



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

**Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings**

**Dydd Mawrth, 29 Mawrth 2011
Tuesday, 29 March 2011**

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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y Siambr.
Yn ogystal, cynhwysir cyfieithiad Saesneg o gyfraniadau yn y Gymraeg.

In the left-hand column, the proceedings are recorded in the language in which they were spoken in the Chamber. In addition, an English translation of Welsh speeches is 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 Prif Weinidog.
The Presiding Officer: Order for questions to the First Minister.

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Cyllideb Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

I. Nick Ramsay: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am y gyllideb Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. OAQ(3)3504(FM)*

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): We are committed to protecting front-line health services.

Nick Ramsay: Thank you for that answer, First Minister. This is the last set of questions to you and your Government before dissolution, and I am sure that you will agree that over the last four years, much has been achieved, but that a great deal has not. If you look at the NHS, we have a situation where waiting times are longer than they were before; ambulance response times are not as they should be; and, if you look at a whole plethora of health indicators, Wales is not performing as well as it should be in the NHS area. First Minister, you recently said that you wanted to stop the cuts. Will you now join us on this side of the Chamber in stopping the £1 billion-worth of cuts that your party is proposing to make to the NHS in Wales over the next three years?

The First Minister: The fact is that referral-to-treatment times have improved greatly over the past four years, but let us come back to this tired old argument about the alleged cuts. We know for a fact that, in England, there will be cuts of £500 million in actual terms, not just in real terms—the House of Commons' library has confirmed it today. We also know that this figure of £1 billion has been plucked out of thin air. Your candidate in the Aberavon constituency is claiming that Neath Port Talbot hospital is going to close. There is also the idea that

Health and Social Services Budget

I. Nick Ramsay: *Will the First Minister make a statement on the Health and Social Services budget. OAQ(3)3504(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog (Carwyn Jones): Rydym wedi ymrwymo i warchod gwasanaethau iechyd rheng flaen.

Nick Ramsay: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Brif Weinidog. Dyma'r gyfres olaf o gwestiynau i chi a'ch Llywodraeth cyn y diddymiad, ac rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn cytuno bod llawer wedi'i gyflawni dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf, ond bod llawer iawn heb ei gyflawni. Os edrychwch ar y GIG, fe welwch ein bod mewn sefyllfa lle mae amseroedd aros yn llawer hwy nag oeddynt o'r blaen; nid yw amseroedd ymateb ambiwlansys yr hyn y dylent fod; ac, os edrychwch ar lu o ddangosyddion iechyd, fe welwch nad yw Cymru yn perfformio cystal ag y dylai ym maes y GIG. Brif Weinidog, dywedoch yn ddiweddar eich bod eisiau atal y toriadau. A ymunwch â ni ar ochr hon y Siambr i atal gwerth £1 biliwn o doriadau y mae eich plaid yn bwriadu eu gwneud i'r GIG yng Nghymru dros y tair blynedd nesaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Y ffaith yw bod yr amseroedd rhwng atgyfeirio a thriniaeth wedi gwella'n fawr dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf, ond gadewch inni ddychwelyd at yr hen ddadl dreuliedig hon ynghylch y toriadau honedig. Rydym yn gwybod yn iawn y bydd toriadau o £500 miliwn mewn termau real yn Lloegr—mae llyfrgell Tŷ'r Cyffredin wedi cadarnhau hynny heddiw. Rydym hefyd yn gwybod bod y ffigwr hwn o £1 biliwn wedi'i dynnu o'r gwynt. Mae eich ymgeisydd yn etholaeth Aberafan yn honni bod ysbyty Castell-nedd Port Talbot yn mynd i gau. Mae

there has somehow been a cut in the number of nurses in Wales over the past four years; the number of nurses has gone up from roughly 25,180 to 25,199. That is a small increase, not the 25 per cent cut that you suggest in your literature. At the end of the day, people see through the party opposite; they know full well that what they see is a fib factory.

Joyce Watson: Will the First Minister join me in welcoming the introduction of a £50 a week maximum charge for people receiving council homecare services? Across my region, there has been a historic disparity in how much people have been charged for homecare. I remember particularly a letter that I received a couple of years ago from an 89-year-old woman in Gwynedd who was extremely distressed because her charges had suddenly increased by 50 per cent. A system that created such wide inconsistencies, and the pressure that this put on people's budgets, was plainly unfair. Will you join me therefore in applauding the Deputy Minister for Social Services, Gwenda Thomas, on her efforts to bring fairness to the system, which will make a real difference to the people who rely on these services?

The First Minister: I will join you in commending the Deputy Minister for the introduction of this maximum charge. It means that there will be greater equality across Wales when it comes to homecare charges.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): First Minister, in 1999, just over 10 years ago, Labour promised in its flagship policy document, 'A Better Wales', in setting out what success would look like in 2010, that output per head should have risen from around 83 per cent of the UK average in the 1990s, to at least 90 per cent, generating an additional £5 billion at 1997 prices. It went on to state that with the assistance of Objective 1 resources, output per head in the Valleys and the west of Wales should have increased from about 73 per cent of the UK average during the 1990s to over 80 per cent. Instead, what do we have? We have not that success that it trumpeted, but output

hefyd y syniad bod gostyngiad rywsut wedi bod yn nifer y nyrsys yng Nghymru dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf; mae nifer y nyrsys wedi cynyddu o tua 25,180 i 25,199. Mae hynny'n gynnydd bychan; nid yw hynny'n doriad o 25 y cant yr awgrymwch yn eich deunydd. Ar ddiwedd y dydd, mae pobl yn gweld drwy'r blaid gyferbyn; maent yn gwybod yn iawn mai'r hyn a welant yw ffatri gelwyddau.

Joyce Watson: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ymuno â mi i groesawu cyflwyno'r taliad uchaf o £50 yr wythnos ar gyfer pobl sy'n derbyn gwasanaethau gofal cartref y cyngor? Ar draws fy rhanbarth i, bu gwahaniaeth hanesyddol o ran y swm a godir ar bobl am ofal yn y cartref. Rwy'n cofio derbyn llythyr ychydig o flynyddoedd yn ôl oddi wrth fenyw 89 mlwydd oed yng Ngwynedd a oedd yn hynod o ofidus oherwydd bod y tâl wedi cynyddu'n sydyn gan 50 y cant. Roedd system a oedd yn creu anghysondebau eang o'r fath, a'r pwysau a roddwyd ar gyllidebau pobl, yn amlwg yn annheg. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi, felly, i ganmol y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Gwenda Thomas, ar ei hymdrechion i ddod â thegwch i'r system, a fydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth go iawn i bobl sy'n dibynnu ar y gwasanaethau hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymunaf â chi i ganmol y Dirprwy Weinidog ynghylch cyflwyno'r taliad uchaf hwn. Mae'n golygu y bydd mwy o gydraddoldeb ar draws Cymru o ran taliadau gofal cartref.

Arweinydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig (Nick Bourne): Brif Weinidog, yn 1999, ychydig dros 10 mlynedd yn ôl, addawodd Llafur yn ei dogfen bolisi blaenllaw, 'Gwell Cymru', wrth amlinellu beth fyddai llwyddiant yn 2010, y dylai allbwn y pen fod wedi cynyddu o oddeutu 83 y cant o gyfartaledd y DU yn y 1990au, i o leiaf 90 y cant, gan gynhyrchu swm ychwanegol o £5 biliwn yn ôl prisiau 1997. Aeth ymlaen i ddweud y dylai allbwn y pen, gyda chymorth adnoddau Amcan 1, yn y Cymoedd a gorllewin Cymru fod wedi cynyddu o oddeutu 73 y cant o gyfartaledd y DU yn y 1990au i fwy na 80 y cant. Yn hytrach, beth sydd gennym? Nid oes gennym y llwyddiant y bu ymffrostio yn ei glych, ond

plummeting to 74 per cent in Wales overall, not the 90 per cent that was set out, and in west Wales and the Valleys, output at 63 per cent rather than the over 80 per cent that the document trumpeted. How do you account for this failure?

The First Minister: We know that gross domestic household income has increased significantly in that period of time, to the point where it has improved markedly when compared to the UK average.

Nick Bourne: That was a Labour document setting out those targets of success that you missed miserably. That is what failure looks like; I can understand you not wanting to acknowledge that, but that is what it is. Let me turn to manufacturing. In 1997, 28 per cent of Welsh gross value added was from manufacturing. By 2008, it had fallen to just 17 per cent at the same time as it was increasing in England and Scotland. Over the last five weeks—I have checked—I have been asking you about the manufacturing strategy. You promised that we would have it before the end of this Assembly—before *purdah* kicks in. As recently as last week, you said,

‘the publication of the manufacturing strategy is planned before the Assembly dissolves.’

Imagine my surprise, therefore, when I subsequently received a letter from you that stated,

‘During First Minister’s questions this week I said that our manufacturing strategy would be published before the Assembly dissolves. I have subsequently been advised that this is not the case and to avoid any further confusion’—

although there was not any—

‘I thought it important to set the record straight as soon as possible’.

Are you not leading? Do you not know about your own manufacturing strategy?

plymiodd allbynnau i 74 y cant yng Nghymru yn gyffredinol, yn hytrach na'r 90 y cant a amlinellwyd, ac yng ngorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd, roedd yr allbwn yn 63 y cant yn hytrach na'r 80 y cant a mwy yr oedd y ddogfen yn ei gyhoeddi. Sut ydych chi'n esbonio'r methiant hwn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym yn gwybod bod incwm domestig crynswth aelwydydd wedi cynyddu'n sylweddol yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, i'r pwynt ei fod wedi gwella'n sylweddol o'i gymharu â chyfartaledd y DU.

Nick Bourne: Ddogfen Llafur oedd honno, oedd yn nodi'r targedau hynny o lwyddiant yr ydych wedi methu â'u cyflawni yn druenus. Dyna beth a olygir wrth fethiant; gallaf ddeall nad ydych eisiau cydnabod hynny, ond dyna'r hyn ydyw. Gadewch imi droi at weithgynhyrchu. Yn 1997, roedd 28 y cant o werth ychwanegol crynswth Cymru yn dod o weithgynhyrchu. Erbyn 2008, roedd wedi gostwng i ddim ond 17 y cant ac ar yr un pryd ag yr oedd yn cynyddu yn Lloegr a'r Alban. Dros y pum wythnos diwethaf—rwyf wedi gwirio hyn—rwyf wedi bod yn gofyn i chi am y strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu. Bu ichi addo y byddem yn ei chael cyn diwedd y Cynulliad hwn—cyn dechrau *purdah*. Mor ddiweddar â'r wythnos diwethaf, dywedoch,

‘bwriedir cyhoeddi'r strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu cyn i'r Cynulliad gael ei ddi-ddymu.’

Dychmygwch fy syndod, felly, pan dderbyniais lythyr gennych a oedd yn nodi,

Yn ystod cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog yr wythnos hon dywedais y byddai ein strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu yn cael ei chyhoeddi cyn i'r Cynulliad gael ei ddi-ddymu. Ers hynny, rwyf wedi cael fy nghynghori na fydd hyn yn digwydd ac i osgoi unrhyw ddryswch pellach—

er nad oedd unrhyw ddryswch—

Roedd yn bwysig imi egluro'r sefyllfa cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Onid ydych yn arwain? Onid ydych yn gwybod am eich strategaeth

gweithgynhyrchu eich hun?

The First Minister: There are two strategies; one was published on 16 March and the other is due to be published in the autumn. In order to make it clear, I wanted to ensure that you knew that the second strategy will be published in the autumn, but that the first strategy had already been published on 16 March.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae dwy strategaeth; cafodd un ei chyhoeddi ar 16 Mawrth a bydd y llall yn cael ei chyhoeddi yn yr hydref. Er mwyn ei gwneud yn glir, roeddwn am sicrhau eich bod yn gwybod y bydd yr ail strategaeth yn cael ei chyhoeddi yn yr hydref, ond bod y strategaeth gyntaf wedi'i chyhoeddi ar 16 Mawrth.

Nick Bourne: That is not very convincing, especially when I referred to the first strategy last week. I said then,

Nick Bourne: Nid yw hynny'n argyhoeddiadol iawn, yn enwedig pan gyfeiriais at y strategaeth gyntaf yr wythnos diwethaf. Dywedais bryd hynny,

'Within the last week, the report of the manufacturing forum has been published, and it is expressly stated in the chairman's foreword that...this is...not a Government strategy.'

O fewn yr wythnos ddiwethaf, cyhoeddwyd adroddiad y fforwm gweithgynhyrchu, a nodir yn benodol yn rhagair y cadeirydd nad strategaeth y Llywodraeth yw hon.

I continued,

Ymhellach, gofynnais y canlynol:

'Will you confirm that that is not the strategy and that yours will be forthcoming in the remaining 10 days of this Assembly?'

A wnewch chi gadarnhau nad honno yw'r strategaeth ac y bydd eich strategaeth chi ar gael yn ystod y 10 diwrnod sy'n weddill o'r Cynulliad hwn?

You answered,

Eich ateb chi oedd:

'As I said last week in the Chamber, the publication of the manufacturing strategy is planned before the Assembly dissolves.'

Fel y dywedais yn y Siambr yr wythnos diwethaf, bwriedir cyhoeddi'r strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu cyn i'r Cynulliad gael ei ddiddymu.

How is it that you do not know about your own manufacturing strategy?

Sut nad ydych yn gwybod am eich strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu eich hun?

The First Minister: As I have made clear, the strategy that was produced—'Manufacturing in Wales' is a strategy—was produced on 16 March. As I have also made clear, there will be a further strategy that will be produced in the autumn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Fel yr wyf wedi'i wneud yn glir, cafodd y strategaeth a gynhyrchwyd—mae 'Gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru' yn strategaeth—ei chreu ar 16 Mawrth. Fel yr wyf hefyd wedi'i wneud yn glir, bydd strategaeth bellach a fydd yn cael ei chynhyrchu yn yr hydref.

Nick Bourne: I have pressed you time after time on whether we would have a strategy within this Assembly term. I said that we had waited three years and 11 months to get a strategy and you said that the reason for that was in order to get it right, and that it would come before this Assembly was dissolved. How is it that, last week—even when I put it

Nick Bourne: Rwyf wedi pwyso arnoch dro ar ôl tro ynghylch a fyddai gennym strategaeth o fewn tymor y Cynulliad hwn. Dywedais ein bod wedi aros tair blynedd a 11 mis i gael strategaeth, a dywedoch mai'r rheswm am hynny oedd er mwyn cael pethau'n iawn, ac y byddai'n ymddangos cyn i'r Cynulliad hwn gael ei ddiddymu. Sut

to you in terms of the other document—you did not know when your own manufacturing strategy was going to be published?

The First Minister: As I have said to you, the ‘Manufacturing in Wales’ strategy was published on 16 March. That is a strategy document. Here we have the Tories talking to us about manufacturing, when we know that their budget announcement has ensured that large employers in Wales, such as Tata Steel, are now struggling because of the emissions taxes that they have imposed on industry. We see Vince Cable scuttling to Tata today to try to calm Tata down; that is not the way to encourage investment in Wales, and that is not the way to encourage manufacturing.

Nick Bourne: You may want to try to mask the fact that you do not know, as the leader of your party, when you will publish your manufacturing strategy. You might also try to criticise the present Westminster Government. However, the fact is that manufacturing fell from 28 per cent of GVA in 1997 to 17 per cent in 2008, under a Labour Government at Westminster, and under a Labour administration here. You do not know when your own manufacturing strategy will be published. You then tell us that you have subsequently been told when the manufacturing strategy is coming out. Why did you not know that as First Minister?

The First Minister: I believe that I have answered your question. Here we have a party that did its utmost to wreck manufacturing in this country, and would still do it if it was given the chance, and is still doing it now. We know that. The party on the opposite side of the Chamber has no interest in creating jobs; it should stick to what it does best, which is destroying the economy.

Helen Mary Jones: I wish to bring us back to the health budget. I am sure that you would agree that the investment in local

felly, yr wythnos diwethaf—hyd yn oed pan godais i hyn yn nhermau’r ddogfen arall—nad oeddech yn gwybod pryd fyddai eich strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu chi eich hun yn cael ei chyhoeddi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Fel yr wyf wedi’i ddweud wrthy, cafodd strategaeth ‘Gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru’ ei chyhoeddi ar 16 Mawrth. Dogfen strategaeth yw honno. Mae’r Torïaid yma yn siarad â ni am weithgynhyrchu, a hynny er ein bod yn gwybod i’w cyhoeddiad cyllidebol hwy sicrhau bod cyflogwyr mawr yng Nghymru, megis Tata Steel, bellach yn ei chael yn anodd o ganlyniad i’r trethi allyriadau a orfodwyd ar y diwydiant ganddynt. Rydym yn gweld Vince Cable yn ei heglu hi i Tata heddiw i geisio tawelu Tata; nid dyna’r ffordd i annog buddsoddiad yng Nghymru, ac nid dyna’r ffordd i annog gweithgynhyrchu.

Nick Bourne: Efallai eich bod am geisio cuddio’r ffaith nad ydych yn gwybod, fel arweinydd eich plaid, pryd y byddwch yn cyhoeddi eich strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu. Efallai eich bod hefyd yn ceisio beirniadu’r Llywodraeth bresennol yn San Steffan. Fodd bynnag, y ffaith amdani yw i weithgynhyrchu ostwng o 28 y cant o werth ychwanegol crynswth yn 1997 i 17 y cant yn 2008, o dan Lywodraeth Lafur yn San Steffan, ac o dan weinyddiaeth Lafur yma. Nid ydych yn gwybod pryd y bydd eich strategaeth gweithgynhyrchu eich hun yn cael ei chyhoeddi. Yna dywedwch wrthym eich bod wedi cael gwybod ers hynny pryd y bydd eich strategaeth weithgynhyrchu yn dod allan. Pam nad oeddech chi’n gwybod hynny fel Prif Weinidog?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf fy mod wedi ateb eich cwestiwn. Dyma blaid a wnaeth ei gorau glas i ddryllio gweithgynhyrchu yn y wlad hon, ac a fyddai’n dal i wneud hynny pe rhoddid y cyfle iddi, ac sy’n parhau i wneud hynny yn awr. Rydym yn gwybod hynny. Nid oes gan y blaid ar ochr arall y Siambr unrhyw ddiddordeb mewn creu swyddi; dylai gadw at yr hyn y mae’n ei wneud orau, sef dinistrio’r economi.

Helen Mary Jones: Hoffwn ddychwelyd at y gyllideb iechyd. Rwy’n siŵr y cytunwch fod y buddsoddiad mewn gwasanaethau ysbty

hospital services through the ‘One Wales’ period is something that all of us who have supported your Government can be pleased with. Do you believe that that support for local hospital services should continue under the next Government, whoever makes it up? I am sorry, I do not mean ‘makes it up’. [*Laughter.*] I do not mean to suggest that any Government in this place has ever been, in any sense, imaginary. I believe that you get the gist of my question, First Minister. [*Laughter.*]

The First Minister: I am sure that whoever comprises the next Government after 5 May will want to ensure that health services are delivered as locally as possible.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats (Kirsty Williams): A weak economy, underfunded schools and an NHS that costs more but delivers a lot less; is that the best that Labour and Plaid can deliver for Wales?

The First Minister: Let us consider what the Lib Dems have delivered in England. Look at what they have done with tuition fees, for example—that is the ultimate breach of promise before the public. I am sure that students would rather be in Wales than across the border. We see the foundation phase being rolled out across Wales and we see the investment in the NHS, when we know that there will be a cut of £500 million in the health budget in England in the future. We know, of course, that council taxes are lower in Wales, that local government is better supported in Wales and that there are many good reasons why people want to live in Wales—to avoid the destruction being visited by the Lib Dems upon England.

Kirsty Williams: In March 2007, our unemployment rate in Wales—you are, after all, First Minister of Wales—was the same as the UK average. After four years of your Labour and Plaid Government, we have the highest unemployment rate of the UK nations. What do you think that you and Ieuan Wyn Jones could have done differently?

lleol drwy gyfnod ‘Cymru’n Un’ yn rhywbeth y gall pob un ohonom sydd wedi cefnogi eich Llywodraeth fod yn falch ohono. A ydych yn credu y dylai’r gefnogaeth i wasanaethau ysbyty lleol barhau o dan y Llywodraeth nesaf, pwy bynnag sy’n ei gwneud i fyny? Ymddiheuriadau, nid wyf yn golygu ‘gwneud i fyny’. [*Chwerthin.*] Nid wyf eisiau awgrymu bod unrhyw Lywodraeth yn y lle hwn wedi bod erioed, mewn unrhyw ffordd, yn ddychmygol. Credaf eich bod yn deall byrdwn fy nghestiwn, Brif Weinidog. [*Chwerthin.*]

Y Prif Weinidog: Rwy’n siŵr y bydd pwy bynnag sy’n rhan o’r Llywodraeth nesaf ar ôl 5 Mai am sicrhau bod gwasanaethau iechyd yn cael eu darparu mor lleol ag y bo modd.

Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Kirsty Williams): Economi wan, ysgolion yn cael eu tanariannu a GIG sy’n costio mwy ond sy’n darparu llawer llai; ai dyna yw’r gorau y gall Llafur a Phlaid Cymru ei gyflawni dros Gymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gadewch inni ystyried yr hyn y mae’r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi’i gyflwyno yn Lloegr. Edrychwch ar yr hyn maent wedi ei wneud gyda ffioedd dysgu, er enghraifft—dyna’r enghraifft amlycaf o dorri addewid i’r cyhoedd. Rwy’n siŵr y byddai’n well gan fyfyrwyr fod yng Nghymru na dros y ffin. Rydym yn gweld y cyfnod sylfaen yn cael ei gyflwyno ledled Cymru, a’r buddsoddiad yn y GIG, a hynny gan wybod y bydd toriad o £500 miliwn yn y gyllideb iechyd yn Lloegr yn y dyfodol. Rydym yn gwybod, wrth gwrs, bod y dreth gyngor yn is yng Nghymru, bod llywodraeth leol yn cael ei chefnogi yn well yng Nghymru a bod nifer o resymau da pam y mae pobl eisiau byw yng Nghymru—er mwyn osgoi’r dinistr sy’n cael ei greu gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn Lloegr.

Kirsty Williams: Ym mis Mawrth 2007, roedd ein cyfradd diweithdra yng Nghymru—Prif Weinidog Cymru ydych chi wedi’r cyfan—yr un fath â chyfartaledd y DU. Ar ôl pedair blynedd o Lywodraeth Lafur a Phlaid Cymru, mae gennym y gyfradd diweithdra uchaf ymhlith gwledydd y DU. Beth ydych chi’n meddwl y gallech chi ac Ieuan Wyn Jones fod wedi’i wneud yn wahanol?

The First Minister: I read with interest Kirsty's comments at the Lib Dems' lobby briefing this morning, when she said that, in the election campaign, Nick Clegg will be coming to Wales and that they will welcome him. [*Laughter.*] The phrase 'sham divorce' was used in the Chamber last week, in the context of a divorce between two political parties, but I have never heard of a sham divorce within a political party.

Kirsty Williams: I note, Presiding Officer, that the First Minister is not willing to defend his record on employment in Wales, but he might be willing to defend his record on education. In the last year, there have been three assessments of your management of the education system, First Minister: the GCSE and A-level results put us behind England for the first time; the Programme for International Student Assessment results saw us go backwards in reading, mathematics and science; and Estyn—your own inspectorate—has said that 40 per cent of our children are leaving primary school with a reading age lower than their chronological age. Which of those damning verdicts of your record did you find most disturbing?

The First Minister: We come back to the point that the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning has outlined the way forward for the education system. We have put in place the foundation phase, which is much envied and admired by other countries in the UK and beyond. We have kept the education maintenance allowance that is being scrapped by your party in England, which will mean that many students currently in college in England will not be able to stay there. We have also ensured that people who have the ability to go to university will not be put off by excessive student tuition fees, which was one of your party's key promises when you entered power with the Tories in Westminster last year, and which you broke within the first week or two. That was the level of principle and character of the Lib Dems. We are proud of our record. We are proud of our record with the ProAct and ReAct schemes,

Y Prif Weinidog: Darllenais â diddordeb sylwadau Kirsty ym mriff lobio'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol y bore yma, pan ddywedodd y byddai Nick Clegg, yn ystod yr ymgyrch etholiadol, yn dod i Gymru ac y byddent yn ei groesawu. [*Chwerthin.*] Defnyddiwyd y term *sham divorce* yn y Siambr yr wythnos diwethaf a hynny yng nghyd-destun ysgariad rhwng dwy blaid wleidyddol, ond nid wyf erioed wedi clywed am ysgariad o'r fath o fewn plaid wleidyddol.

Kirsty Williams: Nodaf, Lywydd, nad yw'r Prif Weinidog yn barod i amddiffyn ei record ar gyflogaeth yng Nghymru, ond efallai y bydd yn barod i amddiffyn ei record ar addysg. Yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, cafwyd tri asesiad o'ch rheolaeth chi o'r system addysg, Brif Weinidog: fe'n rhoddwyd y tu ôl i Loegr am y tro cyntaf gyda'n canlyniadau TGAU a Safon Uwch; golygodd canlyniadau'r Rhaglen Ryngwladol Asesu Myfyrwyr ein bod bellach wedi mynd tuag yn ôl o ran darllen, mathemateg a gwyddoniaeth; ac mae Estyn—eich arolygiaeth chi eich hun—wedi dweud bod 40 y cant o'n plant yn gadael yr ysgol gynradd gydag oedran darllen sy'n is na'u hoedran cronolegol. Pa un o'r dyfarniadau ddamniol hyn o'ch record sy'n peri fwyaf o bryder i chi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym yn dychwelyd at y pwynt fod y Gweinidog Plant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes wedi amlinellu'r ffordd ymlaen ar gyfer y system addysg. Rydym wedi sefydlu'r cyfnod sylfaen, sy'n destun eiddigedd ac edmygedd i lawer gan wledydd eraill y DU a thu hwnt. Rydym wedi cadw'r lwfans cynhaliaeth addysg sy'n cael ei ddileu gan eich plaid chi yn Lloegr, a fydd yn golygu na fydd llawer o fyfyrwyr sydd ar hyn o bryd yn y coleg yn Lloegr yn gallu aros yno. Rydym hefyd wedi sicrhau na fydd pobl sydd â'r gallu i fynd i brifysgol yn peidio â mynd yno oherwydd y ffioedd dysgu gormodol, sef un o addewidion allweddol eich plaid chi wrth gymryd yr awenau gyda'r Torïaid yn San Steffan y llynedd, er ichi dorri'r addewid hwnnw o fewn wythnos neu ddwy. Dyna oedd lefel egwyddor a chymeriad y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Rydym yn falch o'n record ni. Rydym yn falch o'n record gyda'n cynlluniau ProAct a

which were put in place during difficult economic times. The difference between the parties on this side of the Chamber and those on your side is that we want to ensure that people are shielded from the economic difficulties that the world has faced over the past three or four years, rather than expose people fully to those difficulties and leave them to sink or swim, as your party is doing.

Kirsty Williams: One wonders how the 40 per cent of children leaving primary school with a reading age below their chronological age can ever hope to aspire to get to university, First Minister. However, perhaps we can turn to the health service. While we are looking back at the last few years, perhaps I could ask you a question about that epic compilation of slides provided to you, at great cost, by McKinsey and Company, that said that your health strategy was financially unaffordable and lacked accountability and that there was a lack of capacity to deliver it. Given that, it is little wonder that we have to wait longer for an ambulance in Wales than those across the border, or wait longer for an operation. First Minister, you are about to go out to the country to be tried on your performance for Wales; you regularly make reference to your legal background, so, to coin a familiar legal phrase, in the court of public opinion, based on the evidence of your stewardship of the economy, education and health, are you not bang to rights?

The First Minister: All that I can say about the forthcoming trial in the court of public opinion is that we will all be defendants, but some of us are happier with what the outcome will be than others.

Sandy Mewies: Talking of pledges broken by the Conservatives, ably abetted by the Liberal Democrats, George Osborne managed to sneak into his budget last week that people receiving the winter fuel allowance aged over 80 would have it cut by £100. The rest of those receiving it would have it cut by £50. That is despite a personal pledge by David Cameron a year earlier, when he said that Labour was lying when it said that that would happen. *[Interruption.]*

ReAct, a roddwyd ar waith mewn cyfnod economaidd anodd. Y gwahaniaeth rhwng y pleidiau ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr a'r rhai sydd ar eich ochr chi yw ein bod ni am sicrhau bod pobl yn cael eu hamddiffyn rhag yr anawsterau economaidd y mae'r byd wedi'u hwynebu dros y tair neu bedair blynedd diwethaf, yn hytrach na gwneud pobl yn fwy agored i'r anawsterau hynny a'u gadael i nofio neu foddi, fel y mae eich plaid chi yn ei wneud.

Kirsty Williams: Rhaid tybio sut y gall y 40 y cant o blant sy'n gadael yr ysgol gynradd gydag oedran darllen sy'n is na'u hoed cronolegol fyth obeithio anelu at gyrraedd y brifysgol, Brif Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, efallai y gallwn droi at y gwasanaeth iechyd. Gan ein bod yn edrych yn ôl ar yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, efallai y gallaf ofyn cwestiwn ichi am y casgliad epig o sleidiau a ddarparwyd ichi, am bris mawr, gan McKinsey and Company, a ddangosodd bod eich strategaeth iechyd yn anfforddiadwy yn ariannol, yn ogystal â bod heb atebolrwydd na'r gallu i gyflawni. O gofio hynny, nid yw'n fawr o syndod bod yn rhaid inni aros yn hwy am ambiwlans yng Nghymru na thros y ffin, neu aros yn hwy am lawdriniaeth. Brif Weinidog, rydych ar fin sefyll eich prawf o flaen y genedl ar sail eich perfformiad dros Gymru; rydych yn cyfeirio'n aml at eich cefndir cyfreithiol, felly, os goddefir yr ymadrodd cyfreithiol cyfarwydd, gerbron llys y farn gyhoeddus, yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth eich stiwardiaeth o'r economi, addysg ac iechyd, onid ydych yn euog?

Y Prif Weinidog: Y cyfan y gallaf ei ddweud am y prawf hwn yn llys y farn gyhoeddus yw y byddwn i gyd yn ddiffnyddion, ond y bydd rhai ohonom yn hapusach â'r canlyniad nag eraill.

Sandy Mewies: Gan ein bod yn siarad am addewidion wedi'u torri gan y Ceidwadwyr, gyda chymorth parod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, llwyddodd George Osborne i sleifio i mewn i'w gyllideb yr wythnos diwethaf y byddai'r bobl dros 80 oed sy'n derbyn y lwfans tanwydd gaeaf yn derbyn £100 yn llai. Byddai'r gweddill sy'n ei dderbyn yn cael gostyngiad o £50. Mae hynny er gwaethaf addewid personol gan David Cameron flwyddyn yn gynharach, pan

What is he doing now? It is another u-turn. Would you agree, First Minister, that the Tory and Lib Dem UK coalition Government—and it would be followed here, if they got elected—in act after act are attacking the good health of the vulnerable people living in England; we do not want that to happen in Wales.

ddywedodd fod Llafur yn dweud celwydd pan ddywedodd y byddai hynny'n digwydd. [*Torri ar draws.*] Beth mae'n ei wneud yn awr? Mae hon yn dro pedol arall. A fyddech yn cytuno, Brif Weinidog, fod Llywodraeth glymblaid y Torïaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—a byddai hyn yn digwydd yma, pe caent eu hethol—yn y naill weithred ar ôl y llall, yn ymosod ar iechyd pobl sy'n agored i niwed sy'n byw yn Lloegr; nid ydym am i hynny ddigwydd yng Nghymru.

1.45 p.m.

The First Minister: Is it not amazing that another broken promise has been slipped through quietly, in the hope that no-one would notice it, because of the budget announcement? The winter fuel allowance will be reduced despite a personal pledge to the contrary made time after time by the Prime Minister. What we see here is another broken pledge by the Conservative Party, aided and abetted—to use the legal phrase—by their accessories, the Lib Dems.

Y Prif Weinidog: Onid yw'n rhyfeddol fod addewid arall a dorwyd wedi'i sleifio drwodd yn dawel fach, yn y gobraith na fyddai unrhyw un yn sylwi arni oherwydd cyhoeddiad y gyllideb? Bydd y lwfans tanwydd gaeaf yn cael ei leihau, er gwaethaf addewid personol i'r gwrthwyneb dro ar ôl tro gan y Prif Weinidog. Yr hyn a welwn yma yw addewid arall a dorwyd gan y Blaidd Geidwadol, gyda'i haffeithwyr—a defnyddio term cyfreithiol—sef y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, yn cynorthwyo ac yn ategu.

Llosgi Cynnyrch Gwastraff

Incineration of Waste Products

2. William Graham: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu polisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar losgi cynnyrch gwastraff. OAQ(3)3515(FM)*

2. William Graham: *Will the First Minister outline the Welsh Assembly Government's policies on the incineration of waste products. OAQ(3)3515(FM)*

The First Minister: Our waste strategy document, 'Towards Zero Waste', places the highest priority on waste prevention followed by very high levels of recycling, of at least 70 per cent. For what is left, the recovery of energy from residual wastes delivers the most sustainable outcome. Landfill is the worst option, and should be reduced to as close to zero as possible.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae ein dogfen strategaeth am wastraff, 'Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff', yn rhoi'r flaenoriaeth i atal gwastraff ac yna ar lefelau uchel iawn o ailgylchu, sef o leiaf 70 y cant. I'r hyn sy'n weddill, adfer ynni o wastraff gweddilliol sy'n cynnig y canlyniad mwyaf cynaliadwy. Tirlenwi yw'r dewis gwaethaf, a dylid ei leihau mor agos â phosibl i sero.

William Graham: Thank you for your answer, First Minister. Would you agree, therefore, that incineration is probably the best method of dealing with household waste, particularly as it gives the bonus of energy generation?

William Graham: Diolch am eich ateb, Brif Weinidog. A fyddech yn cytuno, felly, mai llosgi yn ôl pob tebyg yw'r dull gorau o ddelio â gwastraff y cartref, yn enwedig gan ei fod yn rhoi bonws drwy gynhyrchu ynni?

The First Minister: You will be aware that there is a waste hierarchy; energy from waste plants rank higher in that hierarchy than landfill. However, our preference is for a

Y Prif Weinidog: Fe fyddwch yn ymwybodol bod hierarchaeth wastraff, a bod ynni o weithfeydd gwastraff yn uwch yn yr hierarchiaeth honno na thirlenwi. Fodd

reduction in waste, in the first place, followed closely by greater recycling.

Veronica German: With respect to Covanta Energy's application in Merthyr, in my region, you wrote to your colleague Dai Havard to say that you would not be able to intervene because the Assembly Government was not a statutory consultee in the Infrastructure Planning Commission's application process. However, on the IPC website, it clearly states that the Assembly Government is a statutory consultee at both the pre-application and examination stage of the process. Can you explain that anomaly, and will your Government be responding to the consultation, as stated on the website?

The First Minister: This is not a matter for the Welsh Assembly Government; it is a matter for the IPC. We have no role in the decision-making process for this particular application.

Y Sector Preifat

3. Nick Bourne: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu cynlluniau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer cefnogi'r sector preifat yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)3499(FM)*

The First Minister: Our plans are outlined in the policy document 'Economic Renewal: a new direction'.

Nick Bourne: I thank the First Minister for that response. We have just been talking about the undeniable slippage in gross value added figures for Wales as a proportion of the UK figures. The First Minister and I will probably have common cause in feeling that we do not want to qualify for the next round of European Union cohesion funding between 2014 and 2020, but on the current figures it looks as if we will. Assuming that we do, does the First Minister agree that the money should be targeted at private-sector-led schemes? If so, how can we ensure that that happens?

The First Minister: First of all, I join you in hoping that we do not qualify for the highest level of structural funds. If we do not, I hope that we qualify for transitional funding; it is

bynag, gwell gennym ni yw gostyngiad mewn gwastraff yn y lle cyntaf, gydag ailgylchu mwy yn ail agos.

Veronica German: O ran cais Covanta Energy ym Merthyr, yn fy rhanbarth i, ysgrifenasoch at eich cyfaill Dai Havard i ddweud na allech ymyrryd gan nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymgynghorai statudol ym mhroses ymgeisio'r Comisiwn Cynllunio Seilwaith. Serch hynny, ar wefan yr IPC, mae'n datgan yn glir bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymgynghorai statudol yng nghyfnod cyn ymgeisio a chyfnod archwilio'r broses. A allwch esbonio'r anghysondeb hwnnw, ac a fydd eich Llywodraeth yn ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad, fel y nodir ar y wefan?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw hwn yn fater i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru; mater i'r IPC ydyw. Nid oes gennym rôl yn y broses benderfynu yn y cais penodol hwn.

The Private Sector

3. Nick Bourne: *Will the First Minister outline the Welsh Assembly Government's plans for supporting the private sector in Wales. OAQ(3)3499(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Amlinellir ein cynlluniau yn y ddogfen bolisi 'Adnewyddu'r Economi: cyfeiriad newydd'.

Nick Bourne: Diolch i'r Prif Weinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Rydym newydd fod yn siarad am y llithriad diamheuol yn y ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth i Gymru fel cyfran o ffigurau'r DU. Bydd y Prif Weinidog a minnau fwy na thebyg yn cytuno nad ydym am fod yn gymwys i'r rownd nesaf o gyllid cydlyniant yr Undeb Ewropeaidd rhwng 2014 a 2020, ond yn ôl y ffigurau presennol, mae'n edrych fel y byddwn. A bwrw y byddwn yn gymwys, a yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cytuno y dylai'r arian gael ei dargedu at gynlluniau a arweinir gan y sector preifat? Os felly, sut y gallwn sicrhau hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn gyntaf oll, ymunaf â chi yn y gobaith na fyddwn yn gymwys i'r lefel uchaf o gronfeydd strwythurol. Os nad ydym, yr wyf yn gobeithio y byddwn yn

important that we do not go from receiving the highest level of structural funds to getting nothing. We want to ensure that as much money as possible goes to good projects. What those projects might look like depends on what the rules are for any successor to convergence funding.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Mae'n eironig bod arweinydd yr wrthblaid yn galw am fuddsoddiad yn y sector preifat pan fyddai'r buddsoddiad hwnnw'n gwneud defnydd o arian cyfalaf; dyna'r arian a fyddai'n mynd i'r sector preifat. Mae'r Llywodraeth glymblaid yn San Steffan wedi torri'r arian hwnnw o 41 y cant. Mae'n mynd i fod yn gynyddol anos i Lywodraeth Cymru fuddsoddi yn y sector preifat i'n galluogi i ddianc o'r sefyllfa hon, lle'r ydym yn gorfod cael arian strwythurol oherwydd bod ffigurau cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen Cymru yn llai na 75 y cant o'r ffigurau ar gyfer Ewrop. A fydech yn cytuno bod y Ceidwadwyr yma yn ddauwynebog, i ddweud y lleiaf, ac yn dangos eu diffyg dylanwad ar y glymblaid yn San Steffan, gan eu bod yn methu â chael dylanwad ar y glymblaid i sicrhau bod yr arian cyfalaf hollbwysig hwnnw'n dod i Gymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n beth gwael dros ben bod arian cyfalaf yn cael ei dorri yn y ffordd yma. Bydd hyn yn ei gwneud yn llawer anos sicrhau twf yn y sector preifat yng Nghymru yn y ffordd y byddem wedi dymuno.

Peter Black: In last week's budget the UK Government came up with a number of proposals to try to help private industry and business to flourish. One proposal was to set up enterprise zones, one of which may well be set up just across the Welsh border in Bristol. I understand that, as part of that provision, the Welsh Government has been given the power to set up its own enterprise zones, with similar incentives for private businesses in Wales. What is your attitude towards that proposal?

The First Minister: These are interesting ideas. It is now a matter for the next Government to take those ideas forward.

gymwys ar gyfer cyllid trosiannol; mae'n bwysig nad ydym yn mynd o dderbyn y lefel uchaf o gronfeydd strwythurol i gael dim o gwbl. Rydym am sicrhau bod cymaint o arian â phosibl yn mynd i brosiectau da. Bydd ffurf y prosiectau hynny yn dibynnu ar reolau yr hyn a allai olynu cyllid cydgyfeirio.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: It is ironic that the leader of the opposition calls for investment in the private sector when such investment would come from capital moneys; that is the money that would go to the private sector. The coalition Government in Westminster has cut that budget by 41 per cent. It is going to be increasingly difficult for the Welsh Government to invest in the private sector to enable us to escape this situation in which we receive structural funds as a result of having per capita gross domestic product figures that are below 75 per cent of the average for Europe. Would you agree that the Conservatives here are, at the very least, twofaced, and that they show their lack of influence on the coalition in Westminster, in that they are unable to influence the coalition to ensure that these vital capital moneys come to Wales?

The First Minister: It is appalling that capital funding is being cut in this way. Doing this will make it much more difficult to secure growth in the private sector in Wales in the that we would have hoped to see.

Peter Black: Yn y gyllideb yr wythnos diwethaf, awgrymodd Llywodraeth y DU nifer o gynigion i geisio helpu diwydiant preifat a busnes i ffynnu. Un cynnig oedd sefydlu parthau menter, a gallai un ohonynt gael ei sefydlu dros y ffin ym Mryste. Fel rhan o'r ddarpariaeth honno, deallaf i Lywodraeth Cymru gael y pŵer i sefydlu ei pharthau menter ei hun, gyda chymhellion tebyg ar gyfer busnesau preifat yng Nghymru. Beth yw eich agwedd tuag at y cynnig hwnnw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r rhain yn syniadau diddorol. Mae bellach yn fater i'r Llywodraeth nesaf fwrw ymlaen â'r syniadau hynny.

Gwasanaethau Trallwyso Gwaed

4. David Lloyd: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol gwasanaethau trallwyso gwaed yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)3517(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae byrddau iechyd lleol wrthi ar hyn o bryd yn cynnal adolygiad o'r trefniadau trallwyso gwaed presennol drwy eu gwaith ar y cyd ar Bwyllgor Gwasanaethau Arbenigol Iechyd Cymru. Byddant yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar hyn yn ddiweddarach eleni.

David Lloyd: Diolch yn fawr am yr ateb hwnnw, Brif Weinidog. Hoffwn dalu teyrnged i staff y gwasanaeth trallwyso gwaed yng Nghymru am eu gwaith clodwiw. Fodd bynnag, mae adroddiadau o Loegr—yn naturiol, wrth ystyried yr hyn sydd yn mynd ymlaen yn y gwasanaeth iechyd yn Lloegr a'r pwysau i breifateiddio gwasanaethau—ynglŷn â'r posibilrwydd o breifateiddio'r gwasanaeth trallwyso gwaed yno. A allwch gadarnhau nad oes y fath fwriad yma yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes cynlluniau i wneud hynny.

Nick Ramsay: I echo the sentiments expressed by Dai Lloyd in raising his question, in that the staff in the blood transfusion service do a tremendous job. The Assembly Government has been vociferous in supporting the public information campaigns of such groups as the Kidney Wales Foundation and others in relation to what we can do to increase blood donation in Wales. Are you confident that your Government is giving adequate support to that at the moment? In the light of the report that is to be published, and the work that has been done, do you hope that more can be done by the Assembly Government in future to increase the availability of blood in Wales for transfusion services? If not, the NHS will find it very difficult to cope.

The First Minister: The Welsh Blood Service does a very good job in advertising itself and ensuring that people know where and when they can give blood. There are many of us in the Chamber who will have

Blood Transfusion Services

4. David Lloyd: *Will the First Minister make a statement on the future of blood transfusion services in Wales. OAQ(3)3517(FM)*

The First Minister: A review of the current blood transfusion arrangements is being conducted by local health boards through their collective work on the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee. They will report on this later this year.

David Lloyd: Thank you for that answer, First Minister. I would like to pay tribute to the staff of the blood transfusion service in Wales for their excellent work. However, there are reports from England—quite naturally, given what is going on in the health service in England and the pressures to privatise services—of the possibility of privatising blood transfusion services there. Can you confirm that there is no such intention in Wales?

The First Minister: There are no plans to do that.

Nick Ramsay: Ategef y farn a fynegwyd gan Dai Lloyd yn ei gwestiwn, gan fod staff y gwasanaeth trallwyso gwaed yn gwneud gwaith aruthrol. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi bod yn uchel ei chloch wrth gefnogi ymgyrchoedd gwybodaeth gyhoeddus grwpiau megis Sefydliad Aren Cymru ac eraill o ran yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i gynyddu rhoi gwaed yng Nghymru. A ydych yn hyderus bod eich Llywodraeth yn rhoi cymorth digonol i hynny ar hyn o bryd? Yn sgîl yr adroddiad sydd i'w gyhoeddi, a'r gwaith a wnaed, a ydych yn gobeithio bod modd i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad wneud mwy yn y dyfodol i gynyddu argaeledd gwaed yng Nghymru i wasanaethau trallwyso gwaed? Heb hynny, bydd y GIG yn ei chael yn anodd ymdopi.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae Gwasanaeth Gwaed Cymru yn gwneud gwaith da iawn yn hysbysebu ei hun a sicrhau bod pobl yn gwybod ble a phryd y cânt roi gwaed. Mae llawer ohonom yn y Siambr wedi gwneud

done that many times over the past few years. We will wait to see what the review says before seeing whether there is any way in which support for publicising the work of the blood transfusion service can be increased.

Brian Gibbons: First Minister, you may be aware that the UK Government has expressed the wish to explore the commercial opportunities that blood transfusion services may provide in England. Would you like to commit your Government to not being involved in horse trading with our blood transfusion service, as we see happening in England? Surely, this is something that we as a Government would deprecate in the most extreme terms.

The First Minister: The use of the words 'commercial opportunities' chills the blood, if I can use that phrase. I reiterate what I said to Dai Lloyd: we have no intention of privatising the blood transfusion service.

Cyllid

5. Brian Gibbons: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ddarparu cyllid ar gyfer busnesau yng Nghymru. OAQ(3)3518(FM)*

The First Minister: Based on a repayable model, our approach to business finance focuses on the six key sectors and priorities, including research and development, as outlined in 'Economic Renewal: a new direction'.

Brian Gibbons: You will know that, if we are to have a dynamic, growing economy in Wales, we have to address the need for capital of those high-growth companies in Wales. Indeed, at a UK level, this was highlighted by Chris Rowlands's report a few years ago. To me, one of the most remarkable features of the UK Government's budget statement last week was the virtual ignoring of the recommendations of that report, and, indeed, the EEF, the manufacturers' organisation, has pointed this out in terms of the proposals in the UK budget statement relating to the promotion of equity investment, which is precisely what many high-growth companies do not want at this stage of their development. They appreciate

hynny sawl gwaith dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Arhoswn i weld beth sydd yn yr adolygiad cyn ystyried a oes modd cynyddu'r cymorth a roddir i roi cyhoeddusrwydd i waith y gwasanaeth trallwysu gwaed.

Brian Gibbons: Brif Weinidog, efallai eich bod yn ymwybodol bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi mynegi dymuniad i drafod y cyfleoedd masnachol y gall gwasanaethau trallwysu gwaed eu cynnig yn Lloegr. A hoffech chi ymrwymo eich Llywodraeth i beidio â bargeinio gyda'n gwasanaeth trallwysu gwaed, fel y gwelwn sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr? Yn sicr, dyma rywbeth y byddem fel Llywodraeth yn anghymeradwyo yn y termau mwyaf eithafol.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r defnydd o eiriau megis 'cyfleoedd masnachol' yn oeri'r gwaed, os caf ddefnyddio'r ymadrodd hwnnw. Ailadroddaf yr hyn a ddywedais wrth Dai Lloyd: nid yw'n fwriad gennym breifateiddio'r gwasanaeth trallwysu gwaed.

Finance

5. Brian Gibbons: *Will the First Minister make a statement on the provision of finance for business in Wales. OAQ(3)3518(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn seiliedig ar fodel o ad-dalu, mae ein hymagwedd at gyllid busnes yn canolbwyntio ar y chwe sector allweddol a blaenoriaethau, gan gynnwys ymchwil a datblygu, fel yr amlinellir yn 'Adnewyddu'r Economi: cyfeiriad newydd'.

Brian Gibbons: Byddwch yn gwybod, os ydym am gael economi ddeinamig sy'n tyfu yng Nghymru, y bydd yn rhaid i ni fynd i'r afael ag angen y cwmnïau twf uchel hynny am gyfalaf yng Nghymru. Yn wir, ar lefel y DU, amlygwyd hyn gan adroddiad Chris Rowlands ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl. I mi, un o'r nodweddion mwyaf nodedig yn natganiad cyllideb Llywodraeth y DU yr wythnos diwethaf oedd y cafodd argymhellion yr adroddiad hwnnw eu hanwybyddu i bob pwrpas, ac yn wir, mae'r EEF, sefydliad y gweithgynhyrchwyr, wedi dweud hynny o ran y cynigion yn natganiad cyllideb y DU sy'n ymwneud â hyrwyddo buddsoddi ecwiti, sef yr union beth nad yw llawer o gwmnïau twf uchel am ei weld ar yr

their autonomy, which allows them to innovate and develop, and they are reluctant to go down the equity route. Surely, this is a missed opportunity to promote business growth in the United Kingdom and in Wales.

The First Minister: I agree with you Brian, and it is a matter of regret that many of the recommendations that were included in the review have not been taken forward by the Government.

David Melding: You will know that most jobs are created in new businesses, particularly small businesses. Do you not agree that the best thing that we can do for the financing of small businesses is to abolish business rates?

The First Minister: I see that the money tree has started to grow again on the other side of the Chamber. We have a good record in relation to helping small businesses, particularly with regard to small business rate relief. That is a scheme that has been of tremendous help to many small businesses across Wales. Furthermore, it is a scheme that works and is grounded in reality, unlike the schemes that are proposed from the opposite side of the Chamber.

Chris Franks: For a better Wales, we need to find new ways of providing finance to ensure that many deferred projects, such as improvements to Queen Street station in Cardiff and Pontypridd railway station, and better renal services in the Cynon Valley, can go ahead. What discussions has the Welsh Government had to establish more growth funds for small businesses? What help can be given to assist small businesses and town centres by providing business rate relief?

The First Minister: These matters have been included in 'Economic Renewal: a new direction'. I refer you to the answer that I gave some moments ago regarding small business rate relief.

Amseroedd Aros y GIG

6. Veronica German: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am dorri amseroedd*

adeg hon yn eu datblygiad. Maent yn gwerthfawrogi eu hannibyniaeth, sy'n eu galluogi i arloesi a datblygu, ac maent yn gynddyn i ddilyn y llwybr ecwiti. Yn sicr, dyma golli cyfle i hyrwyddo twf busnes yn y Deyrnas Unedig ac yng Nghymru.

Y Prif Weinidog: Cytunaf â chi, Brian, a gresyn nad yw llawer o'r argymhellion yn yr adolygiad wedi cael eu datblygu gan y Llywodraeth.

David Melding: Byddwch yn gwybod bod y rhan fwyaf o swyddi yn cael eu creu mewn busnesau newydd, yn enwedig busnesau bach. Onid ydych yn cytuno mai'r peth gorau y gallwn ei wneud o ran cyllid busnesau bach yw dileu trethi busnes?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwelaf fod y goeden arian wedi dechrau tyfu eto ar ochr draw'r Siambr. Mae gennym record dda o ran helpu busnesau bach, yn enwedig o ran rhyddhad ardrethi busnesau bach. Mae'r cynllun hwnnw wedi bod yn help mawr i lawer o fusnesau bach ledled Cymru. Ar ben hynny, mae'n gynllun sy'n gweithio ac mae wedi'i seilio mewn realiti, yn wahanol i'r cynlluniau a gynigir ochr draw'r Siambr.

Chris Franks: Am Gymru well, mae angen dod o hyd i ffyrdd newydd o ddarparu cyllid i sicrhau bod llawer o brosiectau gohiriedig, fel gwelliannau i orsaf Heol y Frenhines yng Nghaerdydd a gorsaf rheilffordd Pontypridd, a gwell wasanaethau arenol yng Nghwm Cynon, yn mynd yn eu blaen. Pa drafodaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi eu cael i sefydlu rhagor o gronfeydd twf i fusnesau bach? Pa help ellir ei roi i gynorthwyo busnesau bach a chanol trefi drwy ddarparu rhyddhad ardrethi busnes?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r materion hyn wedi cael eu cynnwys yn 'Adnewyddu'r Economi: cyfeiriad newydd'. Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at yr ateb a roddais rai munudau yn ôl o ran rhyddhad ardrethi busnesau bach.

NHS Waiting Times

6. Veronica German: *Will the First Minister make a statement on cutting NHS waiting*

aros y GIG. OAQ(3)3510(FM)

The First Minister: With the exception of orthopaedic patients, over 95 per cent of patients are waiting less than 26 weeks from referral to treatment.

Veronica German: In the last year, on average, 14 out of every 100 people attending accident and emergency departments waited for longer than four hours to be treated, which is well above the 5 per cent target. This has a knock-on effect on ambulance response times. In my region alone, ambulance staff spend over 1,200 hours every month queuing outside hospitals. Consultant cover in accident and emergency departments is well below the level recommended by the College of Emergency Medicine. Is this a record that you and your Government are proud to be judged on?

The First Minister: We expect the performance levels of accident and emergency departments to improve over the next month. This is something that we monitor continuously with the chief executives of the local health boards. However, we are certainly very proud of the fact that, over the next three years, the health budget in Wales will be preserved, even though your party is seeking to cut it in England.

Andrew R.T. Davies: First Minister, one of the problems that many people face when visiting hospitals, and which increases the pressure on hospitals, is the number of services that are provided on hospital sites. Do you regret the lack of opportunities that you have provided for optometrists to develop community-based eye-care services? This prevents people from being able to receive these services in the community and forces them to become stuck in the bottleneck caused by hospital waiting times.

The First Minister: Optometrists are doing far more now than was the case some years ago, particularly with regard to the observation of cataracts. As a Government, we have always tried to ensure that people receive more services at the primary care

times. OAQ(3)3510(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Ac eithrio cleifion orthopedig, mae dros 95 y cant o gleifion yn aros llai na 26 wythnos am driniaeth oddi ar eu hatgyfeiriad.

Veronica German: Yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, ar gyfartaledd, arhosodd 14 o bob 100 o bobl a aeth i adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys am fwy na phedair awr i gael eu trin, sy'n llawer uwch na'r targed o 5 y cant. Mae hyn yn cael effaith ganlyniadol ar amseroedd ymateb ambiwlansys. Yn fy rhanbarth i yn unig, mae staff ambiwlans yn treulio mwy na 1,200 awr bob mis yn ciwio y tu allan i ysbytai. Mae'r cyflenwad o feddygon ymgynghorol mewn adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys yn llawer is na'r hyn a argymhellir gan y Coleg Meddygaeth Frys. A fyddech chi a'ch Llywodraeth yn falch o gael eich mesur yn ôl y record hon?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym yn disgwyl i lefelau perfformio adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys wella dros y mis nesaf. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth yr ydym yn ei fonitro yn barhaus gyda phrif weithredwyr y byrddau iechyd lleol. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn sicr yn falch iawn o'r ffaith y bydd y gyllideb iechyd yng Nghymru yn cael ei chadw dros y tair blynedd nesaf, er bod eich plaid chi yn ceisio i ei thorri yn Lloegr.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Brif Weinidog, un o'r problemau y mae llawer o bobl yn eu hwynebu wrth fynd i'r ysbyty, a rhywbeth sy'n cynyddu'r pwysau ar ysbytai, yw nifer y gwasanaethau a gynigir ar safleoedd ysbytai. A ydych yn gresynu at y diffyg cyfleoedd yr ydych wedi'u rhoi i optometryddion i ddatblygu gwasanaethau gofal llygaid yn y gymuned? Mae hyn yn rhwystro pobl rhag derbyn y gwasanaethau hyn yn y gymuned ac yn eu gorfodi i gael eu dal yn y dagfa a achosir gan amseroedd aros ysbytai.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae optometryddion yn gwneud llawer mwy yn awr na'r hyn a wneid flynyddoedd yn ôl, yn enwedig o ran canfod cataractau. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym bob amser wedi ceisio sicrhau bod pobl yn cael mwy o wasanaethau ar lefel gofal sylfaenol.

level. I have certainly never heard anyone argue before that we should reduce the number of services that are available in hospitals.

Swyddi yn y Sector Cyhoeddus

7. Leanne Wood: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am bwysigrwydd swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus i economi Cymru. OAQ(3)3505(FM)*

The First Minister: Public sector jobs are fundamentally important to Wales, representing some 25.7 per cent of total employment.

Leanne Wood: First Minister, in response to the cuts agenda of the Westminster coalition Government, it was great to see such a good turnout at the Trades Union Congress demonstration on Saturday, in London. Will you join me in congratulating the Cardiff Public and Commercial Services member, Richard Evans, who walked the 166 miles from Cardiff to London as part of that protest? I have raised with you on a number of occasions the job cuts at the passport office, the Driving Standards Agency and the coastguard.

2.00 p.m.

However, not much attention has been paid to the cutbacks to the Equality and Human Rights Commission. It is being hit with a cut of two thirds of its budget, which will see its staffing levels go from 525 to 200 by next year and its helpline outsourced. In Wales, that will probably mean the loss of 30 staff and could result in the closure of the Bangor office. Given the Assembly's all-party commitment to equality of opportunity, this should be of concern to all of us in this Chamber. First Minister, could you tell us what representations you have made, or were able to make, to your Westminster counterparts on this issue?

The First Minister: First, I wish to say that a 166-mile walk is a great example of dedication, if I can put it that way. I do not think that you could ask for more evidence of

Yn sicr, nid wyf erioed wedi clywed neb yn dadlau o'r blaen y dylem leihau nifer y gwasanaethau sydd ar gael mewn ysbytai.

Public Sector Jobs

7. Leanne Wood: *Will the First Minister make a statement about the importance of public sector jobs to the Welsh economy. OAQ(3)3505(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus o bwys sylfaenol i Gymru, gan eu bod cyfrif am tua 25.7 y cant o gyfanswm cyflogaeth.

Leanne Wood: Brif Weinidog, fel ymateb i agenda toriadau Llywodraeth y glymblaid yn San Steffan, roedd yn wych gweld cynifer o bobl yng ngwrthdystiad Cyngres yr Undebau Llafur ddydd Sadwrn yn Llundain. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi i longyfarch Richard Evans, aelod cangen Caerdydd o'r Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus a Masnachol, a gerddodd y 166 milltir o Gaerdydd i Lundain fel rhan o'r gwrthdystiad? Yr wyf wedi codi sawl gwaith gyda chi fater y toriadau swyddi yn y swyddfa basport, yr Asiantaeth Safonau Gyrru a gwylwyr y glannau.

Fodd bynnag, nid oes llawer o sylw wedi cael ei roi i'r toriadau i'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol. Mae'n cael ei daro gan doriad o ddwy ran o dair o'i gyllideb, a fydd yn peri bod ei lefelau staffio yn mynd o 525 i 200 erbyn y flwyddyn nesaf a bydd ei linell gymorth yn cael ei gcontractio'n allanol. Yng Nghymru, bydd hynny yn debygol o olygu colli 30 o staff a gallai arwain at gau'r swyddfa ym Mangor. O ystyried ymrwymiad pob plaid yn y Cynulliad at gyfle cyfartal, dylai hyn bryderu bob un ohonom yn y Siambr hon. Brif Weinidog, a allwch ddweud wrthym pa sylwadau yr ydych wedi'u gwneud, neu a oeddech yn gallu eu gwneud, wrth eich cymheiriaid yn San Steffan ar y mater hwn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn gyntaf, hoffwn ddweud bod taith gerdded o 166 milltir yn enghraifft wych o ymroddiad, os gallaf ei roi felly. Nid wyf yn credu y gallech ofyn am

commitment. When proposals have been made to cut the number of jobs in UK Government departments and agencies in Wales, we have always robustly resisted them. Carl Sargeant, the relevant Minister, has written with regard to the cuts to which you referred affecting the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

Darren Millar: First Minister, in your response earlier to Nick Bourne regarding GDP levels per head in Wales, and those in west Wales and the Valleys in particular, you made reference yet again to gross disposable household income. If you are such a believer in those statistics, what do you say about the fact that, according to the GDHI figures, the gap between the richest and poorest regions of Wales trebled between 1998 and 2008? Indeed, in your own constituency, Bridgend, GDHI per head has gone down from 89.4 per cent to 87.6 per cent of the UK average. Are you are proud of that?

The First Minister: I am not sure whether you are referring to my constituency or to the county. The point is that GDHI has increased. There is no doubt about that. If you look at the figures over the past decade, you will see that GDHI in Wales has increased. We also know full well that the GDHI figures for Wales have got closer to the UK average during that time. That is an example of the success of structural funds.

Alun Davies: In the last year, we have seen police officers, nurses and teachers facing cutbacks. The Tories come here and talk about the NHS and then turn around and cut 50,000 jobs in the NHS in England. We know that we are losing 1,600 police jobs in Wales because of the cuts coming down the M4. Do you agree, First Minister, that we need a Government in Wales that is committed not only to the public sector, but to delivering and funding public services, so that we keep people in work rather than throw them out of work, and, when people retire, keep them safe and warm in their homes, rather than cutting winter fuel payments by the back door in the way that

fwy o dystiolaeth o ymrwymiad. Yr ydym bob amser wedi gwrthsefyll yn gadarn gynigion sydd wedi cael eu gwneud i dorri nifer y swyddi mewn adrannau ac asiantaethau Llywodraeth y DU yng Nghymru. Mae Carl Sargeant, y Gweinidog perthnasol, wedi ysgrifennu ynghylch y toriadau y cyfeiriasoch atynt a fydd yn effeithio ar y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol.

Darren Millar: Brif Weinidog, yn eich ymateb cynharach i Nick Bourne ynglŷn â lefelau CMC y pen yng Nghymru, a'r rhai yng ngorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd yn arbennig, gwnaethoch gyfeirio unwaith eto at incwm aelwydydd crynswth i'w wario. Os ydych yn credu mor daer yn yr ystadegau hynny, beth a ddywedwch am y ffaith, yn ôl y ffigurau IACW, fod y bwlch rhwng rhanbarthau cyfoethocaf a thlotaf Cymru wedi treblu rhwng 1998 a 2008? Yn wir, yn eich etholaeth eich hun, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, mae IACW y pen wedi gostwng o 89.4 y cant i 87.6 y cant o gyfartaledd y DU. A ydych yn falch o hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn siŵr a ydych yn cyfeirio at fy etholaeth neu at y sir. Y pwynt yw bod IACW wedi cynyddu. Nid oes amheuaeth am hynny. Os edrychwch ar y ffigurau dros y degawd diwethaf, fe welwch fod IACW yng Nghymru wedi cynyddu. Yn ogystal, gwyddom yn iawn fod y ffigurau IACW ar gyfer Cymru wedi agosáu at gyfartaledd y DU yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw. Dyna enghraifft o lwyddiant y cronfeydd strwythurol.

Alun Davies: Yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, yr ydym wedi gweld heddweision, nyrsys ac athrawon yn wynebu toriadau. Mae'r Toriaid yn dod yma a siarad am y GIG ac yna'n torri 50,000 o swyddi yn y GIG yn Lloegr. Gwyddom ein bod yn colli 1,600 o swyddi heddlu yng Nghymru oherwydd y toriadau sy'n dod i lawr yr M4. A ydych yn cytuno, Brif Weinidog, fod arnom angen Llywodraeth yng Nghymru sydd wedi ymrwymo nid yn unig i'r sector cyhoeddus, ond i ddarparu ac ariannu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, fel ein bod yn cadw pobl mewn gwaith yn hytrach na'u taflu allan o waith, a, phan fydd pobl yn ymddeol, eu cadw'n glyd ac yn gynnes yn eu cartrefi, yn hytrach na

the people opposite have done?

The First Minister: Cutting winter fuel payments is a shocking breach of trust. The party opposite should be ashamed. To use a word that the party opposite loves to use in this Chamber and outside it, it is 'shameful' to see that happening; it is another broken promise. It is important that people feel able to walk the streets safely at night and that they are safe from burglary and from being attacked. That will not be helped by cutting the numbers of police. We know that the UK Government has tried to say that the job losses will be in back-room staff. However, every single constabulary is saying that it will lose front-line police officers. That can only mean an increase in crime and a decrease in people's feeling safe in their own communities.

Jeff Cuthbert: First Minister, the Welsh Conservatives would have us believe that the solution to the problems faced by small businesses is to cut out the non-domestic council tax, that is, business rates. Do you agree that the real threat to the survival of small businesses is people's purchasing power being reduced a result of job cuts, particularly within the public sector in Wales, which will put thousands of people out of work and render them unable to purchase the products and services of small businesses?

The First Minister: That is entirely the point. You can reduce business rates as low as you want, but if there is no-one to buy what those businesses are producing, those businesses will not survive. We see, from the policies being pursued elsewhere, that the number of people who will be out of work will increase. Their collective purchasing power will decrease, and that means that more businesses will fail. However, that is not a message that the party opposite wants to hear.

Ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un'

8. *Gareth Jones:* A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog

thorri taliadau tanwydd y gaeaf yn llechwraidd fel y gwnaeth y bobl gyferbyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae torri taliadau tanwydd gaeaf yn enghraifft syfrdanol o dorri ymddiriedaeth. Dylai'r blaid gyferbyn fod â chywilydd. A defnyddio gair y mae'r blaid gyferbyn wrth ei bodd yn ei ddefnyddio yn y Siambr hon a'r tu allan iddi, mae'n 'gywilyddus' i weld hynny'n digwydd. Mae'n addewid arall wedi'i thorri. Mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn teimlo y gallant gerdded ar hyd strydoedd yn ddiogel yn y nos a'u bod yn ddiogel rhag byrgleriaeth a rhag cael eu hymosod arnynt. Ni fydd hynny'n cael ei helpu drwy dorri niferoedd yr heddlu. Gwyddom fod Llywodraeth y DU wedi ceisio dweud mai staff sy'n gweithio mewn ystafelloedd cefn a fydd yn colli eu swyddi. Fodd bynnag, mae pob llu yn dweud y bydd yn colli swyddogion heddlu rheng flaen. Ni all hynny ond olygu cynnydd mewn troseddau a llai o ymdeimlad o ddiogelwch gan bobl yn eu cymunedau eu hunain.

Jeff Cuthbert: Brif Weinidog, hoffai'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig inni gredu mai'r ateb i'r problemau a wynebwr gan fusnesau bach yw cael gwared ar y dreth gyngor annomestig, hynny yw, trethi busnes. A ydych yn cytuno mai'r bygythiad gwirioneddol i barhad busnesau bach yw bod gallu pobl i brynu yn cael ei leihau o ganlyniad i doriadau swyddi, yn enwedig o fewn y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, a fydd yn diswyddo miloedd o bobl ac yn eu gwneud yn analluog i brynu cynnyrch a gwasanaethau busnesau bach?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyna'r pwynt yn hollol. Gallwch leihau trethi busnes cymaint ag y dymunwch, ond os nad oes unrhyw un i brynu'r hyn a gynhyrchir gan y busnesau hynny, ni fydd y busnesau hynny yn goroesi. O edrych ar y polisïau a ddilynrir mewn mannau eraill, gallwn weld y bydd nifer y bobl a fydd yn ddi-waith yn cynyddu. Bydd eu pŵer prynu cyfunol yn gostwng, a golyga hynny y bydd mwy o fusnesau yn methu. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n neges y mae'r blaid gyferbyn am ei chlywed.

'One Wales' Commitments

8. *Gareth Jones:* Will the First Minister

ddatganiad am gyflawni ymrwymadau Cytundeb Cymru'n Un. OAQ(3)3519(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae mwyafrif llethol yr ymrwymadau yn ein rhaglen eisoes wedi'u cyflawni. Bydd ein hadroddiad terfynol ar y Cynulliad hwn yn dangos y cynnydd da sy'n digwydd er mwyn cwblhau'r ychydig sy'n ar ôl.

Gareth Jones: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw. Dyma'r tro olaf y gallaf eich holi yn swyddogol ar gytundeb 'Cymru'n Un'. Er bod gennyf amheuan ar y dechrau, cefais fy mherswadio gan yr ymrwymadau i sicrhau pleidlais 'ie' mewn refferendwm erbyn 2011 ac i ddiogelu dyfodol ysbyty Llandudno ac ysbytai eraill, ynghyd â chyfres o ymrwymadau sy'n anelu at roi anghenion pobl a chleifion o flaen mympwyon rheolwyr y gwasanaeth iechyd. Credaf fod cytundeb 'Cymru'n Un' wedi cyflawni'r amcanion penodol hyn yn llawn. Yr wyf yn falch hefyd ein bod wedi cyflawni Mesur y Gymraeg (Cymru) 2011 a'r cyfnod sylfaen, ac wedi hybu diwydiannau twristiaeth ac amaethyddiaeth. Yn fy etholaeth, yn Aberconwy, yr ydym wedi cyflawni gwelliannau hanfodol i amddiffynfeydd rhag llifogydd yn nyffryn Conwy a gwelliannau i'r ffyrdd a'r rheilffyrdd. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer yn dal angen ei wneud. Ar y nodyn hwnnw, a wneuch ymrwymo y bydd unrhyw Lywodraeth y byddwch yn rhan ohoni yn y Cynulliad nesaf yn rhoi'r sylw a'r parch dyledus i'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud gan y pwyllgorau, o safbwynt eu hadroddiadau etifeddiaeth? Credaf y byddant yn ddogfennau gwerthfawr ac yn fannau cychwyn defnyddiol ar gyfer y genhedlaeth nesaf o Aelodau'r Cynulliad.

Yn olaf, dymunaf yn dda i bob un ohonoch yn eich ymdrechion yn y dyfodol ar ran pobl Cymru. Gofynnaf i chi hefyd, Brif Weinidog, ategu fy marn y byddai wedi bod yn anodd cyflawni'r hyn a wnaethom yn ystod y Cynulliad hwn heb waith hanfodol ein pwyllgorau a'n staff cymorth. Hoffwn fanteisio ar y cyfle olaf hwn i ddiolch i rai o staff fy mhwyllgor, sef y clerc a'r dirprwy glerc, Siân Phipps a Dan Collier, heb anghofio'r diweddar Kath Jenkins. Diolchaf hefyd i'r ymchwilwyr, y cyfieithwyr a'r holl

make a statement on fulfilling the commitments of the One Wales agreement. OAQ(3)3519(FM)

The First Minister: The vast majority of the commitments in our programme have already been delivered. Our final update on this Assembly will show the good progress being made towards completing the few that remain.

Gareth Jones: Thank you for that answer. This is the last time that I can officially question you on the 'One Wales' agreement. Although I had doubts at the beginning, I was persuaded by the commitments to ensure a 'yes' vote in a referendum by 2011 and to safeguard the future of Llandudno hospital and other hospitals, along with a series of commitments aimed at putting the needs of people and patients above the whims of managers within the health service. I think that the 'One Wales' agreement has achieved these specific recommendations fully. I am also pleased that we have achieved the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the foundation phase, and have promoted the tourism and agriculture industries. In my constituency, in Aberconwy, we have delivered essential improvements to flood defences in the Conwy valley and improvements to roads and railways. However, there is still much to be done. On that note, will you make a commitment that any Government of which you are a part in the next Government will give the appropriate attention and respect to the work done by committees, with regard to their legacy reports? I think that they will be valuable documents and useful starting points for the next generation of Assembly Members.

Finally, I wish you all well in your future endeavours on behalf of the people of Wales. I also ask you, First Minister, to endorse my view that it would have been difficult to achieve what we have during this Assembly without the essential work of our committees and support staff. I would like to take advantage of this last opportunity to thank some of my committee staff, namely the clerk and deputy clerk, Siân Phipps and Dan Collier, not forgetting the late Kath Jenkins. I also thank the researchers, the translators and

dîm cymorth am eu cyfraniadau gwerthfawr i'r gwaith yr ydym wedi'i wneud yma ar ran pobl Cymru.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch, Gareth, am eich geiriau caredig tuag at yr Aelodau yn y Siambr ac at yr aelodau o staff sydd wedi bod yn rhoi cefnogaeth ichi. Dymunaf yn dda ichi ar eich ymdeoliad, os mai dyna y bydd—pwy a wŷr beth sydd rownd y gornel? Fy marn i, a barn y pleidiau ar yr ochr hwn o'r Siambr, yw bod y Llywodraeth wedi cadw at ei haddewidion o dan gytundeb 'Cymru'n Un'. Bydd y ffordd y bydd y pwyllgorau yn gweithio yn y Cynulliad nesaf yn rhywbeth i'r Cynulliad ei ystyried, wrth edrych ar y Rheolau Sefydlog nesaf.

Y Llywydd: Diolch am eich sylwadau perthnasol am staff y Cynulliad.

Angela Burns: I have the greatest respect for Gareth Jones, but I do not agree with an awful lot of what he just said about the 'One Wales' commitments. Over the last few months, most of the questions that I have asked Ministers have been about the absolute failure of this Government to deliver half of these commitments and to meet all of the aspirations that it laid out. I want to read back to you, First Minister, your speech to the Labour conference on Saturday 19 February this year. You said that it is quite easy for a Government to turn itself into a strategy factory, creating an endless stream of strategies without there being any product at the end of it. You said that you want this to change radically and that delivery will be the watch word of the next Welsh Labour Government. It is a complete and utter shame that it was not the watch word of the Government that has been here for the last four years. You have missed four years, you have let the people of Wales down, and it is dreadful that you suddenly think, 'Oh my gosh, we haven't done it'. The words 'strategy factory' do not even begin to cover it.

The First Minister: You say that half of the commitments have not been met—that is not right, for a start. We are very proud of what we have done here. Go to talk to the more than 12,000 people who are still in jobs because of ProAct, people who otherwise

all the support team for their valuable contributions to the work that we have done here on behalf of the people of Wales.

The First Minister: Thank you, Gareth, for your kind words to the Members in the Chamber and the staff who have supported you. I wish you well in your retirement, if that is what it is—who knows what lies around the corner? My view, and that of the parties on this side of the Chamber, is that the Government has kept its promises under the 'One Wales' agreement. The way in which the committees will work in the next Assembly is something for the Assembly to consider, in looking at the new Standing Orders.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you for those relevant comments about Assembly staff.

Angela Burns: Mae gennyf y parch mwyaf at Gareth Jones, ond nid wyf yn cytuno â llawer iawn o'r hyn y mae newydd ei ddweud am ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un'. Dros y misoedd diwethaf, mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r cwestiynau yr wyf wedi eu gofyn i Weinidogion wedi bod ynglŷn â methiant llwyr y Llywodraeth hon i weithredu hanner yr ymrwymadau hyn ac i fodloni'r holl ddyheadau a amlinellodd. Yr wyf am ddarllen yn ôl i chi, Brif Weinidog, eich araith yng nghynhadledd y Blaid Lafur ar ddydd Sadwrn 19 Chwefror eleni. Dywedasoeh ei bod yn eithaf hawdd i Lywodraeth droi'n ffatri strategaeth, gan greu llif diddiwedd o strategaethau heb fod unrhyw gynnyrch ar y diwedd. Dywedasoeh eich bod am i hyn newid yn radical ac mai cyflawni fydd arwyddair Llywodraeth Lafur nesaf Cymru. Mae'n drueni llwyr nad oedd yn arwyddair y Llywodraeth sydd wedi bod yma am y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Yr ydych wedi colli pedair blynedd, yr ydych wedi siomi pobl Cymru, ac mae'n gywilydd eich bod yn sydyn yn meddwl, 'O, diar, nid ydym wedi ei wneud e'. Megis dechrau disgrifio'r sefyllfa yn unig y mae'r geiriau 'ffatri strategaeth'.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn dweud nad yw hanner yr ymrwymadau wedi cael eu bodloni—nid yw hynny'n gywir, i ddechrau. Yr ydym yn falch iawn o'r hyn yr ydym wedi ei wneud yma. Ewch i siarad â'r mwy na 12,000 o bobl sydd dal mewn swyddi

would have been on the dole and would not have received any training. Talk to the people who have been helped by ReAct and that are being helped by Adapt. Talk to the teachers who are grateful for the fact that the foundation phase has been rolled out across Wales, and for the support that they receive in schools. Talk to local government workers in Wales, who are funded at a much higher level than those in England. We know that, in England, there are thousands of people working in front-line services, in social services and other parts of local government, who will lose their jobs. We are very happy with our record here in terms of what we have delivered, particularly when we compare it with the destruction happening elsewhere in the UK.

Jenny Randerson: One part of the 'One Wales' agreement that has not been delivered relates to the Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2009. I have asked you before about that Measure. A great deal of thought went into it, as well as a great deal of effort on the part of Assembly Government staff, Assembly staff, and, indeed, on the part of the previous Minister Jane Hutt, who supported it throughout the Assembly. The consultees also played a great part in it. It is therefore a great pity that it has lain on the shelf gathering dust for the past 18 months. I got a very vague answer from you, First Minister, the last time I asked about this. Perhaps you have had time to do your homework on this now. Can you give us a commitment that, if you are part of the Government after the election, you will implement the Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2009?

The First Minister: I cannot give commitments on behalf of the next Government. I am grateful for your view that I will be part of the next Government, but I cannot comment further on that. From our point of view, there is no reason why the Measure cannot be implemented.

Mick Bates: First Minister, I would like to start by saying what a pleasure it has been to work with you, most of the time, over the past 12 exciting and historic years. I endorse Gareth's comments about the committees,

oherwydd ProAct, pobl a fyddai fel arall wedi bod ar y dôl ac na fyddau wedi cael unrhyw hyfforddiant. Siaradwch â'r bobl sydd wedi cael eu helpu gan ReAct, ac sy'n cael eu helpu gan Adapt. Siaradwch â'r athrawon sydd yn ddiolchgar am y ffaith bod y cyfnod sylfaen wedi cael ei gyflwyno ar draws Cymru, ac am y gefnogaeth a gânt mewn ysgolion. Siaradwch â gweithwyr llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru, sy'n cael eu hariannu ar lefel llawer uwch na'r rhai yn Lloegr. Gwyddom fod miloedd o bobl yn Lloegr sy'n gweithio mewn gwasanaethau rheng flaen, yn y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a rhannau eraill o lywodraeth leol, a fydd yn colli eu swydd. Yr ydym yn hapus iawn gyda'n record yma o ran yr hyn yr ydym wedi ei gyflawni, yn enwedig pan ydym yn ei gymharu â'r dinistr sy'n digwydd mewn mannau eraill yn y DU.

Jenny Randerson: Un rhan o gytundeb 'Cymru'n Un' nad yw wedi ei gyflwyno yw Mesur Bwyta'n Iach mewn Ysgolion (Cymru) 2009. Yr wyf wedi gofyn i chi o'r blaen am y Mesur hwnnw. Aeth llawer iawn o feddwl i mewn iddo, yn ogystal â llawer iawn o ymdrech ar ran staff Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, staff y Cynulliad, ac, yn wir, ar ran y Gweinidog blaenorol Jane Hutt, a oedd yn ei gefnogi drwy gydol y Cynulliad. Chwaraeodd yr ymgynghoreion ran fawr ynddo hefyd. Felly, mae'n drueni mawr ei fod wedi gorwedd ar y silff yn hel llwch dros y 18 mis diwethaf. Cefais ateb amwys iawn gennych, Brif Weinidog, y tro diwethaf i mi ofyn am hyn. Efallai eich bod wedi cael amser i wneud eich gwaith cartref arno yn awr. A allwch roi ymrwymiad i ni, os ydych yn rhan o'r Llywodraeth ar ôl yr etholiad, y byddwch yn rhoi'r Mesur Bwyta'n Iach mewn Ysgolion (Cymru) 2009 ar waith?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni allaf roi ymrwymiadau ar ran y Llywodraeth nesaf. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar eich bod yn credu y byddaf yn rhan o'r Llywodraeth nesaf, ond ni allaf ddweud rhagor am hynny. O'n safbwynt ni, nid oes rheswm pam na all y Mesur gael ei roi ar waith.

Mick Bates: Brif Weinidog, hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddweud cymaint o bleser y bu gweithio gyda chi, y rhan fwyaf o'r amser, dros y 12 mlynedd gyffrous a hanesyddol diwethaf. Cymeradwyaf sylwadau Gareth am

and particularly what he said about the support from staff, which has been excellent. For my own part, I very much hope that, in the next Assembly, there will be a rural development committee to represent a vast part of Wales that is sometimes sadly neglected. However, one of the commitments in the 'One Wales' document—and I have heard you use the phrase 'broken promises' of late—was to cut carbon emissions by 3 per cent in areas of devolved competence in Wales. By your own Government's admission, you have achieved only a 1 per cent reduction. You say that the other bits should be EU and Great Britain figures. From your experience of this Government's attempts, which, may I say, have been commendable in some areas, what experience would you pass on to your next Government in order to achieve a similar target, which is so important in many fields, including building the economy and combating climate change?

The First Minister: There is still work to do on climate change and on reducing carbon emissions. We know that, and that is why we set challenging targets. If there are occasions when we fall short of those targets, we must redouble our efforts to ensure that we reach them in years to come. I also thank you for the working relationship that we have had over the years, particularly with regard to rural development. I remember the time of foot and mouth disease in particular. When I rang Mick on his mobile, it was guaranteed that you could hear sheep bleating in the background. I could never work out whether he was always in the fields or whether it was background music in his house. [*Laughter.*] I wish you well in your retirement, Mick—if I can call it that.

Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer Islwyn

9. Irene James: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer Islwyn. OAQ(3)3500(FM)*

The First Minister: Our priorities for Islwyn are the same as for the rest of Wales, namely delivering our 'One Wales' commitments,

y pwyllgorau, ac yn enwedig yr hyn a ddywedodd am y gefnogaeth gan staff, sydd wedi bod yn ardderchog. O'm rhan i, yr wyf yn gobeithio, yn y Cynulliad nesaf, y bydd pwyllgor datblygu gwledig i gynrychioli rhan helaeth o Gymru sy'n cael ei hesgeuluso yn ddybryd weithiau. Fodd bynnag, un o'r ymrwymadau yn 'Cymru'n Un'—ac yr wyf wedi eich clywed yn defnyddio'r ymadrodd 'addewidion wedi eu torri' yn ddiweddar—oedd torri allyriadau carbon 3 y cant yn y meysydd cymhwysedd datganoledig yng Nghymru. Mae eich Llywodraeth eich hun wedi cyfaddef mai gostyngiad o 1 y cant yn unig yr ydych wedi ei gyflawni. Yr ydych yn dweud y dylai'r darnau eraill fod yn ffigurau'r UE a Phrydain Fawr. O'ch profiad o ymdrechion y Llywodraeth hon, sydd, a gaf ddweud, wedi bod yn glodwiw mewn rhai meysydd, pa brofiad a fydddech yn ei drosglwyddo i'ch Llywodraeth nesaf er mwyn cyflawni targed tebyg, sydd mor bwysig mewn sawl maes, yn cynnwys adeiladu'r economi a mynd i'r afael â newid yn yr hinsawdd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae gwaith i'w wneud o hyd ar newid yn yr hinsawdd ac ar leihau allyriadau carbon. Gwyddom hynny, a dyna pam yr ydym yn gosod targedau heriol. Os oes adegau pan nad ydym yn cyflawni'r targedau hynny, mae'n rhaid i ni ymdrechu'n galetach i sicrhau ein bod yn eu cyflawni yn y blynyddoedd i ddod. Yr wyf hefyd yn diolch i chi am y berthynas waith yr ydym wedi ei chael dros y blynyddoedd, yn enwedig o ran datblygu gwledig. Yr wyf yn cofio adeg clwy'r traed a'r genau yn arbennig. Pan oeddwn yn ffonio Mick ar ei ffôn symudol, yr oeddech yn sicr glywed breffu defaid yn y cefndir. Ni allwn byth weithio allan a oedd bob amser yn y caeau neu a oedd yn ei chwarae fel cerddoriaeth gefndir yn ei dŷ. [*Chwerthin.*] Dymunaf yn dda ichi yn eich ymddeoliad, Mick—os gallaf ei alw'n hynny.

Priorities for Islwyn

9. Irene James: *Will the First Minister make a statement on his priorities for Islwyn. OAQ(3)3500(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae ein blaenoriaethau ar gyfer Islwyn yr un fath ag ar gyfer gweddill Cymru, sef cyflawni ein hymrwymadau

protecting public services and building sustainable economic recovery.

Irene James: Thank you for your response, First Minister. Carwyn, in the second Assembly, Labour announced the reopening of the Ebbw Valley rail line, much of which runs through my constituency of Islwyn. The line between Ebbw Vale and Cardiff was opened at the start of the third Assembly and has been a huge success. First Minister, can you confirm Labour's commitment to opening the Newport section of the Ebbw Valley rail line?

The First Minister: In keeping with the theme that we have developed here, I also wish you all the best in the years to come.

Irene James: Thank you.

The First Minister: We are already investing £2.6 million to install a connection at Gaer junction to improve the signalling between it and Park junction. The reinstatement of that crossover is a prerequisite for services to Newport, and that is currently under construction. Once that work is done, that will open the way for services to Newport.

William Graham: I welcome what you have just said about the Ebbw Vale rail link. You will know that the connection to Newport was originally suggested when the Llanwern steelworks were lost. In addition to the rail service, the bus service needs some reorganisation. It does not seem that it is being prioritised.

2.15 p.m.

The First Minister: If you are talking about the bus service between Rogerstone and Newport, there were difficulties with the patronage of the route. As a result, unfortunately, the route could not be continued, but, in time, the hope is that it will be possible to access Newport directly from Rogerstone railway station.

Pobl Ifanc yn Cymryd Rhan Mewn

'Cymru'n Un', diogelu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ac adeiladu adferiad economaidd cynaliadwy.

Irene James: Diolch i chi am eich ymateb, Brif Weinidog. Carwyn, yn yr ail Gynulliad, cyhoeddodd Llafur y byddai rheilffordd Cwm Ebwy yn cael ei ailagor, gyda llawer ohono'n rhedeg drwy fy etholaeth i, Islwyn. Agorwyd y llinell rhwng Glyn Ebwy a Chaerdydd ar ddechrau'r trydydd Cynulliad ac mae wedi bod yn llwyddiant ysgubol. Brif Weinidog, a allwch gadarnhau ymrwymiad Llafur i agor darn Casnewydd o reilffordd Cwm Ebwy?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn unol â'r thema yr ydym wedi'i ddatblygu yma, yr wyf hefyd yn dymuno'r gorau i chi yn y blynyddoedd i ddod.

Irene James: Diolch yn fawr.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym eisoes yn buddsoddi £2.6 miliwn i osod cysylltiad yng nghyffordd Gaer i wella'r signalau rhyngddo a chyffordd Pharc. Mae adfer y groesfan honno yn rhagofyniad ar gyfer gwasanaethau i Gasnewydd, ac mae hynny yn cael ei wneud ar hyn o bryd. Unwaith y bydd hynny wedi ei gwblhau, bydd yn agor y ffordd ar gyfer gwasanaethau i Gasnewydd.

William Graham: Yr wyf yn croesawu'r hyn yr ydych newydd ei ddweud am gswllt rheilffordd Glyn Ebwy. Byddwch yn gwybod yr awgrymwyd y cysylltiad i Gasnewydd yn wreiddiol pan gollwyd gweithiau dur Llanwern. Yn ogystal â'r gwasanaeth rheilffordd, mae angen ad-drefnu'r gwasanaeth bws rhywfaint. Nid ymddengys ei fod yn cael ei flaenoriaethu.

Y Prif Weinidog: Os ydych yn sôn am y gwasanaeth bws rhwng Tŷ-du a Chasnewydd, yr oedd anawsterau o ran y defnydd o'r gwasanaeth. O ganlyniad, yn anffodus, ni ellid parhau gyda'r llwybr, ond, ymhen amser, y gobaith yw y bydd yn bosibl mynd i Gasnewydd yn uniongyrchol o orsaf reilffordd Tŷ-du.

Participation of Young People in

Democratiaeth

10. Helen Mary Jones: *Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i annog pobl ifanc i gymryd rhan mewn democratiaeth. OAQ(3)3503(FM)*

The First Minister: Through our school curriculum in Wales, young people are encouraged to learn about and participate in democracy. Our personal and social education framework for seven to 19 year-olds and the Welsh baccalaureate give learners opportunities to understand the importance of democratic decision making and the mechanics of the process.

Helen Mary Jones: I had the opportunity to see some of that work at first hand last week when I visited Ysgol Gyfun y Strade in my Llanelli constituency, where the young people participated in a hard-fought referendum about whether or not we should reduce the voting age to 16. It is my view that, if we could encourage young people to begin voting while they are still in education, which most are at the age of 16, it might encourage them to develop a long-term habit of participating. I am sure that you share my concern about the relatively low percentage of young people aged over 18 who vote. Will you join me in congratulating those pupils in Ysgol Gyfun y Strade—who gave me a good run for my money when I put my points of view forward—for their lively participation? Will you also share your view about reducing the voting age to 16?

The First Minister: I join you in congratulating the pupils at Ysgol Gyfun y Strade for the debate that they held there. I have some sympathy for the idea that the voting age should be reduced to 16, but with that comes a number of other responsibilities that are currently imposed at 18 years of age. Therefore, being able to vote and taking the responsibilities of an adult are one and the same thing.

Mohammad Asghar: First Minister, previous studies from the Electoral Commission have shown that people from the UK's black and minority ethnic communities are often less likely to vote in

Democracy

10. Helen Mary Jones: *What steps is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to encourage the participation of young people in democracy. OAQ(3)3503(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Drwy ein cwricwlwm ysgol yng Nghymru, mae pobl ifanc yn cael eu hannog i ddysgu am ddemocratiaeth ac i gymryd rhan mewn democratiaeth. Mae ein fframwaith addysg bersonol a chymdeithasol i blant rhwng saith a 19 mlwydd oed a bagloriaeth Cymru yn rhoi cyfleoedd i ddysgwyr ddeall pwysigrwydd gwneud penderfyniadau democrataidd a pheirianwaith y broses.

Helen Mary Jones: Cefais gyfle i weld rhywfaint o'r gwaith hwnnw yn uniongyrchol yr wythnos diwethaf pan ymwelais ag Ysgol Gyfun y Strade yn fy etholaeth i, Llanelli, lle cymrodd y bobl ifanc ran mewn refferendwm frwd ynghylch a ddylem leihau'r oedran pleidleisio i 16. Yn fy marn i, pe gallem annog pobl ifanc i ddechrau pleidleisio tra eu bod dal mewn addysg, fel y mae'r rhan fwyaf o bobl ifanc 16 oed, gallai hynny eu hannog i ddatblygu arfer hirdymor o gymryd rhan. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn rhannu fy mhryder ynghylch y ganran gymharol isel o bobl ifanc dros 18 oed sy'n pleidleisio. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi i longyfarch y disgyblion hynny yn Ysgol Gyfun y Strade—a roddodd dipyn o gystadleuaeth i mi pan gyflwynais fy safbwyntiau—am eu cyfranogiad bywiog? A wnewch chi hefyd rannu eich barn am ostwng yr oedran pleidleisio i 16?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymunaf â chi yn llongyfarch y disgyblion yn Ysgol Gyfun y Strade am y ddadl a gynhaliwyd yno. Mae gennyf rywfaint o gydymdeimlad â'r syniad y dylid gostwng yr oedran pleidleisio i 16, ond gyda hynny daw nifer o gyfrifoldebau eraill sy'n dod i rym ar hyn o bryd pan ydych yn 18 mlwydd oed. Felly, mae'r hawl i bleidleisio ac ysgwyddo cyfrifoldebau oedolyn yn mynd law yn llaw.

Mohammad Asghar: Brif Weinidog, mae astudiaethau blaenorol gan y Comisiwn Etholiadol wedi dangos bod pobl o gymunedau duon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig y DU yn aml yn llai tebygol o bleidleisio mewn

elections and that the likelihood that people will vote increases with age. Given such trends, what steps is the Assembly Government taking and what steps do you feel can be taken generally to encourage the participation of young people from BME communities in democracy?

The First Minister: I mentioned what we are doing through schools in Wales. We also have Funky Dragon and we support statutory school councils. However, it is also a matter for the Electoral Commission to look at ways of increasing participation in elections from all people within our community.

Eleanor Burnham: This might be the last time that I get up to ask a question to the First Minister—who knows—but I wish to echo what Gareth said and thank everyone, because I think that this place has been exceptionally well run. I have read the rather cheeky comments of the UK Independence Party about getting rid of us and bringing in MPs to do a part-time job here, and the mind boggles. I have just read Betsan Powys's blog where there is no comment to refute that. Therefore, if one is reading that blog, one is almost led to believe that the BBC endorses the blog, but I am sure that it will be pleased to comment on what I have just said, because I think that it is absolutely scandalous. There was a similar situation with the 'Yes' vote, because there was no ability—[*Interruption.*] I am sorry if I ramble for a minute, but I am sure that you will allow me to do so today. Some people think that we are absolutely C-R-A-P and some people think that we are of no use, but I would like to think that we have been of some use. One of our uses is that, because of the number of women here, we have had a much softer touch on the soft issues of life, such as children and young people's issues, equality issues, and so on. This is the one thing that the Assembly has been good at, and one of the biggest privileges for me, is talking to schools, and Sandy, Mark and I visited a school the other day—although it was a slight opportunity for hustings. With regard to engagement with young people, one of the plus points of the Assembly is its work to engage people in democracy, and I wish to

etholiadau a bod y tebygolrwydd y bydd pobl yn pleidleisio yn cynyddu gydag oedran. O ystyried tueddiadau o'r fath, pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cymryd a pha gamau yr ydych chi'n teimlo y gellir eu cymryd yn gyffredinol i annog cyfranogiad pobl ifanc o gymunedau duon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig mewn democratiaeth?

Y Prif Weinidog: Soniais am yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud drwy ysgolion yng Nghymru. Mae gennym hefyd y Ddraig Ffynti ac yr ydym yn cefnogi cynghorau ysgol statudol. Fodd bynnag, mae hefyd yn fater i'r Comisiwn Etholiadol i edrych ar ffyrdd o gynyddu cyfranogiad mewn etholiadau gan yr holl bobl yn ein cymuned.

Eleanor Burnham: Efallai mai dyma'r tro olaf y byddaf yn gofyn cwestiwn i'r Prif Weinidog—pwy a wŷr—ond yr wyf am adleisio'r hyn a ddywedodd Gareth a diolch i bawb, oherwydd credaf fod y lle hwn wedi cael ei redeg yn eithriadol o dda. Yr wyf wedi darllen sylwadau braidd yn ddigywilydd gan UKIP am gael gwared arnom a chael Aelodau Seneddol i wneud swydd ran-amser yma, ond mae'n syniad arswydus. Yr wyf newydd ddarllen blog Betsan Powys lle nad oes sylw i wrthbrofi hynny. Felly, wrth ddarllen y blog, mae rhywun bron yn cael ei arwain i gredu bod y BBC yn cymeradwyo'r blog, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn falch i roi sylwadau ar yr hyn yr wyf i newydd ei ddweud, oherwydd credaf ei fod yn gwbl warthus. Yr oedd sefyllfa debyg gyda'r bleidlais 'Ie', gan nad oedd gallu—[*Torri ar draws.*] Mae'n ddrwg gennyf os wyf yn crwydro am funud, ond yr wyf yn sicr y byddwch yn caniatáu i mi wneud hynny heddiw. Mae rhai pobl yn meddwl ein bod yn G-A-Ch-U llwyr ac mae rhai pobl yn meddwl ein bod yn dda i ddim, ond hoffwn feddwl ein bod wedi bod o ryw ddefnydd. Un peth defnyddiol yw, oherwydd nifer y menywod yma, rydym wedi gallu ymdrin yn llawer mwy sensitif â rhai materion, fel materion plant a phobl ifanc, materion cydraddoldeb ac yn y blaen. Dyma'r un peth y mae'r Cynulliad wedi bod yn dda yn ei gylch, ac yn un o'r breintiau mwyaf i mi yw siarad ag ysgolion, ac ymwelodd Sandy, Mark a minnau ag ysgol ychydig ddiwrnodau yn ôl—er ei fod yn gyfle hefyd ar gyfer hustyngau. O ran ymgysylltu â phobl ifanc,

thank everyone, and thank you for allowing me to say that. Do you agree with some of my comments, First Minister?

The First Minister: I do, Eleanor, and I wish you all the best as well, whatever happens in the future.

Two things struck me about the UKIP announcement yesterday. It said that it did not want to abolish the Assembly, just get rid of AMs, which is a little like saying that you want to keep hospitals open but to make sure that there are no doctors in them. Twenty-five years after the end of the second world war, former Japanese soldiers were discovered in jungle areas of Asia who refused to believe that the war was over. They refused to believe the notes that were dropped on them by aircraft because they saw it as their duty to continue to fight until the emperor ordered them to lay down their arms. It is a bit like UKIP. The referendum is over, and someone should tell them.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i'r Prif Weinidog am ei atebion i'r cwestiynau ac am ei ddymuniadau da i'w gyd-Aelodau.

un o bwyntiau cadarnhaol y Cynulliad yw ei waith i gynnwys pobl mewn democratiaeth, a hoffwn ddiolch i bawb, a diolch i chi am ganiatáu imi ddweud hynny. A ydych yn cytuno gyda rhai o'm sylwadau, Brif Weinidog?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydw, Eleanor, ac yr wyf yn dymuno pob llwyddiant i chi hefyd, beth bynnag sy'n digwydd yn y dyfodol.

Yr oedd dau beth yn fy nharo am gyhoeddiad UKIP ddoe. Dywedodd nad oedd am ddiddymu'r Cynulliad, dim ond cael gwared ar Aelodau'r Cynulliad, sydd ychydig fel dweud eich bod am gadw ysbytai ar agor, ond peidio â rhoi unrhyw feddygon ynddynt. Bum mlynedd ar hugain ar ôl diwedd yr ail ryfel byd, darganfuwyd cyn-filwyr o Siapan mewn ardaloedd jungl yn Asia a wrthododd gredu bod y rhyfel drosodd. Gwrthodent gredu'r nodiadau yr oedd awyrennau yn eu gollwng o'r awyr oherwydd eu bod yn ystyried mai eu dyletswydd oedd parhau i ymladd nes i'r ymerawdwr eu gorchymyn i ildio. Mae ychydig yn debyg i UKIP. Mae'r refferendwm ar ben, a dylai rhywun ddweud y blaid.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the First Minister for his responses to questions and for his good wishes to fellow Members.

Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes Business Statement and Announcement

The Minister for Business and Budget (Jane Hutt): It is with mixed feelings that I make the final business statement of this Assembly. I thank all Members across the Chamber and your officials and staff who have worked so hard to ensure that the business of this Assembly and Government has been managed so effectively over the past four years, Llywydd. In this last statement, I have two changes to report to this afternoon's business. The Minister for Social Justice and Local Government will make a statement on the review of local government—local, regional, national: what services are best delivered where? That will be followed by a statement by the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning on the report on the structure of education services

Y Gweinidog dros Fusnes a'r Gyllideb (Jane Hutt): Teimladau cymysg sydd gennyf wrth wneud datganiad busnes olaf y Cynulliad hwn. Diolch i'r holl Aelodau ar draws y Siambr a'ch swyddogion a staff sydd wedi gweithio mor galed i sicrhau bod busnes y Cynulliad a'r Llywodraeth wedi'i reoli mor effeithiol dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf, Lywydd. Yn y datganiad olaf hwn, mae gennyf ddau newid i'w hadrodd i fusnes y prynhawn yma. Bydd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol yn gwneud datganiad ar yr adolygiad o lywodraeth leol—lleol, rhanbarthol, cenedlaethol: pa wasanaethau yw'r rhai gorau i'w darparu ble? Bydd hynny yn cael ei ddilyn gan ddatganiad gan y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar yr

in Wales.

Mark Isherwood: On Friday, 25 March, the cross-party group on neurosciences, which I chair, published a report on the lack of understanding of neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis in emergency units across Wales. This report was submitted to the Minister for Health and Social Services and contained a series of recommendations, including different methods of training and a requirement for neurologists to visit emergency units regularly. Would it be possible for the Minister for Health and Social Services to make a statement responding to this report, either before dissolution or in the legacy report to the successor Minister, whether it be her or another Member of the next Assembly?

My second and final point builds upon a question that I raised with you in last week's business statement about the lack of north Wales representation on the Welsh Government's public transport user committee for Wales. I am now told that no-one from north or mid Wales is on this important committee. Therefore, half of Wales is not represented by anyone with day-to-day experience of the railroad infrastructure in those areas, which raises questions about the all-Wales transport plan. Concern was also raised that the committee has decided initially to consult with transport providers rather than the rail users that it is set up to represent. Therefore, could we have a statement either before dissolution or in a legacy report to successors to ensure that this matter is addressed by the next Welsh Government?

Jane Hutt: As with all of the cross-party groups that have met in the Assembly, the one on neurosciences is important. I am sure that the Minister for health will consider the report carefully and that the Minister responsible will look at the public transport user committee representation, not just in terms of north Wales but of mid Wales as well.

adroddiad ar strwythur gwasanaethau addysg yng Nghymru.

Mark Isherwood: Ar ddydd Gwener, 25 Mawrth, cyhoeddodd y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar niwrowyddorau, yr wyf fi'n ei gadeirio, adroddiad ar y diffyg dealltwriaeth o gyflyrau niwrolegol megis clefyd Parkinson a sglerosis ymledol mewn unedau brys ledled Cymru. Cyflwynwyd yr adroddiad hwn i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ac roedd yn cynnwys cyfres o argymhellion, yn cynnwys dulliau gwahanol o hyfforddi a gofyniad i niwrolegwyr ymweld ag unedau brys yn rheolaidd. A fuasai'n bosibl i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wneud datganiad yn ymateb i'r adroddiad hwn, naill ai cyn y diddymu neu yn yr adroddiad etifeddiaeth i'w holynydd, p'un ai hi neu Aelod arall o'r Cynulliad nesaf fydd yn Weinidog?

Mae fy ail bwynt a'r pwynt olaf yn adeiladu ar gwestiwn a godais gyda chi yn natganiad busnes yr wythnos diwethaf am y diffyg cynrychiolaeth o ogledd Cymru ar bwyllgor defnyddwyr trafndiaeth gyhoeddus i Gymru Llywodraeth Cymru. Dywedir wrthyf yn awr nad oes neb o ogledd na chanolbarth Cymru ar y pwyllgor pwysig hwn. Felly, nid yw hanner y wlad yn cael ei chynrychioli gan rywun sydd â phrofiad dydd-i-ddydd o'r seilwaith rheilffordd yn yr ardaloedd hynny, sy'n codi cwestiynau am y cynllun trafndiaeth Cymru gyfan. Mynegwyd pryder hefyd fod y pwyllgor wedi penderfynu dechrau ymgynghori â darparwyr trafndiaeth yn hytrach na'r defnyddwyr rheilffyrdd y cafodd ei sefydlu i'w cynrychioli. Felly, a allem gael datganiad naill ai cyn y diddymu neu mewn adroddiad etifeddiaeth i olynwyr i sicrhau bod y mater yn cael sylw gan Lywodraeth nesaf Cymru?

Jane Hutt: Fel holl grwpiau trawsbleidiol y Cynulliad, mae'r grŵp ar niwrowyddorau yn bwysig. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y Gweinidog dros iechyd yn ystyried yr adroddiad yn ofalus ac y bydd y Gweinidog cyfrifol yn edrych ar gynrychiolaeth y pwyllgor defnyddwyr trafndiaeth gyhoeddus, nid yn unig o ran gogledd Cymru ond canolbarth Cymru yn ogystal.

Lynne Neagle: I ask for a written statement on the impact on pensioner poverty of the underhand cuts to the winter fuel allowance that were hidden in the small print of the budget last week. David Cameron promised voters that these payments were safe in the run-up to the election and, with rising fuel prices hitting elderly people especially hard, these plans amount to nothing less than a betrayal of older people in this country. The removal of the top-up put in place by the previous Labour Government means that, next winter, over-60s will lose £50 of their allowance, with those over 80 losing £100. In contrast, one of the things that has characterised the response of this Labour-led Government to our difficult economic times is a desire to protect the vulnerable from the worst of the cuts. Whether by maintaining free bus passes for over-60s, protecting social services or the announcement last week by the Deputy Minister for Social Services of a cap on homecare charges, Labour is standing up for older people in Wales. Why on earth can the Tories not do the decent thing by older people and follow our lead?

Jane Hutt: This is why older people in Wales in particular cannot trust the UK Government. That was clear from the budget last week with that reduction and cut to the all-important winter fuel allowance, particularly with the rising cost of fuel. That is something that I know we are all finding as we talk to pensioners on the doorstep, and our pensioners will be pleased that, from 1 April, we will be introducing our new fuel poverty scheme, where we are putting more funding into tackling fuel poverty and improving home energy efficiency than the Government across the border in England. We would encourage anyone struggling with their fuel bills to make contact as a result of the new fuel poverty scheme from 1 April.

Darren Millar: Could we have a written statement from the Minister for Rural Affairs to update Members on the Welsh deer strategy? I am sure that you will be aware

Lynne Neagle: Gofynnaf am ddatganiad ysgrifenedig ar effaith y toriadau llechwraidd i'r lwfans tanwydd gaeaf y'u cuddiwyd ym mhrint mân y gyllideb yr wythnos diwethaf ar dlodi pensiynwyr. Addawodd David Cameron i bleidleiswyr fod y taliadau hyn yn ddiogel yn y cyfnod yn arwain at yr etholiad, a chyda phrisiau cynyddol tanwydd yn taro pobl oedrannus yn arbennig o galed, nid yw'r cynlluniau hyn yn ddim llai na brad o bobl hŷn yn y wlad hon. Mae cael gwared ar y taliad atodol a gyflwynodd y Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol yn golygu, y gaeaf nesaf, y bydd pobl dros 60 oed yn colli £50 o'u lwfans, gyda'r rhai sydd dros 80 oed yn colli £100. Mewn cyferbyniad, un o'r pethau sydd wedi nodweddu ymateb y Llywodraeth yma o dan arweiniad Llafur i'r cyfnod economaidd anodd hwn yw'r awydd i amddiffyn pobl agored i niwed rhag y gwaethaf o'r toriadau. P'un ai drwy barhau i roi tocynnau bws am ddim i bobl dros 60 oed, diogelu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol neu'r cyhoeddiad yr wythnos diwethaf gan y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol o gap ar daliadau gofal cartref, mae Llafur yn sefyll dros bobl hŷn yng Nghymru. Pam ar y ddaear na all y Torïaid wneud y peth iawn dros bobl hŷn a dilyn ein hesiampl ni?

Jane Hutt: Dyma pam na all pobl hŷn yng Nghymru yn arbennig ymddiried yn Llywodraeth y DU. Yr oedd hynny'n glir o'r gyllideb yr wythnos ddiwethaf gyda'r gostyngiad a'r toriad hwnnw i'r lwfans tanwydd y gaeaf hollwbysig, yn enwedig gyda chost gynyddol tanwydd. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y gwn ein bod i gyd yn ei ganfod wrth i ni siarad â phensiynwyr ar garreg y drws, a bydd ein pensiynwyr yn falch y byddwn ni, ar 1 Ebrill, yn cyflwyno ein cynllun tldi tanwydd newydd, lle byddwn yn rhoi mwy o arian i fynd i'r afael â thldi tanwydd a gwella effeithlonrwydd ynni yn y cartref na'r Llywodraeth dros y ffin yn Lloegr. Byddem yn annog unrhyw un sy'n cael trafferth i dalu eu biliau tanwydd i gysylltu o ganlyniad i'r cynllun tldi tanwydd newydd o 1 Ebrill ymlaen.

Darren Millar: A allem gael datganiad ysgrifenedig gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig i ddiweddarau Aelodau ar strategaeth ceirw Cymru? Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn

that deer can be an invasive pest on people's land unless they are managed in a sustainable way, and although legislation is in place for landowners specifically to be able to manage the deer population, there are problems for landowners who lack shooting rights on their land. Could we have an update on that?

Secondly, could we have a statement from the Minister for Heritage on Welsh Assembly Government support for the Wales Millennium Centre? We know that it is an important national building, and an iconic one, and the events and shows that take place there are extremely successful. It has had an excellent programme of events this year, and I had the opportunity to visit last week to watch *We Will Rock You*. I have to say that I was very impressed with the whole facility. I therefore ask for a statement on the Assembly Government's continued support for the Wales Millennium Centre prior to the election.

Jane Hutt: I am sure that the Minister for Rural Affairs will take note of your concerns, and your constituents' concerns, about the need for a Welsh deer strategy.

In terms of the Wales Millennium Centre, I am proud to be a Minister for finance who has helped to protect important landmarks, and not only the Wales Millennium Centre. I am sure that you will recognise that we have been able to underpin those major national institutions that are so important to our culture and our arts. I am sure that *We Will Rock You* made you realise what you will be up against at the forthcoming election.

Helen Mary Jones: I am sure that we are all proud of the stance that our Government has taken in making veterans a priority category for receiving social housing if they need it. We will all be aware that it is not always easy for veterans to find out about their rights and to exercise them. Would you consider asking the Deputy Minister for Housing and Regeneration to make a written statement to the Assembly on how we can ensure that veterans are made aware of their rights with regard to housing in Wales? Could I further

ymwybodol y gall ceirw fod yn bla goresgynnol ar dir pobl oni bai eu bod yn cael eu rheoli mewn ffordd gynaliadwy, ac er bod deddfwriaeth yn bodoli i dirfeddianwyr yn benodol allu rheoli'r boblogaeth ceirw, mae problemau i dirfeddianwyr sydd heb hawliau saethu ar eu tir. A allem gael y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am hynny?

Yn ail, a allem gael datganiad gan y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth ar gefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru? Yr ydym yn gwybod ei fod yn adeilad cenedlaethol pwysig ac eiconig, ac mae'r digwyddiadau a sioeau a lwyfennir yno yn hynod o lwyddiannus. Mae wedi cael rhaglen ardderchog o ddiwyddiadau eleni, a chefais y cyfle i ymweld yr wythnos diwethaf i wyllo *We Will Rock You*. Rhaid i mi ddweud y gwnaeth y cyfleuster cyfan argraff dda iawn arnaf. Felly, gofynnaf am ddatganiad cyn yr etholiad am gefnogaeth barhaus Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig yn nodi eich pryderon, a phryderon eich etholwyr, am yr angen am strategaeth ceirw yng Nghymru.

O ran Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru, yr wyf yn falch o fod yn Weinidog cyllid sydd wedi helpu i ddiogelu adeiladau pwysig, ac nid Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru yn unig. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn cydnabod ein bod wedi gallu bod yn gymaint o gynhaliath i'r sefydliadau cenedlaethol mawr sydd mor bwysig i'n diwylliant a'n celfyddydau. Yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnaeth *We Will Rock You* wneud i chi sylweddoli beth fyddwch yn cystadlu yn ei erbyn yn yr etholiad sydd i ddod.

Helen Mary Jones: Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod i gyd yn falch o'r safiad y mae ein Llywodraeth wedi ei gwneud wrth wneud cyn-filwyr yn gategori blaenoriaeth ar gyfer derbyn tai cymdeithasol os ydynt ei angen. Rydym i gyd yn ymwybodol nad yw bob amser yn hawdd i gyn-filwyr ddod i wybod am eu hawliau a'u defnyddio. A fyddech yn ystyried gofyn i'r Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai ac Adfywio wneud datganiad ysgrifenedig i'r Cynulliad ar sut y gallwn sicrhau bod cyn-filwyr yn cael eu hysbysu

ask that consideration be given to one particular group of veterans that we sometimes forget? There are a good many ex-Gurkhas living in my constituency, and many of them have particular issues relating to language, culture, and getting used to living in a different type of community. Would you suggest to the next Government that that particular group of veterans needs to be given consideration when we are looking at services for veterans—whether they are medical services, housing, or any other public services in Wales?

Jane Hutt: You know that the Deputy Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Jocelyn Davies, has made it clear that the Assembly Government is committed to tackling and preventing homelessness, and that the project that is being taken forward by Cymorth Cymru, with the directory of ex-service personnel and other vulnerable groups experiencing housing difficulties in Wales, will be very important. Indeed, in relation to Gurkhas and our support for them, it is clear that with the Gurkhas settling into the United Kingdom since 2004, and Gurkha Company (Mandalay) being based at the infantry battle school in Brecon since 1974, we value the Gurkha community. I would be very happy to raise concerns with Carl Sargeant in his capacity as Minister with responsibility for the armed forces community in Wales, but this is a cross-Government issue; we can all support our Gurkhas and be proud of their presence in Wales.

2.30 p.m.

Kirsty Williams: Minister, could you make a request that a statement be issued by the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning with regard to his decision on the school closure proposals for the Maes y Dderwen catchment area? There are 10 schools and 10 communities awaiting that decision. The intention by Powys County Council is to replace those 10 schools with four new schools. As you can imagine, there is a great deal of disquiet within the community and the council, and an eagerness for a decision before the Assembly is dissolved, which would mean that they would

o’u hawliau o ran tai yng Nghymru? A allaf ofyn ymhellach bod ystyriaeth yn cael ei rhoi i un grŵp penodol o gyn-filwyr yr ydym yn ei anghofio weithiau? Mae yna lawer iawn o gyn-Gurkhas yn byw yn fy etholaeth i, ac mae gan lawer ohonynt faterion penodol sy’n ymwneud ag iaith, diwylliant a chyfarwyddo â byw mewn math gwahanol o gymuned. A fydddech yn awgrymu i’r Llywodraeth nesaf fod angen ystyried y grŵp penodol hwn o gyn-filwyr pan fyddwn yn edrych ar wasanaethau i gyn-filwyr—p’un a ydynt yn wasanaethau meddygol, tai neu unrhyw wasanaethau cyhoeddus eraill yng Nghymru?

Jane Hutt: Yr ydych yn gwybod bod y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai ac Adfywio, Jocelyn Davies, wedi ei gwneud yn glir bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwmo i fynd i’r afael â digartrefedd a’i atal, ac y bydd y prosiect sydd dan ofal Cymorth Cymru, gyda chyfeiriadur o gyn-filwyr a grwpiau eraill agored i niwed sy’n profi anawsterau o ran tai yng Nghymru, yn bwysig iawn. Yn wir, mewn perthynas â’r Gurkhas a’n cefnogaeth ni iddynt, mae’n amlwg, a’r Gurkhas wedi gallu ymgartrefu yn y Deyrnas Unedig ers 2004, a Gurkha Company (Mandalay) wedi’i leoli yn yr ysgol frwydro i droedfilwyr yn Aberhonddu ers 1974, ein bod yn gwerthfawrogi’r gymuned Gurkha. Buaswn yn hapus iawn i godi pryderon gyda Carl Sargeant yn rhinwedd ei swydd fel y Gweinidog sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros y gymuned lluoedd arfog yng Nghymru, ond mae hwn yn fater traws-Lywodraethol; gallwn oll gefnogi ein Gurkhas a bod yn falch o’u presenoldeb yng Nghymru.

Kirsty Williams: Weinidog, a allech wneud cais bod datganiad yn cael ei gyhoeddi gan y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes o ran ei benderfyniad ar y cynigion i gau ysgolion yn nalgylch Maes y Dderwen? Mae 10 ysgol a 10 cymuned yn disgwyl am y penderfyniad hwnnw. Y bwriad gan Gyngor Sir Powys yw cael pedair ysgol newydd yn lle’r 10 ysgol honno. Fel y gallwch ddychmygu, mae llawer o anesmwythyd o fewn y gymuned a’r cyngor, ac awydd am benderfyniad cyn i’r Cynulliad gael ei ddiddymu, a fyddai’n golygu na fyddai’n rhaid iddynt aros tan y bydd

not have to wait until a new Welsh Assembly Government was formed to find out the fate of those schools as a result of that closure programme.

Secondly, I raise with you the issue I raised last week with regard to fire services in my constituency. You will be aware that last week I raised the issue of the Land Rover in Rhayader. I do not know whether the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government was able to have a word with the fire brigade in the area because the Land Rover is now staying in Rhayader, which is very welcome indeed. If he did play a part in that, perhaps he could use similar charm to persuade the fire brigade to keep the turntable unit in Llandrindod Wells fire station, which it is now proposing to move and which would result in the nearest turntable engine for the Radnorshire area being in Aberystwyth. I am sure that you would agree that it is not acceptable for a unit to have to travel all the way over from the west coast of Wales to answer calls in Radnorshire.

Jane Hutt: Clearly, the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning's determination on the Powys County Council school proposals must be within the timescale set, from the date on which public notices were published. That is something that we will deal with and aim to determine as soon as possible. Your point also demonstrates the importance of a business statement: when Members bring issues to the fore, Ministers can respond. The current position in terms of the fire and rescue service, and the removal of the Land Rover vehicle from Rhayader, which was an important factor that you raised, have been looked at and a range of options to address operational issues have been considered and taken up by the Minister and you can see the results.

Christine Chapman: Could we have an urgent statement from the Minister for the Economy and Transport on bus services in Wales? I am led to believe that Veolia Transport Ltd, which is Wales's second

Llywodraeth newydd Cynulliad Cymru yn cael ei ffurfio cyn darganfod tynged yr ysgolion hynny o ganlyniad i'r rhaglen gau honno.

Yn ail, hoffwn godi gyda chi'r mater a godais yr wythnos diwethaf mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau tân yn fy etholaeth i. Byddwch yn ymwybodol fy mod wedi codi mater y Land Rover yn Rhaeadr Gwy yr wythnos diwethaf. Nid wyf yn gwybod a lwyddodd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol i gael gair gyda'r frigâd dân yn yr ardal oherwydd bydd y Land Rover yn awr yn aros yn Rhaeadr Gwy, sydd i'w groesawu'n fawr iawn. Os oedd ganddo ef ran yn hynny, efallai y gallai ddefnyddio swyn tebyg i ddwyn perswâd ar y frigâd dân i gadw'r uned drofwrdd yng ngorsaf dân Llandrindod, y mae'r gwasanaeth yn awr yn cynnig ei symud, a fyddai'n golygu mai yn Aberystwyth fyddai'r peiriant trofwrdd agosaf i ardal Sir Faesyfed. Rwy'n siŵr y byddech yn cytuno nad yw'n dderbyniol bod uned yn gorfod teithio'r holl ffordd o arfordir gorllewin Cymru i ateb galwadau yn Sir Faesyfed.

Jane Hutt: Yn amlwg, mae'n rhaid i benderfyniad y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar gynigion Cyngor Sir Powys o ran ysgolion gael ei wneud o fewn yr amserlen a osodwyd, o'r dyddiad y cafodd yr hysbysiadau cyhoeddus eu cyhoeddi. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y byddwn yn ymdrin ag ef ac yn anelu at gael penderfyniad yn ei gylch cyn gynted ag y bo modd. Mae eich pwynt hefyd yn dangos pam mor bwysig yw datganiad busnes: pan mae Aelodau'n dod â materion i'r amlwg, gall Gweinidogion ymateb. Mae'r sefyllfa bresennol o ran y gwasanaeth tân ac achub, a chael gwared ar y cerbyd Land Rover o Rhaeadr Gwy, a oedd yn ffactor pwysig a godwyd gennych, wedi cael ei ystyried ac mae ystod o opsiynau i fynd i'r afael â materion gweithredol hefyd wedi cael eu hystyried a'u gweithredu gan y Gweinidog, a gallwch weld y canlyniadau.

Christine Chapman: A allwn gael datganiad brys gan y Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth ar wasanaethau bysiau yng Nghymru? Deallaf fod Veolia Transport Ltd, sef ail weithredwr bysiau mwyaf Cymru, yn

biggest bus operator, is pulling out of services in Wales. If you look at Rhondda Cynon Taf alone, that will mean the loss of over 100 jobs in this area. This is obviously a very worrying time for the drivers and, in the present economic circumstances, it has to be an issue of great concern when any group of workers is threatened with redundancy. We have had calls this morning from Unite, the union, and I know that there were discussions on this yesterday. While the irregularity of bus services in my constituency over the past decade has been extremely frustrating, this move will cause even greater disruption as Veolia continues to provide the majority of services in my area and also has the contract for school transport. Could you ensure that a statement is prepared, Minister, because this is going to be very worrying for many of us in our constituencies?

Jane Hutt: It is very worrying not just for those in your constituency, but for a much wider regional area in terms of Veolia pulling out of providing bus services in Rhondda Cynon Taf and the resulting loss of jobs and services. I understand that officials have been made aware of this via Unite and have discussed these issues today. They have agreed to meet the operations director of Veolia Transport at Treforest tomorrow morning, which will give us an update on the present position from the company's perspective and establish how the Welsh Assembly Government can assist those affected.

Nick Bourne: I will make a couple of points. The first relates to a matter for the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, which has only just come to light in full. I will write to the Minister on this, so if it is too late for a written statement, perhaps a reply letter could be published in the Library for Members, or former Members as I suppose we will be known. The closure of the Aberystwyth day centre has recently been announced. The centre is presently very close to the bus station, the railway station and the centre of the town and has very good access. Its replacement out of town does not have

tynnu allan o wasanaethau yng Nghymru. Os ydych yn edrych ar Rhondda Cynon Taf yn unig, bydd hynny'n golygu colli mwy na 100 o swyddi yn yr ardal. Mae hyn yn amlwg yn amser pryderus iawn i yrwyr ac, yn yr amgylchiadau economaidd presennol, mae'n rhaid iddo fod yn fater o bryder mawr pan fydd bygythiad o golli swyddi i unrhyw grŵp o weithwyr. Rydym wedi cael galwadau y bore yma gan Unite, yr undeb, a gwn fod trafodaethau wedi cael eu cynnal ar y mater hwn ddoe. Er bod afreoleidd-dra gwasanaethau bysiau yn fy etholaeth i yn ystod y degawd diwethaf wedi bod yn hynod rwystredig, bydd y cam hwn yn achosi hyd yn oed mwy o aflonyddwch gan fod Veolia yn parhau i ddarparu'r rhan fwyaf o wasanaethau yn fy ardal i, ac mae hefyd ganddo'r contract ar gyfer cludiant i'r ysgol. A allech sicrhau bod datganiad yn cael ei baratoi, Weinidog, oherwydd mae hyn yn mynd i beri pryder i lawer ohonom yn ein hetholaethau?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n peri cryn bryder nid yn unig ar gyfer y rhai yn eich etholaeth chi, ond ar gyfer ardal ranbarthol llawer ehangach o ran Veolia yn tynnu allan o ddarparu gwasanaethau bws yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a'r colli swyddi a gwasanaethau sy'n deillio o hynny. Deallaf fod swyddogion wedi cael gwybod am hyn drwy Unite ac wedi trafod y materion hyn heddiw. Maent wedi cytuno i gwrdd â chyfarwyddwr gweithrediadau Veolia Transport yn Nhreforest bore yfory, a fydd yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni am y sefyllfa bresennol o safbwynt y cwmni ac yn cadarnhau sut y gall Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gynorthwyo'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt.

Nick Bourne: Mae gennyf ddau bwynt i'w wneud. Mae'r cyntaf yn ymwneud â mater i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol, sydd ond wedi dod i'r amlwg yn llawn yn ddiweddar. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog am hyn, felly os yw'n rhy hwyr ar gyfer datganiad ysgrifenedig, efallai y gallai llythyr ymateb gael ei gyhoeddi yn y Llyfrgell i Aelodau, neu gyn-aelodau fel mae'n debyg y byddwn yn cael ein hadnabod. Cyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar y bydd canolfan ddydd Aberystwyth yn cau. Mae'r ganolfan ar hyn o bryd yn agos iawn i'r orsaf fysiau, yr orsaf

good access and is away from the public transport hub. I appreciate that this is a matter for local government, but once he gets the letter, could the Minister respond on what should have been done in terms of consultation? There has not been thorough consultation on this issue and people in the town—particularly those who represent older people—are concerned about this issue.

Secondly, and on behalf of the opposition, I wish to echo Jane's thanks to the civil servants who serve all the people of Wales. It is right that we recognise their professionalism and their effectiveness. Through you, Llywydd, I also wish to thank the Assembly Commission staff, who have been uniformly hard-working, professional and good-humoured over the last four years in serving Members who have not always been all of those things, if they have been any of them. I wish to thank them very much for all that they have done over the past four years.

Jane Hutt: Thank you for endorsing my comments, Nick. Those views regarding the delivery by Government and Assembly Commission staff over the past four years are reflected across the Chamber.

Your first point is important. As you say, it is a matter for Ceredigion County Council, but I am sure that the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government will have taken note of that and will respond to you.

The Presiding Officer: May I thank you, Nick, on behalf of Commission staff for your well-received thanks? You were always all those things that you set out. Brian Gibbons has the next question.

Brian Gibbons: In view of time constraints, could we have a written statement on the details of the meeting between the First Minister and Karl-Ulrich Köhler, the European head of Tata Steel, particularly in

reilffordd a chanol y dref ac mae'n hygyrch iawn. Nid yw'r ganolfan newydd y tu allan i'r dref yn hygyrch ac mae wedi'i lleoli beth pellter i ffwrdd o'r ganolfan trafniadaeth gyhoeddus. Rwy'n sylweddoli bod hwn yn fater i lywodraeth leol, ond unwaith iddo gael y llythyr, a allai'r Gweinidog ymateb o ran yr hyn y dylid fod wedi'i wneud o ran ymgynghori? Ni fu ymgynghori trylwyr ar y mater hwn, ac mae pobl yn y dref—yn enwedig y rhai sy'n cynrychioli pobl hŷn—yn pryderu am y mater hwn.

Yn ail, ac ar ran yr wrthblaid, hoffwn ategu diolch Jane i'r gweision sifil sy'n gwasanaethu holl bobl Cymru. Mae'n iawn ein bod yn cydnabod eu proffesiynoldeb a'u heffeithiolrwydd. Trwoch chi, Lywydd, rwyf hefyd am ddiolch i staff Comisiwn y Cynulliad, sydd wedi bod yn gweithio'n galed, yn broffesiynol ac yn hwyliog dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf wrth wasanaethu Aelodau nad ydynt bob amser wedi arddangos yr ymddygiadau hynny i gyd, os ydynt wedi arddangos unrhyw un ohonynt. Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr iawn am bopeth y maent wedi'i wneud dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf.

Jane Hutt: Diolch i chi am ategu fy sylwadau, Nick. Mae'r safbwyntiau hynny mewn perthynas â gweithredu gan staff y Llywodraeth a Chomisiwn y Cynulliad dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf yn cael eu hadlewyrchu ar draws y Siambr.

Mae eich pwynt cyntaf yn bwysig. Fel y dywedwch, mae'n fater i Gyngor Sir Ceredigion, ond rwy'n sicr y bydd y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol wedi cymryd sylw o hynny ac y bydd yn ymateb i chi.

Y Llywydd: Hoffwn ddiolch i chi, Nick, ar ran staff y Comisiwn am eich diolch, sydd wedi cael derbyn iad da. Roeddech bob amser yn dangos yr ymddygiadau hynny a restrwyd gennyh. Mae gan Brian Gibbons y cwestiwn nesaf.

Brian Gibbons: O ystyried y cyfyngiadau ar amser, a allem gael datganiad ysgrifenedig ar fanylion y cyfarfod rhwng y Prif Weinidog a Karl-Ulrich Köhler, pennaeth Ewropeaidd Tata Steel, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â sut

relation to how the Assembly Government will work with the steel industry in Wales in light of the carbon floor payments that were announced in the UK Government budget? That carbon floor will add hundreds of millions of pounds to the cost of producing steel in Wales and the implications for the industry are alarming. Mr Köhler has said that, whatever business benefits occurred in last year's UK budget statement, they will be dwarfed by the introduction of carbon floor payments, which potentially represent a severe blow to the sustainability of the Welsh steel industry. This will send a shiver of alarm down the backs of all of us who are concerned about manufacturing in Wales. It does not even take into account the implications of phase 3 of the European Union emissions trading system, which is also due to come into force in a few years' time. Therefore, any of us who are concerned about manufacturing in Wales need to make urgent representations about the implications of this carbon levy for our industry, because tens of thousands of jobs are dependent on that industry in Wales. If that proposal is not urgently mitigated, I dread to think what the implications will be for the future economic wellbeing of our country.

Jane Hutt: Thank you for ensuring, as the constituency Member for Aberavon, that those representations have been heard. The First Minister met the head of Tata Steel Europe last week to discuss the future of the company in this country. We have a close working relationship with Tata Steel, which is a major employer in Wales. It is investing heavily in reducing its carbon emissions in Wales. Therefore, we need to look carefully at how the floor price would link to existing initiatives, such as the European Union emissions trading system. We are considering our response to the budget announcement and we will relay our position to the UK Government in due course. We will ensure that the representations that have been made—which may also have been made to Vince Cable during his visit today—will be shared with the Assembly.

Nick Ramsay: I am sure that the Minister for Health and Social Services is aware that, after we have entered the dissolution period,

y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio gyda'r diwydiant dur yng Nghymru yn sgil yr isafswm taliadau carbon a gyhoeddwyd yng nghyllideb Llywodraeth y DU? Bydd yr isafswm hwnnw'n ychwanegu cannoedd o filiynau o bunnoedd at y gost o gynhyrchu dur yng Nghymru ac mae'r goblygiadau i'r diwydiant yn frawychus. Mae Mr Köhler wedi dweud, beth bynnag oedd y manteision i fusnes yn natganiad cyllideb y DU y llynedd, byddant yn bitw yn erbyn yr isafswm taliadau carbon os cânt eu cyflwyno, a gallai fod yn ergyd ddifrifol i gynaliadwyedd diwydiant dur Cymru. Bydd hyn yn codi ofn ar bob un ohonom sy'n poeni am weithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru. Nid yw hyd yn oed yn cymryd i ystyriaeth oblygiadau cam 3 system fasnachu allyriadau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, sydd hefyd yn dod i rym ymhen ychydig flynyddoedd. Felly, mae angen i unrhyw un ohonom sy'n poeni am weithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru gyflwyno sylwadau ar frys ynghylch y goblygiadau'r ardoll garbon hon i'n diwydiant, gan fod degau o filoedd o swyddi yn ddibynnol ar y diwydiant hwnnw yng Nghymru. Os nad yw'r cynnig hwnnw'n cael ei liniaru ar frys, mae'n gas gennyf feddwl beth fydd y goblygiadau ar gyfer lles economaidd ein gwlad yn y dyfodol.

Jane Hutt: Diolch i chi am sicrhau, fel yr Aelod etholaethol dros Aberafan, bod y sylwadau hynny wedi cael eu gwneud. Cyfarfu'r Prif Weinidog â phennaeth Tata Steel Europe yr wythnos diwethaf i drafod dyfodol y cwmni yn y wlad hon. Mae gennym berthynas waith agos gyda Tata Steel, sy'n gyflogwr mawr yng Nghymru. Mae'n buddsoddi'n helaeth mewn lleihau ei allyriadau carbon yng Nghymru. Felly, mae angen inni edrych yn ofalus ar sut y byddai'r isafswm pris yn cysylltu â'r mentrau sy'n bodoli eisoes, fel system fasnachu allyriadau yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Rydym yn ystyried ein hymateb i gyhoeddiad y gyllideb a byddwn yn mynegi ein safbwynt i Lywodraeth y DU maes o law. Byddwn yn sicrhau y bydd y sylwadau sydd wedi eu gwneud—sydd o bosibl hefyd wedi cael eu gwneud i Vince Cable yn ystod ei ymweliad heddiw—yn cael eu rhannu â'r Cynulliad.

Nick Ramsay: Rwy'n siŵr bod y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn ymwybodol bod y cyfnod rhwng 11 a 17

between 11 and 17 April is Parkinson's Awareness Week in the UK. Parkinson's UK's theme for this year is 'Join us' and the organisation wishes to raise awareness of this debilitating condition. Every hour, someone in the UK is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but it is often given less precedence than other neurological conditions. It is particularly a problem for younger people, because although it is generally thought that it is older people who are affected by Parkinson's disease, younger people can also be seriously affected. I know that it is too late to ask for a ministerial statement or a Government debate on this, however, will you join me and other Assembly Members in stating the Assembly's commitment to sufferers of Parkinson's disease, to demonstrate that there is a desire here for them to be well looked after in future?

Jane Hutt: I am sure that Members across the Chamber, with the Minister for Health and Social Services at the forefront, join you in recognising the needs of those who suffer from Parkinson's disease at whatever age. The awareness week will be an important opportunity for us all to highlight those needs and is an important part of the strategy that the Minister has taken forward with regard to supporting those with neurological conditions.

Veronica German: Minister, will you ask your colleague the Minister for health to make an urgent statement on the news that we have heard today that 38 patients are at risk of contracting Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease after surgery in south Wales? This is very worrying, not only for those who are affected, but for others who may have reason to be concerned. Even though we read that the risk of transmission is low, I would rather hear that from the Minister for health than through reading reports in the press. I am sure that people all over Wales would like to get a better understanding of the situation.

Jane Hutt: We must be mindful of raising concerns and anxieties on such matters.

Ebrill, sef ar ôl inni ddechrau'r cyfnod diddymu, yn Wythnos Ymwybyddiaeth Clefyd Parkinson yn y DU. Thema Parkinson's UK eleni yw 'Ymunwch â ni' ac mae'r sefydliad yn dymuno codi ymwybyddiaeth ynghylch y cyflwr gwanychol hwn. Bob awr, mae rhywun yn y DU yn clywed eu bod yn dioddef o glefyd Parkinson, ond yn aml mae'n cael llai o flaenoriaeth na chyflyrau niwrolegol eraill. Mae'n broblem arbennig i bobl iau, oherwydd er y credir yn gyffredinol mai pobl hŷn sy'n cael eu heffeithio arnynt gan glefyd Parkinson, gall pobl ifanc hefyd gael eu heffeithio'n ddifrifol. Rwy'n gwybod ei bod yn rhy hwyr i ofyn am ddatganiad gweinidogol neu ddadl y Llywodraeth ar hyn; fodd bynnag, a fydddech yn ymuno â mi ac Aelodau eraill y Cynulliad i ddatgan ymrwymiad y Cynulliad i ddiodefwyr clefyd Parkinson, er mwyn dangos bod dyhead yma eu bod yn cael gofal da yn y dyfodol?

Jane Hutt: Rwy'n siŵr bod Aelodau ar draws y Siambr, gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar frig y rhestr, yn ymuno â chi i gydnabod anghenion y rhai sy'n dioddef o glefyd Parkinson, beth bynnag eu hoed. Bydd yr wythnos ymwybyddiaeth yn gyfle pwysig inni oll dynnu sylw at yr anghenion hynny, ac mae'n rhan bwysig o'r strategaeth y mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei datblygu o ran cefnogi pobl sydd â chyflyrau niwrolegol.

Veronica German: Weinidog, a wnewch chi ofyn i'ch cydweithiwr, y Gweinidog dros iechyd, wneud datganiad brys ar y newyddion yr ydym wedi'i glywed heddiw fod 38 o gleifion mewn perygl o ddal clefyd Creutzfeldt-Jakob ar ôl llawdriniaeth yn ne Cymru? Mae hyn yn peri pryder mawr, nid yn unig i'r rhai sydd wedi'u heffeithio, ond i eraill a allai fod â rheswm i fod yn bryderus. Er ein bod wedi darllen bod y risg o drosglwyddo'r clefyd yn isel, byddai'n well gennyf glywed hynny gan y Gweinidog dros iechyd na thrwy ddarllen adroddiadau yn y wasg. Rwy'n siŵr y byddai pobl ar hyd a lled Cymru yn hoffi cael gwell dealltwriaeth o'r sefyllfa hon.

Jane Hutt: Rhaid inni fod yn ofalus o ran codi pryderon ac ofnau ar faterion o'r fath.

However, this is a public health matter and it is therefore for public health professionals to guide us on it.

Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn fater iechyd cyhoeddus ac felly cyfrifoldeb gweithwyr proffesiynol ym maes iechyd cyhoeddus yw rhoi arweiniad i ni arno.

Datganiad am Adolygiad Llywodraeth Leol: Ai Dyma'r Ffordd Orau o Ddarparu Gwasanaethau—Lleol, Rhanbarthol, Cenedlaethol?
Statement on the Review of Local Government—Local Regional National: What Services Are Best Delivered Where?

The Minister for Social Justice and Local Government (Carl Sargeant): In September last year, I commissioned an independent review of local authority service delivery. The aim of that work was to provide a clearer organisational framework for the delivery of a range of local authority services. It was about looking at how services are currently delivered and exploring the fundamental issues of what services are best delivered where. The exercise is now complete and I am publishing the review today.

I asked Joe Simpson from the Leadership Centre for Local Government to undertake the review. He is highly experienced in local government policy development and has already established a knowledge base through his earlier work in Wales. Joe gathered evidence from across Wales and took extensive advice from colleagues in local authorities; he spoke to the Welsh Local Government Association regional partnership boards, engaged with leaders from across the political spectrum, and talked to senior managers and chief executives. His views were also informed by the direct, hands-on experience provided by the experts and practitioners on a reference group, and his proposals were assured and tested by his review group. That was a considerable amount of work and I extend my thanks to all those who participated in the exercise and gave of their time and knowledge so freely.

The need for this review first arose from the excellent work undertaken last year by SOLACE—the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers. That study began to consider some principles that might inform different approaches to the

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol (Carl Sargeant): Ym mis Medi y llynedd, comisiynais adolygiad annibynnol o ddarparu gwasanaethau awdurdodau lleol. Nod y gwaith hwnnw oedd darparu fframwaith sefydliadol cliriach ar gyfer darparu ystod o wasanaethau awdurdodau lleol. Y diben oedd edrych ar sut y darperir gwasanaethau ar hyn o bryd ac edrych ar y materion sylfaenol o ran pa wasanaethau sy'n cael eu darparu orau ym mha le. Mae'r ymarfer yn awr wedi'i gwblhau ac rwy'n cyhoeddi'r adolygiad heddiw.

Gofynnais i Joe Simpson o'r Ganolfan Arweinyddiaeth Llywodraeth Leol gynnal yr adolygiad. Mae'n brofiadol iawn mewn datblygu polisi llywodraeth leol ac mae eisoes wedi sefydlu sylfaen wybodaeth drwy ei waith blaenorol yng Nghymru. Casglodd Joe dystiolaeth o bob rhan o Gymru a chafwyd cyngor helaeth gan gydweithwyr mewn awdurdodau lleol; siaradodd â byrddau partneriaeth rhanbarthol Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, sy'n ymwneud ag arweinwyr ar draws y sbectwm gwleidyddol, a siaradodd ag uwch reolwyr a phrif weithredwyr. Cafodd ei farn ei hysbysu hefyd gan y profiad uniongyrchol ac ymarferol a ddarparwyd gan arbenigwyr ac ymarferwyr a oedd yn rhan o grŵp cyfeirio, a chafodd ei gynigion eu cadarnhau a'u profi gan ei grŵp adolygu. Roedd yn waith sylweddol, a diolchaf i bawb a gymerodd ran yn yr ymarfer ac a roddodd o'u hamser a'u gwybodaeth mor hael.

Mae'r angen am yr adolygiad cyntaf hwn yn codi o'r gwaith rhagorol a wnaed y llynedd gan Gymdeithas Prif Weithredwyr ac Uwch-reolwyr Awdurdodau Lleol Cymru. Dechreuodd yr astudiaeth honno ystyried rhai egwyddorion a allai lywio dulliau gwahanol o

structure of service delivery in local authorities. Its findings were reinforced by my own experiences of talking to front-line workers and service providers who gave me a clear, unanimous message. Current service delivery arrangements across local authorities in Wales are often far too complex. They agreed with me that replicating functions and services 22 times in a country the size of ours creates unnecessary duplication. It is wasteful, provides questionable value for the public purse and means that services are sometimes difficult to sustain and not sufficiently resilient. The conclusion is inevitable: the citizen is not getting the best service that we can offer at the lowest cost. We must therefore look at new ways of organising and working together.

When I commissioned this review, I was clear that it does not stand alone; it was, and is, taken in a wider context. Joe Simpson recognised that his work was part of a greater drive for public service change in Wales. You can see that from the Government's record: we have not avoided the difficult issues, but have instead addressed them head on and had substantial reports prepared on the largest functional blocks of local authority service delivery.

2.45 p.m.

Gwenda Thomas, the Deputy Minister for Social Services, established an independent commission to look at the future of social services. We followed this with our policy response, 'Sustainable Social Services for the Future'. Also, an independent task group was established by Leighton Andrews, the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning, to look at education structures. We will be hearing more about that report today.

I have spoken an awful lot about reorganisation and amalgamation in local government in recent weeks, but I must say this to you all once again: the Simpson report is not about local government reorganisation.

ran strwythur darparu gwasanaethau mewn awdurdodau lleol. Cafodd ei ganfyddiadau eu hatgyfnerthu gan fy mhrofiadau i fy hun o siarad â gweithwyr a darparwyr gwasanaeth y rheng flaen a roddodd neges unfrydol a chlr i mi. Mae trefniadau cyfredol ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau ar draws awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn aml yn llawer rhy gymhleth. Roeddent yn cytuno â mi bod ailadrodd swyddogaethau a gwasanaethau 22 o weithiau mewn gwlad o faint ein gwlad ni yn creu dyblygu diangen. Mae'n wastraffus, yn cynnig gwerth amheus i bwrs y wlad ac yn golygu bod gwasanaethau weithiau'n anodd eu cynnal ac yn ddim digon gwydn. Mae'r casgliad yn anochel: nid yw'r dinesydd yn cael y gwasanaeth gorau y gallwn ei gynnis am y gost isaf. Felly, rhaid inni edrych ar ffyrdd newydd o drefnu a chydweithio.

Pan gomisiynais yr adolygiad hwn, roeddwn yn glir na fyddai'n sefyll ar ei ben ei hun; roedd yn cael ei ystyried o fewn cyd-destun ehangach, ac mae hynny'n parhau i fod yn wir. Cafwyd cydnabyddiaeth gan Joe Simpson fod ei waith yn rhan o ymgyrch ehangach i newid gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Gallwch weld hynny o record y Llywodraeth: nid ydym wedi osgoi materion anodd; yn hytrach, rydym wedi mynd i'r afael â nhw yn uniongyrchol ac wedi cael adroddiadau sylweddol ar y blociau swyddogaethol mwyaf o ddarpariaeth gwasanaethau awdurdod lleol.

Sefydlodd Gwenda Thomas, y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol, gomisiwn annibynnol i edrych ar ddyfodol gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Dilynwyd hyn gyda'n hymateb polisi 'Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cynaliadwy ar gyfer y Dyfodol'. Hefyd, cafodd grŵp gorchwyl annibynnol ei sefydlu gan Leighton Andrews, y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, i edrych ar strwythurau addysg. Byddwn yn clywed mwy am yr adroddiad hwnnw heddiw.

Rwyf wedi siarad llawer iawn am ad-drefnu ac uno mewn llywodraeth leol yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf, ond rhaid imi ddweud hyn wrthyich i gyd unwaith eto: nid ad-drefnu llywodraeth leol yw testun adroddiad

Neither is it about the amalgamation of local authorities. I have been clear on this throughout. However, the review is about seeking an alternative approach. It has asked how we can organise the way that we work into better patterns of service delivery, targeting effort towards the citizen and delivering for them at the most appropriate level, whether that is at the local, regional or national level.

The review characterises my challenge to local government as a big ask. In the context of a relatively generous financial settlement—at least compared with England—I am expecting a step change in the pace of collaborative working. I do not just mean more working together: it is also about bringing forward those who have been reluctant to participate in the past. It is about establishing a strategic context for Wales in which we can harness the enthusiasm and energy for better ways of working that I know are out there. It is also about creating a mechanism through which development can be driven faster and those involved be held to account more effectively.

The review believes that local government should make a big offer in return. The document sets out how that could be achieved. It proposes a detailed set of principles that should inform, guide and prompt greater and more effective collaboration. It proposes a new compact between local government and the Assembly Government. Through that, we can articulate what we both want to achieve and by when, and it can also be used to identify slippage and appropriate action can be taken. The review also proposes a range of services in which different models of service delivery could be implemented, focusing effort and resource to the right level—local, regional or national—in order to make a real difference.

This review is an important piece of work. It complements the report on the structure of education services to be announced today by my colleague Leighton Andrews, and it supports our strategic approach to social

Simpson. Nid yw a wnelo ag uno awdurdodau lleol ychwaith. Rwyf wedi bod yn glir ar hyn ers y cychwyn. Fodd bynnag, diben yr adolygiad yw chwilio am ddull amgen. Mae wedi gofyn sut y gallwn drefnu'r ffordd rydym yn gweithio i ffurfio patrymau gwell o ddarparu gwasanaethau, gan dargedu ymdrechion at y dinesydd a darparu ar eu cyfer ar y lefel fwyaf priodol, boed hynny ar lefel leol, lefel ranbarthol neu lefel genedlaethol.

Mae'r adolygiad yn dangos bod fy her i lywodraeth leol yn un sylweddol. Yng nghyd-destun setliad ariannol cymharol hael—o leiaf o gymharu â Lloegr—rwy'n disgwyl newid sylweddol yng nghyflymder gweithio ar y cyd. Nid wyf yn golygu gweithio gyda'n gilydd yn unig; mae hefyd yn ymwneud â phrysuero y rhai sydd wedi bod yn amharod i gymryd rhan yn y gorffennol. Mae'n ymwneud â sefydlu cyd-destun strategol i Gymru er mwyn harneisio brwdfrydedd ac egni ar gyfer y ffyrdd gwell o weithio yr wyf yn gwybod sy'n bodoli. Mae hefyd yn ymwneud â chreu ffordd a fyddai'n galluogi i ddatblygiad ddigwydd yn gyflymach ac i'r rhai sy'n cymryd rhan gael eu dwyn i gyfrif yn fwy effeithiol.

Mae'r adolygiad yn credu y dylai llywodraeth leol wneud cynnig mawr i ninnau. Mae'r ddogfen yn nodi sut y gellid cyflawni hynny. Mae'n cynnig cyfres fanwl o egwyddorion a ddylai lywio, arwain ac ysgogi rhagor o gydweithredu a chydweithredu mwy effeithiol. Mae'n cynnig compact newydd rhwng llywodraeth leol a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Drwy hynny, gallwn gyfleu'r hyn yr ydym yn dymuno ei gyflawni ac erbyn pryd y dylid ei gyflawni, a gellir hefyd ei ddefnyddio i nodi llithriant a chymryd camau priodol. Mae'r adolygiad hefyd yn cynnig gwahanol fodelau o ddarparu gwasanaeth a fyddai'n addas ar gyfer ystod o wasanaethau, gan ganolbwyntio ymdrechion ac adnoddau ar y lefel gywir—yn lleol, yn ranbarthol neu'n genedlaethol—er mwyn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol.

Mae'r adolygiad hwn yn ddarn pwysig o waith. Mae'n cyd-fynd â'r adroddiad ar strwythur y gwasanaethau addysg a fydd yn cael ei gyhoeddi heddiw gan fy nghyd-Weinidog, Leighton Andrews, ac mae'n

services. It is consistent with the direction that we are taking with the efficiency and innovation programme, which aims to increase the pace and depth of collaboration. I also note Joe Simpson's comments about separating and clarifying the roles of the Welsh Local Government Association. A strong, clear and determined improvement function, arising from and owned by local government, will be vital to successfully moving to the next stage of service improvement.

This report is a valuable contribution to the necessary and urgent debate on collaboration. I am sure that it will shape the next steps in speeding and strengthening our approach to the provision of public services and the way we work together to do that. The report makes interesting reading and includes some challenging ideas. It also makes 21 recommendations, which will take us some time to work through and consider their implications. The government will make its response to these recommendations in due course.

As well as setting the challenges for the future, Joe Simpson identifies the wide range of good work that is already under way and, in some cases, progressing quickly. It is important that we recognise that activity and commend it, and I pay tribute to the staff at all levels within local government who are involved. It is only with clear-sighted, determined leadership, with innovative and energetic input from the workforce, that we can create a new type of service delivery that is fit for the times in which we live.

Jonathan Morgan: I thank the Minister for the statement, and for providing us with the report of the review group, which I have had some time to digest. I also join him in thanking the review team for its discussions and the way in which it gathered its evidence. This is a big piece of work but, in many respects, it does not tell us a huge amount that we did not already know about the need for greater collaboration, and how we can provide services more strategically. However,

cefnogi ein hagwedd strategol tuag at wasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae'n cyd-fynd â'r cyfeiriad yr ydym yn ei gymryd gyda'r rhaglen effeithlonrwydd ac arloesi sydd â'r nod o gynyddu cyflymder a hyd a lled y cydweithio. Nodaf hefyd sylwadau Joe Simpson am wahanu ac egluro rolau Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Bydd cael dull cryf a chlir o ran gwella, a hynny'n deillio o lywodraeth leol ac yn eiddo iddi, yn hanfodol er mwyn symud ymlaen yn llwyddiannus i'r cam nesaf o wella gwasanaethau.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn gyfraniad gwerthfawr at y drafodaeth angenrheidiol ar gydweithio, a honno'n drafodaeth sydd angen iddi digwydd ar frys. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd yn llunio'r camau nesaf o ran cyflymu a chryfhau ein dull o ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus a'r ffordd rydym yn gweithio gyda'n gilydd i wneud hynny. Mae'r adroddiad yn ddiddorol ac yn cynnwys rhai syniadau heriol. Mae hefyd yn gwneud 21 o argymhellion, a fydd yn cymryd peth amser inni weithio trwyddynt ac ystyried eu goblygiadau. Bydd y Llywodraeth yn ymateb i'r argymhellion hyn maes o law.

Yn ogystal â gosod heriau ar gyfer y dyfodol, mae Joe Simpson yn nodi'r ystod eang o waith da sydd eisoes yn digwydd ac sydd, mewn rhai achosion, yn symud ymlaen yn gyflym. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod y gweithgarwch hwnnw ac yn ei gymeradwyo, a thalaf deyrnged i staff sy'n cymryd rhan ar bob lefel o lywodraeth leol. Dim ond gydag arweinyddiaeth glir a phenderfynol, gyda mewnbwn arloesol ac egniol o'r gweithlu, y gallwn greu math newydd o ddarpariaeth o ran gwasanaethau sy'n addas ar gyfer yr amserau yr ydym yn byw ynddynt.

Jonathan Morgan: Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am y datganiad, ac am ddarparu adroddiad y grŵp adolygu, yr wyf wedi cael rhywfaint o amser i'w ddarllen. Rwyf hefyd yn ymuno ag ef i ddiolch i'r tîm adolygu am ei drafodaethau a'r ffordd y casglodd ei dystiolaeth. Mae hwn yn ddarn mawr o waith ond, mewn sawl ystyr, nid yw'n dweud wrthym lawer nad oeddem eisoes yn ei wybod am yr angen am fwy o gydweithredu, a sut y gallwn ddarparu gwasanaethau yn fwy

there are a few things in the report that I would like to raise.

It is absolutely right that we consider what services are best delivered locally, regionally and nationally. However, these discussions are all about local government. We should look to see what the Assembly Government is responsible for, and whether there are functions of the Assembly Government that could be devolved to local authorities. Does the Assembly Government have any intention of looking at what it is responsible for in the context of the much wider debate about the delivery of services locally, regionally and nationally? The debate is almost meaningless unless we look at how all services in Wales are provided. If we were to have that much wider, strategic debate, we could find some innovative ways of providing those smarter public services. Has the Minister had many conversations on that front?

I will ask a few questions about the report, if I am permitted to do so, because the statement merely outlines the process, and the interesting detail is in the report. The report, on page 16, talks about collaboration, and states that the review group is advocating a presumption of collaboration in many areas of service commissioning and delivery. The Minister should explain that a little further, and perhaps explain his understanding of what that will lead to, potentially, and whether he sees local authorities collaborating in most areas of service commissioning and delivery or in those sorts of areas that he is referring to in the statement and that Gwenda Thomas and Leighton Andrews have been talking about. Some clarity for local government might be useful, so that it knows where it is likely to be heading over the next few years, if you are in a position to implement the report.

Seeing local government, and government generally, as the commissioners of services is extremely important. Often, government, whether central or local, sees its role as being

strategol. Fodd bynnag, mae ychydig o bethau yn yr adroddiad yr hoffwn eu codi.

Mae'n hollol gywir ein bod yn ystyried pa wasanaethau sy'n cael eu darparu orau yn lleol, yn rhanbarthol ac yn genedlaethol. Fodd bynnag, roedd y trafodaethau i gyd yn ymwneud â llywodraeth leol. Dylem edrych i weld beth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gyfrifol amdano, ac a oes swyddogaethau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad y gellid eu datganoli i awdurdodau lleol. A oes gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad unrhyw fwriad i edrych ar yr hyn y mae'n gyfrifol amdano yng nghyd-destun y ddadl llawer ehangach ynghylch darparu gwasanaethau yn lleol, yn rhanbarthol ac yn genedlaethol? Mae'r ddadl bron yn ddiystyr oni bai ein bod yn edrych ar sut mae'r holl wasanaethau yng Nghymru yn cael eu darparu. Pe byddem yn cael y ddadl llawer ehangach a strategol honno, gallem ddod o hyd i ffyrdd arloesol o ddarparu'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus gwell hynny. A yw'r Gweinidog wedi cael llawer o sgrysiâu ar y mater hwn?

Rwyf am ofyn rhai cwestiynau ar yr adroddiad, os caniateir imi wneud hynny, oherwydd bod y datganiad ond yn amlinellu'r broses, ac mae'r manylion diddorol yn yr adroddiad. Ar dudalen 16, mae'r adroddiad yn sôn am gydweithio, ac yn datgan bod y grŵp adolygu yn argymhell rhagdybiaeth o gydweithio mewn llawer o feysydd o ran comisiynu a darparu gwasanaethau. Dylai'r Gweinidog egluro hynny ychydig ymhellach, ac efallai egluro ei ddealltwriaeth o'r hyn y bydd hynny'n arwain ato, o bosibl, ac a yw'n gweld awdurdodau lleol yn cydweithio yn y rhan fwyaf o feysydd o ran comisiynu a darparu gwasanaethau neu yn y mathau hynny o feysydd y mae'n cyfeirio atynt yn y datganiad, ac y mae Gwenda Thomas a Leighton Andrews wedi bod yn siarad amdanynt. Efallai y byddai rhoi eglurder i lywodraeth leol yn ddefnyddiol, er mwyn cael gwybod i ba gyfeiriad y mae'n debygol o fod yn teithio dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd nesaf, os ydych mewn sefyllfa i weithredu'r adroddiad hwn.

Mae meddwl am lywodraeth leol, a llywodraeth yn gyffredinol, fel comisiynwyr gwasanaethau yn hynod o bwysig. Yn aml, mae llywodraeth, boed yn ganolog neu'n

the provider of services and not always as the body that is there to secure and commission services. There are some extremely innovative ideas that many local authorities have been following to improve the delivery of services without providing them themselves. That guiding principle needs to be a part of this. Otherwise, some local authorities will spend the next 20 or 30 years believing that they have all the answers in providing services, when there are individuals in other authorities, in the third sector and the independent sector who could, in fact, provide those innovative solutions.

On the issue of collaboration, the report, on page 53, goes on to say that there is much less evidence that a regular, systematic and strategic approach to identifying potential projects for collaboration are taken within and between authorities. For those of us who have spent a large amount of time working with local government leaders and meeting local authority chief executives, it is certainly the case that there is a feeling in many local authorities that not enough has been done to pursue big, grand collaboration projects. Local authorities and other public service providers have danced around a fair bit, and have talked about local service board solutions, getting together for a chat and so on, and have perhaps come forward with some common themes, but not a lot of big thinking has been done about some of the more important areas of collaboration, and I am thinking specifically of those more specialised services. For example, with regard to the delivery of services for children with autism, and the more specialised areas of service delivery in residential education establishments, we do not have any in the state sector—there are independent providers, but there is nothing in the state sector. It is within the ability of local authorities to pursue collaborative agreements on those more specialised services, which will add value to what local authorities are already doing. I would like to know how capable you think local authorities are of collaborating, where you think they have been successful in collaborating and where you think that the exciting challenge comes from in the way in which collaboration could deliver certain

lleol, yn gweld ei rôl fel darparwr gwasanaethau ac nid bob amser fel y corff sydd yno i sicrhau a chomisiynu gwasanaethau. Mae rhai syniadau hynod o arloesol wedi bod yn cael eu rhoi ar waith gan lawer o awdurdodau lleol i wella'r modd y darperir gwasanaethau heb eu darparu eu hunain. Mae angen i'r egwyddor arweiniol honno fod yn rhan o hyn. Fel arall, bydd rhai awdurdodau lleol yn treulio'r 20 neu 30 mlynedd nesaf yn credu bod ganddynt yr holl atebion wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau, pan fo unigolion mewn awdurdodau eraill, yn y trydydd sector a'r sector annibynnol, a allai, mewn gwirionedd, ddarparu'r atebion arloesol hynny.

Ar y mater o gydweithio, mae'r adroddiad, ar dudalen 53, hefyd yn dweud nad oes llawer o dystiolaeth bod dull rheolaidd, systematig a strategol o nodi prosiectau posibl ar gyfer cydweithio yn cael ei ddefnyddio o fewn awdurdodau a rhyngddynt. I'r rhai ohonom sydd wedi treulio llawer o amser yn gweithio gydag arweinwyr llywodraeth leol ac yn cyfarfod â phrif weithredwyr awdurdodau lleol, mae'n sicr yn wir bod yna deimlad mewn llawer o awdurdodau lleol nad oedd digon wedi cael ei wneud i fynd ar drywydd prosiectau cydweithio mawr. Mae awdurdodau lleol a darparwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus eraill wedi dawnsio o gwmpas y mater cryn dipyn, gan siarad am atebion ar lefel bwrdd gwasanaethau lleol, dod at ei gilydd am sgwrs ac yn y blaen, ac o bosibl wedi cyflwyno themâu cyffredin, ond nid ydynt wedi rhoi llawer o feddwl i rai o'r ardaloedd pwysicach o gydweithio, ac rwy'n meddwl yn benodol am y gwasanaethau mwy arbenigol hynny. Er enghraifft, o ran darparu gwasanaethau i blant sydd ag awtistiaeth, a'r meysydd mwy arbenigol o ddarparu gwasanaeth mewn sefydliadau addysg breswyl, nid oes gennym unrhyw ddarparwyr yn sector y wladwriaeth—mae darparwyr annibynnol yn bodoli, ond nid oes unrhyw beth yn sector y wladwriaeth. Mae hi o fewn gallu awdurdodau lleol i fynd ar drywydd cytundebau cydweithredol yn y gwasanaethau mwy arbenigol hynny, a fydd yn ychwanegu gwerth at yr hyn y mae awdurdodau lleol eisoes yn ei wneud. Hoffwn wybod pa mor alluog yw awdurdodau lleol o ran cydweithio, yn eich barn chi, a lle rydych yn meddwl eu bod wedi

services in the future.

The document, at page 52, talks about the levers for change, and this is where it becomes a little more problematic. There are 22 local authorities with democratically elected county councillors, all running their local authorities according to the needs of their population. At the other end, there is the Assembly Government, which sees its responsibility as being that of the Government of Wales, and the Minister, who has a set of responsibilities that are given to him by the First Minister. The challenge is one of how you secure changes in the work of local authorities to introduce the collaboration that brings smarter thinking and better delivery of services while respecting the fact that they are democratically elected organisations. That, Minister, is the challenge.

With regard to levers for change, it says that the long-term strategic lever is the need for local authorities to explicitly demonstrate progress against the national agenda. The Government has to explain that to local authorities, because many people outside the Chamber will think that that is the Assembly Government telling local authorities that they must follow the national agenda as set out by the Assembly Government, in all these different forms, or suffer as a consequence of not doing what they are told. There is a risk that some people outside of the Assembly will read this document and take from it messages of a kind that the Minister perhaps does not wish to convey. I would like to gain some understanding from the Minister as to how he will explain sections of the report and the way in which he sees the levers for change being used.

Perhaps he could also outline for us at some point this afternoon where he thinks the balance lies—that is, the balance between the responsibilities and rights of the Assembly Government and the responsibilities of local government. That has to be explained to our

bod yn llwyddiannus wrth gydweithio ac o le yr ydych yn meddwl y daw'r her gyffrous o ran y ffordd y gallai cydweithio ddarparu rhai gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol.

Mae'r ddogfen, ar dudalen 52, yn siarad am y dulliau ar gyfer newid, a dyma ble mae'n dod ychydig yn fwy problemus. Mae gennym 22 o awdurdodau lleol sydd â chynghorwyr sir a etholwyd yn ddemocrataidd, a phob un ohonynt yn rhedeg eu hawdurdodau lleol yn unol ag anghenion eu poblogaeth. Ar y pen arall, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, sy'n ystyried ei chyfrifoldeb i fod yn un o fod yn Llywodraeth dros Gymru, a'r Gweinidog, sydd â chyfres o gyfrifoldebau a roddir iddo gan y Prif Weinidog. Yr her yw sut ydych yn sicrhau newidiadau yng ngwaith awdurdodau lleol i gyflwyno'r cydweithio sy'n arwain at feddwl yn gallach a darparu gwasanaethau yn well gan barchu'r ffaith eu bod yn sefydliadau a etholwyd yn ddemocrataidd. Dyna'r her, Weinidog.

O ran y dulliau ar gyfer â newid, mae'n dweud mai'r ysgogiad strategol tymor hir yw'r angen i awdurdodau lleol ddangos cynnydd clir yn erbyn yr agenda genedlaethol. Mae'n rhaid i'r Llywodraeth esbonio hynny i awdurdodau lleol, oherwydd bydd llawer o bobl y tu allan i'r Siambr yn credu bod hynny'n enghraifft o Lywodraeth y Cynulliad yn dweud wrth awdurdodau lleol bod yn rhaid iddynt ddilyn yr agenda genedlaethol fel y'i nodir gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, ym mhob un o'r gwahanol ffurfiau hyn, neu byddant yn dioddef o ganlyniad i beidio â gwneud yr hyn a ddywedir wrthynt. Mae perygl y bydd rhai pobl y tu allan i'r Cynulliad yn darllen y ddogfen hon ac yn cymryd ohoni negeseuon o'r math nad yw'r Gweinidog o bosibl am eu cyfleu. Hoffwn gael rhywfaint o ddealltwriaeth gan y Gweinidog ynglŷn â sut y bydd yn esbonio rhannau o'r adroddiad a'r modd y mae'n gweld y dulliau ar gyfer newid yn cael eu defnyddio.

Efallai y gallai hefyd amlinellu i ni ar ryw adeg y prynhawn yma lle mae'n credu y mae'r cydbwysedd yn gorwedd—hynny yw, y cydbwysedd rhwng cyfrifoldebau a hawliau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a chyfrifoldebau llywodraeth leol. Rhaid i hynny gael ei

county councillors, because if they see this as an ever-increasing encroachment on the rights of democratically elected individuals to take decisions about their own communities, his approach may meet with some considerable resistance.

Finally, Minister, as you mentioned in the statement, the report refers to the ‘big offer’ and how it will be taken forward. The first recommendation that you referred to in your statement was that there should be a compact for service delivery by July of this year. You said that you will look at the recommendations and return with a view on which recommendations will be taken forward and how quickly. The report is clear that there is a large number of recommendations and areas of concern where, the report’s authors felt, some quick and easy moves can be made over the next few months—there are probably other areas that require a bit more thought. I would, therefore, like to hear this afternoon whether there are certain recommendations that you and the administration intend to take forward—I am conscious of the fact that we are about to enter a period of purdah. Are you going to leave your successor a legacy note, asking him or her to commit to the July deadline for the compact? If you are minded to make an early recommendation that the compact should be introduced by July, bearing in mind that the new Government will not be in place until after 5 May, can you outline for us what that compact might include and what areas of collaboration and joint working you think might have to be included?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you, Jonathan, for your constructive comments. As I said in my statement, this is an important report in framing the state of the nation with regard to the regional, national and local position. It must be remembered that this is part of a bigger package of service delivery to the public at large. Around 60 per cent of local government’s budget is spent on education and social services—two independent reviews are taking place, and the Ministers with portfolio responsibility will be working towards delivery and a strategic outlook on

esbonio i’n cynghorwyr sir, oherwydd os ydynt yn gweld hyn fel rhan o’r tresmasu cynyddol ar hawliau unigolion a etholwyd yn ddemocrataidd i wneud penderfyniadau am eu cymunedau eu hunain, efallai y bydd dull y Gweinidog yn wynebu cryn wrthwynebiad.

Yn olaf, Weinidog, fel y nodir yn y datganiad, mae’r adroddiad yn cyfeirio at y ‘cynnig mawr’ a sut y bydd yn cael ei ddwyn ymlaen. Yr argymhelliad cyntaf y cyfeiriasoch ato yn eich datganiad oedd y dylid cael compact ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau erbyn mis Gorffennaf eleni. Dywedasoch y byddwch yn edrych ar yr argymhellion ac yn dychwelyd gyda barn ar ba argymhellion fydd yn cael eu datblygu a pha mor gyflym y bydd hynny’n digwydd. Mae’r adroddiad yn glir bod nifer fawr o argymhellion a meysydd sy’n peri pryder lle, yn ôl awduron yr adroddiad, gallai rhai symudiadau cyflym a rhwydd gael eu gwneud dros y misoedd nesaf—mae’n debyg bod yna feysydd eraill sydd angen rhoi ychydig mwy o feddwl iddynt. Hoffwn, felly, glywed y prynhawn yma a oes argymhellion penodol yr ydych chi a’r weinyddiaeth yn bwriadu eu dwyn ymlaen—rwy’n ymwybodol o’r ffaith ein bod ar fin dechrau ar gyfnod o purdah. A ydych yn mynd i adael nodyn etifeddiaeth i’ch olynydd, yn gofyn iddo ef neu hi i ymrwymo i fis Gorffennaf fel dyddiad cau ar gyfer y compact? Os ydych yn bwriadu gwneud argymhelliad cynnar y dylai’r cytundeb gael ei gyflwyno erbyn mis Gorffennaf, gan gadw mewn cof na fydd y Llywodraeth newydd yn ei le tan ar ôl 5 Mai, a allwch amlinellu’r hyn y gallai’r compact ei gynnwys a pha feysydd o gydweithio ac efallai gweithio ar y cyd sydd rhaid eu cynnwys yn eich barn chi?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch, Jonathan, am eich sylwadau adeiladol. Fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad, mae hwn yn adroddiad pwysig wrth lunio cyflwr y genedl o ran y sefyllfa ranbarthol, y sefyllfa genedlaethol a’r sefyllfa leol. Mae’n rhaid cofio ei fod yn rhan o becyn ehangach o ddarparu gwasanaeth i’r cyhoedd yn gyffredinol. Mae tua 60 y cant o gyllideb llywodraeth leol yn cael ei wario ar addysg a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol—mae dau adolygiad annibynnol yn cael eu cynnal, a bydd y Gweinidogion sydd â chyfrifoldeb portffolio yn gweithio tuag at weithredu a

what shape it might take and how it will be achieved. It is something that we work across departments to achieve, and I thank both Ministers for the support that they have given me in taking this forward.

I have already said that I will be considering aspects of this issue, Jonathan, but it will primarily be for the new Government to consider the Simpson review and take it forward as it sees fit. I thank Joe and his team for the work on this review. There are some very important recommendations in there, but I do not wish to pre-empt anything before I have given them full consideration. However, I see the recommendation on the compact between local government and the Welsh Assembly Government as being key.

This is about ownership of service delivery. It is fair to say that, since I became Minister with responsibility for local government, those in local government have not been short of ideas and concepts on making savings and driving through efficiencies in service delivery.

3.00 p.m.

What has been slow in coming forward is the delivery arm of that. I think that the compact between the two organisations will be, in effect, a binding contract about how they will achieve that. Joe mentioned how the WLGA forms a part of that proposal, and I think that that is a fundamental plank in driving this agenda forward. SOLACE has presented many documents on the good practice that has been going on in driving improvement. Work with Jane Hutt on the efficiency and innovation board has produced great examples of delivery for the people of Wales, as well as cost savings.

You asked about the levers for change, Jonathan. I think that one of those was the controversial discussion that we had a week ago on the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure, which was passed by the Assembly. My message to local government

chael agwedd strategol ar ba ffurf y gallai gymryd a sut y caiff ei gyflawni. Rydym yn gweithio ar draws adrannau i'w gyflawni, a diolchaf i'r ddau Weinidog am y gefnogaeth y maent wedi ei rhoi i mi wrth ddwyn hyn ymlaen.

Rwyf eisoes wedi dweud y byddaf yn ystyried agweddau ar y mater hwn, Jonathan, ond cyfrifoldeb y Llywodraeth newydd yn bennaf fydd ystyried adolygiad Simpson a mynd ag ef ymlaen fel y gwêl yn dda. Diolchaf i Joe a'i dîm am y gwaith ar yr adolygiad hwn. Mae rhai argymhellion pwysig iawn ynddo, ond nid wyf yn dymuno achub y blaen ar unrhyw beth cyn i mi roi ystyriaeth lawn iddynt. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n gweld yr argymhelliad ar y compact rhwng llywodraeth leol a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn un allweddol.

Mae hyn yn ymwneud â pherchnogaeth o ran darparu gwasanaethau. Mae'n deg dweud, ers i mi ddod yn Weinidog â chyfrifoldeb dros lywodraeth leol, nid yw'r rhai mewn llywodraeth leol wedi bod yn brin o syniadau a chysyniadau am wneud arbedion a sicrhau effeithlonrwydd wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau.

Yr hyn sydd wedi bod yn araf yw darparu hynny. Rwy'n credu bydd y cytundeb rhwng y ddau sefydliad, mewn gwirionedd, yn contract a fydd yn eu clymu ynghylch sut y gwnânt hynny. Soniodd Joe ynghylch sut mae CLILC yn rhan o'r cynllun hwnnw, a chredaf fod hynny yn rhan sylfaenol o'r gwaith o yrru'r agenda yn ei blaen. Mae Cymdeithas Prif Weithredwyr ac Uwchreolwyr Awdurdodau Lleol Cymru wedi cyflwyno llawer o ddogfennau ar arfer da wrth ysgogi gwelliant. Mae gwaith gyda Jane Hutt ar y bwrdd effeithlonrwydd ac arloesi yn cynnig enghreifftiau gwych o gyflawni ar gyfer pobl Cymru, yn ogystal ag arbedion cost.

Gofynasoch am y dulliau o roi newid ar waith, Jonathan. Rwy'n credu mai un o'r rheini oedd y drafodaeth ddadleuol y cawsom wythnos yn ôl ar Fesur Arfaethedig Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru), a basiwyd gan y Cynulliad. Mae fy neges i lywodraeth leol

has been consistent: we have to change the way that we deliver services. Without being overtly political, when we look across the border at the funding levels in England, we can see that we have made a generous offer to local authorities in Wales to get their house in order. We are saying to them that this is a window of opportunity for change. I have not met anyone in local government who has been opposed to driving change forward for better service delivery. We have seen hurdles that are primarily political. There have been difficulties in accepting change related to politics, which is unfortunate. However, I hope that the Minister who takes over this portfolio after the election in May will have the same agenda I do, which is to drive through good-quality services. I would describe the levers for change as follows: 'We will help you do this, and it is a big ask for a big offer, but if you do not do it then we will intervene in delivering services for the future.' Part of that is about measuring how we drive improvements forward, following on from the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2010. This is an opportunity to deliver good services, and the Welsh Assembly Government is happy to help. However, we cannot do it on our own. If people are not prepared to go the extra mile to change service delivery and work beyond the boundaries of where they are comfortable now, we must act. My vision, as well as that of local councillors, is, ultimately, the delivery of good services for less money.

David Lloyd: Croesawaf ddatganiad y Gweinidog ar yr adolygiad hwn o lywodraeth leol, 'Ai dyma'r ffordd orau o ddarparu gwasanaethau—Lleol, Rhanbarthol, Cenedlaethol?' Llongyfarchaf bawb ar yr holl waith caled ar yr adolygiad cynhwysfawr, swmpus sydd o'n blaenau. Mae her sylweddol yn ein hwynebu, sef her o ehangu ein gorwelion o ran sut yr ydym yn ymdrin â'r materion hyn. Yr ydym yn sôn am ddyfodol gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, gan gofio'r cwmwl ariannol du sy'n chwyrlïo o'n cwmpas, a'r angen dybryd felly i sicrhau bod gwasanaethau yn parhau i fod ar gael yn y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

wedi bod yn gyson: rhaid i ni newid y ffordd rydym yn darparu gwasanaethau. Heb fod yn amlwg wleidyddol, pan fyddwn yn edrych ar draws y ffin ar y lefelau cyllido yn Lloegr, gallwn weld ein bod wedi gwneud cynnig hael i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru i drefnu eu hunain. Rydym yn dweud wrthynt fod hyn yn gyfle am newid. Nid wyf wedi cwrdd ag unrhyw un mewn llywodraeth leol sy'n gwrthwynebu gwneud newidiadau er mwyn darparu gwasanaethau'n well. Bu'r rhwystrau yn bennaf yn rhai gwleidyddol. Cafwyd anawsterau wrth dderbyn newidiadau yn ymwneud â gwleidyddiaeth, sydd yn anffodus. Fodd bynnag, gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog a fydd yn gyfrifol am y portffolio hwn ar ôl yr etholiad ym mis Mai yn mabwysiadu'r agenda sydd gennyf, sef cyflwyno gwasanaethau o safon dda. Byddwn yn disgrifio'r dulliau ar gyfer newid fel hyn: 'Byddwn ni yn eich helpu i wneud hyn, ac mae'n her fawr i gynnig mawr, ond os na fyddwch yn gwneud, byddwn yn ymyrryd mewn darparu gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol.' Mae rhan o hynny yn ymwneud â mesur sut rydym yn cyflwyno a datblygu gwelliannau, gan ddilyn Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2010. Mae hwn yn gyfle i ddarparu gwasanaethau da, ac mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn hapus i helpu. Fodd bynnag, ni allwn wneud hynny ar ein pen ein hunain. Os nad yw pobl yn barod i fynd ymhellach er mwyn darparu gwasanaethau a gweithio y tu hwnt i'r hyn sy'n gyfforddus iddynt yn awr, rhaid i ni weithredu. Fy ngweledigaeth, yn ogystal â gweledigaeth cynghorwyr lleol, yn y pen draw, yw darparu gwasanaethau da am lai o arian.

David Lloyd: I welcome the Minister's statement on this review of local government, 'Local, Regional, National: What services are best delivered where?' I congratulate everyone on the hard work on this comprehensive, substantial report before us. We face a great challenge, and that is a challenge to expand our horizons in how we deal with these issues. We are talking about the future of public services in Wales, bearing in mind the dark financial clouds hovering about us, and the great need, therefore, to ensure that services continue to be available in the public sector in Wales.

Mae arwynebedd Cymru yn 8,000 milltir sgwâr, ac mae gan y wlad eisoes sector cyhoeddus cryf. Mae angen adeiladu ar y cryfderau hynny. Byddai sawl un yn dweud mai 8,000 milltir sgwâr yw'r union faint cywir i allu trefnu pethau ar raddfa genedlaethol. Wedi'r cwbl, mae rhai ohonom yn ddigon hen i gofio bod gan Gymru un awdurdod iechyd rhanbarthol ar un adeg. Wrth groesawu'r gwaith hwn, credaf fod angen adeiladu ar yr hyn sydd o'n blaenau. Nid yw hyn yn fater i lywodraeth leol yn unig. Mae'n fater i'r gwasanaeth iechyd ac yn fater i'r Cynulliad hefyd o ran sut yr ydym yn trefnu pethau. Fel a grybwyllwyd yn y Siambr eisoes, a chan nifer o bobl eraill, ni allwn fforddio 22 o bob peth yng Nghymru. Yn 1996, cawsom 22 o siroedd newydd, ac yn 1999, cawsom y Cynulliad. Mae gwir angen trafodaeth aeddfed ar bwy sy'n gwneud beth.

Croesawaf y syniad o gael cytundeb rhwng y Gweinidog, y Cynulliad a llywodraeth leol er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn meddu ar yr aeddfedrydd hwnnw ac nad ydym wastad yn cael y drafferth o anghytuno ar bwy sy'n gwneud beth—neu'r cydbwysedd y soniodd Jonathan Morgan amdano. Weithiau, gall llywodraeth leol deimlo o dan ryw fath o ormes gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ynglŷn â phwy sy'n gwneud beth. Mae angen trafodaeth aeddfed a chytundeb, i sicrhau bod llywodraeth leol a llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio fel rhan o'r un tîm, gan ddarparu gwasanaethau ar draws ffiniau. Bydd y cefndir ariannol du yn gyrru'r agenda hon ynghyd â'r angen i wella darpariaeth gwasanaethau ac i sicrhau ein bod yn gallu cynnal gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn y sector cyhoeddus. Mae'n arwain rhywun i feddwl am un gwasanaeth cyhoeddus cenedlaethol ar gyfer Cymru, a fyddai'n cynnwys llywodraeth leol, y gwasanaeth iechyd, swyddogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac, efallai, yn y pen draw, y DVLA a'r heddlu. Mae gan nifer ohonom ddyhead i weld un gwasanaeth sifil Cymreig integredig gyda'i feistri yma yn y Cynulliad. Dyna'r cyd-destun mae'r adroddiad hwn yn disgyn yn hawdd i mewn iddo.

Mae gennyf ychydig o gwestiynau i gloi. Mae hyn yn gofyn am arweinyddiaeth gadarn

Wales is 8,000 square miles in area, and it has a strong public sector already. We need to build on those strengths. Many would say that 8,000 square miles is just the right size to be able to organise things on a national level. After all, some of us are old enough to remember that Wales had one regional health authority at one time. In welcoming this work, I think that we need to build on what is in front of us. This is not a matter for local government alone. It is a matter for the health service and for the Assembly with regard to how we organise things. As has been mentioned in the Chamber already, and by a number of other people, we cannot afford to have 22 of everything in Wales. In 1996, we had 22 new counties, and, in 1999, we had the Assembly. We genuinely need a mature debate on who does what.

I welcome the idea of an agreement between the Minister, the Assembly and local government in order to ensure that we achieve that maturity and that we do not always have the problem of disagreement as to who does what—or the balance that Jonathan Morgan spoke about. Sometimes, local government can feel oppressed by the Assembly Government with regard to who does what. We need a mature debate and agreement, and to ensure that local government and the Assembly Government work as part of the same team, providing services across boundaries. The bleak financial background will drive this agenda and the need to improve the provision of services and to ensure that we can maintain public services in the public sector. It leads one to think about one national public service for Wales, which would include local government, the health service, Assembly Government officials and, perhaps, ultimately, the DVLA and the police. A number of us would like to see an integrated Welsh civil service, with its masters here in the Assembly. That is the context into which this report slots easily.

I have a few questions with which to conclude. This requires strong leadership in

yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac mewn llywodraeth leol. Mae angen arweinyddiaeth sydd yn gadarn ond yn aeddfed, gyda phawb yn fodlon gweithio gyda'i gilydd i greu un gwasanaeth cyhoeddus i Gymru. Hoffwn glywed myfyrdodau'r Gweinidog ar hynny.

Mae'r adolygiad hwn hefyd yn sôn am gaffael cyhoeddus. Wrth gwrs, mae modd gwella'r holl broses caffael cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, ond mae hefyd angen mynd i'r afael â'r angen dybryd i gael ein busnesau bach Cymreig yn rhan o'r broses caffael cyhoeddus. Yn aml, mae ein cwmnïau Cymreig cynhenid yn colli allan yn y broses caffael cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, felly, os ydym yn mynd i ad-drefnu gwasanaethau ar raddfa ranbarthol a chael caffael cyhoeddus ar y sail honno, rhaid inni sicrhau bod ein cwmnïau Cymreig yn elwa o'r broses.

Yn olaf, a yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno bod cydweithio ar lefel ranbarthol yn allweddol inni allu osgoi preifateiddio gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol, osgoi allanoli, a sicrhau y gall ein siroedd ddiogelu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn y sector cyhoeddus?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you, Dai, for your comments. I was impressed by your opening remarks about expanding horizons. It sounds like the title of another strategy, but you are absolutely right: this is about working beyond those boundaries and, in some areas, local government has grown to do that. I am encouraged about some of the changes in service delivery that are already happening. One example is legal services in south Wales, where seven authorities are working together on support for legal services. Beyond that, the police are involved and some of the universities are also picking up on that legal services provision. Again, that is working beyond those boundaries of expectation.

You raise some valid points about public procurement and creating an environment that will also help the economy of Wales. In working with Jane Hutt, and across Government, I am pleased that the efficiency and innovation board has a public

the Assembly Government and in local government. We need leadership that is strong but also mature, with everyone willing to work together to create one public service for Wales. I would like to hear the Minister's thoughts on that.

This review also mentions public procurement. Of course, there is a possible improvement to the whole process of public procurement in Wales, but we also need to get to grips with the pressing need to get our small Welsh businesses to be part of the public procurement process. Often, our indigenous Welsh businesses miss out in the public procurement process in Wales, therefore, if we are going to reorganise services on a regional level and have public procurement on that basis, we must ensure that our Welsh companies benefit from the process.

Finally, does the Minister agree that collaboration on a regional level is key so that we can avoid privatising services in future, avoid outsourcing, and ensure that our counties can safeguard public services in the public sector?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch, Dai, am eich sylwadau. Cefais fy nharo gan eich sylwadau agoriadol am ehangu gorwelion. Mae'n swnio fel teitl strategaeth arall, ond rydych yn hollol gywir: mae hyn yn ymwneud â gweithio y tu hwnt i'r ffiniau hynny ac, mewn rhai ardaloedd, mae llywodraeth leol wedi tyfu i wneud hynny. Rwyf wedi fy nghalonogi gan rai o'r newidiadau mewn darparu gwasanaethau sydd eisoes yn digwydd. Un enghraifft yw gwasanaethau cyfreithiol yn ne Cymru, lle mae saith awdurdod lleol yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i gefnogi gwasanaethau cyfreithiol. Tu hwnt i hynny, mae'r heddlu yn cymryd rhan ac mae rhai o'r prifysgolion hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r ddarpariaeth honno o wasanaethau cyfreithiol. Unwaith eto, dyna weithio tu hwnt i ffiniau disgwyliadau.

Bu i chi godi rhai pwyntiau dilys am gaffael cyhoeddus a chreu amgylchedd a fydd hefyd yn helpu economi Cymru. Wrth weithio gyda Jane Hutt, ac ar draws y Llywodraeth, rwy'n falch bod gan y bwrdd effeithlonrwydd ac arloesi ffrwd waith caffael cyhoeddus.

procurement work stream. Mohammed Mehmet from Denbighshire County Council is the lead member for that, which is driving local government and the 22 authorities to support that proposal. I consider myself to be a friend of local government, Dai, because if Eric Pickles was in charge and if we did not have devolution in Wales, local government would be in a very different place today. I would like to think that local authorities see me as a friend of local government. I am quite keen to drive this agenda of collaboration forward, working together across the boundaries, because it is about protecting public sector jobs in Wales. That is my ambition and I hope that local government can share that with me today.

Veronica German: Thank you, Minister, for your statement. I also thank Joe Simpson for the report that has been presented to us today. I have only had a chance to have a quick skim through it, obviously, but there is a great deal there to digest. We all agree that everyone in Wales deserves the best possible public services and that we cannot keep on doing things the way that we have always done them. As Jonathan mentioned, it may not be that local government will deliver all of these services. It may be that it delivers them collaboratively—I am having trouble saying the word now. I will concentrate my remarks more on councillors and the effect that this will have on them. There is a particular part of the report that refers to a new role for councillors. You have already said that, often, there have been political reasons as to why changes have not happened in the past. People feel that some of their sovereignty—sorry, I am not getting my words out at all well today. People feel that some of their sovereignty is taken away when they start to collaborate with others. We have talked before about how we scrutinise collaborative work. Councillors find that quite difficult. I think that council cabinet members can work collaboratively—I am having trouble saying the word again.

Brian Gibbons: Together.

Veronica German: Together. Thank you.

Mohammed Mehmet, o Gyngor Sir Ddinbych, yw'r aelod arweiniol ar hynny, sy'n ysgogi llywodraeth leol a'r 22 awdurdod i gefnogi'r cynnig hwnnw. Rwy'n ystyried fy hun yn ffrind i lywodraeth leol, Dai, oherwydd pe bai Eric Pickles yn gyfrifol, a phe na bai datganoli yng Nghymru, byddai llywodraeth leol mewn sefyllfa wahanol iawn heddiw. Byddwn yn hoffi meddwl bod awdurdodau lleol yn fy ngweld fel ffrind i lywodraeth leol. Rwy'n eithaf awyddus i yrru'r agenda hon o gydweithredu ymlaen, gan weithio ar y cyd ar draws y ffiniau, oherwydd mae a wnelo â diogelu swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Dyna yw fy uchelgais ac rwy'n gobeithio y gall llywodraeth leol rannu hynny gyda mi heddiw.

Veronica German: Diolch i chi, Weinidog, am eich datganiad. Diolch hefyd i Joe Simpson am yr adroddiad a gyflwynwyd i ni heddiw. Rwyf ond wedi cael cyfle i sgimio drwyddo, yn amlwg, ond mae llawer iawn yno i'w ystyried. Rydym i gyd yn cytuno bod pawb yng Nghymru yn haeddu'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus gorau posibl ac na allwn ddal ati i wneud pethau'r ffordd rydym wedi eu gwneud erioed. Fel y soniodd Jonathan, efallai nad llywodraeth leol fydd yn darparu'r holl wasanaethau hyn. Mae'n bosibl y bydd yn eu darparu ar y cyd—rwy'n cael trafferth ynganu. Byddaf yn canolbwyntio fy sylwadau ar gynghorwyr a'r effaith a gaiff hyn arnynt. Mae rhan benodol o'r adroddiad yn cyfeirio at rôl newydd i gynghorwyr. Rydych eisoes wedi dweud, yn aml, y bu rhesymau gwleidyddol ynghylch pam na ddigwyddodd newidiadau yn y gorffennol. Mae pobl yn teimlo bod peth o'u sofraniaeth—mae'n ddrwg gennyf, rwy'n ei chael yn anodd i yngan fy ngeiriau yn dda o gwbl heddiw. Mae pobl yn teimlo eu bod yn colli peth o'u sofraniaeth pan fyddant yn dechrau cydweithio ag eraill. Rydym wedi sôn o'r blaen am sut yr ydym yn craffu ar waith ar y cyd. Mae cynghorwyr yn canfod hynny'n eithaf anodd. Rwy'n credu y gall aelodau cyngor cabinet weithio yn gydweithredol—rwy'n cael trafferth ynganu eto.

Brian Gibbons: Gyda'i gilydd.

Veronica German: Gyda'i gilydd. Diolch.

However, backbench councillors cannot see how their role fits in so easily with that agenda and how they can scrutinise on behalf of their local communities as well as for the project as a whole. On the changing role of councillors, the report said that some might think that councillors' roles would be reduced but that it is clear this is not the case and that councillors should become cabinet members for their wards and community champions. To me, the way it is written makes it sound as though their role would not be reduced, because they would be taking on this role as community champions. However, does that mean that the scrutiny role would be somewhat reduced? That is a danger. I know that it should not be, but I think that there is a danger that that could happen. I would welcome your comments on how you see that going forward.

The report says that there should be more support for members outside the committee work that they do. People go into local government and become councillors in order to get things done for their communities. I am sure that that is true of most people. In the past, the work that they have done in their wards has often been treated as political work or work that is not council work as such. This report wants to turn that on its head and say, 'No, the community champion part of this is very important' and that support should be given by councils for members to undertake this work. Where do you see this role coming in? Is it a role for the WLGA? Can you see other ways of best practice and so on being spread across different councils in Wales?

On the major aspect of this report and your statement on whether this is national, regional or local work, many people will be concerned that too much would be national and regional and that there would not be enough left locally, although I understand why we want collaboration. I know that it is early, but do you have any views so far on how much of this work you would see remaining at the local council level and how much would be done regionally or nationally? I endorse Jonathan Morgan's point that there is perhaps some work done

Fodd bynnag, ni all cynghorwyr meinciau cefn weld sut mae eu rôl yn cyd-fynd mor hawdd â'r agenda hwnnw a sut y gallant graffu ar ran eu cymunedau lleol yn ogystal ag ar gyfer y prosiect yn gyffredinol. Ar y newid yn rôl cynghorwyr, dywedodd yr adroddiad y gallai rai feddwl y byddai lleihau ar rôl cynghorwyr ond ei bod yn amlwg nad yw hynny'n wir, ac y dylai cynghorwyr fod yn aelodau cabinet dros eu wardiau ac yn hyrwyddwyr cymunedol. I mi, mae'r ffordd y mae wedi ei eirio yn awgrymu na fydd lleihau ar eu rôl, oherwydd byddant yn mabwysiadu rôl fel hyrwyddwyr cymunedol. Fodd bynnag, a ydy hynny'n golygu y byddai lleihau rhywfaint ar eu rôl craffu? Mae hynny'n berygl. Rwy'n gwybod na ddylai fod, ond credaf fod perygl y gallai hynny ddigwydd. Byddwn yn croesawu eich sylwadau ar sut y gwelwch hynny'n datblygu.

Mae'r adroddiad yn dweud y dylai fod mwy o gefnogaeth i aelodau y tu allan i'r gwaith pwyllgor y maent yn ei wneud. Mae pobl yn mynd i mewn i lywodraeth leol a dod yn gynghorwyr er mwyn gwneud pethau dros eu cymunedau. Rwy'n siŵr bod hynny'n wir am y rhan fwyaf o bobl. Yn y gorffennol, mae'r gwaith y maent wedi'i wneud yn eu wardiau wedi ei drin fel gwaith gwleidyddol neu waith nad yw'n waith y cyngor fel y cyfryw. Mae'r adroddiad hwn am droi hynny ar ei ben a dweud, 'Na, mae bod yn hyrwyddwr cymunedol yn rhan bwysig o hyn' a dylid rhoi'r gefnogaeth honno i aelodau wneud y gwaith hynny. Ble ydych chi'n gweld y rôl hon yn digwydd? A yw'n rôl i GLILC? A allwch chi weld dulliau eraill o arferion gorau ac ati yn cael eu lledu ar draws cynghorau gwahanol yng Nghymru?

Ar yr agwedd bwysig ar yr adroddiad hwn a'ch datganiad ynghylch a yw hyn yn waith cenedlaethol, rhanbarthol neu leol, bydd llawer o bobl yn poeni y byddai gormod yn genedlaethol ac yn rhanbarthol ac na fyddai digon ar ôl yn lleol, er fy mod yn deall pam rydym eisiau gweld cydweithio. Rwy'n gwybod ei fod yn gynnar, ond a oes gennych unrhyw sylwadau hyd yn hyn ar faint o'r gwaith hwn byddech yn ei weld yn aros ar lefel cyngor lleol a faint fyddai'n cael ei wneud yn rhanbarthol neu'n genedlaethol? Cymeradwyaf bwynt Jonathan Morgan fod

by the Assembly Government at the moment that could be done at a different level. Apart from that, Members have covered everything, and you have covered all of the other points that I wanted to make.

3.15 p.m.

Carl Sargeant: Thank you for your comments, Veronica. This report is part of the suite of tools that we have to drive this agenda forward. We have discussed the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure at length on many occasions, and I must refer back to that in terms of the points that you raised on the levels of scrutiny and support for backbench members who do not feel part of the executive decision-making process. We have strengthened that position in the proposed Measure about training officers to support the scrutiny function of a council, because I believe that good services are enhanced by good scrutiny. That is something that we are taking forward with local government. Training is extremely important, and it is something that the Welsh Local Government Association, as an improvement agency, also works on. I am keen to understand how we can better support that principle.

Reports are always interesting and people will interpret them in many different ways with regard to what they believe they say and what they actually say. The fundamental issue for me is how we get good value and good services for the people of Wales. It is quite a controversial thing to say, but where there have been difficulties in driving forward the change agenda, whether that is at a political or officer level, I do not believe that there will be a place for them in local government in the future, because they cannot maintain the old school way of delivering public services. We are in a different place as we are financially constrained, and we are changing the way in which services are delivered.

I cannot give you the detail on which services will be based at a regional level or national level; it will be about what is best placed to deliver better services. That will be done

efallai rhywfaint o waith a wneir gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ar hyn o bryd y gellid ei wneud ar lefel wahanol. Ar wahân i hynny, mae'r Aelodau wedi trafod popeth, ac rydych wedi ymdrin â phob un o'r pwyntiau eraill roeddwn am eu gwneud.

Carl Sargeant: Diolch i chi am eich sylwadau, Veronica. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhan o gyfres o ddulliau sydd gennym i yrru'r agenda hon ymlaen. Rydym wedi trafod Mesur Arfaethedig Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) yn fanwl ar sawl achlysur, a rhaid i mi gyfeirio'n ôl at hynny o ran y pwyntiau a godwyd gennych ar y lefelau o graffu a chymorth i aelodau meinciau cefn nad ydynt yn teimlo'n rhan o'r broses weithredol o wneud penderfyniadau. Rydym wedi cryfhau'r sefyllfa honno yn y Mesur arfaethedig ynghylch hyfforddi swyddogion i gynorthwyo swyddogaeth graffu'r cyngor, oherwydd rwy'n credu bod gwaith craffu da yn gwella gwasanaethau. Rydym yn bwrw ymlaen â hynny gyda llywodraeth leol. Mae hyfforddiant yn bwysig iawn, ac mae Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, fel asiantaeth gwella, hefyd yn gweithio arno. Rwy'n awyddus i ddeall sut y gallwn gefnogi'r egwyddor honno'n well.

Mae adroddiadau bob amser yn ddiddorol a bydd pobl yn eu dehongli mewn sawl ffordd wahanol o ran yr hyn y maent yn credu y maent yn ei ddweud a'r hyn y maent mewn gwirionedd yn ei ddweud. Y mater pwysicaf i mi yw sut yr ydym yn cael gwerth da a gwasanaethau da i bobl Cymru. Mae'n dipyn o beth dadleuol i'w ddweud, ond lle bu anawsterau wrth fwrw ymlaen â'r agenda newid, boed hynny ar lefel wleidyddol neu swyddog, nid wyf yn credu y bydd lle ar eu cyfer mewn llywodraeth leol yn y dyfodol, oherwydd ni allant gynnal yr hen ffordd draddodiadol o ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Rydym mewn sefyllfa wahanol wrth i ni gael ein cyfyngu yn ariannol, ac rydym yn newid y ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu.

Ni allaf roi'r manylion i chi am ba wasanaethau fydd ar lefel ranbarthol neu lefel genedlaethol; bydd yn ymwneud â'r hyn sydd orau i ddarparu gwell gwasanaethau. Gwneir

through a compact programme between the Welsh Assembly Government and local government leaders. Key to that also is accountability. I respect and support the good councillors that we have in Wales at town and community council level and local authority level; we have some fantastic councillors who are dedicated to the delivery of good services, and I understand their concerns about accountability if the level of service is driven upwards to a regional or national level. I believe that we have scrutiny methods in place to combat their concerns about the delivery of those services.

I share a belief with my colleagues Leighton Andrews and Gwenda Thomas in a fundamental change for better service delivery in Wales. I am pleased that you were supportive of most of the issues in the Proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure, as I believe that the Assembly is keen, with the limited amount of funding available, to deliver services across Wales at the best level for the best value for the public purse.

The report says that there are elements of service delivery at the 22 local authorities that are wasteful, provide questionable value for the public purse and which are often difficult to sustain. That is not an acceptable position to be in, and whoever the Minister for local government may be post-May, it will be for them to decide on how to take forward those recommendations.

Your final point, which Jonathan also raised—I apologise for not picking up on that—was around what the Assembly does and what local government does. That is about having a grown-up conversation about service delivery, and the Minister for education and I have spoken often about where service levels are best placed. There may be an opportunity for services that are delivered at Assembly level to be delivered at local government level or beyond, or for local government services to be delivered at a town and community council level. I have an open mind on some of those issues, but that is a matter for further debate in the future.

hynny drwy raglen gytundeb rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac arweinwyr llywodraeth leol. Mae atebolrwydd hefyd yn allweddol i hynny. Rwy'n parchu ac yn cefnogi'r cynghorwyr da sydd gennym yng Nghymru ar lefel cyngor tref a chymuned ac ar lefel awdurdod lleol; mae gennym rai cynghorwyr gwych sy'n ymroddedig i ddarparu gwasanaethau da, ac rwy'n deall eu pryderon am atebolrwydd os bydd lefel y gwasanaeth yn cael ei yrru i fyny i lefel ranbarthol neu genedlaethol. Rwy'n credu bod gennym ddulliau craffu ar waith i fynd i'r afael â'u pryderon ynghylch darparu'r gwasanaethau hynny.

Fel fy nghydweithwyr Leighton Andrews a Gwenda Thomas credaf mewn newid sylfaenol er mwyn darparu gwasanaethau'n well yng Nghymru. Rwy'n falch yr oeddech yn gefnogol o'r rhan fwyaf o'r materion ym Mesur Arfaethedig Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru), gan fy mod yn credu bod y Cynulliad yn awyddus, gyda'r swm cyfyngedig o arian sydd ar gael, i ddarparu gwasanaethau ar draws Cymru ar y lefel orau er mwyn gweld y gwerth gorau i'r pwrs cyhoeddus.

Mae'r adroddiad yn dweud bod elfennau o'r modd y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu yn y 22 o awdurdodau lleol yn wastraffus, yn darparu gwerth amheus i'r pwrs cyhoeddus ac yn aml yn anodd eu cynnal. Nid yw hynny'n sefyllfa dderbyniol i fod ynnddi, a phwy bynnag bydd y Gweinidog dros lywodraeth leol ar ôl mis Mai, nhw fydd yn penderfynu sut i fwrw ymlaen â'r argymhellion hynny.

Roedd eich pwynt olaf, a gododd Jonathan hefyd—rwy'n ymddiheuro am beidio â mynd ar ôl hynny—ynghylch yr hyn y mae'r Cynulliad yn ei wneud â'r hyn y mae llywodraeth leol yn ei wneud. Mae hynny ynghylch cael sgwrs aeddfed am ddarparu gwasanaethau, ac mae'r Gweinidog dros addysg a minnau wedi siarad yn aml am y lleoedd gorau i wasanaethau. Efallai bydd cyfle i ddarparu gwasanaethau sy'n cael eu darparu ar lefel y Cynulliad ar lefel llywodraeth leol neu du hwnt, neu i ddarparu gwasanaethau llywodraeth leol ar lefel cyngortref a chymuned. Mae gennyf feddwl agored ar rai o'r materion hynny, ond mae

hynny'n fater i'w drafod ymhellach yn y dyfodol.

I thank Members for their support for the Simpson report, and future Ministers will make decisions around its recommendations.

Diolch i'r Aelodau am eu cefnogaeth i adroddiad Simpson. Bydd Gweinidogion yn y dyfodol yn gwneud penderfyniadau ynghylch ei argymhellion.

Datganiad am Adroddiad ar Strwythur Gwasanaethau Addysg yng Nghymru Statement on the Report on the Structure of Education Services in Wales

The Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning (Leighton Andrews):

Last October, I announced the establishment of an independent task and finish group to consider the case for change to the structure of education services in Wales, excluding higher education. That group has now completed its work and I am publishing the report today.

This is a wide-ranging and significant report. It is based on extensive consultation, with contributions from many organisations and individuals in Wales and beyond. I welcome it, and I am grateful to the chair, Viv Thomas, and the members of the group for their intensive and thoughtful work. I am also grateful to the many people and organisations who contributed positively and generously to that work. The response to the group's recommendations will be a matter for the next Government.

This report complements the independent study on the delivery of local services announced today by the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government. It also complements the work of the efficiency and innovation board, which aims to develop innovation and promote collaboration across public services in Wales.

I established this task and finish group as part of my response to the May 2010 PricewaterhouseCoopers report on the cost of administering education in Wales. Also in response to the report, the front-line resources review programme board, which I chair, has developed a comprehensive delivery plan, using as guiding principles the themes 'simplify, standardise and share'.

Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu

Gydol Oes (Leighton Andrews): Fis Hydref diwethaf, cyhoeddais sefydlu grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen annibynnol i ystyried yr achos dros newid strwythur gwasanaethau addysg yng Nghymru, ac eithrio addysg uwch. Mae'r grŵp hwnnw yn awr wedi cwblhau ei waith ac rwy'n cyhoeddi'r adroddiad heddiw.

Mae hwn yn adroddiad arwyddocaol ac eang ei gwmpas. Mae'n seiliedig ar ymgynghori helaeth, gyda chyfraniadau gan nifer o sefydliadau ac unigolion yng Nghymru a thu hwnt. Rwy'n ei groesawu, ac rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r cadeirydd, Viv Thomas, ac aelodau'r grŵp am eu gwaith dwys a meddylgar. Rwyf hefyd yn ddiolchgar i'r nifer o bobl a sefydliadau sydd wedi cyfrannu yn gadarnhaol ac yn hael i'r gwaith hwnnw. Bydd yr ymateb i argymhellion y grŵp yn fater ar gyfer y Llywodraeth nesaf.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn cyd-fynd â'r astudiaeth annibynnol ar ddarparu gwasanaethau lleol a gyhoeddwyd heddiw gan y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol. Mae hefyd yn ategu gwaith y bwrdd effeithlonrwydd ac arloesi, sydd â'r nod o ddatblygu arloesedd a hyrwyddo cydweithio ar draws gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

Sefydlais y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen hwn fel rhan o fy ymateb i adroddiad PricewaterhouseCoopers ym mis Mai 2010 ar y gost o weinyddu addysg yng Nghymru. Hefyd mewn ymateb i'r adroddiad, mae'r bwrdd rhaglen adolygu adnoddau rheng flaen, yr wyf yn gadeirydd arno, wedi datblygu cynllun cyflawni cynhwysfawr, gan ddefnyddio'r themâu 'symleiddio, safoni a

Good progress is now being made on delivery, and I am pleased to report that, when fully implemented, I anticipate that a cost shift from support to service functions in the range of £104 million to £192 million, as originally envisaged by PricewaterhouseCoopers, will have been achieved. My department has also reduced its administrative costs by £2.6 million in 2010-11, with further reductions being implemented in future years. The department is also progressing changes to reduce the administrative burden on its delivery partners.

The report that I am publishing today is another contribution to this urgent drive to shift resources to the education front line. It is also more than that. I asked the task and finish group to take a long-term, whole-system view. The primary objective that I gave it was to ensure that the education system is structured in a way that will deliver sustained improvement to learner attainment across Wales. This focus on learner attainment is crucial. As I said in my 'Teaching Makes a Difference' speech in February, in Wales, we have made progress on many fronts in education since devolution, such as an encouraging rise in examination results standards, an increasing number of adults with level 2 or level 3 qualifications and more modern apprenticeships. However, we know that learner attainment is not improving quickly enough, and the 2009 Programme for International Student Assessment results painted a disappointing picture of our educational performance and progress. As I said then, we must all take a level of responsibility for the problem, and for resolving it. We need to focus on higher standards, set our ambitions and expectations high, and look for improvement to every aspect of our system.

The report that I am publishing today tackles these issues directly. The task and finish group has taken a forensic look at the performance of providers at all levels: schools, colleges, local authorities, and regional and national organisations. It has found examples of exceptional achievement and inspiring leadership, but it has also found

rhannu' fel egwyddorion i'w dilyn. Mae cynnydd da yn cael ei wneud ar gyflawni, ac rwy'n falch o adrodd, pan gaiff ei weithredu'n llawn, rwy'n disgwyl y bydd newid costau swyddogaethau cefnogaeth i wasanaeth o rhwng £104 miliwn a £192 miliwn, fel y rhagwelodd PricewaterhouseCoopers yn wreiddiol. Yn ogystal, mae fy adran wedi gostwng ei gostau gweinyddol o £2.6 miliwn yn 2010-11, gyda gostyngiadau pellach yn cael eu gweithredu yn y dyfodol. Mae'r adran hefyd yn mynd rhagddo â newidiadau i leihau'r baich gweinyddol ar ei bartneriaid cyflenwi.

Mae'r adroddiad yr wyf yn ei gyhoeddi heddiw yn gyfraniad arall i'r ymgyrch frys hon i symud adnoddau i reng flaen addysg. Mae hefyd yn fwy na hynny. Gofynnais i'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen i feithrin golwg hirdymor, system-gyfan. Y prif amcan a sefydlais ar ei gyfer oedd sicrhau bod y system addysg wedi ei strwythuro mewn ffordd a fydd yn sicrhau gwelliant parhaus i gyrhaeddiad dysgwyr ledled Cymru. Mae'r ffocws hwn ar gyrhaeddiad dysgwyr yn hanfodol. Fel y dywedais yn fy araith 'Mae Addysgu yn Gwneud Gwahaniaeth' ym mis Chwefror, yng Nghymru, rydym wedi gwneud cynnydd mewn sawl cyfeiriad ym myd addysg ers datganoli, er enghraifft cafwyd cynnydd calonogol mewn safonau canlyniadau arholiadau, nifer cynyddol o oedolion â chymhwysterau lefel 2 neu lefel 3 a phrentisiaethau mwy modern. Fodd bynnag, gwyddom nad yw cyrhaeddiad dysgwyr yn gwella'n ddigon cyflym, a gwelwyd darlun siomedig o'n perfformiad a chynnydd addysgol yng nghanlyniadau Rhaglen Ryngwladol Asesu Myfyrwyr 2009. Fel y dywedais bryd hynny, mae'n rhaid i ni gyd gymryd lefel o gyfrifoldeb am y broblem, a thros ei datrys. Mae angen i ni ganolbwyntio ar safonau uwch, gan osod ein huchelgeisiau a'n disgwyliadau yn uchel, a chwilio am wella ym mhob agwedd ar ein system.

Mae'r adroddiad rwyf yn ei gyhoeddi heddiw yn mynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn yn uniongyrchol. Mae'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen wedi edrych yn ffrensic ar berfformiad darparwyr ar bob lefel: ysgolion, colegau, awdurdodau lleol, a sefydliadau rhanbarthol a chenedlaethol. Mae'r grŵp wedi dod o hyd i enghreifftiau o gyflawniad

a disappointing degree of inconsistency. Too many providers are failing to match the best. The relentless focus on improvement that should be present throughout the system and everywhere in Wales is too often just not there. As a result, there is inconsistency of achievement, and, overall, the pace of improvement has been too slow.

The report argues that the causes of this inconsistency are to be found in structural issues. It says that there is insufficient clarity of accountability for performance, high-quality support and robust, well-informed challenge at all levels. It says that local authorities in Wales are too small, when they operate individually, to provide consistently high-quality improvement services and professional support and challenge to the schools in their charge. It says that there is insufficient integration of education provision, particularly at the post-16 level, where schools and colleges should be working more closely together. It says that there has not been enough clarity of mission and joined-up thinking about education at a national level. These are hard messages: but they come as no surprise. I described the PISA results a wake-up call to a complacent system. This report is another wake-up call, and we should all give it open-minded consideration.

The report acknowledges that local government and other sectors have begun to address some of these issues. It makes recommendations for strengthening local government regional consortia, particularly to build their performance improvement role and to work closely with further education and training providers. It also recommends further rationalisation of the further education sector to around eight to 12 corporate entities. However, the group emphasises the need to deliver demonstrable and substantial improvement in learner achievement across Wales, and to do this quickly. It recommends a further in-depth review in 2013 to take a hard look at progress and consider whether more fundamental structural change is needed.

In February, I set out a 20-point plan to

ethriadol ac arweinyddiaeth ysbrydoledig, ond mae hefyd wedi canfod swm siomedig o anghysondeb. Mae gormod o ddarparwyr yn methu â chyrraedd safonau'r goreuon. Mae'r ffocws diwyro ar wella, a ddylai fod yn bresennol drwy gydol y system ac ym mhob man yng Nghymru, yn rhy aml, ar goll. O ganlyniad, mae anghysondeb o ran llwyddo, ac, yn gyffredinol, mae cyflymder y gwelliant wedi bod yn rhy araf.

Mae'r adroddiad yn dadlau bod achosion yr anghysondeb hwn i'w canfod mewn materion strwythurol. Mae'n dweud nad oes digon o eglurder o ran atebolrwydd am berfformiad, cymorth o ansawdd uchel na her wybodus gadarn ar bob lefel. Mae'n dweud bod awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn rhy fach, pan fyddant yn gweithredu yn unigol, i ddarparu gwasanaethau gwella cyson o ansawdd uchel a chefnogaeth a her broffesiynol i'r ysgolion yn eu gofal. Mae'n dweud nad oes digon o integreiddio darpariaeth addysg, yn enwedig ar y lefel ôl-16, lle y dylai ysgolion a cholegau weithio'n agosach gyda'i gilydd. Mae'n dweud na chafwyd digon o eglurder o ran cenhadaeth a meddwl cydgysylltiedig am addysg ar lefel genedlaethol. Mae'r rhain yn negeseuon caled: ond nid ydynt yn syndod. Disgrifiais ganlyniadau PISA fel rhybudd ynghylch system ag agwedd hunanfodlon. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhybudd arall, a dylem oll ei ystyried â meddwl agored.

Mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod bod llywodraeth leol a sectorau eraill wedi dechrau mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion hyn. Mae'n gwneud argymhellion ar gyfer cryfhau consortia rhanbarthol llywodraeth leol, yn enwedig i ddatblygu eu rôl wrth wella perfformiad ac i weithio'n agos ag addysg bellach a darparwyr hyfforddiant. Mae hefyd yn argymhell ad-drefnu pellach ar y sector addysg bellach i tua wyth i 12 o endidau corfforaethol. Fodd bynnag, mae'r grŵp yn pwysleisio'r angen i gyflawni gwelliannau amlwg a sylweddol mewn cyrhaeddiad dysgwyr ar draws Cymru, ac i wneud hynny'n gyflym. Mae'n argymhell adolygiad manwl arall yn 2013 i edrych yn fanwl ar gynnydd ac i ystyried a oes angen newid strwythurol mwy sylfaenol.

Ym mis Chwefror, sefydlais gynllun 20

transform system leadership and address issues of personalised learning, professional practice, intelligent accountability, collaboration and best practice. I am pleased to note that there is much common ground between that plan and the recommendations in the report that I am publishing today.

However, this is a lengthy and complex report. It runs to over 100 pages, covers much ground, and makes more than 30 important recommendations, each of which deserves careful consideration. At this point I would like to repeat my thanks to the task and finish group for its committed and professional work. I encourage everyone with an interest in improving education in Wales to read the report and consider what it means for them and how they should respond. As I said, it will be for the next Welsh Assembly Government to take this forward.

Paul Davies: I thank the Minister for his statement this afternoon, and for publishing the independent task and finish group report this morning. As the third Assembly draws to a close, we have an opportunity to reflect on the structure of our education services in Wales and look to find ways to build on good practice and provide innovative ways of improving our services. I accept that the group's recommendations will be a matter for the next Assembly Government. However, it is not clear from his statement today whether the Minister would want to adopt the recommendations in the report, and perhaps he would be kind enough to confirm that in his response later.

In his written statement issued on 14 October last year, the Minister stated that his objective was to ensure that the education system is structured in a way that will deliver sustained improvement to learner attainment across Wales and that driving more resources to the front line is critical to doing that. This is an objective that I am sure all parties across the Chamber support. We are all committed to streamlining the education funding system wherever possible. The task and finish group, chaired by Vivian Thomas, has put together a comprehensive set of recommendations to strengthen the current system, and I would like to also take this opportunity to thank

pwytnt i drawsnewid arweinyddiaeth y system ac i roi sylw i faterion cynlluniau dysgu personol, arfer proffesiynol, atebolrwydd deallus, cydweithredu ac arfer gorau. Rwy'n falch o nodi bod llawer o dir cyffredin rhwng y cynllun a'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad rwy'n ei gyhoeddi heddiw.

Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn adroddiad hir a chymhleth. Mae'n fwy na 100 o dudalennau, yn cynnwys llawer, ac yn gwneud mwy na 30 o argymhellion pwysig, a phob un ohonynt yn haeddu ystyriaeth ofalus. Ar y pwynt hwn, hoffwn ailadrodd fy niolch i'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen am ei waith ymroddgar a phroffesiynol. Rwy'n annog pawb sydd â diddordeb mewn gwella addysg yng Nghymru i ddarllen yr adroddiad ac i ystyried yr hyn y mae'n ei olygu iddyn nhw a sut y dylent ymateb. Fel y dywedais, mater i Lywodraeth nesaf Cynulliad Cymru fydd datblygu hyn.

Paul Davies: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad y prynhawn yma, ac am gyhoeddi adroddiad y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen y bore yma. Wrth i'r trydydd Cynulliad dynnu at ei derfyn, mae gennym gyfle i fyfyrto ar strwythur ein gwasanaethau addysg yng Nghymru, ac i ddod o hyd i ffyrdd o adeiladu ar arfer da a darparu ffyrdd arloesol o wella ein gwasanaethau. Rwy'n derbyn y bydd argymhellion y grŵp yn fater i Lywodraeth nesaf y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n glir yn ei ddatganiad heddiw, a fyddai'r Gweinidog yn awyddus i fabwysiadu argymhellion yr adroddiad, ac efallai y byddai ef yn ddigon caredig i gadarnhau hynny yn ei ymateb yn nes ymlaen.

Yn ei ddatganiad ysgrifenedig a gyhoeddwyd ar 14 Hydref y llynedd, dywedodd y Gweinidog mai ei amcan oedd sicrhau bod y system addysg wedi ei strwythuro mewn ffordd a fydd yn sicrhau gwelliant parhaus i gyrraedd diadysgwyr ar draws Cymru a bod gyrru mwy o adnoddau i'r rheng flaen yn hanfodol i wneud hynny. Mae hwn yn amcan rwy'n siŵr bod pob plaid ar draws y Siambr yn ei gefnogi. Rydym oll yn ymrwymedig i symleiddio'r system ariannu addysg lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl. Mae'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen o dan gadeiryddiaeth Vivian Thomas wedi llunio cyfres gynhwysfawr o argymhellion i gryfhau'r system bresennol, a

Vivian Thomas and other members of the group for their hard work.

The first set of recommendations focuses on the idea of clarity, and I agree that the Assembly Government should clarify the role of educators and politicians. The report specifically calls for a reorganisation of the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills to provide clarity of function and accountability. I would be grateful for the Minister's comments on the group's recommendation for that kind of reorganisation, and what steps will now be taken to take forward this particular recommendation.

I was pleased to read that the group has recommended that DCELLS should create a national IT data platform to collect information regarding performance and standards in schools. This platform would then provide the public with easily accessible information on school performance. In our debate on the annual Estyn report earlier this year, we discussed the lack of comparable data in our assessment system. On both counts, a lack of comparative data means that identifying areas of concern is a problem, and if we cannot identify a problem, then it is obviously difficult to solve it. This way, the passage of information is open and transparent, and we can identify and work on areas of concern a good deal quicker.

Another interesting aspect of the report is the idea of regional consortia, which we have talked about previously, Minister. The report calls for the four regional consortia to be given a clear leadership role, which should be formalised and underpinned by a local government political mandate. I would be grateful, Minister, if you could clarify whether you agree with it. If so, could you expand on that? Is it your intention to create regional educational authorities in the future, should you be fortunate enough to take part in any future Government?

I was particularly pleased to read the group's recommendation 25, which states that, in terms of finance, the guiding principle should be that funding goes directly to the level where delivery and performance lies, be that

hoffwn i hefyd gymryd y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i Vivian Thomas ac aelodau eraill y grŵp am eu gwaith caled.

Mae'r gyfres gyntaf o argymhellion yn canolbwyntio ar y syniad o eglurder, ac rwy'n cytuno y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad egluro rôl addysgwyr a gwleidyddion. Mae'r adroddiad yn galw yn benodol am ad-drefnu'r Adran Plant, Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau er mwyn cael eglurder o ran swyddogaeth ac atebolrwydd. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am sylwadau'r Gweinidog ar argymhelliad y grŵp ar gyfer y math hwnnw o ad-drefnu, a pha gamau a fydd yn cael eu cymryd i frw ymlaen â'r argymhelliad penodol hwnnw.

Roeddwn yn falch o ddarllen bod y grŵp wedi argymhell y dylai APADGOS greu plattform ddata TG genedlaethol i gasglu gwybodaeth am berfformiad a safonau mewn ysgolion. Byddai'r plattform hwn wedyn yn rhoi mynediad hawdd i'r cyhoedd at wybodaeth am berfformiad ysgolion. Yn ein dadl ar adroddiad blynyddol Estyn yn gynharach eleni, buom yn trafod y diffyg data sydd ar gael i gymharu yn ein system asesu. Ar y ddau gyfrif, mae diffyg data i gymharu yn golygu bod nodi meysydd sy'n peri pryder yn broblem, ac os na allwn nodi problem, yna yn amlwg mae'n anodd ei datrys. Fel hyn, bydd y wybodaeth yn agored ac yn dryloiw, a gallwn nodi a gweithio ar feysydd o bryder yn llawer cyflymach.

Agwedd ddiddorol arall ar yr adroddiad yw'r syniad o gonsortia rhanbarthol, yr ydym wedi trafod o'r blaen, Weinidog. Mae'r adroddiad yn galw am bedwar consortiwm rhanbarthol i gael rôl arweiniol glir, a ddylid ei ffurfioli a'i drefnu gan fandad gwleidyddol llywodraeth leol. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar, Weinidog, pe gallech egluro a ydych yn cytuno â hyn. Os felly, a allech ymhelaethu ar hynny? Ai eich bwriad yw creu awdurdodau addysg rhanbarthol yn y dyfodol, pe byddwch yn ddigon ffodus i gymryd rhan mewn unrhyw Lywodraeth yn y dyfodol?

Roeddwn yn arbennig o falch o ddarllen argymhelliad 25 y grŵp, sy'n datgan, o ran cyllid, y dylid sefydlu egwyddor i'w dilyn bod cyllid yn mynd yn uniongyrchol i'r lefel lle mae'r ddarpariaeth a'r perfformiad yn

schools, clusters of schools, FE colleges, regional consortia, or nationally.

digwydd, boed hynny'n ysgolion, yn glystyrau o ysgolion, colegau addysg bellach, consortia rhanbarthol, neu'n genedlaethol.

3.30 p.m.

I interpret this recommendation as direct funding for schools, which could, of course, save the Assembly Government 4 per cent of its school funding budget, equivalent to £102 million as recent figures have shown. By giving schools greater autonomy, I am confident that we will, in return, see an improvement in educational standards, as we have seen evidence of this in the National Audit Office report into academies in England. As the Minister is aware, I believe in devolving more powers to schools to allow the people who know best—the teachers, headteachers, parents and governors—to have the authority to manage their own schools without too much interference. We must all recognise that teachers and headteachers who work in the schools have an intricate knowledge of pupils' needs and of the surrounding community. In the circumstances, given the financial recommendations, particularly recommendation 25 in the report, will he agree that funding schools directly from the Welsh Assembly Government would now be the best way forward?

Gwelaf yr argymhelliad hwn fel cyllid uniongyrchol i ysgolion, a allai arbed 4 y cant i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad o'i chyllid i ysgolion, sy'n gyfwerth â £102 miliwn yn ôl ffigurau diweddar. Drwy roi i ysgolion fwy o ymreolaeth, hyderaf y gwelwn wedyn welliant mewn safonau addysgol, gan ein bod wedi gweld tystiolaeth o'r un peth yn adroddiad y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol ar academïau yn Lloegr. Fel y mae'r Gweinidog yn gwybod, yr wyf yn credu mewn datganoli mwy o bwerau i ysgolion i ganiatáu i'r bobl sy'n gwybod orau—athrawon, penaethiaid, rhieni a llywodraethwyr—yr awdurdod i reoli eu hysgolion eu hunain heb ormod o ymyrraeth. Rhaid inni i gyd gydnabod bod gan athrawon a phenaethiaid sy'n gweithio yn yr ysgolion wybodaeth fanwl o anghenion disgyblion a'r gymuned o amgylch. O dan yr amgylchiadau, o ystyried yr argymelliadau ariannol, yn enwedig argymhelliad 25 yn yr adroddiad, a wnaiff gytuno mai'r ffordd orau ymlaen bellach fyddai i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ariannu ysgolion yn uniongyrchol?

I will touch briefly upon the issue of continuous professional development. The report suggests that headteachers are best placed to control the CPD budgets for their schools, and this is something that I very much agree with. I would be grateful if the Minister could tell us whether he supports this view and whether it would be his intention to devolve control for CPD budgets from local authorities to schools in the future. I agree with the view that there needs to be a national strategy in place on continuous professional development for teachers, and perhaps the Minister would also expand on that in his response.

Soniaf yn fyr am ddatblygiad proffesiynol parhaus. Mae'r adroddiad yn awgrymu mai penaethiaid sydd yn y lle gorau i reoli cyllidebau DPP yn eu hysgolion, a chytunaf yn fawr â hynny. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai'r Gweinidog ddweud wrthym a yw'n cefnogi'r farn hon ac a fyddai'n fwriad ganddo drosglwyddo rheolaeth dros gyllidebau DPP o awdurdodau lleol i ysgolion yn y dyfodol. Yr wyf yn cytuno â'r farn bod angen strategaeth genedlaethol ar ddatblygiad proffesiynol parhaus i athrawon, ac efallai y byddai'r Gweinidog hefyd yn ehangu ar hynny yn ei ateb.

Finally, Llywydd, I share the Minister's vision for a more joined-up, collaborative education system in Wales, and I believe that that would result in better quality services and greater efficiency. I look forward to hearing more in the near future on the

Yn olaf, Lywydd, yr wyf yn rhannu gweledigaeth y Gweinidog am system addysg fwy cydgysylltiedig a chydweithredol yng Nghymru, a chredaf y byddai hynny'n arwain at wasanaethau o ansawdd gwell ac at well effeithlonrwydd. Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed

structure of our education services in Wales.

Leighton Andrews: I am grateful to the opposition spokesperson for his comments and I am glad that he recognises that this is an important report and that its recommendations are comprehensive. There are clear messages to the education system in the report. There is a clear message that things need to improve and improve quickly, and if they do not improve quickly, then further action must take place by 2013. I am grateful to the group for the clarity of what it has set out in that regard.

In respect of what the report says about the reorganisation of my department, the director general of my department has progressed a reorganisation of the department in conjunction with the progress of the making of this report, and that has given greater clarity and focus to the department. It means that it is essentially structured around those areas to do with children and schools and those areas to do with skills, higher education and lifelong learning. In future, we will have better alignment between the curriculum and qualifications staff and the staff who are focused on school improvement and performance, for example, and in a sense, that was very much what was in the minds of the task and finish group.

In terms of the progress on information communications technology and the need for a national platform for that, that is something that we are taking forward, both in the context of this report and the front-line resources review. I have had several meetings on that in recent weeks and we are making significant progress. He is right to stress the importance of data, and that is something that I highlighted in my statement on 2 February. We want to ensure that data are available. We have made available significant quantities of data to schools and families of schools, and we are making it a requirement that governors have access to those data and that no school will pass an Estyn inspection unless the governing body discusses those data and how they can contribute to school performance.

mwy yn y dyfodol agos am strwythur ein gwasanaethau addysg.

Leighton Andrews: Rwy'n ddiolchgar i lefarydd yr wrthblaid am ei sylwadau ac rwy'n falch ei fod yn cydnabod bod hwn yn adroddiad pwysig a bod ei argymhellion yn gynhwysfawr. Mae negeseuon clir i'r system addysg yn yr adroddiad. Mae neges glir bod angen i bethau wella, a hynny'n gyflym, ac os nad ydynt yn gwella yn gyflym, yna bydd rhaid i weithredu pellach ddigwydd erbyn 2013. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r grŵp am yr eglurder yn yr hyn mae wedi gosod allan yn hynny o beth.

O ran yr hyn y mae'r adroddiad yn ei ddweud am ad-drefnu fy adran, mae cyfarwyddwr cyffredinol fy adran wedi bwrw ati gydag ad-drefnu'r adran ar y cyd â'r gwaith o wneud yr adroddiad hwn wrth iddo fynd rhagddo, ac mae hynny wedi rhoi mwy o eglurder a ffocws i'r adran. Mae'n golygu ei bod wedi'i strwythuro yn y bôn o amgylch yr ardaloedd hynny sy'n ymwneud â phlant ac ysgolion a'r ardaloedd hynny sy'n ymwneud â sgiliau, addysg uwch a dysgu gydol oes. Yn y dyfodol, bydd gennym well unioni rhwng y staff cwricwlwm a chymwysterau a'r staff sydd yn canolbwyntio ar wella perfformiad ysgolion, er enghraifft, ac mewn ffordd, hynny i bob pwrpas oedd ym meddyliau'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen.

O ran y cynnydd ynghylch technoleg gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu a'r angen am lwyfan cenedlaethol iddo, mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen ag ef, yng nghydestun yr adroddiad hwn a'r adolygiad o adnoddau rheng flaen. Rwyf wedi cael sawl cyfarfod am hynny yn yr wythnosau diwethaf, ac rydym yn gwneud cynnydd sylweddol. Mae'n iawn i bwysleisio pwysigrwydd data, ac mae hynny'n rhywbeth a amlygwyd gennyf yn fy natganiad ar 2 Chwefror. Rydym am sicrhau bod data ar gael. Rydym wedi trefnu bod symiau sylweddol o ddata ar gael i ysgolion a theuluoedd o ysgolion, ac rydym yn ei gwneud hi'n ofynnol bod llywodraethwyr yn cael cyrchu'r data hynny ac na fydd dim un ysgol yn pasio arolygiad Estyn oni bai bod y corff llywodraethol yn trafod y data hynny a sut y gallant gyfrannu i berfformiad yr ysgol.

In respect of regional consortia, the Association of Directors of Education in Wales has made very significant progress on this and has put in place real measures to ensure that consortia are working effectively, in terms of delivering collaborative services, but also in providing effective challenge and support to individual local authorities. That work has now been endorsed by the political leadership of the Welsh Local Government Association. I was pleased to speak to all the leaders of local government in Wales at a meeting with the WLGA on Friday and there was significant buy-in to what we are seeking to achieve. We have made it clear that if local authorities are not prepared to participate in consortia arrangements, they will lose their entitlement to school effectiveness framework funding. The next Government may want to consider legislative changes in respect of underpinning consortia. However, as I say, that is a matter for the next Government.

On what he said about funding, and funding going directly to where delivery is happening, as he will be aware, I have said in the past in the Chamber that I am not, in principle, opposed to the direct funding of schools. However, again, that is something that will need to be considered at more length by the next Government. I take issue with the figures that he cites. He has quoted before that there could be a possible saving of 4 per cent and £102 million. I am not sure that I agree with those figures, although I know where he got those figures from. I have looked at it, as have Viv Thomas and the group. I believe that he is perhaps transferring too simply an expectation of savings in a particular area by making some assumptions about direct funding. I am certain that some funding could be moved to the front line in that way, but I do not necessarily buy into the figures that he gave.

On continuous professional development, I am open to the idea that there should be more effective control of that at a school level by headteachers, as long as it operates within an overall framework. That framework has to be our school effectiveness framework and it has

O ran consortia rhanbarthol, mae Cymdeithas Cyfarwyddwyr Addysg yng Nghymru wedi gwneud cynnydd sylweddol iawn ac wedi rhoi mesurau gwirioneddol ar waith i sicrhau bod consortia yn gweithio'n effeithiol, o ran darparu gwasanaethau ar y cyd, a hefyd o ran darparu her effeithiol a chymorth i awdurdodau lleol unigol. Mae'r gwaith hwnnw bellach wedi cael ei gymeradwyo gan arweinyddiaeth wleidyddol Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Roeddwn yn falch o siarad â holl arweinwyr llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru mewn cyfarfod gyda CLILC ddydd Gwener ac roedd cefnogaeth sylweddol i'r hyn yr ydym yn ceisio ei gyflawni. Rydym wedi ei gwneud yn glir os nad yw awdurdodau lleol yn barod i gymryd rhan mewn trefniadau consortia, byddant yn colli eu hawl i gael arian o dan y fframwaith effeithiolrwydd ysgolion. Efallai y bydd y Llywodraeth nesaf am ystyried newidiadau deddfwriaethol i ategu consortia. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais, mae hynny'n fater i'r Llywodraeth nesaf.

O ran ei sylwadau am gyllid, ac am gyllid yn mynd yn uniongyrchol i'r lle y mae cyflawni'n digwydd, fel y bydd ef yn ymwybodol, dywedais o'r blaen yn y Siambr nad wyf, mewn egwyddor, yn gwrthwynebu cyllido ysgolion yn uniongyrchol. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny eto'n rhywbeth y bydd angen i'r Llywodraeth nesaf ei ystyried yn helaeth. Rwy'n anghytuno â'r ffigurau y mae'n eu dyfynnu. Mae wedi dyfynnu o'r blaen y gallai fod arbediad posibl o 4 y cant a £102 miliwn. Nid wyf yn siŵr fy mod yn cytuno â'r ffigurau hynny, er fy mod yn gwybod ymhle y cafodd y ffigurau hynny. Rwyf wedi edrych ar y sefyllfa, fel y mae Viv Thomas a'r grŵp. Rwy'n credu ei fod o bosibl yn trosglwyddo yn rhy syml ddisgwyliad o arbedion mewn ardal benodol drwy wneud rhagdybiaethau ynghylch cyllid uniongyrchol. Yr wyf yn sicr y gallai rhywfaint o arian gael ei symud i'r rheng flaen yn y ffordd honno, ond nid wyf o reidrwydd yn credu'r ffigurau a roes.

O ran datblygu proffesiynol parhaus, yr wyf yn agored i'r syniad y dylai fod mwy o reolaeth effeithiol o hynny ar lefel ysgol gan benaethiaid, cyn belled â'i fod yn gweithredu o fewn fframwaith cyffredinol. Rhaid i'r fframwaith hwnnw fod ein fframwaith

to have a focus, therefore, on our specific national objectives. I do not believe that we can afford in future to have a laissez-faire approach to continuous professional development, simply based on personal interest.

Leanne Wood: Thank you for your statement, Minister. I accept that there are great challenges ahead. I would like to ask you about Welsh-medium education and the relationship between the strategies that you produce and practice on the ground, as well as about what powers you have to intervene when local practice does not comply with the Government's strategic priorities. In the last few weeks, my office has been contacted by parents who have been unable to get their children into local Welsh-medium schools due to oversubscription. The schools in question are Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llwynceilyn and Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llantrisant, both of which are in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

I know that time is limited this week, but will you agree to meet me to discuss the details of this problem? Will you approach the local authority to find a solution, to ensure that the demand for Welsh-medium education in Rhondda Cynon Taf can be met? Do you share my concerns about reports that parents are being told to apply for an English-medium place, after being told that the school of their choice is full? Are you satisfied that this situation does not run counter to the Welsh-medium education strategy that you unveiled earlier this year, and, if it does run counter to that strategy, what can you do about it? Finally, do you have any powers at your disposal to intervene, to ensure that this shortage of places within the Welsh-medium education sector is resolved, and, if you have those powers, would you be prepared to use them on this occasion?

Leighton Andrews: In my constituency capacity, I met prospective parents of pupils at Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llwynceilyn on Friday, several of whom had admissions issues. My office is taking up those cases directly with the local education authority. There are significant issues there in terms of the transmission routes between the Cylch

effeithiolrwydd ysgolion, a rhaid bod ganddo ffocws, felly, ar ein hamcanion cenedlaethol penodol. Nid wyf yn credu y gallwn fforddio cael ymagwedd laissez-faire yn y dyfodol i ddatblygiad proffesiynol parhaus yn seiliedig ar fudd personol yn unig.

Leanne Wood: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Yr wyf yn derbyn bod heriau mawr o'n blaenau. Hoffwn eich holi am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg a'r berthynas rhwng y strategaethau yr ydych yn eu cynhyrchu ac ymarfer ar lawr gwlad, yn ogystal â pha bwerau sydd gennych i ymyrryd pan nad yw arfer lleol yn cydymffurfio â blaenoriaethau strategol y Llywodraeth. Yn yr wythnosau diwethaf, mae rhieni wedi cysylltu â'm swyddfa sydd wedi methu â chael lle i'w plant yn yr ysgolion cyfrwng Cymraeg lleol oherwydd gordanysgrifio. Yr ysgolion dan sylw yw Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llwynceilyn ac Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llantrisant, sydd ill dwy yn Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Gwn fod amser yn brin yr wythnos hon, ond a wnewch gytuno i gyfarfod â mi i drafod manylion y broblem hon? A fyddwch yn cysylltu â'r awdurdod lleol i ddod o hyd i ateb, i sicrhau y caiff y galw am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn Rhondda Cynon Taf ei fodloni? A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryderon ynghylch adroddiadau am rieni y dywedir iddynt wneud cais am le mewn ysgol cyfrwng Saesneg ar ôl cael gwybod bod eu dewis ysgol yn llawn? A ydych yn fodlon nad yw'r sefyllfa hon yn mynd yn groes i'r strategaeth addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg a gyhoeddwyd gennych yn gynharach eleni, ac os yw'n mynd yn groes i'r strategaeth honno, beth y gallwch chi ei wneud amdano? Yn olaf, pa bwerau sydd gennych i ymyrryd, i sicrhau bod y prinder lleoedd yn y sector addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn cael ei ddatrys, ac os yw'r pwerau hynny gennych, a fydddech yn barod i'w defnyddio ar yr achlysur hwn?

Leighton Andrews: Yn rhinwedd fy rôl yn fy etholaeth, cyfarfûm â rhieni darpar ddisgyblion yn Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Llwynceilyn ddydd Gwener, y cafodd nifer ohonynt broblemau derbyn. Mae fy swyddfa yn mynd ar ôl yr achosion hynny yn uniongyrchol gyda'r awdurdod addysg lleol. Mae problemau sylweddol yno o ran y

Meithrin in the areas that serve the catchment for that school. Many of the issues that the Member raised were raised with me by parents on Friday. I have also had representations from parents who are concerned with the situation in Llantrisant. I have passed those on to the relevant constituency Member, Jane Davidson, who is also taking up these issues on behalf of those parents.

On the Welsh-medium education strategy, I have been clear—and the strategy is clear—that we expect local authorities to properly assess parental demand for places in Welsh-medium education. I have said before that if I were not satisfied that local authorities were doing that, I would be prepared to legislate to ensure that they were. My ministerial predecessor looked at the issue of legislative enforcement and concerns were raised by other local authorities, particularly in north-west Wales, that were concerned that they might have to act in respect of English-medium education if we were to open up questions about the enforcement of parental demand in respect of Welsh-medium education. I am certainly prepared to look again at that issue because we must see better planning on the ground and I do not believe that that is happening currently. That is true in terms of primary places, but it is also true in terms of secondary places. Indeed, we have seen the development of secondary Welsh-medium provision by one local authority without it taking account of the consequences for an adjoining local authority. That is quite a serious situation because if we are going to plan demand effectively, particularly with regard to secondary provision, then we will have to plan across local education authority boundaries.

There are a series of issues here that we will have to return to in the next Assembly. We need to distinguish between issues relating to the needs of particular parents, which we will all take up as constituency Members, and the broader strategic question of what we may need to put in place, on a legislative basis, to ensure that there is effective planning in Welsh-medium education in the future.

llwybrau trosglwyddo rhwng y Cylch Meithrin yn yr ardaloedd sy'n gwasanaethu dalgylch yr ysgol honno. Cafodd llawer o'r materion a godwyd gan yr Aelod eu codi gyda mi gan rieni ddydd Gwener. Hefyd, mae rhieni wedi lleisio pryderon wrthyf ynghylch y sefyllfa yn Llantrisant. Yr wyf wedi pasio'r mater i'r Aelod etholaeth berthnasol, sef Jane Davidson, sydd hefyd yn codi'r materion hyn ar ran y rhieni hynny.

Ar y strategaeth addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg, yr wyf wedi bod yn glir—ac mae'r strategaeth yn glir—ein bod yn disgwyl i awdurdodau lleol asesu galw rhieni am leoedd mewn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg. Dywedais o'r blaen os na fyddaf yn fodlon bod awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud hynny, byddwn yn barod i ddeddfu i'w sicrhau. Edrychodd fy rhagflaenydd gweinidogol ar orfodi drwy ddeddfwriaeth ac fe fynegodd awdurdodau lleol eraill eu pryderon, yn enwedig yng ngogledd-orllewin Cymru, a oedd yn poeni y gallai fod yn rhaid iddynt weithredu o ran addysg cyfrwng Saesneg pe baem yn sôn am orfodi o ran galw rhieni am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg. Yn sicr, rwy'n barod i edrych eto ar y mater hwnnw am fod rhaid inni weld gwell gynllunio ar lawr gwlad ac nid wyf yn credu bod hynny'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Mae hynny'n wir o ran lleoedd cynradd, ond mae hefyd yn wir am leoedd uwchradd. Yn wir, rydym wedi gweld un awdurdod lleol yn datblygu ei ddarpariaeth o addysg uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg heb ystyried ei heffaith ar awdurdod lleol cyfagos. Mae hynny'n sefyllfa ddifrifol braidd, oherwydd os ydym yn mynd i gynllunio am alw yn effeithiol, yn enwedig o ran darpariaeth uwchradd, yna bydd rhaid inni gynllunio ar draws ffiniau awdurdodau addysg lleol.

Mae cyfres o faterion yma y bydd rhaid inni ddychwelyd atynt yn y Cynulliad nesaf. Mae angen inni wahaniaethu rhwng materion sy'n ymwneud ag anghenion rhai rhieni, y byddwn i gyd yn delio â hwy fel Aelodau etholaeth, a'r cwestiwn strategol ehangach o'r hyn y gall fod angen ei roi ar waith ar sail ddeddfwriaethol i sicrhau cynllunio effeithiol mewn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn y dyfodol.

Jenny Randerson: Thank you for your statement, Minister. This report is challenging and reaches some very worrying conclusions. As you said in your statement, it is detailed, lengthy and it certainly should silence that small number of Labour Assembly Members who tried to imply that the PISA results were somehow not a fair reflection. After the PISA results were published, we had the Estyn report and we now have this report. The path taken by their conclusions is now well-trodden; however, we have not seen them in as much detail in the past or with as many positive recommendations for the future.

I am very concerned about some of these recommendations; however, a simple statement like this one cannot possibly go into anything like enough detail, so that must be something for a future Assembly term. I particularly want to emphasise my concern about the conclusion that the outcomes in respect of literacy are problematic at virtually all phases of education, which is absolutely fundamental to where we are as a nation. There are other issues in relation to mathematics and the sciences, underachievement by boys and issues associated with the achievement of children in care. All of those issues have been raised by Members across the parties over the years and it is good to see them being given the attention that they deserve in this report.

I note the recommendation that the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills should have a facilitating role in relation to a national literacy policy, for example, and a number of other initiatives on statistics and leading on policy. That would be a very good thing, but I would caution that there is a difference between facilitating and leading at a strategic level and micromanaging. It is important that the Assembly Government does not fall into the trap that the UK Labour Government fell into of providing far too much guidance to schools—5,000 pages last year alone. The Government here has always avoided that trap. Therefore, Minister, it is important that that lead role remains strategic and does not include detailed everyday minutiae, because the professional role must be left for the

Jenny Randerson: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn heriol ac mae rhai o'i gasgliadau yn peri gofid mawr. Fel y dywedasoch yn eich datganiad, mae'n fanwl ac yn hirfaith, ac fe ddylai yn sicr roi taw ar y nifer fechan o Aelodau Llafur yn y Cynulliad a geisiodd awgrymu nad oedd y canlyniadau PISA rywsut yn adlewyrchiad teg. Ar ôl i'r canlyniadau PISA gael eu cyhoeddi, cawsom yr adroddiad gan Estyn a bellach mae gennym yr adroddiad hwn. Llwybr sathredig yr aeth eu casgliadau ar hyd-ddo; er, nid ydym wedi gweld rhai mor fanwl o'r blaen neu rai â chynifer o argymhellion cadarnhaol ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Yr wyf yn bryderus iawn ynghylch rhai o'r argymhellion hyn; fodd bynnag, nid yw'n bosibl i ddatganiad syml fel hwn fynd i hanner digon o fanylder, felly rhaid i hynny aros yn rhywbeth i Gynulliad arall. Rwy'n awyddus iawn i bwysleisio fy mhryder ynglŷn â'r casgliad bod y canlyniadau yng nghyswllt llythrennedd yn broblematic ar bron bob cyfnod addysg, gan fod hynny'n gwbl sylfaenol i le yr ydym fel cenedl. Mae materion eraill parthed mathemateg a'r gwyddorau, bechgyn yn tangyflawni a materion sy'n gysylltiedig â chyrhaeddiad plant mewn gofal. Codwyd pob un o'r materion hynny gan Aelodau ymhob plaid dros y blynyddoedd ac mae'n dda eu gweld yn cael sylw haeddiannol yn yr adroddiad hwn.

Nodaf yr argymhelliad y dylai fod gan yr Adran Plant, Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau rôl hwyluso o ran polisi llythrennedd cenedlaethol, er enghraifft, ac o ran nifer o fentrau eraill ar ystadegau ac arwain ar bolisi. Byddai hynny'n beth da iawn, ond byddwn yn rhybuddio bod gwahaniaeth rhwng hwyluso ac arwain ar lefel strategol a rheoli'n orfanwl. Mae'n bwysig nad yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cael ei dal yn yr un magl â Llywodraeth Lafur y DU a darparu llawer gormod o gyfarwyddyd i ysgolion—5,000 tudalen y llynedd yn unig. Mae'r Llywodraeth yma bob amser wedi osgoi'r fagl honno. Felly, Weinidog, mae'n bwysig bod y rôl arweiniol honno'n parhau'n strategol ac nid yw'n cynnwys y manylion beunyddiol, oherwydd rhaid gadael y rôl broffesiynol i'r athro.

teacher.

3.45 p.m.

I note the four regional consortia and, clearly, co-operation and collaboration is an extremely good idea. As someone who was in local government in 1995, I thought that it was completely crazy that local government crumbled into these small units and proceeded to reinvent 22 directors of education and, even more worryingly, 22 units within local education authorities dealing, for example, with what were then called special needs. That co-operation is welcome, but perhaps you could tell us how you are going to ensure sensitivity within those consortia to deal with what will be very contrasting situations from one part of the region to another. Schools in inner-city Cardiff have very different problems to those in rural areas on the edge of the consortium of which Cardiff will be part.

I welcome strongly the identification of additional learning needs at an early stage and the emphasis that the report puts on that. I recently visited a college where my attention was drawn to the fact that they pick up dozens of young people every year who should have had a statement—they have gone all the way through school, up to the age of 16, without additional learning support. It is important that we put in place systems that deal with that at a much earlier age.

I welcome the more systematic use of data, but I caution you, Minister: if you collect all your data together in a systematic way, people turn them into league tables. I am sure that you are prepared for that, but it will happen. As part of the data that you collect, are you planning to use much more widely the comparison figures that exist from one school to another with similar catchment areas and demographics? That information is available in an anonymised form to individual school governors, but it is not widely disseminated. Therefore, parents find it difficult to compare their school, which may seem to be doing reasonably well and might seem to be improving, with others. They cannot always work out whether it is

Nodaf y pedwar consortiwm rhanbarthol ac, yn amlwg, mae cydweithio a chydweithredu yn syniad eithriadol o dda. A minnau'n un a oedd mewn llywodraeth leol yn 1995, cwbl wallgof yn fy nhyb i oedd briwio llywodraeth leol yn unedau bach, gan fwrw ymlaen i ailddyfeisio 22 cyfarwyddwyr addysg a, gan achosi hyd yn oed yn fwy o bryder, 22 o unedau o fewn awdurdodau addysg lleol yn ymdrin, er enghraifft, â'r hyn a alwyd ar yr adeg honno yn anghenion arbennig. Mae'r cydweithredu hwnnw i'w groesawu, ond efallai y gallech ddweud wrthym sut y byddwch yn sicrhau sensitifrwydd o fewn y consortia i drin sefyllfaoedd a fydd yn dra gwahanol yn rhannau gwahanol o'r rhanbarth. Mae gan ysgolion yng nghanol dinas Caerdydd broblemau gwahanol iawn i'r rhai mewn ardaloedd gwledig ar ymyl y consortiwm y bydd Caerdydd yn rhan ohono.

Yr wyf yn croesawu yn gadarn bod anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn cael eu nodi'n gynnar a phwyslais yr adroddiad ar hynny. Yn ddiweddar, ymwelais â choleg lle tynnwyd fy sylw at y ffaith eu bod yn darganfod dwsinau o bobl ifanc bob blwyddyn a ddylai fod wedi cael datganiad—maent wedi mynd yr holl ffordd drwy'r ysgol, hyd at 16 oed, heb gymorth dysgu ychwanegol. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn sefydlu systemau sy'n delio â hynny ar oedran iau o lawer.

Yr wyf yn croesawu'r defnydd mwy systematig o ddata, ond yr wyf yn eich rhybuddio, Weinidog: os ydych yn casglu eich holl ddata gyda'i gilydd mewn ffordd systematig, bydd pobl yn eu troi'n dablau cynghrair. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn barod ar gyfer hynny, ond bydd yn digwydd. Fel rhan o'r data yr ydych yn eu casglu, a ydych yn bwriadu defnyddio'r ffigurau sy'n bodoli sy'n cymharu un ysgol ag un arall gyda dalgylchoedd a demograffeg tebyg yn llawer ehangach? Mae'r wybodaeth honno ar gael mewn ffurf ddienw i lywodraethwyr ysgol unigol, ond nid yw'n cael ei lledaenu'n eang. Felly, mae rhieni yn ei chael yn anodd cymharu eu hysgol, a all ymddangos fel pe bai'n gwneud yn weddol dda ac fel pe bai yn

doing as well as it could, given its intake. I would like your comments on the use of those data.

I strongly welcome recommendation 25 on ensuring that money goes directly to schools. I put in a plug here for the need for a pupil premium for those pupils who come from the poorest homes, to ensure that they are able to achieve fully. I note that, in other respects, the report rather skirts around the issue of funding; clearly, that was off-limits in this report.

Finally, I refer to the report's conclusions on DCELLS staff and the very critical comments there, particularly in relation to the further education sector. I welcome the recommendation that the planned new unit be staffed with people with recent education experience. I want to emphasise, Minister, that it has been a recurrent theme for years, when you talk to schools and colleges, that they are concerned about the distance of civil servants from the front-line practice of education. I know that there are some notable exceptions—secondments and so on—but I would advise you that, if the Assembly Government is to take a much more hands-on role in education, and if schools and colleges are to accept that, confidence in the Government department that is doing the work is absolutely essential.

Leighton Andrews: Llywydd, I commissioned this report, and I expected it to be challenging. It has gone into considerable detail across the whole of the system. I set particular challenges to the task and finish group when I met it at the outset. It has fulfilled those challenges well. It has focused throughout on the big challenge facing us on attainment and literacy, and it has not pulled its punches. I welcome what it has had to say. As I explained in answer to the Conservative spokesperson, the director general has led a reorganisation of the department since being appointed and there is a clear focus now on ministerial priorities, and we have a more integrated department as a result. We have also dealt with the issues to do with ensuring that we have the presence of recent

gwella, gydag eraill. Ni allant bob amser weithio allan p'un a yw'n gwneud cystal ag y gallai, o ystyried y disgyblion y mae'n eu derbyn. Hoffwn gael eich sylwadau ar y defnydd o'r data hynny.

Yr wyf yn croesawu'n arw argymhelliad 25 ar sicrhau bod arian yn mynd yn uniongyrchol at ysgolion. Yr wyf yn rhoi hys-bÿs yma am yr angen am breimiwm disgybl ar gyfer y disgyblion hynny sy'n dod o'r cartrefi tlotaf, er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn gallu cyflawni yn llawn. Nodaf fod yr adroddiad yn mynd heibio ariannu braidd; yn amlwg, yr oedd yn fater a oedd o dan waharddiad yn yr adroddiad hwn.

Yn olaf, cyfeirir at gasgliadau'r adroddiad ar staff APADGOS a'r sylwadau beirniadol iawn yno, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â'r sector addysg bellach. Yr wyf yn croesawu'r argymhelliad bod yr uned newydd arfaethedig yn cael ei staffio gan bobl sydd â phrofiad diweddar o addysg. Yr wyf am bwysleisio, Weinidog, ei bod wedi bod yn thema reolaidd am flynyddoedd, pan fyddwch yn siarad ag ysgolion a cholegau, eu bod yn pryderu am bellter gweision sifil oddi wrth waith rheng flaen mewn addysg. Gwn fod yna rai eithriadau nodedig—secondiadau ac yn y blaen—ond buaswn yn eich cynghori, os bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cymryd rhan llawer mwy ymarferol mewn addysg, ac os yw ysgolion a cholegau i dderbyn hynny, mae hyder yn adran y Llywodraeth sy'n gwneud y gwaith yn gwbl hanfodol.

Leighton Andrews: Lywydd, comisiynais yr adroddiad hwn, a disgwyliais iddo fod yn heriol. Mae wedi manylu yn sylweddol ar draws y system gyfan. Gosodais heriau penodol i'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen pan wneuthum ei gyfarfod ar y cychwyn. Mae wedi cyflawni'r heriau hynny yn dda. Mae wedi canolbwyntio drwy gydol y broses ar yr her fawr sy'n ein hwynebu ar gyrhaeddiad a llythrennedd, ac nid ymatalodd. Yr wyf yn croesawu'r hyn y mae wedi ei ddweud. Fel yr eglurais wrth ateb llefarydd y Ceidwadwyr, mae'r cyfarwyddwr cyffredinol wedi arwain ad-drefnu'r adran ers cael ei benodi ac mae ffocws clir bellach ar flaenoriaethau gweiniogol. Mae gennym adran fwy integredig o ganlyniad. Yr ydym hefyd wedi ymdrin â'r materion yn ymwneud â sicrhau

participants in the education system.

I very much agree with what she said about the restructuring of local government in the 1990s. I have said before that I would not have invented 22 local education authorities. The fragmentation of education in the 1990s has, over the years, contributed to the challenges that we have had in Wales. That is why it is important that we see the moves towards the regional consortia now taking practical shape, and that we see real engagement taking place among local authorities and political buy-in at a leadership level. I understand what she says about sensitivity between different regions, but the big challenge that we have is less an issue of between-school variation than one of in-school variation in terms of performance. That is clear from the figures that we have. She is right to draw attention to the fact that the schools system is not picking up young people who have additional learning needs, and is not addressing fundamental issues of literacy. Too many further education colleges are having to tackle a backlog of literacy issues when young people reach post-16 provision.

In respect of data, we have made available family of schools data, which compare schools that are like one another. Those data have been made available through the professional learning communities as a result of our school effectiveness framework. I have now made it clear that the data have to be considered by school governing bodies or they will not pass Estyn inspections, so those data have to be shared by headteachers with their school governing bodies. We do not intend to publish league tables, but I have said before publicly, and I will say it again: you cannot uninvent the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Data are published, and can be compiled by anyone, and they can be compiled by journalists in the form of league tables if they want to do so. I am sure that some may wish to do that, just as *The Sunday Times* does in England. However, we will not be publishing crude league tables based on public examination results. We will put in place a sophisticated system that is

bod gennym bresenoldeb cyfranogwyr diweddar yn y system addysg.

Yr wyf yn cytuno â'r hyn a ddywedodd hi ynghylch ailstrwythuro llywodraeth leol yn y 1990au. Yr wyf wedi dweud o'r blaen na fuaswn wedi dyfeisio 22 awdurdod addysg lleol. Mae darnio addysg yn y 1990au wedi cyfrannu, dros y blynyddoedd, at yr heriau yr ydym wedi'u cael yng Nghymru. Dyna pam ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn gweld y symud tuag at y consortia rhanbarthol bellach yn cymryd siâp ymarferol, a'n bod yn gweld ymgysylltiad go iawn yn digwydd ymhlith awdurdodau lleol a phrynu i mewn yn wleidyddol ymysg arweinwyr. Yr wyf yn deall yr hyn y mae hi'n ei ddweud am sensitifrwydd rhwng rhanbarthau gwahanol, ond nid mater o amrywiaeth rhwng ysgolion yw ein her fawr yn gymaint â mater o amrywiaeth o fewn ysgol o ran perfformiad. Mae hynny'n amlwg o'r ffigurau sydd gennym. Mae hi'n iawn i dynnu sylw at y ffaith nad yw'r system ysgolion yn darganfod pobl ifanc sydd ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, ac nad yw'n mynd i'r afael â materion sylfaenol o lythrennedd. Mae gormod o golegau addysg bellach yn gorfod mynd i'r afael ag ôl-groniad o faterion llythrennedd pan fydd pobl ifanc yn cyrraedd darpariaeth ôl-16.

O ran data, yr ydym wedi gwneud data ar deuluoedd o ysgolion ar gael, sy'n cymharu ysgolion sy'n debyg i'w gilydd. Mae'r cyfryw ddata wedi cael eu gwneud ar gael drwy'r cymunedau dysgu proffesiynol o ganlyniad i'n fframwaith effeithiolrwydd ysgolion. Yr wyf bellach wedi gwneud yn glir bod yn rhaid i gyrff llywodraethu ysgolion ystyried y data, neu ni fyddant yn pasio arolygiadau Estyn, felly mae'n rhaid i bennaethiaid rannu'r cyfryw ddata gyda chyrrff llywodraethu eu hysgolion. Nid ydym yn bwriadu cyhoeddi tablau cynghrair, ond yr wyf wedi dweud o'r blaen yn gyhoeddus, ac fe'i dywedaf eto: ni allwch ddad-ddyfeisio Deddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000. Mae data yn cael eu cyhoeddi, a gellir eu hel at ei gilydd gan unrhyw un, a gellir eu hel at ei gilydd gan newyddiadurwyr ar ffurf tablau cynghrair os ydynt yn dymuno gwneud hynny. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd rhai yn dymuno gwneud hynny, yn union fel *The Sunday Times* yn Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, ni

about the banding of schools, and that ensures that, by working with local authorities and consortia, we can drive up performance throughout Wales.

fyddwn yn cyhoeddi tablau cynghrair bras wedi'u seilio ar ganlyniadau arholiadau cyhoeddus. Byddwn yn sefydlu system soffistigedig ynghylch bandio ysgolion, a bydd hynny'n sicrhau, drwy weithio gydag awdurdodau lleol a chonsortia, y gallwn wella perfformiad yng Nghymru benbaladr.

**Cynnig i Gymeradwyo'r Gorchymyn Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 (Cychwyn Deddfau'r Cynulliad, Darpariaethau Trosiannol ac Arbed ac Addasiadau) 2011
Motion to Approve the Government of Wales Act 2006 (Commencement of Assembly Act Provisions, Transitional and Saving Provisions and Modifications)
Order 2011**

Cynnig NDM4708 Jane Hutt

Motion NDM4708 Jane Hutt

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru; yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 24.4:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales; in accordance with Standing Order 24.4:

Yn cymeradwyo bod y fersiwn drafft o'r Gorchymyn Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 (Cychwyn Darpariaethau Deddfau'r Cynulliad, Darpariaethau Trosiannol ac Arbed ac Addasiadau) 2011 yn cael ei lunio yn unol â'r fersiwn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Mawrth 2011.

Approves that the draft Government of Wales Act 2006 (Commencement of Assembly Act Provisions, Transitional and Saving Provisions and Modifications) Order 2011 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 8 March 2011.

The First Minister: This commencement Order, which is required under section 105 of the Government of Wales Act 2006, represents the last significant piece of legislation that is required to give effect to the 'yes' referendum result. This Welsh Ministers' Order sets out the coming into force date of the Assembly Act provisions, namely 5 May. That means that the Assembly that is elected in May will be able to consider Assembly Bills from the outset. Provision to save Assembly Measures that are approved by this Assembly before dissolution are also covered by the commencement Order. If it is approved, it will allow Assembly Measures to go to Privy Council for Her Majesty's approval to become law after 5 May.

Y Prif Weinidog: Y darn sylweddol olaf o ddeddfwriaeth sydd ei angen i roi canlyniad 'ie' y refferendwm ar waith yw'r Gorchymyn cychwyn hwn, sy'n ofynnol o dan adran 105 Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006. Mae'r Gorchymyn hwn gan Weinidogion Cymru yn nodi'r dyddiad y bydd darpariaethau Deddfau'r Cynulliad yn dod i rym, sef 5 Mai. Golyga hynny y bydd y Cynulliad sy'n cael ei ethol ym mis Mai yn gallu ystyried Biliau'r Cynulliad o'r cychwyn cyntaf. Mae darpariaeth i arbed Mesurau'r Cynulliad a gymeradwyir gan y Cynulliad hwn cyn y diddymu yn cael ei chwmpasu gan y Gorchymyn cychwyn. Os caiff ei gymeradwyo, bydd yn caniatáu i Filiau'r Cynulliad fynd i'r Cyfrin Gyngor ar gyfer cymeradwyaeth Ei Mawrhydi i ddod yn gyfraith ar ôl 5 Mai.

The Order also makes changes to legislation that are appropriate following the coming into force of the Assembly Act provisions. The Government of Wales Act 2006 is amended to provide clear arrangements for the creation of an official print and copy of

Mae'r Gorchymyn hefyd yn gwneud y newidiadau priodol i ddeddfwriaeth yn sgil rhoi darpariaethau Deddfau'r Cynulliad ar waith. Mae Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 yn cael ei diwygio i ddarparu trefniadau clir ar gyfer creu print a chopi swyddogol o

an Assembly Act. The official prints of the Assembly Acts and the associated Letters Patent will also be preserved in Wales by the National Library of Wales for current and future generations to see.

Further amendments to legislation are made in the commencement Order. Where pieces of legislation refer to Assembly Measures but need to refer to Assembly Acts, and where it is appropriate to do so, they will be amended. Where there is reference to Assembly Measures in previous legislation, that needs to be updated, given that Acts will be the appropriate form of legislation after May.

Bydd y Gorchymyn cychwyn hwn yn rhoi canlyniad y refferendwm ar waith. O'r herwydd, cynigiaf y cynnig.

Rhodri Morgan: As my political career will be coming to an end later this week, I am grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to the discussion of this Order, because it is not just a discussion about a legislative change; there is an enormous psychological change, signified by the ability to pass this Order. Given its unbelievably difficult start, you could almost write an entire midwifery textbook on the back of the Assembly's birth pangs back in 1997, 1998 and 1999.

Felly, arwyddocâd y bleidlais 'ie' ar ddechrau'r mis hwn oedd bod lefel yr hyder, yr ymddiriedaeth a'r ddealltwriaeth o ran swyddogaeth y corff hwn wedi codi'n syfrdanol, yn enwedig yn ochr ddwyreiniol Cymru. Dyna sydd wedi rhoi'r hwb i symud datganoli yn ei flaen, er mwyn i Gymru gael, am y tro cyntaf, gorff deddfu cyflawn.

We have a fully-fledged devolved legislature for Wales. So, is it 'job done'? Well, no. It may be for me, of course, so it is certainly a fitting time for me to step off the train before it accelerates away from the legislative station—whether it will be hauled by an electric or diesel loco, we do not know yet. Is it 'job done' in other ways? In some ways, it is pretty good; I think that the quality of life in Wales is second to none. We have survived the worst recession since the 1930s

Ddeddf y Cynulliad. Bydd printiau swyddogol Deddfau'r Cynulliad a'r Patent Llythyrau cysylltiedig hefyd yn cael eu cadw yng Nghymru gan Lyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru fel y gall cenedlaethau'r presennol a'r dyfodol eu gweld.

Gwneir diwygiadau pellach i ddeddfwriaeth yn y Gorchymyn cychwyn. Lle mae darnau o ddeddfwriaeth yn cyfeirio at Fesurau'r Cynulliad ond mae angen iddynt gyfeirio at Ddeddfau'r Cynulliad, a lle mae'n briodol gwneud hynny, byddant yn cael eu diwygio. Lle ceir cyfeiriad at Fesurau'r Cynulliad mewn deddfwriaeth flaenorol, bydd angen ei diweddarau, gan mai Deddfau a fydd y ffurf briodol o ddeddfwriaeth ar ôl mis Mai.

This commencement Order will enact the referendum result. For that reason, I move the motion.

Rhodri Morgan: Gan y bydd fy ngyrfa wleidyddol yn dod i ben yn ddiweddarach yr wythnos hon, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am gael y cyfle i gyfrannu at y drafodaeth ar y Gorchymyn hwn, oherwydd nid trafodaeth am newid deddfwriaethol yw yn unig; ceir newid seicolegol enfawr, a ddynodir gan y gallu i basio'r Gorchymyn hwn. O ystyried ei ddechrau anhygoel o anodd, bron na allech ysgrifennu gwerslyfr bydwreigiaeth cyfan yn sgil gwewyr genedigaeth y Cynulliad yn ôl ym 1997, 1998 a 1999.

So, the significance of the 'yes' vote at the beginning of this month was that the level of confidence, trust and understanding with regard to this institution's work has risen enormously, particularly in eastern Wales. That is the springboard that has taken devolution forward, so that Wales, for the first time, has a full legislative body.

Mae gennym ddeddfwrfa ddatganoledig lawn ar gyfer Cymru. Felly, ai dyna ddiwedd y gwaith? Wel, na. Efallai mai felly y mae i mi, wrth gwrs, felly mae'n sicr yn amser addas i mi gamu oddi ar y trê'n cyn iddo gyflymu i ffwrdd oddi wrth yr orsaf ddeddfwriaethol—p'un ai y bydd yn cael ei dynnu gan loco trydan neu ddisel, nid ydym yn gwybod eto. Ai dyna ddiwedd y gwaith mewn ffyrdd eraill? Mewn rhai ffyrdd, mae'n sefyllfa eithaf da; credaf fod ansawdd bywyd yng

in remarkably resilient shape, it seems to me, given the exceedingly difficult circumstances we have had. Investment in the twenty-first century will ultimately flow to where the quality of life is highest, where the skills and infrastructure, including financial infrastructure, are of the best, and where the brightest and best entrepreneurs want to live and locate their businesses. On skills and infrastructure, you can look at the figures for apprenticeships, or you can look to our universities, some of which now have Nobel prize-winners on their staff. You can look at the success of the ProAct and ReAct schemes, or at the voluntary sector, which contributes so much to the richness of our community life—I will just pick out a few examples: there is the Venture in Wrexham, and Valleys Kids in the Rhondda. From my constituency, there is Chapter, which will celebrate its fortieth anniversary next year—I was in at the birth of that—and Goodies in Hoodies, which is a new one. These are remarkable signs of really healthy community life and the good society—or the big society—already at work.

Examples of the ‘not so good’ include the PISA report, which we have just been discussing. That was a Sputnik moment for everybody involved in education, whether it is us, the 22 local education authorities, schools in Wales, Estyn or the teacher training colleges. We do not wish to engage in breast-beating about the PISA report; we want to find out what it is that New Zealand and Finland and Canada are doing better than us, then pinch it and do it better than them next time around.

Do I have any other regrets? When we brought in free prescriptions, I wish now that we had done what Finland did some 10 or 15 years ago, which was to have competitions for the fittest village in Wales, or even the fittest Valley—they do not have valleys in Finland, but they have those competitions—and perhaps we could have introduced them when we brought in free prescriptions had I really tried to drive the idea through. It would not have been easy, but they have done it in Finland and I cannot see why we could not

Nghymru heb ei ail. Yr ydym wedi goroesi'r dirwasgiad gwaethaf ers y 1930au mewn cyflwr hynod o wydn, fe ymddengys i mi, o ystyried yr amgylchiadau hynod anodd yr ydym wedi'u cael. Bydd buddsoddi yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain yn y pen draw yn llifo i le mae ansawdd bywyd ar ei uchaf, lle mae'r sgiliau a seilwaith, gan gynnwys seilwaith ariannol, ymhlith y gorau, a lle mae'r entrepreneuriaid disgleiriaf a gorau am fyw a lleoli eu busnesau. Ar sgiliau a seilwaith, gallwch edrych ar y ffigurau ar gyfer prentisiaethau, neu gallwch edrych ar ein prifysgolion, a rhai ohonynt erbyn hyn ag enillwyr gwobr Nobel ar eu staff. Gallwch edrych ar lwyddiant y cynlluniau ProAct a ReAct, neu'r sector gwirfoddol, sy'n cyfrannu cymaint at gyfoeth ein bywyd cymunedol—dewisaf ychydig o enghreifftiau: mae y Fentur yn Wrecsam, a Phlant y Cymoedd yn y Rhondda. Yn f'etholaeth, mae Chapter, a fydd yn dathlu ei phen-blwydd yn 40 flwyddyn nesaf—bûm yn dyst i'w genedigaeth—a Goodies in Hoodies, sydd yn un newydd. Mae'r rhain yn arwyddion rhyfeddol o fywyd cymunedol iach iawn ac o'r gymdeithas dda—neu'r gymdeithas fawr—eisoes ar waith.

Mae enghreifftiau sydd ‘ddim cystal’ yn cynnwys yr adroddiad PISA yr ydym newydd ei drafod. Yr oedd hwnnw yn foment Sputnik ar gyfer pawb sy'n ymwneud ag addysg, boed hynny yn ni, y 22 awdurdod addysg lleol, ysgolion yng Nghymru, Estyn neu'r colegau hyfforddi athrawon. Nid ydym yn dymuno cymryd rhan mewn curo'n mynwes am adroddiad PISA; yr ydym eisiau gwybod beth mae Seland Newydd, y Ffindir a Chanada yn ei wneud yn well na ni, ei ddwgyd a'i wneud yn well na nhw'r tro nesaf.

A wyf yn gresynu unrhyw beth arall? Pan wnaethom gyflwyno presgripsiynau am ddim, hoffwn yn awr ein bod wedi gwneud yr hyn a wnaeth y Ffindir tua 10 neu 15 mlynedd yn ôl, sef cynnal cystadlaethau ar gyfer y pentref mwyaf heini yng Nghymru, neu hyd yn oed y Cwm mwyaf heini—nid oes ganddynt gymoedd yn y Ffindir, ond mae ganddynt y cystadlaethau hynny—ac efallai y gallem fod wedi eu cyflwyno pan wnaethom gyflwyno'r presgripsiynau am ddim pe bawn i wir wedi ceisio gyrru'r syniad hwnnw. Ni

have done it here. We were not strategic enough in the first half of the Objective 1 programme in 2000-03, nor did we push local government hard enough on the Beecham agenda.

Then, of course, on funding the Assembly, I made a speech in the 1998 House of Commons discussion that led to the Government of Wales Act 1998, saying that, for devolution to be sustainable, you must have two things: you must have a proper resource allocation formula, and you must have a proper disputes resolution process. We do not yet have either. I do not think that it is an insuperable job, however. Think of how the Government in Westminster accepted the verdict of the Office for National Statistics over the private finance initiative; it did not quarrel with that verdict, it simply said to the ONS, which is an independent parliamentary body, 'Okay, whatever you say' on whether the debts under the PFI schemes should be included on the balance sheet or left off it. The Government wanted them off the balance sheet, but the ONS ruled that they should be on the balance sheet, and the Government accepted that. If the Government can accept that verdict, despite the fact that all UK Governments have traditionally thought of themselves as being absolutely sovereign, it shows that it can accept somebody else's verdict—the Government did over PFI, so there is no reason why a variant of the ONS could not have been brought in to rule, as the Commonwealth Grants Commission does in disputes over federal funding versus state funding in Australia. Alternatively, some variant of the Privy Council could be brought in.

4.00 p.m.

However, we need this. We were operating on Barnett plus for a lot of the Objective 1 period. However, when the Olympics came along—I know that it only comes along once every 50 years—it was a minus. There was therefore a subtraction from Barnett plus because of the way in which the Olympic

fuasai wedi bod yn hawdd, ond maent wedi gwneud hynny yn y Ffindir ac ni allaf weld pam na allem fod wedi gwneud hynny yma. Nid oeddem yn ddigon strategol yn ystod hanner cyntaf y rhaglen Amcan 1 yn 2000-03, ac ni wnaethom wthio llywodraeth leol yn ddigon caled ar agenda Beecham.

Yna, wrth gwrs, ar gyllid y Cynulliad, gwneuthum araith yn nhrafodaeth Tŷ'r Cyffredin ym 1998 a arweiniodd at Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, gan ddweud, er mwyn i ddatganoli fod yn gynaliadwy, rhaid wrth ddau beth: mae'n rhaid wrth fformiwla dyrannu adnoddau priodol, a rhaid wrth broses datrys anghydfodau priodol. Nid oes gennym yr un ohonynt eto. Nid wyf yn credu ei bod yn waith anorchfygol, fodd bynnag. Meddyliwch am sut dderbyniodd y Llywodraeth yn San Steffan ddyfarniad y Swyddfa Ystadegau Cenedlaethol am fenter cyllid preifat: nid oedd yn cweryla â'r dyfarniad hwnnw, yn syml, dywedodd wrth y swyddfa ystadegau, sy'n gorff seneddol annibynnol, 'Iawn, beth bynnag a ddywedwch' ynghylch a ddylai'r dyledion o dan y cynlluniau PFI gael eu cynnwys ar y fantolen neu eu gadael oddi arno. Yr oedd y Llywodraeth eisiau eu tynnu oddi ar y fantolen, ond dyfarnodd y swyddfa ystadegau y dylent fod ar y fantolen, a derbyniodd y Llywodraeth hynny. Os gall y Llywodraeth dderbyn y dyfarniad hwnnw, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod holl Lywodraethau'r DU wedi ystyried yn draddodiadol eu bod yn hollol sofran, dengys y gall dderbyn dyfarniad rhywun arall—dyna wnaeth y Llywodraeth gyda PFI, felly nid oes unrhyw reswm pam na ellid dwyn amrywiad ar y swyddfa ystadegau i mewn i reoli, fel y gwna Comisiwn Grantiau'r Gymanwlad ar anghydfodau ynghylch ariannu ffederal yn erbyn ariannu'r wladwriaeth yn Awstralia. Fel arall, gallai rhyw amrywiad ar y Cyfrin Gyngor gael ei dwyn i mewn.

Fodd bynnag, mae angen hyn arnom. Yr oeddem yn gweithredu ar Barnett plws yn ystod llawer o gyfnod Amcan 1. Fodd bynnag, pan ddaeth y Gemau Olympaidd—gwn fod hyn ond yn digwydd unwaith bob 50 mlynedd—yr oedd yn finws. Felly tynnwyd oddi wrth Barnett plws oherwydd y ffordd y

Games were structured, quite wrongly in my view, as regards the legacy expenditure—not so much the sports stadia and so on, but the expenditure on transport and urban regeneration. The logical conclusion is that the United Kingdom will have to move to a written constitution at some point, perhaps after my time. I would like to think that that might happen before I pop my clogs, and certainly within the next 10 years. A written constitution would then enshrine the disputes resolution mechanism and the resource allocation formula. I will finish on a line of English poetry that I loved reciting at junior school:

‘For men may come and men may go, but I go on forever.’

I sometimes go on forever, I know. [*Laughter.*] The lines are about a brook. The significance is that politicians may come and politicians may go, but institutions such as this go on forever and develop. That is the key. I am hoping that we can adapt that phraseology to say that this institution will go on forever and go on developing forever, so that it can continue to provide an ever better service for the people of Wales. I am enormously grateful for having been in at the founding of it in 1999 and now bowing out in 2011, 12 years later.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr iawn, Rhodri.

Kirsty Williams: On behalf of the Liberal Democrat group, I begin by wishing Rhodri Morgan well in his retirement outside this building. I suspect that it will not be a quiet retirement or one that is free of politics. Rhodri, I would like to put on record our thanks to you for the public service that you have given Wales.

Rhodri Morgan: I should put on record the fact that had it not been for you and one or two others in your party, I do not think I would have been in a position to be First Minister again in 2007. I should have mentioned that in my speech as well. [*Laughter.*]

Kirsty Williams: Well, I am sure that

cafodd y Gemau Olympaidd eu strwythuro, yn eithaf anghywir yn fy marn i, o ran y gwariant gwaddol—nid yn gymaint y stadia chwaraeon ac yn y blaen, ond y gwariant ar drafnidiaeth ac adfywio trefol. Y casgliad rhesymegol yw y bydd y Deyrnas Unedig yn gorfod symud i gyfansoddiad ysgrifenedig ar ryw bwynt, efallai ar ôl fy amser i. Hoffwn feddwl y gallai hynny ddigwydd cyn i mi farw, ac yn sicr o fewn y 10 mlynedd nesaf. Byddai cyfansoddiad ysgrifenedig yn gwarchod y mecanwaith datrys anghydfodau a'r fformiwla dyrannu adnoddau. Yr wyf am gloi ar linell o farddoniaeth Saesneg yr oeddwn wrth fy modd yn ei adrodd yn yr ysgol iau:

Canys bydd dynion yn mynd a dynion yn dod, ond af i ymlaen am byth.

Weithiau byddaf yn mynd ymlaen am byth, fe wn. [*Chwerthin.*] Mae'r llinellau am nant. Eu harwyddocâd yw y gall gwleidyddion fynd a dod, ond mae sefydliadau fel hyn yn mynd ymlaen am byth ac yn datblygu. Dyna'r allwedd. Yr wyf yn gobeithio y gallwn addasu'r geiriau hynny i ddweud y bydd y sefydliad hwn yn mynd ymlaen am byth ac yn mynd ymlaen i ddatblygu am byth, fel y gall barhau i ddarparu gwasanaeth gwell fyth i bobl Cymru. Yr wyf yn hynod o ddiolchgar am gael bod yn bresennol pan y'i sefydlwyd ym 1999 ac i gael ymadael yn 2011, 12 mlynedd yn ddiweddarach.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you, Rhodri.

Kirsty Williams: Ar ran grŵp y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, dechreuaf drwy ddymuno'n dda i Rhodri Morgan yn ei ymddeoliad y tu allan i'r adeilad hwn. Yr wyf yn amau na fydd yn ymddeoliad tawel nac yn un sy'n rhydd o wleidyddiaeth. Rhodri, hoffwn gofnodi ein diolch i chi am eich gwasanaeth cyhoeddus dros Gymru.

Rhodri Morgan: Dylwn ddweud ar goedd nad wyf yn meddwl, oni bai amdanoch chi ac un neu ddau arall yn eich plaid, y byddwn wedi bod mewn sefyllfa i fod yn Brif Weinidog eto yn 2007. Dylwn fod wedi crybwyll hynny yn fy araith yn ogystal. [*Chwerthin.*]

Kirsty Williams: Wel, yr wyf yn siŵr y

collective memoirs in years to come will recount the infamous meetings at the service station in Sarn. They will also recall the infamous meeting of Liberal Democrat Assembly Members on the first floor, while there was a waiting party on the fifth floor, and our departure to a curry house in Canton, in your own constituency. Those events played a part in putting you in that position. I guess that it is timely for me to acknowledge the huge support that you gave Michael German when he was the Deputy First Minister and had to step down from the Cabinet during those difficult times. The personal support that you gave him at that time is a testament to how you have always approached politics here in Wales and during your time as an MP in Westminster. We remember that on these benches.

It is absolutely appropriate that we should finish this week by passing the Order before us. It puts in place the final steps that we can take collectively, as Assembly Members, to put in place a structure for the new Assembly to come in in May and have a much more comprehensive range of tools in the now famous toolbox to allow Members to get on with the job in May. I am grateful that we had an opportunity to resolve these issues prior to the formation of the new Assembly. It is right that Members should be able to start from that position without having to wait for a referendum. I very much look forward to seeing how the devolution journey continues from this point. As Rhodri Morgan has just said, this institution will continue to evolve and develop, just as we have evolved and developed over the last 12 years. The Liberal Democrats are delighted to support this Order this afternoon.

Y Llywydd: Yn ysbryd y ddadl hon, galwaf ar y Parchedig Rhodri Glyn Thomas.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Diolch yn fawr, Arglwydd Lywydd. Mae'n braf cael cyfle i gyfrannu at y drafodaeth hon. Yr wyf eto, ar ran Plaid Cymru, yn croesawu'r Gorchymyn

bydd cofiannau ar y cyd mewn blynyddoedd i ddod yn adrodd am y cyfarfodydd enwog yn yr orsaf gwasanaeth yn Sarn. Byddant hefyd yn dwyn i gof y cyfarfod enwog o Aelodau'r Cynulliad y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol ar y llawr cyntaf, tra bu parti yn aros amdanom ar y pumed llawr, ac am ein hymadawiad i dŷ cyri yn Nhreganna, yn eich etholaeth chi. Gwnaeth y digwyddiadau hynny chwarae rhan yn eich rhoi chi yn y sefyllfa honno. Tybiaf ei bod yn amserol imi gydnabod y gefnogaeth enfawr a roddasoch i Michael German pan oedd yn Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog ac yn gorfod camu i lawr o'r Cabinet yn ystod y cyfnod anodd hwnnw. Mae'r gefnogaeth bersonol a roesoch iddo ar y pryd yn dyst i'r ffordd yr ydych bob amser wedi ymgymryd â gwleidyddiaeth yma yng Nghymru a phan oeddech yn AS yn San Steffan. Yr ydym yn cofio hynny ar y meinciau hyn.

Mae'n gwbl briodol inni orffen yr wythnos hon gan basio'r Gorchymyn sydd ger ein bron. Mae'n rhoi ar waith y camau terfynol y gallwn eu cymryd ar y cyd, fel Aelodau'r Cynulliad, i sefydlu strwythur ar gyfer y Cynulliad newydd a fydd yn dod i mewn ym mis Mai gydag ystod llawer mwy cynhwysfawr o offer yn y blwch offer, sydd bellach yn enwog, er mwyn caniatáu i Aelodau fwrw ymlaen â'r gwaith ym mis Mai. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ein bod wedi cael cyfle i ddatrys y materion hyn cyn ffurfio'r Cynulliad newydd. Mae'n iawn y bydd Aelodau yn gallu cychwyn o'r sefyllfa honno heb orfod aros am refferendwm. Edrychaf ymlaen yn fawr at weld sut bydd taith datganoli yn parhau o'r pwynt hwn. Fel mae Rhodri Morgan newydd ei ddweud, bydd y sefydliad hwn yn parhau i esblygu a datblygu, yn union fel yr ydym wedi esblygu a datblygu dros y 12 mlynedd diwethaf. Mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn falch iawn i gefnogi'r Gorchymyn hwn y prynhawn yma.

The Presiding Officer: In the spirit of this debate, I call on the Reverend Rhodri Glyn Thomas.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Thank you, Lord Presiding Officer. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to contribute to this debate. I, once again, on behalf of Plaid Cymru, greatly

hwn yn fawr. Croesawaf y refferendwm a gafwyd a'r canlyniad a gafwyd i'r refferendwm. Yr oedd llais Cymru yn gwbl glir. Gwelwyd holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn ymgyrchu o blaid pleidlais 'ie' yn y refferendwm, a chefnogwyd pleidlais 'ie' gan bob un sir ond un yng Nghymru. Wrth gyfeirio at hynny, rhoddaf glod i Nick Ramsay, a geisiodd sicrhau bleidlais 'ie' ym Mynwy. Yn wir, yr oedd y canlyniad yno yn glod iddo, ac i eraill a fu'n gweithio ar hynny ym Mynwy. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw y cafwyd llais Cymru yn un, yn y Siambr hon ac yng Nghymru gyfan. Peth braf yw cofnodi hynny a gweld y Gorchymyn hwn yn cael ei dderbyn gan y Cynulliad.

The First Minister: I join Kirsty in the remarks that she made about Rhodri. I have said many things on many occasions over the past few weeks about Rhodri. He has done so much for Wales over the past 12 years and before this institution was set up. He is someone who took this institution and its Government beyond some very choppy waters in 2000. Some of us who were here at the time remember that. Indeed, I think that if people had suggested to those of us who were Assembly Members at the beginning of the Assembly that, within quite a short space of time, we would move to a situation where there would be a formal separation between the Government and the legislature and where we would have full primary powers in the areas of responsibility that we have, we would have been amazed. We would have been further amazed at the idea that a referendum would be held on further powers for this institution and that there would be a 'yes' vote by a margin of nearly two to one. Back in 1999, not long after the wafer-thin majority that we achieved in the 1997 referendum, it would have seemed fanciful to have a referendum almost within a decade and achieve such a clear result. It would also have been a matter of amazement at that time that the trigger vote would go through the Assembly with a unanimous vote. I think that it is fair to say that there were many who came here in 1999 who were still sceptical about the need for an Assembly. Over time we know that all Members in the Chamber have seen the need for the Assembly. The difference is, of course, that we have different views as to how we move forward

welcome this Order. I welcome the referendum that was held and the result of the referendum. Wales's voice was completely clear. All Assembly Members were seen campaigning for a 'yes' vote in the referendum, and a 'yes' vote was supported by every county but one in Wales. In referring to that, I pay tribute to Nick Ramsay, who tried to ensure a 'yes' vote in Monmouth. Indeed, the result there was a testament to him and to others who worked on that in Monmouth. What is important is that Wales's voice was united, in this Chamber and in Wales as a whole. It is good to recognise that and to see this Order being approved by this Assembly.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ymuno â Kirsty yn y sylwadau a wnaeth am Rhodri. Yr wyf wedi dweud llawer o bethau ar sawl achlysur dros yr wythnosau diwethaf am Rhodri. Mae wedi gwneud cymaint dros Gymru dros y 12 mlynedd diwethaf a chyn i'r sefydliad hwn gael ei sefydlu. Mae'n rhywun a gymerodd y sefydliad hwn a'i Lywodraeth y tu hwnt i ddyfroedd garw iawn yn 2000. Mae rhai ohonom a oedd yma ar y pryd yn cofio hynny. Yn wir, credaf pe bai pobl wedi awgrymu i'r sawl ohonom a oedd yn Aelodau Cynulliad ar ddechrau'r Cynulliad y byddem, o fewn cyfnod eithaf byr o amser, yn symud i sefyllfa lle byddai gwahaniad ffurfiol rhwng y Llywodraeth a'r ddeddfwrfa a lle byddai gennym bwerau sylfaenol llawn yn y meysydd cyfrifoldeb sydd gennym, byddem yn syn. Byddem wedi cael ein synnu ymhellach gan y syniad y byddai refferendwm yn cael ei gynnal ar bwerau pellach i'r sefydliad hwn ac y byddai pleidlais 'ie' o bron i ddwy i un. Yn ôl ym 1999, yn fuan ar ôl y mwyafrif tenau iawn a enillasom yn refferendwm 1997, byddai wedi ymddangos yn ffansiol i gael refferendwm bron o fewn degawd gyda chanlyniad mor glir. Byddai hefyd wedi peri syndod ar y pryd y byddai'r bleidlais sbarduno yn mynd drwy'r Cynulliad yn unfrydol. Credaf ei bod yn deg dweud bod llawer a ddaeth yma ym 1999 dal yn amheus am yr angen am y Cynulliad. Dros amser, yr ydym yn gwybod bod yr holl Aelodau yn y Siambr wedi gweld yr angen am Gynulliad. Y gwahaniaeth yw, wrth gwrs, fod gennym safbwyntiau gwahanol ynglŷn â sut yr ydym yn symud ymlaen a sut y dylai'r Llywodraeth fwrw

and how the Government should take forward the views of the people of Wales over the next five years. I reiterate my request to the Assembly to pass this commencement Order and to put into place the clear and settled view of the people of Wales as expressed on 3 March.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i'r Prif Weinidog. Y cwestiwn yw ein bod yn cytuno ar y cynnig. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf nad oes. Felly, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn.

ymlaen safbwyntiau pobl Cymru dros y pum mlynedd nesaf. Ailadroddaf fy nghais i'r Cynulliad i basio'r Gorchymyn cychwyn hwn a rhoi ar waith barn glir a sefydlog pobl Cymru fel y'i mynegwyd ar 3 Mawrth.

The Presiding Officer: I thank the First Minister. The question is that the motion be agreed. Are there any objections? I see that there are none. Therefore, in accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motion is agreed.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd (Rosemary Butler) i'r Gadair am 4.08 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) took the Chair at 4.08 p.m.*

Cynnig i Gymeradwyo'r Rheoliadau Deddf Gwelyau Haul (Rheoleiddio) 2010 (Cymru) 2011

Motion to Approve the Sunbeds (Regulation) Act 2010 (Wales) Regulations 2011

Cynnig NDM4709 Jane Hutt

Motion NDM4709 Jane Hutt

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru; yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 24.4:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales; in accordance with Standing Order 24.4:

Yn cymeradwyo bod y fersiwn drafft o'r Rheoliadau Deddf Gwelyau Haul (Rheoleiddio) 2010 (Cymru) 2011 yn cael ei lunio yn unol â'r fersiwn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 7 Mawrth 2011.

Approves that the draft The Sunbeds (Regulation) Act 2010 (Wales) Regulations 2011 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 7 March 2011.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Edwina Hart): I move the motion.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Edwina Hart): Cynigiaf y cynnig.

These regulations are to be made under the Sunbeds (Regulation) Act 2010 and introduce tighter controls on sunbed use in Wales to support the primary controls introduced under the Act, which comes into force on 8 April. The introduction of legislative controls for Wales in respect of sunbed use has been a high priority and a firm commitment. This is of utmost importance to my intention to stop under-18s in Wales using sunbeds and to put an end to unsupervised sunbed salons in Wales. I am pleased that, by autumn this year, both of those intentions will be fully

Gwneir y rheoliadau hyn o dan y Ddeddf Gwelyau Haul (Rheoleiddio) 2010 gan gyflwyno rheolaethau llymach ar ddefnyddio gwelyau haul yng Nghymru i gefnogi'r rheolaethau sylfaenol a gyflwynwyd o dan y Ddeddf, a ddaw i rym ar 8 Ebrill. Mae cyflwyno rheolaethau deddfwriaethol ar gyfer Cymru mewn perthynas â defnyddio gwelyau haul wedi bod yn flaenoriaeth uchel ac yn ymrwymiad cadarn. Mae hyn o'r pwys mwyaf i'm bwriad i rwystro pobl o dan 18 oed yng Nghymru rhag defnyddio gwelyau haul a diddymu salonau gwelyau haul heb

achieved. The prevention of under-18s from using sunbeds from 8 April will be achieved through the introduction of the Sunbeds (Regulation) Act 2010, and the requirement for sunbed use in salons to be completely supervised from 31 October via the regulations before you today. The Sunbeds (Regulation) Act 2010 (Wales) Regulations 2011 will introduce further controls to prevent the use of sunbeds by under-18s in Wales. They will also introduce measures to reduce the public health risk to adults using sunbeds. The restrictions that will be introduced by these regulations aim to reduce the incidence of skin cancer and will require sunbed businesses to adhere to stricter controls across six specific areas, which include the supervision of sunbed use, the extension to businesses that operate from domestic premises the requirement that sunbeds are not used or offered for use to under-18s, the prohibition on the sale or hire of sunbeds to under-18s, the required provision of prescribed health information to users, the prohibition of provision or display of any material relating to the health effects of sunbed use other than material containing prescribed health information or relevant health and safety information, and mandating the availability to, and use by, customers of protective eyewear.

These regulations will be enforced by local authorities in Wales and come into force on 31 October 2011, six months after the Act. I felt that this would allow sunbed businesses sufficient time to prepare and adjust and to put in place the necessary requirements to meet the legislative controls imposed by the regulations prior to their introduction. I believe that these regulations provide robust and effective safeguards to protect under-18s in Wales from the dangers of sunbed use and protective measures for adults who choose to use sunbeds, enabling them to make an informed choice on whether to do so. I wish to place on record my thanks to Julie Morgan, the then MP for Cardiff North, for

oruchwyliaeth yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn falch, erbyn yr hydref eleni, y bydd y ddau o'r bwriadau hynny yn cael eu cyflawni'n llawn. Bydd atal pobl o dan 18 oed rhag defnyddio gwelyau haul o 8 Ebrill yn cael ei gyflawni drwy gyflwyno'r Ddeddf Gwelyau Haul (Rheoleiddio) 2010, a'r gofyniad bod defnydd gwelyau haul mewn salonau yn cael eu goruchwyllo yn gyfan gwbl o 31 Hydref drwy gyfrwng y rheoliadau ger eich bron heddiw. Bydd y Rheoliadau Deddf Gwelyau Haul (Rheoleiddio) 2010 (Cymru) 2011 yn cyflwyno rheolaethau pellach i atal y defnydd o welyau haul gan bobl o dan 18 oed yng Nghymru. Byddant hefyd yn cyflwyno mesurau i leihau'r risg i iechyd y cyhoedd i oedolion sy'n defnyddio gwelyau haul. Mae'r cyfyngiadau a gaiff eu cyflwyno gan y rheoliadau hyn yn anelu at leihau nifer yr achosion o ganser y croen a bydd yn ofynnol i fusnesau gwelyau haul i gadw at reolaethau llymach ar draws chwe maes penodol, sy'n cynnwys goruchwyllo defnydd gwelyau haul, estyn y gofyniad nad yw gwelyau haul yn cael eu defnyddio na'u cynnig i gael eu defnyddio gan bobl o dan 18 oed i fusnesau sy'n gweithredu o eiddo domestig, gwaharddiad ar werthu neu logi gwelyau haul i bobl o dan 18 oed, y ddarpariaeth angenrheidiol o wybodaeth iechyd benodedig i ddefnyddwyr, gwaharddiad o ddarpariaeth neu arddangos unrhyw ddeunydd sy'n ymwneud ag effeithiau iechyd defnyddio gwelyau haul heblaw deunydd sy'n cynnwys gwybodaeth iechyd benodedig neu wybodaeth iechyd a diogelwch berthnasol, a gorchymyn argaeledd i, a defnydd gan, gwsmeriaid o sbectol amddiffynnol.

Bydd y rheoliadau hyn yn cael eu gorfodi gan awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru a deuant i rym ar 31 Hydref 2011, chwe mis ar ôl y Ddeddf. Teimlais y buasai hyn yn caniatáu digon o amser i fusnesau gwelyau haul i baratoi ac addasu a rhoi'r gofynion angenrheidiol ar waith i fodloni'r rheolaethau deddfwriaethol a osodir gan y rheoliadau cyn eu cyflwyno. Credaf fod y rheoliadau hyn yn darparu mesurau diogelwch cadarn ac effeithiol i ddiogelu pobl o dan 18 oed yng Nghymru rhag peryglon defnyddio gwelyau haul a mesurau diogelu ar gyfer oedolion sy'n dewis defnyddio gwelyau haul, gan eu galluogi i wneud dewis gwybodus ynghylch a ddylid gwneud hynny. Hoffwn gofnodi fy

the work she did in Parliament regarding sunbed legislation. I am delighted that we have generally had cross-party support for these regulations as this is an important public health issue.

Peter Black: I wish to support these regulations. I was a member of the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee when it was looking at this issue. The evidence that came before us was overwhelmingly in favour of regulation of this sort. Certainly, cases came to me from my constituents about young teenagers being badly burned on unsupervised sunbeds in shops in my area. These regulations are long overdue. Like the Minister, I wish to express my gratitude to the former MP for Cardiff North who introduced the Bill, which, once enacted as an Act of Parliament, enabled these regulations to be made.

My only regret is that we have to wait until October until we can do away with unsupervised salons altogether. It seems that they are the biggest problem because, if there is no supervision, it is very difficult to enforce the provision that prevents under-18s from using sunbeds. I understand that the delay was put in as a sop to the industry to give it time to adapt, but we need to get that provision in place as soon as possible. The sooner we do away with unsupervised sunbed salons the better and the easier it will be to engage in an information campaign on the fact that acquiring a tan in that way, rather than from a bottle, is not good for you at all and that there are other ways to look healthy, if you consider a tan to be healthy. As someone who never tans, I have never really got this concept, but that impression needs to be overcome through a proper education campaign.

Darren Millar: I, too, welcome the introduction of these regulations. The Minister will be aware that I chaired the Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee at the time when it undertook its inquiry into sunbeds. It is fair to say that

niolch i Julie Morgan, AS Gogledd Caerdydd ar y pryd, am ei gwaith yn y Senedd o ran deddfwriaeth gwelyau haul. Yr wyf wrth fy modd ein bod wedi cael cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol, yn gyffredinol, i'r rheoliadau hyn gan fod hwn yn fater iechyd cyhoeddus pwysig.

Peter Black: Yr wyf yn dymuno cefnogi'r rheoliadau hyn. Yr oeddwn yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol pan oedd yn edrych ar y mater hwn. Yr oedd y dystiolaeth a ddaeth ger ein bron ran amlaf o lawer o blaid rheoleiddio o'r math hwn. Yn sicr, daeth achosion ataf oddi wrth fy etholwyr am blant yn eu harddegau ifanc yn cael eu llosgi'n wael ar welyau haul heb oruchwyliaeth mewn siopau yn fy ardal. Mae'r rheoliadau hyn yn hir-ddisgwyliedig. Fel y Gweinidog, hoffwn fynegi fy niolch i gyn AS Gogledd Caerdydd, a gyflwynodd y Bil, a oedd wedi galluogi, unwaith iddo ddod yn Ddeddf Seneddol, y rheoliadau hyn i gael eu gwneud.

Fy unig ofid yw bod yn rhaid inni aros tan fis Hydref hyd nes y gallwn gael gwared ar salonau heb oruchwyliaeth yn llwyr. Ymddengys mai hwy yw'r broblem fwyaf oherwydd, os nad oes goruchwyliaeth, mae'n anodd iawn gorfodi'r ddarpariaeth sy'n atal pobl o dan 18 oed rhag defnyddio gwelyau haul. Yr wyf yn deall y cafodd yr oedi ei roi i mewn i fodloni'r diwydiant a rhoi amser iddo addasu, ond mae angen i'r ddarpariaeth honno fod ar waith cyn gynted ag y bo modd. Gorau po gyntaf y cawn wared ar salonau gwelyau haul heb oruchwyliaeth, achos bydd yn well ac yn haws cymryd rhan mewn ymgyrch hysbysu am y ffaith nad yw cael lliw haul yn y ffordd honno, yn hytrach nag o botel, yn dda i chi o gwbl a bod yna ffyrdd eraill o edrych yn iach, os ydych yn ystyried cael lliw haul yn iach. Fel rhywun sydd byth yn cael lliw haul, nid wyf erioed wir wedi cael crap ar y cysyniad hwn, ond rhaid goresgyn yr argraff honno drwy ymgyrch addysgu briodol.

Darren Millar: Yr wyf innau, hefyd, yn croesawu cyflwyno'r rheoliadau hyn. Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol imi gadeirio'r Pwyllgor Iechyd, Lles a Llywodraeth Leol ar yr adeg pan gynhaliodd ei ymchwiliad i welyau haul. Teg yw dweud y bu consensws,

there was a consensus not just within the committee but across the Chamber and between this Chamber and the UK Parliament on the need to regulate on these matters. The evidence was overwhelming. It was very clear that sunbed use is carcinogenic. The information that we received from clinicians in particular on this important issue was as clear as it could possibly be. My only concern with regard to the regulations relates to the at-home use of sunbeds. The committee found that this is something that is very difficult to regulate. There are many young people who feel that, as a lifestyle choice, in order to appear healthy or attractive, they need to have a tan. When their parents take advantage of renting this sort of equipment in their homes, they often take advantage of using the equipment as well.

I, too, would like to pay tribute to Julie Morgan. I am glad that she beat us to it as it were in terms of getting this legislation through the UK Houses of Parliament. I have no doubt that we would have introduced legislation in the Assembly at some point in the future because of the cross-party consensus had she not managed to do that, but you certainly have the support of my party in bringing these regulations forward.

4.15 p.m.

Edwina Hart: I thank Members very much for their support. The committee took a lot of evidence when Darren was its Chair, and there was general consensus across the piece that we needed to do something about this particular issue.

I also thank Peter for his comments. I wish that we could have done it sooner, but I have to give businesses the opportunity to get their house in order. The local authorities' returns on sunbeds indicated that about 11 per cent of tanning outlets are currently unstaffed, which is quite a high percentage when you consider that there are about 450 tanning outlets across Wales.

On young people's behaviour, young people seem to have the highest desire to tan. Studies show that even with a good knowledge about skin cancer, they are likely to continue to sunbathe or use tanning studios

nid yn unig o fewn y pwyllgor ond ar draws y Siambr a rhwng y Siambr hon a Senedd y DU am yr angen i reoleiddio ar y materion hyn. Yr oedd y dystiolaeth yn llethol. Yr oedd yn amlwg bod defnyddio gwelyau haul yn garsinogenig. Yr oedd y wybodaeth a gawsom gan glinigwyr yn enwedig ar y mater pwysig hwn mor glir ag y gallai fod. Mae fy unig bryder o ran y rheoliadau yn ymwneud â defnydd yn y cartref o welyau haul. Darganfu'r pwyllgor fod hyn yn rhywbeth sy'n anodd iawn i'w reoleiddio. Mae llawer o bobl ifanc sy'n teimlo, fel dewis o ffordd o fyw, er mwyn ymddangos yn iach neu yn ddeniadol, bod angen iddynt gael lliw haul. Pan fydd eu rhieni yn cymryd mantais o rentu'r math hwn o offer yn eu cartrefi, maent yn aml yn manteisio ar ddefnyddio'r offer yn ogystal.

Hoffwn innau, hefyd, dalu teyrnged i Julie Morgan. Yr wyf yn falch ei bod wedi ein curo fel petai o ran cael y ddeddfwriaeth hon drwy Senedd y DU. Nid oes gennyf unrhyw amheuaeth y byddem wedi cyflwyno deddfwriaeth yn y Cynulliad rywbryd yn y dyfodol oherwydd y consensws trawsbleidiol pa na bai hi wedi llwyddo i wneud hynny, ond yn sicr mae gennyf gefnogaeth fy mhlaidd wrth fwrw ymlaen â'r rheoliadau hyn.

Edwina Hart: Diolch yn fawr i'r Aelodau am eu cefnogaeth. Derbyniodd y pwyllgor lawer o dystiolaeth pan oedd Darren yn Gadeirydd arno, ac roedd consensws yn gyffredinol bod arnom angen gwneud rhywbeth am y mater penodol hwn.

Diolch hefyd i Peter am ei sylwadau. Byddai'n dda gennyf pe gallasem fod wedi ei wneud ynghynt, ond rhaid i mi roi cyfle i fusnesau rhoi trefn ar bethau. Mae cofnodion yr awdurdodau lleol ar welyau haul yn dangos bod tua 11 y cant o ganolfannau lliw haul heb eu staffio ar hyn o bryd, sy'n ganran go uchel o gofio bod tua 450 o ganolfannau lliw haul drwy Gymru.

Ar ymddygiad pobl ifanc, ymddengys mai pobl ifanc sydd â'r awydd mwyaf i gael lliw haul. Mae astudiaethau yn dangos, hyd yn oed gyda gwybodaeth dda am ganser y croen, eu bod yn debygol o barhau i dorheulo neu

in spite of their knowledge. Therefore, a public information campaign needs to be undertaken. You will be aware that the Welsh Assembly Government has supported SunSmart, the UK-wide national skin cancer prevention campaign, since its launch in 2003. Therefore, it is up to future Assembly Governments to continue to support these campaigns.

Darren Millar: Thank you for taking the intervention, Minister. Will you join me in congratulating Cancer Research UK for its Molewatch campaign, which also seeks to support the information exercise about skin cancer and the problems that it can cause?

Edwina Hart: I concur that the voluntary sector has performed a useful function in this particular area. However, we must also do a lot more ourselves. Public Health Wales will have to actively engage with organisations so that we can deliver the key messages on what we need to do to prevent skin cancer. This is just one of the tasks in the regulations that we need to deal with.

Lorraine Barrett *rose*—

Edwina Hart: I have finished, I am afraid.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections, therefore in accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motion is agreed.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

**Cynnig i Gymeradwyo'r Rheoliadau Targedau Ailgylchu, Paratoi i
Aildefnyddio a Chompostio (Monitro a Chosbau) (Cymru) 2011
Motion to Approve the Recycling, Preparation for Re-use and Composting
Targets (Monitoring and Penalties) (Wales) Regulations 2011**

Cynnig NDM4710 Jane Hutt

*Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru;
yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 24.4:*

ddefnyddio stiwdios lliw haul er gwaethaf eu gwybodaeth. Felly, mae angen cynnal ymgyrch wybodaeth gyhoeddus. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi cefnogi SunSmart, yr ymgyrch genedlaethol ledled y DU i atal canser y croen, ers ei lansio yn 2003. Felly, mater i Lywodraethau'r Cynulliad yn y dyfodol yw parhau i gefnogi'r ymgyrchoedd hyn.

Darren Millar: Diolch am dderbyn yr ymyriad, Weinidog. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi yn llongyfarch Ymchwil Canser y DU am ei ymgyrch Molewatch, sydd hefyd yn ceisio cefnogi'r ymarfer hybu gwybodaeth am ganser y croen a'r problemau y gall ei achosi?

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf fod y sector gwirfoddol wedi cyflawni swyddogaeth ddefnyddiol yn y maes penodol hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae hefyd angen i ni wneud llawer mwy ein hunain. Bydd yn rhaid i Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru fynd ati i ymgysylltu â sefydliadau fel y gallwn gyfleu'r negeseuon allweddol am yr hyn mae angen i ni ei wneud i atal canser y croen. Mae hwn yn ond un o'r tasgau yn y rheoliadau y mae angen i ni ddelio â hwy.

Lorraine Barrett *a gododd*—

Edwina Hart: Rwyf wedi gorffen, mae arnaf ofn.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad, felly yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, caiff y cynnig ei gytuno.

Motion NDM4710 Jane Hutt

*To propose that the National Assembly for
Wales; in accordance with Standing Order*

24.4:

Yn cymeradwyo bod y fersiwn drafft o'r Rheoliadau Targedau Ailgylchu, Paratoi i Ailddefnyddio a Chompostio (Monitro a Chosbau) (Cymru) 2011 yn cael ei lunio yn unol â'r fersiwn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 7 Mawrth 2011.

Approves that the draft The Recycling, Preparation for Re-use and Composting Targets (Monitoring and Penalties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 7 March 2011.

The Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing (Jane Davidson): I move the motion.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai (Jane Davidson): Cynigiau y cynnig.

Jeff Cuthbert: Minister, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak in this debate, because, for about five years, constituents of mine living in the villages of Gelligaer, Pen-y-bryn and Nelson have suffered serious odour nuisance from the Bryn Compost operation, which is situated between those three villages. Constituents have led an active campaign with my full support to inform the Environment Agency Wales, Caerphilly County Borough Council and public health organisations about their concerns. The Environment Agency is currently implementing an odour management plan, which we understand is the final straw as far as the Environment Agency is concerned, and it is essential that the operators of the site comply with the plan, otherwise the plant could be suspended until such steps are taken to put matters right.

Jeff Cuthbert: Weinidog, rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle i siarad yn y ddadl hon, oherwydd, am ryw bum mlynedd, mae etholwyr i mi sy'n byw ym mhentrefi Gelligaer, Pen-y-bryn a Nelson wedi dioddef niwsans arogl difrifol o weithrediad Bryn Compost, sydd wedi ei leoli rhwng y tri phentref. Mae etholwyr wedi arwain ymgyrch weithredol gyda fy nghefnogaeth lawn i hysbysu Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd Cymru, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili a sefydliadau iechyd y cyhoedd am eu pryderon. Mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar hyn o bryd yn gweithredu cynllun rheoli aroglau, sef, rydym yn deall, ei diwedd hi belled ag y mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn y cwestiwn, ac mae'n hanfodol bod gweithredwyr y safle yn cydymffurfio â'r cynllun, fel arall, gallai'r gwaith gael ei ohirio hyd nes bo camau'n cael eu cymryd i unioni'r sefyllfa.

We are also aware that the operators of Bryn Compost have submitted planning proposals for a wet anaerobic digestion plant. Whether or not that would be a better system that might end these problems is a matter that those with better brains than mine will have to establish. However, local people are concerned that, as the operators have failed to sort out the current problems of severe odour nuisance, they have little confidence in any new plans that may be put forward. Indeed, their patience after that length of time is understandably running thin. They have also submitted a formal petition to the Petitions Committee, which is undergoing consideration. In short, local people are looking for protection by officialdom against the serious nuisance that they continue to experience.

Rydym hefyd yn ymwybodol bod gweithredwyr Bryn Compost wedi cyflwyno cynigion cynllunio ar gyfer gwaith treulio anaerobig gwlyb. Mae p'un ai y byddai hynny'n system well a allai roi terfyn ar y problemau hyn yn fater y bydd rhai mwy peniog na mi yn gorfod ei brofi. Fodd bynnag, mae pobl leol yn bryderus, gan fod y gweithredwyr wedi methu datrys y problemau presennol o niwsans arogl difrifol, ac yn ddi-hyder am unrhyw gynlluniau newydd a allai gael eu cyflwyno. Yn wir, mae eu hamynedd ar ôl y fath amser, yn ddealladwy, yn prinhaus. Maent hefyd wedi cyflwyno deiseb ffurfiol i'r Pwyllgor Deisebau, sy'n cael ei hystyried. Yn gryno, mae pobl leol yn troi at y byd swyddogol am ddiogelwch rhag y niwsans difrifol maent yn parhau i'w brofi.

This is not a demonstration of opposition to

Nid yw hyn yn arwydd o wrthwynebiad at

organic composting; the principles are accepted, and people are complying with the requirements of the council to put out food waste and other organic materials for recycling. However, they are getting to the point where enough is enough. Therefore, Minister, will you confirm that meeting composting targets will not take precedence over the wellbeing of local people and that poorly run facilities will be dealt with?

Jane Davidson: Thank you very much, Jeff, for continuing to represent your constituents' interests. As you know from the meeting that I had with you in January, with Councillor David of Caerphilly County Borough Council and the Environment Agency, we understand residents' concerns regarding the Bryn Compost site. We continue to ensure that this matter is taken seriously, and I expect the Environment Agency to continue to work with residents and the operator to address concerns and to use its powers as necessary. I have responded to your most recent letter. We know, as you say, that the Environment Agency is currently reviewing its site odour management plan. Additional plans for site improvement were also submitted to the Environment Agency at the beginning of December. The mobile monitoring facility was deployed by the Environment Agency on 19 January to gather air-quality data over a three-month period. Residents are being asked to gather information about odour events in the area, filling in an odour diary. Once all of these data have been collected, they will be analysed by the Environment Agency and the results will be shared. Depending on the outcome of these further investigations and actions, including the information gathered from residents, the Environment Agency will review progress and determine the best regulatory approach at this site.

I can give you reassurance that the targets do not in any way endorse facilities that continue to cause a problem for local residents in the way that Bryn Compost has done over the last few years. The targets will ensure that Wales recycles more, that everyone is involved in that process and that

gompostio organig; caiff yr egwyddorion eu derbyn, ac mae pobl yn cydymffurfio â gofynion y cyngor i roi allan gwastraff bwyd a deunyddiau organig eraill i'w hailgylchu. Fodd bynnag, maent yn cyrraedd y man lle maent yn meddwl digon yw digon. Felly, Weinidog, a wnewch gadarnhau na fydd cwrdd â thargedau gompostio yn cael blaenoriaeth dros les pobl leol ac y bydd cyfleusterau sy'n cael eu rhedeg yn wael yn cael eu trin?

Jane Davidson: Diolch yn fawr iawn, Jeff, am barhau i gynrychioli buddiannau eich etholwyr. Fel y gwyddoch o'r cyfarfod a gefais gyda chi ym mis Ionawr, gyda'r Cynghorydd David o Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd, rydym yn deall pryderon trigolion ynghylch safle Bryn Compost. Rydym yn parhau i sicrhau bod y mater hwn yn cael ei gymryd o ddifrif, ac rwy'n disgwyl i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd barhau i weithio gyda thrigolion a'r gweithredwr i wynebu pryderon ac i ddefnyddio ei phwerau yn ôl yr angen. Rwyf wedi ymateb i'ch llythyr mwyaf diweddar. Gwyddom, fel y dywedwch, fod Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar hyn o bryd yn adolygu ei chynllun rheoli arogl safle. Cafodd cynlluniau ychwanegol ar gyfer gwella safleoedd eu cyflwyno hefyd i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar ddechrau mis Rhagfyr. Rhoddwyd y cyfleuster monitro symudol ar waith gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar 19 Ionawr i gasglu data ansawdd aer dros gyfnod o dri mis. Gofynnir i drigolion gasglu gwybodaeth am ddigwyddiadau arogl yn yr ardal, gan lenwi dyddiadur arogl. Unwaith y cesglir yr holl ddata, caiff ei ddadansoddi gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a chaiff y canlyniadau eu rhannu. Yn dibynnu ar ganlyniad yr ymchwiliadau a chamau gweithredu pellach hyn, gan gynnwys y wybodaeth a gasglwyd oddi wrth drigolion, bydd Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn adolygu cynnydd a phenderfynu ar y dull gorau o rooleiddio'r safle hwn.

Gallaf eich sicrhau nad yw'r targedau mewn unrhyw ffordd yn cymeradwyo cyfleusterau sy'n parhau i achosi trafferth i drigolion lleol yn y modd y mae Bryn Compost wedi ei wneud dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Bydd y targedau yn sicrhau bod Cymru yn ailgylchu mwy, bod pawb yn cymryd rhan yn y broses

we continue to look for the best available technology in terms of outcomes. I expect the Environment Agency to take its job seriously in defending residents' issues.

honno a'n bod yn parhau i chwilio am y dechnoleg orau sydd ar gael o ran canlyniadau. Rwy'n disgwyl i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd gymryd ei swydd o ddifrif wrth amddiffyn materion trigolion.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is that the motion be agreed. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections. Therefore, the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw bod y cynnig yn cael ei gytuno. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Felly, cytunir y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

**Cynigion i Gymeradwyo'r Gorchymyn Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Pennu Awdurdodau Cymreig Perthnasol) 2011 a'r Rheoliadau Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Dyletswyddau Statudol) (Cymru) 2011
Motions to Approve the Draft Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Relevant Welsh Authorities) Order 2011, and the Draft Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: It is proposed that items 8 and 9 be debated together under Standing Order No. 7.20, but with separate votes. I see that there are no objections.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Cynigir bod eitemau 8 a 9 yn cael eu trafod gyda'i gilydd o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 7.20, ond gyda phleidleisiau ar wahân. Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad.

Cynnig NDM4711 Jane Hutt

Motion NDM4711 Jane Hutt

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru; yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 24.4:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales; in accordance with Standing Order 24.4:

Yn cymeradwyo bod y fersiwn drafft o'r Gorchymyn Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Pennu Awdurdodau Cymreig Perthnasol) 2011 yn cael ei lunio yn unol â'r fersiwn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Mawrth 2011.

Approves that the draft The Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Relevant Welsh Authorities) Order 2011 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 8 March 2011.

Cynnig NDM4712 Jane Hutt

Motion NDM4712 Jane Hutt

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru; yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 24.4:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales; in accordance with Standing Order 24.4:

Yn cymeradwyo bod y fersiwn drafft o'r Rheoliadau Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Dyletswyddau Statudol) (Cymru) 2011 yn cael ei lunio yn unol â'r fersiwn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Mawrth 2011.

Approves that the draft The Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 8 March 2011.

The Minister for Social Justice and Local Government (Carl Sargeant): I move the motions.

Most of the Equality Act 2010 was commenced in October last year, giving powers to Welsh Ministers to make regulations to introduce specific public sector equality duties in relation to devolved authorities in Wales. I made a statement in the Chamber in September and started a public consultation on our proposals for draft regulations for these new duties in Wales. I want these new duties to make a positive difference to the people of Wales. I want people who feel undervalued or discriminated against by our society to see real improvements in the way that they live their lives. I want the most vulnerable in our society to feel included and part of the world that we are creating. These duties can help to make a real difference. That is particularly important in these challenging economic times. We must work hard to ensure that we continue to drive forward the agenda of equality of outcome and opportunity and help to build a fairer and more inclusive society.

Public authorities in Wales provide services and support to thousands of people on key issues that affect their lives, such as education, housing, health and social services. They are also major employers and, as such, have an important and influential role to play. Specific public sector duties for Wales will help us to promote equality, tackle discrimination and prejudice, and help to build a fair and tolerant society in Wales. These draft regulations include a suite of specific public sector equality duties to assist Welsh public authorities to better perform the general equality duty. It is not our intention that everything will fall into place on day one. We have learned from experience that it takes time for change to happen and it needs continued leadership across the public sector at all levels.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol (Carl Sargeant): Cynigiau y cynigion.

Cychwynwyd y rhan fwyaf o Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 ym mis Hydref y llynedd, gan roi pwerau i Weinidogion Cymru i wneud rheoliadau i gyflwyno dyletswyddau cydraddoldeb penodol i'r sector cyhoeddus mewn perthynas ag awdurdodau wedi eu datganoli yng Nghymru. Gwneuthum ddatganiad yn y Siambr ym mis Medi a dechrau ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar ein cynigion ar gyfer rheoliadau drafft ar gyfer y dyletswyddau newydd hyn yng Nghymru. Rwyf am i'r dyletswyddau newydd wneud gwahaniaeth cadarnhaol yn hanes pobl Cymru. Rwyf am i bobl sy'n teimlo nad ydynt yn cael eu gwerthfawrogi neu y gwahaniaethir yn eu herbyn gan ein cymdeithas i weld gwelliannau gwirioneddol yn y ffordd y maent yn byw eu bywydau. Rwyf am i'r mwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymdeithas deimlo eu bod yn rhan o'r byd rydym yn ei greu. Gall y dyletswyddau hyn helpu i wneud gwahaniaeth go iawn. Mae hynny'n arbennig o bwysig yn ystod y cyfnod economaidd anodd hwn. Mae'n rhaid i ni weithio'n galed i sicrhau ein bod yn parhau i fwrw ymlaen â'r agenda gydraddoldeb o ran canlyniadau a chyfle ac yn helpu i adeiladu cymdeithas decach a mwy cynhwysol.

Mae awdurdodau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn darparu gwasanaethau a chefnogaeth i filoedd o bobl ar faterion allweddol sy'n effeithio ar eu bywydau, megis addysg, tai, iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Maent hefyd yn gyflogwyr pwysig ac, fel y cyfryw, mae ganddynt rôl bwysig a dylanwadol i'w chwarae. Bydd dyletswyddau sector cyhoeddus penodol ar gyfer Cymru yn ein helpu i hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb, mynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu a rhagfarn, ac yn helpu i adeiladu cymdeithas deg a goddefgar yng Nghymru. Mae'r rheoliadau drafft yn cynnwys cyfres o ddyletswyddau cydraddoldeb penodol i'r sector cyhoeddus i gynorthwyo awdurdodau cyhoeddus Cymru i gyflawni'r ddyletswydd gydraddoldeb cyffredinol yn well. Nid ein bwriad yw y bydd popeth yn disgyn i'w lle ar y diwrnod cyntaf. Rydym wedi dysgu o brofiad ei bod yn cymryd amser i newid i ddiwydd ac mae

angen arweiniad parhaus ar draws y sector cyhoeddus ar bob lefel.

I have listened to what our stakeholders and partners have told me, and I have made changes where I felt it appropriate to do so. I have strengthened the provision in relation to the gender pay difference to reflect particular challenges still facing women in the workplace. Separate duties in respect of gender pay difference have been included, not least a requirement for an action plan and the need for authorities to set equality objectives to address the causes of any identified gender pay differences, or explain publicly their reasons for not doing so. The provision on pay and the collection of employment information will now apply to the protected characteristics of sexual orientation and gender reassignment, and the engagement provision has also been amended to include a duty to regard the need to consult and involve those who share one or more of the protected characteristics, as far as is reasonably practicable. That better reflects our intention that those who will benefit from the duties are able to engage with and help shape the work of authorities in complying with these duties.

In relation to assessing the impact of the work that we do, the requirements have been extended to include assessments of current policies and practices when they are being reviewed or updated, not just proposals for new policies or practices. Reporting by Welsh Ministers on the progress of relevant Welsh authorities towards compliance with the general public sector duty will happen every four years, with an interim report every two years. I have also sought to provide additional clarification and prescription in areas where it is considered necessary, and I have listened to the views and representations that have been expressed about the list of relevant Welsh public authorities that are subject to these new duties. As such, I have made further changes to the draft Order over and above those set out in the consultation. I

Rwyf wedi gwranddo ar yr hyn mae ein rhanddeiliaid a phartneriaid wedi dweud wrthyf, ac rwyf wedi gwneud newidiadau lle'r oeddwn yn teimlo ei bod yn briodol gwneud hynny. Rwyf wedi atgyfnerthu'r ddarpariaeth mewn perthynas â'r gwahaniaeth cyflog rhwng y rhywiau i adlewyrchu heriau penodol sy'n dal i wynebu menywod yn y gweithle. Mae dyletswyddau ar wahân mewn perthynas â gwahaniaeth cyflog rhwng y rhywiau wedi cael eu cynnwys, ac nid y lleiaf yw'r gofyniad am gynllun gweithredu a'r angen i awdurdodau bennu amcanion cydraddoldeb i fynd i'r afael ag achosion unrhyw wahaniaethau cyflog rhwng y rhywiau a nodwyd, neu i esbonio yn gyhoeddus beth yw eu rhesymau dros beidio â gwneud hynny. Bydd y ddarpariaeth ar gyflog a chasglu gwybodaeth am gyflogaeth bellach yn berthnasol i'r nodweddion gwarchoddedig o gyfeiriadedd rhywiol ac ailbennu rhywedd, ac mae'r ddarpariaeth am ymgysylltu hefyd wedi cael ei diwygio i gynnwys dyletswydd i ystyried yr angen i ymgynghori a chynnwys y rhai sy'n rhannu un neu fwy o'r nodweddion gwarchoddedig, cyn belled ag y bo hynny'n rhesymol ymarferol. Mae hynny'n adlewyrchu'n well ein bwriad bod y rhai a fydd yn elwa o'r dyletswyddau yn gallu ymgysylltu gydag a helpu i lywio gwaith awdurdodau wrth iddynt gydymffurfio â'r dyletswyddau hyn.

Mewn perthynas ag asesu effaith ein gwaith, mae'r gofynion wedi cael eu hymestyn i gynnwys asesiadau o bolisiau ac arferion presennol pan fyddant yn cael eu hadolygu neu eu diweddarau, nid dim ond cynigion ar gyfer polisiau neu arferion newydd. Bydd Gweinidogion Cymru yn adrodd ar gynnydd awdurdodau Cymreig perthnasol tuag at gydymffurfio â'r ddyletswydd sector cyhoeddus gyffredinol bob pedair blynedd, gydag adroddiad interim bob dwy flynedd. Rwyf hefyd wedi ceisio rhoi eglurhad a chyfarwyddyd ychwanegol mewn ardaloedd lle mae hynny'n cael ei ystyried yn angenrheidiol, ac rwyf wedi gwranddo ar y safbwyntiau a sylwadau sydd wedi eu mynegi am y rhestr o awdurdodau cyhoeddus perthnasol yng Nghymru sy'n ddarostyngedig i'r dyletswyddau newydd. Fel y cyfryw, rwyf

have retained community health councils and governing bodies in Part 2 of Schedule 19 to the Equality Act 2010, and I have also included the board of community health councils in Wales. I have amended the listing for the Counsel General, and the general and specific duties are now to apply to all the Counsel General's statutory functions.

I have also given full and detailed consideration to the case for exemption that has been made by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, who has asked for the removal of his office from the relevant listed Welsh public authorities. I have carefully considered the representation that has been made, but remain unconvinced that the application of the general and specific duties will be a fundamental obstacle to the vital work of the ombudsman. The Chair of the Constitutional Affairs Committee has identified the case for exemption by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales as a merits point in the committee's report, and I have written to the Chair advising her of the reasons for my decision on this matter. The draft regulations and draft Order have been brought before the National Assembly for Wales following formal consultation with the Equality and Human Rights Commission, as required by the Equality Act 2010, and the draft Order has received the consent of the Minister of the Crown.

We have a lot to celebrate in Wales in taking these proposals forward. I am aware that the equivalent duties in England and Scotland will not commence in April. With the approval of this Chamber, the Welsh Assembly Government will be able to make the relevant Order and regulations that will allow the draft Order will come into force on 4 April and the draft regulations on 6 April, supporting our devolved Welsh public authorities in their better compliance with the general duty when it is commenced by the UK Government following 5 April.

wedi gwneud newidiadau pellach i'r Gorchymyn drafft tu hwnt i'r rhai a nodir yn yr ymgynghoriad. Rwyf wedi cadw cynghorau iechyd cymuned a chyrff llywodraethu yn Rhan 2 o Atodlen 19 i Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010, ac rwyf hefyd wedi cynnwys bwrdd cynghorau iechyd cymuned yng Nghymru. Rwyf wedi newid y rhestr ar gyfer y Cwnsler Cyffredinol, a bydd y dyletswyddau cyffredinol a phenodol yn awr yn gymwys i holl swyddogaethau statudol y Cwnsler Cyffredinol.

Rwyf hefyd wedi rhoi ystyriaeth lawn a manwl i'r achos dros gael ei eithrio a wnaed gan Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru, sydd wedi gofyn am gael gwared ar ei swydd o'r awdurdodau cyhoeddus Cymreig perthnasol wedi eu rhestru. Rwyf wedi ystyried yn ofalus y sylwadau a wnaed, ond rwy'n parhau heb fy argyhoeddi y bydd cymhwyso'r dyletswyddau cyffredinol a phenodol yn rhwystr sylfaenol i waith hanfodol yr ombwdsmon. Mae Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol wedi nodi'r achos dros gael ei eithrio gan Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru fel pwynt teilyngdod yn adroddiad y pwyllgor, ac rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at y Cadeirydd yn ei hysbysu o'r rhesymau dros fy mhenderfyniad ar y mater hwn. Mae'r rheoliadau drafft a'r Gorchymyn drafft wedi cael eu dwyn gerbron Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn dilyn ymgynghoriad ffurfiol gyda'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol, fel sy'n ofynnol gan Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010, ac mae'r Gorchymyn drafft wedi cael caniatâd Gweinidog y Goron.

Mae gennym lawer i'w ddathlu yng Nghymru wrth ddwyn y cynigion hyn ymlaen. Rwy'n ymwybodol na fydd y dyletswyddau cyfatebol yn Lloegr a'r Alban yn cychwyn ym mis Ebrill. Gyda chymeradwyaeth y Siambr hon, bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn gallu gwneud y Gorchymyn a rheoliadau perthnasol a fydd yn caniatáu'r Gorchymyn drafft i ddod i rym ar 4 Ebrill a'r rheoliadau drafft ar 6 Ebrill, gan gefnogi ein hawdurdodau cyhoeddus wedi eu datganoli yng Nghymru yn eu cydymffurfiad gwell â'r ddyletswydd gyffredinol pan fydd yn cael ei chychwyn gan Lywodraeth y DU wedi 5 Ebrill.

Mohammad Asghar: I am pleased to confirm that the Welsh Conservatives will be voting in favour of these two motions today. As we all know, the central focus of the Equality Act 2010 is the implementation of the public sector equality duty. I welcome the broad and extensive consultation that has taken place on the duties that are specific to Wales. However, I note with concern the rejection of the request of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales for exemption from both the specific and general duties in respect of various casework functions. I am concerned that the Constitutional Affairs Committee has found that the Assembly Government response is 'cursory'. It recommends that the Welsh Assembly Government monitors the inclusion of the ombudsman closely as this is taken forward.

Mohammad Asghar: Rwy'n falch o gadarnhau y bydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn pleidleisio o blaid y ddau gynnig hyn heddiw. Fel rydym i gyd yn gwybod, ffocws canolog Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 yw gweithredu dyletswydd gydraddoldeb y sector cyhoeddus. Croesawaf yr ymgynghoriad eang a helaeth sydd wedi bod ar y dyletswyddau sy'n benodol i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, nodaf gyda phryder y gwrthodiad o gais Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru i gael ei eithrio rhag y dyletswyddau penodol a chyffredinol mewn perthynas â swyddogaethau gwaith achos amrywiol. Rwy'n pryderu bod y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol wedi canfod bod ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn 'frysiog'. Mae'n argymhell bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn monitro cynnwys yr ombwdsmon yn agos wrth ddwyn hyn mlaen.

4.30 p.m.

On item 9, the listed public authorities will now need to comply with a series of specific duties, including detailing the equality objectives, promoting engagement with stakeholders, collecting information, tackling unequal pay and drawing up strategic equality plans. As I said to the Minister last September, Welsh public bodies can expect additional regulatory procedures in comparison with their counterparts in England, as well as cross-border authorities. This is another thing that I feel needs to be monitored after these duties come into force.

Ar eitem 9, bydd yr awdurdodau cyhoeddus a restrir yn awr angen cydymffurfio â chyfres o ddyletswyddau penodol, gan gynnwys manylion yr amcanion cydraddoldeb, hybu ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid, casglu gwybodaeth, mynd i'r afael â chyflog anghyfartal a llunio cynlluniau cydraddoldeb strategol. Fel y dywedais wrth y Gweinidog fis Medi diwethaf, gall cyrff cyhoeddus Cymru ddisgwyl gweithdrefnau rheoleiddio ychwanegol o gymharu â'u cymheiriaid yn Lloegr, yn ogystal ag awdurdodau trawsffiniol. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth arall rwy'n teimlo bod angen ei fonitro ar ôl i'r dyletswyddau hyn ddod i rym.

We, on this side of the Chamber, offer our general support for these motions and hope that the duties will help us address some of the unique challenges linked to equality that we face in Wales. There are challenges ahead, but these duties will help ensure that public bodies take the right action with regard to advancing equality, eliminating discrimination and fostering good relations.

Rydym ni, ar yr ochr hon o'r Siambr, yn cynnig ein cefnogaeth gyffredinol i'r y cynigion hyn ac rwy'n gobeithio y bydd y dyletswyddau yn ein helpu i fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r heriau unigryw sy'n gysylltiedig â chydaddoldeb yr ydym yn eu hwynebu yng Nghymru. Mae heriau o'n blaen, ond bydd y dyletswyddau hyn yn helpu i sicrhau bod cyrff cyhoeddus yn cymryd y camau iawn o ran hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb, dileu gwahaniaethu a meithrin cysylltiadau da.

The Minister for Social Justice and Local Government (Carl Sargeant): I thank the Member for his contribution and the support of his opposition party. I would also like to

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol (Carl Sargeant): Diolch i'r Aelod am ei gyfraniad ac am gefnogaeth ei wrthblaid. Hoffwn hefyd

thank other Members for their contributions and pick up on some of the points made. You are absolutely right, Oscar, that this is a new dawn with regard to equality regulations across Wales; we are the leading light on equality duties. In fact, with regard to the regulations that were not passed in Scotland, reference was made to Wales in a proposal of good practice. That is something that we should be proud of as an Assembly, and I welcome your thoughts on that.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to the development of the duties over the past two years and who have responded fully to the listening exercise and the consultation exercises that Oscar rightly mentioned. We have received a range of valuable and helpful comments and suggestions, and I am pleased that we have been able to incorporate them in the revised draft regulations and draft Order that I bring forward today.

I am aware of the thoughts of the Chair of the Constitutional Affairs Committee on the inclusion of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales and I want to point out that we believe that we were consistent in the way that we operated. We are aware that during the passage of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 through the Assembly, the Minister for Heritage wrote to the public services ombudsman informing him that he would not be excluded from the duties imposed by the Welsh language Measure. I understand that the Constitutional Affairs Committee also considered the Welsh language Measure, but did not raise the same points with regard to that Measure, so these points came as somewhat of a surprise to us.

The draft regulations and draft Order are 100% made in Wales. This is the first time that we have been able to bring forward equality legislation in Wales and I believe that these regulations can bring about real change in terms of people's lives and life chances. I would also like to place on record my thanks to the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Wales for its contribution and input to these regulations, and for its ongoing work in developing the non-statutory guidance and statutory codes of practice that

ddiolch i Aelodau eraill am eu cyfraniadau gan sôn am rai o'r pwyntiau a wnaed. Rydych yn hollol gywir, Oscar, fod hyn yn wawr newydd o ran rheoliadau cydraddoldeb ledled Cymru; ni sy'n arwain ar ddyletswyddau cydraddoldeb. Yn wir, o ran y rheoliadau na chafodd eu pasio yn yr Alban, cyfeiriwyd at Gymru fel arfer da mewn cynnig. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y dylem fod yn falch ohono fel Cynulliad, a chroesawaf eich sylwadau ar hynny.

Hoffwn ddiolch i bawb sydd wedi cyfrannu at y gwaith o ddatblygu'r dyletswyddau dros y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf ac sydd wedi ymateb yn llawn i'r ymarfer gwrando a'r ymarferion ymgynghori y soniodd Oscar amdanynt yn ddigon cywir. Rydym wedi derbyn amrywiaeth o sylwadau ac awgrymiadau gwerthfawr a defnyddiol, ac rwy'n falch ein bod wedi gallu eu hymgorffori yn y rheoliadau drafft diwygiedig a'r Gorchymyn drafft rwy'n ei gyflwyno heddiw.

Rwy'n ymwybodol o farn Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol ar gynnwys Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru ac rwyf am nodi ein bod yn credu y buom yn gyson yn y ffordd y bu i ni weithredu. Rydym yn ymwybodol, yn ystod hynt Mesur y Gymraeg (Cymru) 2011 drwy'r Cynulliad, yr ysgrifennodd y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth at yr ombwdsmon gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn ei hysbysu na fyddai'n cael ei eithrio o'r dyletswyddau a osodwyd gan Fesur y Gymraeg. Deallaf fod y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol hefyd wedi ystyried Mesur y Gymraeg, ond nid oedd yn codi'r un pwyntiau o ran y Mesur hwnnw, felly daeth y pwyntiau hyn yn dipyn o syndod i ni.

Yng Nghymru y gwnaeth yr holl reoliadau drafft a'r Gorchymyn drafft. Dyma'r tro cyntaf i ni allu cyflwyno deddfwriaeth gydraddoldeb yng Nghymru, ac rwy'n credu y gall y rheoliadau hyn ddod â newid gwirioneddol i fywydau pobl a'u cyfleoedd mewn bywyd. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol yng Nghymru am ei gyfraniad i'r rheoliadau hyn, ac am ei waith parhaus wrth ddatblygu'r canllawiau anstatudol a chodau ymarfer statudol a fydd yn helpu i ddarparu cyngor a

will help to provide advice and support for those relevant authorities.

The new general public sector equality duty, supported by the draft regulations and draft Order, will put equality at the heart of the work of the public sector in Wales. I urge all Members to support the Draft Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Relevant Welsh Authorities) Order 2011 and the Draft Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree the motion to approve the Draft Equality Act 2010 (Specification of Relevant Welsh Authorities) Order 2011. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections. The motion is therefore agreed in accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The next proposal is to agree the motion to approve the Draft Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections. The motion is therefore agreed in accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

cymorth i'r awdurdodau perthnasol hynny.

Bydd y ddyletswydd gydraddoldeb newydd ar y sector cyhoeddus, a ategir gan y rheoliadau drafft a'r Gorchymyn drafft, yn rhoi cydraddoldeb wrth wraidd gwaith y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Anogaf bob Aelod i gefnogi Gorchymyn Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Pennu Awdurdodau Cymreig Perthnasol) 2011 a Rheoliadau Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Dyletswyddau Statudol) (Cymru) 2011.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw derbyn y cynnig i gymeradwyo Gorchymyn Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Pennu Awdurdodau Cymreig Perthnasol) 2011. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Derbynnir y cynnig felly yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig nesaf yw derbyn y cynnig i gymeradwyo Rheoliadau Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Dyletswyddau Statudol) (Cymru) 2011. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Derbynnir y cynnig felly yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35.

Cynnig Cydsyniad Deddfwriaethol mewn perthynas â Mesur Seneddol Diwygio Lles

Legislative Consent Motion in respect of the Welfare Reform Bill

Cynnig NDM4713 Leighton Andrews

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 26.4, yn cytuno y dylai Senedd y DU ystyried y darpariaethau hynny sy'n ymwneud â rhannu gwybodaeth mewn perthynas â lles a gwasanaethau penodol a geir yn y Bil Diwygio Lles, fel y'i cyflwynwyd i Dŷ'r Cyffredin ar 16 Chwefror 2011, i'r graddau y maent yn dod o fewn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Motion NDM4713 Leighton Andrews

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 26.4, agrees that those provisions concerning information sharing in relation to welfare and certain care services contained within the Welfare Reform Bill, as introduced into the House of Commons on the 16th February 2011, so far as they fall within the legislative competence of the National Assembly for Wales, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning (Leighton Andrews): I move the motion.

Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Leighton Andrews): Cynigaf y cynnig.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I see that there are no speakers in this debate. Minister, do you wish to say anything at this point?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gwelaf nad oes siaradwyr ar gyfer y ddadl hon. Weinidog, a hoffech ddweud unrhyw beth nawr?

The Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning (Leighton Andrews): No.

Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Leighton Andrews): Na hoffwn.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections. The motion is therefore agreed in accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Derbynnir y cynnig felly yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

**Dadl Cyfnod 3 o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 23.57 ar y Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch
Addysg (Cymru)
Stage 3 Standing Order No. 23.57 Debate on the Proposed Education (Wales)
Measure**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected all of the amendments tabled and, for the purposes of debate, I have grouped the amendments as shown on the groupings list, but we will vote on the amendments in accordance with the marshalled list.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Rwyf wedi dethol yr holl welliannau a gyflwynwyd ac, at ddibenion y ddadl, rwyf wedi grwpio'r gwelliannau fel y dangosir yn y rhestr grwpio, ond byddwn yn pleidleisio ar y gwelliannau yn unol â'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli.

**Grŵp 1: Amcan y Cydlafurio (Gwelliant 1)
Group 1: Collaboration Objective (Amendment 1)**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call on David Melding to move amendment 1 and to speak to it.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig gwelliant 1 ac i siarad amdano.

David Melding: I move amendment 1 in my name.

David Melding: Cynigaf welliant 1 yn fy enw i.

This is a simple amendment. I would like to call it 'the PISA amendment' because, at present, the collaboration objective is framed in terms of efficiency. We do not object to that, but we think that all measures to increase the level of collaboration ought also to refer to improving education standards. It is important that this appears on the face of the Measure. I know what the Minister is going to say, because he said it in committee,

Gwelliant syml yw hwn. Hoffwn ei alw yn 'welliant PISA' oherwydd, ar hyn o bryd, mae'r amcan cydweithredol wedi ei fframio o ran effeithlonrwydd. Nid ydym yn gwrthwynebu hynny, ond rydym yn credu y dylai'r holl fesurau i gynyddu lefel cydweithio hefyd gyfeirio at wella safonau addysg. Mae'n bwysig bod hyn yn ymddangos ar wyneb y Mesur. Rwy'n gwybod beth fydd y Gweinidog yn ei

but we are a charitable lot on this side of the Assembly and we are prepared to give him another chance to repent. He is going to say that the notion of improving education standards is already implicit in the reference to seeking greater efficiency. I do not deny that, in his mind, that is true, but I think he ought to take this opportunity to shout loud and clear that the first purpose of legislation on education in this Assembly ought to be to drive up education standards so that we rise from the bottom of the table in the whole of the UK, and it would show that we take the PISA results seriously. Therefore, I urge Members to support this simple amendment that does nothing other than improve the legislation.

The Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills (Leighton Andrews): David Melding tabled the same amendment at Stage 2. He did not convince the committee to vote for it then and I remain un-persuaded. I certainly take the PISA results seriously and I agree with David Melding in two respects: the law should be clear and education standards and outcomes for learners should be part of the collaborative activity between education bodies. However, I explained during the committee debate why the amendment was unnecessary. There is only one purpose for education bodies to exist, and that is to provide learning. That is at the heart of the collaboration objective; it does not need extra words. 'Effective' means that resources are used to achieve an effective educational outcome. The collaboration objective is aimed at the better use of public finances by education bodies by sharing resources and expertise. In so doing, we would expect there to be a knock-on effect to improve education standards. As I said at the previous stage, we regard what David Melding is seeking to be already implicit.

Secondly, there is an important other reason why we should reject the amendment. If it were law, it would require education bodies to collaborate for the sake of improving education standards and outcomes irrespective of whether that meant that public resources were used either efficiently or

ddweud, oherwydd fe'i dywedodd yn y pwyllgor, ond rydym yn griw hael ar ochr hon y Cynulliad, ac rydym yn barod i roi cyfle arall iddo edifarhau. Bydd yn dweud bod y syniad o wella safonau addysg eisoes yn rhan annatod yn y cyfeiriad at geisio cael gwell effeithlonrwydd. Nid wyf yn gwadu bod hynny, yn ei farn ef, yn wir, ond credaf y dylai gymryd y cyfle hwn i ddatgan yn uchel a chlir mai diben cyntaf deddfwriaeth ar addysg yn y Cynulliad hwn ddylai fod i godi safonau addysg er mwyn i ni godi o waelod tabl y DU cyfan, a byddai'n dangos ein bod yn cymryd canlyniadau PISA o ddifrif. Felly, rwy'n annog Aelodau i gefnogi'r gwelliant syml hwn nad yw'n gwneud unrhyw beth heblaw gwella'r ddeddfwriaeth.

Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau (Leighton Andrews): Cyflwynodd David Melding yr un gwelliant yng Nghyfnod 2. Ni wnaeth argyhoeddi'r pwyllgor i bleidleisio drosto yr adeg honno ac nid wyf wedi cael fy argyhoeddi o hyd. Rwy'n sicr yn cymryd y canlyniadau PISA o ddifrif ac rwy'n cytuno â David Melding mewn dwy ffordd: dylai'r gyfraith fod yn glir a dylai safonau addysg a chanlyniadau ar gyfer dysgwyr fod yn rhan o'r gweithgarwch cydweithredol rhwng cyrff addysg. Fodd bynnag, eglurais yn ystod y ddadl yn y pwyllgor pam fod y gwelliant yn ddiangen. Dim ond un diben sydd gan gyrff addysg dros fodoli, a hynny yw i ddarparu dysg. Dyna sydd wrth wraidd yr amcan cydweithio; nid oes angen geiriau ychwanegol. Ystyr 'effeithiol' yw bod adnoddau'n cael eu defnyddio i gyflawni canlyniad addysgol effeithiol. Mae'r amcan cydweithio wedi'i anelu at wneud defnydd gwell o arian cyhoeddus gan gyrff addysg drwy rannu adnoddau ac arbenigedd. Wrth wneud hynny, byddem yn disgwyl y byddai effaith gynyddol i wella safonau addysg. Fel y dywedais yn y cyfnod blaenorol, rydym yn ystyried bod yr hyn y mae David Melding yn ei geisio eisoes yn ddealliedig.

Yn ail, mae rheswm pwysig arall pam y dylem wrthod y gwelliant. Pe bai'n gyfraith, byddai'n ofynnol i gyrff addysg gydweithio er mwyn gwella safonau addysg a chanlyniadau ni waeth a yw hynny'n golygu y defnyddiwyd adnoddau cyhoeddus naill ai'n effeithlon neu'n effeithiol. Nid wyf yn

effectively. I do not think that that is David Melding's intention, as he is simply seeking to make the collaboration objective clearer, but the amendment as drafted would not do that. The effect would be to force collaboration in ways that made no sense in making the education system either more effective or efficient. I agree that education bodies need to be clear about what the proposed Measure is seeking to achieve and I draw Members' attention to the statutory guidance that can be published under section 7, which will allow us to spell out in more detail what the collaboration objective is about. That is a better means to achieve what David Melding is seeking than his amendment. I urge Members to reject the amendment.

David Melding: I am disappointed, but not surprised, by the Minister's attitude. I honestly think that they forgot to put education standards as being central to this proposed Measure and are now rather too proud to back off, even after the consultation, which was rushed, but focused, given the timetable that we had to consider the proposed Measure. It was raised by the stakeholders that we ought to put education standards in there as a central aim of collaboration and as the reason for seeking collaboration, as well as having effectiveness and efficiency in there, which he is right about and which we would also propose. I urge Members to look through the rather weak arguments that have been presented against this amendment, and to vote to strengthen the proposed Measure in the manner that I have outlined.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 1 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move straight to a vote.

credu mai dyna yw bwriad David Melding, gan ei fod yn syml yn ceisio gwneud yr amcan cydweithio yn gliriach, ond ni fyddai'r gwelliant fel y'i drafftiwyd yn gwneud hynny. Yr effaith fyddai gorfodi cydweithio mewn ffyrdd nad oedd yn gwneud unrhyw synnwyr i wneud y system addysg naill ai'n fwy effeithiol neu effeithlon. Rwy'n cytuno bod cyrff addysg angen bod yn glir am yr hyn mae'r Mesur arfaethedig yn ceisio ei gyflawni a hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Aelodau at y canllawiau statudol y gellir eu cyhoeddi o dan adran 7, a fydd yn ein galluogi i egluro amcan cydweithredu yn fanwl. Mae hynny'n ffordd well o gyflawni'r hyn y mae David Melding yn ei geisio nag ei welliant. Anogaf yr Aelodau i wrthod y gwelliant.

David Melding: Rwy'n siomedig, ond nid wyf wedi fy synnu, gan agwedd y Gweinidog. Rwyf wir yn meddwl eu bod wedi anghofio rhoi safonau addysg yn ganolog i'r Mesur arfaethedig a'u bod bellach yn rhy falch i dynnu'n ôl, hyd yn oed ar ôl yr ymgynghoriad, a oedd wedi'i ruthro, ond oedd â ffocws, o ystyried yr amserlen a oedd gennym i ystyried y Mesur arfaethedig. Dywedodd y rhanddeiliaid y dylem roi safonau addysg yno fel un o amcanion canolog cydweithio ac fel y rheswm dros geisio cydweithio, yn ogystal â chael effeithiolrwydd ac effeithlonrwydd yno, y mae ef yn iawn yn ei gylch ac y byddem ni hefyd yn ei gynnig. Anogaf Aelodau i edrych drwy'r dadleuon eithaf gwan sydd wedi eu cyflwyno yn erbyn y gwelliant hwn, ac i bleidleisio i gryfhau'r Mesur arfaethedig yn y modd a amlinellwyd gennyf.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y ddylid derbyn gwelliant 1. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, symudwn yn syth i bleidlais.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 29.

Amendment 1: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 29.

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane

Davies, Paul
 German, Veronica
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Ramsay, Nick
 Randerson, Jenny

Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Franks, Chris
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 1.
 Amendment 1 not agreed.*

**Grŵp 2: Cynigion Gan Awdurdodau Lleol i Ffedereiddio Ysgolion—Gofynion yr
 Ymgynghoriad ac Ysgolion Bach (Gwelliannau 2, 3 a 6)
 Group 2: Proposals by Local Authorities to Federate Schools—Consultation
 Requirements and Small Schools (Amendments 2, 3 and 6)**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The lead amendment in this group is amendment 2. I call on David Melding to move the lead amendment and to speak to it and the other amendments in the group.

David Melding: I move amendment 2 in my name.

There are two parts to the amendments. The first is to extend the list of consultees in the legislation so that it does not include just governing bodies. The second is to make that consultation list apply to all schools, including small schools. If that part of the proposed Measure is not amended, there would be a separate procedure for small schools.

Consultation must always be thorough, but it should be more so when reorganising schools into federations. It has been accepted by many people that federations can strengthen the local delivery of education and we have no philosophical objection whatsoever to that structure. However, we need checks and

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y prif welliant yn y grŵp hwn yw gwelliant 2. Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig y prif welliant ac i siarad amdano a'r gwelliannau eraill yn y grŵp.

David Melding: Cynigïaf welliant 2 yn fy enw i.

Mae dwy ran i'r gwelliannau. Y cyntaf yw i ymestyn y rhestr o ymgynghoreion yn y ddeddfwriaeth fel nad yw'n cynnwys y cyrff llywodraethu yn unig. Yr ail yw gwneud y rhestr ymgynghori honno yn berthnasol i bob ysgol, gan gynnwys ysgolion bach. Os nad yw'r rhan honno o'r Mesur arfaethedig yn cael ei diwygio, byddai gweithdrefn ar wahân ar gyfer ysgolion bach.

Rhaid i ymgynghori fod yn drylwyr bob amser, ond dylai fod yn fwy felly wrth ad-drefnu ysgolion yn ffederasiynau. Mae nifer o bobl yn derbyn y gall ffederasiynau gryfhau'r ddarpariaeth leol o addysg ac nid oes gennym wrthwynebiad athronyddol o gwbl i'r strwythur hwnnw. Fodd bynnag,

balances, and we need federations when they truly will improve education standards and the delivery of education in a particular area. Again, we do not object to this in principle, but the most significant thing that the proposed Measure does, and I will spell it out, is this: instead of the power of initiation resting with schools so that they come together to propose a federation voluntarily—although there have been no such voluntary movements in the more than seven years that the initiatives have been possible—the power of initiation to propose federations of particular schools and to require those schools to respond to the consultation will now move to the local authorities. That is a big change and therefore we believe that it requires appropriate checks and balances. That has driven the logic of most of our amendments at the committee stage and this afternoon.

We think that it is appropriate to list certain groups on the face of the proposed Measure as having to be consulted. Under amendment 2, those groups are: parents and guardians, pupils, staff and trade unions. It is a comprehensive list and it is appropriate that those people are mentioned specifically. I do not want to anticipate what the Minister will say, but I fear that he will repeat the points that he made in committee. Of course he wants those people to be consulted, and any reasonable Minister would do so. I hope that he will reaffirm that because at least it will then be on the record, which is some defence, but not a particularly adequate one, in our view. If he believes that, why not follow past legislative practice—there are precedents for this—and list the main categories that have to be consulted? It is not an exhaustive list, in that other groups can be consulted, but I would suggest that those are the core stakeholders in any proposal to federate schools.

Leighton Andrews: During the debate on the general principles of the proposed Measure, I acknowledged the concerns that had been raised about consultation, and subsequently tabled an amendment to address those, which

mae angen rhwystrau a gwrthbwsau arnom, ac mae angen ffederasiynau pan fyddant wir yn gwella safonau addysg a'r ddarpariaeth leol o addysg mewn ardal benodol. Unwaith eto, nid ydym yn gwrthwynebu hyn mewn egwyddor, ond y peth mwyaf arwyddocaol y mae'r Mesur arfaethedig yn ei wneud, a byddaf yn ei egluro'n fanwl, yw hyn: yn hytrach na bod y grym cychwyn yn gorffwys gydag ysgolion fel y gallant ddod at ei gilydd i gynnig ffederasiwn yn wirfoddol—er na fu unrhyw symudiadau gwirfoddol o'r fath yn y saith mlynedd a mwy y mae'r mentrau wedi bod yn bosibl—bydd y grym cychwyn i gynnig ffederasiynau o ysgolion penodol a sicrhau bod yr ysgolion hynny yn ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad bellach yn symud at yr awdurdodau lleol. Mae hynny'n newid mawr ac felly rydym yn credu bod angen y rhwystrau a gwrthbwsau priodol. Dyna yw sail rhesymeg y rhan fwyaf o'n gwelliannau yn ystod y cyfnod yn y pwyllgor a'r prynhawn yma.

Credwn ei bod yn briodol i restru grwpiau penodol ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig fel rhai y dylid ymgynghori â hwy. O dan welliant 2, y grwpiau hynny yw: rhieni a gwarcheidwaid, disgyblion, staff ac undebau llafur. Mae'n rhestr gynhwysfawr ac mae'n briodol y caiff y bobl hynny eu crybwyll yn benodol. Nid wyf am achub y blaen ar yr hyn fydd y Gweinidog yn ei ddweud, ond mae arnaf ofn y bydd yn ailadrodd y pwyntiau a wnaeth yn y pwyllgor. Wrth gwrs mae am ymgynghori â'r bobl hynny, a byddai unrhyw Weinidog rhesymol yn gwneud hynny. Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd yn ailddatgan hynny oherwydd o leiaf y bydd wedyn ar gofnod, sydd yn rhyw amddiffyniad, ond nid yn un arbennig o ddigonol, yn ein barn ni. Os yw'n credu hynny, pam nad yw'n dilyn arferion deddfwriaethol y gorffennol—mae cynsail ar gyfer hyn—a rhestru'r prif gategoriâu y mae'n rhaid ymgynghori â hwy? Nid yw'n rhestr gynhwysfawr, a gellir ymgynghori â grwpiau eraill, ond byddwn yn awgrymu mai hwy yw'r rhanddeiliaid craidd mewn unrhyw gynnig i ffederaleiddio ysgolion.

Leighton Andrews: Yn ystod y ddadl ar egwyddorion cyffredinol y Mesur arfaethedig, rwy'n cydnabod y pryderon a godwyd ynghylch ymgynghori, ac o ganlyniad cyflwynais welliant i fynd i'r afael

was supported in Legislation Committee No. 5 on 2 March. Given that I have responded to those concerns, I am surprised that David Melding has tabled another amendment at this stage that is similar to the one that was rejected by the legislation committee. His amendment would extend the list of stakeholders that local authorities would be required to consult about their published federation proposals. Amendments 3 and 6 would strike out the consultation provisions in section 11 for small schools altogether. Put together, these amendments would mean that consultation arrangements for small schools would be the same as those for any other school. David Melding's view is that it is unfair that the same consultation arrangements do not apply to all schools.

4.45 p.m.

That suggests a concern that the section 15 Order-making mechanism could mean that arbitrary decisions are made about how small a school has to be for it to be categorised as such. I maintain that there is a strong, pragmatic case that justifies taking a different approach to small schools. Consultation of the kind that would apply to other schools means work for local authorities—I am of the view that work should be proportionate to the issue. In the case of smaller schools, fewer people will be affected. It is justifiable that there is a streamlined process for federation, even though it will be at the cost of its being arguably unfair to some individuals who will feel deprived of having their say.

Darren Millar: You made reference to small schools and the fact that less of an effort should be made to consult. Do you not recognise that it is in small communities that the closure of a school can have a dramatic impact, much greater than would the closure of a larger school in an urban area? Given that, do you not accept the need to strengthen the consultation processes? That is precisely why we are proposing this amendment.

Leighton Andrews: No, because we are not talking about the closure of schools; we are

â'r rheini, a gefnogwyd gan Bwyllgor Deddfwriaeth Rhif 5 ar 2 Mawrth. Gan fy mod wedi ymateb i'r pryderon hynny, rwy'n synnu bod David Melding wedi cyflwyno gwelliant arall yn y cyfnod hwn sy'n debyg i'r un a wrthodwyd gan y pwyllgor deddfwriaeth. Byddai ei welliant yn ymestyn y rhestr o randdeiliaid y byddai'n rhaid i awdurdodau lleol ymgynghori â hwy ynghylch eu cynigion ffedereiddio a gyhoeddwyd. Byddai gwelliannau 3 a 6 yn dileu'r darpariaethau ymgynghori yn adran 11 ar gyfer ysgolion bach yn llwyr. O'u rhoi gyda'i gilydd, byddai'r gwelliannau hyn yn golygu y byddai trefniadau ymgynghori ar gyfer ysgolion bach yr un fath ag ar gyfer unrhyw ysgol arall. Barn David Melding yw ei bod yn annheg nad yw'r un trefniadau ymgynghori yn berthnasol i bob ysgol.

Mae hynny'n awgrymu pryder y gallai'r mecanwaith adran 15 ar gyfer gwneud Gorchymyn olygu bod penderfyniadau mympwyol yn cael eu gwneud ynghylch pa mor fach mae'n rhaid i ysgol fod er mwyn iddi gael ei chategoreiddio fel y cyfryw. Rwy'n haeru bod achos cryf a phragmatig sy'n cyfiawnhau defnyddio dulliau gwahanol ar gyfer ysgolion bach. Byddai ymgynghoriad o'r math a fyddai'n berthnasol i ysgolion eraill yn golygu gwaith ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol—rwyf o'r farn y dylai gwaith fod yn gymesur i'r mater. Yn achos ysgolion llai, bydd llai o bobl yn cael eu heffeithio. Mae'n gyfiawn bod proses symlach ar gyfer ffedereiddio, er y bydd ar draul bod yn annheg i rai unigolion a fydd yn teimlo iddynt gael eu hamddifadu rhag cael dweud eu dweud.

Darren Millar: Cyfeirioch at ysgolion bach a'r ffaith y dylid gwneud llai o ymdrech i ymgynghori. Onid ydych yn cydnabod mai mewn cymunedau bach y gall cau ysgol gael effaith ddramatig, llawer mwy nag y byddai cau ysgol fwy mewn ardal drefol? O gofio hynny, onid ydych yn derbyn yr angen i gryfhau'r prosesau ymgynghori? Dyna'n union pam ein bod yn cynnig y gwelliant hwn.

Leighton Andrews: Na, oherwydd nid ydym yn sôn am gau ysgolion; rydym yn sôn am

talking about the federation of schools, and that is—[*Interruption.*] Sorry, I have taken your intervention. We have clear provisions in respect of consultation processes for the closure of schools. What we are talking about here is what happens with regard to federation. I would urge the Member to look at the Viv Thomas report and the data that it published on small schools.

I think that, at the present time, the education system in Wales is inefficient and not effective enough. The PricewaterhouseCoopers report, which we published last year, suggested significant potential for improvement. Federation can be a useful part of that change. Much of the potential for federation is probably among small schools, where federation itself could, in some cases, act as an alternative to closure. I think that it would be a natural and sensible step to take to strengthen leadership and governance.

The Government amendment in my name at Stage 2 addressed the concerns about consultation on local authority proposals for school federation. David Melding's amendments seek to overturn that and remove an important element of the proposed Measure, and I believe that that would ultimately slow the progress of federation and limit its potential. I remain of the view that consultation should be proportionate to the size of the audience and the school, and that there is a sound case for a different approach. Members should, therefore, reject David Melding's amendments.

David Melding: I think that the Minister gave more away than he intended. 'Quick' is quite an operative word; I regard 'considered and thorough' to be better when dealing with a profound issue such as the governance and organisation of schools. If a school is small, the groups that are listed to be consulted will not be vast in size, will they? You will not have huge phalanxes of parents, pupils, teachers or trade unions involved. There is a natural mechanism that reduces the effort required for proper consultation, whether a school is large or small, and that allows for the same principle to apply to all schools.

ffedereiddio ysgolion, ac mae hynny—[*Torri ar draws.*] Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, rwyf wedi cymryd eich ymyriad. Mae gennym ddarpariaethau clir o ran y prosesau ymgynghori ar gyfer cau ysgolion. Yr hyn rydym yn trafod yma yw beth sy'n digwydd o ran ffedereiddio. Rwy'n annog yr Aelod i edrych ar adroddiad Viv Thomas a'r data a gyhoeddodd ar ysgolion bach.

Credaf, ar hyn o bryd, bod y system addysg yng Nghymru yn aneffeithlon ac nid yw'n ddigon effeithiol. Awgrymodd adroddiad PricewaterhouseCoopers, a gyhoeddwyd gennym y llynedd, fod potensial sylweddol ar gyfer gwella. Gall ffedereiddio fod yn rhan ddefnyddiol o'r newid hwnnw. Mae llawer o'r potensial ar gyfer ffedereiddio ymhlith ysgolion bach, lle gallai ffedereiddio, mewn rhai achosion, weithredu fel dewis amgen i gau. Credaf fod cryfhau arweinyddiaeth a llywodraethu yn gam naturiol a synhwyrol.

Roedd gwelliant y Llywodraeth yn fy enw i yn ystod Cyfnod 2 yn mynd i'r afael â'r pryderon ynghylch ymgynghori ar gynigion awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer ffedereiddio ysgolion. Mae gwelliannau David Melding yn ceisio gwrthdroi hynny a chael gwared ar elfen bwysig o'r Mesur arfaethedig, a chredaf y byddai hynny, yn y pen draw, yn arafu cynnydd ffedereiddio a chyfyngu ei botensial. Rwy'n dal o'r farn y dylai ymgynghori fod yn gymesur â maint y gynulleidfa a'r ysgol, a bod achos cadarn ar gyfer dull gwahanol. Dylai Aelodau, felly, wrthod gwelliannau David Melding.

David Melding: Credaf i'r Gweinidog ddatgelu mwy nag yr oedd yn bwriadu gwneud. Mae 'cyflym' yn air eithaf perthnasol; credaf fod 'ystyriol a thrylwyr' yn well wrth ddelio â mater mor ddwys â llywodraethu a threfniadaeth ysgolion. Os yw ysgol yn fach, ni fydd y grwpiau ar y rhestr ymgynghori yn helaeth eu maint. Ni fydd lluoedd enfawr o rieni, disgyblion, athrawon neu undebau llafur ynghlwm wrth y mater. Mae yna fecanwaith naturiol sy'n lleihau'r ymdrech sydd ei angen ar gyfer ymgynghori priodol, os yw ysgol yn fawr neu'n fach, ac mae hynny'n caniatáu i'r un egwyddor fod yn gymwys i bob ysgol.

When, in future years, Assembly Members, particularly those from Plaid Cymru, see schools being forced into federations that they may not have naturally proposed themselves, or see decisions that they may regret because of the actions taken by a single governing body representing all five schools in a five-school federation, I hope that they do not say, 'We think that this was all done very quickly and with poor consultation; we regret it and oppose it', and then go on local marches and that sort of thing under slogans saying, 'Defend our school; it should remain independent'. They are voting against a very constructive amendment that would give protection and encourage local authorities, because the process is so thorough, to propose federations that would genuinely improve educational standards and efficiency and keep more small schools open. There is real merit in that objective. You do not do it in a 'quick' way, with a strong force behind you and without thoroughly consulting the local people who would be affected. That is the way to rather inappropriate, heavy-handed and unresponsive behaviour, and I would urge Members to support our amendment.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 2 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

Yn y dyfodol, pan fydd Aelodau'r Cynulliad, yn enwedig y rhai o Blaid Cymru, yn gweld ysgolion yn cael eu gorfodi i mewn i ffederasiynau na fyddent wedi'u cynnig yn naturiol eu hunain, neu'n gresynu penderfyniadau o ganlyniad i gamau yn cael eu cymryd gan un corff llywodraethu sy'n cynrychioli pum ysgol mewn ffederasiwn, rwy'n gobeithio na fyddant yn dweud, 'Rydym yn credu bod hyn wedi digwydd yn gyflym iawn a chyda ymgynghori gwael; rydym yn gresynu hyn ac yn ei wrthwynebu', ac yna yn mynd ar orymdeithiau lleol a phethau tebyg o dan sloganau yn dweud, 'Amddiffynnwch ein hysgol; dylai aros yn annibynnol'. Maent yn pleidleisio yn erbyn gwelliant adeiladol iawn a fyddai'n rhoi diogelwch ac yn annog awdurdodau lleol, oherwydd bod y broses mor drylwyr, i gynnig ffederasiynau a fyddai'n wirioneddol gwella safonau addysgol ac effeithlonrwydd a chadw mwy o ysgolion bach ar agor. Mae gwir werth yn yr amcan hwnnw. Nid ydych yn gwneud hynny yn 'gyflym', gyda grym cryf y tu ôl i chi a heb ymgynghori'n drylwyr â'r bobl leol a fyddai'n cael eu heffeithio. Dyna'r ffordd at ymddygiad amhriodol, llawdrwm a diymateb, ac rwy'n annog Aelodau i gefnogi ein gwelliant.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 2. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, symudwn i bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 16, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.
Amendment 2: For 16, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann

Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Wood, Leanne

Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 2.

Amendment 2 not agreed.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: In line with the marshalled list, we will now move to dispose of amendment 3. I invite David Melding to move the amendment.

David Melding: I move amendment 3 in my name.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 3 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yn unol â'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli, symudwn yn awr i waredu gwelliant 3. Rwy'n gwahodd David Melding i gynnig y gwelliant.

David Melding: Cynigiau welliant 3 yn fy enw.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 3. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, symudwn i bleidlais.

Gwelliant 3: O blaid 16, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.

Amendment 3: For 16, Abstain 0, Against 31.

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

Asghar, Mohammad
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Burns, Angela
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Paul
 German, Veronica
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 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, Andrew
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Franks, Chris
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne

Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 3.
 Amendment 3 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: As amendment 3 was not agreed, amendment 6 falls. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Gan na chytunwyd ar welliant 3, mae gwelliant 6 yn methu.

*Methodd gwelliant 6.
 Amendment 6 fell.*

**Grŵp 3: Rheoliadau mewn Perthynas â Ffedereiddio—Hawl Ysgol i Adael Ffederasiwn
 (Gwelliannau 4 a 5)**

**Group 3: Regulations in Relation to Federation—Rights of a School to Leave a
 Federation (Amendments 4 and 5)**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The lead amendment in this group is amendment 4. I call on David Melding to move and speak to the lead amendment in the group, and to speak to the other amendment in the group.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y prif welliant yn y grŵp hwn yw gwelliant 4. Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig y prif welliant yn y grŵp ac i siarad amdano a'r gwelliant arall yn y grŵp.

David Melding: I move amendment 4 in my name.

David Melding: Cynigiau welliant 4 yn fy enw.

We think that it is appropriate that a school should have the right to seek to leave a federation. We thought long and hard about this amendment. We thought it important that it should be as constructive as possible, strengthening the objectives of those who want to see sustainable federations. We have, therefore, drafted it as such. This is, in no way, a wrecking amendment, for the reasons that I will now outline.

Credwn ei fod yn briodol y dylai ysgol gael yr hawl i geisio gadael ffederasiwn. Rydym wedi meddwl yn hir ac yn fanwl am y gwelliant hwn. Roeddem o'r farn ei fod yn bwysig iddo fod mor adeiladol â phosibl, gan gryfhau amcanion y rhai sydd am weld ffederasiynau cynaliadwy. Rydym, felly, wedi ei ddrafftio fel hynny. Nid yw hwn, mewn unrhyw ffordd, yn welliant dinistriol, am y rhesymau y byddaf yn awr yn eu hamlinellu.

We think that it is important, as parts of checks and balances, that we have a mechanism that allows schools to seek to leave a federation if they feel that the federation is not being operated in the manner that was originally indicated in the consultation process, and if they feel that the culture that has developed within the new single governing body is not appropriate and does not meet particular local needs. However, given the procedures that we have outlined, the final decision would still rest with the Welsh Assembly Government and Ministers. There is no absolute right here to

Credwn ei fod yn bwysig, fel rhan o gadw cydbwysedd, cael mecanwaith sy'n galluogi ysgolion i geisio gadael ffederasiwn os ydynt yn teimlo nad yw'r ffederasiwn yn cael ei weithredu yn y modd a osodwyd yn wreiddiol yn y broses ymgynghori, ac os ydynt yn teimlo nad yw'r diwylliant sydd wedi datblygu o fewn y corff llywodraethol unigol newydd yn briodol ac nad yw'n diwallu anghenion lleol penodol. Fodd bynnag, o ystyried y gweithdrefnau rydym wedi'u hamlinellu, byddai'r penderfyniad terfynol yn dal i orffwys gyda Llywodraeth a Gweinidogion Cynulliad Cymru. Nid oes

leave a federation, but this amendment gives people the ability to raise concerns and to follow a mechanism. That mechanism would be a ballot of parents and guardians, which we think is an appropriate test. If the ballot is successful—that is, if it backs a move to seek to leave a federation—the Welsh Assembly Government Minister responsible for making the decision would be held accountable for it. However, if it was felt, in his or her judgment, that it was still appropriate for the federation to continue intact, he or she would have the power to refuse the request to leave the federation.

With this procedure, I would hope to see new federations behave in a coherent and constructive manner, without seeking to be heavy-handed against an individual member. I would hope to see evolve productive cultures for running what is a new governance structure for schools in this country. However, with that minimum deterrence, which would allow people to pursue a point and raise grievances, without an absolute and ultimate right to force a decision to allow a school to leave a federation, we would have an appropriate check and balance that should lead to a more coherent policy overall. That is why we propose these amendments.

Leighton Andrews: We had a useful Stage 2 committee debate on these amendments. I understand that David Melding is concerned that the governing body of a federation may act irrationally, rather than fairly or neutrally, in governing all of the schools for which it is responsible. He is, therefore, trying to put safeguards on the face of the proposed Measure. I would say that safeguards already exist in law. Local authorities have extensive intervention powers under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, which they can use if they have concerns about the quality of governance or management. Welsh Ministers also have powers of direction under the Education Act 1996, which can be used if a governing body acts unreasonably or fails to discharge a duty, as well as intervention powers under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Together, these powers provide a way of bringing to account any governing body of a federation that does not

yma unrhyw hawl absoliwt i adael ffederasiwn, ond mae'r gwelliant hwn yn galluogi pobl i godi pryderon a dilyn mecanwaith. Pleidlais gan rieni a gwarcheidwaid fyddai'r mecanwaith hwnnw—prawf priodol yn ein tyb ni. Os yw'r bleidlais yn llwyddiannus—hynny yw, os yw'n cefnogi symudiad i geisio gadael ffederasiwn—byddai Gweinidog Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a oedd yn gyfrifol am wneud y penderfyniad yn atebol. Fodd bynnag, os oedd y Gweinidog o'r farn ei bod yn dal yn briodol i'r ffederasiwn barhau yn gyfan, byddai gan y Gweinidog y pŵer i wrthod y cais i adael y ffederasiwn.

Gyda'r drefn hon, byddwn yn gobeithio gweld ffederasiynau newydd yn ymddwyn mewn modd cydlynol ac adeiladol, heb geisio bod yn llawdrwm yn erbyn aelod unigol. Byddwn yn gobeithio gweld diwyllianau cynhyrchiol yn datblygu ar gyfer rhedeg strwythur llywodraethu newydd ar gyfer ysgolion yn y wlad hon. Fodd bynnag, gyda'r rhwystr lleiaf hwnnw, a fyddai'n caniatáu i bobl fynd ar drywydd pwynt a gwneud cwynion, heb hawl absoliwt i orfodi penderfyniad i ganiatáu i ysgol adael ffederasiwn, byddai gennym gydbwysedd priodol a ddylai arwain at bolisi mwy cydlynol yn gyffredinol. Dyna pam rydym yn cynnig y gwelliannau hyn.

Leighton Andrews: Cawsom ddadl pwyllgor defnyddiol ar y gwelliannau hyn yng Nghyfnod 2. Deallaf fod David Melding yn pryderu y gallai corff llywodraethu ffederasiwn ymddwyn yn afresymol, yn hytrach nag yn deg neu yn niwtral, wrth lywodraethu'r holl ysgolion y mae'n gyfrifol amdanynt. Felly, mae'n ceisio rhoi mesurau diogelu ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig. Byddwn yn dweud bod mesurau diogelu eisoes yn bodoli yn y gyfraith. Mae gan awdurdodau lleol bwerau ymyrryd helaeth o dan Ddeddf Safonau a Fframwaith Ysgolion 1998, y gallant eu defnyddio os oes ganddynt bryderon am ansawdd y llywodraethu neu'r rheolaeth. Mae gan Weinidogion Cymru hefyd bwerau cyfarwyddyd o dan Ddeddf Addysg 1996, y gellir eu defnyddio os yw corff llywodraethu yn ymddwyn yn afresymol neu'n methu â chyflawni dyletswydd, yn ogystal â phwerau ymyrryd o dan Ddeddf Safonau a Fframwaith Ysgolion

act reasonably in the interests of all the schools that it governs.

I went into these arguments in some detail at Stage 2. I do not think that we need to go further and I do not think that we need to make arrangements for a ballot of parents. What we are really talking about here, as I said before, is federation—it is not about school closure—so I do not see a need for an appeal mechanism to Welsh Ministers. This is about governance arrangements; it is not a question of a community losing its school. I think that the powers of intervention that already exist provide the necessary safeguards and that section 14 as drafted provides the basis for an orderly departure mechanism for a school from a federation. Therefore, I ask Members to resist these amendments.

David Melding: We press our point. We are not satisfied with the Minister's response. I remind Members that, under this proposed Measure, local authorities will have the power to propose federations. Under existing legislation, which allows federations, not a single voluntary federation has been proposed in eight years of that legislation being on the statute book. In fact, such is the lack of demand that the legislation was not commenced in Wales until a couple of years ago; it was just left to lie fallow on the statute book for that length of time. So, there is a big shift here in the power of initiation.

I remind Members that we are not saying that we are against that shift, but we believe that there should be checks and balances. One obvious issue is that, if a federation is becoming dysfunctional—it may do that while still performing to legal requirements—and not meeting local demands and the aspirations that were proposed when the federation was first advanced, this will encourage constructive, strong behaviour in the new body. Governing bodies will be very different, and they will be challenged to be relevant to each school

1998. Gyda'i gilydd, mae'r pwerau hyn yn ffordd o ddwyn i gyfrif unrhyw gorff llywodraethu ffederasiwn nad yw'n ymddwyn yn rhesymol er budd yr holl ysgolion y mae'n eu llywodraethu.

Euthum i mewn i'r dadleuon hyn yn fanwl yng Nghyfnod 2. Nid wyf yn credu bod angen inni fynd ymhellach ac nid wyf yn credu bod angen inni wneud trefniadau ar gyfer pleidlais i rieni. Yr hyn yr ydym yn siarad amdano yma mewn gwirionedd, fel y dywedais o'r blaen, yw ffedereiddio—nid cau ysgolion—felly nid wyf yn gweld bod angen mecanwaith apelio i Weinidogion Cymru. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â threfniadau llywodraethu; nid yw'n ymwneud â chymuned yn colli ei hysgol. Credaf fod y pwerau ymyrryd sydd eisoes yn bodoli yn darparu'r dulliau diogelu angenrheidiol a bod adran 14 fel y'i drafftwyd yn darparu sail i ysgol adael ffederasiwn gan ddefnyddio mecanwaith trefnus. Felly, gofynnaf i Aelodau wrthod y gwelliannau hyn.

David Melding: Rydym yn pwysleisio ein pwynt. Nid ydym yn fodlon gydag ymateb y Gweinidog. Atgoffaf yr Aelodau, o dan y Mesur arfaethedig, bydd gan awdurdodau lleol y pŵer i gynnig ffederasiynau. O dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol, sy'n caniatáu ffederasiynau, nid oes un ffederasiwn gwirfoddol wedi cael ei gynnig yn yr wyth mlynedd i'r ddeddfwriaeth honno fod ar y llyfr statud. Yn wir, cymaint yw'r diffyg galw amdano, ni chafodd y ddeddfwriaeth ei rhoi ar waith yng Nghymru tan ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl; cafodd ei gadael yn y llyfr statud am yr holl amser hynny heb ei datblygu. Felly, mae newid mawr yma yn y grym i gychwyn.

Atgoffaf Aelodau nad ydym yn dweud ein bod yn erbyn y newid hwnnw, ond credwn y dylid cadw cydbwysedd. Un mater amlwg yw, os bydd ffederasiwn yn camweithredu—gall wneud hynny wrth barhau i berfformio i ofynion cyfreithiol—a pheidio â bodloni'r gofynion lleol a'r dyheadau a gynigiwyd pan gafodd y ffederasiwn ei ddatblygu, y bydd hyn yn annog ymddygiad adeiladol a chadarnhaol o fewn y corff newydd. Bydd cyrff llywodraethu yn wahanol iawn, a byddant yn cael eu herio i fod yn berthnasol i bob ysgol o fewn y ffederasiwn. Os ydynt yn

within the federation. If they get it wrong and act in a way that does not improve the system so that they are responsive to local need, this type of defence mechanism is appropriate, given that, ultimately, it can still be overruled by the Minister.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 4 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

ei gael yn anghywir ac yn gweithredu mewn ffordd nad yw'n gwella'r system fel eu bod yn ymateb i anghenion lleol, mae'r math hwn o fecanwaith diogelu yn briodol, o gofio, yn y pen draw, y gall gael ei wrthod gan y Gweinidog o hyd.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 4. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, symudwn i bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.
Amendment 4: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 4.
Amendment 4 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: As amendment 4 was not agreed, amendment 5 falls.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gan na chytunwyd ar welliant 4, mae gwelliant 5 yn methu.

*Methodd gwelliant 5.
Amendment 5 fell.*

Grŵp 4: Ffedereiddio drwy Gyfarwyddyd Gweinidogion Cymru (Gwelliant 7)
Group 4: Federation by Direction of the Welsh Ministers (Amendment 7)

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call on David Melding to move amendment 7 and to speak to it.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig gwelliant 7 ac i siarad amdano.

David Melding: I move amendment 7 in my name.

David Melding: Cynigiaf welliant 7 yn fy enw.

This amendment would widen the requirement of consultation with the listed relevant stakeholders when a Minister has given a direction to federate. I think that I have already gone into some detail on this. I think that we need to be thorough in our consultation processes. I will not repeat these points, but I urge Members to support this amendment, because I think that it strengthens the proposed Measure.

Byddai'r gwelliant hwn yn ehangu gofynion ymgynghori â'r rhestr o randdeiliaid perthnasol pan fydd Gweinidog wedi rhoi cyfarwyddyd i ffedereiddio. Rwyf yn credu imi sôn eisoes am fanylion hynny. Credaf fod angen inni fod yn drylwyr yn ein prosesau ymgynghori. Nid wyf am ailadrodd y pwyntiau hyn, ond rwy'n annog Aelodau i gefnogi'r gwelliant hwn, oherwydd credaf ei fod yn cryfhau'r Mesur arfaethedig.

Leighton Andrews: We passed Government amendments at Stage 2 that introduced section 15A. I think that that is a better approach than what we had originally tabled. Clearly, David Melding felt at Stage 2 that the amendment did not go far enough to ensure consultation with as many groups of stakeholders as he would like, and that is what he is trying to change with amendment 7. However, in reality, I think that we have flexibility around who can be consulted. I compare this issue with existing powers under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, which gives Ministers the power to direct closures of schools. In that legislation, it is specified which bodies should be consulted with, giving Ministers the option to consult with anyone beyond those specified. It seems to me that it would be odd to have a more stringent list of consultees for federation than for closure. So, I think that we already have enough in the proposed Measure. There is nothing to stop Ministers consulting with others if they wanted to, and there may be circumstances where that would be worthwhile. However, I do not think we need to amend the proposed Measure to extend the list of consultees.

Leighton Andrews: Gwnaethom basio gwelliannau Llywodraeth yng Nghyfnod 2 a oedd yn cyflwyno adran 15A. Credaf fod hynny'n ddull gwell na'r un a gyflwynwyd yn wreiddiol. Yn amlwg, nid oedd David Melding yn teimlo bod gwelliant Cyfnod 2 yn mynd yn ddigon pell i sicrhau ymgynghori â nifer y grwpiau o randdeiliaid ag y dymunai, ac mae'n ceisio newid hynny gyda gwelliant 7. Fodd bynnag, mewn gwirionedd, credaf fod gennym hyblygrwydd o ran pwy y gellir ymgynghori â hwy. Rwy'n cymharu'r mater hwn gyda phwerau presennol o dan Ddeddf Safonau a Fframwaith Ysgolion 1998, sy'n rhoi pŵer i Weinidogion gyfarwyddo cau ysgolion. Yn y ddeddfwriaeth honno, nodir pa gyrff y dylid ymgynghori â hwy, gan roi opsiwn i Weinidogion ymgynghori ag unrhyw un y tu hwnt i'r rhai a nodir. Ymddengys yn rhyfedd imi gael rhestr fwy llym o ymgynghoreion ar gyfer ffedereiddio ysgolion nag ar gyfer cau ysgolion. Felly, credaf fod eisoes gennym ddigon yn y Mesur arfaethedig. Nid oes dim i atal Gweinidogion rhag ymgynghori gydag eraill os byddent yn dymuno hynny, a gall fod amgylchiadau lle byddai hynny yn werth chweil. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf yn credu bod angen diwygio'r Mesur arfaethedig i ymestyn y rhestr o ymgynghoreion.

5.00 p.m.

David Melding: I press the point that we

David Melding: Rwy'n pwysleisio bod

need to be thorough and extensive in our consultations. Frankly, it betrays how the Minister approaches these points. The whole point is that there ought to be a more rigorous procedure for school closures, not that we should follow something less than best practice. If we establish best practice here, I think that you ought to apply it to school closures.

Leighton Andrews: Sorry, but what more do you want in respect of school closures?

David Melding: I have sat down already.

Leighton Andrews: Oh, you have sat down already.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 7 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. I call for a vote.

angen i ni ymgynghori yn drylwyr a helaeth. A dweud y gwir yn blaen, mae'n dangos sut y mae'r Gweinidog yn ystyried y pwyntiau hyn. Yr holl bwynt yw y dylai fod gweithdrefn fwy trylwyr ar gyfer cau ysgolion, ac na ddylem ddilyn rhywbeth sy'n llai na'r arfer gorau. Os byddwn yn sefydlu arfer gorau yma, rwy'n credu y dylech ei gymhwyso i gau ysgolion.

Leighton Andrews: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ond beth arall rydych am ei weld o ran cau ysgolion?

David Melding: Rwyf wedi eistedd i lawr yn barod.

Leighton Andrews: O, rydych wedi eistedd i lawr yn barod.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw bod gwelliant 7 yn cael ei gytuno. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Galwaf am bleidlais.

Gwelliant 7: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 32.

Amendment 7: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 32.

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 7.
Amendment 7 not agreed.*

Grŵp 5: Ysgolion Sefydledig (Gwelliannau 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 20 ac 21)
Group 5: Foundation Schools (Amendments 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 20 and 21)

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The lead amendment is amendment 8. I call David Melding to move the lead amendment and to speak to it and the other amendments in the group.

David Melding: I move amendment 8 in my name.

It is quite clear that the Government here does not like foundation schools, despite the fact that they were made possible by a Labour administration at UK level. There is a genuine difference of opinion here. I do not want to get into any hyperbole about this, because it is a genuine difference. However, it is appropriate that it is drawn out at this stage of our proceedings. I hope that there is a slight chance that I can convince some Members here to back these amendments. We do not think that the right to prevent foundation schools from being established in future is appropriate. We do not think that that should be part of this proposed Measure. Schools that feel that foundation status is appropriate should be able to propose that. That is the first problem that we have with this.

I suppose that, in fairness to the Minister, he could have just said that all foundation schools should be abolished, and I accept that he has not done that. However, I am very concerned that, in the move to federate schools, there is a way of abolishing existing foundation schools by the back door. If he does not like foundation schools that much he should absolutely say that and come forward with legislation that changes their status and abolishes them. At the moment, what could happen is that, in a federation of five schools, say, where one is a foundation school, the new governing body could decide that the one foundation school should have its status changed.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y prif welliant yw gwelliant 8. Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig y prif welliant ac i siarad amdano a'r gwelliannau eraill yn y grŵp.

David Melding: Cynigïaf welliant 8 yn fy enw i.

Mae'n eithaf amlwg nad yw'r Llywodraeth yma yn hoff o ysgolion sefydledig, serch y ffaith eu bod wedi cael eu creu gan weinyddiaeth Lafur ar lefel y DU. Mae gwahaniaeth barn go iawn yma. Nid wyf am fynd dros ben llestri am hyn, oherwydd mae'n wahaniaeth go iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae'n briodol ymhelaethu arno ar yr adeg hon yn ein trafodion. Rwy'n gobeithio bod siawns fach y gallaf argyhoeddi ambell Aelod yma i gefnogi'r gwelliannau hyn. Nid ydym yn credu bod yr hawl i atal creu ysgolion sefydledig yn y dyfodol yn briodol. Nid ydym yn credu y dylai hynny fod yn rhan o'r Mesur arfaethedig hwn. Dylai ysgolion sy'n teimlo bod statws sefydliedig yn briodol allu cynnig hynny. Dyna'r broblem gyntaf sydd gennym gyda hyn.

Mae'n debyg, o ran tegwch i'r Gweinidog, y gallai fod wedi dweud y dylid diddymu pob ysgol sefydledig, ac rwy'n derbyn na wnaeth hynny. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n bryderus iawn, wrth symud i ffederaleiddio ysgolion, y bydd modd diddymu ysgolion sefydledig sy'n bodoli eisoes drwy'r drws cefn. Os nad yw'n hoffi ysgolion sefydledig gymaint â hynny dylai ddweud hynny heb flewyn ar dafod a chyflwyno deddfwriaeth sy'n newid eu statws a'u diddymu. Ar hyn o bryd, yr hyn y gallai ddigwydd, mewn ffederasiwn o bum ysgol, dyweder, lle mae un yn ysgol sefydledig, yw y gallai'r corff llywodraethu newydd benderfynu y dylid newid statws un ysgol sefydledig.

We feel that, if that happens, there should be full consultation with the groups already listed—parents, guardians and so on—on that proposal, including a ballot. Only if that succeeds should foundation status be removed at the request of the governing body of the new federation. Unless this guarantee is written in, there will be a way to abolish foundation schools by the back door. The Minister ought to clarify his position and say whether he really does want to move to a situation where all foundation schools cease to exist rather than his stated position, which is that he does not want any more of them. If those that exist today are fit for purpose, why should that status not be appropriate for schools to seek in future?

Leighton Andrews: We have a very clear ideological disagreement on this point. We are opposed to the creation of any more foundation schools in Wales. We are opposed to the creation of academy schools in Wales, and we are opposed to the creation of Michael Gove's so-called free schools in Wales as well. I could have taken the judgment to seek to abolish entirely the category of foundation schools; David Melding is quite right about that. I chose to be pragmatic and to bring forward proposals in this proposed Measure that prevent foundation schools from being established in future. On this side of the Chamber, we remain true to the comprehensive principle. We want to see a comprehensive system that is working, and we will work to upgrade standards. The measures that we are putting forward would prevent the creation of foundation schools in future. I think that we have adopted a pragmatic approach to this, and I urge Members to resist David Melding's amendments.

David Melding: The Minister is right that we disagree profoundly, and we have both outlined our respective positions. However, we hold to our view on this. It is one of the main reasons why we have difficulties with this proposed Measure, much of which we would have wanted to support if our objections could have been met. Those objections have been framed in a constructive way; we have not attempted to undermine the central purposes of the proposed Measure. I

Rydym yn teimlo, os digwydd hynny, y dylid ymgynghori'n llawn â'r grwpiau sydd eisoes wedi eu rhestru—rhieni, gwarcheidwaid ac yn y blaen—ar y cynnig hwnnw, gan gynnwys pleidlais. Dim ond os yw hynny'n llwyddo y dylid dileu statws sefydledig ar gais corff llywodraethu y ffederasiwn newydd. Oni bai bod y sicrwydd hwn yn cael ei ymgorffori, bydd modd diddymu ysgolion sefydledig drwy'r drws cefn. Dylai'r Gweinidog egluro ei sefyllfa a dweud a yw wir yn awyddus i symud i sefyllfa lle mae pob ysgol sefydledig yn peidio â bodoli yn hytrach na'i safbwynt ef, sef nad yw am gael rhagor ohonynt. Os yw'r rhai sy'n bodoli heddiw yn addas i'r diben, pam na ddylai'r statws hwnnw fod yn briodol i ysgolion ei geisio yn y dyfodol?

Leighton Andrews: Mae gennym anghytundeb ideolegol clir iawn ar y pwynt hwn. Rydym yn gwrthwynebu creu mwy o ysgolion sefydledig yng Nghymru. Rydym yn gwrthwynebu creu ysgolion academi yng Nghymru, ac rydym yn gwrthwynebu creu ysgolion am ddim bondigrybwyll Michael Gove yng Nghymru yn ogystal. Gallwn fod wedi penderfynu ceisio diddymu categori ysgolion sefydledig yn gyfan gwbl; mae David Melding yn hollol iawn am hynny. Dewisais fod yn bragmatig a chyflwyno cynigion yn y Mesur arfaethedig hwn sy'n atal sefydlu ysgolion sefydledig yn y dyfodol. Ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, rydym yn parhau'n driw i'r egwyddor cynhwysol. Rydym am weld system gynhwysol sy'n gweithio, a byddwn yn gweithio i wella safonau. Byddai'r mesurau rydym yn eu cyflwyno yn atal creu ysgolion sefydledig yn y dyfodol. Rwy'n credu ein bod wedi mabwysiadu agwedd bragmatig tuag at hyn, ac anogaf Aelodau i wrthod gwelliannau David Melding.

David Melding: Mae'r Gweinidog yn iawn ein bod yn anghytuno'n llwyr, ac rydym ein dau wedi amlinellu ein safbwyntiau. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn glynu i'n barn ar hyn. Mae'n un o'r prif resymau pam fod gennym anawsterau â'r Mesur arfaethedig hwn, llawer ohono y byddem wedi dymuno ei gefnogi pe byddai modd bodloni ein gwrthwynebiadau. Cafodd y gwrthwynebiadau hynny eu mynegi mewn ffordd adeiladol; nid ydym wedi ceisio tanseilio dibenion canolog y Mesur

am disappointed that we have not been able to find agreement on this issue.

arfaethedig. Rwy'n siomedig nad ydym wedi gallu dod i gytundeb ar y mater hwn.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 8 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, I call for a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 8. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, galwaf am bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 8: O blaid 10, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 37.
Amendment 8: For 10, Abstain 0, Against 37.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Bourne, Nick
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Ramsay, Nick

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
German, Veronica
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
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
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 8.
Amendment 8 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: As amendment 8 was not agreed, amendments 10, 18 and 21 fall.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gan nad oedd gwelliant 8 wedi ei dderbyn, mae gwelliannau 10, 18 a 21 yn disgyn.

In line with the marshalled list, we will now move to dispose of amendment 9. I invite David Melding to move amendment 9.

Yn unol â'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli, symudwn yn awr i waredu gwelliant 9. Gwahoddaf David Melding i gynnig

gwelliant 9.

David Melding: I move amendment 9 in my name.

David Melding: Cynigiaf welliant 9 yn fy enw i.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 9 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, I call for a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 9. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, galwaf am bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 9: O blaid 10, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 37.
Amendment 9: For 10, Abstain 0, Against 37.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Bourne, Nick
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Ramsay, Nick

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
German, Veronica
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
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
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 9.
Amendment 9 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: As amendment 9 was not agreed, amendments 11 and 12 fall.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gan nad oedd gwelliant 9 wedi ei dderbyn, mae gwelliannau 11 a 12 yn disgyn.

Methodd gwelliannau 10, 11 a 12.

Amendments 11 and 12 fell.

Grŵp 6: Gorchmynion a Rheoliadau—Gweithdrefn (Gwelliannau 13, 14, 22, 15, 16 a 23)
Group 6: Orders and Regulations—Procedure (Amendments 13, 14, 22, 15, 16 and 23)

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call on David Melding to move amendment 13 and to speak to it and the other amendments in the group.

David Melding: I move amendment 13 in my name.

In Orders relating to small schools and their definition, it is important that the affirmative resolution procedure should be used. As these matters are not being dealt with on the face of the proposed Measure—there are arguments for that so that the proposed Measure contains flexibility to meet changing circumstances in future—we think that they should come before the Assembly and require the affirmative resolution procedure. That is an appropriate check, and we know that it is regarded as best practice, as outlined by the Constitutional Affairs Committee, in how the Executive should exercise its powers to make Orders.

Jenny Randerson: I commend to Members amendments 14, 22, 15, 16 and 23 in my name. The substantive amendment is amendment 23, which states that an Order under section 15 cannot be made unless a draft of the Order has been laid before the Assembly and approved by resolution of the National Assembly for Wales. This amendment treads the same turf as those put forward by David Melding, and we will support the Conservative amendments with the exception of amendment 13, which conflicts with ours.

We often talk about the procedure for making regulations and Orders in this place. In this case, the Minister can decide what the definition of a small school is. Therefore, without the agreement of the Assembly, as this proposed legislation is currently written, Ministers can arbitrarily set what a small school is and what it is not. Given that the Government has put forward amendments that mean that small schools can be federated without the same level of consultation as

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig gwelliant 13 ac i siarad amdano a'r gwelliannau eraill yn y grŵp.

David Melding: Cynigaf welliant 13 yn fy enw i.

Mewn Gorchmynion sy'n ymwneud ag ysgolion bach a'r diffiniad ohonynt, mae'n bwysig bod y weithdrefn penderfyniad cadarnhaol yn cael ei defnyddio. Gan nad yw'r materion hyn yn cael eu trin ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig—mae dadleuon dros hynny fel bod y Mesur arfaethedig yn ddigon hyblyg i fodloni amgylchiadau sy'n newid yn y dyfodol—credwn y dylent ddod gerbron y Cynulliad a bod yn destun y weithdrefn penderfyniad cadarnhaol. Mae hwnnw'n wiriad priodol, a gwyddom ei fod yn cael ei ystyried fel arfer gorau, fel yr amlinellwyd gan y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol, o ran y modd y dylai'r Weithrediaeth arfer ei phwerau i wneud Gorchmynion.

Jenny Randerson: Cymeradwyaf i'r Aelodau welliannau 14, 22, 15, 16 a 23 yn fy enw i. Y gwelliant sylweddol yw gwelliant 23, sy'n datgan na all Gorchmyn o dan adran 15 gael ei wneud oni bai fod drafft o'r Gorchmyn wedi ei osod gerbron y Cynulliad a'i gymeradwyo drwy benderfyniad gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Mae'r gwelliant hwn yn debyg i'r rhai a gyflwynwyd gan David Melding, a byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliannau'r Ceidwadwyr ac eithrio gwelliant 13, sy'n gwrthdaro â'n rhai ni.

Rydym yn aml yn sôn am y weithdrefn ar gyfer gwneud rheoliadau a Gorchmynion yn y lle hwn. Yn yr achos hwn, gall y Gweinidog benderfynu beth yw'r diffiniad o ysgol fach. Felly, heb gytundeb y Cynulliad, fel yr ysgrifennwyd yn y ddeddfwriaeth arfaethedig hon ar hyn o bryd, gall Gweinidogion ddweud beth yw a beth nad yw ysgol fach yn ôl mympwy. O gofio bod y Llywodraeth wedi cyflwyno gwelliannau sy'n golygu y gall ysgolion bach gael eu

other, larger schools, this, in effect, means that Ministers can determine which schools can be federated easily and which cannot. We can all imagine a situation in which small schools in our constituencies and regions would be under consideration for federation, and it would be down to the Minister to decide whether those schools are technically small or not, and therefore it would be down to the Minister to decide on the level of consultation to take place. That is likely to cause a great deal of controversy locally. It may be perfectly clear to us here, but there is an element of ministerial judgment that will undoubtedly be tested at a local level.

Despite the fact that the current Minister has said that he will not make decisions about small schools arbitrarily, I am sure that the Minister would accept that he will not be Minister for ever and that, at some point in the future, some Minister less perfect than he may abuse these powers. *[Laughter.]* I am coming to the end of my time in the Assembly, for goodness' sake.

We have to legislate, therefore, to cover all eventualities and it is our duty to ensure that scrutiny picks up these things as we go along. If I had to point to one weakness in our legislation in the Assembly, and it appears time and again, it would be that we tend to make legislation based on the assurances of the current Minister and it is not time-proofed. We should make legislation that can stand the test of time and the test of different colours of administrations and of the different personalities of Ministers, and that therefore is robust enough to last without being challenged.

I want to add one final postscript to my comments on these amendments, namely that the Constitutional Affairs Committee supports this proposal in the terms in which it made its report.

Leighton Andrews: I will start again by saying that this is, on the whole, about school federation, not school closure. The decision to use the negative procedure for regulation

ffedereiddio heb yr un lefel o ymgynghori ag ysgolion eraill, mwy o faint, mae hyn, i bob pwrpas, yn golygu y gall Gweinidogion benderfynu pa ysgolion all gael eu ffedereiddio yn hawdd a pha rai na ellir. Gall pob un ohonom ddychmygu sefyllfa lle byddai ysgolion bach yn ein hetholaethau a'n rhanbarthau yn cael eu hystyried ar gyfer ffedereiddio, a byddai rhaid wedyn i'r Gweinidog benderfynu a yw'r ysgolion yn fach yn dechnegol neu beidio, ac felly byddai'n rhaid i'r Gweinidog benderfynu faint o ymgynghori ddylai ddigwydd. Mae hynny'n debygol o achosi llawer iawn o anghydfod yn lleol. Gall fod yn hollol glir i ni yma, ond mae elfen o farn weinidogol a fydd, yn ddiamau, yn cael ei phrofi yn lleol.

Er gwaethaf y ffaith fod y Gweinidog presennol wedi dweud na fydd yn gwneud penderfyniadau am ysgolion bach yn ôl mympwy, rwy'n siŵr y byddai'r Gweinidog yn derbyn na fydd yn Weinidog am byth, ac y bydd, rhywbryd yn y dyfodol, rai Gweinidogion llai perffaith nag ef yn gallu camdrin y pwerau hyn. *[Chwerthin.]* Rwy'n tynnu at ddiwedd fy amser yn y Cynulliad, er mwyn popeth.

Mae'n rhaid i ni ddeddfu, felly, i ymdrin â phob posibilrwydd ac mae'n ddyletswydd arnom i sicrhau bod craffu yn amlygu'r pethau hyn wrth i ni fynd ymlaen. Pe bai'n rhaid i mi dynnu sylw at un gwendid yn ein deddfwriaeth yn y Cynulliad, ac mae'n ymddangos dro ar ôl tro, y gwendid hwnnw yw ein bod yn tueddu i wneud deddfwriaeth ar sail y sicrwydd y Gweinidog presennol ac nad oes prawf amser. Dylem wneud deddfwriaeth a all sefyll prawf amser a phrawf gweinyddiaethau o liwiau gwahanol ac o bersonoliaethau gweinidogol gwahanol, ac felly yn ddigon cadarn i bara heb gael ei herio.

Hoffwn ychwanegu gair olaf i fy sylwadau ar y gwelliannau, sef bod y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol yn cefnogi'r cynnig hwn yn ôl y telerau y gwnaeth ei adroddiad.

Leighton Andrews: Dechreuaf drwy ddweud eto fod hyn yn ymwneud, ar y cyfan, â ffedereiddio ysgolion, nid cau ysgolion. Gwnaed y penderfyniad i ddefnyddio'r

making powers in the proposed Measure was made on the basis that the subject of the regulations would be technical and/or contain administrative detail to implement the proposed Measure's provisions following on from the intent of the proposed Measure. From time to time, that detail may need to be changed.

In respect of collaboration and federation, the regulations will prescribe administrative processes not policy, and my expectation is that they would, in the main, mirror the current collaboration and federation regulations. Those regulations were made under the negative procedure and therefore provide a precedent. Given that the current regulations have proved uncontroversial, and as the policy intent in respect of collaboration and federation is on the face of the proposed Measure, my view is that the negative procedure is appropriate here.

Likewise, the policy intent for federation in respect of small schools is clearly set out on the face of the proposed Measure. My view is that the negative resolution is the appropriate vehicle for making a small schools Order, as it would only provide the numerical definition of a small school in terms of pupil numbers. The making of a small schools Order in no way obliges a local authority to federate that school with another. Any contentious or new issues have been placed on the face of the proposed Measure. That has been my intention throughout the drafting process, and we further strengthened that approach at Stage 2 by bringing forward an amendment so that more detail was placed on the face of the proposed Measure in respect of consultation for federation.

Likewise, section 29 of the proposed Measure is a technical provision that simply allows regulations to be made to repeal or amend the existing provisions in secondary legislation, which are drafted on the basis that a school might change category to become a foundation school or that such a new school may be established. Therefore, it is appropriate that the negative procedure is used here. I do not believe that the affirmative resolution process is necessary for regulations emanating from the proposed

weithdrefn negyddol ar gyfer pwerau gwneud rheoliadau yn y Mesur arfaethedig ar y sail y byddai testun y rheoliadau yn dechnegol ac/neu'n cynnwys manylion gweinyddol i weithredu darpariaethau'r Mesur arfaethedig yn dilyn ymlaen o fwriad y Mesur arfaethedig. O bryd i'w gilydd, efallai y bydd angen newid y manylion hynny.

O ran cydweithredu a ffedereiddio, bydd y rheoliadau yn pennu prosesau gweinyddol ac nid polisi, ac rwy'n disgwyl y byddant, yn bennaf, yn adlewyrchu'r rheoliadau cydweithio a ffedereiddio cyfredol. Gwnaed y rheoliadau hynny o dan y weithdrefn negyddol ac felly maent yn darparu cynsail. O gofio nad yw'r rheoliadau presennol wedi bod yn ddadleuol, a chan fod bwriad y polisi o ran cydweithio a ffedereiddio ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig, fy marn i yw bod y weithdrefn negyddol yn briodol yma.

Yn yr un modd, mae bwriad y polisi ar gyfer ffedereiddio mewn perthynas ag ysgolion bach wedi ei amlinellu'n glir ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig. Fy marn i yw mai'r penderfyniad negyddol yw'r cyfrwng priodol i wneud Gorchymyn ysgolion bach, gan y byddai ond yn darparu'r diffiniad rhifiadol o ysgol fach o ran niferoedd disgyblion. Nid yw gwneud Gorchymyn ysgolion bach yn gorfodi awdurdod lleol mewn unrhyw ffordd i ffedereiddio'r ysgol honno ag un arall. Mae unrhyw faterion dadleuol neu newydd wedi eu rhoi ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig. Bu hynny'n fwriad gennyf drwy gydol y broses ddrafftio, a gwnaethom atgyfnerthu'r agwedd honno yng Nghyfnod 2 drwy gyflwyno gwelliant fel bod mwy o fanylion yn cael eu rhoi ar wyneb y Mesur arfaethedig o ran ymgynghori ar gyfer ffedereiddio.

Yn yr un modd, mae adran 29 o'r Mesur arfaethedig yn ddarpariaeth dechnegol sy'n caniatáu i reoliadau gael eu gwneud i ddiddymu neu ddiwygio darpariaethau presennol mewn deddfwriaeth eilaidd, sy'n cael eu drafftio ar y sail y gallai ysgol newid categori i ddod yn ysgol sefydledig neu bod y fath ysgol newydd yn gallu cael ei sefydlu. Felly, mae'n briodol bod y weithdrefn negyddol yn cael ei defnyddio yma. Nid wyf o'r farn bod angen y broses penderfyniad cadarnhaol ar gyfer rheoliadau sy'n deillio

Measure and I ask Members to resist these amendments.

David Melding: I commend entirely what Jenny Randerson said. It is disappointing when, on substantive issues such as this, a Minister argues for the negative procedure instead of the affirmative. It is poor practice. These are potentially very significant definitions, and I urge Members, especially Members who may not be on the Executive side after 5 May and may have to live with the consequences of what they are doing this afternoon, at least to support a move towards making the affirmative procedure required for these Orders.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 13 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

o'r Mesur arfaethedig, a gofynnaf i Aelodau wrthod y gwelliannau hyn.

David Melding: Cymeradwyaf yn llwyr yr hyn a ddywedodd Jenny Randerson. Mae'n siomedig pan fo Gweinidog, ar faterion o bwys fel hwn, yn dadlau o blaid y weithdrefn negyddol yn hytrach na'r cadarnhaol. Mae'n arfer gwael. Mae'r rhain yn ddiffiniadau a allai fod yn arwyddocaol iawn, ac rwy'n annog Aelodau, yn enwedig yr Aelodau na fydd o bosibl ar ochr y Weithrediaeth ar ôl 5 Mai ac a fydd o bosibl yn gorfod byw â chanlyniadau yr hyn maent yn ei wneud y prynhawn yma, o leiaf i gefnogi symudiad tuag at wneud y weithdrefn gadarnhaol yn ofynnol ar gyfer y Gorchmynion hyn.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 13. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, byddwn yn symud i bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 13: O blaid 10, Ymatal 5, Yn erbyn 31.
Amendment 13: For 10, Abstain 5, Against 31.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Bourne, Nick
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Ramsay, Nick

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Veronica
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 13.
Amendment 13 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: As amendment 13 was not agreed, amendments 14, 15 and 16 fall.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gan nad oedd gwelliant 13 wedi ei dderbyn, mae gwelliannau 14, 15 a 16 yn disgyn.

*Methodd gwelliant 14.
Amendment 14 fell.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: In line with the marshalled list, we now move to dispose of amendment 22. I invite Jenny Randerson to move the amendment.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yn unol â'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli, symudwn yn awr i waredu gwelliant 22. Gwahoddaf Jenny Randerson i gynnig y gwelliant.

Jenny Randerson: I move amendment 22 in my name.

Jenny Randerson: Cynigaf welliant 22 yn fy enw i.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 22 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 22. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, byddwn yn symud i bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 22: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 32.
Amendment 22: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 32.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val

Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 22.
 Amendment 22 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: As amendment 22 was not agreed, amendment 23 falls.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gan nad oedd gwelliant 22 wedi ei gytuno, mae gwelliant 23 yn methu.

5.15 p.m.

*Methodd gwelliannau 15 a 16.
 Amendments 15 and 16 fell.*

**Grŵp 7: Rheoliadau—Cynlluniau Peilot (Gwelliant 17)
 Group 7: Regulations—Pilot Schemes (Amendment 17)**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: There is just one amendment in this group. I call on David Melding to move amendment 17 and to speak to the amendment.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Dim ond un gwelliant sydd yn y grŵp hwn. Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig gwelliant 17 ac i siarad amdano.

David Melding: I move amendment 17 in my name.

David Melding: Cynigaf welliant 17 yn fy enw i.

I think that the Government and particularly the Minister are taking a Speedy Gonzales approach to federation, now that they think that it is a good idea. They have had the power to advance this for several years, and are now making up for lost time. We are in the rather absurd position under sections 10 to 20 that statutory instruments can be made without taking any account of the pilot federation schemes. It was a key recommendation of the committee's report that it made no sense whatsoever to move to statutory instruments under these powers without taking the pilots into account. You put the pilots in place so that you can improve the process and adapt statutory instruments, shaping them accordingly. The committee saw through this absurdity and made a clear recommendation. No-one demurred when the committee made its report. Then the whips got to work, alas, and none of us is so naïve as not to take account of the power of the whips, even regarding what legislation committees do in this place.

Credaf fod y Llywodraeth ac yn enwedig y Gweinidog yn mynd fel cathod i gythraul tuag at ffederaleiddio, nawr eu bod yn credu ei fod yn syniad da. Maent wedi meddu ar y pŵer i symud hyn yn ei flaen am nifer o flynyddoedd, ac maent bellach yn gwneud iawn am yr amser a gollwyd. Rydym yn y sefyllfa braidd yn hurt o dan adran 10 i 20 lle gellir gwneud offerynnau statudol heb gymryd unrhyw sylw o'r cynlluniau peilot ar ffedereiddio. Un o argymhellion allweddol adroddiad y pwyllgor oedd nad oedd yn gwneud unrhyw synnwyr i symud i offerynnau statudol o dan y pwerau hyn heb gymryd y cynlluniau peilot i ystyriaeth. Rydych yn rhoi'r cynlluniau peilot ar waith fel eich bod yn gallu gwella'r broses ac addasu offerynnau statudol, gan eu llunio yn unol â hynny. Gwelodd y pwyllgor drwy'r abswrddiaeth hwn a gwneud argymhelliad clir. Ni anghytunodd unrhyw un pan wnaeth y pwyllgor ei adroddiad. Yna cychwynnodd y chwipiau ar eu gwaith, gwaetha'r modd, ac nid oes yr un ohonom yn ddigon naif i

It is disappointing when that happens. The Minister has been able to overturn what was a clear recommendation in the committee's report, and I do not think that such a heavy-handed approach improves legislation or is particularly elegant in terms of the behaviour of Ministers. If you have pilots, you have to act on some of the evidence that comes from them. To make statutory instruments under these powers before those pilots have been examined is just plain silly, as I said in the committee.

Leighton Andrews: Throughout this process, I think that David Melding has wilfully misrepresented what the pilots are about. The current pilots are a way to create a small number of federations that are showcasing the concept. However, they are pilots on the basis of voluntary federation, and there is a clear distinction. What the proposed Measure is doing is creating the power to federate for local authorities, and the pilots are not testing that power at all, so there is a clear distinction between the pilots that we currently have and what is substantially new in this proposed Measure. I have explained this repeatedly to David Melding during the course of this process. He does not accept the point that I am making—that there is a difference between the pilots that we are having and the powers in this proposed Measure. He does not accept that; that is up to him. However, I am clear that we are talking about two different things, and therefore I urge Members to resist this amendment.

David Melding: The Minister is beguiling, is he not? [*Laughter.*] A federation is a federation. I think that it is better, in an ideal world, that it is a voluntary federation, because you get obvious sign-up to that. However, the fact that you are moving the power to local authorities, I would have thought, makes it even more important that you reflect on the evidence that is coming forward from those pilots. It makes the case stronger, not weaker, so I hope that colleagues here in the Assembly will not be beguiled by the Minister's words,

danbrizio pŵer y chwipiau, hyd yn oed o ran yr hyn a wna pwyllgorau deddfwriaeth yn y lle hwn. Mae'n siomedig pan fydd hynny'n digwydd. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi llwyddo i wrthdroi yr hyn a oedd yn argymhelliad clir yn adroddiad y pwyllgor, ac ni thbyiaf fod agwedd mor llawdrwm yn gwella deddfwriaeth nag yn arbennig o urddasol o ran ymddygiad Gweinidogion. Os oes gennych gynlluniau peilot, mae'n rhaid i chi weithredu ar rywfaint o'r dystiolaeth a ddaw ohonynt. Mae gwneud offerynnau statudol o dan y pwerau hyn cyn bod y cynlluniau peilot hynny wedi cael eu harchwilio yn wirion, fel y dywedais yn y pwyllgor.

Leighton Andrews: Drwy gydol y broses hon, rwy'n meddwl bod David Melding wedi camliwio amcan y cynlluniau peilot yn fwrriadol. Mae'r cynlluniau peilot presennol yn ffordd i greu nifer fach o enghreifftiau o ffedereiddio sy'n arddangos y cysyniad. Fodd bynnag, maent yn gynlluniau peilot ar sail ffedereiddio gwirfoddol, ac mae gwahaniaeth clir. Yr hyn mae'r Mesur arfaethedig yn ei wneud yw creu'r pŵer i ffedereiddio ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol, ac nid yw'r cynlluniau peilot yn rhoi'r pŵer hwnnw ar brawf o gwbl, felly mae gwahaniaeth clir rhwng y cynllun peilot sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd a'r hyn sy'n sylweddol newydd yn y Mesur arfaethedig. Rwyf wedi esbonio hyn dro ar ôl tro i David Melding yn ystod y broses hon. Nid yw'n derbyn y pwynt rwyf yn ei wneud—bod gwahaniaeth rhwng y cynlluniau peilot rydym yn eu cael, a'r pwerau yn y Mesur arfaethedig. Nid yw'n derbyn hynny; mater iddo ef yw hynny. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n glir ein bod yn sôn am ddau beth gwahanol, ac felly anogaf Aelodau i wrthod y gwelliant hwn.

David Melding: Mae'r Gweinidog yn hudolus, onid yw? [*Chwerthin.*] Ffedereiddio yw ffedereiddio yw ffedereiddio. Rwy'n credu ei bod yn well, mewn byd delfrydol, ei fod yn ffedereiddio gwirfoddol, gan fod pobl yn amlwg yn ymrwymo i hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ffaith eich bod yn symud y pŵer i awdurdodau lleol, byddwn wedi tybio, yn ei gwneud yn bwysicach fyth eich bod yn ystyried y dystiolaeth sy'n cael ei chyflwyno gan y cynlluniau peilot hynny. Mae'n gwneud yr achos yn gryfach, nid gwannach, felly rwy'n gobeithio na fydd cydweithwyr

and will support this amendment.

yma yn y Cynulliad yn cael eu hudo gan eiriau'r Gweinidog, ac yn cefnogi'r gwelliant hwn.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 17 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we will move to a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 17. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, byddwn yn symud i bleidlais.

Gwelliant 17: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.

Amendment 17: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 31.

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 17.
Amendment 17 not agreed.*

*Methodd gwelliannau 23 ac 18.
Amendments 23 and 18 fell.*

Grŵp 8: Apelio yn erbyn Cynigion Awdurdod Lleol i Ffedereiddio (Gwelliant 19)
Group 8: Appeals against Proposals by a Local Authority to Federate (Amendment 19)

The Deputy Presiding Officer: There is just one amendment in this group. I call on David Melding to move amendment 19 and to speak to the amendment.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Dim ond un gwelliant sydd yn y grŵp hwn. Galwaf ar David Melding i gynnig gwelliant 19 ac i siarad amdano.

David Melding: I move amendment 19 in my name.

We have heard several times in this debate that federations will be able to be proposed by local authorities, if this proposed Measure is passed. We do not object to that in principle, but it is a big change from the previous model, which allowed only voluntary federation. Of course, it is still possible that some federations will be formed voluntarily; that is not excluded. However, it is a big shift in the power of initiation, and we think that that requires a scheme of appropriate checks and balances. Therefore, we are not trying to prevent the power; we are happy to permit it if there are certain checks and balances in place.

One obvious check and balance that we think could apply is that, if a particular school is unhappy with a proposal for a federation, then it could appeal against the formation of that federation or its own inclusion in it. The final decision would still be for the Minister, but the school would have some authority in appealing, because it would have to go through the consultation process—I will not labour Members with a full description of that process, because I have already referred to it. The Minister, in denying the right of appeal, would be held accountable for that decision, but if he or she felt that the overriding interest of the federation made it appropriate that the school be compelled to be in that federation, then everyone would at least be satisfied that the full issue had been discussed. That is a perfectly reasonable thing to permit.

We may be in a situation where we could see this type of legislation evolve. We know that the Government's initial intention is for it to be used to federate smaller schools and therefore to permit the more effective management of them. That is why many of us feel that federation is an option that should be available to local authorities. However, in time, it may be more common for secondary schools to be in federations, and local authorities may want to use this power to propose them and not to wait for a voluntary

David Melding: Cynigiau welliant 19 yn fy enw i.

Clywsom sawl gwaith yn y ddadl hon y bydd achosion o ffedereiddio yn gallu cael eu cynnig gan awdurdodau lleol, os caiff y Mesur arfaethedig yn cael ei basio. Nid ydym yn gwrthwynebu hynny mewn egwyddor, ond mae'n newid mawr o'r model blaenorol, a oedd ddim ond yn caniatáu ffedereiddio gwirfoddol. Wrth gwrs, mae'n dal yn bosibl y bydd rhai achosion o ffedereiddio yn cael eu ffurfio yn wirfoddol, nid yw hynny'n cael ei eithrio. Fodd bynnag, mae'n newid mawr yn y grym cychwyn, ac rydym yn credu bod hynny'n gofyn am gynllun o rwystrau a gwrthbwsiau priodol. Felly, nid ydym yn ceisio atal y pŵer; rydym yn hapus i'w ganiatáu os oes rhwystrau a gwrthbwsiau penodol mewn eu lle.

Un rhwystr a gwrthbws amlwg y teimlwn y gellid ei gymhwysu yw os bydd ysgol benodol yn anhapus gyda chynnig ar gyfer ffedereiddio, yna gallai apelio yn erbyn ffurfio'r ffederasiwn hwnnw neu cael ei chynnwys ynddo. Byddai'r penderfyniad terfynol yn dal i fod gyda'r Gweinidog, ond byddai gan yr ysgol rywfaint o awdurdod wrth apelio, oherwydd byddai'n rhaid iddi fynd drwy'r broses ymgynghori—nid wyf am ddiflasu'r Aelodau gyda disgrifiad llawn o'r broses honno, oherwydd rwyf eisoes wedi cyfeirio ati. Byddai'r Gweinidog, wrth wadu yr hawl i apelio, yn atebol am y penderfyniad hwnnw, ond os teimlai ef neu hi fod lles pennaf y ffederasiwn yn ei gwneud yn briodol i'r ysgol gael ei gorfodi i fod yn y ffederasiwn hwnnw, yna byddai pawb o leiaf yn fodlon bod y mater llawn wedi cael ei drafod. Mae hynny'n beth hollol resymol i'w ganiatáu.

Efallai y byddwn mewn sefyllfa lle gallem weld y math hwn o ddeddfwriaeth yn esblygu. Gwyddom mai bwriad cyntaf y Llywodraeth yw iddi gael ei defnyddio i ffedereiddio ysgolion llai ac felly i alluogi rheolaeth fwy effeithiol ohonynt. Dyna pam mae nifer ohonom yn teimlo bod ffedereiddio yn opsiwn a ddylai fod ar gael i awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, mewn amser, gall fod yn fwy cyffredin i ysgolion uwchradd fod mewn ffederasiynau, ac efallai y bydd awdurdodau lleol am ddefnyddio'r pŵer hwn i'w cynnig a

scheme to be proposed by various schools. In those circumstances—and we all know what happens in local communities when fundamental changes are proposed to existing secondary schools—we feel that there should be some sort of process, otherwise we will be in a position where parents, guardians, pupils, staff and trade unions will not even get a chance to express their case. This amendment would allow them to express their case to the Minister, and while the decision would be postponed for the period that is required for the Minister to examine the evidence, the Minister could still ultimately say ‘Yes, this federation must proceed’. It is therefore not in any way a wrecking amendment, but one that brings the full rigour of scrutiny to particular proposals. I urge Members to support it.

Leighton Andrews: I understand David Melding’s concern that local authorities might use their power indiscriminately, and that is why he wants to create a mechanism of appeal to the Minister. However, again, this is not about the closure of schools, but about federation. This really comes down to whether local authorities should be trusted to make judgments or whether someone else should second-guess their decisions.

Local authorities exist to maintain schools, to ensure that there is sufficient suitable education in the area and to ensure the quality governance and management of schools. I do not see any good reason why any reasonable authority would not take on board consultation responses when considering whether to implement federation proposals, and if local authorities were simply to go through the motions of consulting and were unable to produce evidence that they had properly considered responses, then they would be susceptible to an application for judicial review by an interested party. The Education Act 1996 already provides Welsh Ministers with powers to direct authorities if they act unreasonably or fail to discharge their duties, which provides more than adequate protection against procedural failure. On those grounds, I urge Members to reject the amendment.

pheidio ag aros i gynllun gwirfoddol gael ei gynnig gan ysgolion amrywiol. Yn yr amgylchiadau hynny—ac rydym i gyd yn gwybod beth sy’n digwydd mewn cymunedau lleol pan mae newidiadau sylfaenol yn cael eu cynnig i ysgolion uwchradd presennol—teimlwn y dylai fod rhyw fath o broses, neu fel arall byddwn mewn sefyllfa lle na fydd rhieni, gwarcheidwaid, disgyblion, staff ac undebau llafur hyd yn oed yn cael cyfle i ddadlau eu hachos. Byddai’r gwelliant hwn yn eu galluogi i ddadlau eu hachos i’r Gweinidog, ac er y byddai’r penderfyniad yn cael ei ohirio am y cyfnod sydd ei angen i’r Gweinidog edrych ar y dystiolaeth, gallai’r Gweinidog yn y pen draw bara i ddweud ‘Oes, mae’n rhaid i’r ffedereiddio fynd yn ei flaen’. Felly, nid yw mewn unrhyw ffordd yn welliant dinistriol, ond yn un sy’n dod â thrylwyredd craffu llawn i gynigion penodol. Anogaf yr Aelodau i’w gefnogi.

Leighton Andrews: Rwy’n deall pryder David Melding y gallai awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio eu pŵer yn ddiwahân, a dyna pam ei fod am greu mecanwaith i apelio i’r Gweinidog. Fodd bynnag, eto, nid yw hyn yn ymwneud â chau ysgolion, ond â ffedereiddio. Mae hyn wir yn dod i lawr i p’un ai y dylid ymddiried mewn awdurdodau lleol i wneud dyfarniadau neu a ddylai rhywun arall ailedrych ar eu penderfyniadau.

Mae awdurdodau lleol yn bodoli i gynnal ysgolion, er mwyn sicrhau bod digon o addysg addas yn yr ardal ac i sicrhau ansawdd o ran llywodraethu a rheoli ysgolion. Ni welaf unrhyw reswm da pam na fyddai unrhyw awdurdod rhesymol yn pwysu a mesur ymatebion i’r ymgynghoriad wrth ystyried a ddylid gweithredu cynigion ffedereiddio, a phe bai awdurdodau lleol ddim ond yn mynd drwy’r broses o ymgynghori gan fethu â chynhyrchu tystiolaeth eu bod wedi ystyried ymatebion yn briodol, yna byddent yn agored i gais am adolygiad barnwrol gan gyfranogwyr. Mae Deddf Addysg 1996 eisoes yn rhoi pwerau i Weinidogion Cymru i gyfarwyddo awdurdodau os byddant yn ymddwyn yn afresymol neu’n methu â chyflawni eu dyletswyddau, sy’n darparu mwy na digon o ddiogelwch yn erbyn methiant gweithdrefnol. Ar y sail honno, anogaf yr Aelodau i wrthod

y gwelliant.

David Melding: The Minister has again failed to appreciate that we want to strengthen the process and to deter inappropriate or heavy-handed behaviour in the first place. A mechanism of appeal and delay will encourage local authorities to act appropriately with these considerable new powers—it is a big shift in the power of initiation, from the schools themselves coming together in a voluntary capacity to local authorities being able to propose these federations. I think that the Americans got it right: when you have big constitutional powers, you need checks and balances. This is an obvious example of where that is the case. I am not at all persuaded by the Minister's response, but I hope that he is proven right in saying that local authorities will exercise their powers responsibly. The experience has often been that there is huge local controversy about what local authorities are proposing—not all the time, and not the majority of the time, but it does happen. We are storing up trouble if we do not have a mechanism that allows that discontent, should it be there, appropriate expression.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 19 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we shall move to a vote.

David Melding: Mae'r Gweinidog wedi methu â gwerthfawrogi unwaith eto ein bod yn awyddus i gryfhau'r broses ac i atal ymddygiad amhriodol neu lawdrwm yn y lle cyntaf. Bydd mecanwaith apelio ac oedi yn annog awdurdodau lleol i ymddwyn yn briodol gyda'r pwerau sylweddol newydd hyn—mae'n newid mawr yn y grym cychwyn, o'r ysgolion eu hunain yn dod at ei gilydd yn wirfoddol i awdurdodau lleol yn gallu cynnig y ffederasiynau hyn. Credaf fod yr Americanwyr wedi ei gael yn iawn: pan fydd gennych bwerau cyfansoddiadol mawr, mae angen rhwystrau a gwrthbwyssau arnoch. Mae hyn yn enghraifft amlwg o lle mae hynny'n wir. Nid wyf wedi fy argyhoeddi o gwbl gan ymateb y Gweinidog, ond gobeithio y caiff ei brofi'n gywir wrth ddweud y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn arfer eu pwerau'n gyfrifol. Dangosodd profiad yn aml fod anghydfod enfawr yn lleol ynghylch yr hyn mae awdurdodau lleol yn gynnig—nid drwy'r amser, ac nid y rhan fwyaf o'r amser, ond mae'n digwydd. Rydym yn creu trafferth os nad oes gennym fecanwaith sy'n caniatáu i'r anfdlonrwydd hwnnw, os yw yno, gael ei fynegi'n briodol.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid cytuno ar welliant 19. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, byddwn yn symud i bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 19: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 32.
Amendment 19: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 32.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Veronica
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann

Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 19.
 Amendment 19 not agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: In line with the marshalled list, we shall move to dispose of amendment 20. I invite David Melding to move the amendment.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yn unol â'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli, symudwn i waredu gwelliant 20. Gwahoddaf David Melding i gynnig y gwelliant.

David Melding: I move amendment 20 in my name.

David Melding: Cynigiaf welliant 20 yn fy enw i.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that amendment 20 be agreed to. Are there any objections? I see that there are. Therefore, we shall move to a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn gwelliant 20. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod. Felly, byddwn yn symud i bleidlais.

*Gwelliant 20: O blaid 10, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 37.
 Amendment 20: For 10, Abstain 0, Against 37.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
 Bourne, Nick
 Burns, Angela
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Paul
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Melding, David
 Millar, Darren
 Ramsay, Nick

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
 The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Franks, Chris
 German, Veronica
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hart, Edwina
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David

Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Watson, Joyce
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd gwelliant 20.
 Amendment 20 not agreed.*

*Methodd gwelliant 21.
 Amendment 21 fell.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: We have now reached the end of Stage 3 consideration of the Proposed Education (Wales) Measure, and I declare that all the sections and schedules of the proposed Measure are deemed agreed. That concludes Stage 3 proceedings.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Rydym bellach wedi cyrraedd diwedd ystyriaeth Cyfnod 3 o'r Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Addysg (Cymru), ac rwyf yn datgan bod holl adrannau ac atodlenni y Mesur arfaethedig wedi'u derbyn. Dyna ddiwedd trafodion Cyfnod 3.

**Cynnig Cyfnod 4 o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 23.58 i Gymeradwyo'r Mesur
 Arfaethedig ynghylch Addysg (Cymru)
 Stage 4 Standing Order No. 23.58 Motion to Approve the Proposed Education
 (Wales) Measure**

Cynnig

Motion

Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 23.58, yn cymeradwyo'r Mesur Arfaethedig ynghylch Addysg (Cymru).

The National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 23.58, approves the Proposed Education (Wales) Measure.

The Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning (Leighton Andrews): I move the motion.

Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Leighton Andrews): Cynigiau y cynnig.

This is the final proposed Measure of this Assembly, and, following the referendum result on 3 March, this is the final proposed Assembly Measure, because in future we will pass our own Bills and Acts. Therefore, this is a historic moment to acknowledge. I am delighted that education is being taken forward firmly in Wales as a result of the work in the proposed Measure. We are placing an emphasis on collaboration in education—collaboration is the Welsh way, not wasteful competition. In the proposed Measure we are also reinforcing our support for the comprehensive system of education,

Dyma Fesur arfaethedig olaf y Cynulliad hwn, ac, yn dilyn canlyniad y refferendwm ar 3 Mawrth, dyma'r Mesur Cynulliad arfaethedig olaf, oherwydd byddwn yn y dyfodol yn pasio ein Biliau a Deddfau ein hunain. Felly, mae hon yn foment hanesyddol i'w chydabod. Rwyf wrth fy modd fod addysg yn cael ei ddatblygu yn gadarn yng Nghymru o ganlyniad i'r gwaith yn y Mesur arfaethedig. Rydym yn rhoi pwyslais ar gydweithio mewn addysg—cydweithio yw'r ffordd Gymreig, nid cystadleuaeth wastraffus. Yn y Mesur arfaethedig, rydym hefyd yn atgyfnerthu ein cefnogaeth ar gyfer

and are giving support to the federation of schools and to the training of school governors and clerks, recognising the work that was done by the Enterprise and Learning Committee in its report earlier in this Assembly on the clerking and governorship of schools. I thank the Chair and members of Legislation Committee No. 5, the Constitutional Affairs Committee and the Finance Committee. I thank the clerks, my officials and the lawyers, who have supported us throughout the process. As I say, today is a historic day, as we complete the processes under the Government of Wales Act 2006 and move to the next phase of devolution. I commend the proposed Measure to the Assembly.

David Melding: It is with genuine regret that I must tell the Assembly that the Welsh Conservative Party will be unable to support the proposed Measure. Indeed, we feel so strongly about the points that have been raised this afternoon that we will vote against it. We genuinely regret this, because there is much in the proposed Measure that is useful. We do not object to the central principle of permitting federation at the initiation of local authorities. However, because the Government has been obdurate in not putting forward reasonable checks and balances, we feel that we have to object to the legislation as it is now framed. I end with this appeal: that whoever is in the executive position after 5 May—whether it is the current Minister or a successor, who might, indeed, be from another party—will act according to the best intentions that have been expressed by the Minister this afternoon, and observe those proprieties. There are big powers in the proposed Measure, and if they are used in a clumsy or ineffective way locally, we will not have done the principle of allowing federation any good whatsoever, and in fact it could undermine the whole principle of that as a governing arrangement. Therefore, I hope that the Minister and/or his successors are true to what has been outlined, and that it is the most constructive aspects of what we have discussed this afternoon that will become the established culture of the way in which the legislation, should it pass, be exercised.

y system addysg cyfun, ac yn rhoi cefnogaeth i ffedereiddio ysgolion ac i hyfforddi llywodraethwyr a chlercod ysgol, gan gydnabod y gwaith a wnaethpwyd gan y Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu yn ei adrodd yn gynharach yn y Cynulliad hwn ar glercio a llywodraethu ysgolion. Diolch i'r Cadeirydd ac aelodau Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth Rhif 5, y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a'r Pwyllgor Cyllid. Diolch i'r clercod, fy swyddogion a'r cyfreithwyr, sydd wedi ein cefnogi drwy gydol y broses. Fel y dywedais, mae heddiw yn ddiwrnod hanesyddol, wrth i ni gwblhau'r prosesau o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 a symud ymlaen i gyfnod nesaf datganoli. Cymeradwyaf y Mesur arfaethedig i'r Cynulliad.

David Melding: Mae'n resyn mawr gennyf ddweud wrth y Cynulliad na fydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn gallu cefnogi'r Mesur arfaethedig. Yn wir, rydym yn teimlo mor gryf am y pwyntiau a godwyd y prynhawn yma fel y byddwn yn pleidleisio yn ei erbyn. Rydym wir yn gresynu at hyn, oherwydd mae llawer yn y Mesur arfaethedig sy'n ddefnyddiol. Nid ydym yn gwrthwynebu'r egwyddor ganolog o ganiatáu ffedereiddio ar gais awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, oherwydd i'r Llywodraeth fod yn ystyfnig yn peidio â chyflwyno rhwystrau a gwrthbwsau rhesymol, teimlwn bod yn rhaid i ni wrthwynebu'r ddeddfwriaeth fel ag y mae yn awr. Gorffennaf gyda'r apêl hon: bod pwy bynnag sydd yn y sefyllfa weithredol ar ôl 5 Mai—pa un a yw'r Gweinidog presennol neu olynnydd, a allai, yn wir, fod o blaid arall—yn gweithredu yn ôl y bwriadau gorau a fynegodd y Gweinidog y prynhawn yma, ac yn arsylwi'r priodoldebau hynny. Mae pwerau mawr yn y Mesur arfaethedig, ac os cânt eu defnyddio mewn ffordd drwsogl neu aneffeithiol yn lleol, ni fyddwn wedi gwneud unrhyw les i'r egwyddor o ganiatáu ffedereiddio, ac mewn gwirionedd gallai danseilio'r egwyddor hwnnw yn ei gyfanrwydd fel trefniant llywodraethu. Felly, gobeithiaf fod y Gweinidog ac/neu ei olynwyr yn driw i'r hyn sydd wedi'i amlinellu, ac mai dyna yw'r agweddau mwyaf adeiladol o'r hyn rydym wedi ei drafod y prynhawn yma a fydd yn dod yn ddiwylliant sefydledig o'r ffordd y caiff y ddeddfwriaeth, os caiff ei phasio, ei harfer.

5.30 p.m.

Leighton Andrews: This afternoon I have been called beguiling and obdurate. I preferred it when I was being called beguiling. I happen to think that what we are putting in place has sufficient safeguards. There are plenty of safeguards in existing legislation to allow Ministers to intervene if they think that local authorities are being unreasonable. I commend this final proposed Measure to the Assembly.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The question is that the Proposed Education (Wales) Measure be passed. Are there any objections? I see that there are and we therefore move to a vote.

Leighton Andrews: Cefais fy ngalw y prynhawn yma yn hudolus a styfnig. Roedd yn well gennyf pan oeddwn yn cael fy ngalw'n hudolus. Rwyf yn digwydd bod o'r farn ein bod yn rhoi digon o fesurau diogelu ar waith. Mae digon o fesurau diogelu mewn deddfwriaeth sy'n bodoli'n barod i alluogi Gweinidogion i ymyrryd os ydynt o'r farn bod awdurdodau lleol yn bod yn afresymol. Cymeradwyaf y Mesur arfaethedig olaf hwn i'r Cynulliad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cwestiwn yw y dylid derbyn y Mesur Addysg (Cymru) Arfaethedig. A oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod felly symudwn i bleidlais.

*Cynnig: O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 8.
Motion: For 38, Abstain 0, Against 8.*

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, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Franks, Chris
German, Veronica
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Asghar, Mohammad
Bourne, Nick
Burns, Angela
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David

Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â
today's proceedings to a close. thrafodion heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.30 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.30 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)