedran. Mae gennym gyfleuster gwych yn y Rhyl yn y gogledd. Mae’r digwyddiadau hyn yn cael eu darlledu o’r Rhyl ar Sky yn rheolaidd, ac mae angen inni fanteisio ar hynny o ran marchnata’r Rhyl yn

indeed, overseas. We have some wonderful facilities already, but I do not think that the Assembly Government pays enough attention to them. In closing, I just wish to say that one of the big problems with the major events unit is the bureaucracy that people are often met with when seeking support for an event in the UK. This was something cited by the Communities and Culture Committee in its report, and I would like to hear in the Deputy First Minister's response how that can be tackled.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Yr wyf yn diolch i bawb sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn y drafodaeth hon heddiw. Fel y dywedwyd gan lefarydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, byddwn yn cefnogi rhan gyntaf y gwelliant, sy'n cyfeirio at y Cwpan Ryder a phrawf cyntaf cyfres y Llundw. Fodd bynnag, teimlwn eu bod wedi culhau rhywfaint ar y cynnig yn yr ail ran. Mae ein gwelliant yn dangos ein bod am edrych yn ehangach ar ddigwyddiadau mawr. Hoffwn egluro rhai o'r oblygiadau ariannol sy'n deillio o'r toriadau i'r cyllidebau refeniw a chyfalaf y Llywodraeth yn y blynyddoedd sydd i ddod.

Fel y mae nifer o Aelodau wedi crybwyll yn barod, yr ydym wedi cael llwyddiant ysgubol yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf o ran denu digwyddiadau mawr i Gymru, er enghraifft, prawf y Llundw yn 2009. Hoffwn hefyd longyfarch Iwerddon heddiw wrth iddynt guro Lloegr yng Nghwpan y Byd. Yr oedd hwn yn fuddugoliaeth nodedig a dylwn ei nodi yn y Cynulliad. Yr ydym wedi gweld Cymru ar y llwyfan rhyngwladol mewn golau newydd, sy'n cadarnhau statws Cymru fel lleoliad ar gyfer digwyddiadau mawr. Yr ydym yn genedl sydd yn edrych tuag allan, ac yn genedl fwy hyderus. Fel y bu i David Melding ddweud yn gynharach, mae hwn yn mynd yn ôl i weledigaeth Undeb Rygbi Cymru, a welodd pwysigrwydd cynnal Cwpan y Byd yma yn 1999. Rhoddodd hwnnw sbardun sylweddol i'r syniad o Gymru fel lleoliad ar gyfer digwyddiadau mawr.

Fel y dywedais, nid ydym yn cefnogi'r ail ran

ehangach o fewn y Deyrnas Unedig ac, yn wir, dramor. Mae gennym gyfleusterau gwych eisoes, ond nid wyf yn credu bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn rhoi digon o sylw iddynt. I gloi, hoffwn ddweud mai un o'r problemau mawr gyda'r uned digwyddiadau mawr yw'r fiwrocratiaeth sy'n aml yn gysylltiedig â gofyn am gefnogaeth wrth geisio cynnal digwyddiad yn y DU. Roedd hwn yn rhywbeth a nodwyd gan y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant yn ei adroddiad, a hoffwn glywed sut y gellir mynd i'r afael â hyn yn ymateb y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog.

The Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I thank everyone who has contributed to today's debate. As the spokesperson for the Welsh Conservatives has already mentioned, we support the first part of the motion, which refers to the Ryder Cup and the Ashes test match. However, we feel that the second part of the motion is a little restrictive. Our amendment shows that we wish to take a broader approach to major events. I would like to explain some of the financial implications of the cuts to the revenue and capital budgets of the Government in the years to come.

As many Members have already said, we have had substantial success in recent years in attracting major sporting events to Wales, such as the Ashes test match in 2009. I would also like to congratulate Ireland today, who beat England in the World Cup. This was a notable success and it should be mentioned in the Assembly. We have seen Wales on the international stage in a new light, which confirms Wales's status as a location for major events. We are a nation that looks outwards and a more confident nation. As David Melding said earlier, this goes back to the vision of the Welsh Rugby Union, which realised the importance of hosting the World Cup here in 1999. This gave a substantial boost to the idea of Wales as a location for major events.

As I have already said, we do not support the

gan ei fod braidd yn gul. Gwelwn ddigwyddiadau mawr o fewn y fframwaith strategol y byddwn yn ei gyhoeddi. Synnais wrth glywed Eleanor yn dweud nad oes gennym blaenraglen. Mae'n amlwg nad ydyw wedi darllen yr hyn a gyhoeddwyd gennym oherwydd yr ydym wedi nodi'n berffaith glir y math o ddigwyddiadau yr ydym am eu denu yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

5.45 p.m.

Yn wyneb y ffaith bod gennym doriadau enfawr mewn gwariant cyhoeddus, yr ydym wedi cynnal y gyllideb ar gyfer digwyddiadau mawr yn sylweddol. A bod yn deg, nid wyf wedi clywed unrhyw un yn ein beirniadu am lefel yr arian a neilltuwyd gennym ar eu cyfer.

Yr ydym hefyd am sicrhau bod yr uned digwyddiadau mawr yn arwain ar gynllun sydd yn llawer mwy cydlynol i ddenu digwyddiadau pwysig i Gymru. Y bwriad wedyn—fel y gofynnodd Eleanor inni ei wneud—yw creu portffolio o ddigwyddiadau sydd yn ehangu apêl Cymru fel lleoliad, nid yn unig fel lleoliad ar gyfer y digwyddiad ei hun, ond fel lleoliad mwy addas ar gyfer buddsoddi mewn busnes ac i ddenu twristiaid. Yn ogystal, bydd yn rhoi fframwaith a fydd yn ein galluogi i gydweithio'n well â'n partneriaid. Y mae arnoch angen partneriaid i sicrhau llwyddiant digwyddiadau mawr. Nid mater i'r Llywodraeth yn unig yw denu digwyddiadau mawr; mae'n rhaid cydweithio â phobl eraill. Byddaf yn egluro maes o law sut yr ydym yn cydweithio i geisio denu'r gystadleuaeth pêldroed Ewropeaidd y cyfeiriodd Oscar ac eraill ati. Wrth gydweithio â phartneriaid, mae'n rhaid sicrhau bod y buddsoddiad wedi'i dargedu'n effeithiol.

Clywsom fod arian yn brin, ond yr ydym wedi cynnal y cyllid ar gyfer digwyddiadau mawr ar lefel sy'n rhoi cymhariaeth deg â'r Alban. Mewn cyfnod o gyni ariannol, credaf y dylem groesawu hynny.

Andrew R.T. Davies: You have touched on working with partners. An organisation that has a first-class facility in mid Wales is the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society. The showground is probably one of the greatest

second part of the motion because it is somewhat restrictive. We see major events within the strategic framework that we will publish. I was surprised to hear Eleanor say that we do not have a forward work plan. She obviously has not read what we have published because we have noted quite clearly the types of events that we would like to attract in years to come.

Given the fact that we are facing huge cuts in public spending, we have maintained the budget for major events to a large extent. To be fair, I have not heard anyone criticise us for the level of funding that we have allocated for major events.

We also want to ensure that the major events unit leads on a scheme that is much more co-ordinated to attract major events to Wales. The aim then—as Eleanor asked us to do—is to create a portfolio of events that will enhance Wales's appeal as a location, not only as a location for the events themselves, but as a more appropriate location for investment in business and to attract tourists. It will also provide a framework that will enable us to work smarter with our partners. You need partners to ensure the success of major events. Attracting major events is not a matter for the Government alone; we have to work with other people. I will explain in a moment how we are working with others to try to attract the European football competition to which Oscar and others referred. In working with partners, we have to ensure that the investment is targeted effectively.

We have heard that money is tight, but we have maintained the funding for major events at a level that compares fairly with Scotland. In a period of financial constraint, I believe that we should welcome that.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Rydych wedi crybwyll gweithio gyda phartneriaid. Sefydliad sydd â chyfleuster o'r radd flaenaf yng nghanolbarth Cymru yw Cymdeithas Amaethyddol Frenhinol Cymru. Mae'n fwy na thebyg mai

examples of investment that a voluntary organisation has undertaken in Wales. Rally GB used it as a pit stop when it was hosting the rally here. How do you work with partners to develop the venues and to promote them as legitimate sources of a nucleus to develop sporting facilities?

The Deputy First Minister: I remember having some discussions with the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society about how we could work with it to develop the facilities there. I think that this has been missed slightly in the debate: we have concentrated on major events, but there are other events in Wales that we need to support, such as the Urdd Eisteddfod, the National Eisteddfod, the Llangollen Eisteddfod, the Royal Welsh Show and other musical events that are perhaps not seen as major events, but are key events in order to attract people to Wales. Your point about the Royal Welsh showground is a case in point. If we can work with organisations like the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, we can make a strong case to use the facilities that are all-year facilities in a much more coherent way, and to make them available for events throughout the year. Therefore, I welcome the intervention that you made.

Bydd y gyllideb a osodwyd gennym yn caniatáu inni gefnogi nifer o ddigwyddiadau a bydd yn ein rhoi mewn sefyllfa i drafod hyn â phartneriaid. Yn yr un modd â nifer o siaradwyr, yr wyf hefyd yn cydnabod y ffaith ei bod yn helpu i ddatblygu'r sector creadigol yng Nghymru ac yn cefnogi'r agenda sgiliau. Mae'n rhaid i bob digwyddiad sydd yn gofyn am gyllid gael ei asesu yn erbyn meini prawf sydd yn unol ag agenda 'Cymru'n Un'. Soniodd Bethan, Darren ac eraill am y ffaith bod angen inni ddenu digwyddiadau mawr, nid yn unig i Gaerdydd ond i rannau eraill o Gymru. Credaf y bydd hynny'n rhan o'n hapêl yn y dyfodol, y gallwn ddenu digwyddiadau mawr ar hyd a lled Cymru. Er enghraifft, gellid defnyddio Pwllheli ar gyfer hwylio ac ati. Credaf y derbyniwn hyn oll.

maes y sioe yw un o'r enghreifftiau mwyaf o fuddsoddiad gan sefydliad gwirfoddol yng Nghymru. Defnyddiodd Rali GB hwn fel man aros pan gynhaliwyd y rali yma. Sut ddylid gweithio gyda phartneriaid i ddatblygu lleoliadau ac i'w hyrwyddo fel ffynonellau posibl ar gyfer datblygu cyfleusterau chwaraeon?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Cofiaf gael trafodaethau gyda Chymdeithas Amaethyddol Frenhinol Cymru ynghylch sut y gallem weithio gyda hi i ddatblygu'r cyfleusterau yno. Credaf fod hyn wedi cael ei golli ychydig yn ystod y ddadl: rydym wedi canolbwyntio ar ddigwyddiadau mawr, ond mae digwyddiadau eraill yng Nghymru y mae angen i ni eu cefnogi, megis Eisteddfod yr Urdd, yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, Eisteddfod Llangollen, Sioe Frenhinol Cymru a digwyddiadau cerddorol nad ydynt efallai yn cael eu gweld fel digwyddiadau mawr, ond sy'n ddigwyddiadau allweddol er mwyn denu pobl i Gymru. Mae eich pwynt am faes Sioe Frenhinol Cymru yn enghraifft o hyn. Os gallwn weithio gyda sefydliadau megis Cymdeithas Amaethyddol Frenhinol Cymru, gallwn lunio achos cryf dros ddefnyddio'r cyfleusterau, sy'n gyfleusterau y gellir eu defnyddio drwy gydol y flwyddyn, mewn ffordd llawer mwy cydlynol, ac i wneud yn siŵr eu bod ar gael ar gyfer digwyddiadau drwy gydol y flwyddyn. Felly, rwy'n croesawu'ch ymyriad.

The budget that we have set will enable us to support many events and it will put us in a position to discuss this with our partners. I acknowledge the fact, as have many other speakers, that it will help to develop the creative sector in Wales and will support the skills agenda. Every event that asks for funding has to be assessed against criteria that are consistent with the 'One Wales' agenda. Bethan, Darren and others mentioned the fact that we need to attract major events not only to Cardiff, but to other parts of Wales. I think that that will be part of our appeal in future, that we will be able to attract major events across Wales. For example, Pwllheli could be used for sailing and so on. I think that we accept all that.

Un o'r ffactorau allweddol yw effaith y digwyddiad ei hun, a'r gwaddol y gadewir yn dilyn y digwyddiad. Credaf ein bod oll yn cytuno ar hynny.

One of the key factors is the impact of the event itself and the legacy that is left after the event. I think that we would all agree on that.

Dychwelaf at y digwyddiadau mawr cyn y diwedd, os bydd amser. Serch hynny, ceir hefyd yr hyn a elwir yn ddigwyddiadau twf ac enghraifft o hynny yw hanner marathon Caerdydd. Ar hynny, yr ydym wedi cydweithio â Barnardo's Cymru, Cyngor Caerdydd ac Athletau Cymru i godi statws y marathon ar gyfer 2011 ar ôl i 15,000 o bobl gymryd rhan yn 2010. Cyfeiriais at ddigwyddiadau eraill o bwys, fel yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, sioe Llanelwedd, Eisteddfod Llangollen a nifer o ddigwyddiadau celfyddydol eraill hefyd.

I will return to the major events before the end of my speech, if I have enough time. Despite that, there are also events that are known as growth events, for example, the Cardiff half marathon. On that, we have worked with Barnardo's Cymru, Cardiff Council and Welsh Athletics to raise the status of the marathon for 2011 after 15,000 people took part in 2010. I have referred to other important events, such as the National Eisteddfod, the Royal Welsh Show, the Llangollen Eisteddfod and many other cultural events.

Gofynnodd Eleanor beth yr ydym yn ei wneud yn rhyngwladol. Yr ydym eisoes wedi cyhoeddi ein bod wedi llwyddo i ddenu Cwpan y Byd Rygbi'r Gynghrair ar y cyd â Lloegr yn 2013, yn dilyn llwyddiant ysgubol y penwythnos hwnnw o rygbi'r gynghrair yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm. Yr oeddwn yn falch fod y tîm o Gymru wedi ennill ei fuddugoliaeth yn y fan honno, er nad ydyw wedi ennill fawr ers hynny yn anffodus. Yr ydym yn dymuno pob llwyddiant iddynt yn y flwyddyn a'r tymor sydd i ddod.

Eleanor asked what we are doing internationally. We have already announced that we have succeeded in attracting the Rugby League World Cup, jointly with England, for 2013, following the sweeping success of that rugby league weekend in the Millennium Stadium. I was glad that the team from Wales was victorious in the stadium, even though it has not won much since then unfortunately. We wish them every success in the year and season that are to come.

Yr wyf yn sylweddoli fod fy amser wedi mynd, ond yr wyf am gyfeirio at y posibilrwydd o gynnal rownd derfynol Cynghrair Pencampwyr UEFA. Y rheswm nad ydym wedi llwyddo i ddenu'r rownd derfynol yn y gorffennol yw bod y canllawiau a osodwyd yn ei gwneud yn anodd i Stadiwm y Mileniwm i'w chynnal. Erbyn hyn, mae'r canllawiau wedi newid ac yr ydym mewn sefyllfa lle yr ydym yn gallu gwneud cais i'w chynnal. Gallaf eich sicrhau fy mod wedi cael cyfarfodydd gyda chynrychiolwyr UEFA yn ystod Cwpan Ryder, ac yr oeddynt yn hynod o bositif ynglŷn â Chaerdydd. Gyda chefnogaeth bob plaid yn y Cynulliad, gobeithiaf y gallwn fynd yn ôl at UEFA gan ddweud fod parodrwydd i gydweithio.

I realise that my time is coming to an end, but I want to refer to the possibility of hosting the final of the UEFA Champions League. The reason that we have not succeeded in attracting the final in the past is that the criteria that had been set made it difficult for the Millennium Stadium to host it. By now, the criteria have changed and we are in a position to apply to host it. I can assure you that I have had meetings with UEFA representatives during the Ryder Cup, and they were extremely positive about Cardiff. With the support of every party in the Assembly, I hope to be able to go back to UEFA and say that there is a willingness to co-operate.

O ran Gemau'r Gymanwlad, mae'r Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth, Alun Ffred Jones, wedi gofyn i Gyngor Caerdydd baratoi papur sgopio ar y posibilrwydd o wneud cais

On the Commonwealth Games, the Minister for Heritage, Alun Ffred Jones, has asked Cardiff Council to prepare a scoping paper on the possibility of Wales applying in future to

yn y dyfodol i Gymru gael Gemau'r Gymanwlad. Mae llawer o ffordd i fynd a dyna pam nid ydwyf am roi'r addewid hwnnw heddiw. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn gobeithio y gallwn o leiaf baratoi'r ffordd i weld a oes achos teilwng i wneud y cais hwnnw.

William Graham: This has been a reasonably consensual debate, and all parties that have spoken have emphasised the need for Wales to build on existing successes. I pay tribute to the coalition Government for maintaining the budget for major sporting events because it is extremely important for Wales for the future, as tourism is such a vital part of our income, that we should try to attract as many sporting events as possible.

David Melding kindly reminded us of some past glories and said that they were trend-setters for Wales, and were a definite boost to confidence.

Bethan Jenkins placed an emphasis on the north of the country, which is important with regard to sailing, and her comments about MTV are particularly noted. Sailing is a worthwhile event and it can pass through many parts of our country, both north and south. We should look at this on an all-Wales scale.

Paul Davies reminded us of the necessity of partnership working for all of these events and of the need to bring local government on board, not just the voluntary bodies. Eleanor Burnham also reminded us that we must have the necessary vision, and that we should have tangible goals for all of Wales.

Darren also reminded us of the necessity of vitally important transport links. He mentioned Cardiff Airport in particular and I would add to that, as the Deputy First Minister well knows, the M4. It is hoped that the improvements that he is presently proposing will have a definite benefit.

The Deputy First Minister touched in

host the Commonwealth Games. There is a long way to go and that is why I do not wish to make that commitment today. However, we hope that we can at least prepare the way to see whether there is a reasonable case to make that bid.

William Graham: Bu hon yn drafodaeth eithaf gydsyniol, ac mae pob plaid sydd wedi siarad wedi pwysleisio mor bwysig yw bod Cymru'n datblygu ei llwyddiannau presennol. Rhaid imi dalu teyrnged i'r Llywodraeth glymblaid am gynnal y gyllideb ar gyfer digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr gan ei bod yn hynod bwysig i Gymru ar gyfer y dyfodol, fel y mae twristiaeth yn rhan mor hanfodol o'n hincwm, felly dylem geisio denu cymaint o ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon ag y bo modd.

Atgoffodd David Melding ni, yn garedig, am rai o ogoniannau'r gorffennol a dywedodd eu bod yn gosod y duedd ar gyfer Cymru, ac yn hwb pendant i hyder.

Rhoddodd Bethan Jenkins bwyslais ar y gogledd, sy'n bwysig o ran hwylio, a nodwyd ei sylwadau am MTV yn arbennig. Mae hwylio'n weithgaredd gwerth chweil a gall symud drwy sawl rhan o'n gwlad, o'r gogledd i'r de. Dylem edrych ar hyn ar raddfa Cymru gyfan.

Atgoffodd Paul Davies ni am yr angen i weithio mewn partneriaeth ar gyfer pob un o'r digwyddiadau hyn ac o'r angen i gynnwys llywodraeth leol, ac nid dim ond y cyrff gwirfoddol. Roedd Eleanor Burnham hithau'n ein hatgoffa bod yn rhaid inni gael y weledigaeth angenrheidiol, ac y dylem gael nodau pendant ar gyfer Cymru gyfan.

Roedd Darren hefyd yn ein hatgoffa bod angen cysylltiadau trafniadaeth hanfodol bwysig. Soniodd am Faes Awyr Caerdydd yn benodol, a byddwn yn ychwanegu'r M4 at hyn, fel y gŵyr y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn dda. Y gobaith yw y bydd y gwelliannau y mae'n eu cynnig ar hyn o bryd yn dod â budd pendant.

Cyfeiriodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog at ein

particular on homegrown successes and those that he mentioned were certainly successful. It is important that we look to the future because, in the past, the Celtic Manor has staged the Wales Open golf event that contributed £1.5 million to the economy, with £700,000 being spent onsite and a similar amount spent offsite in surrounding hotels, restaurants and other businesses. It is too early to judge what the Ryder Cup has meant in terms of cash spend in the area, because the statistics will not be available until later this month. However, it demonstrates the possible benefit just to Newport of holding the tournament and, in 15 years, it may well produce a direct spend of over £20 million.

What makes encouraging reading in the economic impact study provided by IMF Sports Marketing surveys on the Wales Open golf event is that almost half of the spectators were repeat visitors to the tournament and that a further 10,000 spectators followed after recommendations made by others who had attended previously. It seems to be the trend that when we host events successfully in Wales, they can occur again with an even better number of people attending. Therefore, there are clearly considerations regarding the ability of the existing transport infrastructure to accommodate major events.

The First Minister's recent statement about attracting the Champions League final to Cardiff is a most ambitious goal, but should not obscure other exciting events that could potentially come to Wales. The cycling Tour of Britain takes in a route between Newtown and Swansea this year, having previously been successfully held on roads in Monmouthshire and Newport, perhaps paving the way for staging a stage of the Tour de France. Representatives of the National Football League said that:

'The Millennium Stadium is definitely a possibility. It's a great stadium and has a fantastic reputation'.

llwyddiannau cynhenid yn arbennig ac mae'r rhai y cyfeiriodd atynt yn sicr yn llwyddiannus. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn edrych tua'r dyfodol oherwydd, yn y gorffennol, y Celtic Manor a gynhaliodd gystadleuaeth Golff Agored Cymru a gyfrannodd £1.5 miliwn i'r economi, gyda £700,000 yn cael ei wario yn y safle a swm tebyg yn cael ei wario oddi ar y safle mewn gwystai, bwytai a busnesau eraill cyfagos. Mae'n rhy gynnar i fedru dweud beth oedd cystadleuaeth y Cwpan Ryder wedi'i olygu o ran gwariant arian parod yn yr ardal, oherwydd ni fydd yr ystadegau ar gael tan yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae'n dangos y budd posibl, i Gasnewydd yn unig, o gynnal y twrnamaint ac, mewn 15 mlynedd, mae'n gwbl bosibl y bydd yn creu gwariant uniongyrchol o dros £20 miliwn.

Yr hyn sy'n ddiddorol i'w ddarllen yn yr astudiaeth o effaith economaidd cystadleuaeth Golff Agored Cymru, a ddarparwyd gan arolygon Marchnata Chwaraeon IMF, yw bod bron hanner y gwylwyr yn ymwelwyr â'r twrnamaint am yr eildro, a bod 10,000 ychwanegol o wylwyr yn dod ar ôl cael argymhellion gan bobl eraill a fu yno yn y gorffennol. Mae'n ymddangos mai'r duedd yw, pan fyddwn yn cynnal digwyddiadau'n llwyddiannus yng Nghymru, y gallant ddigwydd eto gyda mwy fyth o bobl yn dod. Felly, mae'n amlwg bod ystyriaethau ynglŷn â gallu'r seilwaith trafniadaeth presennol i hwyluso digwyddiadau mawr.

Roedd datganiad y Prif Weinidog yn ddiweddar ynghylch denu gêm derfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr i Gaerdydd yn nod uchelgeisiol dros ben, ond ni ddylai gysgodi digwyddiadau cyffrous eraill a allai ddod i Gymru. Mae Taith Feicio Prydain yn teithio rhwng y Drenewydd ac Abertawe eleni, ar ôl cael ei chynnal yn llwyddiannus ar y ffyrdd rhwng Sir Fynwy a Chasnewydd yn y gorffennol, sydd efallai'n paratoi'r ffordd ar gyfer llwyfannu cymal o'r Tour de France. Dywedodd cynrychiolwyr o'r Gynghrair Bêldroed Genedlaethol:

'Mae Stadiwm y Mileniwm yn bendant yn bosibilrwydd. Mae'n stadiwm wych ac mae ganddi enw da iawn'.

That was in 2009 when discussing the prospect of staging an American football match in the city. Events such as the FEI World Equestrian Games also merit consideration. Many of us have had an opportunity to take a taxi from Paddington. I inevitably find that I have a football supporter as a driver and they always say how wonderful it was that you could emerge from the station in Cardiff and walk to the stadium. We must promote that time and again.

I am sorry that Ann Jones looks as if she has jeopardised the vote of the bowling enthusiasts in her constituency. It is to be hoped that today's debate will help us to focus on those events that we want to bring to Wales. I am sure that the Deputy First Minister will discuss this with his Cabinet colleagues to see that they take every possible opportunity through Visit Wales to bring in excellent events that demonstrate our capability and our success.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is that the motion be agreed without amendment. Is there any objection? I see that there is. Therefore, all voting on this item will be deferred until voting time.

*Gohiriwyd y pleidleisiau tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.
Votes deferred until voting time.*

Dadl Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate

Yr Economi The Economy

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jane Hutt and amendments 2 and 3 in the name of Nick Ramsay. If amendment 1 is agreed, amendment 2 will be deselected.

Cynnig NDM4675 Peter Black

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn gresynu nad yw strategaeth economaidd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ddigon i ddatblygu twf economaidd tymor

2009 oedd hi bryd hynny pan drafodwyd y posibilrwydd o lwyfannu gêm bêl-droed Americanaidd yn y ddinas. Mae digwyddiadau fel Gêmau Marchogaeth SAB y Byd hefyd yn haeddu eu hystyried. Mae llawer ohonom wedi cael y cyfle o gael tacsï o Paddington. Yn anochel, byddaf yn canfod fod fy ngyrrwr tacsï'n gefnogwr pêl-droed ac maent bob amser yn dweud pa mor wych yw bod pobl yn gallu dod allan o'r orsaf yng Nghaerdydd a cherdded i'r stadiwm. Rhaid i ni hyrwyddo hynny dro ar ôl tro.

Mae'n ddrwg gennyf ei bod yn ymddangos bod Ann Jones fel pe bai hi wedi peryglu pleidlais y selogion bowlio yn ei hetholaeth. Y gobaith yw y bydd y ddadl heddiw yn ein helpu i ganolbwyntio ar y digwyddiadau yr ydym am iddynt ddod i Gymru. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn trafod hyn gyda'i gydweithwyr yn y Cabinet i sicrhau eu bod yn manteisio ar bob cyfle posibl, drwy Croeso Cymru, i ddod â digwyddiadau ardderchog yma, sy'n dangos ein gallu a'n llwyddiant.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw bod y cynnig yn cael ei dderbyn heb ei ddiwygio. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, bydd pob pleidlais ar yr eitem hon yn cael ei gohirio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jane Hutt a gwelliannau 2 a 3 yn enw Nick Ramsay. Os derbynnir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliant 2 yn cael ei ddad-dethol.

Motion NDM4675 Peter Black

The National Assembly for Wales:

1. Regrets that the Welsh Assembly Government's economic strategy is not adequate for developing long-term economic

hir.

2. *Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i:*

a) *Cynnig grantiau hyfforddi i gyflogwyr er mwyn cyflogi pobl ifanc ddi-waith neu bobl sydd wedi bod yn ddi-waith am dros flwyddyn;*

b) *Sefydlu rhaglen Swyddi, Twf ac Arloesedd i gefnogi prosiectau a fydd yn creu swyddi drwy foderneiddio'r economi;*

c) *Datblygu Cyfnewidfa Stoc Cymru er mwyn galluogi busnesau Cymru i gael gafael ar gyfalaf.*

Jenny Randerson: I move the motion.

Last week, we heard that Wales may yet again qualify for the next round of European funding. Labour and Plaid, I noticed, called it,

‘an ironic mix of good and bad news’.

To me, it seemed unalloyed bad news because nothing can disguise how embarrassing and difficult it is for Wales as a whole that we will still qualify for European funding, even after the former Soviet bloc countries have joined the European Union. It is surely a matter of great distress to all of us in Wales who care about the prosperity of our country.

Wales's productivity relative to the rest of the UK is raised here frequently. Our economy stands at around 74 per cent of the UK average, and we are the lowest out of all the regions and nations of the UK. The latest comparative figures from Europe show that Wales's economy's gross value added is 85 per cent of the EU average, and in west Wales and the Valleys, it is just 71 per cent of the EU average, putting parts of Wales on a par with parts of Hungary, Romania and Poland.

David Lloyd *rose*—

growth.

2. *Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to:*

a) *Offer training grants for employers to take on unemployed young people or people who have been out of work for more than a year;*

b) *Establish a Jobs, Growth and Innovation programme to support projects that will create jobs by modernising the economy;*

c) *Develop a Welsh Stock Exchange to provide Welsh businesses with access to capital.*

Jenny Randerson: Cynigiad y cynnig.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, clywsom y gall Cymru unwaith eto fod yn gymwys ar gyfer y cylch nesaf o gyllid Ewropeaidd. Roedd y blaid Lafur a Phlaid Cymru, sylwais, yn ei alw'n,

‘Gymysgedd eironig o newyddion da a drwg’.

I mi, roedd yn newyddion drwg heb amheuaeth, oherwydd nid oes dim a all guddio pa mor chwithig ac anodd yw hi i Gymru gyfan, y byddwn yn dal yn gymwys ar gyfer arian Ewropeaidd, hyd yn oed ar ôl i wledydd y bloc Sofietaidd gynt ymuno â'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Mae'n sicr yn fater o ofid mawr i bob un ohonom yng Nghymru sy'n pryderu am ffyniant ein gwlad.

Caiff gallu Cymru i gynhyrchu ei gymharu â gweddill y DU ei godi'n aml yma. Mae ein heconomi oddeutu 74 y cant o economi'r DU ar gyfartaledd, a ni yw'r isaf o holl ranbarthau a chenhedloedd y DU. Mae'r ffigurau cymharol diweddaraf o Ewrop yn dangos bod gwerth economi Cymru o ran gwerth ychwanegol crynswth 85 y cant o gyfartaledd yr UE, ac yn y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, 71 y cant yn unig o gyfartaledd yr UE ydyw, sy'n golygu bod rhannau o Gymru yn gyfartal â rhannau o Hwngari, Romania a Gwlad Pwyl.

David Lloyd *a gododd*—

Jenny Randerson: No, I am not giving away at this moment; I must have time to develop at least the beginnings of my ideas. It is clear that the Labour-Plaid approach to the economy has not worked. These problems are not new. They are not the result of the recent banking and economic crisis, as Welsh Ministers continually tell us. The economic crisis hit all the countries of Europe and we are therefore still in the same relative position as we were before that crisis.

Jenny Randerson: Na, nid wyf am ildio fy amser ar hyn o bryd; mae'n rhaid imi gael amser i blannu dechreuadau fy syniadau o leiaf. Mae'n amlwg nad yw dull gweithredu Llafur-Plaid o ran yr economi wedi gweithio. Nid problemau newydd yw'r rhain. Nid canlyniad yr argyfwng bancio a'r argyfwng economaidd diweddar mohonynt, fel y dywed Gweinidogion Cymru wrthym yn barhaus. Tarodd yr argyfwng economaidd holl wledydd Ewrop ac felly rydym yn dal yn yr un sefyllfa gymharol ag yr oeddem cyn yr argyfwng hwnnw.

Carwyn Jones said yesterday that he was not concerned about the state of Wales's gross domestic product compared with other countries. He cited disposable income as a more accurate measurement of economic success. However, individual spending power does not reflect the underlying strength or weakness of the economy accurately. GDP or GVA measure the strength of economic output rather than our spending power, which can be artificially increased or decreased. It can be increased by borrowing, for example. It worries me that, when we criticise the record of the Assembly Government, it tends to say, 'Oh, we don't like that measure, we'll use a different one instead'. However, the uncomfortable truth is that the world accepts GVA and we need to work on that basis. I heard Rhodri Morgan arguing yesterday that if you changed the basis on which it was counted from where you lived to where you worked it might make a difference.

Dywedodd Carwyn Jones ddoe nad oedd yn bryderus am gyflwr cynnyrch domestig crynswth Cymru o gymharu â gwledydd eraill. Cyfeiriodd at incwm y gellir ei wario fel mesur mwy cywir o lwyddiant economaidd. Ond, nid yw grym gwario unigol yn adlewyrchu cryfder neu wendid sylfaenol yr economi'n gywir. Bydd cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth neu werth ychwanegol crynswth yn mesur cryfder cynnyrch economaidd yn hytrach na'n grym gwario ni, y gellir ei gynyddu neu ei ostwng mewn modd artiffisial. Gellir ei gynyddu drwy fentyca, er enghraifft. Mae'n fy mhoeni, pan fyddwn yn beirniadu hanes Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ei bod yn tueddu i ddweud, 'O, nid ydym yn hoffi'r mesur hwn, defnyddiwn un arall yn ei le'. Fodd bynnag, y gwir anghyfforddus yw bod y byd yn derbyn gwerth ychwanegol crynswth a rhaid i ni weithio ar y sail honno. Clywais Rhodri Morgan yn dadlau ddoe pe byddech yn newid y sail y cafodd ei gyfrif o'r lle yr ydych yn byw i'r man lle'r ydych yn gweithio efallai y byddai'n gwneud gwahaniaeth.

6.00 p.m.

However, all of this is really a case of moving the deckchairs around the Titanic. You desperately need to get to grips with the economy as it really is rather than as you would like it to be, or how you would like to present it as being. We believe that this Government's approach to the economy has been slow and reactive. It started badly, as the 'One Wales' agreement did not set out a coherent approach to the economy, and the Government has proved itself unable to cope with the series of adverse events that have occurred in the last few years. Put simply, the

Fodd bynnag, mater o beidio edrych ar y darlun mawr yw hwn. Mae gwir angen i chi fynd i'r afael â'r economi gan ei fod fel y mae, yn hytrach nag fel y byddech am iddo fod, neu sut rydych yn dymuno ei bortredu. Credwn fod dull y Llywodraeth o fynd i'r afael â'r economi wedi bod yn araf ac yn adweitheddol. Dechreuodd pethau'n wael, gan nad oedd 'Cymru'n Un' yn nodi dull cydlynol o fynd i'r afael â'r economi, ac mae'r Llywodraeth wedi profi na allodd ymdopi â chyfres o ddiwyddiadau niweidiol dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Yn syml, ni

policy has not been fit for purpose; sometimes, there has been no policy at all.

We welcomed ProAct and ReAct when the Government introduced them, but they were not intended to be tools for economic growth. They were designed in response to job losses caused by the credit crunch—they were an emergency response, not a long-term approach to economic growth. They were not part of Labour and Plaid's vision for the economy, but a response to external pressure. The other big achievement that the Government points to in its amendment is the economic renewal programme. I support this perfectly good programme, but the problem is that it came three-and-a-half years into the Government's term of office. Only the week before last, the Enterprise and Learning Committee scrutinised the Deputy First Minister on the fact that aspects of the programme are still on the runway, and have not even started to take off. As a policy, it is not flying, and has not yet had an impact on our economy. As far as it goes, it is a perfectly good document, but it lacks detail, targets and precision. I cannot see how it can have taken three-and-a-half years to write, as I think that most people could have written it in three-and-a-half weeks.

The manufacturing strategy was promised in the 'One Wales' agreement. That promise was repeated in Carwyn Jones's manifesto when he stood to become leader of the Labour Party, but it still has not materialised. On at least two occasions, the Government has even voted against publishing a strategy, despite the fact that this is one of its pledges. We are told that the strategy has been in draft form since 2008, but we have nothing to show for it. Last year, the First Minister announced that the strategy would be published before the purdah period; that clearly does not allow any time for scrutiny or consultation, or for the public to contribute, and it certainly does not allow any time for the strategy to have an impact and start to make a difference.

It is clear that any new Government will have to start the new term with a fresh vision for the economy. Our proposals are for an

fu'r polisi yn addas i'r diben; weithiau, ni fu unrhyw bolisi o gwbl.

Roeddem yn croesawu ProAct a ReAct pan gyflwynwyd hwy gan y Llywodraeth, ond nid eu bwriad oedd i fod yn arfau ar gyfer twf economaidd. Cynlluniwyd hwy i ymateb i golli swyddi a oedd yn deillio o'r wasgfa gredyd—ymateb i argyfwng oeddent nid dull hirdymor o ymdrin â thwf economaidd. Nid oeddent yn rhan o weledigaeth y Blaid Lafur a Phlaid Cymru ar gyfer yr economi, ond ymateb i bwysau allanol. Y gamp fawr arall y cyfeiria'r Llywodraeth ati yw ei bod wedi gwella rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi. Rwy'n cefnogi'r rhaglen dda hon, ond y broblem yw ei bod wedi'i chyflwyno dair blynedd a hanner trwy dymor y Llywodraeth. Dim ond yr wythnos cyn diwethaf, bu'r Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu'n craffu ar waith y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ynghylch y ffaith bod agweddau ar y rhaglen nad ydynt hyd yn oed wedi dechrau cael eu rhoi ar waith. Fel polisi, nid yw'n gweithio, ac nid yw wedi cael unrhyw effaith hyd yma ar ein heconomi. Fel y mae, mae'n ddogfen digon da, ond nid oes digon o fanylion na thargedau ynddi. Nid wyf yn deall sut mae wedi cymryd tair blynedd a hanner i'w hysgrifennu, oherwydd gallai'r rhan fwyaf o bobl fod wedi'i hysgrifennu mewn tair wythnos a hanner.

Addawyd y strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu yn 'Cymru'n Un'. Ailadroddwyd yr addewid hwnnw ym maniffesto Carwyn Jones pan safodd i ddod yn arweinydd y Blaid Lafur, ond nid yw wedi'i wireddu eto. Ar o leiaf ddau achlysur, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn cyhoeddi strategaeth hyd yn oed, serch y ffaith bod hyn yn un o'i addewidion. Dywedir wrthym bod y strategaeth wedi bod ar ffurf drafft ers 2008, ond ni welsom ddim. Y llynedd, cyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog y byddai'r strategaeth yn cael ei chyhoeddi cyn y cyfnod purdah; yn amlwg nid yw hynny'n caniatáu amser i graffu nag ymgynghori arni, nac yn rhoi cyfle i'r cyhoedd gyfrannu ati, ac yn sicr nid yw'n caniatáu amser i'r strategaeth gael unrhyw effaith nag i ddechrau gwneud unrhyw wahaniaeth.

Mae'n amlwg y bydd angen i unrhyw Lywodraeth newydd gychwyn y tymor newydd gyda gweledigaeth newydd ar gyfer

economy that is built on a strong private sector, which has to be the driver of future economic growth. We have had four years of state socialism and centralism under the Labour-Plaid Government, and by any measure, it has not worked.

David Lloyd *rose*—

Jenny Randerson: I am happy to give way to you, because I have now had a chance to speak.

David Lloyd: My initial intervention was to have been targeted at your quotation of the GVA figures for west Wales. In light of those so-called 'bad' figures for west Wales, do you regret the decision not to electrify the railway to Swansea?

Jenny Randerson: You know very well that I said that I regret that decision, because I think that it would be logical to electrify the whole line in one go. However, the fact that there will be electrification to Wales will help all parts of Wales, and it is crucial that we embrace that. We may be working behind the scenes and publicly to get full electrification to Swansea, but the important thing is that we build on the electrification that we have. Swansea will be 20 minutes nearer to London, and that is important, and has to be used as a plus to encourage investment in Swansea. If you go around presenting it as bad news you will put businesses off, and we have to attract businesses into Wales. We have to be our own ambassadors, Dai.

Another proposal that we have put forward, which I first put forward 18 months ago, is for the establishment of a Welsh stock exchange. That would be a source of funding for smaller businesses, if not the smallest ones, which cannot register with the London stock exchange, but which would attract investment, particularly from people living in Wales. I would add that there should be investment from, for example, pension funds in those sorts of businesses in Wales. I put

yr economi. Ein cynigion ni yw economi a seiliwyd ar sector preifat cryf, a fydd yn ysgogi twf economaidd yn y dyfodol. Cawsom bedair blynedd o wladwriaeth sosialaidd a chanoliaeth o dan y Llywodraeth Lafur-Plaid Cymru, ac nid yw wedi gweithio, pa bynnag ffordd yr edrychwn ar y sefyllfa.

David Lloyd *a gododd*—

Jenny Randerson: Rwy'n fodlon ildio i chi, oherwydd rwyf wedi cael cyfle i siarad bellach.

David Lloyd: Roedd fy ymyriad cychwynnol ynghylch y ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth ar gyfer gorllewin Cymru yr oeddech yn eu dyfynnu. Yng ngoleuni'r hyn a elwir yn ffigurau 'gwael' ar gyfer y gorllewin, a ydych yn gresynu at y penderfyniad i beidio â thrydaneiddio'r rheilffordd i Abertawe?

Jenny Randerson: Gwyddoch yn dda i mi ddweud fy mod yn gresynu am y penderfyniad hwnnw, oherwydd byddai'n rhesymegol i drydaneiddio'r llinell gyfan ar yr un pryd. Fodd bynnag, y ffaith amdani yw y bydd trydaneiddio yng Nghymru yn helpu pob rhan o Gymru, ac mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn croesawu hynny. Efallai y byddwn yn gweithio y tu ôl i'r llenni ac yn gyhoeddus i sicrhau y caiff y llinellau i Abertawe eu trydaneiddio'n llwyr, ond y peth pwysig yw ein bod yn datblygu'r gwaith trydaneiddio a wnaed eisoes. Bydd Abertawe ugain munud yn nes at Lundain, ac mae hynny'n bwysig, ac mae'n rhaid ei ddefnyddio er mwyn annog rhagor o fuddsoddi yn Abertawe. Os byddwch yn ei gyflwyno fel newydd drwg, ni fydd hyn yn galonddid i fusnesau, ac mae'n rhaid i ni ddenu busnesau i Gymru. Rhaid i ni fod yn llysgenhadon ein hunain, Dai.

Cynnig arall a gyflwynwyd gennym, ac a gyflwynais gyntaf 18 mis yn ôl, yw sefydlu cyfnewidfa stoc Cymru. Byddai honno'n ffynhonnell o arian i fusnesau llai, os nad y rhai lleiaf, nad oes modd iddynt gofrestru gyda'r farchnad stoc yn Llundain, ond a fyddai'n denu buddsoddiad, yn enwedig gan bobl sy'n byw yng Nghymru. Hoffwn ychwanegu y dylid cael buddsoddiad gan, er enghraifft, gronfeydd pensiwn yn y mathau hynny o fusnesau yng Nghymru. Cyflwynais

forward that idea 18 months ago, and it was greeted warmly by the Deputy First Minister, and the First Minister has repeated that it is something that the Government is looking at, but there has been no progress. We have had a credit crunch, come out the other side, and we are in the next phase of the economy now, and still there is no action. It is typical of this Government that it is taking so long.

Finally, we believe that our economy has to be based on innovation, research and development, the registration of patents and the development of new spin-off companies in the private sector. We have to develop our skills base and improve our training, and we are putting forward proposals for this to turn our economy round.

Gwelliant 1 Jane Hutt

Dilëwch y cyfan a rhoi yn ei le:

Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

1. Yn croesawu Adnewyddu'r Economi: cyfeiriad newydd sy'n dangos cyfeiriad newydd radical ar gyfer darparu'r amgylchedd iawn ar gyfer twf economaidd, arloesi a swyddi cynaliadwy tymor hir.

2. Yn nodi:

a) Bod y rhaglen ReACT wedi esgor ar 17,467 o leoliadau hyfforddi i weithwyr sydd newydd gollu eu swyddi yng Nghymru, bod tros 1,000 o bobl ifanc wedi cael prentisiaethau o dan y Rhaglen Recriwtiaid Newydd a bod 2,000 o leoliadau eraill wedi'u creu yn sgil y Rhaglen Llwybrau at Brentisiaethau;

b) Yr ymrwymiad o dan Adnewyddu'r Economi i fuddsoddi mewn seilwaith sy'n addas ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif, fel band eand cyflym a thrafnidiaeth gyhoeddus gynaliadwy, i symbylu twf yr economi a swyddi;

c) Gwaith parhaus Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i chwilio am opsiynau i gynyddu cyfalaf twf ar gyfer busnesau yng Nghymru, a chyhoeddi'r Strategaeth Weithgynhyrchu yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn.

y syniad hwn 18 mis yn ôl, a chafodd groeso cynnes gan y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, ac mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi ailadrodd ei fod yn rhywbeth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn edrych arno, ond ni fu unrhyw gynnydd. Rydym wedi cael gwasgfa greddyd, wedi dod drwyddi, ac rydym yng nghyfnod nesaf yr economi yn awr, ac eto nid oes gweithredu. Mae'n nodweddiadol o'r Llywodraeth hon ei fod yn cymryd cymaint o amser.

Yn olaf, rydym yn credu bod yn rhaid i'n heconomi fod yn seiliedig ar arloesedd, ymchwil a datblygu, cofrestru patentau a datblygu sgil-gwmnïau newydd yn y sector preifat. Rhaid i ni ddatblygu ein sylfaen sgiliau a gwella ein hyfforddiant, ac rydym yn cyflwyno cynigion fel bod modd inni adfer ein heconomi.

Amendment 1 Jane Hutt

Delete all and replace with:

The National Assembly for Wales

1. Welcomes Economic Renewal: a new direction which marks a radical new direction to provide the right environment for long-term economic growth, innovation and sustainable jobs.

2. Notes:

a) The ReACT programme has resulted in 17,467 training placements for workers recently made redundant in Wales, over 1000 young people have gained apprenticeships under the Young Recruits Programme and a further 2000 placements are available under the Pathways to Apprenticeship programme;

b) The commitment under Economic Renewal to invest in 21st century infrastructure such as hi-speed broadband and sustainable public transport to stimulate economic growth and jobs;

c) The Welsh Assembly Government's ongoing work in exploring options to increase growth capital for businesses in Wales, and the publication of the Manufacturing Strategy later this month.

3. *Yn condemnio penderfyniad Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i dorri'n sylweddol ar y gefnogaeth i ddarparu hyfforddiant a swyddi i bobl ifanc.*

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Cynigiau welliant 1.

Gwelliant 2 Nick Ramsay

Ym mhwynt 2.c) dileu 'Datblygu' a rhoi yn ei le 'Archwilio dichonoldeb'.

Gwelliant 3 Nick Ramsay

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd gweithgynhyrchu i economi Cymru ac yn gresynu methiant Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyhoeddi Strategaeth Weithgynhyrchu ar gyfer Cymru.

Darren Millar: I move amendments 2 and 3.

There is no doubt that the latest economic figures are a damning indictment of the Labour-Plaid approach to the economy. The figures published last week, as Jenny rightly said, show that west Wales and the Valleys is not only the poorest part of the United Kingdom by GDP, but is poorer than all parts of Greece and parts of Portugal and Bulgaria. It is pretty shameful that we have not managed to up our game with the European funds that have been available to us for so many years. It shows that, under Labour and Plaid Cymru, Wales just is not doing what it should be able to do in generating that prosperity, which we could be doing if the money was used in a different way. There has been far too much focus in European funding on growing the public sector rather than supporting and encouraging growth in the private sector, which is the real place that creates wealth in our economy.

Jeff Cuthbert *rose—*

Darren Millar: In a second, Jeff. I recognise that the Government has changed its tune in

3. *Condemns the UK government's decision to introduce substantial cuts in support for young people to gain training and employment.*

The Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I move amendment 1.

Amendment 2 Nick Ramsay

In point 2.c) delete 'Develop' and replace with 'Examine the feasibility of'.

Amendment 3 Nick Ramsay

Add new point at the end of motion:

Recognises the importance of manufacturing to the Welsh economy and regrets the failure of the Welsh Assembly Government to publish a Manufacturing Strategy for Wales.

Darren Millar: Cynigiau welliannau 2 a 3.

Nid oes amheuaeth bod y ffigurau economaidd diweddaraf yn dystiolaeth ddamniol o ddull Llafur-Plaid o ymdrin â'r economi. Mae'r ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf, fel y dywedodd Jenny, yn dangos bod gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd nid yn unig y rhan dlotaf o'r Deyrnas Unedig o ran cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth, ond eu bod yn dlotach na phob rhan o Wlad Groeg a rhannau o Bortiwgal a Bwlgaria. Mae braidd yn gywilyddus nad ydym wedi llwyddo i godi'r safon gyda'r arian Ewropeaidd a fu ar gael i ni am gynifer o flynyddoedd. Mae'n dangos, o dan arweiniad Llafur a Phlaid Cymru, nad yw Cymru'n gwneud yr hyn y dylai fod yn gallu ei wneud i greu llewyrch, gan mai dyna y gallem ei wneud pe bai'r arian yn cael ei ddefnyddio mewn ffordd wahanol. O ran arian Ewropeaidd, bu llawer gormod o ffocws ar dwf y sector cyhoeddus yn hytrach na chefnogi ac annog twf yn y sector preifat, sef y gwir le sy'n creu cyfoeth yn ein heconomi.

Jeff Cuthbert *a gododd—*

Darren Millar: Mewn eiliad, Jeff. Rwy'n cydnabod bod y Llywodraeth wedi newid ei

the way that it wants to work on the economy. We welcomed the publication of the long-awaited economic renewal programme when it was announced in July of last year. We believe that parts of that new approach amount to a step in the right direction. We all know that things were not working previously, so change had to come.

Jeff Cuthbert: I am grateful for your giving way. You are either in favour of spending European structural funds or you are not. Do you regret the fact that the Conservative Government in the 1990s refused to take up the offer of Objective 1 money for Wales?

Darren Millar: I regret the fact that Labour and Plaid Cymru have not managed to improve prosperity levels in west Wales and the Valleys. I am surprised that you are attacking a Government from the 1990s. You should be acknowledging the failure of your own Government to raise prosperity levels in Wales, and apologising for that. That was a shameful intervention.

To get back to the point, the Labour-Plaid Government has been dragging its feet as far as economic regeneration in Wales is concerned. We now have the economic renewal programme and we must ensure—

David Lloyd *rose*—

Darren Millar: I will not take an intervention, Dai; you have spoken enough this afternoon. We must ensure that the new economic renewal programme works, but, up until very recently, not a single offer of support had been made by the Assembly Government to support businesses in Wales, which is a matter of great regret. We really need to speed up the available support, and to get it out to those businesses that are really suffering as a result of Labour's recession—and it is your recession at the end of the day, because you were the ones who forced our economy to tank. Other parts of the world have still managed to do well and grow during the global crisis in the banking sector. That was not the case in Britain, because Gordon Brown was in charge of our

chân o ran y ffordd y mae am weithio ar yr economi. Roeddem yn croesawu'r ffaith bod y rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi hir-ddisgwyliedig wedi'i chyhoeddi ym mis Gorffennaf y llynedd. Credwn fod rhannau o'r dull gweithredu newydd hwnnw yn gam i'r cyfeiriad cywir. Rydym i gyd yn gwybod nad oedd pethau'n gweithio o'r blaen, felly roedd yn rhaid i bethau newid.

Jeff Cuthbert: Rwy'n ddiolchgar i chi am ildio. Rydych naill ai o blaid gwario cronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd neu ddim. A ydych yn gresynu at y ffaith fod y Llywodraeth Geidwadol wedi gwrthod derbyn y cynnig o arian Amcan 1 i Gymru yn y 1990au?

Darren Millar: Rwy'n gresynu at y ffaith nad yw Llafur a Phlaid Cymru wedi llwyddo i wella lefelau llewyrch yn y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Rwy'n synnu eich bod yn ymosod ar y Llywodraeth a oedd gennym yn y 1990au. Dylech fod yn cydnabod methiant eich Llywodraeth eich hun i godi lefelau llewyrch yng Nghymru, ac ymddiheuro am hynny. Roedd hwnnw'n ymyriad cywilyddus.

I ddychwelyd at y pwynt, mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur-Plaid Cymru wedi bod yn llusgo'i thraed o ran adfywio'r economi yng Nghymru. Erbyn hyn mae gennym y rhaglen adnewyddu economaidd a rhaid i ni sicrhau—

David Lloyd *a gododd*—

Darren Millar: Nid wyf am dderbyn ymyriad, Dai; rydych wedi siarad digon y prynhawn yma. Mae'n rhaid i ni sicrhau bod y rhaglen newydd ar gyfer adnewyddu'r economi yn gweithio, ond, hyd yn ddiweddar iawn, nid oes un cynnig o gefnogaeth gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i gefnogi busnesau yng Nghymru, sy'n destun gofid mawr. Mae gwir angen cyflymu'r broses o gynnig cefnogaeth, ac i gyfleu'r neges i'r busnesau hynny sy'n dioddef yn wirioneddol o ganlyniad i ddirwasgiad y blaid Lafur—a'ch dirwasgiad chi ydi hi yn y pen draw, gan mai chi a orfododd i'n heconomi gael ei llorio. Mae rhannau eraill o'r byd wedi llwyddo i barhau i wneud yn dda a thyfu yn ystod yr argyfwng byd-eang yn y sector bancio. Nid dyna oedd yr achos ym Mhrydain, oherwydd

economy. He is the one who made the mistakes and who did not put things in their right place. We find out today that the gold reserves were sold off at rock-bottom prices, costing UK taxpayers £9 billion, which is an absolute outrage. Therefore, we need to ensure that we get prosperity back on track.

One thing that you promised to deliver in your 'One Wales' agreement, Deputy First Minister, was a manufacturing strategy, a draft of which has been sitting on your desk since December 2008. Manufacturing accounts for a huge 25 per cent of the Welsh economy. There are massive opportunities to be had in new technologies, such as green technologies, which we could really take advantage of, particularly in west Wales and the Valleys. Yet, we have not seen any urgency whatsoever in that. In fact, we have seen lethargy from the Assembly Government in coming forward to present that strategy to this National Assembly. Can you tell us, when you respond to this debate, when we will see the manufacturing strategy and when you will get business support under the economic renewal programme out to businesses in Wales that so desperately need it? I challenge you again to look at extending business rate relief in this country so that the small businesses that form the backbone of the Welsh economy can get the support to have the confidence to invest in their businesses and to create new jobs.

Peter Black: We have had several debates in the Assembly about Wales's skills level and the fall in results compared with other parts of the UK or other parts of Europe. It is clear that, for our economy to succeed, we must invest in developing skills at all ages, not just for those in schools, but also for people who want to retrain or who want to go back to education later in life. Our proposal is to offer a training fund for businesses to take on young unemployed people. Many employers are concerned about the poor quality of skills in Wales, which mean that they are not able to compete on a fair basis with other countries where skill levels, and therefore productivity, are higher. Youth unemployment in Wales is also high and

Gordon Brown oedd yn gyfrifol am ein heconomi. Ef a wnaeth y camgymeriadau ac a beidiodd weithredu'n gywir. Cawn wybod heddiw bod y cronfeydd aur wrth gefn wedi'u gwerthu am y pris isaf posibl, sydd wedi costio £9 biliwn i drethdalwyr y DU, ac mae hynny'n warthus. Felly, mae angen i ni sicrhau ein bod yn dychwelyd at sefyllfa o lewyrch trwy ddilyn y trywydd iawn.

Un peth yr oeddech yn addo'i gyflawni yn y ddogfen 'Cymru'n Un', Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, oedd cynhyrchu strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu, y bu drafft ohoni ar eich desg ers mis Rhagfyr 2008. Mae gweithgynhyrchu yn gyfrifol am 25 y cant o economi Cymru. Mae cyfleoedd enfawr i'w cael mewn technolegau newydd, megis technolegau gwyrdd, y gallem fanteisio arnynt yn bendant, yn enwedig yng ngorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd. Eto i gyd, nid ydym wedi gweld unrhyw frys o gwbl yn hyn o beth. Yn wir, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi bod yn araf deg yn cyflwyno'r strategaeth honno i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. A allwch ddweud wrthym, pan fyddwch yn ymateb i'r ddaidl hon, pryd fyddwn yn gweld y strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu a phryd y byddwch yn darparu cymorth i fusnesau fel rhan o'r rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi i fusnesau yng Nghymru sydd ei angen gymaint? Gofynnaf i chi eto ystyried ymestyn y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi busnes yn y wlad hon fel y gall busnesau bach, asgwrn cefn economi Cymru, gael cefnogaeth i gael yr hyder i fuddsoddi yn eu busnesau ac i greu swyddi newydd.

Peter Black: Rydym wedi cael sawl dadl yn y Cynulliad am lefel sgiliau Cymru a'r gostyngiad yn y canlyniadau o gymharu â rhannau eraill o'r DU neu rannau eraill o Ewrop. Mae'n amlwg, er mwyn i'n heconomi lwyddo, bod yn rhaid i ni fuddsoddi mewn datblygu sgiliau pob oedran, nid yn unig sgiliau y rhai sydd mewn ysgolion, ond hefyd sgiliau pobl sydd am ailhyfforddi neu sydd eisiau mynd yn ôl i fyd addysg yn nes ymlaen mewn bywyd. Ein bwriad yw sefydlu cronfa hyfforddiant fel y gall busnesau ddod o hyd i bobl ifanc ddi-waith. Mae llawer o gyflogwyr yn pryderu am ansawdd sgiliau gwael yng Nghymru, sy'n golygu nad ydynt yn gallu cystadlu ar sail deg â gwledydd eraill lle mae lefelau sgiliau, ac felly cynhyrchiant, yn

many young people are unable to make a start on their career. This fund would help make employing people more attractive to employers, and should be commended and supported for that reason alone.

We would offer £2,000 to employers taking on someone aged 18 to 25 who is currently out of work and has an identifiable training need. They would have to apply for the grant, and we would ensure that the grant is for training that will benefit the economy. We are open-minded about the sort of course that it pays for and would consider applications for professional qualifications as well as accredited courses at further education institutions. However, depending on the type of business, the training needs could be wildly different. The training could be for IT, accountancy or more traditional hands-on training for things such as welding and mechanics.

At the Labour conference last week, Labour announced its proposals for 4,000 apprenticeships, along the lines of the Future Jobs fund. The difference between our proposal and Labour's is that ours focuses on getting jobs into the private sector, which must be our priority if we are to grow the economy in Wales. Ours would be for permanent jobs, while Labour's proposal focuses too heavily on the public sector and apprenticeships for six months only. One of the biggest problems with the Future Jobs fund was that it was not very effective; 50 per cent of participants were still on benefits seven months after their placement had ended. Clearly, in too many cases, the apprenticeship did not lead to a permanent job afterwards.

6.15 p.m.

The Welsh Liberal Democrats have the ideas that need to be put into effect to start to make our economy grow. We have had too many schemes that create temporary jobs and do not create permanent jobs and grow wealth in

uwch. Mae diweithdra ymhlith pobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn uchel hefyd ac mae llawer o bobl ifanc yn methu dechrau ar eu gyrfa o gwbl. Byddai cronfa ariannol fel hon yn helpu i wneud cyflogi pobl yn fwy deniadol i gyflogwyr, a dylid ei chanmol a'i chefnogi am y rheswm hwnnw'n unig.

Byddem yn cynnig £2,000 i gyflogwyr sy'n cyflogi rhywun rhwng 18 a 25 oed sydd ar hyn o bryd yn ddi-waith ac sydd ag angen hyfforddiant adnabyddadwy. Byddai'n rhaid iddynt wneud cais am y grant, a byddem yn sicrhau bod y grant ar gyfer hyfforddiant a fydd o fantais i'r economi. Mae gennym feddwl agored ynglŷn â'r math o gwrs y byddai'r grant yn talu amdano a byddem yn ystyried ceisiadau ar gyfer cymwysterau proffesiynol yn ogystal â chyrtsiau achrededig mewn sefydliadau addysg bellach. Fodd bynnag, yn dibynnu ar y math o fusnes, gallai'r anghenion hyfforddi fod yn hollol wahanol. Gallai'r hyfforddiant fod ar gyfer TG, cyfrifeg neu ar gyfer hyfforddiant mwy traddodiadol ac ymarferol ar gyfer sgiliau fel weldio a mecaneg.

Yng nghynhadledd y Blaid Lafur yr wythnos diwethaf, cyhoeddodd Llafur ei gynigion ar gyfer 4,000 o brentisiaethau, tebyg i'r gronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol. Y gwahaniaeth rhwng ein cynnig ni a chynnig y Blaid Lafur yw bod ein cynnig ni'n canolbwyntio ar greu swyddi yn y sector preifat, sy'n gorfod bod yn flaenoriaeth os ydym am sicrhau y bydd twf yn economi Cymru. Byddai ein cynnig ni ar gyfer swyddi parhaol, tra bod cynnig Llafur yn canolbwyntio gormod ar y sector cyhoeddus a phrentisiaethau am chwe mis yn unig. Un o'r problemau mwyaf gyda chronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol oedd nad oedd yn effeithiol iawn; roedd 50 y cant o'r bobl oedd yn cymryd rhan yn y cynllun yn dal i gael budd-daliadau saith mis ar ôl i'w lleoliad gwaith ddod i ben. Yn amlwg, mewn gormod o achosion, nid oedd y brentisiaeth wedi arwain at swydd parhaol wedyn.

Mae gan Ddemocratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru y syniadau sydd angen eu rhoi ar waith er mwyn dechrau sicrhau twf yn ein heconomi. Rydym wedi cael gormod o gynlluniau sy'n creu swyddi dros dro ac nad ydynt yn creu

our economy. We need to start investing in ideas to create growth and high-quality jobs and give support, particularly to the higher education and university sectors to get their ideas into business and jobs, ensuring that we register patents and help them to develop their ideas into products. If we do not start doing that as a country, we are not going to pull ourselves out of what appears to be a downward spiral in terms of our GVA and the economy. I hope that the Assembly Government will start listening to some of our ideas and that we can start introducing them in Wales.

Jeff Cuthbert: I am grateful for the opportunity to speak in this debate. I would like to pick up on what I talked about yesterday during questions to the First Minister. Figures released last month show that unemployment in Wales has risen recently. That is an alarming development, considering that the economy is still very fragile. Indeed, the economy shrank in the last quarter of 2010 by more than expected. The UK coalition Government tried to blame it on the snow, among other things, but we know that the real reason is that confidence in the economy has been rocked by its savage spending cuts, the worst effects of which are yet to be felt, unfortunately.

Peter Black: Will you take an intervention?

Jeff Cuthbert: No, not just yet; I have only just started my speech. The rise in unemployment is having a particular impact on young people, who face diminished job prospects and higher fees for higher education across the border. Thank goodness that we in Wales have refused to lumber prospective students with more future debt. The UK coalition Government has also scrapped the Future Jobs fund, as has been mentioned, which was so valuable in providing paid work for 16 to 24-year-olds and, arguably, is needed more than ever at this time. However, thank goodness, Welsh Labour has promised to fill that void by pledging to create a Welsh jobs fund during the next Assembly, as trailed by Peter

swyddi parhaol nac yn creu cyfoeth yn ein heconomi. Mae angen i ni ddechrau buddsoddi mewn syniadau i greu twf a swyddi o safon uchel a rhoi cefnogaeth, yn enwedig i'r sector addysg uwch a'r prifysgolion i gael eu syniadau hwy i'r byd busnes a swyddi, gan sicrhau ein bod yn cofrestru patentau ac yn eu helpu i ddatblygu eu syniadau yn gynnyrch. Os na ddechrewn wneud hynny fel gwlad, ni fyddwn yn tynnu ein hunain oddi ar yr hyn sy'n ymddangos fel y llwybr i waered o ran ein gwerth ychwanegol crynswth a'n heconomi. Gobeithiaf y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn dechrau gwranddo ar rai o'n syniadau ac y gallwn ddechrau eu cyflwyno yma yng Nghymru.

Jeff Cuthbert: Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle i siarad yn y ddadl hon. Hoffwn grybwyll yr hyn y soniais amdano ddoe yn ystod cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog. Dengys ffigurau a ryddhawyd fis diwethaf fod diweithdra yng Nghymru wedi codi yn ddiweddar. Mae hwn yn ddatblygiad brawychus, o ystyried bod yr economi yn dal yn fregus iawn. Yn wir, ciliodd yr economi gan fwy na'r disgwyl yn chwarter olaf 2010. Ceisiodd Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU roi'r bai ar yr eira, ymhlith pethau eraill, ond gwyddom mai'r gwir reswm yw bod hyder yn yr economi wedi'i siglo gan ei thoriadau llym yn ei gwariant, y mae eu heffeithiau gwaethaf eto i ddod, yn anffodus.

Peter Black: A dderbyniwch chi ymyriad?

Jeff Cuthbert: Na, dim eto; dim ond newydd ddechrau ar fy araith yr wyf. Mae'r cynnydd mewn diweithdra yn effeithio'n benodol ar bobl ifanc, sy'n wynebu llai o obaith am swyddi a ffioedd uwch am addysg uwch ar yr ochr arall i'r ffin. Diolch byth ein bod ni yng Nghymru wedi gwrthod rhoi'r baich o fwy o ddyled ar ysgwyddau darpar fyfyrwyr yn y dyfodol. Mae Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU hefyd, fel y soniwyd, wedi diddymu cronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol, a oedd mor werthfawr yn ddarparu gwaith cyflogedig i bobl 16 i 24 mlwydd oed, y gellid dadlau sy'n fwy angenrheidiol nag erioed ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, diolch byth, mae Llafur Cymru wedi addo llenwi'r bwlch drwy addo creu cronfa swyddi Cymru yn ystod y Cynulliad nesaf, ac

Black—I will give way to him in a moment—which will provide 4,000 six-month placements to young people, who will be paid at least the minimum wage for 25 hours a week.

Peter Black: I wanted to go back to what you said about the drop in the economic performance of the UK. Do you realise that, in the quarter in which the economy dropped back, there were no cuts in public expenditure? In fact, public expenditure increased in that quarter. Therefore, the correlation that you are making between spending cuts and economic performance is not held up by the facts.

Jeff Cuthbert: That is not the case. The performance was worse than had been predicted, and there is no way that you can spin yourselves out of that. What the motion and the Tory amendments fail to recognise is that the Labour-led Welsh Government has launched a range of innovative made-in-Wales policy instruments to help ensure that we do all that we can to pull ourselves through these tough economic times without letting businesses fold or casting people on the unemployment scrap heap. I am thinking, of course, of ReAct I and II, ProAct, and its successor programmes—

Darren Millar: Will you take an intervention?

Jeff Cuthbert: No, not just yet. I will come back to you. I am also thinking of Skills Growth Wales and the recently announced Adapt, which will provide training, advice and guidance to public sector workers who face redundancy thanks to the UK coalition Government's spending cuts. Furthermore, as I mentioned yesterday, the Quest initiative, which will operate specifically in places such as my constituency, will help to improve the skills and employment prospects of thousands of people, young and old. I will now take an intervention from Darren.

Darren Millar: Thank you for taking the intervention. You seem to be very

mae Peter Black wedi rhoi rhagflas ohono—byddaf yn ildio amser iddo ef yn y man. Bydd y gronfa hon yn darparu 4,000 o leoliadau gwaith am chwe mis i bobl ifanc, a fydd yn cael eu talu o leiaf yr isafswm cyflog am 25 awr yr wythnos.

Peter Black: Roeddwn am ddychwelyd at yr hyn a ddywedasoich am y gostyngiad ym mherfformiad economaidd y DU. A ydych yn sylweddoli, yn y chwarter y gostyngodd yr economi, nad oedd unrhyw doriadau mewn gwariant cyhoeddus? Yn wir, cynyddodd gwariant cyhoeddus yn y chwarter hwnnw. Felly, nid yw'r ffeithiau'n cefnogi'r gydberthynas yr ydych yn honni sy'n bodoli rhwng toriadau mewn gwariant a pherfformiad economaidd.

Jeff Cuthbert: Nid yw hynny'n wir. Roedd y perfformiad yn waeth na'r hyn a ragwelwyd, ac nid oes unrhyw ffordd y gallwch siarad eich ffordd o hynny. Beth nad yw'r cynnig na gwelliannau'r Toriaid yn ei gydnabod yw bod Llywodraeth Cymru, a arweinir gan Lafur, wedi lansio offerynnau polisi arloesol amrywiol a wnaed yng Nghymru, i helpu i sicrhau ein bod yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i oroesi yn ystod y cyfnod economaidd anodd hwn heb adael i fusnesau fynd i'r wal ac i bobl gael eu taflu ar y domen ddiweithdra. Rwy'n meddwl, wrth gwrs, am ReAct I a II, ProAct, a'i raglenni olynol—

Darren Millar: A dderbyniwch ymyriad?

Jeff Cuthbert: Na, dim eto. Dychwelaf atoch yn y man. Rwy'n meddwl hefyd am Dwf Sgiliau Cymru ac Adapt, a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar a fydd yn darparu hyfforddiant, cyngor ac arweiniad i weithwyr y sector cyhoeddus sy'n wynebu cael eu diswyddo oherwydd y toriadau yng ngwariant Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU. Ar ben hynny, fel y soniais ddoe, bydd y fenter Quest, a fydd yn gweithredu yn benodol mewn mannau fel fy etholaeth i, yn helpu i wella sgiliau a rhagolygon cyflogaeth miloedd o bobl, hen ac ifanc. Cymeraf ymyriad gan Darren yn awr.

Darren Millar: Diolch i chi am gymryd yr ymyriad. Mae'n ymddangos eich bod yn

complacent about job losses, Jeff. You seem to suggest that the Assembly Government has been very successful in protecting jobs, yet we have seen job losses at Corus, Hoover, JCB, Panasonic, Bosch, Indesit, Stadco, Anglesey Aluminium Metals Ltd, and I could go on. Why are you so complacent? The figures published last week are appalling; we are losing jobs left, right and centre in manufacturing in particular, yet your Government has not delivered the promised manufacturing strategy that has been in draft form since 2008.

Jeff Cuthbert: We are going to lose even more jobs because of your coalition Government in Westminster; that is the trouble. Whether people are in the public sector or not, their purchasing power is going to decline dramatically, and the private sector is going to suffer. None of the programmes that I alluded to before I was interrupted would have been possible without financial assistance from European structural funds. Let us deal with this matter. Those funds have been the subject of much media attention recently, as well as hot air from opposition politicians. Figures published last week relate to the state of our economy in 2008, at the early stage of our current round of programmes. Therefore, they can hardly be used as a criticism of the current round of programmes. That was a time when we in Wales, as well as the rest of the UK and much of the western world, were in recession, and so it is hardly surprising that our GDP per capita levels will have fallen from the levels of the previous years. I am not too worried about GDP per capita being used as the formula, because that means that west Wales and the Valleys will qualify for more money. That is for the reasons that have been explained, such as the fact that many hundreds of my constituents travel from Caerphilly to Cardiff to work, but it means that Caerphilly will benefit from convergence funding, or whatever it may be called in the future.

hunanfodlon iawn am gollu swyddi, Jeff. Ymddengys eich bod yn awgrymu bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn wrth ddiogelu swyddi, ond eto collwyd swyddi yn Corus, Hoover, JCB, Panasonic, Bosch, Indesit, Stadco, Alwminiwm Môn Cyf, a gallwn fynd ymlaen. Pam rydych mor ddifater? Mae'r ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf yn ofnadwy; rydym yn colli swyddi ym mhob man, ym maes gweithgynhyrchu yn arbennig, ac eto nid yw eich Llywodraeth wedi darparu'r strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu a addawyd, sydd wedi bod ar ffurf drafft ers 2008.

Jeff Cuthbert: Byddwn yn colli mwy o swyddi eto oherwydd eich Llywodraeth glymblaid yn San Steffan, dyna'r drafferth. P'un ai fod pobl yn y sector cyhoeddus neu beidio, bydd eu pŵer i brynu'n dirywio'n ddramatig, a'r sector preifat a fydd yn dioddef. Ni fyddai'r un o'r rhaglenni y cyfeiriais atynt cyn i rywun darfu arnaf wedi bod yn bosibl heb gymorth ariannol o'r cronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd. Gadewch i ni drafod y mater hwn. Bu'r cronfeydd hynny yn destun llawer o sylw yn y cyfryngau yn ddiweddar, yn ogystal ag yn bwnc sydd wedi'i wyntyllu'n helaeth gan wleidyddion y gwrthbleidiau. Mae ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf yn ymwneud â chyflwr ein heconomi yn 2008, ar ddechrau ein cylch cyfredol o raglenni. Felly, prin y gallant gael eu defnyddio fel beirniadaeth ar y cylch cyfredol o raglenni. Roedd honno'n adeg pan oeddem ni yng Nghymru, yn ogystal â gweddill y DU a rhan helaeth o'r byd gorllewinol, mewn dirwasgiad, ac felly nid yw'n syndod bod lefelau ein cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen wedi gostwng o lefel y blynyddoedd blaenorol. Nid wyf yn poeni gormod am ddefnyddio cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen fel fformiwla, gan fod hynny'n golygu y bydd gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd yn gymwys i gael mwy o arian. Mae hynny am y rhesymau sydd wedi'u hegluro, fel y ffaith bod cannoedd o fy etholwyr yn teithio o Gaerffili i Gaerdydd i weithio, ond mae'n golygu y bydd Caerffili yn elwa o gyllid cydgyfeirio, neu beth bynnag y caiff ei alw yn y dyfodol.

In Wales we also have a Herculean task on Yng Nghymru mae gennym hefyd y dasg

our hands to reverse the legacy of the 1980s, when our heavy industry base was decimated once and for all and thousands were cast onto the unemployment scrap heap—I know that it is not convenient to remind the parties opposite of that. European funds have played their part in helping us to improve our economic performance, and will continue to do so, but they cannot be seen as the silver bullet, and it has never been suggested that they will solve our problems. They will merely help us.

Finally, I would like to mention capital budgets and the built environment. In previous recessions, we built our way out by spending public money on construction projects, which created jobs in the economy. In my capacity as chair of the Assembly's cross-party group on the Welsh built environment, representatives of the construction sector tell me continually that the Welsh Government is not doing enough to put the built environment at the heart of its economic renewal programme, and I have given that message to the Deputy First Minister. That is a particularly big concern given the cuts to the Welsh Government's capital budgets over the next few years that have been imposed upon us by the coalition Government in London. I realise that the Deputy First Minister has been dealt a difficult hand, and I would urge him to ensure that he will do all that he can to help the built environment at this time.

Veronica German: As we have heard, we have an unenviable record in Wales. The Welsh economy is the poorest in the UK, and is also the least competitive. Yet, Jeff seems to think that that is okay, because we get more money from Europe, which makes everything fine. As we have heard, parts of Wales are comparable with the poorest parts of Europe in Hungary, Romania and Poland. We also have falling levels of business start-ups, and very few companies that compete on a global level. The Welsh Liberal Democrats believe that we need more companies to develop in the innovative industries of the future, for example, the green sector, the creative industries and the aerospace sector. Wales registers far too few patents compared

aruthrol i'w chyflawni o wrthdroi etifeddiaeth y 1980au, pan anrheithiwyd ein diwydiant trwm am byth, ac y taflwyd miloedd o bobl ar y domen ddiweithdra—gwn nad yw'n gyfleus i atgoffa'r pleidiau sydd gyferbyn â mi am hynny. Mae cronfeydd Ewropeaidd wedi chwarae eu rhan wrth ein helpu i wella ein perfformiad economaidd, a byddant yn parhau i wneud hynny, ond ni ellir eu hystyried fel yr ateb i bob problem, ac ni awgrymwyd erioed y byddant yn datrys ein problemau. Dim ond ein helpu y byddant.

Yn olaf, hoffwn sôn am gyllidebau cyfalaf a'r amgylchedd adeiledig. Mewn dirwasgiadau yn y gorffennol, roeddem yn parhau i adeiladu drwy wario arian cyhoeddus ar brosiectau adeiladu, sy'n creu swyddi yn yr economi. Yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel cadeirydd ar grŵp trawsbleidiol y Cynulliad ar amgylchedd adeiledig Cymru, mae cynrychiolwyr o'r sector adeiladu yn dweud wrthyf yn barhaus nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwneud digon i sicrhau bod yr amgylchedd adeiledig wrth wraidd ei rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi, ac rwyf wedi rhoi'r neges honno i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog. Mae hynny'n achos pryder arbennig o fawr o ystyried y toriadau i gyllidebau cyfalaf Llywodraeth Cymru dros y blynyddoedd nesaf, sydd wedi eu gosod gan y Llywodraeth glymblaid yn Llundain. Sylweddolaf nad yw hi'n sefyllfa hawdd i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, a byddwn yn ei annog i sicrhau y bydd yn gwneud popeth o fewn ei allu i helpu'r amgylchedd adeiledig ar hyn o bryd.

Veronica German: Fel y clywsom, mae gennym record yng Nghymru nad oes neb am ei hefelychu. Economi Cymru yw'r tlotaf yn y DU, a hefyd y lleiaf cystadleuol. Eto, mae Jeff fel pe bai'n credu bod hynny'n iawn, oherwydd ein bod yn cael mwy o arian o Ewrop, sy'n gwneud popeth iawn. Fel y clywsom, mae rhannau o Gymru yn cymharu â rhannau tlotaf Ewrop, sef Hwngari, Rwmania a Gwlad Pwyl. Hefyd mae lefelau dechrau busnes yn gostwng, ac ychydig iawn o gwmnïau sydd gennym sy'n cystadlu ar lefel fyd-eang. Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru o'r farn bod angen mwy o gwmnïau i ddatblygu yn niwydiannau arloesol y dyfodol, er enghraifft, y sector gwyrdd, y diwydiannau creadigol a'r sector

with other parts of the UK, and particularly the Oxbridge universities and the University of London. Our universities have to push for new patents in order to develop the new technology that will drive forward new industries. It is essential that Wales should move into new areas of the economy. Investment should focus on new and modern technologies and new programmes that will ensure that modern, twenty-first century businesses have the infrastructure and facilities to flourish in Wales. That is why we are putting forward proposals to deliver more money to help to create that modern economy.

We would establish a jobs and growth innovation fund, which would have a specific remit to fund new and modern technologies. It would be in addition to any existing infrastructure programmes. It would support projects to increase the number of patents, establish business mentoring funds, and upgrade old manufacturing sites. We need to ensure that the Government works with key sectors to identify the infrastructure of skills needs, and to ensure that funding is available for those programmes. As I said, that is intended to be an add-on to existing programmes.

The second proposal, as has already been mentioned, is to establish a Welsh stock exchange. We would provide, from the growth fund, the seed funding necessary to kick-start that exchange. It would promote Wales as a place to do serious business, and would enable those businesses that are unable to access the London stock exchange to generate the finance needed to expand and to create jobs. The Welsh stock exchange would provide an alternative source of finance for medium-sized and larger business as well as providing an overseas profile for the Welsh economy. We estimate that it would require about £2 million to £3 million a year for approximately three years—the programme would be required to take an all-Wales approach.

Other developments that could be looked at include refurbishing the docks—a point that

awyrofod. Nid yw Cymru yn cofrestru digon o batentau o bell ffordd o gymharu â rhannau eraill o'r DU, ac yn enwedig â phrifysgolion Rhydychen a Chaergrawnt a Phrifysgol Llundain. Mae'n rhaid i'n prifysgolion wthio am batentau newydd er mwyn datblygu'r dechnoleg newydd a fydd yn datblygu diwydiannau newydd. Mae'n hanfodol bod Cymru yn symud i feysydd newydd o'r economi. Dylai buddsoddiadau ganolbwyntio ar dechnolegau newydd a modern a rhaglenni newydd a fydd yn sicrhau bod gan fusnesau modern yr unfed ganrif ar hugain y seilwaith a'r cyfleusterau i ffynnu yng Nghymru. Dyna pam rydym yn cyflwyno cynigion i ddarparu mwy o arian i helpu i greu'r economi fodern honno.

Byddem yn sefydlu cronfa arloesi swyddi a thwf, y byddai ganddi gylch gwaith penodol i ariannu technolegau newydd a modern. Byddai yn ychwanegol at unrhyw raglenni seilwaith presennol. Byddai'n cefnogi prosiectau i gynyddu nifer y patentau, yn sefydlu cronfeydd mentora busnes, ac yn uwchraddio hen safleoedd gweithgynhyrchu. Mae angen i ni sicrhau bod y Llywodraeth yn gweithio gyda sectorau allweddol i nodi'r seilwaith o sgiliau sy'n angenrheidiol, ac i sicrhau bod cyllid ar gael ar gyfer y rhaglenni hynny. Fel y dywedais, bwriedir i hyn fod yn rhywbeth ychwanegol at y rhaglenni sy'n bodoli eisoes.

Yr ail gynnig, fel y crybwyllwyd eisoes, yw sefydlu cyfnewidfa stoc Cymru. Byddem yn darparu'r arian angenrheidiol i gychwyn y gyfnewidfa o'r gronfa twf. Byddai'n hyrwyddo Cymru fel lle i wneud busnes o ddifrif, a byddai'n galluogi'r busnesau hynny na allant gael mynediad i gyfnewidfa stoc Llundain i greu'r cyllid sydd ei angen i ehangu ac i greu swyddi. Byddai cyfnewidfa stoc Cymru'n darparu ffynhonnell arall o gyllid ar gyfer busnesau canolig a mwy, yn ogystal â darparu proffil tramor i economi Cymru. Rydym yn amcangyfrif y byddai angen tua £2 filiwn i £3 miliwn y flwyddyn am oddeutu tair blynedd—a byddai angen i'r rhaglen weithredu dull Cymru gyfan.

Datblygiadau eraill y gellid ymchwilio iddynt yw adnewyddu'r dociau yn Aberdaugleddau

has often been brought up here—at Milford Haven and Holyhead, allowing wind turbine assembly and production. I know of a particular facility in my region, Maybey Bridge Ltd, which now produces towers for wind turbines. One issue that it highlighted with me is that it cannot build bigger towers because of the problems in trying to export them.

There is also a need for a business mentoring scheme, not just for start-ups, but for established businesses, and universities have their role to play. We believe that a match funding scheme to develop patented products could make the difference in getting them off the ground.

As we have heard, we still await the fabled manufacturing strategy. Apparently, it will appear, but should we hold our breath? Goodness knows we have waited long enough. We need a strategy for manufacturing, for new and innovative businesses. We need the new ideas that we have outlined today to get the economy of Wales moving forward.

Mark Isherwood: The failure of the Welsh Government's economic strategy to develop long-term economic growth is not merely a matter of regret; it is a gross and scandalous betrayal of the people of Wales. Billions have been blown on keeping Wales at the bottom of the UK economic league table. We have the highest levels of child poverty, the lowest levels of economic activity, and the poorest figures for wealth creation of the devolved UK nations and English regions since 1998, and west Wales and the Valleys, including four counties in north Wales, has the lowest GDP per capita of all the UK's regions.

Last year, research by Professor Huggins of the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff and Dr Upton of the Institute of Welsh Affairs found that Wales is at the bottom of the UK economic league table despite Welsh Government spending per head of population on economic development being the highest in the UK. It is outrageous that, after the billions of pounds received in the two previous rounds of European funding, as a result of Wales having the lowest levels of wealth creation in the whole of the UK, the

a Chaergybi—pwynt sydd wedi'i godi'n aml yn y fan hon, a galluogi cynhyrchu a llunio tyrbinau gwynt. Gwn am gyfleuster penodol yn fy rhanbarth, Maybey Bridge Ltd, sydd bellach yn cynhyrchu tyrau ar gyfer tyrbinau gwynt. Un mater y tynnodd y cwmni fy sylw ato yw na all adeiladu tyrau mwy oherwydd y problemau wrth geisio'u hallforio.

Mae angen cynllun mentora busnes hefyd, nid yn unig ar gyfer busnesau newydd, ond ar gyfer busnesau sefydledig, ac mae gan brifysgolion rôl i'w chwarae. Rydym o'r farn y gallai cynllun arian cyfatebol i ddatblygu cynnyrch patent wneud gwahaniaeth ar gyfer eu cychwyn.

Fel y clywsom, rydym yn dal i aros am y strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu arfaethedig. Yn ôl pob tebyg, bydd yn ymddangos, ond pryd, tybed? Dyn a wŷr, rydym wedi aros yn ddigon hir. Mae angen strategaeth ar gyfer gweithgynhyrchu, ar gyfer busnesau newydd ac arloesol. Mae angen y syniadau newydd hynny yr ydym wedi'u hamlinellu heddiw i roi hwb i economi Cymru.

Mark Isherwood: Nid testun gofid yn unig yw methiant strategaeth economaidd Llywodraeth Cymru i ddatblygu twf economaidd hirdymor; mae'n frad gwarthus ar bobl Cymru. Gwariwyd biliynau ar gadw Cymru ar waelod cynghrair economaidd y DU. Gennym ni y mae'r tlodi plant gwaethaf, y lefelau isaf o weithgaredd economaidd, a'r ffigurau gwaelaf o ran creu cyfoeth o wledydd datganoledig y DU a rhanbarthau Lloegr ers 1998, a chan orllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd, gan gynnwys pedair sir yn y gogledd, y mae'r cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth isaf y pen o holl ranbarthau'r DU.

Y llynedd, canfu ymchwil gan yr Athro Huggins o Athrofa Prifysgol Cymru, Caerdydd a Dr Upton o'r Sefydliad Materion Cymreig fod Cymru ar waelod tabl y gynghrair economaidd yn y DU er gwaetha'r ffaith bod gwariant Llywodraeth Cymru ar ddatblygu economaidd y pen o'r boblogaeth yr uchaf yn y DU. Mae'n warthus, ar ôl y biliynau o bunnoedd a gafwyd yn y ddwy rownd flaenorol o gyllid Ewropeaidd, o ganlyniad bod gan Gymru y lefelau creu cyfoeth isaf yn y DU gyfan, fod rhannau

poorest parts of Wales have remained the poorest parts of the UK and were blighted by worklessness and dependency even before the recession hit. The previous Labour Welsh Government set a target for Wales to achieve 85 per cent of the UK average GVA per head by 2005, and 90 per cent by 2010, but it had to abandon that target when the figures continued to slide backwards. We must support the efforts of the business sector to regenerate private sector growth and send out the message that Wales is open for business.

We hear a lot of attacks on the UK Government, but the UK Government is working to deliver the most pro-business, pro-growth, pro-jobs agenda ever unleashed. The UK Government has taken steps to address the staggering deficit inherited from its predecessor. It will help to put in place the right macro-economic conditions for economic recovery, and the UK Government is now striving to be the most pro-growth Government in living memory. UK Ministers are driving forward a programme with one purpose, which is to create jobs. The previous UK Government, however, left one in five young people unemployed: 20 per cent of those between the ages of 16 and 24 were unemployed when the previous Government left office.

Bethan Jenkins: How can you say that the UK Government will create jobs? Thousands of jobs are to go from the public sector—how do you answer that?

Mark Isherwood: Do you not understand that unless you sort out the mess, it will only get worse? Six thousand people who left school under the previous UK Government have yet to find work. Despite the huge amounts spent by previous UK Government, it left a terrible legacy of youth unemployment—nearly two thirds of unemployed people between the ages of 18 and 24 have not worked since they left school or college. That is a trend that has been accelerating since 2005, not since 2010. The Future Jobs fund, which we often hear mentioned, cost twice as much as an apprenticeship, but, unlike an apprenticeship,

tlotaf Cymru wedi parhau'n rhannau tlotaf yn y DU, ac roedd diweithdra a dibyniaeth yn ein llethu hyd yn oed cyn i ni weld effaith y dirwasgiad. Gosododd Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol Cymru darged ar gyfer Cymru i gyflawni 85 y cant o gyfartaledd gwerth ychwanegol crynswth y DU y pen erbyn 2005, a 90 y cant erbyn 2010, ond bu'n rhaid rhoi'r gorau i'r targed hwnnw pan oedd y ffigurau'n parhau i lithro. Rhaid i ni gefnogi ymdrechion y sector busnes i adfywio twf y sector preifat ac i anfon neges bod Cymru'n agored i fusnes.

Fe glywn lawer o ymosodiadau ar Lywodraeth y DU, ond mae Llywodraeth y DU yn gweithio i ddarparu'r agenda gorau o ran busnes, twf a swyddi a ryddhawyd erioed. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cymryd camau i fynd i'r afael â'r diffyg ariannol syfrdanol a etifeddwyd gan ei rhagflaenydd. Bydd o gymorth i ni roi'r amodau macro-economaid cywir ar waith ar gyfer adferiad economaidd, ac mae Llywodraeth y DU yn awr yn ymdrechu i fod y Llywodraeth sydd fwyaf cefnogol i dwf a fu erioed. Mae Gweinidogion y DU yn prysuro ymlaen â rhaglen sydd ag un diben, sef creu swyddi. Roedd Llywodraeth flaenorol y DU, fodd bynnag, wedi gadael un o bob pump o bobl ifanc yn ddi-waith: roedd 20 y cant o bobl rhwng 16 a 24 oed yn ddi-waith pan ddaeth i ben.

Bethan Jenkins: Sut allwch chi ddweud y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn creu swyddi? Mae miloedd o swyddi'n cael eu colli o'r sector cyhoeddus—beth yw eich ateb i hynny?

Mark Isherwood: Onid ydych yn deall, oni bai eich bod yn datrys y llanast, dim ond gwaethygu a wnaiff? Mae 6,000 o bobl a adawodd yr ysgol yn nghyfnod Llywodraeth flaenorol y DU heb ddod o hyd i waith o hyd. Er gwaethaf y symiau enfawr a wariwyd gan Lywodraeth flaenorol y DU, gadawodd waddol ofnadwy o ddiweithdra ymhlith ein pobl ifanc—mae bron dwy ran o dair o bobl ddi-waith rhwng 18 a 24 oed heb weithio ers gadael yr ysgol neu'r coleg. Mae honno'n duedd sydd wedi bod yn cyflymu ers 2005, nid ers 2010. Mae cronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol, y clywn amdani'n aml, wedi costio ddwywaith cymaint â phrentisiaeth, ond, yn

it could not utilise the private sector. The UK Government has announced that it will expand the number of apprenticeships, with an extra 50,000 in 2011 and a further 25,000 by the end of the Parliament, with 30,000 apprenticeships for people aged 16 to 18. The Future Jobs fund announced in the 2009 budget, as part of Labour's young person's guarantee, and the current UK Government will phase it out and replace it.

6.30 p.m.

All of the commitments that have already been made, including those delayed during the pre-election period, will be met. The work programme will be launched this summer, providing an integrated package of support and personalised help based on individual needs. It will use the private and voluntary sectors, and providers will be paid by results. The UK Government has introduced a work experience initiative that will provide young people between the ages of 18 and 21 who are not at university with eight weeks' work experience while they collect benefits. The UK Government has also launched a scheme in which advisors from the Prince's Trust and other local voluntary organisations will be located at Jobcentre Plus offices to signpost jobseekers to volunteering and training opportunities.

At its peak, the Conservative Party's enterprise scheme in the 1980s was helping more than 100,000 people a year into self-employment. Under the self-employment option of Labour's New Deal scheme, that number fell to just 5,000 people a year. The UK Coalition Government has started to open Britain and Wales for business by creating a new enterprise allowance to get small firms up and running. It is providing support for the unemployed to set up their own businesses and creating a new work programme that will give people the tailored support that they need. Labour's job tax has been abolished, regulation is being scrapped, corporation tax is being cut, income tax thresholds are being raised for millions, and 800,000 people have been lifted out of having to pay tax altogether, with more to come. Wales must embrace this enterprise aspiration and

wahanol i brentisiaeth, ni allai ddefnyddio'r sector preifat. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyhoeddi y bydd yn cynyddu nifer y prentisiaethau, gyda 50,000 ychwanegol yn 2011 a 25,000 arall erbyn diwedd y Senedd, gyda 30,000 o brentisiaethau ar gyfer pobl rhwng 16 a 18 oed. Roedd cronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol, a gyhoeddwyd yn y gyllideb 2009, fel rhan o warant Llafur i bobl ifanc, a bydd Llywodraeth bresennol y DU yn ei ddileu'n raddol ac yn cael rhywbeth yn ei le.

Cyflawnir pob un o'r ymrwymadau a wnaed eisoes, gan gynnwys y rheini fydd yn wynebu oedi yn ystod y cyfnod cyn yr etholiad. Caiff y rhaglen waith ei lansio yn ystod yr haf, gan ddarparu pecyn integredig o gefnogaeth a chymorth personol yn dibynnu ar anghenion unigol. Bydd yn defnyddio'r sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol, a thelir darparwyr yn ôl canlyniadau. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyflwyno menter profiad gwaith a fydd yn rhoi cyfle i bobl ifanc rhwng 18 a 21 oed nad ydynt mewn prifysgol i gael profiad gwaith am wyth wythnos tra byddant yn cael budd-daliadau. Mae Llywodraeth y DU hefyd wedi lansio cynllun lle bydd cynghorwyr o Ymddiriedolaeth y Tywysog a sefydliadau gwirfoddol lleol eraill yn cael eu lleoli mewn swyddfeydd y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith i gyfeirio'r rhai sy'n chwilio am waith tuag at gyfleoedd i wirfoddoli a hyfforddi.

Ar ei anterth, roedd cynllun menter y Blaid Geidwadol yn y 1980au yn helpu dros 100,000 o bobl y flwyddyn i fod yn hunangyflogedig. O dan opsiwn hunangyflogaeth cynllun y Fargen Newydd y Blaid Lafur, syrthiodd y nifer hwnnw i 5,000 o bobl y flwyddyn. Mae Llywodraeth Glymblaid y DU wedi dechrau agor Prydain a Chymru ar gyfer busnes drwy greu lwfans menter newydd i roi cwmnïau bach ar ben ffordd. Mae'n darparu cymorth i bobl ddi-waith i sefydlu eu busnesau eu hunain, ac yn creu rhaglen waith newydd a fydd yn rhoi cymorth wedi'i deilwra i bobl sydd ei angen. Diddymwyd treth waith Llafur, diddymir rheoleiddio, torrir y dreth gorfforaethol, codir y trothwyon treth incwm i filiynau, a chodwyd 800,000 o bobl o orfod talu treth yn gyfan gwbl, ac mae rhagor i ddod. Rhaid i Gymru gofleidio'r dyhead hwn i fentro a'r

entrepreneurial spirit if it, too, is to climb the economic league table once again.

Brian Gibbons: This is another glass-half-empty motion from the Lib Dems, richly enhanced by a degree of cherry-picking that seems to be typical of the way in which Lib Dems bring forward motions. The amendment in the name of Jane Hutt is a much more comprehensive and convincing description of what the Assembly Government is doing to address the challenges of the recession. I would certainly urge support for that as a more effective way of addressing the impact of the recession.

In speaking of the recession, I would like to draw the attention of the Members on the opposite side of the Chamber to the evidence given by Mervyn King to the Treasury Committee only yesterday. As reported in *The Daily Telegraph*—the in-house journal of some on the opposite side of the Chamber—he clearly laid the blame for the financial crisis, the bailout and the subsequent austerity cuts directly on the banks. There was no talk of the Labour Government being responsible. Clearly, if the opposition does not get the basic analysis of the problem right in the first place, it will almost certainly get wrong the prescription for what needs to be done. Sadly, the evidence of what is happening in the bigger economy out there shows that that is the case.

Darren Millar *rose*—

Brian Gibbons: I will accept an intervention later, Darren.

I also wish to point out that I had a certain feeling of ironic cynicism when I saw the resolution making reference to youth unemployment, particularly as it was the UK Government—comprising Tories and Lib Dems—that scrapped the Future Jobs fund. This Chamber seems to contain the only people in Wales who have a negative view of the Future Jobs fund. The people whom I meet in my constituency and all of my colleagues have nothing but praise for the

ysbryd entrepreneuriaidd os bydd hithau hefyd yn dringo tabl y gynghrair economaidd unwaith eto.

Brian Gibbons: Mae hwn yn gynnig eithaf anobeithiol arall gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, a gafodd ei wella'n fawr gan rywfaint o ddewis a dethol sy'n ymddangos yn nodweddiadol o'r ffordd y bydd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cyflwyno cynigion gerbron. Mae'r newid yn enw Jane Hutt yn ddisgrifiad llawer mwy cynhwysfawr ac argyhoeddedig o'r hyn y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â heriau'r dirwasgiad. Byddwn yn sicr yn annog unrhyw gefnogaeth i hynny fel ffordd fwy effeithiol o fynd i'r afael ag effaith y dirwasgiad.

Gan ein bod yn sôn am y dirwasgiad, hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Aelodau ar ochr arall y Siambr at y dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd, mor ddiweddar â ddoe, gan Mervyn King i Bwyllgor y Trysorlys. Fel yr adroddwyd yn *The Daily Telegraph*—papur newydd mewnol rhai ar ochr arall y Siambr—roedd yn rhoi'r bai am yr argyfwng ariannol, yr achub croen a'r toriadau llym dilynol ar y banciau'n uniongyrchol. Nid oedd unrhyw sôn mai'r Llywodraeth Lafur oedd yn gyfrifol. Yn amlwg, os nad yw'r wrthblaid yn sicr ynghylch y dadansoddiad sylfaenol o'r broblem yn y lle cyntaf, bydd bron yn sicr o nodi'r presgripsiwn anghywir ar gyfer cywiro'r broblem. Yn anffodus, mae'r dystiolaeth o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y darlun mawr o ran yr economi yn dangos mai dyna sy'n wir.

Darren Millar *a gododd*—

Brian Gibbons: Byddaf yn derbyn ymyriad yn ddiweddarach, Darren.

Yn ogystal, hoffwn nodi fy mod wedi teimlo sinigiaeth eironig pan welais y penderfyniad a oedd yn cyfeirio at ddiweithdra ymhlith pobl ifanc, yn enwedig gan mai Llywodraeth y DU—sy'n cynnwys y Torïaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—a gafodd wared ar gronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol. Ymddengys mai'r Siambr hon sy'n cynnwys yr unig bobl yng Nghymru sydd â barn negyddol am gronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol. Nid oes gan y bobl rwy'n cwrdd â hwy yn fy etholaeth na fy

Future Jobs fund and see it as one of the best programmes to get young people into work. That programme has been scrapped. In their contributions on youth employment, the Lib Dems are crying crocodile tears. They are part of the same Government that has cut the childcare element of tax credits by 10 per cent. This is vital finance that people need to address their childcare needs so that they can get into work. This is nothing but cynical hypocrisy from the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats.

Darren Millar: I wanted to refer, Brian, to something that you mentioned earlier on, namely the banking crisis. No one doubts that there was a banking crisis, and there is a great deal to be said about the fact that the banks led and contributed to the parlous state of our economy. However, let us not forget that the banks are global and that some parts of the world escaped problems in their economy as a result of the actions of the banks—Australia, for example. Therefore, it is not just down to the banks; it is also down to the way in which Governments respond to their economic situation. The Labour Government got it wrong.

Brian Gibbons: The Labour Government certainly did not get it wrong, because it took the international lead in addressing the crisis, which is well recognised by virtually all serious commentators. Indeed, it was the Conservative Party that would not acknowledge the banking crisis at that particular juncture with its do-nothing policy. Clearly, it is continuing to be in a state of denial at the moment. [*Interruption.*]

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I am sorry. I am really interested in what Brian Gibbons has to say, so could you be quiet, please?

Brian Gibbons: I will deal with some of the other points that were raised. Darren Millar spoke about the relationship of Greek GDP with areas of Wales. If you look at the Eurostat figures, you will see that Greece has a GDP of €21,100 per capita, while the figure in Wales is €21,900. That seems to indicate that Wales is better off than Greece. With

nghydweithwyr ddim ond canmoliaeth i gronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol ac maent yn ei gweld fel un o'r rhaglenni gorau i gael gwaith i bobl ifanc. Dilëwyd y rhaglen honno. Yn eu cyfraniadau ynghylch cyflogaeth ieuenctid, mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn wylo dagrau ffug. Maent yn rhan o'r un Llywodraeth ag a dorrodd elfen gofal plant y credyd treth 10 y cant. Mae hwn yn arian hanfodol y mae ar bobl ei angen i dalu am eu cyfleusterau gofal plant er mwyn iddynt allu gweithio. Rhagrith sinigaidd yn unig gan y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yw hyn.

Darren Millar: Roeddwn am gyfeirio, Brian, at rywbeth y soniwyd amdano gennych yn gynharach, sef yr argyfwng bancio. Nid oes neb yn amau bod argyfwng bancio wedi digwydd, ac mae'n ffaith fod y banciau wedi arwain ac wedi cyfrannu at sefyllfa enbyd ein heconomi. Fodd bynnag, gadewch inni beidio ag anghofio bod y banciau yn fyd-eang a bod rhai rhannau o'r byd wedi osgoi problemau yn eu heconomi o ganlyniad i weithredoedd y banciau—er enghraifft Awstralia. Felly, nid y banciau'n unig sy'n gyfrifol; mae'r ffordd y mae llywodraethau'n ymateb i'w sefyllfa economaidd hefyd yn gyfrifol. Gwnaeth y Llywodraeth Lafur gamgymeriad.

Brian Gibbons: Ni wnaeth y Llywodraeth Lafur gamgymeriad yn sicr, gan ei bod wedi arwain y ffordd yn rhyngwladol wrth fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng, sy'n cael ei gydnabod gan bron bob sylwebydd difrifol. Yn wir, y Blaid Geidwadol oedd yn amharod i gydnabod yr argyfwng bancio bryd hynny, gyda'i pholisi gwneud dim. Yn amlwg, mae'n parhau i wadu'r sefyllfa yn awr. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf. Mae gennyf ddiddordeb yn yr hyn sydd gan Brian Gibbons i'w ddweud, felly a allech fod yn dawel, os gwelwch yn dda?

Brian Gibbons: Rwyf am ymdrin â rhai o'r pwyntiau eraill a godwyd. Darren Millar a soniodd am y berthynas rhwng cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth Gwlad Groeg a rhannau o Gymru. Os edrychwch ar y ffigurau Eurostat, fe welwch fod gan Wlad Groeg gynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth o €21,100 y pen, tra bod y ffigur yng Nghymru

regard to unemployment, the current unemployment claimant count is 5 to 6 per cent, because of the proactive policies being taken by the Government in Wales. That compares with the 11 and 12 per cent unemployment claimant count that we saw during the previous recessions, when your party was in power. It is true that GDP has gone down by 9, 10 or 11 per cent over the last 15 years. However, 7 to 8 per cent of that decline in GDP occurred when your party was last in government in Wales.

The Deputy First Minister: I am grateful for the opportunity that this debate gives me to set out where we are on implementing the economic renewal programme, which secured all-party support when it was announced in July 2010—though you would struggle to find that today. I want to reiterate some of the principal themes of the economic renewal programme. There are five main themes: delivering quality and sustainable infrastructure; making Wales an attractive place to do business; broadening and deepening the skills base; encouraging innovation; and targeting business support more effectively. I want to update Members on some of things that we are now implementing. The first is that the contract notice for next generation broadband was issued on 25 February, and we are on track to procure that contract by the spring of 2012. Therefore, we will be able to meet the target for supplying it to businesses. In fact, I attended a supplier information day for next generation broadband on 26 January and I am pleased to say that there were 130 delegates present, showing great interest in taking part in the procurement exercise.

We have also made significant progress on the wider levers, something that has been totally ignored today, both by the Liberal Democrats and the Welsh Conservatives. These are the issues that businesses were telling us were key to delivering economic success: making planning systems more friendly to businesses; revising the procurement process and ensuring that Welsh

yn €21,900. Mae'n ymddangos o hynny bod Cymru'n well ei byd na Gwlad Groeg. O ran diweithdra, y cyfrif diweithdra yw rhwng 5 a 6 y cant ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd y polisiau rhagweithiol sydd gan y Llywodraeth yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n cymharu â chyfrif diweithdra o 11 a 12 y cant a welsom yn ystod y dirwasgiadau blaenorol, pan oedd eich plaid chi mewn grym. Mae'n wir fod cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth wedi gostwng 9, 10 neu 11 y cant dros y 15 mlynedd diwethaf. Fodd bynnag, digwyddodd 7 i 8 y cant o'r dirywiad yn y cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth pan oedd eich plaid yn y llywodraeth yng Nghymru ddiwethaf.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle y mae'r ddadl hon yn ei roi i mi nodi beth yw'r sefyllfa o ran gweithredu rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi, a sicrhodd gefnogaeth bob plaid pan gafodd ei chyhoeddi ym mis Gorffennaf 2010—er y byddech yn ei chael yn anodd sicrhau hynny heddiw. Hoffwn ailadrodd rhai o brif themâu'r rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi. Mae pum prif thema: darparu seilwaith cynaliadwy o ansawdd da; gwneud Cymru'n lle deniadol i wneud busnes; ehangu a dyfnhau'r sgiliau sydd ar gael; annog arloesedd; a thargedu cymorth busnes yn fwy effeithiol. Rwyf am roi diweddariad i Aelodau ar rai o'r pethau yr ydym yn awr yn eu rhoi ar waith. Y cyntaf yw y cyhoeddwyd yr hysbysiad ynghylch y contract band eang modern ar 25 Chwefror, ac rydym ar y trywydd iawn i gaffael y contract hwnnw erbyn y gwanwyn 2012. Felly, gallwn gwrdd â'r targed ar gyfer ei ddarparu i fusnesau. Yn wir, bûm mewn diwrnod gwybodaeth gan y cyflenwr am y band eang modern ar 26 Ionawr ac rwy'n falch o ddweud bod yna 130 o gynrychiolwyr yn bresennol, yn dangos diddordeb mawr mewn cymryd rhan yn yr ymarfer caffael.

Rydym hefyd wedi gwneud cynnydd sylweddol o ran y dulliau ehangach, rhywbeth sydd wedi cael ei anwybyddu'n llwyr heddiw, gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a Cheidwadwyr Cymru. Dyma'r materion y dywedodd busnesau wrthym a oedd yn allweddol i sicrhau llwyddiant economaidd: gwneud systemau cynllunio yn fwy hwylus i fusnesau; diwygio'r broses o

businesses can compete more effectively for public capital projects; and the need to look at regulation and the way in which we can make regulations more business-friendly. We still have some way to go, but I am confident that we are on our way, and I would like to thank all my Cabinet colleagues, who have worked hard to ensure that we can deliver on this programme.

Skills are a key component of the ERP. This was identified by businesses as one of the key areas that they wanted the Welsh Assembly Government to grapple with. As we have heard from Jeff Cuthbert and others, we have launched the skills growth Wales programme, which is the successor to ProAct. I was surprised to hear that Jenny did not recognise it, as she said that ProAct was an anti-recessionary measure. Of course it was—it was something that we were able to do. I remember David Cameron, when he became Prime Minister, congratulating us on introducing ProAct. However, we have not stopped there. We have now introduced skills growth Wales, a successor programme, which identifies the skills necessary to assist businesses to grow.

We have also renewed the employer pledge programme, and the Deputy Minister for Science, Innovation and Skills and the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning are in the process of agreeing priorities for funding apprenticeships, something that I think we are all very proud of. In addition, the business plan for Academia for Business has been revised to deliver the economic renewal programme priorities. All bids for funding for knowledge transfer or knowledge exploitation must now demonstrate an alignment with the six key sectors and the research and development priorities set out in the ERP. That is what we are doing to deliver innovation in Wales. It is something that a number of speakers have mentioned, but they did not acknowledge the work that we have already set in train.

Mark Isherwood would have you believe that we are doing absolutely nothing to support

gaffael a sicrhau y gall busnesau Cymru gystadlu'n fwy effeithiol am brosiectau cyfalaf cyhoeddus; a'r angen i ystyried rheoleiddio a'r ffordd y gallwn sicrhau bod rhagor o reoliadau'n fwy hwylus i fusnesau. Mae gennym dipyn o ffordd eto, ond rwy'n hyderus ein bod ar y trywydd iawn, a hoffwn ddiolch i'm holl gydweithwyr yn y Cabinet sydd wedi gweithio'n galed i sicrhau y gallwn ddarparu'r rhaglen hon.

Mae sgiliau yn elfen allweddol o'r broses o gynllunio adnoddau menter. Nodwyd hwn gan fusnesau fel un o'r meysydd allweddol yr oeddent am i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fynd i'r afael â hwy. Fel y clywsom gan Jeff Cuthbert ac eraill, rydym wedi lansio rhaglen sgiliau twf Cymru, sef olynnydd i ProAct. Roeddwn yn synnu o glywed nad oedd Jenny yn ei hadnabod, gan ei bod wedi dweud mai cam yn erbyn y dirwasgiad oedd ProAct. Wrth gwrs ei bod—roedd yn rhywbeth yr oeddem yn gallu'i wneud. Rwy'n cofio David Cameron, pan ddaeth yn Brif Weinidog, yn ein llongyfarch am gyflwyno ProAct. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym wedi gorffen yn y fan honno. Rydym bellach wedi cyflwyno twf sgiliau Cymru, rhaglen olynol, sy'n nodi'r sgiliau angenrheidiol i gynorthwyo busnesau i ddatblygu.

Rydym hefyd wedi adnewyddu rhaglen addewid y cyflogwr, ac mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wyddoniaeth, Arloesi a Sgiliau a'r Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn y broses o gytuno ar flaenoriaethau ar gyfer ariannu prentisiaeth, rhywbeth yr ydym oll yn falch iawn ohono rwy'n meddwl. Yn ogystal, mae'r cynllun busnes ar gyfer Academia i Fusnes wedi cael ei ddiwygio i gyflawni blaenoriaethau rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi. Rhaid i'r holl geisiadau am gyllid ar gyfer trosglwyddo gwybodaeth neu ddatblygu gwybodaeth bellach ddangos eu bod yn gydnaws â'r chwe sector allweddol a'r blaenoriaethau ymchwil a datblygu a nodir yn y cynllun adnoddau menter. Dyna'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud i gyflawni arloesedd yng Nghymru. Mae'n rhywbeth y mae nifer o siaradwyr wedi'i grybwyll, ond ni wnaethant gydnabod y gwaith yr ydym eisoes wedi'i wneud.

Byddai Mark Isherwood yn eich arwain i gredu nad ydym yn gwneud dim byd o gwbl i

the private sector. What we have agreed is that the sector teams, which will be set up in my department, will now be working alongside the sector panels drawn from the private sector, chaired by a private sector independent chair with members coming from business and academia to deliver the programmes for each of the priority sectors. Therefore, we are making excellent progress on implementing the economic renewal programme.

I also wish to say that I am looking to establish a growth fund. One of the things that Welsh businesses—and particularly those in growth mode—lack is the sort of venture capital or private equity available in the City of London. We are now examining very carefully the establishment of a growth fund in Wales that will stimulate investment in Welsh companies that cannot currently access venture capital or private equity. That is something I think we should be supporting.

Given all of the excellent progress we have been making, it is not at all clear to me where the Lib Dems are coming from. They are all over the shop as usual. When we launched the economic renewal programme, Jenny Randerson said that it was likely that I would have all-party support for this new way forward. Where was that all-party support today? All we had was a tirade about the things that we are getting wrong and no acknowledgement of the economic renewal programme and the progress that we have made since. I did not detect—

Jenny Randerson: Will the Minister take an intervention?

The Deputy First Minister: No, you have had your opportunity. It is time for me to put the record straight. You will get to sum up, of course. Let us remember that the Lib Dems are now supporting a Government in Westminster that has put VAT up to 20 per cent. What is that doing to destroy jobs and businesses in Wales? They have ended the Future Jobs fund, which provided young people with opportunities. Why has that

gefnogi'r sector preifat. Yr hyn yr ydym wedi cytuno arno yw y bydd y timau sector, a fydd yn cael eu sefydlu yn fy adran, bellach yn gweithio ochr yn ochr â'r paneli sector sy'n dod o'r sector preifat, a gaiff eu cadeirio gan gadeirydd annibynnol o'r sector preifat gydag aelodau yn dod o fyd busnes a'r byd academiaidd i gyflwyno'r rhaglenni ar gyfer pob un o'r sectorau blaenoriaeth. Felly, rydym yn gwneud cynnydd ardderchog o ran gweithredu rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi.

Yn ogystal, hoffwn ddweud fy mod yn gobeithio sefydlu cronfa dwf. Un o'r pethau y mae busnesau yng Nghymru yn brin ohono—ac yn enwedig y rhai sy'n datblygu—yw'r math o gyfalaf menter neu ecwiti preifat sydd ar gael yn Ninas Llundain. Rydym yn awr yn edrych yn ofalus iawn ar sefydlu cronfa dwf yng Nghymru, a fydd yn ysgogi buddsoddiad mewn cwmnïau o Gymru nad oes modd iddynt gael gafael ar gyfalaf menter neu ecwiti preifat ar hyn o bryd. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn meddwl y dylem fod yn ei gefnogi.

O ystyried yr holl gynnydd ardderchog yr ydym wedi bod yn ei wneud, nid wyf yn deall o gwbl beth mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn ei feddwl. Nid oes trefn arnynt, fel arfer. Pan lanswyd rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi, dywedodd Jenny Randerson ei bod yn debygol y byddai gennyf gefnogaeth y blaid yn ei chyfanrwydd ar gyfer y ffordd newydd hon ymlaen. Ble'r oedd cefnogaeth y blaid gyfan heddiw? Y cyfan a gawsom oedd pregethu am y pethau yr ydym yn eu cael yn anghywir, heb unrhyw gydnabyddiaeth o raglen adnewyddu'r economi a'r cynnydd a wnaed gennym ers hynny. Ni fu imi ganfod—

Jenny Randerson: A wnaiff y Gweinidog dderbyn ymyriad?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Na, rydych wedi cael eich cyfle. Mae'n bryd i mi egluro'r sefyllfa. Byddwch yn cael cyfle i grynhoi, wrth gwrs. Gadewch inni gofio bod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol bellach yn cefnogi Llywodraeth yn San Steffan sydd wedi gosod TAW i fyny at 20 y cant. Beth y mae hynny'n ei wneud i ddinistrio swyddi a busnesau yng Nghymru? Maent wedi dod â chronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol, a oedd yn darparu

gone? There is higher duty on fuel. That means that many of the businesses in rural Wales will go out of business, unless they do something about fuel duty. Let me also tell them about the UK growth fund.

Mark Isherwood *rose*—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Will you take an intervention?

The Deputy First Minister: No, I am not giving way. The problem with the UK growth fund is that hardly any Welsh businesses qualify, because of the way in which they have set the criteria. This is the Liberal Democrats in Government. They want to help Welsh businesses and yet the UK growth fund will not affect many businesses in Wales. They come here today on the day after the Liberal Democrats in Government in Westminster failed to deliver electrification of the railway line to Swansea. This is what we are getting from the Liberal Democrats now. They are telling us what we are doing wrong. What about the Liberal Democrats and their failure to deliver electrification to Swansea? We made it clear in our economic renewal programme that infrastructure investment is the key to investment. Where is that investment in Swansea by the Liberal Democrats? Therefore, I believe that we have had enough of crying wolf from the Liberal Democrats today. I believe that we should be rejecting their motion and voting for the amendment.

Jenny Randerson: There has been a very interesting set of contributions. I want to thank those who have taken part. Darren started by outlining the stark reality of just how bad our GVA statistics are. Peter concentrated on skills and pointed out the problems with the Future Jobs fund. Brian, as a member of the committee, seems to have forgotten that it was people from youth organisations who gave evidence to us about the problems with the Future Jobs fund. Jeff talked about ProAct and ReAct, yet again.

cyfleoedd i bobl ifanc, i ben. Pam mae hi wedi mynd? Mae treth uwch ar danwydd. Golyga hynny y bydd llawer o'r busnesau yng nghefn gwlad Cymru yn mynd i'r wal, oni bai eu bod yn gwneud rhywbeth am y dreth ar danwydd. Gadewch imi hefyd ddweud wrthynt am gronfa dwf y DU.

Mark Isherwood *a gododd*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: A dderbyniwch myriad?

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog: Na, nid wyf yn ildio. Y broblem gyda chronfa dwf y DU yw bod fawr ddim o fusnesau Cymru'n gymwys ar ei chyfer, oherwydd y ffordd y maent wedi gosod y meini prawf. Dyma ichi Lywodraeth y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Maent am helpu busnesau Cymru ac eto ni fydd cronfa dwf y DU yn effeithio llawer ar fusnesau yng Nghymru. Maent yn dod yma heddiw ar y diwrnod ar ôl i'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn y Llywodraeth yn San Steffan fethu â thrydaneiddio'r rheilffordd i Abertawe. Dyma'r hyn a gawn gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn awr. Maent yn dweud wrthym beth yr ydym yn ei wneud o'i le. Beth am y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a'u methiant i gyflwyno trydaneiddio i Abertawe? Yn ein rhaglen adfywio'r economi fe ddywedasom yn glir bod buddsoddi yn y seilwaith yn allweddol i fuddsoddi. Ble mae'r buddsoddi hwnnw gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn Abertawe? Credaf felly ein bod wedi cael digon o'r gweiddi blaidd gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol heddiw. Credaf y dylem fod yn gwrthod eu cynnig ac yn pleidleisio dros y gwelliant.

Jenny Randerson: Cafwyd cyfres ddiddorol iawn o gyfraniadau. Hoffwn ddiolch i'r rhai sydd wedi cymryd rhan. Darren a ddechreuodd drwy amlinellu'r gwirionedd ynghylch pa mor wael yw ein hystadegau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth. Canolbwyntiodd Peter ar sgiliau, a nododd y problemau gyda chronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol. Mae'n ymddangos fod Brian, fel aelod o'r pwyllgor, wedi anghofio, yn ôl pob golwg, mai pobl o sefydliadau ieuenctid a roddodd dystiolaeth inni am y problemau gyda chronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol. Siaradodd Jeff am ProAct a ReAct, unwaith eto.

s

6.45 p.m.

The problem with ProAct and ReAct is that they are one string to the bow, but the bow of economic development and renewal has to have many strings if it is to work.

Jeff Cuthbert *rose*—

Jenny Randerson: I am sorry, I cannot take an intervention; I have no time.

Veronica talked about falling levels of business start-ups and the importance of a stock exchange to deal with serious business proposals and propositions. She also talked interestingly about the use of docks for wind turbine production—of course, we have largely missed out on that aspect of environmental possibilities in terms of our economy. Mark talked about the need for Wales to be opened up to business and about youth unemployment. I was grateful to him for reminding us about the reduction in income tax that will come into play next month for a large proportion of the population of Britain.

Brian, our motion is not a case of cherry picking; it gives you examples, and there are plenty more examples of our policies on the economy—just look at our policy documents and our manifesto when it comes out. I remind you that Mervyn King also said that the coalition Government was taking the right approach to dealing with the deficit. I agree with you and with Mervyn King that the crisis was caused by the banks. However, which Government let the banks run the country, take over the situation and run out of control? It was the Labour Government.

Mark Isherwood: It is clear that they are professionals at reacting, but do you share my concern, given the reference to the Lib Dems propping up the Government in London, that the person who said it is propping up a Government that he previously described as failed, which he said that he never would do?

Y broblem gyda ProAct a ReAct yw mai un elfen yn unig ydynt, ond bydd yn ofynnol ystyried nifer o elfennau eraill os bydd datblygiad economaidd ac adnewyddu yn gweithio.

Jeff Cuthbert *a gododd*—

Jenny Randerson: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ni allaf dderbyn ymyriad; nid oes gennyf amser.

Soniodd Veronica am y niferoedd llai o fusnesau sy'n dechrau o'r newydd a phwysigrwydd cael cyfnewidfa stoc i ymdrin â chynigion busnes difrifol a mentrau. Soniodd hefyd, yn ddi-ddorol iawn, am y defnydd o ddociau ar gyfer cynhyrchu tyrbinau gwynt—wrth gwrs, rydym wedi colli'r cyfle i raddau helaeth i wneud y gorau o'r posibilïadau amgylcheddol ar gyfer ein heconomi. Soniodd Mark am yr angen i Gymru fod yn agored i fusnes ac am ddiweithdra ymysg pobl ifanc. Roeddwn yn ddiolchgar iddo am ein hatgoffa am y gostyngiad yn y dreth incwm a ddaw y mis nesaf ar gyfer cyfran fawr o boblogaeth Prydain.

Brian, nid mater o ddewis a dethol yw ein cynnig; mae'n rhoi enghreifftiau i chi, a cheir digon o enghreifftiau eraill o'n polisiau ar yr economi—edrychwch ar ein dogfennau polisi a'n manifesto pan gyhoeddir ef. Hoffwn eich atgoffa bod Mervyn King hefyd yn dweud bod y Llywodraeth glymblaid yn defnyddio'r dull cywir o ymdrin â'r diffyg ariannol. Rwy'n cytuno â chi a gyda Mervyn King mai'r banciau sydd wedi achosi'r argyfwng. Fodd bynnag, pa Lywodraeth a adawodd i'r banciau redeg y wlad, meddiannu'r sefyllfa a mynd y tu hwnt i reolaeth? Y Llywodraeth Lafur ydoedd.

Mark Isherwood: Mae'n amlwg eu bod yn ymatebwy'r proffesiynol iawn, ond a ydych yr un mor bryderus a mi, o ystyried y cyfeiriad at y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cynnal y Llywodraeth yn Llundain, bod y person a ddywedodd hynny, yn cynnal Llywodraeth a ddisgrifiodd yn flaenorol fel un a oedd wedi methu, ac yntau wedi dweud na fyddai byth

yn gwneud hynny?

Jenny Randerson: There has always been a situation of double standards in that respect.

Jenny Randerson: Mae safonau dwbl wedi bodoli erioed yn hynny o beth.

It is clear that Brian was not listening when we were in committee and heard the criticisms of youth organisations about the Future Jobs fund. I must also put on record the accurate situation in relation to tax credits. The cut, which will come in in 2013, will apply to families that are very much better off, that is, those that are earning more than £44,000. Indeed, an additional £2 billion is being put in for poorer families. Therefore, that was a complete misrepresentation of the situation.

Mae'n amlwg nad oedd Brian yn gwranddo pan oeddem yn y pwyllgor ac yn clywed y sefydliadau ieuencid yn beirniadu'r gronfa Swyddi'r Dyfodol. Rhaid i mi hefyd gofnodi'r sefyllfa gywir mewn perthynas â chredydau treth. Bydd y toriad yn y credydau, a ddaw yn 2013, yn effeithio teuluoedd sy'n well eu byd, hynny yw, y rhai sydd yn ennill mwy na £44,000 o gyflog. Yn wir, bydd £2 biliwn ychwanegol yn cael ei neilltuo ar gyfer teuluoedd tlotach. Felly, roedd hynny'n camliwio'r sefyllfa'n llwyr.

I am pleased that the Deputy First Minister used his speech as an opportunity to give us some detail on the progress. However, he clearly was not listening when I made my speech, because I have said in public on two occasions this afternoon that I support the economic renewal programme. The problem with it—and I said this at the time that it was launched—is that it has been an awfully long time in coming and we have not seen the benefits of it yet. I am pleased to hear that you have further plans that will, it is hoped, be rolled out in the future. I am interested in the fact that your growth fund is apparently so much better than that of the UK Government—I think that any growth fund is an extremely good idea.

Rwy'n falch bod y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog wedi defnyddio'i araith fel cyfle i roi rhywfaint o fanylion o ran y cynnydd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg nad oedd yn gwranddo pan gyflwynais i fy araith, oherwydd dywedais yn gyhoeddus ar ddau achlysur y prynhawn yma fy mod yn cefnogi rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi. Y broblem gyda hi—a dywedais hyn ar yr adeg y cafodd ei lansio—yw ei bod wedi cymryd amser eithriadol o hir i gael ei chyflwyno ac nid ydym wedi gweld ei manteision eto. Rwy'n falch o glywed bod gennych gynlluniau pellach a fydd, gobeithio, yn cael eu cyflwyno yn y dyfodol. Mae gennyf ddi-ddordeb yn y ffaith bod eich cronfa dŵf gymaint yn well nag un Llywodraeth y DU yn ôl pob golwg—credaf fod unrhyw gronfa dwf yn syniad arbennig o dda.

I was disappointed, Deputy First Minister, by the way in which you referred to the electrification. As the Deputy First Minister of Wales, your job is to attract business into Wales and it is to be deplored that the Government and its supporters are concentrating on the negatives rather than the positives.

Reddwn yn siomedig, Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog, am y ffordd y cyfeiriwyd at drydaneiddio gennych. Fel Dirprwy Brif Weinidog Cymru, eich swydd yw denu busnes i Gymru ac mae'n resyn bod y Llywodraeth a'i chefnogwyr yn canolbwyntio ar y pethau negyddol yn hytrach na'r pethau cadarnhaol.

I want to finish by saying this: do not believe me, believe Lord Tuhig. Today, he announced that he will vote 'no' tomorrow, and said:

Rwyf am orffen drwy ddweud hyn: peidiwch â nghredu i, credwch yr Arglwydd Tuhig. Heddiw, cyhoeddodd y bydd yn pleidleisio 'na' yfory, a dywedodd:

'Too often I get the impression the assembly thinks it's the collective chip on the shoulder

Yn rhy aml rwy'n cael yr argraff bod y cynulliad yn meddwl ei fod â'i gorn dan

of Wales...It's our vehicle to complain—we haven't got enough of this or enough of that.'

He also criticised the scrapping of the Welsh Development Agency and the Wales Tourist Board. In relation to the Visit Wales advertisements, he said that

'you wouldn't want to come and live in Wales, let alone come here for your holidays.'

If that is what the colleagues and friends of the Labour Party are saying, the Assembly Government has a serious problem in relation to its economic policy.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? I see that there is an objection. I will therefore defer all voting on this item until voting time.

I propose to move straight on to voting time. Does any Member wish for the bell to be rung? I see that no-one does.

*Gohiriwyd y pleidleisiau tan yr amser pleidleisio.
Votes deferred until voting time.*

bawb...Ein cyfrwng ni ar gyfer cwyno ydyw—nid ydym wedi cael digon o hyn, neu ddigon o'r llall.

Beirniadodd y cam i ddileu Asiantaeth Datblygu Cymru a Bwrdd Croeso Cymru hefyd. Mewn perthynas â hysbysebion Croeso Cymru, dywedodd

ni fyddech eisiau dod i fyw yng Nghymru, heb sôn am ddod yma ar eich gwyliau.

Os dyna beth mae cydweithwyr a chyfeillion y Blaid Lafur yn ei ddweud, mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad broblem ddifrifol o ran ei pholisi economaidd.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf fod gwrthwynebiad. Felly, gohiriaf y bleidlais ar yr eitem hon nes y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Cynigiaf symud yn syth ymlaen i'r cyfnod pleidleisio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Gwelaf nad oes.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio Voting Time

*Cynnig NDM4673: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.
Motion NDM4673: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 30.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn

Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
 Motion not agreed.*

*Gwelliant 1 i NDM4673: O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 11.
 Amendment 1 to NDM4673: For 34, Abstain 0, Against 11.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Black, Peter
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Evans, Nerys
 Franks, Chris
 German, Veronica
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Asghar, Mohammad
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Paul
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment agreed.*

Cynnig NDM4673 fel y'i diwygiwyd

Motion NDM4673 as amended

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

The National Assembly for Wales:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. <i>Yn croesawu'r camau sydd wedi cael eu cymryd o ran chyffuriau rheoli poen a nifer o therapiau lliniarol eraill;</i></p> <p>2. <i>Yn canmol gwaith y sector gwirfoddol o ran cyflenwi gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol;</i></p> <p>3. <i>Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gynyddu'r cyllid a'r gefnogaeth ar gyfer hosbisau, ac i ddatblygu gwasanaethau lliniarol allgymorth.</i></p> | <p>1. <i>Welcomes the advances that have been made with pain controlling drugs and many other palliative therapies;</i></p> <p>2. <i>Commends the work of the voluntary sector in the delivery of palliative care services;</i></p> <p>3. <i>Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to increase funding and support for hospices, and to develop outreach palliative services.</i></p> |
|---|--|

*Cynnig NDM4673 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 35, Ymatal 9, Yn erbyn 1.
Motion NDM4673 as amended: For 35, Abstain 9, Against 1.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
German, Veronica
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Williams, Kirsty

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Asghar, Mohammad
Bourne, Nick
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
Graham, William

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

Isherwood, Mark

Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick

*Derbyniwyd cynnig NDM4673 fel y'i diwygiwyd.
 Motion NDM4673 as amended agreed.*

*Cynnig NDM4674: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 30.
 Motion NDM4674: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 30.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Paul
 German, Veronica
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Evans, Nerys
 Franks, Chris
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
 Motion not agreed.*

*Gwelliant 1 i NDM4674: O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 15.
 Amendment 1 to NDM4674: For 30, Abstain 0, Against 15.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Evans, Nerys
 Franks, Chris
 Gibbons, Brian

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

Asghar, Mohammad
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Paul
 German, Veronica
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David

Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce

Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment agreed.*

Cynnig NDM4674 fel y'i diwygiwyd

Motion NDM4674 as amended

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

The National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn nodi llwyddiant Cwpan Ryder a Gêm Brawf y Llundw fel digwyddiadau mawr neilltuoal a gynhaliwyd yng Nghymru.

1. Notes the success of the Ryder Cup and the Ashes Test Match as outstanding major events held in Wales.

2. Yn croesawu cyhoeddi strategaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer digwyddiadau mawr a'i chefnogaeth i gynigion i ddod â rhagor o ddigwyddiadau mawr i Gymru, ac i adeiladu ar enw da cynyddol Cymru fel lle effeithiol a llwyddiannus i gynnal amrywiaeth eang o ddigwyddiadau ynddo ag iddynt arwyddocâd bydeang.

2. Welcomes the publication of the Welsh Assembly Government's Major events strategy and its support for bids to bring further major events to Wales, building upon Wales' growing reputation as an effective and successful host for a diverse range of globally significant events.

*Cynnig NDM4674 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 15.
 Motion NDM4674 as amended: For 30, Abstain 0, Against 15.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Evans, Nerys
 Franks, Chris
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hutt, Jane

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

Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Paul
 German, Veronica
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ramsay, Nick
 Randerson, Jenny
 Williams, Kirsty

James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce

*Derbyniwyd cynnig NDM4674 fel y'i diwygiwyd.
Motion NDM4674 as amended agreed.*

*Cynnig NDM4675: O blaid 14, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.
Motion NDM4675: For 14, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
Motion not agreed.*

*Gwelliant 1 i NDM4675: O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 15.
Amendment 1 to NDM4675: For 30, Abstain 0, Against 15.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment agreed.*

*Cafodd gwelliant 2 ei ddad-ddethol.
Amendment 2 deselected.*

*Gwelliant 3 i NDM4675: O blaid 14, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.
Amendment 3 to NDM4675: For 14, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Williams, Kirsty

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary

Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment not agreed.*

Cynnig NDM4675 fel y'i diwygiwyd

Motion NDM4675 as amended

Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

The National Assembly for Wales

1. Yn croesawu Adnewyddu'r Economi: cyfeiriad newydd sy'n dangos cyfeiriad newydd radical ar gyfer darparu'r amgylchedd iawn ar gyfer twf economaidd, arloesi a swyddi cynaliadwy tymor hir.

1. Welcomes Economic Renewal: a new direction which marks a radical new direction to provide the right environment for long-term economic growth, innovation and sustainable jobs.

2. Yn nodi:

2. Notes:

a) Bod y rhaglen ReACT wedi esgor ar 17,467 o leoliadau hyfforddi i weithwyr sydd newydd gollu eu swyddi yng Nghymru, bod tros 1000 o bobl ifanc wedi cael prentisiaethau o dan y Rhaglen Recrwtiaid Newydd a bod 2000 o leoliadau eraill wedi'u creu yn sgil y Rhaglen Llwybrau at Brentisiaethau;

a) The ReACT programme has resulted in 17,467 training placements for workers recently made redundant in Wales, over 1000 young people have gained apprenticeships under the Young Recruits Programme and a further 2000 placements are available under the Pathways to Apprenticeship programme;

b) Yr ymrwymiad o dan Adnewyddu'r Economi i fuddsoddi mewn seilwaith sy'n addas ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif, fel band eand cyflym a thrafnidiaeth gyhoeddus gynaliadwy, i symbylu twf yr economi a swyddi;

b) The commitment under Economic Renewal to invest in 21st century infrastructure such as hi-speed broadband and sustainable public transport to stimulate economic growth and jobs;

c) Gwaith parhaus Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i chwilio am opsiynau i gynyddu cyfalaf twf ar gyfer busnesau yng Nghymru, a chyhoeddi'r Strategaeth Weithgynhyrchu yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn.

c) The Welsh Assembly Government's ongoing work in exploring options to increase growth capital for businesses in Wales, and the publication of the Manufacturing Strategy later this month.

3. Yn condemnio penderfyniad Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i dorri'n sylweddol ar y gefnogaeth i ddarparu hyfforddiant a swyddi i bobl ifanc.

3. Condemns the UK government's decision to introduce substantial cuts in support for young people to gain training and employment.

*Cynnig NDM4675 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 15.
 Motion NDM4675 as amended: For 30, Abstain 0, Against 15.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
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Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd cynnig NDM4675 fel y'i diwygiwyd.
Motion NDM4675 as amended agreed.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Cymru: Cenedl o Oryfed mewn Pyliau? Wales: A Binge Drinking Nation?

Christine Chapman: I have been asked by Jenny Randerson and Jeff Cuthbert if they can contribute to this debate. I would like to start by thanking Andrew Misell of Alcohol Concern Cymru and Wynford Ellis Owen of the Welsh Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs for their help as I prepared for this short debate. Over the last few months and because of my increasing concerns about the impact of the alcohol abuse that I have been witnessing within my community, I was able to talk to them as experts in this field. I have also talked to a number of families that have been affected by alcohol abuse.

Christine Chapman: Mae Jenny Randerson a Jeff Cuthbert wedi gofyn i mi os gallant gyfrannu at y ddadl hon. Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Andrew Misell o Alcohol Concern Cymru a Wynford Ellis Owen o Gyngor Cymru ar Alcohol a Chyffuriau Eraill am eu cymorth wrth i mi baratoi ar gyfer y ddadl fer. Dros y misoedd diwethaf ac oherwydd fy mhryderon cynyddol ynglŷn ag effaith y cam-drin alcohol yr wyf wedi bod yn dyst iddo yn fy nghymuned fy hun, roeddwn yn gallu siarad â hwy fel arbenigwyr yn y maes hwn. Rwyf hefyd wedi siarad â nifer o deuluoedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan gamddefnyddio alcohol.

In Wales, we are drinking more than ever, Yng Nghymru, rydym yn yfed mwy nag

and many of us are drinking much more than the recommended guidelines of 21 units for men and 14 for women per week. As a result of alcohol, 1,000 of us die in Wales each year, and 15 per cent of hospital admissions are due to alcoholic intoxication.

However, as any heavy drinker will testify, the pain of alcoholism is not borne by the individual alone and, for every person affected, you may see a family that is struggling to deal with this and struggling with feelings of hopelessness and fear about what the eventual outcome will be. No better testimony of that is given than by Wynford Ellis Owen, who has described his experiences of the suffering that his family went through as a result of his alcoholism in his moving book, *No Room to Live*. The cycle is pernicious. Alarmingly, the children of alcoholics are four times as likely to become alcoholics themselves and are more likely to be victims of child abuse.

However, this is a problem not only for those in the grip of alcoholism or for their families, but for Welsh society as a whole. I know from discussions with the police how challenging it is for them to deal with binge drinking in public. A YouGov survey of adults in Wales found that 45 per cent felt that their town had become a no-go zone due to alcohol-related problems.

As for young people, we also know that Wales is one of the worst areas in Europe in terms of alcohol misuse among its young people. We know that, among Welsh 11-year-olds, 7 per cent of boys and 4 per cent of girls say that they drink alcohol at least once a week, as do over a fifth of 13-year-olds. In 2006, over 500 young people under 16 years of age were admitted to hospital for alcohol-related conditions, and over 8 per cent of referrals for alcohol misuse are for those aged 19 and under.

From conversations with those who have

erioed, ac mae llawer ohonom yn yfed llawer mwy nag y mae'r canllawiau yn ei argymhell, sef 21 uned yr wythnos i ddynion a 14 uned yr wythnos i fenywod. Mae 1,000 ohonom yn marw yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn o ganlyniad i alcohol, ac mae 15 y cant o'r derbyniadau i ysbytai yn deillio o feddwi oherwydd alcohol.

Fodd bynnag, fel y byddai unrhyw yfwr trwm yn ei dystio, nid yr unigolyn yn unig sy'n dioddef poen alcoholiaeth, ac am bob person yr effeithir arnynt, efallai y gwelwch deulu sy'n cael trafferth i ddelio â hyn ac yn brwydro â theimladau o anobaith ac ofn ynghylch beth fydd canlyniad terfynol yr yfed. Nid oes tystiolaeth well o hyn na'r hyn a gyflwynwyd gan Wynford Ellis Owen, sydd wedi disgrifio ei brofiad o ddiodeffaint ei deulu oherwydd ei alcoholiaeth ef yn ei lyfr dirdynol, *No Room to Live*. Mae'r cylch yn un niweidiol. Yr hyn sy'n frawychus, yw bod plant pobl alcoholig bedair gwaith yn fwy tebygol o ddod yn alcoholigion eu hunain ac maent yn fwy tebygol o ddiodeff camdriniaeth hefyd.

Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn broblem, nid yn unig i'r rhai y mae alcoholiaeth wedi cydio ynddynt neu i'w teuluoedd, ond i gymdeithas yn ei chyfanrwydd yng Nghymru. Gwn yn ôl y trafodaethau a gefais gyda'r heddlu pa mor heriol y mae iddynt ymdrin â goryfed mewn pyliau yn gyhoeddus. Canfu arolwg YouGov o oedolion yng Nghymru fod 45 y cant yn teimlo bod eu tref wedi dod yn barth na fyddant yn mynd yn agos ato, oherwydd problemau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol.

O ran pobl ifanc, gwyddom hefyd fod Cymru yn un o'r ardaloedd gwaethaf yn Ewrop o ran camddefnyddio alcohol ymhlith ei phobl ifanc. Gwyddom, ymhlith plant 11 oed yng Nghymru, dywed 7 y cant o fechgyn a 4 y cant o ferched eu bod yn yfed alcohol o leiaf unwaith yr wythnos, fel y mae dros un rhan o bump o blant 13 oed. Yn 2006, roedd dros 500 o bobl ifanc o dan 16 mlwydd oed yn cael eu derbyn i'r ysbyty ar gyfer cyflyrau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol, a dros 8 y cant o atgyfeiriadau camddefnyddio alcohol ar gyfer pobl ifanc 19 oed ac iau.

O gynnal sgrisiau gyda rhai sydd wedi

suffered from alcoholism, it is clear that there is more than a grain of truth in the suggestion that people turn to drink to replace something that is missing. It can affect both young and old. There may be numerous reasons why young people want to drink alcohol. For example, I was pleased to attend the launch of a DVD by the Family Awareness Drugs Scheme in my constituency last year, which highlighted the dangers of young people turning to drink because they feel that there is nothing else to do. It could be a question of a lack of confidence on the part of young people. As such, I welcome the work of Platform 51, the former YWCA, which is involved in a project on promoting resilience and confidence among young people. In addition, one of the great things about the foundation phase and its learning through play is that it will give children confidence for later life, and the skills and self-esteem that I am sure will help them to deal with issues such as alcohol as they grow up.

I was pleased that, last year, the Welsh Assembly Government consulted on the issue of alcohol in further and higher education settings, and placed an emphasis on raising awareness about under-age drinking. However, further work needs to be done among parents to get the message across that if parents drink excessively, children will see that as normal. It is about developing a healthy relationship with alcohol and I am glad that the Welsh Assembly Government is making a priority of this, as shown by the fact that the budget for tackling the misuse of alcohol increased by 20 per cent for 2010-11.

We must also recognise the role of the media, where binge drinking is promoted as something that is normal. Many soap operas have storylines in which alcohol plays a central role; our newspapers and magazines celebrate the booze-fuelled exploits of celebrities; and hard drinkers have entered into our popular folklore as people to be respected and admired—something that seems particularly common here in Wales.

dioddef alcoholiaeth, mae'n amlwg bod mwy na gronyn o wirionedd yn yr awgrym bod pobl yn troi at yfed fel rhywbeth i gymryd lle rhywbeth sydd ar goll. Gall effeithio ar yr hen a'r ifanc. Gall fod nifer o resymau pam y mae pobl ifanc yn awyddus i yfed alcohol. Er enghraifft, roedd yn bleser gen i fynychu lansiad DVD gan y Cynllun Ymwybyddiaeth o Gyffuriau gan Deuluoedd yn fy etholaeth y llynedd, a dynnodd sylw at y perygl o bobl ifanc yn troi at yfed oherwydd eu bod yn teimlo nad oes dim arall i'w wneud. Mae'n ymwneud o bosibl â diffyg hyder ymhlith pobl ifanc. O'r herwydd, croesawaf waith Platform 51, sef y YWCA gynt, sy'n rhan o brosiect i hyrwyddo gwydnwch a hyder ymysg pobl ifanc. Yn ogystal, un o'r pethau gwych am gynllun y cyfnod sylfaen a dysgu drwy chwarae yw y bydd yn rhoi hyder i blant ar gyfer bywyd, yn ogystal â'r sgiliau a'r hunan-barch yr wyf yn sicr fydd yn eu helpu i ymdrin â materion fel alcohol pan fyddant yn tyfu.

Roeddwn yn falch bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymgynghori y llynedd ynghylch y mater o alcohol mewn lleoliadau addysg bellach ac addysg uwch, ac wedi rhoi pwyslais ar godi ymwybyddiaeth am yfed dan oed. Fodd bynnag, mae angen gwneud rhagor o waith ymhlith rhieni i drosglwyddo'r neges, oherwydd os bydd rhieni'n yfed yn ormodol, bydd y plant yn gweld hynny fel y peth iawn i'w wneud. Mae'n ymwneud â datblygu perthynas iach ag alcohol ac rwy'n falch bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn sicrhau bod hyn yn flaenoriaeth, fel y dangosir gan y ffaith bod y gyllideb ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio alcohol wedi cynyddu 20 y cant ar gyfer 2010-11.

Rhaid i ni hefyd gydnabod rôl y cyfryngau, lle yr hyrwyddir goryfed mewn pyliau fel rhywbeth sy'n dderbyniol. Mae gan lawer o operâu sebon straeon lle bydd alcohol yn chwarae rôl ganolog; mae ein papurau newydd a'n cylchgronau yn dathlu gorchestion enwogion sy'n goryfed; ac mae yfwyr trwm wedi ennill eu lle yn ein llên gwerin poblogaidd fel pobl sy'n haeddu parch ac edmygedd. Mae hon yn elfen sy'n ymddangos yn arbennig o gyffredin yma yng Cymru.

Alcohol Concern Cymru has also shown worrying examples of where the alcohol industry specifically targets a young, possibly under-age audience, through marketing and sponsorship, and, in particular, highlights the dangers of having alcohol manufacturers sponsoring sporting events. Tobacco sponsorship has been banned from sporting events for health reasons, so why is alcohol any different?

7.00 p.m.

One solution that needs to be seriously considered is the move towards the minimum pricing of alcohol. I was disappointed to see that the request from the Minister for Health and Social Services that powers relating to the pricing of alcohol be devolved to Wales was turned down by the UK Government. The Home Office has now spoken about minimum pricing across the whole of the UK. Campaigners, including the UK's chief medical officer, have suggested a minimum price of 50p per unit of alcohol, but the Home Office only plans to ban the selling of alcohol below cost price. This would not solve the problem, as customers would be charged just 38p for a can of lager, and just over £2 for a bottle of wine. That is less than the unit cost, and would still make a can of lager cheaper than a can of pop, so a bolder approach must be taken.

We also need to think about where shops sell alcohol. In a report that was published yesterday, Alcohol Concern Cymru looked at four supermarkets in Cardiff, and noted alcohol being sold alongside everyday grocery items and soft drinks, and, incredibly, alcohol being promoted as an impulse purchase. We know that there is public support for alcohol to be sold from a single site in supermarkets, which would follow the sensible example in place in Scotland.

Finally, 5 per cent of the drinking population are alcohol dependent. It is worth remembering that this is the group where

Mae Alcohol Concern Cymru hefyd wedi dangos enghreifftiau lle mae'r diwydiant alcohol yn targedu pobl ifanc yn benodol, a phobl ifanc sydd o dan oed o bosibl, sy'n destun pryder, drwy farchnata a nawdd, ac, yn benodol, mae'n tynnu sylw at y perygl o gael cynhyrchwyr alcohol i noddi digwyddiadau chwaraeon. Mae nawdd gan gwmnïau tybaco wedi'i wahardd o ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon am resymau iechyd, felly pam mae alcohol yn wahanol?

Un ateb y mae angen ei ystyried o ddifrif yw'r cam tuag at sefydlu isafswm pris alcohol. Roeddwn yn siomedig o weld bod y cais gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol y dylai pwerau dros brisio alcohol gael eu ddatganoli i Gymru wedi'i wrthod gan Lywodraeth y DU. Mae'r Swyddfa Gartref bellach wedi siarad am isafswm pris drwy'r DU gyfan. Mae ymgyrchwyr, gan gynnwys prif swyddog meddygol y DU, wedi awgrymu isafswm pris o 50c am bob uned o alcohol, ond mae'r Swyddfa Gartref yn bwriadu gwahardd gwerthu alcohol am bris is na'r pris cost yn unig. Ni fyddai hyn yn datrys y broblem, gan y byddai 38c yn unig yn cael ei godi ar gwsmeriaid am dun o lager, ac ychydig dros £2 am botel o win. Mae hynny'n llai na chost yr uned, a byddai tun o lager yn dal yn rhatach na thun o bop, felly rhaid cael dull gweithredu mwy beiddgar.

Mae angen i ni feddwl hefyd lle bydd siopau'n gwerthu alcohol. Mewn adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd ddoe, edrychodd Alcohol Concern Cymru ar bedair archfarchnad yng Nghaerdydd, a nododd fod alcohol yn cael ei werthu ochr yn ochr ag eitemau bwyd bob dydd a diodydd meddal, ac yn rhyfeddol, bod alcohol yn cael ei hyrwyddo fel eitem i'w brynu'n fyrbwyll. Gwyddom fod cefnogaeth gyhoeddus i werthu alcohol o un safle mewn archfarchnadoedd, a fyddai'n dilyn yr enghraifft synhwyrol sydd ar waith yn yr Alban.

Yn olaf, mae 5 y cant o'r boblogaeth sy'n yfed yn ddibynnol ar alcohol. Mae'n werth cofio mai dyma'r grŵp lle mae angen

most drastic intervention is needed, where addiction may have sprung from a range of triggers. As I have mentioned, we must also focus on help for the families of those affected. Often, these families are distraught; they are overwhelmed by feelings of helplessness as the decision to make a change must come from the alcoholic. There are a number of ways in which help can be provided to alcoholics and their families. One model that I have come across recently is the recovery model, which assumes a holistic approach to the problem, involving peer support and treating the whole person, not just their addiction. I am keen to know the Deputy Minister's thoughts on this model. We know that there is no uniform solution, and that one response would not suit everyone. Bearing this in mind, I am keen to know if the Deputy Minister and her officials have carried out any assessment of the benefits of different models.

In conclusion, tackling alcohol abuse in Wales must become and remain a priority for the Welsh Assembly Government. Far too many lives are being cut short prematurely as a result of alcohol abuse, and there are far too many families suffering its consequences as I speak. This is not necessarily about complete abstinence; it is about Wales developing a healthier relationship with drink.

Jenny Randerson: I thank Christine for allowing me to speak in this particularly important debate. I start by declaring an interest, as a trustee of The Living Room Cardiff, an addiction charity set up by Wynford Ellis Owen, who Chris referred to earlier on.

This debate is about public and private tragedies. It is a public tragedy because of the intimidating effect of public drunkenness, the impact on our national financial resources for the NHS and policing and the impact on public order that drunkenness causes. However, it is most of all a private tragedy, because of the impact of family breakdown and the impact on children, on people's careers and their health. My view is that this

ymyriad mwyaf llym, lle y gall dibyniaeth fod wedi deillio o amrywiaeth o sbardunau. Fel y soniais, mae'n rhaid i ni ganolbwyntio ar gymorth i deuluoedd y rhai yr effeithir arnynt hefyd. Yn aml, mae'r teuluoedd mewn trallod, maent yn cael eu llethu gan deimladau o ddiymadferthedd gan fod yn rhaid i'r penderfyniad i newid gael ei wneud gan yr alcoholig. Mae nifer o ffyrdd y gellir darparu cymorth i alcoholigion a'u teuluoedd. Un model y deuthum ar ei draws yn ddiweddar yw'r model gwella, sy'n ymdrin â'r broblem mewn modd cyfannol, sy'n cynnwys cefnogaeth gan gyfoedion a thrin y person cyfan, nid eu dibyniaeth yn unig. Rwy'n awyddus i wybod barn y Dirprwy Weinidog am y model hwn. Gwyddom nad oes un ateb penodol i'r broblem, ac na fyddai un ymateb yn addas i bawb. O gofio hyn, rwy'n awyddus i wybod os yw'r Dirprwy Weinidog a'i swyddogion wedi cynnal unrhyw asesiad o fanteision y modelau gwahanol.

I gloi, mae'n rhaid i'r gwaith o fynd i'r afael â cham-drin alcohol yng Nghymru ddod yn flaenoriaeth i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a pharhau'n flaenoriaeth. Mae llawer gormod o fywydau'n dod i ben yn gynamserol o ganlyniad i gamddefnyddio alcohol, ac mae llawer gormod o deuluoedd yn dioddef oherwydd ei ganlyniadau wrth i mi siarad. Nid yw hyn o reidrwydd yn ymwneud ag ymatal yn llwyr; mae'n ymwneud â Chymru'n datblygu perthynas iachach gyda diodydd alcohol.

Jenny Randerson: Diolch i Christine am ganiatáu imi siarad yn y ddatl arbennig o bwysig hon. Dechreuaf drwy ddatgan diddordeb, fel un o ymddiriedolwyr yr Ystafell Fyw, Caerdydd, sy'n elusen dibyniaeth a sefydlwyd gan Wynford Ellis Owen, y cyfeiriodd Chris ato'n gynharach.

Mae'r ddatl hon yn ymwneud â thrychinebau cyhoeddus a phreifat. Mae'n drychineb gyhoeddus oherwydd effaith fygythiol meddwdod cyhoeddus, yr effaith ar ein hadnoddau ariannol cenedlaethol ar gyfer y Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol a phlisma a'r effaith ar drefn gyhoeddus a achosir gan feddwdod. Fodd bynnag, mae'n drychineb breifat yn bennaf oll, oherwydd effaith teuluoedd yn chwalu a'r effaith ar blant, ar

problem has always existed, since the start of people's relationship with alcohol, but that it is getting worse and more complex. The costs of the problem for society are, therefore, getting higher. We are now in a situation where there is a serious danger that the next generation of children will be the first to die earlier than their parents in the western world, and in Britain in particular. We have a problem in Britain with our relationship with alcohol—a greater problem than many countries in Europe—but it is not a problem that is unique to us. I would support any of the measures that Chris mentioned to try to deal with that.

Jeff Cuthbert: I thank Christine for tabling this short debate and for allowing me one minute to speak. Recently the media has highlighted statistics showing that, over the last decade, there has been a marked rise in the binge-drinking culture, predominantly among younger people, unfortunately. Alcohol is, of course, a legal substance and, when used responsibly, is enjoyable. However, when it is used irresponsibly, it is a blight on society.

First, it is important that we do not view this purely from a public health perspective. There are over 50 brewers operating in Wales, and 51,000 people are employed in the beer and pub industry, which accounts for £600 million in Welsh wages per year. The industry adds about £1 billion per year to the Welsh economy. Secondly, it is essential that, to counteract the binge-drinking culture, we as a society do everything that we can to promote a culture of responsible, respectable alcohol consumption. That is why drinking in a monitored environment, such as a pub, is key. Thirdly, while some think that minimum pricing is a silver bullet, I am taking the double-edged sword approach: pricing is important, but education is essential. We need to look at programmes that educate parents and pre-teenage children about the dangers and effects of binge drinking. It is a longer route, but it is also likely to be more rewarding.

yrfaoedd ac iechyd pobl. Fy marn i yw bod y broblem hon wedi bodoli erioed, ers dechrau perthynas pobl ag alcohol, ond ei bod yn gwaethygu ac yn mynd yn fwy cymhleth. Mae cost y broblem i gymdeithas yn uwch felly. Rydym bellach mewn sefyllfa lle mae perygl difrifol y bydd y genhedlaeth nesaf o blant y gyntaf i farw yn gynt na'u rhieni yn y byd gorllewinol, ym Mhrydain yn arbennig. Mae gennym broblem gyda'n perthynas ag alcohol ym Mhrydain, ac mae hi'n fwy o broblem yma na llawer o wledydd Ewrop, ond nid yw'n broblem sy'n unigryw i ni. Byddwn yn cefnogi unrhyw un o'r camau y soniodd Chris amdanynt i geisio ymdrin â hynny.

Jeff Cuthbert: Diolch i Christine am gyflwyno'r ddadl fer ac am ganiatáu imi siarad am funud. Yn ddiweddar, mae'r cyfryngau wedi tynnu sylw at ystadegau sy'n dangos, dros y degawd diwethaf, bod cynnydd amlwg yn y diwylliant goryfed, yn bennaf ymhlith pobl ifanc, yn anffodus. Mae alcohol, wrth gwrs, yn sylwedd cyfreithiol, a phan gaiff ei ddefnyddio'n gyfrifol, mae'n bleserus. Fodd bynnag, pan gaiff ei ddefnyddio'n anghyfrifol, mae'n felltith ar gymdeithas.

Yn gyntaf, mae'n bwysig nad ydym yn gweld hyn o safbwynt iechyd cyhoeddus yn unig. Mae dros 50 o fragwyr yn gweithredu yng Nghymru, a 51,000 o bobl yn cael eu cyflogi yn y diwydiant cwrw a thafarndai sy'n gyfrifol am £600 miliwn mewn cyflogau yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn. Mae'r diwydiant yn ychwanegu tua £1 biliwn y flwyddyn i economi Cymru. Yn ail, mae'n hanfodol ein bod fel cymdeithas yn gwneud popeth y gallwn i hybu diwylliant o yfed alcohol yn gyfrifol a pharchus er mwyn gwrthweithio'r diwylliant pyliau o oryfed. Dyna pam fod yfed mewn amgylchedd lle gellir ei fonitro, fel tafarn, yn allweddol. Yn drydydd, er bod rhai yn meddwl bod isafswm pris yn ateb i bopeth, rwy'n edrych arni mewn ffordd ddeublyg: mae prisio'n bwysig, ond mae addysg yn hanfodol. Mae angen i ni edrych ar raglenni sy'n addysgu rhieni a phlant cyn iddynt gyrraedd eu harddegau am beryglon goryfed mewn pyliau ac effeithiau hynny arnynt. Mae'r llwybr yn hirach, ond mae'n debygol o arwain at ganlyniadau gwell hefyd.

The Deputy Minister for Social Services (Gwenda Thomas): I would like to thank Christine Chapman for proposing today's debate. Wales is not immune from the misuse of alcohol, including binge drinking, and it is important that we discuss this issue in order to implement effective solutions to these problems. It can often appear that binge drinking has become irreversibly ingrained in the culture of Wales and the UK, and it is true that it is a serious issue, damaging the health of individuals and blighting communities through the crime and anti-social behaviour associated with excessive drinking. However, the Minister has never accepted the argument that excessive alcohol intake is somehow part of our character—just the way that it has always been. This suggests that we should just focus our attention on picking up the pieces rather than tackling the root causes, and she does not accept this analysis. Alcohol has always been part of our culture, but it has not always dominated in the way that it now seems to. The question, therefore, is what has changed, and what can we do to reverse this change?

'Working Together to Reduce Harm' sets out the Welsh Assembly Government's 10-year strategy for tackling substance misuse, including the harms associated with excessive alcohol consumption. The strategy describes how we will tackle substance misuse through education and prevention, tackling availability while offering treatment and support for those who misuse drugs and alcohol. We have supported the implementation of this strategy with significant levels of funding, and our total budget for tackling substance misuse this financial year is £52.6 million. Since 2005-06, we have created over 7,500 extra treatment places in Wales and we are doing everything in our power to minimise the harmful effects of alcohol and prevent misuse through education and targeted schemes.

The early detection of an alcohol problem is crucial to preventing serious long-term health problems and alcohol dependency. We have developed an accredited training programme

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Gwenda Thomas): Hoffwn ddiolch i Christine Chapman am gynnig y ddadl heddiw. Nid yw Cymru'n ddiogel rhag effeithiau camddefnyddio alcohol, gan gynnwys goryfed mewn pyliau, ac mae'n bwysig ein bod yn trafod y mater hwn er mwyn sicrhau bod gennym atebion effeithiol i'r problemau hyn. Gall ymddangos yn aml bod goryfed mewn pyliau wedi dod yn arfer anadferadwy ac yn rhan annatod o ddiwylliant Cymru a'r DU, ac mae'n wir ei fod yn fater difrifol, sy'n niweidiol i iechyd unigolion ac yn amharu ar gymunedau o ganlyniad i droseddau ac ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol sy'n gysylltiedig ag yfed gormod. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r Gweinidog wedi derbyn y ddadl bod yfed gormod o alcohol rywsut yn rhan o'n cymeriad—dim ond mai felly y bu hi erioed. Mae hyn yn awgrymu y dylem ganolbwyntio ar drin y symptomau yn unig, yn hytrach na mynd i'r afael â'r achosion sylfaenol, ac nid yw'n derbyn y dadansoddiad hwn. Bu alcohol yn rhan o'n diwylliant erioed, ond ni fu erioed mor flaenllaw ag y mae yn awr. Y cwestiwn yw, beth sydd wedi newid felly, a beth allwn ni ei wneud i wrthdroi'r newid hwn?

'Gweithio Gyda'n Gilydd i Leihau Niwed' yw strategaeth 10 mlynedd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i fynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio sylweddau, gan gynnwys y niwed sy'n gysylltiedig â goryfed alcohol. Mae'r strategaeth yn disgrifio sut y byddwn yn mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio sylweddau drwy addysg ac atal, mynd i'r afael ag argaeledd tra'n cynnig triniaeth a chymorth i'r rhai sy'n camddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol. Cefnogwyd y dulliau o weithredu'r strategaeth hon gan lefelau sylweddol o arian gennym, a'n cyllideb gyfan ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio sylweddau yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon yw £52.6 miliwn. Ers 2005-06, rydym wedi creu dros 7,500 o leoedd ar gyfer triniaeth yng Nghymru, ac rydym yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i leihau effeithiau niweidiol alcohol ac atal camddefnyddio drwy addysg a chynlluniau wedi'u targedu.

Mae darganfod problem alcohol yn gynnar yn hanfodol i atal problemau iechyd difrifol a dibyniaeth ar alcohol yn yr hirdymor. Rydym wedi datblygu rhaglen hyfforddi achrededig

in brief interventions for nurses treating patients with alcohol-related injuries in trauma and maxillofacial departments. This supports the early identification of alcohol misuse and encourages referral to treatment where appropriate. In the primary care setting, the Welsh Assembly Government has funded Public Health Wales to provide training and resources for primary care to enable practitioners to respond appropriately when individuals present with alcohol-related issues. That includes giving advice about the risks of drinking too much alcohol and referring for further treatment at a substance misuse agency if necessary.

I know, Christine, that you have previously mentioned the problem of alcohol-related deaths, and it is something that we are working very hard to tackle. After all, even one death is too many. Last year, we commissioned a significant piece of work to examine alcohol-related deaths across Wales, to determine what lessons can be learned and to translate it into service planning and delivery. This report, due to be received at the end of March, will contribute to how services are shaped in the future to reduce these tragic deaths. Furthermore, the Public Health Wales Observatory will provide an expert surveillance and analytical function on the nature of alcohol use and misuse in Wales, including looking at the impact of current licensing laws. However, it is vital to try to prevent problems before they begin, to nip them in the bud. To that end, we have supported the all-Wales schools liaison core programme to develop an alcohol-education strand, allowing the promotion of a whole-school approach to alcohol education. We have also developed good practice guidance, which addresses the issue of alcohol misuse in further and higher education establishments in Wales. In addition, our strengthening families programme 10-14 aims to reinforce protective factors, such as parenting, communication and young people's resilience skills, and simultaneously reduce key risk factors that are located within families. The programmes are now being delivered in Caerphilly, Swansea, Flintshire, Carmarthenshire, Merthyr, Wrexham and the Rhondda.

mewn ymyriadau byr i niysys drin cleifion gydag anafiadau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol mewn adrannau trawma a genol-wynebol. Mae hyn yn cefnogi'r farn y dylid adnabod camddefnyddio alcohol yn gynnar ac yn annog atgyfeirio ar gyfer triniaeth lle bo hynny'n briodol. Yn y lleoliad gofal sylfaenol, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ariannu Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru i ddarparu hyfforddiant ac adnoddau i ofal sylfaenol i alluogi ymarferwyr i ymateb yn briodol pan fo unigolion yn dod atynt gyda phroblemau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol. Mae hynny'n cynnwys rhoi cyngor am beryglon yfed gormod o alcohol a chyfeirio am driniaeth bellach gan asiantaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau os oes angen.

Gwn, Christine, eich bod wedi crybwyll y broblem o farwolaethau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol o'r blaen, ac mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym yn gweithio'n galed iawn i fynd i'r afael ag ef. Wedi'r cyfan, mae un farwolaeth, hyd yn oed, yn ormod. Y llynedd, comisiynwyd darn sylweddol o waith gennym i ymchwilio i farwolaethau sy'n gysylltiedig ag alcohol ar draws Cymru, er mwyn penderfynu pa wersi y gellir eu dysgu a'u trosi i'r broses o gynllunio a darparu gwasanaethau. Bydd yr adroddiad hwn, a ddaw i ni ddiwedd mis Mawrth, yn cyfrannu at y ffordd mae gwasanaethau yn cael eu llunio yn y dyfodol i leihau'r marwolaethau trychinebus hyn. Ar ben hynny, bydd Arsyllfa Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru yn darparu swyddogaeth oruchwylio a dadansoddi arbenigol ar natur y defnydd a'r camddefnydd o alcohol yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys edrych ar effaith cyfreithiau trwyddedu presennol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n hanfodol ceisio atal problemau cyn iddynt ddechrau. I'r perwyl hwnnw, rydym wedi cefnogi rhaglen gyswllt ysgolion graidd yng Nghymru gyfan i ddatblygu elfen addysg ar alcohol, sy'n caniatáu hyrwyddo drwy ddull ysgol gyfan o ran addysg ar alcohol. Rydym hefyd wedi datblygu canllawiau arfer da, sy'n mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio alcohol mewn sefydliadau addysg bellach ac addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Yn ogystal, mae ein rhaglen gryfhau teuluoedd 10-14 yn ceisio atgyfnerthu ffactorau gwarchodol, fel sgiliau rhianta, cyfathrebu a gwydnwch pobl ifanc, ac ar yr un pryd yn ceisio lleihau'r ffactorau risg allweddol mewn teuluoedd. Cyflwynir y

rhaglenni bellach yng Nghaerffili, Abertawe, Sir y Fflint, Sir Gaerfyrddin, Merthyr, Wrecsam a'r Rhondda.

We are working very hard to tackle binge drinking, and we are using all of the tools at our disposal. However, our ability to tackle the excessive availability of alcohol is limited by the lack of devolved powers in this area. Members will know that most of the levers that can influence alcohol availability in Wales rest with the UK Government. Just last week, the Minister for Health and Social Services launched a consultation to tighten the laws around smoking in public places. She did that because she is convinced of the potential for saving lives that such a move would bring. She is equally convinced that being able to make specific legislation for Wales on alcohol would bring similar benefits.

Welsh Ministers have consistently lobbied the UK Government for tougher action to tackle the availability of alcohol. The Minister welcomed the changes to licensing legislation being taken forward by the UK Government as a positive step in the right direction. However, she still believes that there is more that should be done, particularly in relation to the price and promotion of alcohol. She is pleased that the UK Government now acknowledges the need to tackle the sale of cheap alcohol, but the recently announced ban on sales below duty plus VAT will, in her view, only have a very limited impact, and the case for a minimum price for alcohol remains strong. The Minister believes that there is a strong case for the devolution of powers in respect of alcohol licensing, and not just because the UK Government is not moving as far or as fast as we would like. The burden of the harms associated with excessive alcohol consumption fall substantially on services for which responsibility is devolved, and we know that licensing is one of the most effective mechanisms through which alcohol consumption can be controlled.

7.15 p.m.

Rydym yn gweithio'n galed iawn i fynd i'r afael â goryfed mewn pylliau, ac rydym yn defnyddio'r holl offer sydd ar gael i ni wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae ein gallu i ymdrin â bod gormodedd o alcohol ar gael wedi'i gyfyngu gan y diffyg pwerau datganoledig yn y maes hwn. Bydd yr Aelodau'n gwybod bod y rhan fwyaf o'r ffactorau a all ddylanwadu ar argaeledd alcohol yng Nghymru yn un o gyfrifoldebau Llywodraeth y DU. Yr wythnos diwethaf, lansiodd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ymgynghoriad ar lymhau deddfau sy'n gysylltiedig ag ysmygu mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Mae hi'n gwneud hynny am ei bod yn argyhoeddedig ynghylch potensial cam o'r fath o ran arbed bywydau. Mae hi yr un mor argyhoeddedig y byddai gallu gwneud deddfwriaeth benodol ar alcohol ar gyfer Cymru yn sicrhau manteision tebyg.

Mae Gweinidogion Cymru wedi lobbio Llywodraeth y DU yn gyson am weithredu llymach i fynd i'r afael ag argaeledd alcohol. Croesawodd y Gweinidog y newidiadau i'r ddeddfwriaeth drwyddedu a ddatblygwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU fel cam cadarnhaol yn y cyfeiriad cywir. Fodd bynnag, mae hi'n dal i gredu y dylid gwneud rhagor, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â phris, a hyrwyddo alcohol. Mae hi'n falch bod Llywodraeth y DU yn awr yn cydnabod bod angen mynd i'r afael â gwerthu alcohol rhad, ond effaith gyfyngedig iawn fydd y gwaharddiad, a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar, ar werthu am bris is na phris y dreth ynghyd â TAW, yn ei barn hi, ac mae'r achos dros bennu isafswm pris ar alcohol yn parhau'n gryf. Cred y Gweinidog bod achos cryf o blaid datganoli pwerau mewn perthynas â thrwyddedu alcohol, ac nid dim ond am nad yw'r Llywodraeth y DU yn symud mor bell nac mor gyflym ag yr hoffem. Mae baich y niwed sy'n gysylltiedig â goryfed alcohol yn disgyn fwyfwy ar wasanaethau y mae'r cyfrifoldeb amdanynt wedi'i ddatganoli, a gwyddom fod trwyddedu yn un o'r mecanweithiau mwyaf effeithiol ar gyfer rheoli yfed alcohol.

Lorraine Barrett: As you are talking about licensing, do you agree that one big problem is the easy availability of alcohol on almost every street corner in every supermarket and that that needs to be looked at seriously in conjunction with pricing?

Gwenda Thomas: We know that the Minister is committed to that, and she is repeating that in what is being said now. The Minister believes that the controls that apply to when, where and how alcohol can be sold in Wales should be determined in this Chamber. Members will know that she has lobbied for the devolution of powers in respect of alcohol licensing, but her request was refused by the UK Government. We are considering our next steps, but the case for devolution remains strong. To conclude, the Minister is grateful for the opportunity to restate the strong commitment of this Government to tackle binge drinking and Members can be assured that we will continue to use all the means at our disposal as well as to press for change on matters where powers are not devolved.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Diolch, Ddirprwy Weinidog. That brings today's proceedings to a close.

Lorraine Barrett: Gan eich bod yn sôn am drwyddedu, a ydych yn cytuno mai un broblem fawr yw argaeledd hawdd alcohol ar bron bob cornel stryd ym mhob archfarchnad a bod angen edrych ar hynny o ddifrif ar y cyd â phrisiau?

Gwenda Thomas: Gwyddom fod y Gweinidog wedi ymrwymo i hynny, ac mae hi'n ei ailadrodd yn yr hyn sy'n cael ei ddweud yn awr. Mae'r Gweinidog yn credu y dylai'r rheolau sy'n berthnasol o ran pryd, ble a sut y gellir gwerthu alcohol yng Nghymru gael eu penderfynu yn y Siambr hon. Bydd Aelodau yn ymwybodol ei bod wedi llobio dros ddatganoli pwerau ar gyfer trwyddedu alcohol, ond gwrthodwyd ei chais gan Lywodraeth y DU. Yr ydym yn ystyried ein camau nesaf, ond mae'r achos dros ddatganoli yn dal i fod yn gryf. I gloi, mae'r Gweinidog yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i ailddatgan ymrwymiad cryf y Llywodraeth hon i fynd i'r afael â goryfed mewn pylliau a gellir sicrhau Aelodau y byddwn yn parhau i ddefnyddio pob cyfrwng sydd ar gael inni yn ogystal â phwyso am newid ar faterion lle na ddatganolwyd pwerau.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolch, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Daw hynny â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 7.16 p.m.
The meeting ended at 7.16 p.m.*

Aelodau a'u Pleidiau Members and their Parties

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
 Asghar, Mohammad (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
 Bates, Mick (Democrat Rhyddfrydol Annibynnol – Independent Liberal Democrat)
 Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Burns, Angela (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
 Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
 Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew R.T. (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Paul (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Evans, Nerys (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Franks, Chris (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)

German, Veronica (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
Griffiths, Lesley (Llafur – Labour)
Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
Jenkins, Bethan (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
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, Gareth (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Law, Trish (Annibynnol – Independent)
Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
Millar, Darren (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
Ramsay, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
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, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Watson, Joyce (Llafur – Labour)
Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)