



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

**Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings**

**Dydd Mawrth, 18 Medi 2007
Tuesday, 18 September 2007**

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

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

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad 2 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd (Dafydd Elis-Thomas) yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Presiding Officer (Dafydd Elis-Thomas) in the Chair.*

Y Llywydd: Galwaf y Cynulliad i drefn.

The Presiding Officer: I call the Assembly to order.

Atal Rheolau Sefydlog yw'r eitem gyntaf o fusnes y Llywodraeth, a hynny er mwyn gallu dwyn cynigion gerbron o dan eitemau 2, 3 a 4 ar yr agenda.

The first item of Government business is the suspension of Standing Orders, to bring forward motions under items 2, 3 and 4 on the agenda.

Atal Rheolau Sefydlog Suspension of Standing Orders

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Cynigiaf fod

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 35.6 a 35.8:

the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 35.6 and 35.8:

yn atal Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.18(i) a'r rhan honno o Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.10 sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol bod y cyhoeddiad wythnosol o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3 yn darparu'r amserlen ar gyfer busnes yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yr wythnos ganlynol, er mwyn caniatáu i'r cynigion o dan eitemau 2, 3 a 4 gael eu hystyried yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ddydd Mawrth 18 Medi 2007. (NDM3661)

suspends Standing Order No. 7.18(i) and that part of Standing Order No. 6.10 that requires the weekly announcement under Standing Order No. 6.3 to constitute the timetable for business in Plenary for the following week, to allow the motions under items 2, 3 and 4 to be considered in Plenary on Tuesday 18 September 2007. (NDM3661)

Y Llywydd: A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu'r cynnig? Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad. Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn.

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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Cynnig i Gytuno Argymhelliad y Prif Weinidog i Ei Mawrhydi i Benodi Carwyn Jones yn Gwnsler Cyffredinol Motion to Agree to the First Minister's Recommendation to Her Majesty that Carwyn Jones be Appointed Counsel General

Y Prif Weinidog: Cynigiaf fod

The First Minister: I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 5.1 yn cytuno â'r argymhelliad gan y Prif Weinidog i Ei Mawrhydi i benodi Carwyn Jones AC yn Gwnsler Cyffredinol. (NNDM3659)

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 5.1, agrees to the First Minister's recommendation to Her Majesty to appoint Carwyn Jones AM as Counsel General. (NNDM3659)

Y Llywydd: A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf fod, felly galwaf am bleidlais. [*Torri ar draws.*]

It is a debatable motion. Do you wish to speak, leader of the opposition?

The Leader of the Opposition (Nick Bourne): I would be grateful, Llywydd. Diolch yn fawr.

First, it is good to see the First Minister back in good health. We are all very pleased to see that.

I have been in correspondence with the First Minister about my concerns regarding the appointment of Carwyn Jones as Counsel General in addition to his carrying other responsibilities. That is my chief concern. The First Minister will recall that, when he headed a minority administration, he consulted party leaders on his proposal to appoint someone who was not in party politics to the post of Counsel General—someone outside the party-political arena. I thought that that was a good idea, and several names were canvassed and talked about, and I put forward the name of someone who had no party involvement. My concern is not so much—indeed, not at all—about the individual in the role of Counsel General. I have no concerns at all about Carwyn’s suitability in terms of his legal ability. However, I am concerned that if he is to have a Cabinet role, and particularly if he is to be a Minister, he cannot be a Welsh Minister under the Government of Wales Act 2006. That much is clear and, I think, is agreed. However, confusion has arisen, as he has been referred to as ‘Minister’ on the Welsh Assembly Government’s website and, indeed, in his own press releases. I am pleased that, following representations, the Permanent Secretary has written to me to assure me that that will not continue.

However, I also have concerns that, in his role of dealing with Assembly business, cross-cutting issues, and matters of co-ordination of Government business—and I understand that that is the proposal—he will

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections? I see that there are, and so I will call for a vote. [*Interruption.*]

Mae’n gynnig y gellir cynnal dadl arno. A ydych yn dymuno siarad, arweinydd yr wrthblaid?

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Nick Bourne): Byddwn yn ddiolchgar, Lywydd. Diolch yn fawr.

Yn gyntaf, mae’n dda gweld y Prif Weinidog yn ôl mewn iechyd da. Yr ydym i gyd yn falch iawn o weld hynny.

Yr wyf wedi bod yn gohebu â’r Prif Weinidog ynglŷn â’r pryderon ynghylch penodiad Carwyn Jones yn Gwnsler Cyffredinol ar ben ei gyfrifoldebau eraill. Hynny yw fy mhrif bryder. Bydd y Prif Weinidog yn cofio, pan oedd yn bennaeth ar weinyddiaeth leiafrifol, iddo ymgynghori ag arweinyddion y pleidiau ynglŷn â’i gynnig i benodi rhywun nad oedd yn rhan o wleidyddiaeth y pleidiau i swydd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol—rhywun y tu allan i faes y pleidiau gwleidyddol. Yr oeddwn o’r farn bod hynny’n syniad da, a chanfasiwyd sawl enw a siarad amdanynt, a chynigiais innau enw rhywun nad oedd yn ymwneud â dim un blaid. Mae fy mhryder nid yn gymaint—yn wir, ddim o gwbl—am yr unigolyn yn swydd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol. Nid oes gennyf ddim pryderon o gwbl am addasrwydd Carwyn o ran ei allu cyfreithiol. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn bryderus os bydd ganddo rôl yn y Cabinet, ac yn enwedig os yw am fod yn Weinidog, na all fod yn Weinidog Cymru dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006. Mae hynny’n glir ac, fe gredaf, wedi’i gytuno. Fodd bynnag, mae dryswch wedi codi, gan fod cyfeirio wedi bod ato fel ‘Gweinidog’ ar wefan Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac, yn wir, yn ei ddatganiadau ei hun i’r wasg. Yr wyf yn falch bod yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol wedi ysgrifennu ataf, yn dilyn sylwadau, i’r sicrhau na wnaiff hynny barhau.

Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf bryderon hefyd y bydd galw arno, o reidrwydd, yn ei rôl o ddelio â busnes y Cynulliad, materion trawsbynciol a materion cyd-drefnu busnes y Llywodraeth—a deallaf mai hynny a

necessarily be called upon to resolve disputes between Ministers. I would welcome any reassurance if that is not happening, as that could result in a dispute being referred to him in his legal capacity, and the great danger would be that a conflict could arise.

What I do not understand is why there has been this change of heart. Why is it that, in a minority administration, Carwyn Jones was not being considered for the post of Counsel General, but in an administration with Plaid Cymru as the junior partners he is? I presume that Plaid Cymru has not insisted upon that, and so why the change of heart? Perhaps we could have some elucidation of this, given our concerns. Our concerns are not that he is not a Welsh Minister, but that he is being represented as a Minister, and also that there will be a conflict of interest with his duties as Counsel General if he is in charge of Assembly business.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): I follow that by asking the First Minister again about the issue relating to the position of Minister for Assembly business, because that is the problem, and I echo what we have just heard. There is no dispute whatsoever about Carwyn Jones's eligibility for this particular job; the issue relates to the fact that the Government of Wales Act 2006 makes it absolutely clear that a Minister cannot be Counsel General, and the Counsel General cannot be a Minister. I want to tease out the issues underpinning that a little further.

One reason, which has already been mentioned, is to ensure that the legal advice that the Counsel General provides to the Government is free from political domination. As the First Minister knows, his Prime Minister in London is making moves to re-establish the independence of the Attorney-General, because there has been controversy about the advice provided by him.

Let us look at the role of the business Minister. Standing Order No. 6.3 says,

'In each week that the Assembly meets in

gynigir—i ddatrys anghydfodau rhwng Gweinidogion. Croesawn unrhyw gadarnhad os nad yw hynny'n digwydd, gan y gallai hynny arwain at gyfeirio anghydfod ato yn ei swydd gyfreithiol, a'r perygl mawr fyddai y gallai gwrthdaro godi.

Yr hyn nad wyf yn ei ddeall yw pam y cafwyd y newid meddwl hwn. Pam, a Charwyn Jones heb gael ei ystyried ar gyfer swydd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol mewn gweinyddiaeth leiafrifol, y mae'n cael ei ystyried mewn gweinyddiaeth gyda Plaid Cymru'n is-bartneriaid? Cymeraf nad yw Plaid Cymru wedi mynnu hynny, ac felly pam y newid meddwl? Efallai y gallem gael rhyw eglurhad ynghylch hyn, o ystyried ein pryderon. Nid y ffaith nad yw'n Weinidog Cymru yw ein pryder, ond ei fod yn cael ei bortreadu'n Weinidog, a hefyd y bydd gwrthdaro buddiannau â'i ddyletswyddau fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol os bydd yn gyfrifol am fusnes y Cynulliad.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Dilynaf hynny drwy holi'r Prif Weinidog eto ynglŷn â'r mater yn ymwneud â swydd y Trefnydd, oherwydd dyna yw'r broblem, ac ategaf yr hyn yr ydym newydd ei glywed. Nid oes dadl o gwbl ynghylch cymhwysedd Carwyn Jones ar gyfer y swydd arbennig hon; mae a wnelo'r cwestiwn â'r ffaith bod Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 yn datgan yn hollol glir na all Gweinidog fod yn Gwnsler Cyffredinol, ac na all y Cwnsler Cyffredinol fod yn Weinidog. Mae arnaf eisiau mynd i'r afael â'r materion sydd ynglŷn â hynny fymryn ymhellach.

Un rheswm, sydd eisoes wedi'i grybwyll, yw er mwyn sicrhau nad oes tra-arglwyddiaeth wleidyddol yn y cyngor cyfreithiol a rydd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol i'r Llywodraeth. Fel y gŵyr y Prif Weinidog, mae ei Brif Weinidog yn Llundain yn gwneud symudiadau i ailsefydlu annibyniaeth y Twrnai Cyffredinol, oherwydd y mae'r cyngor a roddwyd ganddo wedi bod yn fater dadleuol.

Gadewch inni edrych ar rôl y Trefnydd. Yn ôl Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3,

'Ym mhob wythnos y bydd y Cynulliad yn

plenary, the Minister with responsibility for government business must:

(i) make a statement...?.

How can we achieve that without a Minister for Assembly business, given that the Standing Orders clearly say that there should be such a Minister? When discussions are going on about the Assembly's business papers and future Assembly business, there is bound to be an element of adjudication by the person responding to that statement as to why things should or should not happen.

I note that you say—and perhaps you could elucidate on this in your reply—that the Counsel General is also responsible for Government communication. Some might think that that is about spin doctoring, but I hope not. Perhaps you could reassure us on that, and tell us what sort of communication the Counsel General is responsible for. There seems to be an overlap of political involvement there, in what we would previously call a ministerial context, with the role of Minister for Assembly business. You will recall that, in the second Assembly, Karen Sinclair was the Minister for Assembly Business—she was only responsible for business—and in executing that work, she was a Minister and received a ministerial salary. If it is the case that there is no longer to be a Minister for Assembly business, why and how was that role played out and is Standing Order No. 6.3 accurate?

I will be writing to the Presiding Officer asking him what advice he has received on these issues. It seems that there is potential here for what may be perceived as you trying to make sure that you have enough seats to fit the number of places that you need to fill, rather than simply having a Counsel General fulfilling that role. I believe that that role should have a great deal of independence and substance, so I hope that it will not be tarnished by its being mixed in this way. I would welcome an explanation on these issues.

The First Minister: Thank you, Nick, for your good wishes on my return to good health.

cynnal cyfarfod llawn, rhaid i'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am fusnes y llywodraeth:

(i) gwneud datganiad...?.

Sut y gallwn gyflawni hynny heb Drefnydd, a'r Rheolau Sefydlog yn datgan yn glir y dylai fod Gweinidog o'r fath? Pan fydd trafodaethau'n mynd rhagddynt am bapurau busnes y Cynulliad a busnes y Cynulliad i'r dyfodol, mae'n anochel y bydd elfen o ddyfarnu gan y sawl sy'n ymateb i'r datganiad hwnnw o ran pam y dylai pethau ddigwydd neu beidio â digwydd.

Sylwaf eich bod yn dweud—ac efallai y gallech roi goleuni ar hyn yn eich ateb—fod y Cwnsler Cyffredinol yn gyfrifol hefyd am gyfathrebu'r Llywodraeth. Gallai rhai feddwl fod a wnelo hynny â sbin-ddoctora, ond gobeithiaf nad yw hynny'n bod. Efallai y gallech dawelu ein meddyliau ar hynny, a dweud wrthym pa fath o gyfathrebu y mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol yn gyfrifol amdano. Mae'n ymddangos bod gorgyffwrdd o ran ymwneud gwleidyddol yn hynny o beth, yn yr hyn y byddem gynt yn ei alw'n gyd-destun gweinidogol, â rôl y Trefnydd. Fe gofiwch mai Karen Sinclair oedd y Trefnydd yn yr ail Gynulliad—busnes oedd ei hunig gyfrifoldeb—ac wrth gyflawni'r gwaith hwnnw, yr oedd hi'n Weinidog ac yn derbyn cyflog Gweinidog. Os yw'n wir na fydd Trefnydd mwyach, pam a sut y cyflawnwyd y rôl honno ac a ydyw Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3 yn gywir?

Byddaf yn ysgrifennu at y Llywydd i ofyn iddo pa gyngor a gafodd ar y materion hyn. Mae'n ymddangos ei bod yn bosibl yn hyn o beth fod yr hyn y gellid ei weld fel ymdrech gennych i sicrhau bod gennych ddigon o seddi i gyfateb i nifer y lleoedd y mae arnoch angen eu llenwi, yn hytrach na dim ond cael Cwnsler Cyffredinol yn cyflawni'r rôl honno. Credaf y dylai'r rôl honno gael llawer iawn o annibyniaeth a sylwedd, felly gobeithiaf na chaiff ei llychwino drwy gael ei chymysgu fel hyn. Croesawn esboniad ar y materion hyn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch, Nick, am eich dymuniadau gorau wrth i'm hiechyd gael ei adfer.

I listened carefully to what you and Mike said, as I have carefully considered your written representations. I am totally satisfied that there is nothing out of order or contrary to the Government of Wales Act 2006 in the nomination that we are making this afternoon. It is clear that Carwyn Jones, in being Counsel General, has no policy or budget responsibilities, so is quite clearly not a Welsh Minister under the terms of the Government of Wales Act 2006. Therefore, there is no conflict between the Government of Wales Act 2006 and the responsibilities that he holds, both as Counsel General and in relation to his other responsibilities. It is clear to me—I believe that this is noted in Standing Order No. 5.3—that the Counsel General may do anything that a Welsh Minister can do. Therefore, it is clear that the Counsel General is not a Minister but may do anything that a Minister can do, subject to the fact that he cannot carry policy or budget responsibilities. That is exactly the nature of Carwyn Jones's appointment.

While I have listened carefully, I hope that you will accept, after my explanation this afternoon and my written explanations to you, that you are trying to make bricks without straw. This nomination should proceed through the Assembly this afternoon so that it can be submitted to Her Majesty The Queen for appointment.

Nick Bourne: While Standing Order No. 5.3 does say that the Counsel General can do anything that a Minister can do, it quite clearly means that he can do anything as Counsel General. Therefore, he would be able, for example, to answer questions as Counsel General, but not in any other capacity, under that Standing Order. It is absolutely clear that that is the case; it is not capable of any other interpretation.

The Presiding Officer: I was intending not to get involved in this debate, but, as you know, the interpretation of Standing Orders is a matter for me. My interpretation of this Standing Order, I am afraid, stands.

Gwrandewais yn astud ar yr hyn a ddywedasoch chi a Mike, fel yr wyf wedi ystyried eich sylwadau ysgrifenedig yn ofalus. Yr wyf yn gwbl argyhoeddedig nad oes dim yn afreolaidd nac yn groes i Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 yn yr enwebiad yr ydym yn ei wneud y prynhawn yma. Mae'n glir nad oes gan Carwyn Jones, wrth fod yn Gwnsler Cyffredinol, ddim cyfrifoldebau dros bolisi na chyllideb, felly yn gwbl amlwg nid yw'n Weinidog Cymru yn ôl geiriad Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006. Felly, nid oes dim gwrthdaro rhwng Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 a'r cyfrifoldebau sydd ganddo, fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac yng nghyswllt ei gyfrifoldebau eraill. Mae'n amlwg i mi—credaf fod hyn yn cael ei nodi yn Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 5.3—y gall y Cwnsler Cyffredinol wneud unrhyw beth y gall Gweinidog Cymru ei wneud. Felly, mae'n amlwg nad yw'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol yn Weinidog ond y gall wneud unrhyw beth y gall Gweinidog ei wneud, yn amodol ar y ffaith na all gymryd cyfrifoldebau dros bolisi na chyllideb. Dyna'n union natur penodiad Carwyn Jones.

A minnau wedi gwrande'n astud, gobeithiaf y gwnewch chithau dderbyn, ar ôl fy esboniad y prynhawn yma a'm hesboniadau ysgrifenedig ichi, eich bod yn ceisio gwneud rhywbeth o ddim. Dylai'r enwebiad hwn fynd yn ei flaen drwy'r Cynulliad y prynhawn yma fel y gellir ei gyflwyno i'w Mawrhydi Y Frenhines i'w benodi.

Nick Bourne: Er bod Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 5.3 yn dweud y gall y Cwnsler Cyffredinol wneud unrhyw beth y gall Gweinidog ei wneud, mae'n golygu'n gwbl amlwg y gall wneud unrhyw beth fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol. Felly, gallai, er enghraifft, ateb cwestiynau fel Cwnsler Cyffredinol, ond nid yn rhinwedd dim un swyddogaeth arall, dan y Rheol Sefydlog honno. Mae'n gwbl amlwg mai felly y mae; nid oes modd ei dehongli mewn modd arall.

Y Llywydd: Yr oeddwn yn bwriadu peidio â chymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon, ond, fel y gwyddoch, mater i mi yw dehongli'r Rheolau Sefydlog. Mae fy nehongliad o'r Rheol Sefydlog hon, mae arnaf ofn, yn sefyll.

Felly, galwaf bleidlais.

Therefore, I call for a vote.

2.10 p.m.

*Cynnig (NNDM3659): O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 17.
Motion (NNDM3659): For 38, Abstain 0, Against 17.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
Evans, Nerys
Franks, Chris
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Griffiths, Lesley
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Watson, Joyce
Wood, Leanne

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Burns, Angela
Cairns, Alun
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Paul
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Melding, David
Millar, Darren
Morgan, Jonathan
Ramsay, Nick
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Ethol i Bwyllgorau Election to Committees

The First Minister: Cynigiaf fod

Y Prif Weinidog: I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Carwyn Jones (Llafur) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Busnes yn lle Jane Hutt (Llafur). (NNDM3663)

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Carwyn Jones (Labour) as a member of the Business Committee in place of Jane Hutt (Labour). (NNDM3663)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cynaliadwyedd yn lle Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru). (NNDM3669)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru) as a member of the Sustainability Committee in place of Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru). (NNDM3669)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru) a Nerys Evans (Plaid Cymru) yn aelodau o'r Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant yn lle Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru) a Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru). (NNDM3665)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru) and Nerys Evans (Plaid Cymru) as members of the Communities and Culture Committee in place of Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru) and Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru). (NNDM3665)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Gareth Jones (Plaid Cymru) a William Graham (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig) yn aelodau o'r Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ac Allanol yn lle Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru) a David Melding (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig). (NNDM3667)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Gareth Jones (Plaid Cymru) and William Graham (Welsh Conservative) as members of the Committee on European and External Affairs in place of Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru) and David Melding (Welsh Conservative). (NNDM3667)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Alun Ffred Jones (Plaid Cymru) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyllid yn lle Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru). (NNDM3668)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Alun Ffred Jones (Plaid Cymru) as a member of the Finance Committee in place of Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru). (NNDM3668)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru) a Huw Lewis (Llafur) yn aelodau o'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yn lle Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru) a Karen Sinclair (Llafur). (NNDM3662)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru) and Huw Lewis (Labour) as members of the Audit Committee in place of Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru) and Karen Sinclair (Labour). (NNDM3662)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Huw Lewis (Llafur) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu yn lle Alun Davies (Llafur).

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Huw Lewis (Labour) as a member of the Enterprise and Learning Committee in

(NNDM3666)

place of Alun Davies (Labour).
(NNDM3666)

Cynigiaf fod

I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Lesley Griffiths (Llafur) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor ar y Gorchymyn Arfaethedig ynghylch Plant sy'n Agored i Niwed yn lle Gwenda Thomas (Llafur). (NNDM3670)*the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Lesley Griffiths (Labour) as a member of the Proposed Vulnerable Children LCO Committee in place of Gwenda Thomas (Labour).* (NNDM3670)

Cynigiaf fod

I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 10.3, yn ethol Sandy Mewies (Llafur) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor ar y Gorchymyn Arfaethedig ynghylch Diogelu'r Amgylchedd a Rheoli Gwastraff yn lle Jane Davidson (Llafur). (NNDM3671)*the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 10.3, elects Sandy Mewies (Labour) as a member of the Proposed Environmental Protection and Waste Management LCO Committee in place of Jane Davidson (Labour).* (NNDM3671)**Y Llywydd:** A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu'r cynigion? Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad. Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, felly, caiff y cynigion eu derbyn.**The Presiding Officer:** Does any Member object to the motions? I see that there are no objections. In accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motions are therefore agreed.*Derbyniwyd y cynigion.*
Motions carried.

Penodiad i Gomisiwn y Cynulliad

Appointment to the Assembly Commission

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Carwyn Jones): Cynigiaf fod**The Counsel General and Leader of the House (Carwyn Jones):** I propose that*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 3.9:**the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 3.9:**yn penodi Chris Franks (Plaid Cymru) yn aelod o Gomisiwn y Cynulliad yn lle Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru).* (NNDM3664)*appoints Chris Franks (Plaid Cymru) as a member of the Assembly Commission in place of Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru).* (NNDM3664)**Y Llywydd:** A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu'r cynnig? Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad. Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn.**The Presiding Officer:** Does any Member object to the motion? I see that there are no objections. In accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motion is therefore agreed.*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.*
Motion carried.

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Healthcare

Q1 Jonathan Morgan: What plans does the First Minister have to develop the role of the voluntary sector in providing healthcare? OAQ(3)0207(FM)

The First Minister: That is a very good question, Jonathan. A mapping exercise carried out last year identified more than 4,000 voluntary organisations providing health and social care services in Wales, with a budget of £292 million. We will be providing £2 million in extra revenue for the voluntary hospice movement as part of our wider wish to further strengthen the relationship between the statutory and voluntary sectors in healthcare.

Jonathan Morgan: I am grateful to the First Minister for that reply. First Minister, you will know that Bobath Cymru is based in Whitechurch, in my constituency. The organisation provides a brilliant therapy service for children with cerebral palsy. Were that service not provided by Bobath Cymru, the state would have to find the money to provide it. I understand that Bobath Cymru has been in contact with your office to see whether you would be willing to visit it, and I urge you to take up that opportunity if you have time. I would also urge you to re-examine the relationship between the NHS and the voluntary sector, because the voluntary sector across the board—not just hospices, but all those other organisations that do such brilliant work—should be regarded as providers of professional services, not merely charities.

The First Minister: You raise two interesting points. One is the invitation from Bobath Cymru, and I will check with the office and see how we could possibly fit that in, because I am very interested in that organisation, which I have known about for a long time. On the wider issue, I do not think that there is a clash: I do not think that we regard the voluntary sector's participation in the provision of health and social care as

Gofal Iechyd

C1 Jonathan Morgan: Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Prif Weinidog i ddatblygu rôl y sector gwirfoddol o ran darparu gofal iechyd? OAQ(3)0207(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwnnw'n gwestiwn da iawn, Jonathan. Mewn ymarferiad mapio a gynhaliwyd y llynedd gwelwyd bod mwy na 4,000 o gyrff gwirfoddol sy'n darparu gwasanaethau gofal iechyd a chymdeithasol yng Nghymru, gyda chyllideb o £292 miliwn. Byddwn yn darparu £2 filiwn mewn refeniw ychwanegol i'r mudiad hosbisau gwirfoddol fel rhan o'n dymuniad ehangach i gryfhau ymhellach y berthynas rhwng y sectorau statudol a gwirfoddol ym maes gofal iechyd.

Jonathan Morgan: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Prif Weinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Brif Weinidog, gwyddoch fod swyddfa Bobath Cymru yn yr Eglwys Newydd, yn f'etholaeth i. Mae'r corff hwn yn darparu gwasanaeth therapi gwych i blant sydd â pharlys yr ymennydd. Pe na ddarperid y gwasanaeth hwnnw gan Bobath Cymru, byddai'n rhaid i'r wladwriaeth ganfod yr arian i'w ddarparu. Deallaf fod Bobath Cymru wedi bod mewn cysylltiad â'ch swyddfa i weld a fydddech yn fodlon ymweld â hwy, ac fe'ch anogaf i achub y cyfle hwnnw os bydd amser gennych. Fe'ch anogwn hefyd i ailedrych ar y berthynas rhwng y GIG a'r sector gwirfoddol, oherwydd dylai'r sector gwirfoddol yn gyffredinol—nid hosbisau'n unig, ond yr holl gyrff eraill hynny sy'n gwneud gwaith mor wych—gael ei ystyried yn ddarparwyr gwasanaethau proffesiynol, nid yn elusennau'n unig.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn codi dau bwynt pwysig. Un yw'r gwahoddiad gan Bobath Cymru, ac fe holaf yn y swyddfa i weld sut y gallem o bosibl drefnu hynny, oherwydd y mae gennyf ddiddordeb mawr yn y corff hwnnw, sydd yn hysbys imi ers talwm. Ynglŷn â'r mater ehangach, ni chredaf fod gwrthdaro: nid wyf yn meddwl ein bod yn ystyried bod cyfranogiad y sector gwirfoddol yn narpariaeth gofal iechyd a

some sort of subsidiary or lower grade of service relative to the statutory service. I think that I have said it half a dozen times at least during my period as First Minister. It is usually the case that the voluntary sector provides the more path-breaking services, and can innovate more than the statutory service. If the voluntary sector proves that something really works through being innovative, then that gets adopted by the statutory sector, so it is really the other way around. Long may the voluntary movement continue to innovate and perhaps teach a lesson or two to the statutory sector so that it can adopt those ideas when they work.

Christine Chapman: First Minister, I am sure that you agree that the voluntary sector is an essential component of policy making and implementation. There are a number of voluntary groups in my constituency who, working in partnership with the local authority and others, play a huge part in improving people's health and social wellbeing. Sometimes there is a danger that we do not value the work of voluntary sector groups and organisations highly enough. Would you therefore join me in paying tribute to Mary Hier, of Ynysybwl Old People's Welfare Committee, on her recent Interlink award in recognition of her ongoing commitment to the community? We need to remember that it is because of people like Mary that our policy aspirations become a reality.

The First Minister: I do. I do not know the person concerned, but I am sure that she will be highly rated in the Ynysybwl community for putting in that extra effort, as we probably all have from time to time, because quite often you find that voluntary sector participation precedes a political career, or goes alongside it. They should not be considered to be entirely separate. The other thing that I would say about those involved in the voluntary sector is that they are not rewarded in the conventional way—at least not in this world—and so we have to ensure that they are recognised and rewarded in other ways. It sounds to me as though the person concerned is getting the recognition that she deserves from the award that she has had.

chymdeithasol yn rhyw fath o wasanaeth atodol neu israddol mewn perthynas â'r gwasanaeth statudol. Credaf fy mod wedi dweud hyn hanner dwsin o weithiau o leiaf yn ystod fy nghyfnod yn Brif Weinidog. Fel arfer, y sector gwirfoddol fydd yn darparu'r gwasanaethau mwy arloesol, a gall arloesi mwy na'r gwasanaeth statudol. Os profa'r sector gwirfoddol fod rhywbeth yn gweithio go iawn drwy fod yn arloesol, wedyn caiff hynny ei fabwysiadu gan y sector statudol, felly fel arall y mae hi mewn gwirionedd. Boed i'r mudiad gwirfoddol barhau i arloesi ac efallai ddysgu gwerau neu ddwy i'r sector statudol fel y gall hwnnw fabwysiadu'r syniadau hynny pan fyddant yn gweithio.

Christine Chapman: Brif Weinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod y sector gwirfoddol yn elfen hanfodol wrth lunio a gweithredu polisi. Mae nifer o grwpiau gwirfoddol yn fetholaeth sydd, wrth weithio mewn partneriaeth â'r awdurdod lleol ac eraill, yn chwarae rhan enfawr mewn gwella iechyd a lles cymdeithasol pobl. Weithiau mae perygl nad ydym yn gwerthfawrogi gwaith grwpiau a chyrrff y sector gwirfoddol yn ddigonol. A ymunwch â mi felly i dalu teyrnged i Mary Hier, o Bwyllgor Lles Hen Bobl Ynys-y-bŵl, ar ei gwobr Interlink yn ddiweddar yn cydnabod ei hymroddiad parhaus i'r gymuned? Mae angen inni gofio mai oherwydd pobl fel Mary y gwireddir ein dyheadau polisi.

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaf. Nid wyf yn adnabod yr unigolyn dan sylw, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn uchel ei pharch yng nghymuned Ynys-y-bŵl am wneud yr ymdrech ychwanegol honno, fel y gwnaeth pob un ohonom o bryd i'w gilydd mae'n debyg, oherwydd yn eithaf aml fe welir bod cyfranogi yn y sector gwirfoddol yn rhagflaenu gyrfa wleidyddol, neu'n cydreddeg â hi. Ni ddylid ystyried eu bod yn gyfan gwbl ar wahân. Y peth arall a ddywedwn am y rhai sy'n ymwneud â'r sector gwirfoddol yw na chânt eu gwobrwyo yn y dull confensiynol—o leiaf nid yn y byd hwn—ac felly rhaid inni sicrhau eu bod yn cael eu cydnabod a'u gwobrwyo mewn ffyrdd eraill. Mae'n swnio i mi fel pe bai'r unigolyn dan sylw'n cael y gydnabyddiaeth y mae'n ei haeddu drwy'r

wobr a gafodd.

The Presiding Officer: I call the leader of the Welsh Conservatives.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar arweinydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig.

Sori, galwaf ar arweinydd yr wrthblaid.

Sorry, I call the leader of the opposition.

Nick Bourne: Diolch yn fawr, Lywydd.

Nick Bourne: Thank you very much, Llywydd.

First Minister, surveys show on a regular basis that healthcare is the No. 1 concern of voters in Wales, which I can understand. You have had very good experience of the healthcare system recently, and you were treated effectively and conveniently near your home. Do you agree that this principle should be extended to people throughout Wales, and will you ensure, in particular, that north Wales patients have access, if they want it, to Walton hospital for neurosurgery, so that they do not have to take the long round trip to Swansea or Cardiff?

Brif Weinidog, mae arolygon yn dangos yn rheolaidd mai gofal iechyd yw'r prif bryder gan etholwyr yng Nghymru, a gallaf ddeall hynny. Cawsoch brofiad da iawn o'r system gofal iechyd yn ddiweddar, a chwsoch eich trin yn effeithiol ac mewn man cyfleus ger eich cartref. A ydych yn derbyn y dylid ymestyn yr egwyddor hon i gynnwys pobl ledled Cymru, ac a wnewch sicrhau, yn benodol, fod cleifion y gogledd yn cael mynediad i ysbyty Walton, os ydynt yn dymuno hynny, i gael niwrolawdriniaeth, fel nad ydynt yn gorfod teithio'n bell i Abertawe neu Gaerdydd?

The First Minister: I am glad that you referred to my experience after my heart episode on 7 July, as it gives me an opportunity to express to the Assembly and the wider world just how lucky I was and continue to be. The NHS came through for me big time when I needed it, as I am sure it does for scores of thousands of people every week in Wales. On the issue of access, it is the case that I happen to live very close to Llandough hospital, which was convenient for me on 7 July. On the wider issue of access, there are two points to consider: the speed of access; and how quickly you can get to where you need to be, or what is a reasonable journey. If a member of your family is going into hospital for a serious albeit waiting-list operation or for emergency care, there is the question of how far they are willing to travel to ensure that they get the services of the specialist whom they need—and whether it is worth travelling an extra 10 or 20 miles in order to get the services of the specialist who knows the most in Wales about the condition in question—or whether it is just a matter of speed to the nearest hospital and not minding being under the care of a generalist. There is no right answer.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi cyfeirio at y profiad a gefais ar ôl y digwyddiad mewn cysylltiad â'm calon ar 7 Gorffennaf, gan fod hynny'n rhoi cyfle imi gyfleu i'r Cynulliad ac i'r rhai y tu allan pa mor ffodus y bûm ac yr wyf yn dal i fod. Daeth y GIG i'r adwy pan oedd arnaf ei angen, fel y mae'n gwneud i ugeiniau o filoedd o bobl bob wythnos yng Nghymru, yr wyf yn siŵr. Ynghylch pwnc mynediad, mae'n wir fy mod yn digwydd byw'n agos iawn i ysbyty Llandochoau, ac yr oedd hynny'n gyfleus i mi ar 7 Gorffennaf. Ynghylch pwnc mynediad yn fwy cyffredinol, mae dau bwynt i'w hystyried: cyflymder y mynediad; a pha mor fuan y gallwch gyrraedd y man lle y mae angen ichi fod, neu beth yw hyd rhesymol y daith. Os yw aelod o'ch teulu'n mynd i'r ysbyty i gael llawdriniaeth sylweddol, er ei fod wedi disgwyl amdani ar restr aros, neu i gael gofal brys, rhaid ystyried pa mor bell y mae'n barod i deithio i sicrhau ei fod yn cael gwasanaethau'r arbenigwr y mae arno ei angen—ac a yw'n werth teithio 10 neu 20 milltir ychwanegol i gael gwasanaethau'r arbenigwr yng Nghymru sydd yn gwybod mwyaf am y cyflwr dan sylw—neu a yw'n ddim ond mater o gyrraedd yr ysbyty agosaf yn fuan heb falio am fod dan law meddyg

cyffredinol. Nid oes ateb cywir.

Your last point was about access to Walton hospital. There is no problem regarding emergency access to Walton, and that has never been put in doubt, although I have seen some confusion about whether the statement made by the Minister for Health and Social Services a couple of months ago covered emergencies—it certainly did not. I believe that the appointment is imminent of an eminent and entirely independent person who will conduct the review of neurosurgery services in Wales. That will cover the issue of north Wales elective neurosurgery. You can be assured that this person will be independent and we will await the recommendations. The appointment is imminent, and perhaps we can return to this subject when the appointment has been made. I believe that everyone in the Assembly will be satisfied that the person in question will be thoroughly independent and will carry out the review of elective neurosurgery access throughout Wales in a proper and comprehensive manner.

Nick Bourne: I thank the First Minister for that response. He will know that, though we have political differences, on a personal basis, I am pleased that he had excellent care, and it is good to see him back. However, I need to press him more on this issue. This independent person—and I do not know who it is—will work only within terms of reference presented by the Minister. The Minister, in her statement, set a hare running—perhaps it was a hare, or perhaps it was the truth—in relation to redirecting patients from all parts of Wales to Cardiff or Swansea for neurosurgery. I agree that this is nothing to do with emergency treatment, as the statement was clear in its reference to neurosurgery. However, that is obviously of concern to people in north Wales because they face the prospect of a 400-mile round trip for treatment. If the Minister makes it clear that that is unacceptable, the person undertaking the review will know that the Government has given that direction. Therefore, will you ensure that that direction is given so that the review is carried out in that way?

Yr oedd y pwynt olaf a wnaethoch yn ymwneud â mynediad i ysbyty Walton. Nid oes anhawster ynghylch cael mynediad brys i ysbyty Walton, ac ni fu erioed ansicrwydd am hynny, er imi weld peth dryswch ynghylch a oedd y datganiad a wnaeth y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ryw ddau fis yn ôl yn cynnwys achosion brys—nid ydoedd, yn bendant. Yr wyf yn credu bod rhywun amlwg a chwbl annibynnol ar fin cael ei benodi a fydd yn cynnal yr adolygiad o wasanaethau niwrolawdriniaeth yng Nghymru. Bydd hwnnw'n ymdrin â mater niwrolawdriniaeth ddewisol yn y gogledd. Gallwch fod yn dawel eich meddwl y bydd y person hwnnw'n annibynnol a byddwn yn aros am yr argymhellion. Mae ar fin cael ei benodi, ac efallai y gallwn ddod yn ôl at y pwnc hwn ar ôl gwneud y penodiad. Credaf y bydd pawb yn y Cynulliad wedi'i argyhoeddi y bydd y person sydd dan sylw'n gwbl annibynnol ac y bydd yn cynnal yr adolygiad o fynediad at niwrolawdriniaeth ddewisol ledled Cymru mewn modd priodol a chynhwysfawr.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Bydd yn gwybod, er ein bod yn anghytuno ar faterion gwleidyddol, fy mod yn falch, ar sail bersonol, iddo gael gofal rhagorol, ac mae'n dda ei weld yn ei ôl. Fodd bynnag, mae angen imi bwysu ymhellach arno ar y mater hwn. Dim ond oddi mewn i'r cylch gorchwyl y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei roi y bydd y person annibynnol hwn—ac nid wyf yn gwybod pwy ydyw—yn gweithio. Yn ei datganiad, cododd y Gweinidog ysgyfarnog—efallai mai ysgyfarnog ydoedd, neu efallai mai'r gwir ydoedd—ynghylch ailgyfeirio cleifion o bob rhan o Gymru i Gaerdydd neu Abertawe i gael niwrolawdriniaeth. Yr wyf yn derbyn nad oes a wnelo hyn â thriniaeth frys, gan fod y datganiad yn cyfeirio'n glir at niwrolawdriniaeth. Er hynny, mae'n amlwg bod hynny'n peri pryder i bobl yn y gogledd gan eu bod yn wynebu'r posibilrwydd o deithio 400 milltir yn ôl ac ymlaen i gael triniaeth. Os eglura'r Gweinidog fod hynny'n annerbyniol, bydd y sawl sydd yn cynnal yr adolygiad yn gwybod bod y Llywodraeth wedi rhoi'r cyfarwyddyd hwnnw. Felly, a wnewch sicrhau y rhoddir cyfarwyddyd o'r

fath fel y cyflawnir yr adolygiad yn y modd hwnnw?

The First Minister: I think that all options will be on the table. That is the best way to carry out an independent review. The options may include bringing neurosurgery services closer to north Wales, and the review may look at the reasonable maximum journey that people can be expected to undertake in order to access elective neurosurgery from any part of Wales, and whether that is best measured in hours or miles.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn credu y bydd yr holl ddewisiadau dan ystyriaeth. Dyna'r modd gorau i gynnal adolygiad annibynnol. Gallai'r dewisiadau gynnwys dod â gwasanaethau niwrolawdriniaeth yn agosach i'r gogledd, a gallai'r adolygiad ystyried beth yw'r daith hwyaf y gellir disgwyl yn rhesymol i bobl ymgymryd â hi er mwyn cael niwrolawdriniaeth ddewisol o unrhyw ran o Gymru, ac a yw'n well ei mesur fesul awr neu fesul milltir.

Nick Bourne: I do not think that people will be reassured by that, because you have had the opportunity twice to say that it is unacceptable that patients in north Wales should face a 400-mile round trip in terms of redirection to Swansea and Cardiff. That redirection is what the Minister was talking about. The review can be conducted only within terms set by the Government. It is unacceptable in my view, and in the view of many people from north Wales who have contacted me and my AMs for the region. It is now on the agenda because of what the Minister said; therefore, are you leaving it on the agenda?

Nick Bourne: Nid wyf yn credu y bydd hynny'n tawelu meddwl neb, oherwydd cawsoch ddau gyfle i ddweud ei bod yn annerbyniol i gleifion yn y gogledd wynebu taith 400 milltir yn ôl ac ymlaen yng nghydestun ailgyfeirio i Abertawe a Chaerdydd. Am yr ailgyfeirio hwnnw yr oedd y Gweinidog yn sôn. Dim ond o fewn y cylch gorchwyl sydd wedi'i osod gan y Llywodraeth y gellir cynnal yr adolygiad. Mae'n annerbyniol yn fy marn i, ac ym marn llawer o bobl yn y gogledd sydd wedi cysylltu â mi a'm Haelodau Cynulliad dros y rhanbarth. Mae ar yr agenda'n awr oherwydd yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog; felly, a ydych yn ei adael ar yr agenda?

2.20 p.m.

The First Minister: I do not think that anything is ruled out before a consultation exercise starts. That would be a very odd thing to do. However, among the proposals that I am sure will be looked at is whether it is possible to provide neurosurgery in north Wales, how you would do that, how you would set about it, how expensive it would be, and how safe it would be. All options will be on the table; whereas all that you are looking at is an option that would involve longer travel times for people from north Wales waiting for elective surgery. It would not be right to rule options out at this stage, before a thoroughly independent person has even been appointed, but that person's appointment is imminent, and so perhaps we can return to this subject once that appointment has been made.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn credu bod dim yn cael ei ddiystyru cyn dechrau ar ymgynghoriad. Byddai hynny'n beth rhyfedd iawn i'w wneud. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siŵr mai un o'r cynigion a ystyrir fydd a oes modd darparu niwrolawdriniaeth yn y gogledd, sut y gwneid hynny, sut y byddid yn mynd ynghylch hynny, pa mor ddrud y byddai, a pha mor ddiogel y byddai. Bydd yr holl ddewisiadau'n cael eu hystyried; tra nad ydych chi ond yn ystyried dewis a fyddai'n golygu amseroedd teithio hwy i bobl yn y gogledd sydd yn aros am lawdriniaeth ddewisol. Ni fyddai'n iawn diystyru dewisiadau ar hyn o bryd, cyn penodi rhywun cwbl annibynnol hyd yn oed, ond mae'r person hwnnw ar fin cael ei benodi, ac felly efallai y gallwn ddod yn ôl at y mater hwn ar ôl gwneud y penodiad hwnnw.

David Lloyd: Yr wyf am fynd ar drywydd

David Lloyd: I wish to change tack to talk

gwahanol, sef y sector gwirfoddol. Mae'n amlwg bod y sector gwirfoddol yn darparu llawer o wasanaethau o ran trin problemau gydag alcohol a chyffuriau. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, pa gefnogaeth ychwanegol fydd ar gael i'r gweithgareddau hynny o hyn ymlaen?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes gennyf wybodaeth benodol am y pwnc hwn wrth imi sefyll ar fy nhraed y prynhawn yma, felly byddai'n well pe bawn i'n sicrhau bod Edwina yn ysgrifennu atoch am y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf o ran y gwasanaethau gwirfoddol yn y maes hwn.

The Presiding Officer: Question 2, OAQ(3)0221(FM), has been withdrawn.

Volunteering

Q3 Janice Gregory: Will the First Minister make a statement on volunteering in Wales? OAQ(3)0212(FM)

The First Minister: This is a kind of follow-on from the previous question, but I re-emphasise that volunteers are the lifeblood of our communities. Wales is probably not the richest country in Europe, but we are extremely rich in the strength of our voluntary organisations. That is why we are currently developing a strategic action plan for the Assembly's voluntary sector scheme and for the work that we have in hand to promote and extend volunteering opportunities right across Wales.

Janice Gregory: The last question was about volunteering in healthcare, and my question relates to the other side of the spectrum, namely volunteering in communities. Will you join me in acknowledging the superb volunteering efforts of a group in Cefn Cribwr in the Ogmere constituency? The group, Y Cefn Gwyrdd, works to enhance and conserve the village's local environment. Will you join me, First Minister, in congratulating it on its work to preserve the Bedford Park ironworks, which has recently re-opened as a visitor attraction, simply because it had Assembly Government local regeneration funding? It is also working on the restoration of Cefn Junction signal box, which dates back to 1898 and will also be

about the voluntary sector. It is clear that the voluntary sector provides a vast number of services relating to the treatment of drug and alcohol problems. In that context, what additional support will be available for such activities from now on?

The First Minister: I do not have detailed information on that subject to hand, as I stand here before you this afternoon, and so it would be better if I were to ensure that Edwina writes to you outlining the latest position with regard to voluntary services in that area.

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiwn 2, OAQ(3)0221(FM), yn ôl.

Gwirfoddoli

C3 Janice Gregory: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am wirfoddoli yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)0212(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwn yn rhyw fath o gwestiwn sy'n dilyn yr un blaenorol, ond pwysleisias eto mai gwirfoddolwyr yw enaid ein cymunedau. Mae'n debyg nad Cymru yw'r wlad gyfoethocaf yn Ewrop, ond yr ydym yn gyfoethog iawn o ran cryfder ein cyrff gwirfoddol. Dyna pam yr ydym yn datblygu cynllun gweithredu strategol ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer cynllun sector gwirfoddol y Cynulliad ac ar gyfer y gwaith yr ydym yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo ac ymestyn cyfleoedd i wirfoddoli ledled Cymru.

Janice Gregory: Yr oedd y cwestiwn diwethaf yn ymwneud â gwirfoddoli ym maes gofal iechyd, ac mae'r cwestiwn sydd gennyf fi'n ymwneud â'r agwedd arall ar hyn, sef gwirfoddoli mewn cymunedau. A wnewch ymuno â mi i gydnabod yr ymdrechion gwirfoddol gwych gan grŵp yng Nghefncribwr yn etholaeth Ogwr? Mae'r grŵp hwn, Y Cefn Gwyrdd, yn ymdrechu i wella a chadw amgylchedd lleol y pentref. A wnewch ymuno â mi, Brif Weinidog, i'w longyfarch ar ei waith i gadw gwaith haearn Bedford Park, sydd wedi ailagor yn ddiweddar fel atyniad i ymwelwyr, a hynny am iddo gael cyllid adfywio lleol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ar ei gyfer? Mae hefyd yn ymdrechu i adfer caban signalau

used as an important educational resource for local historical and environmental organisations. Without Government funding, projects such as these would not take place and would certainly not continue. Will you join me in congratulating all of the groups throughout Wales that do this work, and also give a commitment that the Assembly Government will continue to fund these regeneration activities?

The First Minister: I know the village of Cefn Cribwr well, although I do not happen to know the Bedford Park ironworks site. That is a classic example of a group of people deciding, 'It is our village, and our environment', and seeing some potential to improve it, making everyone proud of a particular bit of heritage, perhaps doing something about a bit of defoliation and throwing itself into it enthusiastically. As you say, sometimes LRF or some other form of pump-priming funding from the public sector is needed to get it going, but that is probably only a tenth of the real value of the unpaid work that volunteers put in. We want to see all people—people aged over 65, people in the middle ranking of their working lives and young people—brought into that, because that is how you will get everyone to feel as though they have a stake in the environmental improvement brought about by an enthusiastic volunteering effort. Congratulations to the group.

Darren Millar: In the Home Office citizenship survey of 2005, 42 per cent of respondents indicated that they would volunteer if they were asked directly to do so. A further ICM survey in 2004 found that 9 per cent of men and 8 per cent of women said that volunteering had improved their sex life. Given this information, First Minister, what measures are being taken by the Welsh Assembly Government to ensure that people are made aware of the many local needs that they could meet and of the benefits that they may derive as a result?

The First Minister: It all depends on what you have been asked to volunteer to do, I suppose. [*Laughter.*] That aside, there is a serious issue here regarding opportunities and

Cyffordd y Cefn, sydd yn dyddio o 1898 ac a fydd hefyd yn cael ei ddefnyddio fel adnodd addysgol pwysig ar gyfer cyrff hanesyddol ac amgylcheddol lleol. Heb gael cyllid gan y Llywodraeth, ni fyddai prosiectau fel y rhain yn digwydd ac, yn sicr, ni fyddent yn parhau. A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch yr holl grwpiau ledled Cymru sydd yn gwneud gwaith o'r fath, ac ymrwymo hefyd y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn dal i ariannu'r gweithgareddau adfywio hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn gyfarwydd iawn â phentref Cefncribwr, er nad wyf yn digwydd bod yn gyfarwydd â safle gwaith haearn Bedford Park. Mae hynny'n enghraifft ragorol o grŵp o bobl sydd yn penderfynu, 'Ein pentref ni yw hwn, a'n hamgylchedd ni', ac yn gweld rhyw gyfle i'w wella, gan beri i bawb ymfalchïo mewn agwedd benodol ar dreftadaeth, gan wneud ychydig o waith tocio coed efallai a bwrw iddi'n frwdfrydig. Fel y dywedwch, weithiau bydd angen arian y gronfa adfywio lleol neu ryw fath arall o arian ysgoi gan y sector cyhoeddus i'w gychwyn, ond mae'n debyg nad yw hynny ond yn ddegfed ran o wir werth y gwaith di-dâl y mae gwirfoddolwyr yn ei wneud. Yr ydym am weld pawb—rhai dros 65 oed, rhai ar ganol eu bywyd gwaith a phobl ifanc—wedi'u cynnwys yn hynny, oherwydd felly y perir i bobl deimlo fel pe bai ganddynt ran yn y gwelliannau i'r amgylchedd a geir drwy ymdrech wirfoddol frwdfrydig. Llongyfarchiadau i'r grŵp.

Darren Millar: Yn arolwg dinasyddiaeth y Swyddfa Gartref yn 2005, nododd 42 y cant o'r rhai a ymatebodd y byddent yn gwirfoddoli pe gofynnid iddynt wneud yn uniongyrchol. Mewn arolwg pellach gan ICM yn 2004 cafwyd bod 9 y cant o'r dynion ac 8 y cant o'r menywod yn dweud bod gwaith gwirfoddol wedi gwella eu bywyd rhywiol. O ystyried y wybodaeth hon, Brif Weinidog, pa fesurau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n eu cymryd i sicrhau bod pobl yn cael eu hysbysu am y nifer fawr o anghenion lleol y gallent eu diwallu ac am y buddion y gallent eu cael o ganlyniad?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n dibynnu'n llwyr ar yr hyn y gofynnwyd ichi wirfoddoli i'w wneud, debygwn i. [*Chwerthin.*] Wedi dweud hynny, mae mater pwysig yn hyn o beth o ran

knowing about them, because I think that there are many latent volunteers out there who have not yet been able to get involved, perhaps because they do not know when a local volunteering group meets up, its telephone number, or where it meets up on a Saturday morning in order to get involved. Volunteering should be adopted as much as possible, but people need that communication to find out where they are supposed to go and who to meet. Who knows what happens after that, and after they have done their bit, as it were, but I do not think that I should go down that road.

Nerys Evans: Mae llawer o fudiadau gwirfoddol lleol yn wynebu anawsterau wrth i nifer o gymunedau drwy Gymru gollu adnoddau lleol, megis neuadd yr ysgol, sy'n gartref i fudiadau o'r fath. Pan ddaw ysgol pentref yn wag o ganlyniad i leihad mewn poblogaeth neu ad-drefnu, a gredwch y dylid datblygu'r adnoddau hyn er lles y gymuned yn hytrach na'u gwerthu ar y farchnad agored?

Y Prif Weinidog: Os neuadd yr ysgol yw'r unig gyfleuster sydd gan bentref, gall pethau fod yn anodd. Fel arfer, mae neuadd bentref a neuadd ysgol, ac mae neuaddau pentrefi a chanolfannau cymuned Cymru wedi cael eu gwella a'u moderneiddio ar raddfa anhygoel yn ystod yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf oherwydd bod gennym gronfeydd bychain ar eu cyfer. Yr wyf wedi agor sawl neuadd bentref sydd wedi'i hadnewyddu ym mhob cornel o Gymru. O ran neuaddau ysgol, os yw awdurdod lleol yn ystyried cau ysgol oherwydd nad oes plant ar ôl ynnddi, a bod hynny'n golygu bod pentref yn colli'r unig gyfleuster sydd ar gael i'r gymuned ddod ynghyd, dylai ystyried a ellir ei throi yn adnodd ar gyfer y gymuned.

Cysylltiadau Trafnidiaeth

C4 Gareth Jones: Pa drafodaethau diweddar y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi'u cynnal ynghylch cysylltiadau trafndiaeth gogledd-de? OAQ(3)0182(FM)

Hoffwn ddweud hefyd fy mod yn falch iawn bod y Prif Weinidog wedi gwella a'i fod yma yn ein plith o fewn amser cymharol fyr. Fel miloedd ohonom bellach, gall ganmol y

cyfleoedd a chael gwybod amdanynt, gan fy mod yn credu bod llawer o wirfoddolwyr posibl ar gael nad ydynt wedi gallu cymryd rhan eto, efallai am na wyddant pa bryd y mae grŵp gwirfoddoli lleol yn cwrdd, ei rif ffôn, neu ble y mae'n cwrdd ar fore Sadwrn er mwyn cael cymryd rhan. Dylid mabwysiadu gwirfoddoli i'r graddau mwyaf posibl, ond mae ar bobl angen cyfathrebu o'r fath er mwyn cael gwybod i ble y maent i fod i fynd a phwy i'w gyfarfod. Pwy a wŷr beth a ddigwydd ar ôl hynny, ac wedi iddynt wneud eu rhan, fel petai, ond nid wyf yn credu y dylwn fynd i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw.

Nerys Evans: A number of voluntary organisations on a local level face difficulties as many communities throughout Wales lose local resources, such as school halls, which offer a base for such organisations. When a village school is vacated because of depopulation or reorganisation, do you believe that such resources should be developed for the benefit of the community rather than being sold on the open market?

The First Minister: If the village school is the only facility a village has, that can make things difficult. Usually, there is a village hall and a school hall, and village halls and community centres in Wales have been improved and modernised on an incredible scale over the past eight years, because we have small funds available for that purpose. I have opened many newly renovated village halls in all corners of Wales. In terms of school halls, if a local authority is considering closing a school because of falling school rolls, and that means that a village will lose the only facility available to it for the community to come together, it should consider whether it could be turned into a resource for the community.

Transport Links

Q4 Gareth Jones: What recent discussions has the Welsh Assembly Government held regarding north-south transport links? OAQ(3)0182(FM)

I would also like to say that I am very pleased to see the First Minister back in good health, and back here among us in a relatively short time. Like many thousands of us by now, he

gwaith da y mae'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn ei gyflawni yng Nghymru.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae swyddogion yr adran drafnidiaeth wedi bod yn trafod gyda'r diwydiant rheilffyrdd y posibilrwydd o ddarparu gwasanaethau trên cyflymach rhwng y gogledd a'r de. Cawsant gyfarfod gyda'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, Ieuan Wyn Jones, i drafod blaenraglen gefnffyrdd 2004 i weld a oes cynlluniau gogledd-de posibl eraill i ategu amcanion 'Cymru'n Un'.

Gareth Jones: Cyfeiriaf at un gwelliant a welwyd yn gymharol ddiweddar yn nyffryn Lledr yn Aberconwy. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r A470 wedi cael ei gwella yn y rhan honno o'r wlad, ac mae gwelliannau yn cael eu gwneud yn awr i'r ffordd dros y Crimea, fel y'i gelwir, i Flaenau Ffestiniog. Croesawyd y gwaith hwn gan gymunedau. Fel rhywun sy'n teithio'n gyson ar yr A470, fel sawl un arall yma, hoffwn wybod a oes cynlluniau ar gyfer gwelliannau ar y patrwm hwn yn y dyfodol, oherwydd mae hwn yn welliant sylweddol. Mawr obeithiaf y gallwn weld patrwm tebyg o welliannau yn digwydd ar hyd yr A470 rhwng y gogledd a'r de.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym eisiau cydbwysedd rhwng y gwasanaethau gwahanol, sef y rheilffyrdd, ceir a thrafnidiaeth breifat ar y ffyrdd, a'r gwasanaeth awyr newydd rhwng y gogledd a'r de a fu'n llwyddiant ysgubol ers ei agor ym mis Mai. Yr ydych yn gywir wrth gyfeirio at ran newydd yr A470 rhwng Blaenau Ffestiniog a Chancoed—ar ochr uchaf y Crimea i ni, ond yr ochr isaf ydyw i chi—a fydd yn agor ymhen rhyw naw mis. Deallaf fod rhyw 10 cynllun arall sy'n dod o dan y disgrifiad o welliannau i gysylltiadau ffordd rhwng y gogledd a'r de, a byddant yn dechrau yn 2010, os nad cyn hynny.

2.30 p.m.

Brynle Williams: I am also pleased to see you back, First Minister, as I had a similar experience to yours some 18 months ago.

Croeso yn ôl.

too can applaud the excellent work of the health service in Wales.

The First Minister: Officials from the transport department are in discussion with the railway industry regarding the provision of faster train services between north and south Wales. They met the Deputy First Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones, to discuss the 2004 trunk road forward programme to see whether other north-south schemes can be identified to support the objectives in 'One Wales'.

Gareth Jones: I will refer to one relatively recent improvement in the Lledr valley in Conwy. As you know, the A470 has been improved in that part of the country, and road improvements are currently under way on the Crimea, as it is called, to Blaenau Ffestiniog. This work has been welcomed by the communities. As someone who travels regularly on the A470, as do many others here, I want to know whether any other plans for road improvements along the same lines are planned in future, as it is a significant improvement. I very much hope that we will see a similar pattern of improvements along the A470 between north and south Wales.

The First Minister: We want to achieve a balance between the various services, namely the railways, private cars and other transport on the road, and the new air service between north and south, which has been a resounding success since it opened in May. You are right to make reference to the new section of the A470 between Blaenau Ffestiniog and Cancoed—on the upper side of the Crimea for us, but it is the lower side for you—which will open in some nine months' time. I understand that some 10 other schemes are in the pipeline, which come under the heading of road improvements between north and south Wales, and they will commence in 2010, if not before that.

Brynle Williams: Yr wyf finnau'n falch o'ch gweld yn ôl, Brif Weinidog, gan i mi gael profiad tebyg i'ch un chi ryw 18 mis yn ôl.

Welcome back.

First Minister, I am sure that you would agree that improving infrastructure can bring substantial economic gains, especially in the case of St Asaph and the Vale of Clwyd. We have specific problems in trying to open up the Vale of Clwyd to business: we have two industrial parks and yet we have a bottleneck at St Asaph. Given the clear benefits of such a scheme, why is it that your Assembly Government will not help to fund a feasibility study for the project in north Wales, when it was prepared to spend nearly £100 million on the four miles of the Porth relief road in south Wales?

The First Minister: I am grateful for the question; strangely enough, Ann Jones raised this issue with me earlier today. I think that it concerns Ann Jones's constituency. It is an important issue. I will find detailed information on it and either I or Ieuan Wyn Jones, the Minister with responsibility for transport, will write to you on the up-to-date position.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr ydym ni, fel grŵp, hefyd yn eich croesawu yn ôl, Brif Weinidog; yr ydym yn falch o weld eich bod wedi gwella.

Yr wyf am ddychwelyd at y cwestiwn gwreiddiol a ofynnodd Gareth am y cysylltiadau rhwng y de a'r gogledd ac, wrth gwrs, nid wyf am golli'r cyfle i siarad am y trenau. Yr wyf yn parhau i gredu nad ydynt yn ddigon da. Mae'n ddigon hawdd canmol y ffaith bod awyren ar gael erbyn hyn i'r bobl ar ochr Ynys Môn o'r wlad, sy'n lwcus i allu teithio o'r gogledd i'r de mewn ffordd mor hwylus, ond mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn gorfod dioddef yn ofnadwy ar y trenau. Mae ambell i drên sydd yn well ei safon—yn newydd ac yn fwy glân—ond mae'n warthus bod gennym genedl ddatganoledig ond dim balchder yn ein cysylltiadau â'r gogledd. Nid sôn am y cysylltiad o ran y trên yn unig yr wyf ond y cysylltiad seicolegol. Dylem boeni am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yng ngogledd Cymru ac mae'n hen bryd i chi ddangos eich bod yn gwneud hynny.

Y Prif Weinidog: Fel yr wyf wedi dweud o'r blaen, nid mater o ffafrio'r bobl sy'n teithio i lawr ar yr awyren neu'r trên ydyw, ond mater o fod yn gytbwys rhwng y ffordd, y trên a'r

Brif Weinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno bod gwella seilwaith yn gallu dod â manteision economaidd sylweddol, yn enwedig yn achos Llanelwy a Dyffryn Clwyd. Mae gennym broblemau penodol wrth geisio agor Dyffryn Clwyd i fusnes: mae gennym ddau barc diwydiannol ond mae gennym, serch hynny, dagfa yn Llanelwy. O ystyried manteision clir cynllun o'r fath, pam na wnaiff eich Llywodraeth chi yn y Cynulliad helpu i gyllido astudiaeth ddichonoldeb ar y prosiect yn y gogledd, a hithau'n barod i wario bron £100 miliwn ar bedair milltir ffordd liniaru'r Porth yn y de?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cwestiwn; yn rhyfedd iawn, cododd Ann Jones y mater hwn gyda mi yn gynharach heddiw. Credaf fod a wnelo ag etholaeth Ann Jones. Mae'n fater pwysig. Caf hyd i wybodaeth fanwl amdano a byddaf fi neu Ieuan Wyn Jones, y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am drafnidiaeth, yn ysgrifennu atoch am y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf.

Eleanor Burnham: As a group, we also welcome you back, First Minister; we are pleased to see that you are back in good health.

I will return to the original question asked by Gareth about connections between north and south Wales, and, naturally, I do not wish to pass up the opportunity to talk about the trains. I still do not think that the service is good enough. It is all well and good to applaud the fact that an air link is available to people on the Anglesey side of the country, who are lucky enough to be able to travel from north to south easily, but most of us have to suffer terribly on the trains. Occasionally, you come across a train that is of a better standard—which is new and is cleaner—but it is a disgrace that we have a devolved nation but no pride in our links with the north. I am not talking only about train links but also about psychological links. We should be concerned about what is happening in north Wales, and it is high time you showed that you are concerned.

The First Minister: As I have said before, it is not a case of giving preferential treatment to people who travel on planes or trains, but of achieving a balance between roads, trains

gwasanaeth awyr newydd. O ran y trêen, yr wyf yn deall bod trafodaethau yn cael eu cynnal i weld beth yw'r ffordd orau ymlaen, ac fe roddir ystyriaeth i'r anawsterau a beth y mae pobl y gogledd yn eu gweld fel elfennau annigonol y gwasanaeth presennol. Ai'r broblem yw diffyg dosbarth busnes ar y trêen, lle gallai pobl weithio pe bai byrddau ar gael iddynt â chysylltiadau ar gyfer eu gliniaduron? Ynteu ai'r broblem yw bod angen o leiaf un trêen i'r de ac yn ôl bob dydd nad yw'n stopio ym mhob un o'r 30 a mwy o orsafoedd rhwng Caerdybi a Chaerdydd? Ar ôl gwneud y penderfyniad hwnnw, gallwn fwrw ymlaen. Mae angen i ni wybod beth yn union yw'r ffordd orau o gael gwared ar gŵynion mwyaf y bobl sy'n teithio'n gyson rhwng y gogledd a'r de.

Support for Remploy

Q5 Alun Davies: Will the First Minister make a statement on the support that the Welsh Assembly Government is giving to Remploy? OAQ(3)0217(FM)

The First Minister: Now that the future of Remploy Bridgend has been secured—with support from Accelerate Wales, I am proud to say—we are continuing to work with the company to examine alternative proposals, with a view to keeping in operation some of the other six factories that were listed for closure.

Alun Davies: Members from across the Chamber will have been working on this issue over the summer until the consultation process finished. As a Member representing Mid and West Wales, I have been working with my colleague, Joyce Watson, to support those who work in the Brynaman and Ystradgynlais factories in particular. Both of those factories are located in small communities that are far away from the proposed new site in Baglan. There is no way that those people will be able to travel to the new site. They are being forced into redundancy and they are some of the most vulnerable people in some economically fragile areas. First Minister, I hope that you will continue to support the work that is being done with Remploy and particularly support the work that is being done in Ystradgynlais and Brynaman.

and the new air service. As far as trains are concerned, I understand that discussions are under way to find the best way forward, and consideration will be given to the difficulties and to what the people of north Wales see as the deficient elements of the current service. Is the problem the lack of a business class on the trains, where people could work if there were tables available with link-ups for their laptops? Or is the issue that we need at least one train to south Wales and back every day that does not stop at the 30 or more stations between Holyhead and Cardiff? Having made that decision, we can forge ahead. We need to establish what exactly the best way forward is in order to alleviate the greatest complaints of the people who travel regularly between north and south Wales.

Cymorth i Remploy

C5 Alun Davies: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am y gefnogaeth y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei rhoi i Remploy? OAQ(3)0217(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: A dyfodol Remploy ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr wedi cael ei sicrhau bellach—gyda chymorth Accelerate Cymru, yr wyf yn falch o ddweud—yr ydym yn parhau i weithio gyda'r cwmni i archwilio cynigion amgen, gyda golwg ar gadw ar agor rai o'r chwech o ffatrioedd eraill a restrwyd i'w cau.

Alun Davies: Bydd Aelodau o bob rhan o'r Siambr wedi bod yn gweithio ar y mater hwn dros yr haf nes i'r broses ymgynghori ddod i ben. Fel Aelod sy'n cynrychioli Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru, bûm yn gweithio gyda'm cyd-Aelod, Joyce Watson, i gefnogi'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn ffatrioedd Brynaman ac Ystradgynlais yn arbennig. Mae'r naill a'r llall o'r ffatrioedd hyn wedi'u lleoli mewn cymunedau bach sydd yn bell o'r safle newydd arfaethedig ym Maglan. Ni fydd modd o gwbl i'r bobl hynny deithio i'r safle newydd. Byddant yn colli eu gwaith drwy orfodaeth ac maent yn rhai o'r bobl fwyaf agored i niwed mewn ardaloedd sy'n fregus yn economaidd. Brif Weinidog, gobeithiaf y byddwch yn parhau i gefnogi'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud gyda Remploy ac y byddwch yn arbennig yn cefnogi'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud yn Ystradgynlais a Brynaman.

The First Minister: I appreciate the point that you made about Brynaman and Ystradgynlais in your region. I am not sure if they are in the furniture group, which is in the eye of the storm due to the losses that it is currently suffering, making a dent in Remploy's budget as allocated from the Department for Work and Pensions. I fear that it is, and that the furniture group is the one that is in difficulties. It is important that we make full use of the consultation period, which has now been extended to the end of October. We will certainly be playing a full part in that, working with political representatives, the trade unions and local communities in the areas affected.

David Melding: The issue of factory closures is difficult. Looking at the other side of this question, Remploy's strategic objective to get more disabled people into mainstream employment has been welcomed across the sector. Indeed, it is important for the Welsh economy that we get more disabled people into the workforce because of the current levels of inactivity. What steps will your Government take to ensure that European programmes take real advantage of this, as they do emphasise this aspect of social economy? We should at least support Remploy in that part of its proposals, because it is sound in that objective.

The First Minister: Reducing economic inactivity is a key part of the European social fund plan that we are pursuing as part of the European structural funds, the convergence fund—these are some of the many terms that do not mean much to the general public. However, we have to realise the importance of enabling people on the margins of the labour market to get into mainstream employment. The issue with Remploy in Brynaman and Ystradgynlais is that it will be quite different to Remploy in London, where a huge range of office-type work is available as an alternative to Remploy employment that may, by now, be old-fashioned in terms of the possibilities in, say, London and the south-east of England. It is not the same story, however, when it comes to Brynaman and Ystradgynlais, where it is about trying to

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwerthfawrogaf y pwynt a wnaethoch am Frynaman ac Ystradgynlais yn eich rhanbarth. Nid wyf yn siŵr a ydynt yn y grŵp dodrefn, sydd yn llygad y ddrycin oherwydd y colledion y mae'n eu hwynebu ar hyn o bryd, gan wneud tolch yng nghyllideb Remploy fel y caiff ei dyrannu gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau. Mae arnaf ofn ei fod, ac mai'r grŵp dodrefn yw'r un mewn trybini. Mae'n bwysig inni ddefnyddio'r cyfnod ymgynghori, sydd wedi cael ei ymestyn erbyn hyn tan ddiwedd mis Hydref, yn llawn. Byddwn yn sicr yn chwarae rhan lawn ynddo, gan weithio gyda chynrychiolwyr gwleidyddol, yr undebau llafur a chymunedau lleol yn yr ardaloedd yr effeithir arnynt.

David Melding: Mae'r mater ynglŷn â chau ffatrioedd yn un anodd. Ac edrych ar ochr arall y cwestiwn hwn, mae amcan strategol Remploy o gael rhagor o bobl anabl i gyflogaeth brif ffrwd wedi cael ei groesawu ar draws y sector. Yn wir, mae'n bwysig i economi Cymru inni gael rhagor o bobl anabl i'r gweithlu oherwydd y lefelau anweithgarwch ar hyn o bryd. Pa gamau a gymer eich Llywodraeth i sicrhau bod rhaglenni Ewropeaidd yn manteisio o ddifrif ar hyn, gan eu bod yn pwysleisio'r agwedd hon ar economi gymdeithasol? Dylem o leiaf gefnogi Remploy yn y rhan honno o'i gynigion, oherwydd y mae ar dir sicr yn yr amcan hwnnw.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae lleihau anweithgarwch economaidd yn rhan allweddol o'r cynllun yr ydym yn ei roi ar waith dan gronfa gymdeithasol Ewrop fel rhan o'r arian strwythurol Ewropeaidd, y gronfa gydgyfeirio—nid yw'r rhain ond rhai o'r llu o dermau nad ydynt yn golygu llawer i'r cyhoedd yn gyffredinol. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni sylweddoli pwysigrwydd galluogi pobl ar gyrion y farchnad lafur i ymuno â chyflogaeth brif ffrwd. Y broblem gyda Remploy ym Brynaman ac Ystradgynlais yw y bydd yn wahanol iawn i Remploy yn Llundain, lle y mae ystod enfawr o waith o natur gwaith swyddfa ar gael yn ddewis arall yn lle cyflogaeth Remploy sydd efallai, erbyn hyn, yn hen-ffasiwn o ran y posibiladau yn Llundain a de-ddwyrain Lloegr, dyweder. Nid yr un yw'r stori, fodd bynnag, wrth

get the balance right between the alternative employment that is available and ensuring that it is available in the areas concerned. The main focus of the DWP/Remploy top management effort is, perhaps, to get people in London and the south-east into the kinds of office jobs available there.

Bethan Jenkins: I am, of course, pleased that the Bridgend factory in my region has been retained, but I am sure that you acknowledge that pressure must be placed on the London Government to ensure the viability of all the factories in Wales. You will no doubt be aware of the work currently being done at the Remploy shared service centre in Swansea. Those who work at the centre currently carry out work associated with purchases, invoices and expenses for employment services. Remploy plans to centralise the operation in its Leeds branch, despite the ongoing consultation process. Remploy's plan will create five new multi-skill jobs in Leeds, but 20 people will be out of a job in Swansea. I urge you, as a matter of urgency, to hold talks with Remploy management to seek to retain this centre at Swansea, as it is equally important to the sustainability of Remploy as an industry in the long term.

The First Minister: You make a good point, and that is part of the pressure that we have been putting on the DWP and Remploy. I suppose that we would feel quite differently about the merger if they had closed the Leeds centre and moved all the work to Swansea. As it is, we are losing out in those proposals, so we will try to make the case as strongly as possible for why it should be the other way around or that the merger itself may carry some hidden problems.

David Melding made a point about using average figures across the UK as a whole, and not specific, locational figures for some of the Welsh locations, such as Swansea, Brynaman, Ystradgynlais, Wrexham and Abertillery. Whereas, in principle and on

edrych ar Frynaman ac Ystradgynlais, lle y mae'n rhaid cael y cydbwysedd iawn rhwng y gyflogaeth amgen sydd ar gael a sicrhau ei bod ar gael yn yr ardaloedd dan sylw. Efallai mai prif ffocws ymdrechion rheolwyr uchaf yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau/Remploy yw cael pobl yn Llundain a de-ddwyrain Lloegr i'r mathau o swyddi gwaith swyddfa sydd ar gael yno.

Bethan Jenkins: Yr wyf, wrth gwrs, yn falch bod ffatri Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn fy rhanbarth wedi cael ei chadw, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn cydnabod bod rhaid rhoi pwysau ar Lywodraeth Llundain i sicrhau dichonadwyedd yr holl ffatrioedd yng Nghymru. Mae'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud ar hyn o bryd yng nghanolfan cydwasanaethau Remploy yn Abertawe. Mae'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn y ganolfan ar hyn o bryd yn gwneud gwaith yn gysylltiedig â phryniannau, anfonebau a threuliau am wasanaethau cyflogi. Mae Remploy'n bwriadu canoli'r gwaith yn ei gangen yn Leeds, er gwaethaf y broses ymgynghori sy'n dal i fynd rhagddi. Bydd cynllun Remploy yn creu pump o swyddi newydd aml-sgil yn Leeds, ond bydd 20 o bobl yn colli eu swyddi yn Abertawe. Yr wyf yn eich annog, fel mater o frys, i gynnal trafodaethau gyda rheolwyr Remploy i geisio cadw'r ganolfan hon yn Abertawe, gan ei bod yr un mor bwysig i gynaliadwyedd Remploy fel diwydiant yn y tymor hir.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn gwneud pwynt da, ac mae hynny'n rhan o'r pwysau yr ydym wedi bod yn ei roi ar yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau a Remploy. Mae'n debyg y byddem yn teimlo'n bur wahanol am yr uno pe baent wedi cau'r ganolfan yn Leeds a symud y gwaith i gyd i Abertawe. Fel y mae, yr ydym ar ein colled yn y cynigion hynny, felly byddwn yn ceisio dadlau'r achos cyn gryfed â phosibl pam y dylai pethau weithio o chwith neu pam y gallai'r uno ei hun ddod â phroblemau cudd yn ei sgîl.

Gwnaeth David Melding bwynt am ddefnyddio ffigurau cyfartalog ar draws y DU gyfan, nid ffigurau penodol, lleoliadol ar gyfer rhai o'r lleoliadau yng Nghymru, fel Abertawe, Brynaman, Ystradgynlais, Wrecsam ac Abertyleri. Er bod Remploy,

average, Remploy can get four times as many people currently classified as disabled into mainstream employment through a grant of £10,000 a year compared with £40,000 as a subsidy for Remploy employees, it is not necessarily the case in certain areas of Wales, such as Abertillery, Brynaman or wherever, because of the nature of the local economy. We, therefore, have to continue to use the extended consultation period and make the case for all of the Remploy factories and the shared service centre to see if we can carry that success in reversing the Remploy decision beyond the Bridgend case and into some of the other places threatened with closure.

2.40 p.m.

Kirsty Williams: The Brynaman and Ystradgynlais factories do indeed produce the furniture that you referred to, but far from being the basket case of the Remploy portfolio, the furniture business is actually a part of the business that Remploy is confident it can grow. Therefore, it seems inconceivable that it would look to close the factories in Brynaman and Ystradgynlais at this crucial time. What can you do to help Remploy employees? Your Government could purchase products that are produced in Brynaman and Ystradgynlais; how many of those furniture products has the Welsh Assembly Government purchased?

Will you confirm that you have not yet responded to the consultation carried out by the Westminster Government in conjunction with Remploy? If you have not, when do you intend to do so? Will you publish any correspondence that you have had to date with your Westminster colleagues about the future of the Remploy factories in Wales?

The First Minister: I do not think that we have concluded our participation in the consultation. Now that the consultation deadline has been extended, we wish to continue to pursue the issues to the end of the consultation period, so we have not concluded our part in it.

mewn egwyddor ac ar gyfartaledd, yn gallu cael pedair gwaith yn fwy o bobl sy'n cael eu cyfrif yn anabl ar hyn o bryd i gyflogaeth brif ffrwd drwy grant o £10,000 y flwyddyn, o'i gymharu â £40,000 fel cymhorthdal i weithwyr Remploy, nid yw hynny'n wir o reidrwydd mewn rhai rhannau o Gymru, fel Abertillery, Brynaman neu ble bynnag y bo, oherwydd natur yr economi leol. Felly rhaid inni barhau i ddefnyddio'r cyfnod ymgynghori estynedig a dadlau'r achos o blaid holl ffatrïoedd Remploy a'r ganolfan cydwasanaethau i weld a allwn gynnal y llwyddiant hwnnw wrth wrthdroi penderfyniad Remploy y tu hwnt i achos Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a hyd at rai o'r manau eraill y mae bygythiad i'w cau.

Kirsty Williams: Mae ffatrïoedd Brynaman ac Ystradgynlais yn wir yn cynhyrchu'r dodrefn y cyfeiriasoch atynt, ond yn hytrach na bod yn aelod gwannaf portffolio Remploy, mae'r busnes dodrefn mewn gwirionedd yn rhan o'r busnes y mae Remploy'n hyderus y gall beri iddo dyfu. Felly, mae'n ymddangos yn anhygoel y byddai am gau'r ffatrïoedd ym Mrynaman ac Ystradgynlais ar yr adeg dyngedfennol hon. Beth y gallwch ei wneud i helpu gweithwyr Remploy? Gallai eich Llywodraeth brynu cynnyrch sy'n cael ei wneud ym Mrynaman ac Ystradgynlais; faint o'r cynnyrch dodrefn hwn y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ei brynu?

A wnewch gadarnhau nad ydych eto wedi ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad a gynhaliwyd gan Lywodraeth San Steffan ar y cyd â Remploy? Os nad ydych wedi gwneud, pryd y bwriadwch wneud hynny? A wnewch gyhoeddi unrhyw ohebiaeth yr ydych wedi ei chael hyd yma gyda'ch cyd-Weinidogion yn San Steffan am ddyfodol ffatrïoedd Remploy yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni chredaf ein bod eto wedi cwblhau ein cyfranogiad yn yr ymgynghoriad. Gan fod dyddiad cau'r ymgynghoriad wedi cael ei ymestyn erbyn hyn, yr ydym am barhau i fynd ar drywydd y materion perthnasol tan ddiwedd y cyfnod ymgynghori, felly nid ydym wedi cwblhau ein rhan ynddo.

On the question of the Remploy furniture group, which it claims is losing money heavily and which has four factories in Wales—I am not sure how many factories it has in England and Scotland, but the Brynaman, Treforest, Wrexham and Ystradgynlais factories are in it—I visited the Ystradgynlais factory not that long ago and it was producing drawing-office desks and school desks, which would be sold into the public sector in certain circumstances, but not necessarily to us. It might be that local authorities could be persuaded to buy school furniture, desks or drawing-office equipment from Remploy, rather than us, but we will investigate whether there is anything that we could do on that front. However, my understanding is that import prices have come down sharply and that that is what has rendered the furniture group into severe difficulties.

On the question of the publication of correspondence, I cannot see any particular reason, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, why you would not be able to request it, or why we could not publish it in any case. We will continue to have exchanges of correspondence until the end of the consultation period.

Joyce Watson: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to help Remploy, particularly in Brynaman and Ystradgynlais, to secure procurement from public bodies? I am aware that the Welsh Assembly Government cannot direct public authorities, but, in a recent survey, the GMB found that, of Wales's 22 unitary authorities, none were procuring any goods produced in Ystradgynlais or Brynaman.

The First Minister: The business procurement unit, which is in Andrew Davies's departmental portfolio, is doing much work with Remploy currently to see whether or not it is exploring all the potential opportunities, and it is working with public sector purchasing authorities to see whether or not they might be able to create business for Remploy by way of a bulk order, thereby securing a good local source of goods that are required in the public sector. So, we are

O ran y cwestiwn am grŵp dodrefn Remploy, sydd, fe honnir ganddo, yn colli llawer o arian ac sydd â phedair ffatri yng Nghymru—nid wyf yn siŵr faint o ffatrioedd sydd ganddo yn Lloegr a'r Alban, ond mae ffatrioedd Brynaman, Treforest, Wrecsam ac Ystradgynlais ynddo—ymwelais â ffatri Ystradgynlais yn gymharol ddiweddar ac yr oedd yn cynhyrchu desgiau i swyddfeydd arlunio a desgiau ysgol, a fyddai'n cael eu gwerthu i'r sector cyhoeddus dan rai amgylchiadau, ond nid o reidrwydd i ni. Efallai y gellid perswadio awdurdodau lleol i brynu dodrefn ysgol, desgiau neu offer swyddfeydd arlunio gan Remploy, yn hytrach na ni, ond ymchwiliwn i ganfod a oes unrhyw beth y gallem ni ei wneud o'r safbwynt hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, yn ôl a ddeallaf, mae prisiau mewnfario wedi gostwng yn sylweddol iawn a hynny sydd wedi achosi anawsterau difrifol i'r grŵp dodrefn.

O ran cyhoeddi gohebiaeth, ni allaf weld ddim rheswm neilltuol, dan Ddeddf Rhyddid Gwybodaeth 2000, pam na allech ofyn am hynny, neu pam na allem ei chyhoeddi beth bynnag. Byddwn yn parhau i gyfnewid gohebiaeth tan ddiwedd y cyfnod ymgynghori.

Joyce Watson: Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i helpu Remploy, yn enwedig ym Brynaman ac Ystradgynlais, i sicrhau bod cyrff cyhoeddus yn caffael ganddynt? Yr wyf yn ymwybodol na all Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyfarwyddo awdurdodau cyhoeddus, ond, mewn arolwg yn ddiweddar, canfu'r GMB nad oedd dim un o 22 awdurdod unedig Cymru'n caffael nwyddau a gynhyrchir yn Ystradgynlais neu Frynaman.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r uned caffael busnes, sydd ym mhorthffolio adrannol Andrew Davies, yn gwneud llawer o waith gyda Remploy ar hyn o bryd i weld a yw'n archwilio'r holl gyfleoedd posibl ai peidio, ac mae'n gweithio gydag awdurdodau prynu yn y sector cyhoeddus i weld a fyddai modd iddynt greu busnes i Remploy ar ffurf swmp archeb, gan sicrhau ffynhonnell leol dda o ran nwyddau y mae ar y sector cyhoeddus eu hangen. Felly, yr ydym yn ceisio dod â'r

trying to put the two sides together in as constructive a manner as possible. Although it is a non-devolved responsibility, as it remains with DWP, we have the local knowledge and the DWP does not have a business procurement unit like ours. We are attempting to extract all the potential for increasing orders from Remploy to see if that will help to progress the businesses that are not threatened to achieve greater heights, and also to see what can be done to assist the businesses that are under threat of closure at the moment.

Trish Law: It is nice to see you back, looking so well after your illness, First Minister. I am sure that we welcome Remploy's decision to reprieve its Bridgend factory, where it began its UK operation 61 years ago, although not at its current location. One of the reasons given by Remploy for saving the Bridgend factory is that,

'the site has won significant additional work from another one of its current customers.'

Are you satisfied that Remploy management has done enough to try to win additional work to secure the future of factories in poor areas such as Abertillery?

The First Minister: Thank you for your good wishes, Trish. On the question of the Bridgend factory, we helped through Accelerate Wales and we are trying to help the other factories through the business procurement unit. It is an issue for Remploy management, but the question is whether we can help it. Can we, with our knowledge of local purchasing by the whole of the public sector in Wales, put potential buyers its way? It will probably know the private-sector potential purchasers, because it is in business to find orders. If it has to change products to get away from those for which imports are depressing prices—which appears to be the pattern, especially on furniture—we can help in a general way, but specifically, in terms of public sector orders, we hope to be able to put potential purchasers with the potential sellers from Remploy to try to ensure that job

ddwy ochr ynghyd mewn modd mor adeiladol ag sy'n bosibl. Er nad yw hyn yn gyfrifoldeb sydd wedi cael ei ddatganoli, gan ei fod gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau o hyd, ni sydd â'r wybodaeth leol ac nid oes gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau uned caffael busnes fel ein hun ni. Yr ydym yn ceisio gwireddu pob cyfle i gynyddu archebion Remploy i weld a wnaiff hynny helpu i hybu'r busnesau, nad ydynt dan fygythiad, i sicrhau llwyddiant pellach, a hefyd i weld beth y gellir ei wneud i helpu'r busnesau y mae bygythiad iddynt gael eu cau ar hyn o bryd.

Trish Law: Mae'n braf eich gweld yn ôl, yn edrych mor dda ar ôl eich salwch, Brif Weinidog. Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod yn croesawu penderfyniad Remploy i arbed ei ffatri ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, lle y dechreuodd ei fusnes yn y DU 61 o flynyddoedd yn ôl, er nad yn y lleoliad presennol. Un o'r rhesymau a roddwyd gan Remploy dros arbed ffatri Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yw bod

y safle wedi ennill gwaith ychwanegol sylweddol gan un arall o'i gwsmeriaid cyfredol.

A ydych yn sicr bod rheolwyr Remploy wedi gwneud digon i geisio ennill gwaith ychwanegol i sicrhau dyfodol ffatrioedd mewn ardaloedd tlawd fel Abertillery?

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch ichi am eich dymuniadau da, Trish. O ran ffatri Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, yr ydym wedi helpu drwy Accelerate Cymru ac yr ydym yn ceisio helpu'r ffatrioedd eraill drwy'r uned caffael busnes. Mater i reolwyr Remploy yw hyn, ond y cwestiwn yw a allwn ei helpu. A allwn ni, gyda'n gwybodaeth am brynu lleol gan yr holl sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, gyfeirio prynwyr posibl tuag ati? Mae'n debygol y bydd yn adnabod y prynwyr posibl o'r sector preifat, oherwydd mai dod o hyd i archebion yw ei busnes. Os oes rhaid iddi newid cynhyrchion er mwyn osgoi'r rhai y mae mewnforion yn gostwng eu prisiau—ac ymddengys mai dyna yw'r patrwm, yn enwedig o ran dodrefn—gallwn helpu mewn modd cyffredinol, ond yn benodol, o ran archebion gan y sector cyhoeddus, gobeithiwn allu gosod prynwyr posibl gyda'r

losses at those threatened plants is minimised.

Jeff Cuthbert: The Labour group has already welcomed you back to full health, so I will not repeat that. [*Laughter.*] I am glad nevertheless.

Last week, I addressed a rally of the Remploy crusaders group, which is travelling throughout the UK to raise the profile of its campaign, at the Treforest site. The general message from that meeting was that, while this is supported employment, it is, nevertheless, a critical part of the manufacturing base of Wales and the UK in its own right, and the campaign very much wants it to be seen in that regard. Do you agree that, in terms of the extended consultation and the intervention by the Secretary of State, one issue that could be considered is the type of diversification that GMB shop stewards put forward at the Treforest site, namely that of the site being a manufacturing base and an accredited training centre providing a range of occupational NVQs, especially for disabled workers wishing to return to full-time employment?

The First Minister: That sounds like a constructive suggestion also. It might be appropriate if you were to get me all the details that you picked up from your attendance at, and participation in, that meeting and I will ensure that that forms part of our consultation and the further pressure that we are putting on the Department for Work and Pensions and Remploy top management to keep more of the plants in Wales open.

The Porth Relief Road

Q6 Chris Franks: Will the First Minister make a statement regarding the Porth relief road? OAQ(3)0189(FM)

The First Minister: I had the pleasure of officially opening the Porth relief road at a ceremony held in Porth square on 3 September 2007. The scheme was funded entirely by the Assembly Government's

gwerthwyr posibl yn Remploy er mwyn ceisio sicrhau y bydd cyn lleied â phosibl o swyddi'n cael eu colli yn y ffatrioedd hynny sydd dan fygythiad.

Jeff Cuthbert: Mae'r grŵp Llafur eisoes wedi'ch croesawu'n ôl i iechyd llawn, felly nid ailadroddaf hynny. [*Chwerthin.*] Yr wyf yn falch, serch hynny.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, anerchais rali o grŵp crwsadwyr Remploy, sy'n teithio ledled y DU er mwyn codi proffil eu hymgyrch, yn safle Treforest. Y neges gyffredinol o'r cyfarfod hwnnw oedd, er mai cyflogaeth dan gymorth yw hyn, ei bod serch hynny'n rhan hanfodol o sylfaen gweithgynhyrchu Cymru a'r DU yn ei rhinwedd ei hun, ac mae'r ymgyrch yn dymuno'n fawr iddi gael ei gweld yn y modd hwnnw. A gytunwch, o ran yr ymgynghoriad estynedig a'r ymyriad gan yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol, mai un mater y gellid ei ystyried yw'r math o arallgyfeirio a gynigiwyd gan swyddogion undeb GMB yn safle Treforest, sef bod y safle'n ganolfan gweithgynhyrchu ac yn ganolfan hyfforddiant achrededig sy'n darparu amrywiaeth o gymwysterau NVQ galwedigaethol, yn enwedig i weithwyr anabl sy'n dymuno dychwelyd i gyflogaeth lawnamser?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwnnw hefyd yn swnio'n awgrym adeiladol. Efallai y byddai'n briodol pe rhoddech imi'r holl fanylion a gawsoch o fod yn bresennol, ac o gymryd rhan, yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, ac fe sicrhaf fod hynny'n rhan o'n hymgynghoriad a'r pwysau pellach yr ydym yn ei roi ar yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau ac ar brif reolwyr Remploy er mwyn cadw mwy o'r ffatrioedd yng Nghymru ar agor.

Ffordd Liniaru Porth

C6 Chris Franks: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ffordd liniaru Porth? OAQ(3)0189(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Cefais y pleser o agor ffordd liniaru Porth yn swyddogol mewn seremoni a gynhaliwyd ar sgwâr Porth ar 3 Medi 2007. Ariannwyd y cynllun yn gyfan gwbl gan grant trafndiaeth Llywodraeth y

transport grant, made to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, at a total cost of over £98 million.

Chris Franks: The Porth relief road is welcome news as it has eased traffic problems in the Rhondda. It is the culmination of hard work by Geraint Davies, the first Assembly Member for Rhondda—[*Interruption.*] Concerns have been expressed about the overspend of the project. Can the First Minister give assurances that the timetable for other schemes, such as the Church Village bypass, will not be affected?

The First Minister: The issue of ‘overspend’ is interesting. Could that road have been built more cheaply? Yes it could have been, had it been built to old environmental and safety standards, but new standards came in in 2001 and the road was finalised in design after 2001 and, therefore, built to the later standards. Had it been built to the old standards, it would have been cheaper, but that would have done the residents of the Rhondda, especially the Rhondda Fach, no favours at all as regards their amenities. If anybody thinks that there was a cost overrun, namely that the road either should not have been built at all, represents poor value for money, or involved contractor overspend or whatever, then any evidence should be supplied to the Auditor General for Wales.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I endorse the statements of goodwill made around the Chamber. It is a pleasure to see you back. I also endorse the comments about the excellent health service that Llandough Hospital contributes. That is a key hospital in my constituency.

It is welcome news that the Porth relief road has finally opened and it will undoubtedly bring economic benefit to the Rhondda. However, the key infrastructure projects that are pending in the South Wales Central area are of concern. They include the Church Village bypass, which we have heard about, and the Metrix development in the Vale of Glamorgan, which is critical to the economic engine room of Wales and south-east Wales in particular. The transport infrastructure that

Cynulliad, a roddwyd i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf, a chyfanswm y gost dros £98 miliwn.

Chris Franks: Mae ffordd liniaru Porth yn newydd i’w groesawu, oherwydd y mae wedi lleihau problemau traffig yn y Rhondda. Mae’n benllanw gwaith caled Geraint Davies, Aelod Cynulliad cyntaf y Rhondda—[*Torri ar draws.*] Mynegwyd pryderon am orwariant y prosiect. A all y Prif Weinidog roi sicrwydd na fydd hyn yn effeithio ar amserlenni cynlluniau eraill, megis ffordd osgoi Gartholwg?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae’r ‘gorwario’ yn ddiddorol. A allai’r ffordd honno fod wedi cael ei hadeiladu’n rhatach? Gallai, pe bai wedi cael ei hadeiladu’n unol â hen safonau amgylcheddol a diogelwch, ond cyflwynwyd safonau newydd yn 2001, a therfynwyd dyluniad y ffordd ar ôl 2001, felly fe’i hadeiladwyd yn unol â’r safonau diweddarach. Pe bai wedi cael ei hadeiladu’n unol â’r hen safonau, byddai wedi bod yn rhatach, ond ni fyddai hynny wedi bod o fudd i drigolion y Rhondda, yn enwedig y Rhondda Fach, o ran eu mwynderau. Os oes rhywun yn meddwl bod y gost wedi gorredeg, boed hynny am na ddylai’r ffordd fod wedi’i hadeiladu o gwbl, am ei bod yn werth gwael am arian, neu am ei bod wedi golygu gorwario ar gontractwyr, neu beth bynnag y bo, dylid cyflwyno unrhyw dystiolaeth i Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Cefnogaf y datganiadau o ewyllys da a wnaethpwyd o gwmpas y Siambr. Mae’n bleser eich gweld yn ôl. Cefnogaf hefyd y sylwadau am y gwasanaeth iechyd rhagorol a gyfrennir gan Ysbyty Llandochoau. Mae hwnnw’n ysbyty allweddol yn fy etholaeth.

Mae’r ffaith bod ffordd liniaru Porth wedi agor o’r diwedd yn newydd i’w groesawu, a daw â budd economaidd i’r Rhondda, heb amheuaeth. Fodd bynnag, mae’r prosiectau seilwaith allweddol sydd ar y gweill yn ardal Canol De Cymru yn destun pryder. Maent yn cynnwys ffordd osgoi Gartholwg, y clywsom amdani, a’r datblygiad Metrix ym Mro Morgannwg, sy’n allweddol i ganolbwyt economaidd Cymru a’r de-ddwyrain yn benodol. Y seilwaith trafniadaeth sy’n

services those will be the driving force. Can you give an assurance that costs will be controlled and that things will come in on budget and that start dates will begin to materialise for residents in Church Village and the Vale of Glamorgan so that they can see these improvements on their doorsteps?

2.50 p.m.

The First Minister: This is how I understand it: there is a misunderstanding about whether there was or was not a cost overrun on this project. What happened was that the scheme was initially costed on a broad-brush basis at £33 million, before the new environmental and safety standards came in during 2001. I do not think that there was a cost overrun after that, but if anybody has any evidence that there was, that evidence should be supplied to the Auditor General for Wales for his examination.

As to whether there is a knock-on effect from the very substantial cost—it is the largest local authority road, certainly in the last five or 10 years, to be paid for either by our transport supplementary grant, or by similar schemes in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland—you could have said, at the time the contract was signed, which would have been in about 2005, I imagine, that it would have had the effect of knocking other projects further down the line. However, I do not think that there was a cost overrun after that point. I do not think the fact that it cost £98 million will have any impact on these other schemes: either they are in the programme now, or they are not. If they are in the programme, there is no threat to them from the fact that all told, including legal work and compensation to property owners and so forth, this cost £98 million.

Economic Benefits

Q7 Irene James: Will the First Minister provide an outline of the economic benefits of the Ryder Cup coming to Newport in 2010? OAQ(3)0201(FM)

The First Minister: Last Friday I was pleased to attend the start of work on the new A449 interchange which, with other

gwasanaethu'r rheini fydd y sbardun. A allwch chi roi sicrwydd y caiff costau eu rheoli ac y bydd pethau'n digwydd yn unol â chyllidebau ac y dechreuir gwireddu dyddiadau cychwyn ar gyfer preswylwyr Gartholwg a Bro Morgannwg fel y gallant weld y gwelliannau hyn gerllaw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyma sut yr wyf fi'n deall y sefyllfa: ceir camddealltwriaeth ynghylch a oedd y costau wedi mynd y tu hwnt i'r nod o ran y prosiect hwn ai peidio. Dyma'r hyn a ddigwyddodd: costwyd y cynllun i ddechrau yn £33 miliwn ar sail fras, cyn i'r safonau amgylcheddol a diogelwch newydd gael eu cyflwyno yn ystod 2001. Ni chredaf fod y costau wedi mynd y tu hwnt i'r nod ar ôl hynny, ond os oes gan unrhyw un unrhyw dystiolaeth i'r gwrthwyneb, dylid cyflwyno'r dystiolaeth honno i Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru er mwyn iddo ei harchwilio.

O ran effeithiau canlyniadol yn sgîl y gost sylweddol iawn—hon yw'r ffordd awdurdod lleol fwyaf, yn sicr yn y 5 neu'r 10 mlynedd diwethaf, i gael ei hariannu naill ai gan ein grant atodol trafndiaeth, neu gan gynlluniau tebyg yn Lloegr, yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon—gallech fod wedi dweud, pan lofnodwyd y contract, sef tua 2005, yr wyf yn dyfalu, y byddai wedi amharu ar brosiectau eraill yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, ni chredaf fod gor-reddeg o ran y costau ar ôl y pwynt hwnnw. Ni chredaf y caiff y ffaith iddi gostio £98 miliwn ddim effaith ar y cynlluniau eraill hyn: un ai maent yn y rhaglen yn awr, neu nid ydynt. Os ydynt yn y rhaglen, nid oes dim bygythiad iddynt yn sgîl y ffaith bod hyn, gan gynnwys gwaith cyfreithiol a iawndal i berchenogion eiddo ac yn y blaen, wedi costio cyfanswm o £98 miliwn.

Buddiannau Economaidd

C7 Irene James: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu buddiannau economaidd dyfodiad Cwpan Ryder i Gasnewydd yn 2010? OAQ(3)0201(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Ddydd Gwener diwethaf, yr oedd yn bleser gennyf fod yn bresennol wrth i waith ddechrau ar y gyfnewidfa A449

infrastructure work, we are paying for at an overall cost of £6.5 million, as an essential part of the preparations for the Ryder Cup being successful. On the wider issue, we expect the Ryder Cup to promote golf tourism, tourism in general, and inward investment, and to raise Wales's international profile and maximise opportunities for Welsh suppliers of goods and services.

Irene James: Thank you for that response. I am sure that you will agree that the Ryder Cup's coming to Newport is a huge boost, not only to south-east Wales, but to the whole of Wales, and it is vital that we are in the best possible position to gain the economic benefits that will present themselves before, during and after the tournament. Can you confirm that we, as a Labour-led Government, will be committed to ensuring that the benefits spread to constituencies such as my own, Islwyn, and that we ensure the kind of lasting, positive legacy that something such as the Ryder Cup can bring?

The First Minister: I am grateful for that question, because it is important that the infrastructure is in place. That not only applies to the A449, the interchange that will be used to access the site—although its use is confined to periods when there are tournaments such as the Wales Open or the Ryder Cup itself—but the many other aspects of infrastructure that need to be in place. There are aspects of Newport's own regeneration that need to be in place, and redevelopment is continuing apace in Newport, partially stimulated by it now being known as the Ryder Cup city for 2010. There are issues, as you will be aware, about the re-signalling work on the main railway line, the reconstruction of Newport station, and the new platform—that has been finished, but there are disabled-access issues. So there are all kinds of infrastructure to be put in place by 2010, provided that the resources can be made available.

Trish Law: First Minister, it is estimated that hosting the Ryder Cup is worth more than £40 million in direct cash flow. However, I

newydd yr ydym yn talu amdani, ar y cyd â gwaith seilwaith arall, sef cost o £6.5 miliwn yn gyfan gwbl, fel rhan hanfodol o'r paratodau ar gyfer llwyddiant Cwpan Ryder. O ran y mater ehangach, disgwyliwn i Gwpan Ryder hyrwyddo twristiaeth golff, twristiaeth yn gyffredinol a mewnfuddsoddi, yn ogystal â chodi proffil rhyngwladol Cymru a chynyddu cyfleoedd i gyflenwyr nwyddau a gwasanaethau yng Nghymru.

Irene James: Diolch am yr ymateb hwnnw. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch ei fod yn hwb mawr bod Cwpan Ryder yn dod i Gasnewydd, a hynny nid yn unig i'r de-ddwyrain, ond i Gymru gyfan, ac mae'n hollbwysig inni fod yn y sefyllfa orau posibl i sicrhau'r buddiannau economaidd a fydd ar gael cyn, yn ystod ac ar ôl y twrnament. A allwch gadarnhau y byddwn ni, fel Llywodraeth a arweinir gan Lafur, wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod y buddiannau'n ymestyn i etholaethau megis f'un i, Islwyn, a'n bod yn sicrhau'r math o etifeddiaeth gadarnhaol, barhaol y gall rhywbeth megis Cwpan Ryder ei rhoi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cwestiwn hwnnw, oherwydd y mae'n bwysig bod y seilwaith wedi'i sefydlu. Mae hynny'n berthnasol, nid yn unig i'r A449, y gyfnewidfa a ddefnyddir i fynd i'r safle—er bod y defnydd arni wedi'i gyfyngu i adegau pan gynhelir twrnameintiau megis Cystadleuaeth Agored Cymru neu Gwpan Ryder ei hun—ond i'r agweddau niferus eraill ar seilwaith y mae angen eu sefydlu. Mae angen i agweddau ar adfywio Casnewydd ei hun fod ar waith, ac mae ailddatblygu Casnewydd yn parhau ar frys, a hynny wedi'i ysgogi'n rhannol gan y ffaith mai hi bellach fydd dinas Cwpan Ryder yn 2010. Mae rhai materion, fel y byddwch yn ymwybodol, sy'n ymwneud â'r gwaith o osod signalau newydd ar y brif reilffordd, ailadeiladu gorsaf Casnewydd, a'r plattform newydd—sydd wedi'i gwblhau, ond mae rhai materion sy'n ymwneud â mynediad i bobl anabl. Felly mae angen sefydlu pob math o seilwaith erbyn 2010, cyn belled ag y gellir sicrhau bod yr adnoddau ar gael.

Trish Law: Brif Weinidog, amcangyfrifir bod cynnal Cwpan Ryder yn werth dros £40 miliwn mewn llif arian uniongyrchol. Fodd

cannot see much of that flowing into Blaenau Gwent, which will gain little economic or social benefit—particularly if the Newport spur of the Ebbw Vale to Cardiff railway is not developed and opened by 2010. Can the First Minister give an assurance that the Newport link, which runs through Islwyn, with a station at Risca, will be operational in time for the Ryder Cup in 2010?

The First Minister: We generally work to an estimate of £30 to 45 million in economic benefits. We hope to hit that figure, and that the benefits will be widespread, certainly throughout the county of Gwent. However, it is hard to say exactly how Gwent will benefit—you cannot really do that, and I do not think that any city or area that has hosted the Ryder Cup would be able to specify exactly how it benefited. Nevertheless, I think that most people accept this £30 million-plus estimate in economic benefit.

On the point that you make about the Ebbw Vale railway line, we certainly hope that the service down the Ebbw valley as far as Rogerstone and onwards to Cardiff, will be opening later this year, in December. With Network Rail, Arriva Trains Wales and the South East Wales Transport Alliance, we are looking at the best way to provide a direct rail service from it into Newport. A direct rail service could not be provided before 2009 due to the well-known capacity constraints on the main line.

Mohammad Asghar: I am pleased to see you healthy and happy, Rhodri—you look 10 years younger since 3 May. [*Laughter.*] My first question to you since that day, which I am pleased to ask, is regarding the Ryder Cup, which is coming to Newport. It is one of the richest events in the world, money-wise, and there are many opportunities for local businesses and service providers. What is our Government doing to ensure that these local companies and service providers have access to the necessary procurement procedures?

bynag, ni allaf weld llawer o hwnnw'n llifo i Flaenau Gwent, a gaiff ychydig iawn o fudd economaidd neu gymdeithasol—yn enwedig oni chaiff cainc Casnewydd rheilffordd Glynebwy i Gaerdydd ei datblygu a'i hagar erbyn 2010. A all y Prif Weinidog roi sicrwydd y bydd y cysylltiad â Chasnewydd, sy'n rhedeg drwy Islwyn, gyda gorsaf yn Rhisga, ar waith mewn pryd ar gyfer Cwpan Ryder yn 2010?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn gyffredinol, yr ydym yn gweithio gydag amcangyfrif o £30 i 45 miliwn mewn buddiannau economaidd. Gobeithiwn gyrraedd y ffigur hwnnw, ac y bydd y buddiannau'n eang, yn sicr ledled sir Gwent. Fodd bynnag, mae'n anodd dweud yn union sut y bydd Gwent yn elwa—ni allwch wneud hynny, mewn gwirionedd, ac ni chredaf y gallai dim un ddinas neu ardal sydd wedi cynnal Cwpan Ryder nodi'n union sut y gwnaeth elwa. Fodd bynnag, credaf fod y rhan fwyaf o bobl yn derbyn yr amcangyfrif hwn o £30 miliwn neu fwy o ran budd economaidd.

O ran y pwynt a wneuch am reilffordd Glynebwy, gobeithiwn yn sicr y bydd y gwasanaeth ar hyd Glyn Ebwy cyn belled â Thŷ-du ac ymlaen i Gaerdydd, yn agor yn ddiweddarach eleni, ym mis Rhagfyr. Gyda Network Rail, Trenau Arriva Cymru a Chyngghrair Trafnidiaeth De-ddwyrain Cymru, yr ydym yn edrych ar y ffordd orau o ddarparu gwasanaeth rheilffordd uniongyrchol o'r fan honno i Gasnewydd. Ni ellid darparu gwasanaeth rheilffordd uniongyrchol cyn 2009 oherwydd y cyfyngiadau, sy'n hysbys, o ran lle ar y brif linell.

Mohammad Asghar: Yr wyf yn falch o'ch gweld yn iach ac yn hapus, Rhodri—yr ydych yn edrych 10 mlynedd yn iau ers 3 Mai. [*Chwerthin.*] Mae fy nghwestiwn cyntaf ichi ers y diwrnod hwnnw, ac mae'n bleser gennyf ei ofyn, yn ymwneud â Chwpan Ryder, sy'n dod i Gasnewydd. Mae'n un o ddigwyddiadau cyfoethocaf y byd, o ran arian, ac mae llawer o gyfleoedd i fusnesau a darparwyr gwasanaethau lleol. Beth y mae ein Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod y gweithdrefnau caffael angenrheidiol ar gael i'r cwmnïau a'r darparwyr gwasanaethau lleol hyn?

The First Minister: Thank you for your good wishes. As I mentioned earlier, what is important is that one of the key benefits, which will make the difference between the minimum estimate, which is of about £30 million, being turned into reality, and one of the higher estimates, which go up to £45 million, being turned into reality, is whether local providers of goods and services manage to win the contracts. There will be an element of competition, and we cannot guarantee that someone who puts in a higher bid will win, because that probably will not happen. However, if they are competitive, we have to ensure that the doors are open so that local suppliers not previously known to the organising authorities have the opportunity to make a bid, and to understand exactly what is needed in the bid, in order to maximise the local take from having the Ryder Cup in Newport, in the county of Gwent, in south-east Wales and in Wales as a whole. That is what we want.

William Graham: We share in your—how can I put it—good suggestion that the Ryder Cup will bring increased business to Newport and to the surrounding area. That is a proposition shared by many of us. However, you will recall that on 2 August and yesterday, there were major problems on the M4. Among those considerations that you have to give to other means of communication for a successful Ryder Cup, could you look again at some form of alternative? That road could well lead to a lasting and indelible negative memory of an otherwise successful event.

The First Minister: I am glad that you have raised that issue. The circumstances on the M4 in the early hours of yesterday morning were horrendously tragic, and I do not want to comment on that because legal consequences could flow from it. However, it did pose considerable problems with regard to traffic diversion. The M4 itself was pretty well signalled as far west as Carmarthen, with signs saying to please stay out of the area, and I was pleased that the UK national news at 7 a.m. was warning people to stay away. I think that it was the second item on the news; that is the first time that I have heard of a road accident referred to in that

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch ichi am eich dymuniadau da. Fel y nodais eisoes, yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw mai un o'r buddiannau allweddol, a fydd yn gwneud y gwahaniaeth rhwng yr amcangyfrif isaf, sef gwireddu tua £30 miliwn, ac un o'r amcangyfrifon uwch, sy'n gwireddu hyd at £45 miliwn, yw a all darparwyr nwyddau a gwasanaethau lleol lwyddo i ennill y contractau. Bydd elfen o gystadleuaeth, ac ni allwn sicrhau y bydd rhywun sy'n rhoi cynnig uwch yn ennill, oherwydd y mae'n debygol na fydd hynny'n digwydd. Fodd bynnag, os ydynt yn gystadleuol, rhaid inni sicrhau bod y drysau ar agor er mwyn i gyflenwyr lleol nad yw'r awdurdodau sy'n trefnu eisoes yn gwybod amdanynt yn cael cyfle i wneud cynnig, ac i ddeall beth yn union sydd ei angen yn y cynnig, er mwyn cael y fantais leol orau posibl o gynnal Cwpan Ryder yng Nghasnewydd, yn sir Gwent, yn y de-ddwyrain ac yng Nghymru'n gyfan. Dyna'r hyn sydd arnom ei eisiau.

William Graham: Yr ydym yn cytuno—sut y gallaf fynegi hyn—â'ch awgrym da y daw Cwpan Ryder â mwy o fusnes i Gasnewydd ac i'r ardal gyfagos. Mae llawer ohonom yn cytuno â hynny. Fodd bynnag, fe gofiwch fod problemau difrifol ar yr M4 ar 2 Awst ac eto ddoe. Ymysg yr ystyriaethau hynny y mae'n rhaid ichi eu rhoi i ddulliau cyfathrebu eraill er mwyn cael Cwpan Ryder lwyddiannus, a allech edrych eto ar ryw fath o syniad gwahanol? Mae'n bosibl iawn y gallai'r ffordd honno arwain at atgof negyddol annileadwy a pharhaol o ddigwyddiad a oedd fel arall yn llwyddiant.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi codi'r mater hwnnw. Yr oedd yr amgylchiadau ar yr M4 yn oriau mân bore ddoe yn ddychrynlyd o drist, ac nid wyf am gynnig sylw am hynny, oherwydd gallai fod goblygiadau cyfreithiol i hynny. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd yn achosi cryn problemau o ran gwyro traffig. Yr oedd signalau eithaf da ar yr M4 ei hun cyn belled i'r gorllewin â Chaerfyrddin, gydag arwyddion yn gofyn i bobl osgoi'r ardal, ac yr oeddwn yn falch bod newyddion cenedlaethol y DU am 7 a.m. yn rhybuddio pobl i gadw draw. Credaf mai honno oedd yr ail eitem ar y newyddion; dyma'r tro cyntaf imi glywed am gyfeirio at

way, but people recognise that the Brynglas tunnels are a pinch point when closed.

Gwent Police and our highways directorate, which runs the M4, will learn many lessons from this incident. I know that officials are meeting the Minister, and I will take a strong interest to ensure that we do whatever we can do by way of temporary traffic signalling locally, diversion signs, and the use of the alternative routes. However, it is difficult when you have such a massive closure for so long. Whenever there is a road accident of this nature, the procedure now followed by the police throughout Britain is to treat the area as the scene of a crime, and both carriageways are closed. It is not like the old days, when they would try to leave one lane open in order to help the traffic to get flowing. The chief constables will now not allow that—it is the scene of a crime, and they want it completely clear for the scenes of crime officers to have a free run on both carriageways. That means that it throws all the traffic onto the Heads of the Valleys road, if it is long-distance traffic, or, if it is short-distance traffic, onto the southern distributor road, which cannot really manage the whole of the M4's flow without there being horrendous jams.

Programme for Government

Q8 Nick Bourne: Will the First Minister make a statement on his programme for government over the next six months? OAQ(3)0195(FM)

The First Minister: I will highlight a few things, because I cannot mention everything. One is to get the European structural funds moving. We are ahead of the game, and are the first, or pretty well the first, area in Europe to have our agreements signed for the regional development fund and the social fund to cover the next six to seven years. Another is legislative competence Orders, that is, the first use of the new powers under the Government of Wales Act 2006 to request from Westminster the transfer of powers to legislate in certain areas. Then there is the budget, progress on the defence training academy, and the Airbus A350 XWB. Those are some of the highlights of

ddamwain ffordd yn y modd hwnnw, ond mae pobl yn sylweddoli bod twnelau Brynglas yn fan cyfyng pan fyddant ar gau.

Bydd Heddlu Gwent a'n cyfarwyddiaeth priffyrdd, sy'n rhedeg yr M4, yn dysgu sawl gwers o'r digwyddiad hwn. Gwn fod swyddogion yn cwrdd â'r Gweinidog, a chymeraf ddiddordeb cryf er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn gwneud unrhyw beth a allwn o ran signalau traffig dros dro yn lleol, arwyddion gwyriad, a defnyddio'r ffyrdd eraill. Fodd bynnag, mae'n anodd wrth ymdrin â chau mor enfawr am gyfnod mor hir. Pryd bynnag y bydd damwain ffordd o'r natur hon, y weithdrefn a ddilynir bellach gan heddlu ledled Prydain yw trin yr ardal fel safle trosedd, a chau'r ddwy lôn. Nid yw hyn fel yr hen ddyddiau, pan fyddent yn ceisio gadael un lôn yn agored er mwyn helpu llif y traffig. Ni fydd y prif gwnstabiliaid yn caniatáu hynny bellach—mae'n safle trosedd, ac mae arnynt eisiau iddo fod yn gwbl glir er mwyn i'r swyddogion safleoedd trosedd gael rhwydd hynt ar y ddwy lôn. Golyga hynny beri i'r holl draffig fynd ar ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd, os yw'n draffig pellter hir, neu, os yw'n draffig pellter byr, ar y ffordd ddsbarthu ddeheuol, ac ni all honno gymryd holl lif yr M4 heb greu tagfeydd dychrynlyd.

Rhaglen Lywodraethu

C8 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ei raglen lywodraethu dros y chwe mis nesaf? OAQ(3)0195(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Tynnaf sylw at rai pethau, oherwydd ni allaf grybwyll popeth. Un yw dechrau symud ymlaen o ran cronfeydd strwythurol Ewrop. Yr ydym wedi achub y blaen, a ni yw'r ardal gyntaf, neu un o'r rhai cyntaf, yn Ewrop i gael llofnodi ein cytundebau ar gyfer y gronfa datblygu rhanbarthol a'r gronfa gymdeithasol i ymdrin â'r 6 i 7 mlynedd nesaf. Un arall yw'r Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, hynny yw, defnyddio'r pwerau newydd dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 am y tro cyntaf i ofyn i San Steffan drosglwyddo pwerau deddfu mewn rhai meysydd penodol. Yna mae'r gyllideb, cynnydd o ran yr academi hyfforddiant amddiffyn, ac A350

what I hope we will be able to achieve progress on over the next six months.

XWB Airbus. Dyna rai o uchafbwyntiau'r cynnydd y gobeithiaf y gallwn ei gyflawni dros y chwe mis nesaf.

3.00 p.m.

Nick Bourne: I thank you for that, but one item that you did not mention was the provision of help for pensioners who pay council tax. I was pleased to see it in the 'One Wales' agreement because I do not think that it was included in either of the parties' manifestos; it was certainly included in ours. When will you publish that scheme, when will it become operational and what will be in that scheme?

Nick Bourne: Diolch ichi am hynny, ond un eitem na wnaethoch sôn amdani oedd help i bensiynwyr sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor. Yr oeddwn yn falch o'i gweld yn y cytundeb 'Cymru'n Un' oherwydd ni chredaf iddi gael ei chynnwys ym maniffesto'r naill blaid na'r llall; yr oedd yn sicr yn ein maniffesto ni. Pa bryd y cyhoeddwch y cynllun hwnnw, pa bryd y bydd yn weithredol a beth fydd yn y cynllun hwnnw?

The First Minister: That is a good question and this will be part of the budget round. I do not think that I should be predicting the outcome of the budget round now, but we know that it is, by and large, on the pensioner population that council tax really impacts. We need to ensure that pensioners make full use of the benefits available; there may also be specific benefit schemes for pensioners, but precise details will need to be negotiated in the usual way through the budget round.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwnnw'n gwestiwn da a bydd hyn yn rhan o gylich y gyllideb. Ni chredaf y dylwn geisio rhagweld canlyniad cylich y gyllideb yn awr, ond gwyddom mai ar bensiynwyr y mae'r dreth gyngor yn effeithio fwyaf, ar y cyfan. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod pensiynwyr yn defnyddio'r budd-daliadau sydd ar gael i'r eithaf; efallai fod cynlluniau budd-daliadau penodol ar gael i bensiynwyr hefyd, ond bydd angen trafod yr union fanylion yn y ffordd arferol drwy gylich y gyllideb.

Alun Ffred Jones: Cyfeiriasoch at y rhaglen cydgyfeiriant, ac mae pryder ymhlith rhai pobl ynghylch arafwch y rhaglen hon. Felly, pa bryd fyddwch chi neu'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog mewn sefyllfa i wneud cyhoeddiad am fanylion y rhaglenni ac i gynnig sicrwydd ynghylch y dull o gyflwyno cynlluniau ar gyfer yr arian hwn?

Alun Ffred Jones: You referred to the convergence programme, and some people are concerned about delays with this programme. Therefore, when will you or the Deputy First Minister be in a position to make an announcement regarding the details of these programmes and to give an assurance on how schemes will be brought forward for using this money?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn siŵr o ble y daw'r cyhuddiad o arafwch oherwydd credaf ein bod ni ar y blaen. Efallai fod un ardal yn Ewrop wedi bod cystal â ni o ran cyflymder—nid arafwch—ond yn sicr mae'r camau yr ydym wedi eu cymryd yn golygu y bydd manylion o'r fath yn cael eu cyhoeddi yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf ym Mhwyllgor Monitro'r Rhaglen a hefyd gennyf fi, fel Prif Weinidog, a chan y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog fel yr un sy'n arwain ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â chronfeydd strwythurol.

The First Minister: I am not sure where the accusation of delay comes from, because I believe that we are ahead of the game. Perhaps there is one area in Europe that has been as quick off the mark—not as slow—as we have been, but the steps that we have taken certainly mean that these kinds of details will be announced in the next few weeks at the Programme Monitoring Committee and also by me, as First Minister, and the Deputy First Minister, who leads on issues regarding structural funds.

Michael German: It was remiss of me not to welcome you back earlier, First Minister. I

Michael German: Yr oeddwn ar fai yn gynharach am beidio â'ch croesawu'n ôl, Brif

have spoken to you privately before today, but I am sure that your new slim self would not offer what happened to you as an alternative to the WeightWatchers regime that many of us inflict on ourselves here during the week.

It is the tenth anniversary of the vote for devolution in Wales, as you know. People are talking about having greater powers and moving forward with them. Throughout the Assembly's history, we have been talking about doing the things that make the green revolution work. With reference to one of those matters, we talked about devolving building regulations. Last week, a senior expert told us that without devolving powers over building regulations, little else would be achieved in the green revolution in Wales. Can you tell us what you have done so far to ensure that those powers will be devolved to us and what sort of timetable do you have for that?

The First Minister: I, or Jane Davidson, will write to you on the detail of the timetable. However, on the principle that we need building regulations to be devolved to achieve zero carbon or carbon neutral building standards by a given target date, then clearly we need to ensure that responsibility is devolved. The UK has its own ambitions through Her Majesty's Government and we have our own ambitions. We intend to seek the necessary powers to be able to progress those.

I am grateful for your comments. I do watch my weight, although I am not in WeightWatchers.

Michael German: May I just address another of the powers issues relating to the green agenda? The planning White Paper published by the UK Government states that Welsh Ministers want to devolve responsibility for larger power stations. That has been this Assembly's longstanding wish. However, the White Paper is silent on what the UK Government thinks about devolving the powers that the Welsh Ministers have

Weinidog. Yr wyf wedi siarad yn breifat â chi cyn heddiw, ond yr wyf yn siŵr na fydddech chi, yn fain ac ar eich newydd wedd, yn awgrymu bod yr hyn a ddigwyddodd ichi yn ddewis amgen i'r system WeightWatchers y mae llawer ohonom yn gorfodi ein hunain i'w dilyn yma yn ystod yr wythnos.

Mae deng mlynedd ers y bleidlais dros ddatganoli yng Nghymru, fel y gwyddoch. Mae pobl yn sôn am gael rhagor o bwerau a symud ymlaen gyda'r pwerau hynny. Ers dyfodiad y Cynulliad, yr ydym wedi bod yn sôn am wneud y pethau sy'n sicrhau bod y chwyldro gwyrdd yn llwyddo. Gan gyfeirio at un o'r materion hynny, soniasom am ddatganoli rheoliadau adeiladu. Yr wythnos diwethaf, dywedodd uwch arbenigwr wrthym na fyddai fawr ddim arall yn cael ei gyflawni yn y chwyldro gwyrdd yng Nghymru oni chaiff pwerau yn ymwneud â rheoliadau adeiladu eu datganoli. A allwch ddweud wrthym beth yr ydych wedi'i wneud hyd yma i sicrhau y caiff y pwerau hynny eu datganoli inni a'ch amserlen ar gyfer hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Byddaf fi, neu Jane Davidson, yn ysgrifennu atoch gyda manylion yr amserlen. Fodd bynnag, o ran yr egwyddor bod angen datganoli rheoliadau adeiladu er mwyn sicrhau safonau adeiladu di-garbon neu sy'n niwtral o ran carbon erbyn dyddiad penodol, yna, yn amlwg, mae angen inni sicrhau bod y cyfrifoldeb yn cael ei ddatganoli. Mae gan y DU ei dyheadau ei hun drwy Lywodraeth Ei Mawrhydi ac mae gennym ninnau ein dyheadau ninnau. Yr ydym yn bwriadu ceisio cael y pwerau angenrheidiol er mwyn gwneud cynnydd tuag at y dyheadau hynny.

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich sylwadau. Yr wyf yn cadw golwg ar fy mhwysau, ond nid wyf yn aelod o WeightWatchers.

Michael German: Hoffwn fynd i'r afael â mater arall yn ymwneud â phwerau mewn perthynas â'r agenda werdd. Noda'r Papur Gwyn ar gynllunio a gyhoeddwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU fod Gweinidogion Cymru am ddatganoli'r cyfrifoldeb dros orsafoedd pŵer mawr. Mae hynny'n ddymuniad gan y Cynulliad hwn ers tro byd. Fodd bynnag, ni sonnir yn y Papur Gwyn am farn Llywodraeth y DU ar ddatganoli'r pwerau y

requested. Given that we have been asking for these powers for so long, can we take it that your Westminster colleagues have just put a tick in the box or do we still need to fight over this matter?

The First Minister: We have made slow progress on this issue ever since it was first suggested, strangely enough, by the UK Government. It has been caught up in the arguments on nuclear energy. That has caused a degree of, not paralysis, but nervousness in Whitehall on the question about which it was originally enthusiastic some six or seven years ago, so it has been a hard pounding in the trenches and we have made slow progress, but we continue to press for that area of power to be devolved.

Michael German: Perhaps I could return to that at a later stage, First Minister. However, the third area of power relates to that which the Assembly was committed to, namely the powers to deal with microgeneration. Your Government promised us that we would have a movement forward on legislation in this field. I would like to press you on this matter, as there are areas that are within our powers as well as areas that are not within our powers. When will you move forward on this matter? Are we talking about three months, six months or nine months, or are we talking about the next year?

The First Minister: As I understand it, we are conducting a microgeneration consultation. That is ongoing. Perhaps we can return to this subject at the end of the consultation exercise to see whether it needs anything along the transfer-of-powers lines that you have suggested.

Grants for School Uniforms

Q9 Jeff Cuthbert: Will the First Minister make a statement on the provision of grants for school uniforms throughout Caerphilly? OAQ(3)0219(FM)

The First Minister: The school uniform grant scheme provides a grant of £97.50 per eligible pupil in Caerphilly, as it does across

mae Gweinidogion Cymru wedi gofyn amdanynt. O gofio ein bod wedi bod yn gofyn am y pwerau hyn cyhyd, a allwn dybio bod eich cyd-Weinidogion yn San Steffan newydd gymeradwyo hynny neu a oes rhaid inni barhau i frwydro dros y mater hwn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Araf fu'r cynnydd ar y mater hwn ers iddo gael ei awgrymu gyntaf gan Lywodraeth y DU, yn rhyfedd iawn. Mae wedi bod yn rhan o'r dadleuon ar ynni niwclear. Mae hynny wedi achosi rhywfaint o nerfusrwydd, nid parlys, yn Whitehall ynghylch yr hyn yr oedd y Llywodraeth, yn wreiddiol, yn frwdfrydig iawn yn ei gylch chwech neu saith mlynedd yn ôl, felly bu'n frwydr anodd ar faes y gad ac araf fu'r cynnydd, ond yr ydym yn parhau i roi pwysau ar Lywodraeth y DU i ddatganoli'r pŵer hwnnw.

Michael German: Efallai y gallaf ddychwelyd at hynny yn ddiweddarach, Brif Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, mae'r trydydd maes yn ymwneud â'r hyn yr oedd y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo iddo, sef y pwerau i ymdrin â microgynhyrchu. Addawodd eich Llywodraeth y byddem yn gweld cam ymlaen o ran deddfwriaeth yn y maes hwn. Hoffwn bwysu arnoch ar y mater hwn, gan fod meysydd sydd o fewn ein pwerau yn ogystal â meysydd nad ydynt o fewn ein pwerau. Pa bryd y byddwch yn symud ymlaen ar y mater hwn? A ydym yn sôn am dri mis, chwe mis ynteu naw mis, ynteu a ydym yn sôn am y flwyddyn nesaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn ôl a ddeallaf, yr ydym yn cynnal ymgynghoriad ar ficrogynhyrchu. Mae hynny'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Efallai y gallwn ddychwelyd at y pwnc hwn ar ddiwedd yr ymgynghoriad er mwyn gweld a oes angen trosglwyddo pwerau fel yr awgrymwyd gennych.

Grantiau ar gyfer Gwisg Ysgol

C9 Jeff Cuthbert (Caerffili): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ddarparu grantiau ar gyfer gwisg ysgol ledled Caerffili? OAQ(3)0219(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r cynllun grant gwisg ysgol yn darparu grant o £97.50 ar gyfer pob disgybl cymwys yng Nghaerffili, yn ogystal â

Wales. It is based on eligibility for free school meals when pupils enter year 7 of maintained secondary school.

Jeff Cuthbert: To avoid any misunderstanding, I am, of course, very pleased indeed to see you restored to full health here today. [*Laughter.*]

Will you join me in congratulating Caerphilly County Borough Council, which provides information to parents of children in Year 11 in receipt of free school meals—as you have mentioned—about their entitlement to the school uniform grant? Furthermore, do you applaud the ‘handy loan’ scheme operated by local credit unions in Communities First areas, which is often used by parents to buy school uniforms?

The First Minister: Thank you, Jeff, and thank you for your earlier words, which bore some resemblance, though not very much, to those of the famous Doug Ellis, the chairman of Aston Villa Football Club, expressing total confidence in his manager.

On the question of the willingness of the credit unions to participate, because £97.50 will certainly not cover the total cost of kitting a child out for secondary school, it is sensible to suggest that the credit unions work alongside the £97.50 grant. That forms part of the package that assists people at the time of maximum stress on the family budget.

Disrepair in Schools

Q10 Peter Black: Will the First Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Assembly Government is doing to tackle the backlog of disrepair in schools in South Wales West? OAQ(3)0198(FM)

The First Minister: I am grateful for this question, although I probably would have phrased it differently and asked what the local authorities in South Wales West, which have the responsibility for this area—and diocesan authorities with regard to the

ledled Cymru. Mae'n seiliedig ar y disgyblion sy'n gymwys i gael prydau ysgol am ddim pan fyddant yn cychwyn ar flwyddyn 7 mewn ysgol uwchradd a gynhelir.

Jeff Cuthbert: Er mwyn osgoi unrhyw gamddealltwriaeth, yr wyf, wrth gwrs, yn falch iawn o'ch gweld yn holliach yma heddiw. [*Chwerthin.*]

A ymunwch â mi i longyfarch Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili, sy'n rhoi gwybodaeth i rieni plant ym Mlwyddyn 11 sy'n cael prydau ysgol am ddim—fel y dywedaso—am eu hawl i gael grant gwisg ysgol? Yn ogystal, a gymeradwywch y cynllun ‘benthyciad cyfleus’ sy'n cael ei weithredu gan undebau credyd lleol mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, sy'n aml yn cael eu defnyddio gan rieni i brynu gwisg ysgol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch, Jeff, a diolch am eich geiriau caredig yn gynharach. Yr oedd rhywfaint, ond dim llawer, o debygrwydd rhyngddynt a geiriau'r enwog Doug Ellis, cadeirydd Clwb Pêl-droed Aston Villa, wrth fynegi hyder llwyr yn ei reolwr.

O ran parodrwydd yr undebau credyd i gymryd rhan, oherwydd yn sicr, ni fydd £97.50 yn talu cyfanswm y gost o ddilladu plentyn ar gyfer yr ysgol uwchradd, mae'n ddoeth awgrymu y dylai'r undebau credyd weithio ochr yn ochr â'r grant o £97.50. Mae hynny'n rhan o'r pecyn sy'n cynorthwyo pobl pan fydd y straen ar gyllideb y teulu ar ei waethaf.

Gwaith Atgyweirio mewn Ysgolion

C10 Peter Black: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r dagfa o waith atgyweirio sydd angen ei wneud mewn ysgolion yng Ngorllewin De Cymru? OAQ(3)0198(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cwestiwn hwn, er y byddwn wedi ei eirio'n wahanol yn ôl pob tebyg ac wedi gofyn beth y mae awdurdodau lleol Gorllewin De Cymru, sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros y maes hwn—ac awdurdodau esgobaethol mewn

voluntary aided schemes—are doing in order to first get an asset management plan so that they know what the backlog is. They then need to tie that backlog into pupil numbers relative to the fall in those numbers. There has been a resurgence in the birth rate in many parts of Wales over the past four or five years, but they need to plan. They then need to apply to us for the relevant grants, which are available to them.

Peter Black: Thank you for that answer, First Minister. It is encouraging, because Swansea has just published its asset management plan, which reveals that the present administration has inherited a backlog of school repairs and renovation at a cost of £147 million. Therefore, First Minister, in light of your last comment, will any additional money be available from the Welsh Assembly Government to help Swansea to deal with that historic problem, which probably dates back 30 or 40 years, to try to make Swansea's schools fit for purpose, even if we will not make your target of 2010?

The First Minister: There is an old rule that, when there has been a change of the stripe of the party in charge, whether here, in Westminster, in American presidential elections, or in Welsh local government, after six months, they are your marbles. I think that that is a good, sound rule. To say, three and a half years into an administration, that it is all the fault of the previous administration, when you are in your final year and getting ready for re-election, seems a bit rich to me. However, the important thing is that having—slightly belatedly, shall we say—produced its asset management plan, it is now for the administration to put it into the hopper and see to what extent it can secure the grant. It needs to be checked to see the extent to which it takes account of the falling rolls problem and the birth rate resurgence, if that has happened in Swansea as it has in other parts of Wales over the past four years.

3.10 p.m.

perthynas â'r cynlluniau gwirfoddol a gynorthwyr—yn ei wneud er mwyn cael cynllun rheoli asedau i ddechrau er mwyn gwybod lle y mae'r dagfa. Yna mae angen iddynt gysylltu'r dagfa â nifer y disgyblion a'r gostyngiad yn y niferoedd hynny. Bu cynnydd yn y gyfradd genedigaethau mewn sawl rhan o Gymru dros y pedair neu bum mlynedd diwethaf, ond mae angen iddynt gynllunio. Yna mae angen iddynt wneud cais inni am y grantiau perthnasol, sydd ar gael iddynt.

Peter Black: Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Brif Weinidog, Mae'n galonogol, oherwydd y mae Abertawe newydd gyhoeddi ei gynllun rheoli asedau sy'n datgelu bod y weinyddiaeth bresennol wedi etifeddu tagfa o waith adnewyddu a thrwsio ar gost o £147 miliwn. Felly, Brif Weinidog, yng ngoleuni eich sylw olaf, a fydd rhagor o arian ar gael gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i helpu Abertawe i ymdrin â'r broblem hanesyddol honno, sydd mae'n debyg yn dyddio'n ôl 30 neu 40 mlynedd, er mwyn ceisio gwneud ysgolion Abertawe'n addas i'r diben, hyd yn oed os na fyddwn yn cyrraedd eich targed, sef 2010?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hen reol sy'n dweud pan fydd y blaidd sydd mewn grym wedi newid ei lliw, boed yma, yn San Steffan, yn etholiadau arlywyddol America, neu mewn llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru, ar ôl chwe mis, eich marblis chi ydynt. Credaf fod honno'n rheol dda a chadarn. Dair blynedd a hanner ar ôl dechrau gweinyddiaeth, mae dweud mai bai'r weinyddiaeth flaenorol yw'r cyfan, a chithau yn eich blwyddyn derfynol ac yn paratoi ar gyfer cael eich ailethol, yn ymddangos braidd yn haerllug i mi. Fodd bynnag, y peth pwysig, ar ôl cynhyrchu ei chynllun rheoli asedau—a hynny ychydig yn hwyr—yw mai cyfrifoldeb y weinyddiaeth yw ei roi yn y pair i weld i ba raddau y gall sicrhau'r grant. Mae angen ei wirio i weld i ba raddau y mae'n ystyried problem y gostyngiad yn nifer y disgyblion a'r cynnydd yn y gyfradd genedigaethau, os yw hynny wedi digwydd yn Abertawe yn yr un modd â rhannau eraill o Gymru dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr, Brif Weinidog. Mae'n gwybod fy mod i wedi cael cyfle i ddymuno'n dda iddo a'i groesawu yn ôl sawl gwaith ym mhentref Llanfihangel-y-pwll.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you, First Minister. He knows that I have had an opportunity to wish him well and to welcome him back on a number of occasions in Michaelston-le-Pit.

**Cynnig i Drafod Mater Brys sydd o Bwys Cyhoeddus (Clwy'r Traed a'r Genau)
Proposal to Consider a Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Foot and Mouth Disease)**

Y Llywydd: Gwnaed cais am ddadl frys. Gan mai dyma'r cynnig cyntaf inni i'w ystyried o dan y gweithdrefnau newydd, yr wyf am sicrhau bod holl ofynion Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.58 wedi'u cyflawni, rhag ofn i neb godi'r cwestiwn hwnnw. Caiff Brynle Williams dair munud ac yna bydd y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig yn ymateb.

The Presiding Officer: There is a request for an urgent debate. As this is the first motion of this type under the new procedure that we have considered, we must ensure that all the requirements of Standing Order No. 7.58 are met in case that question is raised. Brynle Williams has three minutes, and the Minister for Rural Affairs will respond.

Brynle Williams: Cynigiad fod

Brynle Williams: I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 7.58, yn cynnal dadl frys ar glwy'r traed a'r genau.

the National Assembly, under Standing Order No. 7.58, holds an urgent debate on foot and mouth disease.

Diolch am y cyfle i godi pwnc mor bwysig. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r clwyf wedi dod i Gymru.

Thank you for the opportunity to raise such an important issue. As you will know, foot and mouth disease has affected Wales.

There are questions that need to be answered, which is why I have made a formal application for the Minister to make an urgent statement.

Mae cwestiynau y mae angen eu hateb, a dyma'r rheswm pam y gwneuthum gais ffurfiol i'r Gweinidog wneud datganiad.

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig (Elin Jones): Efallai y gall y Llywydd gadarnhau mai cais am ddatganiad yw hwn. Fy mwriad i oedd cadarnhau—

The Minister for Rural Affairs (Elin Jones): Perhaps the Presiding Officer can confirm to me that this is an application for a statement. My intention was to confirm—

Y Llywydd: Ar y pwynt o drefn hwn, nid oes angen gwneud cais am ddatganiad. Cais yw hwn am ddadl frys.

The Presiding Officer: On this point of order, there is no need to make a request for a statement. This is a request for an urgent debate.

Elin Jones: Felly, ai dyna beth a gyflwynwyd gan y Ceidwadwyr yn awr?

Elin Jones: Therefore, is that what the Conservatives have just proposed?

Brynle Williams: Ie.

Brynle Williams: Yes.

Elin Jones: Os felly, i ymateb i'r hyn a ddywedodd Brynle Williams, nid yw'r clwyf yng Nghymru. Mae Cymru'n dal i fod yn rhydd o'r clwyf, a dyna'r flaenoriaeth ers i'r achos cyntaf o'r clwyf ymddangos yn Surrey

Elin Jones: In that case, and to respond to Brynle Williams's comments, the disease has not reached Wales. Wales remains free from foot and mouth disease, which has been our priority since the first case was identified in

ddechrau mis Awst.

Yn unol â'r amserlen, byddaf yn cyflwyno datganiad ar glwy'r traed a'r genau a'r hyn a ddigwyddodd yng Nghymru ers yr achos cyntaf. Yr wyf yn barod i dderbyn y cais am ddadl y prynhawn yma. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod yr achos cyntaf o glwy'r traed a'r genau, a mynd i'r afael â hynny, wedi digwydd mewn cyfnod pan nad oedd y Cynulliad yn cwrdd. Felly nid oeddwn i, fel Gweinidog, yn agored i unrhyw fath o graffu ar yr hyn a oedd yn cael ei wneud bryd hynny.

Gan ein bod ni eto mewn cyfnod â gwaharddiadau symud oherwydd bod y clwyf wedi ailymddangos yn ne-ddwyrain Lloegr, a chan ein bod ni heddiw yn cwrdd am y tro cyntaf ers hynny, yr wyf yn barod i ganiatáu cymaint o gwestiynu â phosibl ar fy natganiad. Yn ogystal, gan ein bod yma ar ddiwrnod cyntaf y Cynulliad ers i'r clwyf sefydlu ei hun ym mis Awst, yr wyf yn hapus i gefnogi cynnal dadl ar y pwnc.

Y bobl hynny sy'n paratoi deunydd i mi, fel Gweinidog, fel y gallaf roi datganiad ac ymateb i ddadleuon yn y Siambr, yw'r union bobl sydd wrthi ar hyn o bryd yn gweithio i sicrhau bod y clwyf yn cadw draw o Gymru, ac yn gweithio gyda ffermwyr ac arwerthwyr i edrych ar sut y gallwn newid y gwaharddiadau pan fydd hi'n ddiogel i wneud hynny. Dros yr wythnosau nesaf, wrth i'r gwrthbleidiau fy nghwestiynu am y materion hyn, gobeithiaf y bydd y Llywodraeth a'r gwrthbleidiau yn gallu gweithio gyda'i gilydd fel nad ydym yn rhoi pwysau ychwanegol sylweddol ar y swyddogion hynny sy'n gweithio ar gadw'r clwyf draw o Gymru. Serch hynny, yr wyf bob amser yn barod i gael fy holi ar yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd ac yn dal i ddigwydd. Felly, yr wyf yn hapus i gefnogi cynnig Brynle Williams.

Y Llywydd: Mae'r Gweinidog wedi derbyn y cynnig ac felly, os nad oes gwrthwynebiad, cynigiaf fod y cynnig hwn i gynnal dadl frys yn cael ei ganiatáu. Mae'n ymddangos nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad, felly trefnaf fod y ddadl yn cael ei chynnal, yn unol â'r Rheol Sefydlog, ar ôl datganiad y Gweinidog ar glwy'r traed a'r genau, a fydd yn dilyn yn nes

Surrey at the beginning of August.

In line with the timetable, I will be making a statement on foot and mouth disease and on what has actually happened in Wales since that first case in Surrey. I am prepared to accept the call for a debate this afternoon. I am aware that the first case of foot and mouth disease, and the need to get to grips with it, occurred at a time when the Assembly was not in session. Therefore, as Minister, I was not open to any form of scrutiny on the actions being taken at the time.

As we are once again facing restrictions on movement due to the re-emergence of foot and mouth disease in south-east England, and as we are meeting today for the first time since the outbreak, I am willing to allow as many questions as possible on my statement. In addition, as the Assembly is meeting for the first time since the case established itself in August, I am happy to support holding a debate on this issue.

The people who prepare material for me, as Minister, so that I may make a statement and respond to debates in the Chamber, are the very people who are working hard to ensure that the disease does not emerge in Wales. They are working with farmers and auctioneers to consider how we can alter the restrictions when it is safe to do so. I hope that, over the next few weeks, as the opposition parties will wish to question me on these issues, the Government and the opposition parties can collaborate so that we do not put substantial undue pressure on those officials who are working on ensuring that foot and mouth disease does not affect Wales. However, I am always willing to be questioned on what has happened and on what is continuing to happen. Therefore, I am happy to support Brynle Williams's proposal.

The Presiding Officer: The Minister has accepted the proposal and, therefore, if there are no objections, I propose that this proposal for an urgent debate be allowed. It appears that there are no objections, so I will arrange for the debate to be held, in line with the Standing Order, immediately after the Minister's statement on foot and mouth

ymlaen heddiw.

disease, which will be held later this afternoon.

Datganiad am Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru Statement on the Welsh Assembly Government

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad yn ymwybodol o'r ffaith bod datblygiad wedi digwydd o ran ffurfio gweinyddiaeth newydd ers ein Cyfarfod Llawn diwethaf.

The First Minister: Each Assembly Member will be aware that there has been a development in terms of forming a new administration since the Assembly last met in Plenary.

Mae'r weinyddiaeth newydd wedi'i ffurfio o glymblaid rhwng y 26 Aelod sydd yng ngrŵp Llafur y Cynulliad a'r 15 Aelod sydd yng ngrŵp Plaid Cymru. Fel Prif Weinidog y weinyddiaeth newydd, yr wyf wedi penodi Cabinet newydd. Yn unol â'r ymrwymiad a wneuthum cyn yr etholiad ym mis Mai, dyma fanylion y penodiadau a wneuthum.

The new administration has been formed from a coalition of the 26 Members of the Labour Assembly group and the 15 Members of the Plaid Cymru group. As First Minister of this new administration, I have appointed a new Cabinet and, in accordance with the commitments that I made before last May's election, I now inform the Assembly of these appointments.

As First Minister, my responsibilities include policy co-ordination and development, the execution of Cabinet duties, the relationship between the Assembly Government and the rest of the United Kingdom and Europe, Wales abroad, science, civil service staffing and other matters. Ieuan Wyn Jones, leader of Plaid Cymru, becomes Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economy and Transport.

Fel Prif Weinidog Cymru, mae fy nghyfrifoldebau'n cynnwys cydlynu a datblygu polisi, gweithredu dyletswyddau'r Cabinet, y berthynas rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a gweddill y Deyrnas Unedig ac Ewrop, Cymru dramor, gwyddoniaeth, staffio'r gwasanaeth sifil, a materion eraill. Daw Ieuan Wyn Jones, arweinydd Plaid Cymru, yn Ddirprwy Brif Weinidog ac yn Weinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth.

Jane Davidson is the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing, including responsibility for climate change, sustainable development, the environment, energy and planning. Andrew Davies becomes the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery, including responsibility for the spatial and strategic plans. Dr Brian Gibbons has assumed the duties of Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, including responsibility for child poverty and community safety. Edwina Hart remains the Minister for Health and Social Services. Jane Hutt is the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills. Elin Jones has been appointed Minister for Rural Affairs. Rhodri Glyn Thomas becomes Minister for Heritage, covering the Welsh language, culture, sport and tourism.

Jane Davidson yw'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai, gan gynnwys cyfrifoldeb am y newid yn yr hinsawdd, datblygu cynaliadwy, yr amgylchedd, ynni a chynllunio. Daw Andrew Davies yn Weinidog dros Gyllid a Chyflenwi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus, gan gynnwys cyfrifoldeb am y cynlluniau gofodol a strategol. Mae'r Dr Brian Gibbons wedi ysgwyddo dyletswyddau'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol, gan gynnwys cyfrifoldeb am dlodi ymhlith plant a diogelwch cymunedol. Mae Edwina Hart yn aros yn Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Jane Hutt yw'r Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau. Penodwyd Elin Jones yn Weinidog dros Faterion Gwledig. Daw Rhodri Glyn Thomas yn Weinidog dros Dreftadaeth, sy'n cynnwys yr iaith Gymraeg, diwylliant, chwaraeon a thwristiaeth.

My nomination of Carwyn Jones as the Assembly Government's first ever Counsel General has been agreed in this afternoon's vote. This will proceed to Her Majesty for the appointment process. Carwyn will also take responsibility for the Government's business programme, using the title Leader of the House. Carl Sargeant is the Government's Chief Whip and will attend Cabinet.

The Government of Wales Act 2006 also allows for the appointment of Deputy Ministers with particular responsibilities to assist Cabinet Ministers in the discharge of their duties. Accordingly, Leighton Andrews has been appointed Deputy Minister for Regeneration, working to Ieuan Wyn Jones and Brian Gibbons. Jocelyn Davies becomes Deputy Minister for Housing. John Griffiths remains Deputy Minister for Skills, and Gwenda Thomas remains Deputy Minister for Social Services.

The team of Ministers outlined has come together to implement a progressive programme of Government for Wales, and to provide our country with a stable administration that reflects the preferences expressed by Welsh voters as they cast their votes in May's elections. However, as this is the first occasion on which we have met as an Assembly since the programme was published, I want to highlight some key elements in the policies that we intend to pursue, which, together with our legislative programme, will form the basis of Government business in the Assembly over the months ahead.

The 'One Wales' agreement, which established this administration, is based on the Welsh radical tradition. It is an ambitious, progressive, four-year programme that reaches out to all sectors of society across Wales. It follows that not everything will be delivered in year 1, or even year 2 of this Assembly. However, Ministers are actively engaged in budget discussions, which have just commenced, and which I am confident will see a substantial part of the 'One Wales' programme put into practice at the earliest practical opportunity.

Enwebais Carwyn Jones yn Gwnsler Cyffredinol cyntaf erioed Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, a chytunwyd â hynny y prynhawn yma. Bydd hyn yn mynd at Ei Mawrhydi ar gyfer y broses benodi. Bydd Carwyn hefyd yn gyfrifol am raglen fusnes y Llywodraeth, gan ddefnyddio'r teitl Arweinydd y Tŷ. Carl Sargeant yw Prif Chwip y Llywodraeth a bydd yn mynd i gyfarfodydd y Cabinet.

O dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, gellir hefyd benodi Dirprwy Weinidogion i fod â chyfrifoldebau arbennig am helpu Gweinidogion y Cabinet i gyflawni eu dyletswyddau. Yn unol â hynny, penodwyd Leighton Andrews yn Ddirprwy Weinidog dros Adfywio, gan weithio i Ieuan Wyn Jones a Brian Gibbons. Daw Jocelyn Davies yn Ddirprwy Weinidog dros Dai. Bydd John Griffiths yn aros yn Ddirprwy Weinidog dros Sgiliau, a bydd Gwenda Thomas yn aros fel Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Mae'r fîm Gweinidogion a restrwyd wedi dod ynghyd i weithredu rhaglen flaengar o lywodraeth i Gymru, ac i ddarparu gweinyddiaeth sefydlog ar gyfer ein gwlad sy'n adlewyrchu dymuniadau pleidleiswyr Cymru wrth iddynt fwrw eu pleidleisiau yn yr etholiadau fis Mai. Fodd bynnag, gan mai dyma'r tro cyntaf inni ddod at ein gilydd fel Cynulliad ers cyhoeddi'r rhaglen, carwn dynnu sylw at rai elfennau allweddol yn y polisiau y bwriadwn fynd i'r afael â nhw a fydd, ynghyd â'n rhaglen ddeddfu, yn sail ar gyfer busnes y Llywodraeth yn y Cynulliad dros y misoedd i ddod.

Mae'r cytundeb 'Cymru'n Un', a sefydlodd y weinyddiaeth hon, yn seiliedig ar draddodiad radicalaidd Cymru. Mae'n rhaglen flaengar, uchelgeisiol dros bedair blynedd sy'n estyn allan at bob sector yn y gymdeithas ledled Cymru. Afraid dweud felly na fydd popeth yn cael ei gyflawni ym mlwyddyn gyntaf, na hyd yn oed yn ail flwyddyn y Cynulliad hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae Gweinidogion wrthi'n trafod y gyllideb, rhywbeth sydd newydd ddechrau, ac yr wyf yn hyderus y bydd hynny'n peri bod cyfran helaeth o'r rhaglen 'Cymru'n Un' yn cael ei gweithredu cyn gynted ag y bydd cyfle i wneud hynny'n ymarferol.

We begin with a determination to make the maximum use of EU structural funds. We are already ahead of the rest of the UK and most of Europe in gaining approval for our programme. Together with a re-evaluation of our business support programme, including extra help with business rates, we intend to tackle long-term economic inactivity, particularly in some of our most deprived communities. The scourge of long-term unemployment and its substantial reduction have quite rightly been the focus of the Assembly's attention since 1999. We will now turn our attention, with renewed vigour, to economic inactivity.

Making a success of European cohesion funding will depend on a good deal more than government itself. Work has already begun on supporting those areas of the economy that can benefit the most from the research and development dimension of European funding. The contribution of our higher education institutions to the future economy of Wales will be vital, and we will take steps everywhere in Wales to ensure that those institutions are fit for that purpose.

We will take early action to implement those parts of the programme that will have an impact on disadvantage and underachievement. Tackling child poverty remains at the core of what this administration is all about. We will press ahead with the Flying Start programme and with the foundation phase in education. We will make a reality of the Welsh addition to the child trust fund.

3.20 p.m.

We will ensure that credit union membership is available to every secondary school student. In the coming weeks, we will move to appoint the first ever older person's commissioner for Wales, as we strive to improve the lives of our older population. For families with children, this administration will bring substantial new investment and a new approach to the supply of affordable housing, which is the foundation of a decent life for parents and a proper start in life for their children.

Sustainability will be one of the key

Dechreuwn gyda phenderfyniad i ddefnyddio hyd yr eithaf gronfeydd strwythurol yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Yr ydym eisoes ar y blaen i weddill y DU a'r rhan fwyaf o Ewrop o ran ennill cymeradwyaeth i'n rhaglen. Ynghyd ag ailwerthusiad o'n rhaglen cymorth busnes, gan gynnwys cymorth ychwanegol gydag ardrethi busnes, bwriadwn fynd i'r afael ag anweithgarwch economaidd hirdymor, yn enwedig yn rhai o'n cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig. Mae melltith diweithdra hirdymor a lleihau hynny'n sylweddol, yn ddigon teg, wedi hoelio sylw'r Cynulliad ers 1999. Trown ein sylw yn awr, gydag egni newydd, at anweithgarwch economaidd.

Bydd llwyddo gyda'r cyllid cydlyniant yn dibynnu ar lawer mwy na llywodraeth ei hun. Mae gwaith eisoes wedi dechrau ar gynorthwyo'r meysydd hynny o'r economi a all elwa fwyaf o'r agwedd ar gyllid Ewropeaidd sy'n ymwneud ag ymchwil a datblygu. Bydd cyfraniad ein sefydliadau addysg uwch at economi Cymru yn y dyfodol yn hanfodol, a bwriadwn gymryd camau ar draws Cymru gyfan i sicrhau bod y sefydliadau hynny'n addas i'r diben hwnnw.

Byddwn yn troi ein sylw'n fuan at weithredu'r rhannau hynny o'r rhaglen a fydd yn cael effaith ar anfantais a thangyflawni. Erys mynd i'r afael â thlodi ymhlith plant wrth wraidd holl bwrpas y weinyddiaeth hon. Byddwn yn bwrw ymlaen â'r rhaglen Dechrau'n Deg a'r cyfnod sylfaen mewn addysg. Byddwn yn gwireddu ychwanegiad Cymru at y gronfa ymddiriedolaeth plant.

Byddwn yn sicrhau bod aelodaeth o undeb credyd ar gael i bob myfyriwr ysgol uwchradd. Yn yr wythnosau i ddod, byddwn yn mynd ati i benodi comisiynydd pobl hŷn cyntaf erioed Cymru, yn ein hymgais i wella bywydau ein poblogaeth hŷn. I deuluoedd sydd â phlant, bydd y weinyddiaeth hon yn buddsoddi'n sylweddol o'r newydd ac yn mabwysiadu agwedd newydd at gyflenwi tai fforddiadwy, sy'n sylfaen ar gyfer safon byw deilwng i rieni a chychwyn iawn mewn bywyd i'w plant.

Bydd cynaliadwyedd yn un o arwyddeiriau

watchwords for this third Assembly Government—from improving rail travel and journey times to action to help to tackle climate change. Only the efforts of the whole community can make this happen. Therefore, we will put sustainability at the heart of Government procurement, and will extend our principles into our work with others. Environmentalism, like most things in life, brings some hard choices, such as in waste management and in energy policy, but we will not shy away from them.

They cannot be avoided in health, either. Edwina Hart, the Minister, has already accelerated changes that were emerging in the reconfiguration of trusts in Wales. She will bring forward a rural health plan to ensure that new ways of working developed by nurses, pharmacists and doctors are fully deployed to meet the particular needs of rural communities. We will abolish the last vestiges of the internal market in Wales, and continue to drive down waiting times so that we can achieve our target of a combined maximum wait of 26 weeks by the end of 2009. We will work closely with local communities to give them the confidence that change in the health service—the change that has been in every one of the 60 years since the health service was inaugurated in 1948—is designed to provide a better service, not a lesser one.

This is a Government that now represents a large majority of political opinion in Wales. However, as we move forward with our legislative and policy programme, whether for the Welsh language or the youth service, I am determined that we see the widest possible support for what we do, going beyond the Labour and Plaid Cymru side of politics, because that is how we will secure the widest possible support for devolved government in Wales. The intention to have an independent commission on funding and finance has already been announced, and further details will be provided during the autumn term. We will come forward with detailed proposals for a convention, under an independent chair, to prepare the way for a successful referendum on Part 4 of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

pwysicaf y drydedd Lywodraeth hon—o wella teithio ac amseroedd siwrneiau ar y rheilffyrdd i fesurau i fynd i'r afael â'r newid yn yr hinsawdd. Dim ond ymdrechion y gymuned gyfan a all wneud i hyn ddigwydd. Felly, byddwn yn peri bod cynaliadwyedd yn ganolog o ran prosesau caffael y Llywodraeth, ac yn ymestyn ein hegwyddorion i'n gwaith ag eraill. Mae amgylcheddaeth, fel y rhan fwyaf o bethau mewn bywyd, yn golygu dewisiadau anodd, gyda rheoli gwastraff a pholisi ynni er enghraifft, ond ni fyddwn yn cilio rhagddynt.

Ni ellir eu hosgoi ym maes iechyd, ychwaith. Mae Edwina Hart, y Gweinidog, eisoes wedi prysuro'r newidiadau a oedd yn digwydd wrth ailgyflunio'r ymddiriedolaethau yng Nghymru. Bydd yn cyflwyno cynllun iechyd gwledig i sicrhau bod ffyrdd newydd o weithio a ddatblygwyd gan nyrsys, fferyllwyr a meddygon yn cael eu defnyddio'n llawn i ddiwallu anghenion penodol cymunedau gwledig. Byddwn yn dileu hynny sydd ar ôl o'r farchnad fewnol yng Nghymru, ac yn parhau i leihau amseroedd aros i gyrraedd ein targed o amser hwyaf cyfun o 26 wythnos erbyn diwedd 2009. Byddwn yn gweithio'n agos gyda chymunedau lleol i roi'r hyder iddynt mai nod newid yn y gwasanaeth iechyd—y newid a welwyd ym mhob un o'r 60 mlynedd ers sefydlu'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn 1948—yw darparu gwasanaeth gwell, nid gwaeth.

Mae hon yn Llywodraeth sydd bellach yn cynrychioli mwyafrif helaeth barn wleidyddol pobl Cymru. Fodd bynnag, wrth inni fwrw ymlaen â'n rhaglen deddfwriaeth a pholisi, boed hynny ar gyfer yr iaith Gymraeg neu'r gwasanaeth ieuenctid, yr wyf yn benderfynol o weld y gefnogaeth ehangaf posibl i'r hyn a wnawn, gan fynd y tu hwnt i wleidyddiaeth Llafur a Phlaid Cymru, oherwydd dim ond drwy wneud hynny yr enillwn y gefnogaeth ehangaf posibl i lywodraeth ddatganoledig yng Nghymru. Mae'r bwriad o gael comisiwn annibynnol ar gyllido a chyllid eisoes wedi'i gyhoeddi, a chyhoeddir manylion pellach yn ystod tymor yr hydref. Byddwn yn cyflwyno cynigion manwl ar gyfer confensiwn, dan gadeirydd annibynnol, i baratoi ar gyfer refferendwm llwyddiannus ar Ran 4 Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006.

Llywydd, any administration that is supported by a large majority—that is, two thirds of the Chamber—must have at its core an ambition to secure a similar level of support in the world of Wales outside. I have outlined today the team of Ministers that will be responsible for taking this forward and the progressive policy programme that we will bring before the people of Wales. I commend it to you, and to the people of Wales.

Nick Bourne: I thank the First Minister for his statement on the changing roles of some of the ministerial team and for setting out the programme. On the roles, it seems very much a realignment of responsibilities—a perestroika in the governmental ranks—and I have no particular questions on that. It is very much a case of having the same faces around the Cabinet table, and we fear that it will be continued Labour domination of the Government, but clearly the First Minister does not fear that.

I wish to rephrase a question to him on the Counsel General. It is just the one question, and I do not intend to revisit the whole issue, but I raised the matter with him earlier and he did not respond—probably because I was asking him to respond to a lot of matters. It is the issue of what changed his mind about the appointment. Initially, he wanted someone non-party political. He was very clear on that, and names were canvassed, but then he changed his mind and decided it was to be a party-political appointment. I regret that. It is nothing to do with the individual concerned, for whom I have the greatest respect, but it is a fundamental change in how the First Minister saw that role and I wonder why.

I will turn to the programme as set out in ‘One Wales’ and say at the outset that there is a fundamental difference between our approach to government and the First Minister’s approach. We believe in choice and diversity; he does not. We have many objectives, if not all, in common, but we differ from him fundamentally on the issue of choice and diversity. I will come back to that, but first I will deal with some of the specific aspects that he dealt with.

Llywydd, rhaid i unrhyw weinyddiaeth a gefnogir gan fwyafrif helaeth—hynny yw, dwy ran o dair o’r Siambr—fod ag uchelgais cryf i ennill lefel debyg o gefnogaeth yn y Gymru y tu allan. Yr wyf heddiw wedi rhestru’r tîm o Weinidogion a fydd yn gyfrifol am fwrw ymlaen â hyn ac â’r rhaglen bolisi flaengar y byddwn yn ei chyflwyno i bobl Cymru. Fe’i cymeradwyaf i chi, ac i bobl Cymru.

Nick Bourne: Hoffwn ddiolch i’r Prif Weinidog am ei ddatganiad am rolau newydd rhai o’r tîm gweinidogol ac am egluro’r rhaglen. O ran y rolau, mae’n ymddangos mai ad-drefnu cyfrifoldebau sydd yma—perestroica yn rhengoedd y llywodraeth—ac nid oes gennyf gwestiynau penodol ynghylch hynny. Byddwn yn gweld yr un wynebaw fwy neu lai o gwmpas bwrdd y Cabinet, ac mae arnom ofn y bydd Llafur yn parhau i gymryd awenau’r Llywodraeth, ond mae’n amlwg nad yw’r Prif Weinidog yn ofni hynny.

Hoffwn aileirio cwestiwn iddo am y Cwnsler Cyffredinol. Dim ond un cwestiwn sydd gennyf, ac nid wyf am fynd dros y cyfan eto, ond codais y mater ag ef yn gynharach ac ni chefais ymateb—mae’n debyg oherwydd fy mod yn gofyn iddo ymateb i sawl mater. Cwestiwn ydyw ynghylch beth a wnaeth iddo newid ei feddwl am y penodiad. I ddechrau, yr oedd am gael rhywun heb ymlyniad wrth blaid wleidyddol. Yr oedd yn glir iawn ynghylch hynny, a chanfasiwyd enwau, ond yna newidiodd ei feddwl a phenderfynu y byddai’n benodiad gwleidyddol. Gresynaf at hynny. Nid oes a wnelo hyn ddim â’r unigolyn dan sylw, mae gennyf barch mawr ato, ond mae’n newid sylfaenol yn y ffordd yr oedd y Prif Weinidog yn gweld y rôl hon ac yr wyf yn dyfalu pam tybed.

Trof at y rhaglen a geir yn ‘Cymru’n Un’ a hoffwn ddweud ar y dechrau fod gwahaniaeth sylfaenol rhwng ein hagwedd ni at lywodraethu ac un y Prif Weinidog. Yr ydym ni’n credu mewn dewis ac amrywiaeth; nid yw ef. Mae llawer o’r un amcanion gennym, y cwbl efallai, ond y gwahaniaeth sylfaenol rhyngom ni ac ef yw ein hagwedd at ddewis ac amrywiaeth. Dof yn ôl at hynny, ond hoffwn ddelio’n gyntaf â rhai o’r agweddau penodol y soniodd amdanynt.

On cohesion funding, I hope that we will have more private sector and community involvement this time. We do not rejoice in Wales continually getting the wooden spoon for economic performance. The fact that we qualify for this is not a badge of honour; it is a badge of shame. I am glad that we got it, because we need the money, but we should not be proud of it per se.

On higher education, there is no more powerful champion of it than me. Could he outline what will happen to higher education, and specifically when the cap on top-up fees is lifted at Westminster as it will be in the lifetime of this Assembly Government? There is no clarity on that, and we need a specific answer to that question.

We clearly share the First Minister's desire to eradicate child poverty, but many other Government programmes have done nothing to contribute to that. For example, throughout communities in large parts of Blaenau Gwent and the Valleys, there are no free school breakfasts. This policy does not represent value for money in terms of that valuable objective. I would like the First Minister to deal with that too.

We will support the appointment of a commissioner for older people, as we always have. We think that the post is a valuable adjunct to what goes on in public life in Wales, and we will support it, as we did the appointment of a children's commissioner.

The First Minister also referred to the environment, which is a great challenge of our age. We very much identify the importance of this issue, although we believe that the 'One Wales' document is far more timid than 'The All-Wales Accord' was on this aspect. I have one important question, which he did not touch upon, namely is the Government pro-nuclear, no-nuclear or no-nuclear except for Wylfa?

He also mentioned recycling, which is vital. He will have seen the recent document published by Cylch—and I pay tribute to its work—on how there is a strong economic

O ran cyllid cydlyniant, gobeithio y bydd mwy o ran i'r sector preifat a chymunedol y tro hwn. Nid ydym yn falch bod Cymru'n cael y llwy bren yn barhaus am ei pherfformiad economaidd. Nid braint o gwbl yw'r ffaith ein bod yn gymwys i gael hynny; cywilydd ydyw. Yr wyf yn falch ein bod wedi'i gael, oherwydd y mae angen yr arian arnom, ond ni ddylem ymfalchïo yn y sefyllfa.

O ran addysg uwch, nid oes neb sy'n fwy o blaid hynny na fi. A allai egluro beth fydd yn digwydd i addysg uwch, ac yn benodol pan fydd y cap ar ffioedd atodol yn cael ei godi yn San Steffan, fel y bydd yn ystod oes y Llywodraeth hon? Nid oes dim eglurder ynghylch hynny, ac mae angen inni gael ateb penodol i'r cwestiwn hwnnw.

Mae dymuniad y Prif Weinidog i ddileu tlodi ymhlith plant yn ddymuniad gennym ninnau, ond mae amryw o raglenni eraill gan y Llywodraeth wedi methu'n lân â chyfrannu at hynny. Er enghraifft, ar draws cymunedau mewn rhannau helaeth o Flaenau Gwent a'r Cymoedd, nid oes brecwast ysgol am ddim. Nid yw'r polisi hwn yn rhoi gwerth am arian o ran yr amcan gwerthfawr hwnnw. Hoffwn i'r Prif Weinidog roi sylw i hynny hefyd.

Byddwn yn cefnogi penodi comisiynydd pobl hŷn, fel yr ydym wedi gwneud drwy'r amser. Credwn fod y swydd yn ychwanegiad gwerthfawr at yr hyn sy'n digwydd mewn bywyd cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, a byddwn yn ei chefnogi, fel y gwnaethom gefnogi penodi comisiynydd plant.

Cyfeiriodd y Prif Weinidog hefyd at yr amgylchedd, sy'n her fawr i'n hoes. Yr ydym yn uniaethu'n fawr â phwysigrwydd y mater hwn, er ein bod yn credu bod y ddogfen 'Cymru'n Un' yn llawer mwy dof nag a oedd 'Cytundeb Cymru Gyfan' ar y mater hwn. Mae gennyf un cwestiwn pwysig, na wnaeth gyfeirio ato, sef a ydyw'r Llywodraeth o blaid pŵer niwclear, yn erbyn pŵer niwclear ynteu yn ei erbyn ar wahân i'r Wylfa?

Soniodd hefyd am ailgylchu, sy'n hanfodol. Bydd wedi gweld y ddogfen a gyhoeddwyd gan Cylch yn ddiweddar—a hoffwn dalu teyrnged i'w waith—ynghylch y ddadl

case for more recycling. If it is carried out effectively, it will cost us less as a nation, and we need to focus on that. Can the First Minister give a reassurance that this will be given top priority so that organisations, whether the Countryside Council for Wales, WWF or Cylch, can identify with how important this challenge is to us? It is perhaps the greatest global challenge that we face, and Wales can certainly do its bit.

He then spoke about health, and it is perhaps on this issue that there is a fundamental divide between his Government and us as the opposition. We believe in choice. I pressed him on this during First Minister's questions and on the choice for patients in north Wales. With respect, I did not get a satisfactory answer. Patient choice does not seem to enter into his considerations. He referred only to what the review would show, and that will show only the terms of reference set out by the Government. Patients throughout Wales should have a choice of hospital within the NHS system. I accept that that will not always be possible. If you have burns, Morriston Hospital is the place to go to, but if you have a more routine complaint, you should have a choice of hospital available to you. Patients in north Wales should certainly not be expected to come to south Wales for elective surgery. That will be a fundamental difference between him and us in the Assembly.

There is also the dogmatic ruling-out of private finance initiatives under the 'One Wales' agreement. The Government's approach for the first eight years was, broadly speaking, right. Issues were considered on a case-by-case basis, which is sometimes appropriate. However, that has now been ruled out as a matter of policy, which is different from what we have had for the past eight years and from the approach at Westminster. The First Minister did not touch on that.

He did not really touch on the voluntary sector, either. We believe that it has a vital role and is important, as identified by Beecham, who stated that we should be volunteering far more as a nation than we are currently.

economiaidd gref o blaid ailgylchu mwy. O'i wneud yn effeithiol, bydd yn costio llai inni fel cenedl, ac mae angen inni ganolbwyntio ar hynny. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ein sicrhau y rhoddir blaenoriaeth uchel i hyn fel bod cyrff, boed yn Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru, y WWF neu Cylch, yn gallu uniaethu â pha mor bwysig yw'r her hon inni? Hon efallai yw'r her fyd-eang fwyaf a wynebwn, a gall Cymru heb os wneud ei rhan.

Siaradodd wedyn am iechyd, ac efallai mai dyma'r gwahaniaeth sylfaenol rhwng ei Lywodraeth ef a ninnau yn yr wrthblaid. Credwn ni mewn dewis. Fe'i holais yn daer ynghylch hyn yn ystod cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog ac ynghylch y dewis i gleifion yn y gogledd. Gyda phob parch, ni chefais ateb boddhaol. Nid yw dewis i gleifion fel pe bai'n un o'i ystyriaethau. Ni chyfeiriodd ond at yr hyn y byddai'r adolygiad yn ei ddangos, a dim ond y cylch gorchwyl a osodwyd gan y Llywodraeth fydd hynny. Dylai cleifion ar draws Cymru gael dewis ysbyty o fewn y GIG. Derbyniaf na fydd hynny bob tro'n bosibl. Os oes llosgiadau gennych, Ysbyty Treforys yw'r lle i fynd, ond os yw eich cwyn yn un fwy arferol, dylech allu dewis ysbyty. Yn sicr, ni ddylid disgwyl i gleifion yn y gogledd ddod i dde Cymru i gael llawdriniaeth ddewisol. Bydd hynny'n wahaniaeth sylfaenol rhyngddo ef a ni yn y Cynulliad hwn.

Mae mentrau cyllid preifat hefyd wedi cael eu diystyru'n ddogmatig o dan gytundeb 'Cymru'n Un'. Yr oedd dull y Llywodraeth yn ystod yr wyth mlynedd cyntaf, ar y cyfan, yn iawn. Ystyriwyd materion ar sail pob achos yn unigol, sydd weithiau'n briodol. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny bellach wedi'i ddileu fel mater o bolisi, sy'n wahanol i'r system a gawsom dros yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf ac i'r agwedd yn San Steffan. Ni soniodd y Prif Weinidog am hynny.

Ni soniodd ryw lawer am y sector gwirfoddol ychwaith. Credwn fod ganddo rôl hanfodol a'i fod yn bwysig, fel y nododd Beecham, a ddywedodd y dylem fod yn gwirfoddoli llawer mwy fel cenedl nag yr ydym ar hyn o bryd.

On the points that he made about the commission on funding and finance and the convention, we will certainly play our full roles in those; there is no question of that. We look forward to the terms of reference and more detail on those.

We will be a constructive and robust opposition, and we will be setting out and developing an alternative programme to that which he has put forward, based on our manifesto and on 'The All-Wales Accord' in the months and years ahead.

The First Minister: I thank the leader of the opposition for the tone in which he put forward the strongly held beliefs of the Conservative group that he leads. I also welcome him to the role of leader of the opposition, and I will try to respond in the same spirit.

To clarify what I said earlier about the Counsel General, I did not answer that particular question among the many that he made, but I will do so now. A series of options was being considered, so it was not a question of a change of mind. My mind had not been made up at the time that he and I were discussing this issue. After considering a series of options, I believe that we came to the right decision.

3.30 p.m.

The point of choice in the provision of public services is one that he sees as a major philosophical divide—perhaps it is, perhaps it is not—but the important thing is that he should not confuse choice with the changes that were mooted in July in terms of where people would go for neurosurgery. As far as I am aware, there is currently no choice for patients in north Wales—they all go to the Walton Centre for elective surgery. That is my understanding of the situation. About a third of the patients at Walton, if not more, come from north Wales. However, that is not an issue of choice, but of convenience and the access, quality and safety of the service, which will always remain the watchwords for the provision of elective surgery. I think that he is confused on that.

O ran y pwyntiau a wnaeth am y comisiwn ar gyllido a chyllid, ac am y confensiwn, byddwn yn sicr yn cyfrannu'n llawn at y rheini; nid oes dim amheuaeth ynghylch hynny. Edrychwn ymlaen at y cylch gorchwyl a chael rhagor o fanylion ynghylch hynny.

Byddwn yn wrthblaid adeiladol a chadarn, a byddwn yn cyflwyno ac yn datblygu rhagen a fydd yn ddewis arall yn lle'r un a gyflwynwyd ganddo ef, ar sail ein maniffesto a'r 'Cytundeb Cymru Gyfan', yn y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch i arweinydd yr wrthblaid am naws ei eiriau wrth iddo gyflwyno credoau cadarn grŵp y Ceidwadwyr y mae'n ei arwain. Hoffwn hefyd ei groesawu i'w rôl fel arweinydd yr wrthblaid, a byddaf yn ceisio ymateb yn yr un ysbryd.

I egluro'r hyn a ddywedais yn gynharach am y Cwnsler Cyffredinol, nid atebais y cwestiwn arbennig hwnnw o blith y nifer a ofynnwyd, ond gwnaf hynny yn awr. Yr oedd cyfres o opsiynau'n cael eu hystyried, felly nid mater o newid fy meddwl ydoedd. Nid oeddwn wedi penderfynu pan oeddwn i ac yntau'n trafod y mater hwn. Ar ôl ystyried yr opsiynau i gyd, credaf inni wneud y penderfyniad iawn.

Mae dewis wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn rhywbeth y mae'n ei weld fel llinell derfyn athronyddol fawr—efallai ei bod yn llinell derfyn, efallai nad yw—ond y peth pwysig yw na ddylai ddrysu rhwng dewis a'r newidiadau y cyfeiriwyd atynt ym mis Gorffennaf wrth drafod i ble y byddai pobl yn mynd i gael niwrolawdriniaeth. Hyd y gwn, nid oes gan gleifion y gogledd ddewis ar hyn o bryd—maent i gyd yn mynd i Ganolfan Walton i gael llawdriniaeth ddewisol. Dyna'r sefyllfa yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf. Mae tuag un o bob tri chlaf yn Walton, os nad mwy, yn dod o'r gogledd. Fodd bynnag, nid mater o ddewis yw hyn, ond mater o hwylustod a mynediad, ansawdd a diogelwch y gwasanaeth, a fydd bob amser yn arwyddeiriau ar gyfer darparu llawdriniaeth ddewisol. Tybiaf ei fod wedi drysu ynglŷn â hynny.

In terms of a choice of provider—whether it concerns education or the provision of surgery or other medical services—most people are extremely glad that we did not go down the road of trying to secure additional independent providers. I think that most independent commentators would say that. One road that the Westminster Government chose to go down, even though it is of the same political stripe as me, was that of the independent treatment centres, and I think that most independent observers are pretty pleased that Wales did not go down that road, not only because we are a much smaller country, but because independent treatment centres have been moaning that they are not getting enough guaranteed work and then the NHS hospitals in the same area are saying, ‘Why should they get guarantees when we get no guarantees?’. I do not think that we should regret the philosophy that we chose to follow.

In terms of schools, during a period of falling school rolls, it is right that we are not actively encouraging new providers to come in to a shrinking market—although, who knows, it may increase in 15 years’ time. We made the right choice not to artificially stimulate the diversity of providers, although a voluntary aided Catholic diocese, the Church in Wales or other bodies can put forward a case to a local authority, where they think that it is necessary, that a new school of that kind would make sense. In terms of PFI, there are some PFI schemes currently going through at school level. Bridgend County Borough Council and Newport City Council are putting schools forward: it is proposed that the new Welsh school at Maesteg and the Durham Road School in Newport be funded through credits from us to cover PFI.

On the waste strategy, there is a misunderstanding on your part that it is not a high priority for us. It is a very high priority for us and for the Welsh Local Government Association, whose members are the main deliverers of recycling services. It is a No. 1 issue for local government and it is among the highest ranking issues for us. We will

O ran dewis o ddarparwyr—pa un a yw hynny’n ymwneud ag addysg neu ddarparu llawdriniaeth neu wasanaethau meddygol eraill—mae’r rhan fwyaf o bobl yn falch iawn nad aethom ati i geisio cael rhagor o ddarparwyr annibynnol. Tybiaf y byddai’r rhan fwyaf o’r sylwebyddion annibynnol yn dweud hynny. Un llwybr y dewisodd Llywodraeth San Steffan ei ddilyn, er ei bod o’r un lliw gwleidyddol â mi, oedd llwybr y canolfannau triniaethau annibynnol, a thybiaf fod y rhan fwyaf o’r sylwedyddion annibynnol yn bur falch na ddilynodd Cymru’r llwybr hwnnw, gan ein bod yn wlad lawer llai, a hefyd gan fod canolfannau triniaethau annibynnol wedi bod yn cwyno nad ydynt yn cael digon o waith gwarantedig a bod ysbytai’r GIG yn yr un ardal wedyn yn dweud, ‘Pam y dylent hwy gael sicrwydd a ninnau ddim yn cael sicrwydd?’. Nid wyf yn credu y dylem fod yn edifar am yr athroniaeth y dewisasom ei dilyn.

O ran ysgolion, mewn cyfnod o ostyngiad yn nifer y disgyblion, mae’n briodol nad ydym yn ceisio annog darparwyr newydd i ddod i mewn i farchnad sy’n crebachu—er, pwy a wŷr, efallai y bydd ar gynnydd ymhenn 15 mlynedd. Gwnaethom y penderfyniad cywir i beidio â symbylu amrywiaeth o ddarparwyr drwy ddulliau artiffisial, er y gall esgobaeth Gatholig wirfoddol a gynorthwyir, yr Eglwys yng Nghymru neu gyrff eraill gyflwyno achos i awdurdod lleol, os ydynt yn credu bod angen hynny, gan ddadlau y byddai ysgol newydd o’r fath yn gwneud synnwyr. O ran PFI, mae rhai cynlluniau PFI yn mynd rhagddynt ar hyn o bryd ar lefel ysgolion. Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chyngor Dinas Casnewydd yn cynnig ysgolion: cynigir bod yr ysgol Gymraeg newydd ym Maesteg ac Ysgol Durham Road yng Nghasnewydd yn cael eu hariannu drwy greydau gennym ni ar gyfer PFI.

O ran y strategaeth wastraff, camddealltwriaeth yw tybio nad yw’n flaenoriaeth uchel gennym. Mae’n flaenoriaeth uchel iawn i ni ac i Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, y mae ei haelodau’n bennaf cyfrifol am ddarparu gwasanaethau ailgylchu. Mae’n fater o’r pwys mwyaf i lywodraeth leol ac mae

review the waste strategy this year and we are putting forward a legislative competence Order to seek to have powers transferred to us that will cover the field of recycling. I am sure that you will support us in that respect.

You also mentioned top-up fees. Their impact is difficult to foresee, because there will be a review in England that will report before 2009 to enable academic institutions to know where they will be in 2009 and to determine whether the capping limit of £3,000 will be lifted, got rid of all together, or raised to £5,000 or £10,000 or whatever. That review has obviously not started yet, so it is hard to foretell at this stage what the impact on Welsh higher education institutions will be. It is quite difficult as yet to foresee the impact of a market for higher education delivery in England, in a semi-marketised context, on Scotland, us and Northern Ireland. However, we will have to face up to any new challenges when the situation becomes a bit clearer.

On cohesion funding, we are ahead of the game in terms of delivering the programmes to the satisfaction of the European Commission authority, so that we will be able to sign off legally within the next week or so on the relevant documents. No other part of the UK has reached that level and only one other part of Europe—I believe that it is in Austria—is ahead of us in that respect, out of the many areas that are eligible. You used the phrase ‘wooden spoon’, which I think is timely in the Rugby World Cup era, but if you look at the increase in the number of jobs in Wales since devolution, which is at 146,000 or 12 per cent, not one of the nine English regions could match that increase and neither could Scotland. The same goes for the rise in gross domestic household income: not one of the English regions can match the Welsh rise in gross domestic household income since devolution either. If that is a wooden spoon, then many people will be asking to win it.

You also mentioned the issue of the position

ymhlith y materion pwysicaf sydd gennym. Byddwn yn adolygu'r strategaeth wastraff eleni ac yr ydym yn cyflwyno Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol er mwyn ceisio trosglwyddo pwerau a fydd yn ymwneud â maes ailgylchu i ni. Yr wyf yn sicr y byddwch yn ein cefnogi yn y cyswllt hwnnw.

Cyfeiriasoch hefyd at ffioedd atodol. Mae'n anodd rhagweld eu heffaith, oherwydd cynhelir adolygiad yn Lloegr a fydd yn adrodd cyn 2009 er mwyn galluogi sefydliadau academiaidd i wybod beth fydd eu sefyllfa yn 2009 a phenderfynu a fydd yr uchafswm capio o £3,000 yn cael ei godi, ei ddiddymu'n gyfan gwbl, neu ei gynyddu i £5,000 neu £10,000 neu swm arall. Nid yw'r adolygiad hwn wedi dechrau eto wrth gwrs, felly mae'n anodd rhagweld ar hyn o bryd beth fydd yr effaith ar sefydliadau addysg uwch Cymru. Mae'n bur anodd rhagweld ar hyn o bryd beth fydd effaith marchnad ar gyfer darparu addysg uwch yn Lloegr, yng nghyd-destun lled-fabwysiadu egwyddorion y farchnad, arnom ni, yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon. Fodd bynnag, bydd yn rhaid inni wynebu unrhyw heriau newydd pan fydd y sefyllfa ychydig yn gliriach.

O ran arian cydlyniant, yr ydym ar y blaen o ran darparu'r rhaglenni gan fodloni awdurdod y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd, a byddwn felly'n gallu cymeradwyo'r dogfennau perthnasol yn gyfreithlon ymhen rhyw wythnos neu ddwy. Ni yw'r unig ran o'r DU sydd wedi cyrraedd y lefel hon a dim ond un rhan arall o Ewrop—credaf ei bod yn Awstria—sydd ar y blaen i ni yn hynny o beth, o'r holl ardaloedd sy'n gymwys. Defnyddiasoch yr ymadrodd 'y llwy bren', sy'n amserol a ninnau yng nghanol cystadlaethau Cwpan Rygbi'r Byd, ond os edrychwch ar y cynnydd yn nifer y swyddi yng Nghymru ers datganoli, sef 146,000 neu 12 y cant, ni allai'r un o'r naw rhanbarth sydd yn Lloegr gystadlu â'r cynnydd hwnnw, na'r Alban ychwaith. Mae'r un peth yn wir am y cynnydd mewn incwm aelwydydd mewnwladol crynswth: ni all yr un o ranbarthau Lloegr gystadlu â'r cynnydd mewn incwm aelwydydd mewnwladol crynswth yng Nghymru ers datganoli ychwaith. Os mai llwy bren yw hyn, yna bydd llawer o bobl yn awyddus i'w hennill.

Cyfeiriasoch hefyd at fater sefyllfa ynni

of nuclear energy in our energy route map and our energy policy. We have always accepted that, as matters stand now, energy is not devolved. We have said in our energy route map, which remains the policy, that we see no need for nuclear in the future, but we have been extremely sympathetic to the pleas from the workforce and the local authority in Wylfa, which is a perfectly right and proper thing to do. Whether we will be successful in prolonging its life I do not know, but because of the other projects in the offing to remedy the power generation deficit in Wales, which gives rise to higher power prices here than in other parts of the UK—certainly, at least, in south Wales—there really is no need for nuclear. It is not an unlawful activity, however, and if private providers were to come along and say that they wanted to build a nuclear power station, we could not rule it out as an unlawful activity, as it clearly is not. However, we do not see the need for it as a part of what we as a Government would be looking for.

I believe that I have addressed all the issues, but I am pleased that you have said that, in terms of the child poverty strategy and the provision of all the factors that relate to where we want to be in terms of the new commission that we want to set up on funding and so forth, you will be playing a full part. I am grateful indeed for those remarks.

Michael German: Thank you for your statement. I will pick up on a single point from the appointment of Ministers, which I see as an omission. You are reported as having announced that Carwyn Jones will have responsibility for Government communications. I would be grateful if you could expand on that matter, because we need to know what, precisely, the role of your Counsel General in Government communications will be. I asked you that question earlier, and I am sorry that it was one to which you omitted to reply. It is important that we establish the level of political independence that the Counsel General can exercise; this is one of those areas in which there may be some concern.

niwclear yn ein map llwybr ynni a'n polisi ynni. Yr ydym bob amser wedi derbyn, fel y mae pethau ar hyn o bryd, nad yw ynni wedi'i ddatganoli. Yr ydym wedi dweud yn ein map llwybr ynni, y polisi a ddilynir o hyd, nad ydym yn gweld y bydd angen ynni niwclear yn y dyfodol, ond yr ydym wedi gwrando'n llawn cydymdeimlad ar ddeisyfiadau'r gweithlu a'r awdurdod lleol yn yr Wylfa er mwyn gweld a allwn ymestyn oes yr Wylfa, sy'n beth cwbl gymwys a phriodol i'w wneud. Ni wn a fyddwn yn llwyddo i ymestyn ei hoes, ond oherwydd y prosiectau eraill sydd mewn golwg er mwyn unioni'r diffyg cynhyrchu pŵer yng Nghymru, sy'n arwain at brisiau ynni uwch yma nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU—yn sicr, o leiaf, yn y de—nid oes angen ynni niwclear o gwbl. Nid yw'n weithgaredd anghyfreithlon, fodd bynnag, a phe bai darparwyr preifat yn dweud bod arnynt eisiau adeiladu atomfa, ni allem ddweud ei fod yn weithgaredd anghyfreithlon, gan ei bod yn amlwg nad yw hynny'n wir. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn gweld bod angen atomfa fel rhan o'r hyn y byddem ni fel Llywodraeth yn anelu tuag ato.

Credaf fy mod wedi rhoi sylw i bob mater, ond yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi dweud, o safbwynt y strategaeth tlodi plant a darparu'r holl ffactorau sy'n ymwneud â'r sefyllfa yr hoffem fod ynddi o ran y comisiwn newydd yr ydym am ei sefydlu ar gyllid ac yn y blaen, y byddwch yn chwarae rhan lawn. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar iawn ichi am y sylwadau hynny.

Michael German: Diolch ichi am eich datganiad. Yr wyf am godi un pwynt yn ymwneud â phenodi Gweinidogion, y teimlaf ei fod wedi'i hepgor. Adroddwyd eich bod wedi cyhoeddi y bydd Carwyn Jones yn gyfrifol am brosesau cyfathrebu'r Llywodraeth. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech ymhelaethu ar y mater hwnnw, oherwydd y mae angen inni gael gwybod beth yn union fydd rôl eich Cwnsler Cyffredinol ym mhrosesau cyfathrebu'r Llywodraeth. Gofynnais y cwestiwn hwnnw ichi'n gynharach, ond yn anffodus ni roddasoch ateb iddo. Mae'n bwysig inni ddeall faint o annibyniaeth wleidyddol a fydd gan y Cwnsler Cyffredinol; mae hwn yn un o'r meysydd hynny a all beri pryder.

There are areas in your programme, laid before us, that we would support, and there are areas that we would find difficult. I will, however, pick up on a few of those areas that are crucial and which are there by omission. Perhaps you could clarify whether the fact that matters do not appear in 'One Wales' was due to omission and whether they will happen anyway. The parties previously in opposition placed a high priority on addressing the higher education funding gap. You will well remember the debates that took place in this Chamber about the funding gap between English and Welsh universities. However, 'One Wales' is silent on this matter. There are other policy gaps, which we will come to in a moment, but one of the most striking is this failure to announce that you will take action on the £40 million deficit between higher education funding in Wales and that in England. In early July, just before the summer recess, Janet Ryder, who is not present in the Chamber at the moment, said:

'I am sure that you would agree that given that HEFCW has produced a report that shows this gap, your Government now has a duty to address the situation.'

Is this a £40 million oversight in 'One Wales', or are we actually going to do something about it and retain the best HE staff and capacity in Wales in order for us to compete and treat this as a priority?

The second area on which the document is silent—I note that, again, you did not address this issue in your statement, so I presume that the document and your remarks go hand in hand in this regard—is that of a renewable electricity target. You may have explained some of the difficulties earlier about the 50 MW rule, which may be convenient if somebody else has to take a decision about nuclear power in Wales, or it may be that you are pressing forward with it, but what we do not have, on a carbon-neutral electricity supply, is a target. We have ended up with no goal to aim at. I believe that this Government's energy policy, in that sense, is

Mae rhannau o'ch rhaglen, a osodwyd ger ein bron, y byddem yn eu cefnogi, ac mae rhannau y byddai'n anodd inni eu cefnogi. Yr wyf, fodd bynnag, am gyfeirio at ambell un o'r rhannau hyn sy'n bwysig ac sydd wedi'u hepgor. Efallai y gallech egluro ai am eu bod wedi'u hepgor y mae materion nad ydynt yn ymddangos yn 'Cymru'n Un', ac a fyddant yn digwydd pa un bynnag. Yr oedd rhoi sylw i'r bwlch cyllido mewn addysg uwch yn un o brif flaenoriaethau'r gwrthbleidiau blaenorol. Byddwch yn cofio'r dadleuon a gynhaliwyd yn y Siambr hon ynglŷn â'r bwlch cyllido rhwng prifysgolion Cymru a Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, mae 'Cymru'n Un' yn dadedog ar y mater hwn. Mae bylchau polisi eraill, y deawn atynt yn y munud, ond un o'r rhai mwyaf trawiadol yw nad ydych yn cyhoeddi y byddwch yn gweithredu ar fater y diffyg o £40 miliwn rhwng cyllid addysg uwch yng Nghymru ac yn Lloegr. Ddechrau mis Gorffennaf, ychydig cyn toriad gwyliau'r haf, dywedodd Janet Ryder, nad yw yn y Siambr ar hyn o bryd:

'Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunech, o gofio bod y cyngor cyllido wedi cynhyrchu adroddiad sydd yn dangos bwlch o'r fath, ei bod bellach yn ddyletswydd ar eich Llywodraeth ddelio â'r sefyllfa.'

Ai £40 miliwn drwy amryfusedd yn 'Cymru'n Un' yw hyn, ynteu a ydym yn mynd i wneud rhywbeth mewn gwirionedd yn ei gylch a chadw'r staff a'r capasiti gorau o ran addysg uwch yng Nghymru er mwyn inni allu cystadlu a thrin hyn fel blaenoriaeth?

Yr ail faes y mae'r ddogfen yn dadedog yn ei gylch—nodaf, unwaith eto, na roddasoch sylw i'r mater hwn yn eich datganiad, felly cymeraf yn ganiataol fod y ddogfen a'ch sylwadau'n mynd law yn llaw yn y cyswllt hwn—yw targed trydan adnewyddadwy. Efallai eich bod wedi esbonio rhai o'r anawsterau'n gynharach ynglŷn â'r rheol 50 MW, a all fod yn gyfleus os oes rhaid i rywun arall wneud penderfyniad ynglŷn ag ynni niwclear yng Nghymru, neu efallai eich bod yn bwrw ymlaen â hyn, ond yr hyn nad yw gennym, ar gyfer cyflenwad trydan carbon-niwtral, yw targed. Nid oes gennym nod i anelu tuag ato. Credaf fod polisi ynni'r

as directionless as the England rugby team that faced South Africa, or even the USA. After all, we have heard of nimbys—not in my back yard—but this looks like ‘not in my term’.

3.40 p.m.

Instead of the ambitious target that we want to see on renewable electricity, we must first wait for an energy route map, then an energy strategy, then a technical advice note 8 review and the Government will then revise the target for energy from renewables. We may well be waiting a long time for that to happen.

On opposition to ID cards, which the Assembly voted on unanimously to ensure that we do not need an ID card to access Assembly-funded services, there is nothing in ‘One Wales’ to guarantee that this commitment will still stand. I hope that that is an omission. Will the Government ensure that people continue to receive health treatment in Wales based upon their needs, and not on whether they have the appropriate piece of plastic in their wallets or purses?

There is no mention in the agreement of housing. We must find ways of releasing the energies of funding to provide affordable housing in more beneficial ways. There is no mention in the document of making use of the expertise and investment potential of housing associations and social enterprises, and of vital ways of building up our affordable housing stock and improving the rights and conditions of tenants. We need more investment in this manner, and I would welcome a statement from you on that issue.

I could talk about other areas, but I will concentrate on the two constitutional areas to which you referred at the end of your statement. We will play a full part, as you might expect, on the Assembly commission and convention, but I will raise a question that I raised at the last Plenary session before the summer break, on the convention on further powers for the National Assembly. The question is simple: is it the purpose of

Llywodraeth hon, yn y cyswllt hwnnw, mor ddigyfeiriad â thîm rygbi Lloegr yn y gêm yn erbyn De Affrica, neu hyd yn oed UDA. Wedi’r cyfan, yr ydym wedi clywed pobl yn dweud ‘nid yn fy iard gefn i’ ond mae hyn fel dweud ‘nid yn fy nghyfnod i’.

Yn lle’r targed uchelgeisiol yr ydym am ei weld ar gyfer trydan adnewyddadwy, rhaid inni aros yn gyntaf am fap llwybr ynni, yna strategaeth ynni, yna adolygiad o nodyn cyngor technegol 8 a bydd y Llywodraeth wedyn yn adolygu’r targed ar gyfer ynni adnewyddadwy. Gallwn fod yn aros yn hir iawn am hynny.

O ran gwrthwynebu cardiau adnabod, y pleidleisiodd y Cynulliad arno’n unfrydol er mwyn sicrhau nad oes arnom angen cerdyn adnabod i gael mynediad at wasanaethau a ariennir gan y Cynulliad, nid oes dim yn ‘Cymru’n Un’ i warantu y bydd yr ymrwymiad hwn yn parhau. Yr wyf yn gobeithio mai rhywbeth sydd wedi ei hepgor yw hynny. A wnaiff y Llywodraeth sicrhau bod pobl yn dal i gael triniaeth iechyd yng Nghymru ar sail eu hanghenion, ac nid ar sail a yw’r darn priodol o blastig ganddynt yn eu waledi neu eu pŷrsau?

Nid oes cyfeiriad at dai yn y cytundeb. Rhaid inni ganfod ffyrdd o ryddhau grymoedd cyllido er mwyn darparu tai fforddiadwy mewn ffyrdd mwy buddiol. Nid oes cyfeiriad yn y ddogfen at ddefnyddio arbenigedd cymdeithasau tai a mentrau cymdeithasol a defnyddio’u potensial o ran buddsoddi, ac at ffyrdd pwysig o ddatblygu’n stoc tai fforddiadwy a gwella hawliau ac amodau tenantiaid. Mae arnom angen rhagor o’r math hwn o fuddsoddi, a byddwn yn croesawu datganiad gennych ar y mater hwnnw.

Gallwn siarad am feysydd eraill, ond yr wyf am ganolbwyntio ar y ddau faes cyfansoddiadol y cyfeiriasoch atynt ar ddiwedd eich datganiad. Byddwn yn chwarae rhan lawn, fel y byddech yn disgwyl, ar gomisiwn a chonfensiwn y Cynulliad, ond yr wyf am ofyn cwestiwn a ofynnais yn y Cyfarfod Llawn olaf cyn gwyliau’r haf, ar y confensiwn ar ragor o bwerau i’r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Mae’r cwestiwn yn syml: ai

the convention to pave the way for the Welsh public to support a referendum for a 'yes' vote, or is it to define the best date for a 'yes' vote? That is a crucial distinction, because many people, including some from your own party, say that this convention could be seen as a blocking mechanism to avoid having a referendum on powers at an early stage. Can you give an indication of what the terms of reference will include—will they contain both views and therefore keep both sides happy?

Finally, I note that there is nothing in the document about enhancing democracy in local government by changing the voting system. It is not surprising, but it is something to which we will hold strongly and which we hold dear. It is important that the people of Wales have the representatives that they voted for.

The First Minister: Thank you for your detailed questions. There is perhaps a misunderstanding on your part that 'One Wales', which Ieuan and I formally co-signed this morning, is an outcome of budget procedures. The budget round has just started—I believe that the first formal meeting was held last week—and there is slightly more uncertainty about the budget round this year in the absence of a published comprehensive spending review document until a couple of weeks hence; it is normally available to us on the last day of the parliamentary term in Westminster in late July. You must still have a budget round, so the various omissions to which you referred are matters that will come up in the normal process of a budget round. What you see as omissions are matters that Ministers will raise; they may not be mentioned in 'One Wales' because the document is not saying, 'You do not need a budget round now because it is all in 'One Wales'—just read it from there'. The allocation of public money in devolved administrations cannot possibly work on that basis, so there is a budget round and 'One Wales', and both need to be regarded as important processes for implementation.

pwrpas y confensiwn yw paratoi'r ffordd fel bod pobl Cymru'n cefnogi refferendwm i gael pleidlais 'ie', ynteu penderfynu ynglŷn â'r dyddiad gorau ar gyfer pleidlais 'ie'? Mae gwahaniaeth pwysig rhwng y ddau, oherwydd y mae llawer o bobl, gan gynnwys rhai o'ch plaid chi, yn dweud y gallai'r confensiwn hwn gael ei weld fel mecanwaith atal er mwyn osgoi cael refferendwm ar bwerau yn rhy gynnar. A allwch roi rhyw syniad beth fydd yn y cylch gorchwyl—a fydd yn cynnwys y ddau safbwynt ac felly'n cadw'r ddwy ochr yn hapus?

Yn olaf, sylwaf nad oes dim yn y ddogfen am wella democratiaeth mewn llywodraeth leol drwy newid y system bleidleisio. Nid yw'n syndod, ond mae hwn yn fater y byddwn yn ei gefnogi i'r carn ac sy'n agos iawn at ein calonnau. Mae'n bwysig i bobl Cymru gael y cynrychiolwyr y maent wedi pleidleisio drostynt.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch ichi am eich cwestiynau manwl. Efallai eich bod wedi camddeall a'ch bod yn tybio bod 'Cymru'n Un', a arwyddwyd ar y cyd y bore yma gan Ieuan a minnau, yn ffrwyth gweithdrefnau cyllidebol. Mae cylch y gyllideb newydd ddechrau—credaf fod y cyfarfod ffurfiol cyntaf wedi'i gynnal yr wythnos diwethaf—ac mae ychydig bach mwy o ansicrwydd ynglŷn â chylch y gyllideb eleni gan na fydd yr adolygiad cynhwysfawr o wariant yn cael ei gyhoeddi am wythnos neu ddwy eto; mae ar gael fel rheol ar ddiwrnod olaf y tymor seneddol yn San Steffan yn niwedd mis Gorffennaf. Mae'n rhaid cael cylch cyllideb, felly mae'r amrywiol bwyntiau a hepgorwyd y cyfeiriasoch atynt yn faterion a fydd yn codi ym mhroses arferol cylch cyllideb. Mae'r hyn sydd, yn eich golwg chi, yn bwyntiau sydd wedi'u hepgor, yn faterion y bydd Gweinidogion yn eu codi; efallai nad ydynt wedi'u cynnwys yn 'Cymru'n Un' oherwydd nid yw'r ddogfen yn dweud, 'Nid oes arnoch angen cylch cyllideb yn awr oherwydd y mae'r cyfan yn 'Cymru'n Un'—darllenwch y cyfan yno'. Ni ellir dyrannu arian cyhoeddus mewn gweinyddiaethau datganoledig ar sail hynny, felly ceir cylch cyllideb a 'Cymru'n Un', ac mae angen ystyried y naill a'r llall fel prosesau pwysig i'w gweithredu.

On the question of the convention, anyone who remembers campaigning for a 'yes' vote in 1979 and 1997 will know that the key aspect that the convention must look at is the type of quicksilver quality about Welsh public opinion where people might say one thing in an opinion poll but they might do something different if presented with the choice in a referendum, when it is suddenly deadly serious. It is about trying to arrive at a position whereby you do not make an irrevocable decision to have a referendum just at the point when Welsh public opinion, in terms of what the electorate would do in a referendum, will not confirm the situation as it appeared to be from opinion polls, as then you have descended to the tunnel from which there is no retreat because you have chosen the date for the referendum. It is about trying to find out what it is that makes Welsh public opinion have this strange quality, whereby the public says, 'Oh yes, we are all in favour of additional powers' but, in a referendum, that can evaporate like snow in the spring. That is why we have to have the convention: to explore in civic society the best way possible of ensuring that Welsh public opinion really is prepared for a 'yes' vote in a referendum.

On the renewable electricity target and the energy route-map, there is an energy route-map out there that people have commented on, and clearly there cannot be too much by way of delay in achieving renewable energy targets because you cannot do it all in the last year of a set period. We want to ensure that the industries that will provide the renewable energies have a reasonable carrot of tenders that they can go for, or of areas where they know that there will be an element of public revenue subsidy towards meeting the higher costs of renewable energy. They need to know that it is going to happen so that they do not leave it all until year 10 of a 10-year programme. That would not achieve anything because there would be no capacity to deliver. Therefore, you are being a bit unfair in what you say about renewable energy. It is an area where we have a planning responsibility but over which a great deal of power is retained in Westminster.

O ran y confensiwn, bydd pawb sy'n cofio ymgyrchu dros bleidlais 'ie' yn 1979 ac 1997 yn gwybod mai'r brif agwedd y mae'n rhaid i'r confensiwn edrych arni yw bod y farn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru fel arian byw, lle y gallai pobl fod yn dweud un peth mewn arolygon barn ond yn gwneud rhywbeth gwahanol o gael y dewis mewn refferendwm, pan fydd yn fater cwbl ddiffrifol yn sydyn iawn. Mae a wnelo â cheisio dod at sefyllfa lle nad ydych yn gwneud penderfyniad didroi'n-ôl i gynnal refferendwm ar adeg pan nad yw'r farn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru, o ran yr hyn a wnâi'r etholwyr mewn refferendwm, am gadarnhau'r sefyllfa fel yr oedd yn ymddangos yn y polau piniwn, oherwydd y byddwch wedi disgyn erbyn hynny i'r twnnel nad oes troi'n ôl oddi wrtho oherwydd y byddwch wedi dewis dyddiad y refferendwm. Mae a wnelo â cheisio canfod yr hyn sy'n rhoi'r briodwedd ryfedd honno i'r farn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru, pan fydd y cyhoedd yn dweud, 'O ydym, yr ydym o blaid pwerau ychwanegol' ond mewn refferendwm, gall hynny ddiffannu megis eira yn y gwanwyn. Dyna pam mae angen y confensiwn arnom: er mwyn archwilio o fewn y gymdeithas ddinesig y ffordd orau posibl o sicrhau bod y farn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn wirioneddol barod i bleidleisio 'ie' mewn refferendwm.

O ran y targed ynghylch trydan adnewyddadwy a'r map llwybr ynni, mae map llwybr ynni i'w gael ac mae pobl wedi cyflwyno sylwadau yn ei gylch, ac mae'n amlwg na allwn oedi o ran cyflawni targedau ynni adnewyddadwy oherwydd ni ellir gwneud y cyfan ym mlwyddyn olaf rhyw gyfnod penodol. Yr ydym am sicrhau bod tendrau rhesymol ar gael yn abwyd i'r diwydiannau fynd amdano, neu feysydd y byddant yn gwybod bod peth cymhorthdal refeniw cyhoeddus ar gael at gostau uwch ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae angen iddynt wybod ei fod am ddigwydd fel na fyddant yn gadael popeth tan flwyddyn 10 rhaglen 10 mlynedd. Ni fyddai hynny'n cyflawni dim oherwydd na fyddai dim capasiti i gyflawni. Felly, yr ydych braidd yn annheg o ran yr hyn a ddywedwch ynghylch ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae'n faes lle y mae gennym gyfrifoldeb o ran cynllunio ond y mae llawer iawn o'r pŵer drosto'n aros yn San Steffan.

On housing and the issue of affordable housing, the 6,500 affordable homes that we have committed to in 'One Wales' is an extremely important priority for us.

You also mentioned identity cards and conditionality of health service treatment. I have seen no proposals under which treatment would be conditional upon identity cards. I know that it has been spoken about, but it is not in front of us at the moment.

On your point about Carwyn's duties, I made it clear earlier today that he does not have budget or policy responsibilities, but, beyond that, there are areas that he is free to deal with without in any way infringing upon the sanctity of the independence of the Counsel General's legal advice to Ministers, and that is how you should interpret his role.

I am pleased that you welcome the convention and that your party will play a full part in it. I confirm that there are no proposals for change in the voting system in local government.

Helen Mary Jones: Thank you for your statement, First Minister, and I join my voice to those who have already welcomed you back to the Chamber. I am pleased to see you fully restored to health.

I take this opportunity to congratulate all the new Ministers and Deputy Ministers on their appointment, and the previous Ministers and Deputy Ministers on their reappointment, and wish them all well in their endeavours to deliver on the progressive and radical programme of Government that has been agreed between our two parties: 'One Wales'—[*Interruption.*]

I also take the opportunity—with the assistance of my friend Alun Cairns—to assure the leader of the opposition that this will not be more of the same. I have no doubt that he and his colleagues will be monitoring the situation carefully to ensure that it is not.

It gives me particular pleasure to congratulate and welcome the Plaid Cymru members of the ministerial team. It is a historic moment for our party and for Wales to see a team of

O ran tai a mater tai fforddiadwy, mae'r 6,500 o gartrefi fforddiadwy yr ydym wedi ymrwmo iddynt yn 'Cymru'n Un' yn flaenoriaeth hynod bwysig inni.

Soniasoch am gardiau adnabod hefyd ac amodau ynglŷn â thriniaeth gan y gwasanaeth iechyd. Nid wyf wedi gweld dim cynigion a fyddai'n gwneud cardiau adnabod yn amod triniaeth. Gwn fod sôn wedi bod am hynny, ond nid yw o'n blaenau ar hyn o bryd.

O ran eich pwynt ynghylch dyletswyddau Carwyn, esboniais yn glir yn gynharach heddiw nad oes ganddo gyfrifoldebau ynghylch cyllidebau na pholisïau, ond, y tu hwnt i hynny, mae meysydd yn bodoli y mae'n rhydd i ddelio â hwy heb amharu dim ar annibyniaeth y cyngor cyfreithiol a rydd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol i Weinidogion, a dyna sut y dylech ddehongli ei rôl.

Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn croesawu'r confensiwn ac y bydd eich plaid yn chwarae rhan lawn ynddo. Yr wyf yn cadarnhau nad oes cynigion i newid system bleidleisio llywodraeth leol.

Helen Mary Jones: Diolch am eich datganiad, Brif Weinidog, ac ychwanegaf fy llais innau at y rhai sydd eisoes wedi eich croesawu'n ôl i'r Siambr. Yr wyf yn falch o'ch gweld yn iach unwaith eto.

Yr wyf am fanteisio ar y cyfle i longyfarch y Gweinidogion a'r Dirprwy Weinidogion newydd oll ar gael eu penodi, a'r Gweinidogion a'r Dirprwy Weinidogion blaenorol ar gael eu hailbenodi, a dymunaf yn dda iddynt yn eu hymdrechion i gyflawni'r rhaglen flaengar a radical ar gyfer Llywodraeth y cytunwyd arni gan y ddwy blaid: 'Cymru'n Un'—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Yr wyf hefyd am fanteisio ar y cyfle—gyda chymorth fy nghyfaill Alun Cairns—i sicrhau arweinydd yr wrthblaid nad gwneud mwy o'r un peth yw'r bwriad. Yr wyf yn gwbl sicr y bydd ef a'i gyd-Aelodau'n monitro'r sefyllfa'n ofalus i sicrhau nad felly y bydd hi.

Pleser o'r mwyaf imi yw llongyfarch a chroesawu aelodau Plaid Cymru o dîm y Gweinidogion. Mae'n foment hanesyddol i'n plaid ac i Gymru wrth weld tîm o

Plaid Ministers acting in partnership to deliver on such crucial areas of policy as the economy, rural affairs, heritage and housing. We are already seeing you make a difference.

Diolch yn fawr ichi am fod mor barod i wasanaethu a llongyfarchiadau i chi i gyd.

I am grateful to the First Minister for highlighting some of the key elements in the 'One Wales' programme and take this opportunity to raise a few specific questions. In the time allowed it is only possible to touch on a few elements. I first invite the First Minister to correct a minor inaccuracy in his statement. Will you confirm that Carl Sargeant is the Labour chief whip and not the Government chief whip? We have an able chief whip of our own in Chris Franks and it would be useful, for the record, to clarify that point.

3.50 p.m.

You mentioned the rural health plan in your statement, which, of course, is welcome. I ask for your assurance that it will be developed swiftly to enable the effective development and co-ordination of health provision in our rural communities.

I welcome the reference, as others have, to the independent commission on funding. Can you assure us that this commission will be given broad terms of reference that will enable it to examine, as well as the presenting issue of the Barnett formula, longer-term options to include tax-varying powers for this Assembly?

You mentioned the need to secure the widest possible support for the devolved Government and I welcome your reference to the constitutional convention that your Government will establish to win support for further devolution. In doing so, I draw your attention to the opinion research that was published yesterday, showing that far from dipping up and down, support for a proper Parliament in Wales has grown steadily over the last 10 years and that there is now majority support for it and devolution is the settled will of the Welsh people. In that context, can you tell us what the timescale is

Weinidogion Plaid Cymru'n gweithredu mewn partneriaeth i gyflawni mewn meysydd allweddol megis yr economi, materion gwledig, treftadaeth a thai. Yr ydym eisoes yn eich gweld yn gwneud gwahaniaeth.

Thank you for being so ready to serve and congratulations to you all.

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Prif Weinidog am dynnu sylw at rai o brif elfennau rhaglen 'Cymru'n Un' ac yr wyf am fanteisio ar y cyfle hwn i ofyn rhai cwestiynau penodol. Yn yr amser a ganiateir dim ond at ychydig o elfennau y mae'n bosibl cyfeirio. Yn gyntaf gofynnaf i'r Prif Weinidog gywiro gwall bach yn ei ddatganiad. A wnewch gadarnhau mai prif chwip Llafur yw Carl Sargeant yn hytrach na phrif chwip y Llywodraeth? Mae gennym brif chwip abl ein hunain sef Chris Franks a byddai'n fuddiol egluro'r pwynt hwnnw, er mwyn i bawb gael gwybod.

Soniasoch am y cynllun iechyd gwledig yn eich datganiad, ac wrth reswm, da o beth yw hwnnw. Gofynnaf am sicrwydd gennych y caiff ei ddatblygu'n gyflym er mwyn gallu datblygu a chydlynu'r ddarpariaeth iechyd yn effeithiol yn ein cymunedau gwledig.

Croesawaf y cyfeiriad, fel y mae eraill wedi gwneud, at y comisiwn annibynnol ar gyllid. A allwch roi sicrwydd inni y caiff y comisiwn hwn gylch gorchwyl eang a fydd yn fodd iddo archwilio, yn ogystal â mater pwysig fformiwla Barnett, opsiynau mwy hirdymor, gan gynnwys pwerau amrywio trethi ar gyfer y Cynulliad hwn?

Soniasoch am yr angen i sicrhau'r gefnogaeth ehangaf posibl ar gyfer y Llywodraeth ddatganoledig a chroesawaf eich cyfeiriad at y confensiwn cyfansoddiadol y bydd eich Llywodraeth yn ei sefydlu i ennill cefnogaeth o blaid rhagor o ddatganoli. Wrth wneud hynny, tynnaf eich sylw at yr ymchwil ar farn pobl a gyhoeddwyd ddoe, a ddengys nad yw'r gefnogaeth i Senedd i Gymru wedi mynd i fyny ac i lawr ond yn hytrach wedi tyfu'n gyson dros y 10 mlynedd diwethaf a bellach fod mwyafrif o'i phlaid ac mai datganoli yw dymuniad sefydledig pobl Cymru. Yn hynny o beth, a allwch ddweud

likely to be for the establishment of the convention? If you cannot do so today, can you give us some indication of when you may be able to do so?

Finally, again with reference to timescales, you mentioned, rightly, that not everything in 'One Wales' will or can be delivered in year 1 or 2. Is it therefore your Government's intention to publish a longer-term timetable, prioritising delivery on the commitments contained in 'One Wales', and, if so, at what stage might such a timetable be published?

The First Minister: Thank you for your good wishes. I share in your congratulations to all of those who are either retaining their positions or have been reappointed, or have come into Government for the first time.

On the two questions of the convention and the commission, I strongly commended the points made yesterday on the amount of support for the two variants of the devolution family, as it were. That perhaps is a fairly remarkable achievement over the 10 years since 1997. I believe that the same question has been asked and that support from the Welsh public for the two devolution-type options, if you accumulate the total, has increased in the opinion polls from 47 per cent in 1997 to 71 per cent in the most recent poll. However, the point remains, as I said to Mike German, of how you try to work out from those polls what the support would be for a referendum under Part 4 of the Government of Wales Act 2006. The issue is whether people would feel in the same way in a referendum. That is the key point. One of the convention's jobs is to try to get at this strange quality, because if you consider the results of the opinion poll before the 1997 referendum and the wafer-thin majority, you can see that there was a big difference between what people said in opinion polls and how they actually voted in the referendum.

That also has a bearing on your point about the commission relating to funding, particularly the issue on tax-varying powers. The shadow of tax-varying powers might well affect the outcome of a referendum

wrthym beth yw'r amserlen debygol ar gyfer sefydlu'r confensiwn? Oni allwch wneud hynny heddiw, a allwch roi rhyw syniad inni ynglŷn â phryd y byddwch yn gallu gwneud hynny?

Yn olaf, a chan gyfeirio unwaith eto at amserlenni, soniasoch, yn ddigon teg, na fydd modd cyflawni popeth sydd yn 'Cymru'n Un' ym mlwyddyn 1 neu 2. A yw'n fwrriad felly gan eich Llywodraeth gyhoeddi amserlen fwy hirdymor, gan flaenoriaethu ynghylch yr ymrwymadau sydd yn 'Cymru'n Un', ac, os felly, pryd y câi amserlen o'r fath ei chyhoeddi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch am eich dymuniadau da. Yr wyf, fel chithau, yn llongyfarch y rhai sydd naill ai wedi cadw eu swyddi neu wedi eu hailbenodi, a'r rhai sydd yn y Llywodraeth am y tro cyntaf.

O ran y ddau gwestiwn ynghylch y confensiwn a'r comisiwn, cymeradwyais yn gryf y pwyntiau a wnaed ddoe ynglŷn â maint y gefnogaeth sydd i'r ddau amrywiad ar deulu datganoli, fel petai. Efallai fod hynny'n gyflawniad eithaf nodedig dros y 10 mlynedd ers 1997. Credaf i'r un cwestiwn gael ei ofyn a bod cefnogaeth pobl Cymru i ddau opsiwn datganoli, petaech yn cronni'r cyfanswm, wedi cynyddu yn y polau piniwn o 47 y cant yn 1997 i 71 y cant yn y pól piniwn diweddaraf. Fodd bynnag, erys y pwynt, fel y dywedais wrth Mike German, ynglŷn â cheisio canfod yn ôl y polau hynny faint o gefnogaeth a fyddai i refferendwm dan Ran 4 Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006. Y cwestiwn yw a fyddai pobl yn teimlo yr un fath mewn refferendwm. Hynny yw'r pwynt allweddol. Un o ddibenion y confensiwn yw ceisio dirmad y nodwedd ryfedd hon, oherwydd os ystyriwch ganlyniadau'r pól piniwn a gynhaliwyd cyn refferendwm 1997 a'r mwyafrif tila, gallwch weld bod gwahaniaeth mawr rhwng yr hyn a ddywedodd pobl mewn polau piniwn a'r ffordd y gwnaethant bleidleisio yn y refferendwm go iawn.

Mae hynny'n berthnasol i'r pwynt a wnaethoch ynglŷn â'r comisiwn ar gyllid, yn enwedig mater pwerau amrywio trethi. Mae'n eithaf posibl y gallai cysgod y pwerau amrywio trethi effeithio ar ganlyniad

under Part 4. In other words, the fear of it being a tax-raising issue might have a bearing on the outcome of that referendum when it is eventually held. Therefore, we have to tread carefully in that area. I do not want to confine the work of the commission on funding, but we must remember that that commission and the convention on the Part 4 referendum will work pretty much in parallel.

On timing, both of them are high priorities, but you have to have the right people in place, and approaching the right people and ensuring that they are broadly acceptable, not just to Plaid Cymru and Labour, but across the floor and to civic society outside, is also important. They need to be people of esteem, who can carry this forward without seeming to be partisan about it, although we would not expect anyone with outright opposition to any of the possibilities being explored to want to serve in such a position.

I welcome your comments on the rural health plan. The whole issue in the run up to the 1997 referendum is whether rural Wales feared, with any validity, that it would be strong-armed by the big battalions from the more heavily populated areas, such as industrial south Wales or north-east Wales. We believe not, but sometimes you have to reassure people that equal priority is given to more sparsely populated areas, which do not have the numbers, shall we say. Likewise, you must ensure that people in industrial areas do not somehow believe that certain aspects of life in rural Wales will be rammed down their throats. You must be a broker in service to form an effective Government, and ensure that people realise that everybody shares in Wales as a whole, even though their particular part of Wales may have special characteristics. I am grateful for your contribution, which was made in a constructive spirit.

Alun Cairns: I congratulate the First Minister on his view of 'One Wales', but I must express some reservations—particularly about the funding of the programme. Forgive me for interpreting some conflicting messages from the Welsh Assembly Government, and from the First Minister

refferendwm dan Ran 4. Mewn geiriau eraill, gallai ofn mater codi trethi gael effaith ar ganlyniad y refferendwm hwnnw pan gaiff ei gynnal yn y pen draw. Felly, rhaid inni droedio'n ofalus yn hynny o beth. Nid wyf am gyfyngu gwaith y comisiwn ar gyllid, ond rhaid cofio y bydd y comisiwn hwnnw a'r confensiwn ar y refferendwm Rhan 4 fwy neu lai'n cydreddeg â'i gilydd.

O ran amseru, maent ill dau'n flaenoriaethau uchel, ond rhaid sicrhau bod y bobl iawn ar gael, ac mae'n bwysig ymgynraedd at y bobl iawn a sicrhau eu bod yn dderbyniol yn gyffredinol, nid yn unig i Blaid Cymru ac i Lafur, ond drwyddi draw ac i'r gymdeithas ddinesig y tu allan, hefyd. Rhaid iddynt fod yn bobl uchel eu parch, a all fwrw ymlaen â hyn heb ymddangos yn bleidiol yn ei gylch, er na fyddem yn disgwyl y byddai neb sy'n gwbl wrthwynebus i unrhyw un o'r posibilïadau sydd dan sylw am gyflawni gwaith o'r fath.

Croesawaf eich sylwadau ynglŷn â'r cynllun iechyd gwledig. Y cwestiwn pennaf cyn refferendwm 1997 oedd a oedd ofn ar y Gymru wledig, boed hynny'n ddilys ai peidio, a gâi ei gorfodi gan y lluoedd mawrion yn yr ardaloedd mwy poblog, megis de Cymru ddiwydiannol neu ogledd-ddwyrain Cymru. Credwn nad felly y mae, ond weithiau rhaid i chi sicrhau pobl y rhoddir yr un flaenoriaeth i'r ardaloedd llai poblog, er nad oes ynnddynt yr un niferoedd, dyweder. Yn yr un modd, rhaid sicrhau na fydd pobl yr ardaloedd diwydiannol yn credu rywfodd y cânt eu gorfodi i dderbyn rhai agweddau ar fywyd y Gymru wledig. Rhaid i chi fod yn frocer sy'n gwasanaethu er mwyn ffurfio Llywodraeth effeithiol, a sicrhau bod pobl yn sylweddoli bod pawb yn rhannu yng Nghymru gyfan, er efallai fod gan eu rhan neilltuol hwy o Gymru briodweddau arbennig. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich cyfraniad, a wnaethpwyd mewn ysbryd adeiladol.

Alun Cairns: Yr wyf am longyfarch y Prif Weinidog am ei farn ynghylch 'Cymru'n Un', ond rhaid imi fynegi rhai amheuon—yn enwedig ynglŷn â chyllido'r rhaglen. Maddeuwch imi am ddehongli rhai negeseuon anghyson o du Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, ac o du'r Prif Weinidog

today. In relation to the private finance initiative, he talked earlier about schools in Maesteg and Newport that are to be financed by a PFI project. However, those schools were commissioned some considerable time ago, and the message that came from the Minister responsible for education immediately before recess was that he did not want to mortgage our children's future. However, the newly appointed Deputy First Minister, on that occasion, talked about a bonding—[*Laughter.*] Sorry, a financial bond—perhaps there is a need for some bonding sessions, I do not know.

He mentioned a financial bond, which, of course, would need to be repaid over some 25 to 50 years, and could be interpreted as mortgaging our children's future. Would the First Minister therefore highlight how he proposes to finance the commitments in 'One Wales', and would he also commit, during the budget round—which all independent analysts believe will be a tight spending round—to identifying from where the 'One Wales' commitments will be financed, so that there is absolute transparency around that?

Would he also state on the record his view about private investment in public services? 'One Wales' absolutely rules it out in relation to health, but every GP practice is a private business, and the vast majority of GP surgeries will have been financed privately by the GP, which is private funding in health services. That system has operated for a considerable time in a generally effective manner, so would he state on the record his view about private money with regard to delivering many of the commitments in 'One Wales'?

The First Minister: That is a good set of questions, but the answers are fairly clear, where they can be given in advance of an actual budget round. I cannot do a budget round here today, in a 60-second-version-of-Shakespeare way; the budget round will involve months of serious negotiation. You are absolutely right about the independent commentators—they are not wrong. It will be a tight budget round, there can be no shadow

heddiw. O ran y fenter cyllid preifat, cyfeiriodd yn gynharach at ysgolion ym Maesteg a Chasnewydd sydd i'w cyllido gan brosiect menter cyllid preifat. Fodd bynnag, cafodd yr ysgolion hynny eu comisiynu beth amser yn ôl, a neges y Gweinidog sydd â gofal dros addysg yn union cyn y toriad oedd nad oedd am forgeisio dyfodol ein plant. Fodd bynnag, soniodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a oedd newydd ei benodi, y pryd hynny, am fondio—[*Chwerthin.*] Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, am fond ariannol—efallai fod angen sesiynau bondio, ni wn.

Soniodd am fond ariannol y byddai angen ei ad-dalu, wrth reswm, dros 25 i 50 o flynyddoedd, ac y gellid ei ddehongli fel morgeisio dyfodol ein plant. Felly, a allai'r Prif Weinidog bwysleisio sut y mae'n cynnig ariannu ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un', ac a wnaiff fentro nodi hefyd, yn ystod cylch y gyllideb—y mae pob dadansoddwr annibynnol yn credu y bydd yn gylch tyn—o ble y caiff ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un' eu hariannu, fel y bydd tryloywder llwyr ynghylch hynny?

A wnaiff ddatgan hefyd fel y bydd pawb yn gwybod beth yw ei farn ynglŷn â buddsoddiad preifat mewn gwasanaethau cyhoeddus? Mae 'Cymru'n Un' yn ymwrthod yn llwyr â hynny ynglŷn ag iechyd, ond mae practis pob meddyg teulu'n fusnes preifat, a bydd y mwyafrif helaeth o feddygfeydd meddygon teulu wedi cael eu hariannu'n breifat gan y meddyg teulu, ac arian preifat yn y gwasanaethau iechyd yw hynny. Mae'r system honno wedi bod ar waith ers amser maith ac yn effeithiol at ei gilydd, felly a wnaiff ddatgan er mwyn i bawb gael gwybod beth yw ei farn ynglŷn ag arian preifat o ran cyflawni llawer o ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un'?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyna i chi set dda o gwestiynau, ond mae'r atebion yn weddol glir, lle y bo modd eu rhoi cyn i gylch y gyllideb ddechrau mewn gwirionedd. Ni allaf lunio cylch cyllideb yma heddiw, mewn modd a fyddai'n ymdebygu i wneud fersiwn o Shakespeare mewn 60 eiliad; bydd cylch y gyllideb yn cynnwys misoedd o gyd-drafod o ddifrif. Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle ynglŷn â'r sylwebyddion annibynnol—nid yw'r hyn a

of a doubt about that, even though we do not have the spending review yet, because its announcement has been delayed until next month. However, it will be tight; we know that, and the variation is from very tight to medium-tight, not from tight to pretty good.

However, that does not mean that I can say to you this afternoon that the 'One Wales' commitments will all go through the budget round just like that this year, and so on—the issue about how to approach a budget round is about prioritisation, and that is what each Minister will do as they conduct their negotiations with Andrew Davies. Then there is the broad shape of the strategy, and Ieuan and I will have an overarching, strategic view about the delivery of 'One Wales'.

On PFI, so far as I am aware those schools have not been started, but neither have they been taken off the agenda because of what has been said about the use of private finance in the delivery of public services. They are current schemes that, so far as I am aware, have not been started, and I do not believe that we have changed our minds about our ability to give the credit necessary to fund the PFI commitments that Bridgend and Newport councils are anxious to undertake to construct the new Welsh school in Maesteg. I cannot recall the details about the replacement English-medium school, but there is the Durham road school in Newport.

4.00 p.m.

You asked about private investment in the delivery of public services in health. No change is proposed in the independent status of GPs and dentists. They are independent contractors and have been as such since 1948 when the national health service started. Save for the fact that we expect the use of salaried GPs to expand—it is still pretty small at the moment—but it is a very popular career choice, where available, among graduates of medical schools who want to get into general practice. This is partially to do with the social change, or, rather, the gender change among GPs, now that 70 per cent of new GPs are

ddywedant yn anghywir. Bydd cylch y gyllideb yn un dynn, nid oes amheuaeth o gwbl ynghylch hynny, er na chawsom yr adolygiad ar wariant eto, oherwydd gohiriwyd ei gyhoeddi tan y mis nesaf. Fodd bynnag, bydd yn dynn; gwyddom hynny, ac mae'n amrywio o'r tyn iawn i'r gweddol dynn, ac nid o'r tyni'r gweddol dda.

Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n golygu y gallaf ddweud wrthy ch y prynhawn yma y bydd holl ymrwymadau 'Cymru'n Un' yn mynd drwy gylch y gyllideb yn rhwydd eleni, ac yn y blaen—drwy flaenoriaethu y mae gwneud cyllideb, a bydd pob Gweinidog yn gwneud hynny wrth iddynt gyd-drafod ag Andrew Davies. Yna mae mater siâp bras y strategaeth, a bydd Ieuan a minnau'n bwrw golwg strategol, eang dros gyflawni 'Cymru'n Un'.

O ran y fenter cyllid preifat, hyd y gwn nid yw'r ysgolion hynny wedi dechrau eto, ond nid ydynt wedi eu dwyn oddi ar yr agenda chwaith oherwydd yr hyn a ddywedwyd ynghylch defnyddio arian preifat i gyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Cynlluniau cyfredol ydynt sydd heb ddechrau eto hyd y gwn, ac ni chredaf inni newid ein meddyliau ynglŷn â'n gallu i roddi'r credyd angenrheidiol i ariannu ymrwymadau'r fenter cyllid preifat y mae cynghorau Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chasnewydd yn awyddus i ymgymryd â hwy i adeiladu'r ysgol Gymraeg newydd ym Maesteg. Ni allaf gofio'r manylion am yr ysgol cyfrwng Saesneg newydd, ond mae ysgol Heol Durham yng Nghasnewydd yn bosibilrwydd.

Gofynasoch am fuddsoddiad preifat ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ym maes iechyd. Ni chynigir newid statws annibynnol meddygon teulu a deintyddion. Maent yn gontractwyr annibynnol ac felly y maent wedi bod ers 1948 pan ddechreuodd y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Er ein bod yn disgwyl cynnydd mewn defnyddio meddygon teulu ar gyflog—ychydig iawn sydd ar hyn o bryd—mae'n ddewis poblogaidd iawn o ran gyrfa, pan fydd ar gael, ar gyfer graddedigion ysgolion meddygol sydd am fynd i faes practis cyffredinol. Mae'r cynnydd yn deillio'n rhannol o newid cymdeithasol, neu,

women. Many of them do not want to make the same equity commitment to a financial stake in a practice of the kind that you describe, and many of them would prefer to have a five-year salary or a three-year salary deal. We expect that to expand. It has been remarkably successful, especially in the south Wales Valleys, and it has helped to solve recruitment difficulties in that area. However, we expect the broad thrust of independent contracting for the delivery of GP and dental services to continue as before.

Peter Black: Mike German raised a number of issues that he identified as missing from your statement and from the 'One Wales' document, and I want to ask you about two additional matters, to which I hope that you will be able to add some clarity.

First, you mentioned the foundation phase and Flying Start in your statement. These are welcome programmes, which all parties supported in the previous Assembly and which will certainly improve the quality of education for children up to the age of seven. However, there is no mention of class sizes between the ages of seven and 11, either in your statement or in the 'One Wales' document. You may be aware of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's document, published in the last few days, which highlights the fact that the UK has some of the biggest class sizes in the developed world. First Minister, what additional action is your Government taking, or will be taking, to deal with the issue of class sizes at the junior school level, between the ages of seven and 11?

Secondly, in the previous Assembly, your Government had a clear commitment to a £100 million crime fund to deal with community safety issues across Wales. Again, there was no mention of that in your statement, and I assume that that will carry on as previously. There is a clear issue relating to anti-social behaviour across Wales. This has been approached in the past through the demonisation of young people.

yn hytrach, o newid rhyw meddygon teulu, gan fod 70 y cant o feddygon teulu newydd yn fenywod erbyn hyn. Nid oes ar lawer ohonynt eisiau gwneud yr un ymrwymiad ecwiti i gyfran ariannol mewn practis o'r math a ddisgrifiwch, a byddai'n well gan lawer ohonynt gael cynnig cyflog pum mlynedd neu gyflog tair blynedd. Yr ydym yn disgwyl i hynny ehangu. Mae wedi bod yn hynod lwyddiannus, yn enwedig yng Nghymoedd y de, a bu'n gyfrwng i ddatrys problemau recriwtio yn yr ardal honno. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn disgwyl i batrwm darparu gwasanaethau meddygon teulu a deintyddion trwy gontractio annibynnol barhau megis cynt.

Peter Black: Cododd Mike German sawl mater nad oeddent yn eich datganiad nac yn eich dogfen 'Cymru'n Un', a dymunaf eich holi am ddau fater ychwanegol, yn y gobaith y gallwch fy ngoleuo yn eu cylch.

I ddechrau, cyfeiriasoch at y cyfnod sylfaen a Dechrau'n Deg yn eich datganiad. Mae'r rhain yn rhaglenni i'w croesawu, ac yn rhai a gefnogwyd gan bob plaid yn y Cynulliad blaenorol, a byddant yn sicr yn gwella ansawdd addysg plant hyd at saith oed. Fodd bynnag, ni chyfeirir o gwbl at faint dosbarthiadau plant rhwng saith ac 11 oed, yn eich datganiad nac yn y ddogfen 'Cymru'n Un'. Gwyddoch, o bosibl, am ddogfen y Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd a gyhoeddwyd yn ystod y dyddiau diwethaf hyn, sy'n tynnu sylw at y ffaith mai yn y DU y mae rhai o ddogfeniadau mwyaf y byd datblygedig. Brif Weinidog, pa gamau ychwanegol y mae eich Llywodraeth yn eu cymryd, neu'n bwriadu eu cymryd, i ddelio â maint dosbarthiadau ar lefel ysgol iau, rhwng saith ac 11 oed?

Yn ail, yn y Cynulliad blaenorol, yr oedd gan eich Llywodraeth ymrwymiad clir i gronfa droseddau o £100 miliwn i ymdrin â materion diogelwch cymunedol ledled Cymru. Unwaith yn rhagor, ni chyfeiriwyd at hynny yn eich datganiad, a chymeraf y bydd hynny'n parhau fel cynt. Mae ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn fater amlwg ledled Cymru ac aethpwyd i'r afael ag ef yn y gorffennol drwy bardduo pobl ifanc. Fodd

However, I think that an investment in young people would have a far more positive effect and may help communities to deal with the issues. I ask you to look at measures to provide better facilities for young people in communities across Wales, in the hope that by putting those facilities in place we can assist people who suffer from anti-social behaviour and assist the police in dealing with those issues, by having places to send young people to and through working with young people, rather than having to keep moving them on from street corner to street corner.

The First Minister: Those questions go to the heart of what this administration is all about. I am pleased that you mentioned that there is support for some of these issues, as regards the emphasis on the early years, across the board, inside and outside the administration, and that the two opposition parties are supporting it. One of the last remarks that I made in answer to Nick Bourne in July, at the time of the controversy over David Willets and grammar schools, which I will now reiterate, is how strongly I believe, and I think that we all believe, including David Willets himself, that the conferring of advantage on a child, from the point of view of access to university education and the jobs that tend to follow on from that, actually occurs very early in a child's social development. Sometimes, it even occurs at the time when the child's parents are starting to think about play groups and nurseries at the ages of two and a half or three. It is pretty well embedded that modestly endowed middle-class children have overtaken bright working-class children well before the age of five in terms of their achievements, because of the additional facilities and stimuli at home, and so forth. We are trying to use the foundation phase and Flying Start to ensure that bright working-class kids, or any working-class kids, do not fall behind for the reason that greater stimuli are not available to them because of a lack of parental resources. That is the basis for trying to ensure access to universities and higher and further education colleges and the higher salaries that usually follow as a result. We need to correct the situation from very early in a child's life. I am very pleased to have Liberal Democrat support on that.

bynnag, credaf y byddai buddsoddi mewn pobl ifanc yn cael effaith lawer mwy cadarnhaol a gall helpu cymunedau i ymdopi â'r materion hynny. Gofynnaf ichi edrych ar fesurau i ddarparu gwell cyfleusterau ar gyfer pobl ifanc mewn cymunedau ym mhob cwr o Gymru, yn y gobaith y gallwn, drwy sefydlu'r cyfleusterau hynny, helpu pobl sy'n dioddef yn sgîl ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a helpu'r heddlu i ddelio â'r materion hynny drwy fod â lleoedd i anfon pobl ifanc iddynt a thrwy weithio gyda phobl ifanc, yn hytrach na dim ond eu symud o gornel stryd i gornel stryd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r cwestiynau hynny'n mynd at wraidd hanfod y weinyddiaeth hon. Yr wyf yn falch ichi gyfeirio at y gefnogaeth a geir i rai o'r materion hyn sy'n ymwneud â'r pwyslais ar y blynyddoedd cynnar, yn gyffredinol, y tu mewn a'r tu allan i'r weinyddiaeth, a bod y ddwy blaid yn ei gefnogi. Un o'r sylwadau olaf a wneuthum wrth ateb Nick Bourne ym mis Gorffennaf, adeg y dadlau ynghylch David Willets ac ysgolion gramadeg, ac a ategaf yn awr, yw mor gryf y credaf, a theimlaf ein bod i gyd yn credu hynny, gan gynnwys David Willets ei hun, fod rhoi mantais i blentyn, o safbwynt ei fynediad diweddarach i addysg brifysgol a'r swyddi sy'n dueddol o ddilyn hynny, yn y bôn, yn digwydd yn gynnar iawn yn natblygiad cymdeithasol plentyn. Weithiau, hyd yn oed pan fydd rhieni'n dechrau meddwl am grwpiau chwarae a meithrinfeydd pan fydd plant yn ddwyflwydd a hanner neu dair oed. Derbynnir yn bur helaeth fod plant dosbarth canol gweddol alluog wedi goddiweddyd plant dosbarth gweithiol disglair ymhell cyn iddynt fod yn bump oed o ran eu cyflawniadau, oherwydd y cyfleusterau a'r ysgogiadau ychwanegol sydd ganddynt gartref ac yn y blaen. Yr ydym yn ceisio defnyddio'r cyfnod sylfaen a Dechrau'n Deg i sicrhau nad yw plant dosbarth gweithiol disglair, nac unrhyw blant dosbarth gweithiol, yn colli tir oherwydd nad oes mwy o ysgogiadau ar gael iddynt, oherwydd diffyg adnoddau eu rhieni. Dyna'r sail dros geisio sicrhau mynediad i brifysgolion a cholegau addysg uwch a phellach a'r cyflogau uwch sydd fel arfer yn deillio o hynny. Mae angen inni unioni'r sefyllfa o gyfnod cynnar iawn ym mywyd plentyn. Yr wyf yn falch bod y Democratiaid

Rhyddfrydol yn ein cefnogi yn hynny o beth.

When it comes to the older age group, on the issue of class sizes—although I do not know of the international data to which you referred—I think that the international studies confirm that the class size is less important than the number of qualified adults per learner. That is the key ratio. It is not a matter of how many kids there are in the classroom, but of how many kids there are in relation to the number of qualified adults who are assisting in their education—whether they are qualified teachers or qualified learning support assistants. Therefore, sometimes it is better to put money into that than into changing class sizes. It is widely accepted among educational experts that that is the key ratio: the number of qualified adults to the number of learners. We intend to improve that ratio, because that is where you get the biggest payoff.

On ASBOs, the demonisation of young people, and the youth service, there will be arguments that go on forever in my constituency and elsewhere about youth clubs, outreach workers, the ‘unclubbable’ youth, where we should be working with community safety partnerships, the police, community leaders and shopkeepers on underage drinking and the way in which young people congregate and the threat that that represents, particularly to older people who might want to go to the Spar shop late at night to buy a tin of baked beans or whatever it may be. This is a big problem, but how to deal with it without demonising people is what we are all about. The commitments made to the youth service are not about departing from the principle that the devil makes work for idle hands. If we have a really good youth service, which does not just mean youth clubs, we have the best possible opportunity to avoid young people falling out big time with the older generation—whether they be people who simply do not want a big row outside their house from 20 kids or pensioners who really are frightened to go out at night to do a bit of top-up shopping.

O ran plant hŷn, a maint dosbarthiadau—er nad wyf yn gyfarwydd â'r data rhyngwladol y cyfeiriasoch atynt—credaf fod yr astudiaethau rhyngwladol yn cadarnhau bod maint y dosbarth yn llai pwysig na nifer yr oedolion cymwysedig i bob dysgwr. Hynny yw'r gymhareb allweddol. Nid mater o faint o blant sydd yn yr ystafell ddosbarth ydyw, ond yn hytrach sawl plentyn sydd yno o'i gymharu â nifer yr oedolion cymwysedig sy'n helpu gyda'u haddysg—boed hwy'n athrawon cymwysedig neu'n gynorthwyr cymorth dysgu cymwysedig. O'r herwydd, weithiau mae'n well cyfeirio arian at hynny na newid maint dosbarthiadau. Derbynnir yn helaeth ymhlith arbenigwyr addysgol mai hynny yw'r gymhareb allweddol: nifer yr oedolion cymwysedig ar gyfer nifer y dysgwyr. Yr ydym yn bwriadu gwella'r gymhareb honno, oherwydd dyna lle y ceir y budd mwyaf.

O ran ASBOs, pardduo pobl ifanc, a'r gwasanaeth ieuencid, ceir dadleuon yn dragwyddol yn fy etholaeth a manau eraill ynglŷn â chlybiau ieuencid, gweithwyr allgymorth, yr ieuencid ‘anghymdeithasol’, pryd y dylem fod yn gweithio gyda phartneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol, yr heddlu, arweinwyr cymunedol a siopwyr ar yfed dan oed a'r ffordd y mae pobl ifanc yn cynnull a'r bygythiad y mae hynny'n ei olygu, yn enwedig i bobl hŷn a allai fod am fynd i siop Spar yn hwyr y nos i brynu tun ffa pob neu beth bynnag y bo. Mae hyn yn broblem ddifrifol, ond sut i ddelio â hi heb bardduo pobl yw ein gwaith. Nid yw'r ymrwymadau a wnaed i'r gwasanaeth ieuencid yn golygu cefnu ar yr egwyddor y daw'r diafol o hyd i waith i ddwylo segur. Os oes gennym wasanaeth ieuencid gwirioneddol dda, sy'n golygu mwy na chlybiau ieuencid yn unig, mae'r cyfle gorau posibl gennym i osgoi gweld pobl ifanc yn cael ffræ ddi-droi'n-ôl â'r genhedlaeth hŷn—boed hwy'n bobl nad oes arnynt eisiau cael ffræ danbaid ag ugain o blant y tu allan i'w cartref neu'n bensynwyr sydd yn wirioneddol ofnus ynghylch mynd allan yn y nos i wneud mymryn o siopa brys.

Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes Business Statement and Announcement

The Counsel General and Leader of the House (Carwyn Jones): In addition to the earlier motion to appoint the Counsel General, the other changes to this week's Government business include a statement this afternoon by the Minister for Rural Affairs on foot and mouth disease. In order to accommodate that, I have moved the legislative statement on the proposed affordable housing legislative competence Order, which will be rescheduled shortly. Tomorrow, the Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport will make a statement on the closure of the M4 motorway following the fatal accidents on 2 August and yesterday. Business for the next few weeks is set out in the draft business statement and announcement, which can be found in the agenda papers that are available to Members electronically.

William Graham: Thank you, Leader of the House. I have two questions. First, I ask you, as I did your predecessor, to ensure that information is given to the secretariat as soon as possible so that the revised agenda can be presented at the earliest opportunity. Secondly, I ask you to consider a debate on a shared community for relationship building and charters for unitary authorities and community action in town suburbs.

The Counsel General and Leader of the House (Carwyn Jones): On the second point, I am sure that my colleague, Brian Gibbons, will hear your point. On the revised agenda, it is the intention to provide a revised agenda as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, there are occasions when business is added at the very last minute. That was the case today with committee changes that needed to be made at the earliest opportunity. As experience tells us, the agenda changes from week to week, but as much notice as possible is given to Members. It is my hope that, in future, the revised business statement will be available to the Business Committee as soon as possible, and certainly before the committee begins.

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Carwyn Jones): Yn ychwanegol at y cynnig cynharach i benodi'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol, mae'r newidiadau eraill ym musnes y Llywodraeth yr wythnos hon yn cynnwys datganiad y prynhawn yma gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig ar glwy'r traed a'r genau. Er mwyn neilltuo amser ar gyfer hynny, yr wyf wedi symud y datganiad deddfwriaethol ar y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol arfaethedig am dai fforddiadwy, ac fe'i hailamserlennir yn fuan. Yfory, bydd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth yn gwneud datganiad am gau traffordd yr M4 wedi'r damweiniau angheuol ar 2 Awst a ddoe. Mae busnes yr wythnosau nesaf yn cael ei nodi yn y datganiad a'r chyhoeddiad busnes drafft ac yn y papurau agenda sydd ar gael i Aelodau'n electronig.

William Graham: Diolch, Arweinydd y Tŷ. Mae gennyf ddau gwestiwn. Yn gyntaf, gofynnaf ichi, fel y gofynnais i'ch rhagflaenydd, sicrhau bod gwybodaeth yn cael ei rhoi i'r ysgrifenyddiaeth cyn gynted â phosibl er mwyn gallu cyflwyno agenda ddiwygiedig mor gyflym â phosibl. Yn ail, gofynnaf ichi ystyried dadl ar gydgyuned er mwyn creu cydberthynas a siarteri ar gyfer awdurdodau unedol a gweithredu cymunedol mewn maestrefi.

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Carwyn Jones): O ran yr ail bwynt, yr wyf yn sicr y gwnaiff fy nghyd-Aelod, Brian Gibbons, glywed eich pwynt. Ynghylch yr agenda ddiwygiedig, y bwriad yw darparu agenda ddiwygiedig mor gyflym â phosibl. Yn anffodus, ceir adegau pan ychwanegir busnes ar yr eiliad olaf un. Dyna a ddigwyddodd heddiw gyda newidiadau pwyllgor y bu angen eu gwneud mor gyflym â phosibl. Dengys profiad inni fod yr agenda'n newid o wythnos i wythnos, ond rhoddir cymaint o rybudd â phosibl i'r Aelodau. Yn y dyfodol, yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd y datganiad busnes diwygiedig ar gael i'r Pwyllgor Busnes cyn gynted â phosibl, ac yn sicr cyn i'r pwyllgor ddechrau.

Alun Davies: Yesterday, we received a written statement on flood risk management from the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing. I welcome the statement, particularly in light of the events of the past few months with the weather and the impact that it has had on people in Wales and elsewhere. I would ask for a further statement and a debate on the issue at some point.

4.10 p.m.

I understand that the Minister has ensured that there is a review of the impact in Wales, particularly in Barry and Prestatyn, and that pilot schemes are being funded at present. I understand that a further statement would not be appropriate immediately. However, I have received many representations from constituents in the Ynys Cedwyn part of the upper Swansea valley, where there are real concerns about the designation of flood plain and flood risk management in that area. Those constituents and I would appreciate an opportunity to debate these issues before the TAN 15 revised maps are issued in the new year.

Carwyn Jones: The Environment Agency has a protocol in place whereby if someone feels that their land is being included or categorised wrongly under TAN 15 the agency will send someone out to see whether there is a natural barrier or feature of some kind in the landscape that could cause that land to be re-categorised. I have been involved in those meetings in my capacity as a constituency Member. Nevertheless, the Minister will hear what you say and will look to see whether further statements would be necessary in order to reassure your constituents.

Kirsty Williams: I thank the Leader of the House for making changes to today's business that will allow the statement from the Minister for Rural Affairs. You will be aware, Minister, that, just a few weeks ago, the National Public Health Service for Wales published the report of the outbreak control team into the outbreak of E.coli in Wales and that a number of recommendations were made in that report, one of which referred to

Alun Davies: Ddoe, cawsom ddatganiad ysgrifenedig ar reoli perygl llifogydd gan y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai. Croesawaf y datganiad, yn enwedig yn wyneb digwyddiadau'r misoedd diwethaf gyda'r tywydd a'r effaith a gafodd ar bobl yng Nghymru ac mewn lleoedd eraill. Carwn ofyn am ddatganiad pellach a dadl am y mater ar ryw adeg.

Deallaf fod y Gweinidog wedi sicrhau bod adolygiad o'r effaith yng Nghymru, yn enwedig yn y Barri a Phrestatyn, a bod cynlluniau peilot yn cael eu hariannu ar hyn o bryd. Deallaf na fyddai datganiad pellach yn briodol yn syth. Fodd bynnag, cefais lawer o sylwadau gan etholwyr yn ardal Ynys Cedwyn yng Nghwm Tawe uchaf, lle y ceir pryderon gwirioneddol ynghylch dynodi gorlifdir a rheoli perygl llifogydd yn yr ardal honno. Byddai'r etholwyr hynny a minnau'n croesawu cyfle i drafod y materion hyn cyn i'r mapiau TAN 15 diwygiedig gael eu cyhoeddi yn y flwyddyn newydd.

Carwyn Jones: Mae gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd brotocol sy'n golygu os oes rhywun yn credu bod eu tir yn cael ei gynnwys neu ei gategoreiddio ar gam dan TAN 15, bydd yr asiantaeth yn anfon rhywun i weld a oes rhwystr neu nodwedd naturiol o ryw fath yn y tirlun a allai achosi i'r tir hwnnw gael ei ailgategoreiddio. Bûm yn rhan o'r cyfarfodydd hynny yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Aelod etholaethol. Er hynny, bydd y Gweinidog yn clywed yr hyn a ddywedwch ac yn ceisio gweld a fyddai angen datganiadau pellach er mwyn tawelu meddyliau eich etholwyr.

Kirsty Williams: Diolchaf i Arweinydd y Tŷ am newid y busnes heddiw er mwyn caniatáu'r datganiad gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig. Fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, dim ond ychydig wythnosau sydd ers i Wasanaeth Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cenedlaethol Cymru gyhoeddi ei adroddiad gan y tîm rheoli achosion i'r achosion o E.coli yng Nghymru ac mae nifer o argymhellion wedi eu gwneud yn yr

the poor state of some of the toilet facilities in those schools: the basic lack of amenities such as toilet paper, and soap and hot water with which the children could wash their hands. I am sure that you will agree that it is a shocking indictment in this day and age that some of our schools do not have the basic sanitary facilities to ensure that illnesses of this kind, or any other illnesses, can be adequately controlled. Does the Government intend to make a statement on the report of the outbreak control team and, if so, when will it do that?

During questions to the First Minister today you will have heard many Members expressing concern about the Remploy situation. The First Minister says that he is having ongoing discussions with Westminster about the future of the Remploy factory in Wales. Do you not agree that one of the ways in which the Assembly could help your Government in its discussions with Westminster is to hold a debate here in the Chamber so that we can speak collectively, as a National Assembly, about how important we consider those factories to be to Wales? Surely, that would be grist to the First Minister's mill in his ongoing discussions with Westminster on this important issue.

Carwyn Jones: In terms of the E.coli outbreak we should put into context that the chief medical officer's review concluded that the outbreak was handled well and that public health systems had worked as they should. We must remember that an independent public inquiry will take place, which was delayed necessarily due to decisions that had to be taken by the Crown Prosecution Service in the case. Nevertheless, that public inquiry is now progressing. The Minister will hear what you say, but it may be that a statement following the public inquiry, so that all facts can be put before the Assembly, will be most appropriate. It is right to say that the chief medical officer has conducted a review, but in order to be in full possession of the facts, the public inquiry will need to conclude first.

I know that the view of many Assembly Members is to support the Remploy workers. I know that many Members, including me, in

adroddiad hwnnw, gydag un ohonynt yn cyfeirio at gyflwr gwael rhai o gyfleusterau'r toiledau yn yr ysgolion hynny: diffyg mwynderau sylfaenol fel papur toiled, sebon a dŵr poeth, er mwyn i'r plant allu golchi eu dwylo. Yr wyf yn sicr y cytunwch ei bod yn ddamniol yn yr oes sydd ohoni fod rhai o'n hysgolion heb y cyfleusterau ystafell ymolchi sylfaenol i sicrhau bod modd rheoli salwch o'r math hwn, neu unrhyw salwch arall yn ddigonol. A yw'r Llywodraeth yn bwriadu gwneud datganiad am adroddiad y tîm rheoli achosion ac, os ydyw, pryd y bydd hynny?

Yn ystod y cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog heddiw, clywsoch sawl Aelod yn mynegi pryderon am sefyllfa Remploy. Dywed y Prif Weinidog ei fod yn cynnal trafodaethau parhaus â San Steffan am ddyfodol ffatri Remploy yng Nghymru. Oni chytunwch mai un ffordd y gallai'r Cynulliad helpu eich Llywodraeth yn ei thrafodaethau â San Steffan fyddai cynnal dadl yma yn y Siambr, er mwyn inni ddatgan ag un llais, fel Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, mor bwysig yn ein barn ni yw'r ffatrioedd hynny i Gymru? Yn sicr, byddai hynny'n rhoi grym i ddadleuon y Prif Weinidog yn ei drafodaethau gyda San Steffan ynghylch y mater pwysig hwn.

Carwyn Jones: O ran yr achosion E.coli, dylem gadw mewn cof fod adolygiad y prif swyddog meddygol wedi dod i'r casgliad bod yr achosion wedi'u trin yn dda a bod systemau iechyd cyhoeddus wedi gweithio fel y dylent. Rhaid inni gofio y cynhelir ymchwiliad cyhoeddus annibynnol, a ohiriwyd oherwydd penderfyniadau y bu'n rhaid i Wasanaeth Erlyn y Goron eu gwneud yn yr achos. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus hwnnw'n dod yn ei flaen. Bydd y Gweinidog yn clywed yr hyn a ddywedwch, ond mae'n bosibl mai datganiad yn dilyn yr ymchwiliad cyhoeddus, er mwyn i'r holl ffeithiau gael eu cyflwyno gerbron y Cynulliad, fydd fwyaf priodol. Mae'n gywir dweud bod y prif swyddog meddygol wedi cynnal adolygiad, ond er mwyn cael yr holl ffeithiau, bydd yn rhaid i'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus ddod i ben yn gyntaf.

Gwn mai safbwynt llawer o Aelodau'r Cynulliad yw cefnogi gweithwyr Remploy. Gwn fod sawl Aelod, a minnau'n eu plith, yn

their capacity as constituency Members, have spoken at meetings with those who are concerned about the future of Remploy. Again, as far as the Minister is concerned, the Minister will hear what you say and, I am sure, will keep the Chamber abreast of any developments regarding Remploy and that constituency Members will be well able to put forward their views about the need for a debate.

Mark Isherwood: I will briefly touch upon three points that I hope that you could consider. I endorse the comments about Remploy following communications that I have had with Remploy representatives in Wrexham this summer.

There is general recognition that, for many people who currently or will potentially use Remploy's services, there is a desire to work in the broader community were certain barriers to be removed. However, for some, a sheltered, accessible workplace will still be needed, which is not being factored in, and so I endorse that call.

I also call for time for a debate on social housing grants. We have heard the First Minister refer to the coalition Government's target of providing 6,500 new affordable houses over this Assembly. However, on 3 August, the Assembly Government wrote to housing association consortia referring to a balance of just £70 million for the main development programme for 2008-09 and no allocation whatsoever for do-it-yourself homebuy, the Government's main vehicle for low-cost home ownership. Figures have been provided by Shelter Cymru showing that there are more than 81,000 households on local authority waiting lists in Wales to be put against that 6,500 target. I have received correspondence from a police officer, who is currently relocating to the Metropolitan Police from north Wales because he and his family cannot afford to buy or rent a house there. He is following three experienced officers and says that many more are due to follow. He also said that he is aware of other emergency service workers, such as firefighters, nurses and others, who are in the same predicament. Community Housing Cymru has expressed concern that key-

rhinwedd eu swydd fel Aelodau etholaethol, wedi siarad mewn cyfarfodydd â'r rhai sy'n bryderus am ddyfodol Remploy. Unwaith yn rhagor, o ran y Gweinidog, bydd yn clywed yr hyn a ddywedwch, ac yn sicr daw ag unrhyw newyddion am ddatblygiadau ynghylch Remploy i'r Siambr a bydd Aelodau etholaethol yn cael cyfle i gyflwyno eu barn bod angen dadl.

Mark Isherwood: Cyfeiriaf yn gryno at dri phwynt yr hoffwn ichi eu hystyried. Cymeradwyaf y sylwadau am Remploy, yn sgîl y cyswllt a fu rhyngof a chynrychiolwyr Remploy yn Wrexham yr haf hwn.

Cydnabyddir yn gyffredinol fod gan lawer o bobl sy'n defnyddio gwasanaethau Remploy ar hyn o bryd, neu sy'n debygol o wneud hynny, awydd i weithio yn y gymuned ehangach pe câi rhai rhwystrau eu dileu. Fodd bynnag, i rai, bydd angen gweithle hygrych, gwarchodol o hyd. Nid yw hyn yn cael ei ystyried, ac felly cymeradwyaf yr alwad honno.

Galwaf hefyd am amser i gynnal dadl am grantiau tai cymdeithasol. Clywsom y Prif Weinidog yn cyfeirio at darged y Llywodraeth glymblaid o ddarparu 6,500 o dai newydd fforddiadwy yn ystod y Cynulliad hwn. Fodd bynnag, ar 3 Awst, ysgrifennodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad at gonsortia cymdeithasau tai yn cyfeirio at gyllid o ddim ond £70 miliwn ar gyfer y brif raglen ddatblygu ar gyfer 2008-09 a dim dyraniad o gwbl ar gyfer cymorth prynu i bobl sy'n adeiladu tai eu hunain, sef prif gyfrwng y Llywodraeth ar gyfer perchenogaeth tai cost isel. Darparwyd ffigurau gan Shelter Cymru sy'n dangos bod mwy nag 81,000 o deuluoedd ar restrau aros awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru o'i gymharu â'r targed hwnnw o 6,500. Yr wyf wedi derbyn gohebiaeth gan swyddog yr heddlu, sy'n symud i'r Heddlu Metropolitan o'r gogledd gan na all ef a'i deulu fforddio prynu na rhentu tŷ yno. Mae'n dilyn tri swyddog profiadol ac yn dweud y bydd llawer mwy yn dilyn. Dywedodd hefyd ei fod yn ymwybodol o weithwyr eraill yn y gwasanaethau brys, fel diffoddwyr tân, nyrsys ac eraill, sydd yn yr un picil. Mae Cartrefi Cymunedol Cymru

worker housing has been resisted by the Assembly Government because it is not seen as a priority.

In the same context, there is a problem with regard to treatment of vulnerable single person households. A problem has been highlighted with regard to the A494. I will not refer to the case as there is an ongoing public inquiry. However, residents who are single and childless find themselves unable to access local authority waiting lists or to afford the cost of private rented housing, yet it is a Government scheme that is depriving them of their homes.

Finally, I ask for time to consider the cross-border planning and delivery of health services where, for instance, in north Wales, the health community crosses the boundary between north Wales and Cheshire. I refer not only to neurosurgery, but also to the problem that has been highlighted by the chief executive of the Countess of Cheshire Hospital. There is a £2.5 million funding deficit with the adjacent local health board. He believes that there is confusion on the part of the Assembly Government with regard to the cause of this. He stresses that the deficit is not due to a performance measurement, but because in Wales we are using an historic baseline measurement for payment whereas, in England, a reference cost baseline measure is used for payment. Even more confusing is the fact that Health Commission Wales uses the same system as England for its payments, but local health boards do not. I hope that we can find a way forward that recognises that a mature federal nation, such as Germany, delivers its cross-border services on a planned cross-border basis.

Carwyn Jones: Turning to the last point first, I have no doubt whatsoever that there can be a satisfactory conclusion to any issues that arise as a result of the provision of cross-border services. I know that Edwina Hart is pursuing this matter in relation to the issue that you have raised. It has been done for many years where services have been provided on a cross-border basis, and that will continue in the future.

wedi mynegi pryder bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gyndyn o gymeradwyo cynllun tai i weithwyr allweddol gan nad yw'n credu ei fod yn flaenoriaeth.

Yn yr un cyd-destun, mae problem o ran y ffordd y caiff pobl sengl sy'n agored i niwed eu trin. Tynnwyd sylw at broblem gyda'r A494. Ni chyfeiriaf at yr achos gan fod ymchwiliad cyhoeddus yn mynd rhagddo. Fodd bynnag, mae preswylwyr sy'n sengl ac yn ddi-blant yn methu â chael eu cynnwys ar restrau aros awdurdodau lleol na fforddio cost tai rhent preifat, ond eto i gyd, un o gynlluniau'r Llywodraeth sy'n eu hamddifadu o'u cartrefi.

Yn olaf, gofynnaf am amser i ystyried cynllunio a darparu gwasanaethau iechyd ar draws ffiniau lle y mae'r gymuned iechyd, yn y gogledd, er enghraifft, yn croesi'r ffin rhwng y gogledd a Sir Gaer. Cyfeiriaf nid yn unig at niwrolawdriniaeth, ond hefyd at y broblem y tynnwyd sylw ati gan brif weithredwr Ysbyty Countess of Cheshire. Mae gan y bwrdd iechyd lleol cyfagos ddiffyg o £2.5 miliwn. Cred fod dryswch ar ran Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ynghylch yr hyn sydd wedi ei achosi. Pwysleisia nad yw'r diffyg yn deillio o un o'r mesurau perfformiad. Yn hytrach deillia o'r ffaith ein bod yn defnyddio mesur llinell sylfaen hanesyddol yng Nghymru i wneud taliadau, ond defnyddir mesur llinell sylfaen cost cyfeirio ar gyfer taliadau yn Lloegr. Yr hyn sy'n gwneud y sefyllfa'n fwy dryslyd yw'r ffaith bod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru'n defnyddio'r un system â Lloegr ar gyfer ei daliadau, ond nad yw byrddau iechyd lleol yn gwneud hynny. Gobeithiaf y gallwn ddod o hyd i ffordd ymlaen sy'n cydnabod bod gwlad ffederal aeddfed, fel yr Almaen, yn darparu ei gwasanaethau trawsffiniol drwy gynllunio trawsffiniol.

Carwyn Jones: Gan droi at y pwynt olaf yn gyntaf, nid oes amheuaeth o gwbl gennyf na ellir datrys unrhyw broblemau sy'n codi yn sgîl darparu gwasanaethau trawsffiniol yn foddhaol. Gwn fod Edwina Hart yn mynd ar drywydd y mater hwn mewn perthynas â'r mater yr ydych wedi ei godi. Gwnaethpwyd hyn ers blynyddoedd lawer lle y darperir gwasanaethau ar draws ffiniau, a bydd hynny'n parhau yn y dyfodol.

Vulnerable single person households are ultimately a matter for local authorities, but I understand that my friend, Carl Sargeant, has raised the matter with them, given the concern expressed in relation to that group of people.

As far as housing is concerned, there has been substantial change to technical advice note 2 recently on planning and affordable housing, making it a requirement for local authorities to include an affordable-housing target in their development plans and also to indicate how this target will be achieved using identified policy approaches—for example, through site thresholds, site-specific targets and rural exception sites. They are also required to monitor their progress against their development plans. It is also the case that it is now far easier for local authorities to grant planning permission for housing development where a far higher percentage of affordable housing should be included as part of that development, even up to 100 per cent. That has not been the case for many years, and that will certainly go some way towards making up for the dramatic loss of public housing that took place over the course of the 1980s and early 1990s.

4.20 p.m.

Darren Millar: Minister, I am sure that you are aware of the great deal of ill-feeling and disappointment that there has been in north Wales, particularly in the constituencies of Aberconwy and Clwyd West, over the failure to deliver the Welsh Assembly Government offices in Llandudno Junction, and the delay on that project. I am led to believe that the delay is due to the need to change the specification on the building as a result of a pause and review to improve its environmental standards. However, no timetable is attached to how long the pause and review will take, there is no timetable for the completion of the building, and many questions on top of those remain unanswered, such as why you have failed to consult and communicate properly with north Wales local authorities and local Assembly Members over the delay, and also why the specification has to be different from that of the buildings

Mater i awdurdodau lleol yn y pen draw yw cartrefi ar gyfer pobl sengl sy'n agored i niwed, ond deallaf fod fy nghyfaill, Carl Sargeant, wedi codi'r mater gyda hwy, o gofio'r pryder a fynegwyd mewn perthynas â'r grŵp hwnnw.

O ran tai, gwnaed newidiadau sylweddol i nodyn cyngor technegol 2 yn ddiweddar ar gynllunio a thai fforddiadwy, sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol gynnwys targed tai fforddiadwy yn eu cynlluniau datblygu yn ogystal â nodi sut y cyrhaeddir y targed hwn drwy ddefnyddio polisiau penodol—er enghraifft, drwy drothwyon safleoedd, targedau safleoedd penodol a safleoedd eithriedig gwledig. Mae'n ofynnol iddynt hefyd fonitro eu cynnydd yn erbyn eu cynlluniau datblygu. Mae'n wir hefyd ei bod bellach lawer yn haws i awdurdodau lleol roi caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer tai sydd â chyfran lawer uwch o dai fforddiadwy yn rhan o'r datblygiad hwnnw, hyd at 100 y cant hyd yn oed. Nid felly y mae ers blynyddoedd lawer, a bydd hynny'n sicr yn mynd gam o'r ffordd tuag at unioni'r golled sylweddol o dai cyhoeddus a ddigwyddodd yn ystod yr 1980au a dechrau'r 1990au.

Darran Millar: Weinidog, mae'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o'r drwgdeimlad mawr a'r siom enbyd yn y gogledd, yn enwedig yn etholaethau Aberconwy a Gorllewin Clwyd, oherwydd methu â chwblhau swyddfeydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yng Nghyffordd Llandudno, a'r oedi ynghylch y prosiect hwnnw. Yr wyf yn cael ar ddeall fod yr oedi yn deillio o'r angen i newid manyleb yr adeilad o ganlyniad i broses oedi ac adolygu er mwyn gwella ei safonau amgylcheddol. Fodd bynnag, nid oes amserlen wedi ei phennu ar gyfer y broses oedi ac adolygu, nid oes amserlen ar gyfer cwblhau'r adeilad, ac mae llawer o gwestiynau eraill heb eu hateb, megis pam na wnaethoch ymgynghori a chyfathrebu'n briodol ag awdurdodau lleol y gogledd ac Aelodau lleol y Cynulliad ynghylch yr oedi, a hefyd pam mae'n rhaid i'r fanyleb fod yn wahanol i'r adeiladau ym Merthyr Tudful ac

in Merthyr Tydfil and Aberystwyth. I would appreciate it if you could comment on whether you will allow time for a debate on this important issue, so that we can discuss it in detail.

Carwyn Jones: There are no plans for a debate in Government time on this issue. The pause-and-review exercise on the Llandudno Junction project has now concluded, as you will be aware. There is no doubt whatsoever that the project will be completed and that an office will be opened in Llandudno Junction. I can give you and your constituents that assurance. However, due to changes in technical specifications for the office and associated costs, the re-procurement exercise has to be undertaken to ensure best value for money, which I am sure you would agree with. A revised construction timetable will be available once this process has been carried out, and we are currently aiming for the building to be open in early 2010.

Mick Bates: Leader of the House, could you find time to bring forward a statement regarding the Government's handling of petitions? I request this in the light of recent experience regarding the process and the handling of a petition about the reopening of Carno station. The Petitions Committee sent the petition to the relevant committee, namely the Enterprise and Learning Committee, which then announced that it would take evidence on the reopening of the station. However, during that time, the Minister responsible for transport made an announcement that circumvented the whole process, namely that the station would never be opened. This raises great doubts about the whole petitioning process, which is a terrific opportunity for people to engage with government in Wales. There is a risk that the process could be circumvented by Ministers making announcements that nullify the subject matter of petitions. I hope that the Government will find time to bring forward a statement regarding how they are handled.

Carwyn Jones: I would have thought that, generally, the announcement made was good news. As for how petitions are handled, I am aware that the Carno Station Action Group and Network Rail gave evidence to the

Aberystwyth. Byddwn yn gwerthfawrogi pe gallech gyflwyno sylwadau ynghylch a fyddwch yn caniatáu amser i gynnal dadl ar y mater pwysig hwn, er mwyn inni allu ei drafod yn fanwl.

Carwyn Jones: Nid oes cynlluniau i gynnal dadl yn amser y Llywodraeth ar y mater hwn. Mae'r ymarferiad oedi ac adolygu ar brosiect Cyffordd Llandudno bellach wedi'i gwblhau, fel y gwyddoch. Nid oes dim amheuaeth o gwbl na fydd y prosiect yn cael ei gwblhau ac na chaiff swyddfa ei hagor yng Nghyffordd Llandudno. Gallaf eich sicrhau chi a'ch etholwyr ynghylch hynny. Fodd bynnag, oherwydd y newidiadau mewn manylebau technegol ar gyfer y swyddfa a'r costau cysylltiedig, rhaid i'r ymarferiad ailgaffael gael ei gynnal er mwyn sicrhau'r gwerth gorau am arian, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch â hynny. Bydd amserlen adeiladu ddiwygiedig ar gael ar ôl i'r broses hon gael ei chwblhau, ac ar hyn o bryd yr ydym yn anelu at agor yr adeilad ar ddechrau 2010.

Mick Bates: Arweinydd y Tŷ, a allwch neilltuo amser i wneud datganiad ynghylch y modd y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ymdrin â deisebau? Gofynnaf hyn yng ngoleuni'r profiad diweddar o ran y broses a'r ffordd yr ymdriniwyd â deiseb ynghylch ailagor gorsaf Carno. Anfonwyd y ddeiseb gan y Pwyllgor Deisebau at y pwyllgor priodol, sef y Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu, a gyhoeddodd wedyn y byddai'n cymryd tystiolaeth ar ailagor yr orsaf. Fodd bynnag, yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, gwnaeth y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am drafnidiaeth gyhoeddiad a achubodd y blaen ar yr holl broses, sef na fyddai'r orsaf byth yn cael ei hailagor. Mae hyn yn codi amheuon mawr ynghylch y broses ddeisebu gyfan, sy'n gyfle gwych i bobl ymgysylltu â llywodraeth yng Nghymru. Mae perygl y gallai cyhoeddiadau gan Weinidogion sy'n dirymu testun y deisebau danseilio'r broses. Gobeithio y bydd y Llywodraeth yn neilltuo amser i wneud datganiad ynghylch sut yr ymdrinnir â hwy.

Carwyn Jones: Byddwn wedi meddwl, at ei gilydd, fod y cyhoeddiad a wnaethpwyd yn newyddion da. O ran y ffordd yr ymdrinnir â deisebau, yr wyf yn ymwybodol i Grŵp Gweithredu Gorsaf Carno a Network Rail roi

Enterprise and Learning Committee on 4 September regarding the siting of a station at Carno. Nevertheless, where announcements need to be made—and we are talking about a substantial investment in the Cambrian line—it is important that they are made. That does not mean that it is not open for people to make the case that further stations along the line be opened in the future.

Where petitions appear, they should be dealt with by the committee and responded to by the Government, but it cannot be the case that important announcements are delayed because of them. That does not mean that consideration cannot be given to the issue in the future.

Mick Bates: That is rubbish.

The Presiding Officer: Order. It is a bit early for the Leader of the House to be talking absolute rubbish. [*Laughter.*] I meant that it is early in his career as Leader of the House.

tystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu ar 4 Medi ynghylch lleoli gorsaf yng Ngharno. Fodd bynnag, pan fydd angen gwneud cyhoeddiadau—ac yr ydym yn sôn am fuddsoddiad sylweddol yn rheilffordd y Cambrian—mae'n bwysig iddynt gael eu gwneud. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na all pobl gyflwyno'r achos y dylid agor gorsafoedd eraill ar hyd y rheilffordd yn y dyfodol.

Pan ddaw deisebau i law, y pwyllgor ddylai ymdrin â hwy a'r Llywodraeth ddylai ymateb iddynt, ond ni ellir oedi cyn gwneud datganiadau pwysig o'u herwydd. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na ellir ystyried y mater yn y dyfodol.

Mick Bates: Nonsens yw hynny.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae braidd yn gynnar i Arweinydd y Tŷ fod yn siarad nonsens. [*Chwerthin.*] Cynnar yn ei yrfa fel Arweinydd y Tŷ, hynny yw.

Datganiad am Glwy'r Traed a'r Genau Statement on Foot and Mouth Disease

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig (Elin Jones): Mae Cymru a gweddill y Deyrnas Unedig dan gwmwl clwy'r traed a'r genau unwaith eto, ac mae hynny'n cael effaith andwyol ar y diwydiant da byw ac ar gymunedau cefn gwlad. Ar 3 Awst ac eto ar 12 Medi, cafwyd cadarnhad bod clwy'r traed a'r genau wedi taro Surrey yn Lloegr ar bum fferm hyd yn hyn. Teimlai'r awdurdodau iddynt lwyddo i gael rheolaeth lwyr ar achos mis Awst ond, oherwydd natur anwadal clefydau anifeiliaid, ymddangosodd tri achos pellach ym mis Medi. Mae cysylltiad rhwng yr achos ar y fferm ddiweddaraf â Chymru, sy'n cael ei archwilio ar hyn o bryd. Er ei bod yn arferol cynnal archwiliad o bob safle heintiedig, mae hyn yn ein hatgoffa o ba mor agored yw Cymru i'r clefyd hwn.

Mae ymchwiliadau annibynnol gan y Gweithgor Iechyd a Diogelwch a'r Athro Brian Spratt o'r Imperial College yn dangos ei bod yn debygol iawn mai feirws byw o labordai Pirbright a arweiniodd at yr achos ym mis Awst. Ymatebodd Llywodraeth

The Minister for Rural Affairs (Elin Jones): Agriculture in Wales and across Great Britain is once again gripped by foot and mouth disease, having a detrimental effect on the livestock industry and rural communities. On 3 August and again on 12 September, foot and mouth disease was confirmed in Surrey, on five farms to date. The outbreak in August was considered to have been contained, but the unpredictability of animal disease has led to the three further outbreaks in September. The latest infected premises confirmed today has a tracing to Wales, which is under investigation. Although such action is a routine part of the investigation of an infected premises, it is a timely reminder that Wales is still vulnerable to an incursion of disease.

Independent investigations by the Health and Safety Executive and Professor Spratt of Imperial College concluded that the most likely source of the August outbreak was the escape of a live virus from the Pirbright site. The Welsh Assembly Government reacted

Cymru yn gyflym i'r ddau achos drwy roi gwaharddiad ar symud anifeiliaid â charnau hollt. Yr ydym wedi dysgu sawl gwers ers epidemig 2001, ac yr ydym wedi'u hymgorffori yn ein cynllun wrth gefn. Un gwahaniaeth mawr rhwng achos 2001 ac achos eleni yw'r ffaith bod pwerau dros iechyd anifeiliaid wedi eu datganoli i'r Cynulliad yn 2005.

Bu'n her cyfathrebu â'r rheini yr oedd angen eu hysbysu am y cyfyngiadau a'r datblygiadau diweddaraf, ac yr ydym wedi defnyddio pob cyfrwng, gan gynnwys datganiadau i'r wasg ac i ddarlledwyr, gwefannau a rhaedru gwybodaeth drwy'r carfanau perthnasol. O ddydd Iau yr wythnos hon, byddwn yn cynnig gwasanaeth tectio i anfon negeseuon pwysig at ffermwyr unigol.

Mae effaith yr achos diweddaraf ar y diwydiant yn wahanol iawn i effeithiau achos mis Awst. Yn awr, mae angen dod ag anifeiliaid i lawr o'r bryniau, mae'n gyfnod allforio, mae marchnadoedd yr hydref yn cael eu cynnal, ac mae'n dymor magu.

Yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o'r galw sydd ar Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i dalu iawndal i'r diwydiant i'w ddigolledu rhag effeithiau economaidd clwy'r traed a'r genau. Gallai hyn fod yn destun camau cyfreithiol gan y diwydiant, a byddai'n amhriodol felly i mi ddweud unrhyw beth yn ei gylch ar hyn o bryd. Mae iawndal am glefydau anifeiliaid fel clwy'r traed a'r genau yn cael ei dalu er mwyn rheoli'r clefyd yn unig, a thelir am werth yr anifail a laddwyd a'r deunydd a atafaelwyd. Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig sy'n gyfrifol am gyllidebau'r taliadau hyn, hyd yn oed os yw'r clefyd yn taro Cymru. Nid oes gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gyllidebau i dalu am iawndal statudol nac am golledion canlyniadol.

Cefais drafodaethau gyda'r carfanau perthnasol i bennu'r blaenoriaethau ar gyfer materion fel symud anifeiliaid i ladd-dai, problemau lles, a phenderfynu ar y camau nesaf. Cefais gyfarfod gyda hwy ddoe, ac mae un arall ar y gweill ar gyfer dydd Iau. Mae gwaith brys yn cael ei wneud hefyd gyda DEFRA a Llywodraeth yr Alban i helpu'r diwydiant drwy ddiffinio'r ardaloedd

promptly to the recent outbreaks by putting in place a movement ban of cloven-hoofed animals. We have learned many lessons from the 2001 outbreak which have been incorporated into our contingency planning. A significant difference to the position then is that animal health powers were devolved to the Assembly in 2005.

Communication about the restrictions and outbreak developments has been particularly challenging and we have used all available channels including press announcements, our website and cascading information via stakeholders. From Thursday this week, we will be providing a text service to farmers on key messages.

The impact of the most recent outbreak on the industry is very different to that in August. Animals now need to be brought down from the hills, it is the export season, autumn sales are being held, and it is the breeding season.

I am well aware of the calls on the UK Government to compensate the industry for the economic impact of the outbreak. This may be the subject of legal action by the industry and therefore it would be inappropriate for me to comment on this at present. Compensation for animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease is only payable for disease control purposes and for the value of animals slaughtered and materials seized. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs holds the budgets for these payments, even for an outbreak in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government does not have budgets to cover either statutory compensation or consequential losses.

I have been in discussion with stakeholders to determine the priorities on such issues as movement to slaughter, welfare, and in identifying the next steps. I met them yesterday and I will do so again on Thursday. Urgent work is under way with DEFRA and the Scottish Government on an approach to help the industry by defining the highest and lowest-risk areas in Britain. That would

sydd yn wynebu'r risg fwyaf a lleiaf ym Mhrydain. Byddai hynny'n adfer rhyw lefel o normalrwydd i ffermwyr Cymru, heb aberthu'r angen i gadw rheolaeth lem ar y clefyd. Fy ngobaith yw y bydd hyn yn caniatáu i ni ddechrau symud anifeiliaid yn fuan o'r bryniau i lawr gwlad, a hynny ar sail cyngor milfeddygol. I'r perwyl hwn, yr wyf wedi comisiynu astudiaeth fanwl o symudiadau da byw i Gymru o Loegr yn yr wythnosau diwethaf. Yr wyf wedi cychwyn trafodaethau rhwng swyddogion, arwerthwyr ac undebau'r ffermwyr ar sut y gellid hwyluso symudiadau o'r fath drwy werthu o fferm i fferm a chynnal arwerthiannau ar y we.

Byddaf yn cwrdd â Hilary Benn a Richard Lochhead, Gweinidog yr Alban, i esbonio pryderon diwydiant ffermio Cymru ac i ystyried trywyddau posibl ar gyfer lleddfu'r pwysau ar y diwydiant. Mae'r hydref yn dymor aruthrol o bwysig ar gyfer masnachu defaid tew, defaid magu a defaid i'w difa, ac mae 35 y cant o'r ŵyn sy'n cael eu lladd yng Nghymru yn cael eu hallforio. Mae sector cig defaid Cymru'n dibynnu'n drwm ar farchnad allforio ffyniannus i atgyfnerthu'r prisiau wrth giât y fferm, ac mae datblygu'r marchnadoedd hyn yn fater hynod bwysig i ddiwydiant cig coch Cymru. Mae canlyniadau difrifol felly i'r gwaharddiad ar allforio cig oen o Brydain.

Mae Cig Cibyn Cyf. wedi cau ei ladd-dy unwaith eto yn dilyn yr achos diweddaraf hwn. Yr wyf yn cydnabod bod cyfarwyddwyr Cig Cibyn wedi gwneud y penderfyniad eithriadol o anodd hwnnw o ganlyniad i'r cyfyngiadau diweddaraf yn sgîl yr achos o glwy'r traed a'r genau a welwyd yn Surrey. Bydd fy swyddogion yn parhau i siarad â'r cyfarwyddwyr a chyda swyddogion Cyngor Gwynedd nes y bydd yn bosibl aildechrau masnachu.

Y cyfnod pwysicaf i allforion yw rhwng mis Awst a mis Rhagfyr. Yn 2006, cafodd 1.1 miliwn o ŵyn eu hallforio, â gwerth o £31 miliwn. Mae hyn yn arwydd o'r allforion disgwylidig a hefyd maint y gwarged fydd yn gorfod aros ym Mhrydain oherwydd y gwaharddiad. Bydd holl warged y cig ychwanegol ar y farchnad yn sicr o wthio prisiau i lawr. Bydd y Prif Weinidog a

create some degree of normality for Welsh farmers, while not losing sight of the need to maintain strict disease control. I hope that this will allow us to start moving animals as soon as possible, on the basis of veterinary risk assessment, from upland to lowland areas. As part of this, I have commissioned a detailed study to analyse livestock movements into Wales in recent weeks. I have also set in train discussions between officials, the livestock auctioneers and the farming unions, on how such movements might be facilitated through farm-to-farm sales and virtual sales.

I will be meeting Hilary Benn, and Richard Lochhead, the Minister in Scotland, to set out the concerns of the Welsh farming industry and explore the various options to relieve the pressure on the industry, as the autumn period is a key time for marketing finished, breeding and cull sheep, and 35 per cent of lambs slaughtered in Wales are exported. The Welsh sheep meat sector is heavily reliant on a prosperous export market in order to underpin farm-gate prices, and developing these markets is of vital importance to the Welsh red meat industry. As a result, there are serious implications of a ban on the export of sheep meat from Britain.

Cig Cibyn Ltd in Caernarfon has closed its abattoir once again following the latest outbreak. I acknowledge that the directors of Cig Cibyn have had to take this extremely difficult decision as a result of the current restrictions resulting from the foot and mouth disease outbreak in Surrey. My officials will continue to liaise with the directors and with officials from Gwynedd Council until normal trading can resume.

The most important period for exports is from August to December. In 2006, 1.1 million lambs were exported at a value of £31 million. This provides an indication of the export situation and highlights the extra volume that will now remain in Britain due to the ban. This amount of additional meat on the market will inevitably push prices down. The First Minister and I will be meeting with

minnau'n cwrdd â'r sector archfarchnadoedd i ofyn am ei ymrwymiad yn ystod yr argyfwng i wneud yr hyn y gall ei wneud i helpu.

4.30 p.m.

Mae'r diwydiant wedi codi pwnc y cynllun gwaredu lles da byw ac mae swyddogion wedi bod yn trafod ei ddatblygiad gyda DEFRA. Ym mis Chwefror 2005, cytunodd y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad i ddatblygu system heb ei hariannu, a chytunodd gweinyddiaethau eraill Prydain i hynny.

Yr wyf am i'r archfarchnadoedd a phobl Cymru glywed un neges yn arbennig, sef mai un o'r ffyrdd gorau o helpu ffermwyr Cymru yw prynu cynnyrch o Gymru. Byddaf yn parhau i wneud popeth posibl i weithio gyda'r diwydiant a chyda Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i ddifa'r clefyd ac i helpu'r diwydiant i ddygymod â'r cyfnod eithriadol o anodd hwn. Ni allaf bwysleisio ddigon ddifrifoldeb y sefyllfa ac, yn y dyddiau cynnar hyn, mae darlun y clefyd yn dal i ymddangos. Mae rhesymeg dros osod y cyfyngiadau hyn: cadw'r clefyd allan o Gymru.

Brynle Williams: Diolch, Weinidog, am wneud y datganiad hwn y prynhawn yma. Mae ychydig o bynciau yr wyf am eu codi, ond nid wyf am fynd dros dir y ddatl nesaf. Mae'n drist ofnadwy fod y clwyf wedi dod allan o'r fath le, ond, wedi dweud hynny, mae ar led erbyn hyn ac mae'n rhaid i ni ddelio ag ef.

I have grave concerns, Minister. I am pleased that you said that the communication systems are there, but—I am sorry to say this, because it is not your fault—as things are moving so rapidly, we need a better system to inform farmers about what is going on. As we are well aware, announcements are made at midnight and then probably at mid-day. Times have changed and we need to know what is happening. An example of such an incident has just come up on my screen here.

On how the disease got out and compensation

the supermarket sector to seek its assurance that it will do what it can to provide support at this time.

The industry has raised the issue of the livestock welfare disposal scheme and officials have been discussing its development with DEFRA. In February 2005, the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside agreed to develop a non-funded system, with the agreement of the other British administrations.

I want the supermarkets and the people of Wales to hear one message in particular: that one of the best ways of helping Welsh farmers is to buy Welsh produce. I will continue to do everything that I can to work with the industry and with the United Kingdom Government to eradicate the disease and to assist the industry to deal with this extremely difficult period. I cannot emphasise enough the gravity of the situation and, in these early days, the pattern of the disease is still emerging. There is a rationale to these restrictions: to keep the disease out of Wales.

Brynle Williams: Thank you, Minister, for making this statement this afternoon. There are some points that I wish to raise, but I do not want to cover the same ground here and in the next debate. It is very sad that the disease has emanated from such a place, but, having said that, it is now out there and we must deal with it.

Mae gennyf bryderon difrifol, Weinidog. Yr wyf yn falch ichi ddweud bod y systemau cyfathrebu'n bodoli, ond—mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud hyn, oherwydd nid eich bai chi ydyw—gan fod pethau'n symud mor gyflym, mae angen gwell system arnom i roi gwybod i ffermwyr beth sy'n digwydd. Fel y gwyddom yn dda, gwneir cyhoeddiadau am hanner nos ac yna mae'n debyg am hanner dydd. Mae'r oes wedi newid ac mae angen inni wybod beth sy'n digwydd. Mae enghraifft o ddigwyddiad o'r fath newydd ymddangos ar fy sgrin yma.

O ran sut y dihangodd y clefyd ac iawndal ac

and so on, it has been said many times in the Chamber and the farming industry, industry in general and the rural sector have been told that the polluter pays. In this case, the polluter happens to be a Government institution. I do not believe that we can go down the avenue of individual compensation for farmers, but there are a number of methods that could be applied.

One problem with regard to getting information out concerns the movement of dairy cows. I mentioned this matter to you this morning and, regrettably, it has not gone ahead this afternoon—I will have to speak to you about that later. On regional sales, it is about time—once we have established that the virus has not come out of Surrey—that Wales looked at this again, as we are a clear region, so that we can get our fat stock out of the country, not just over the border to England, but as exports to countries further afield.

I have grave concerns about Cig Cibyn, which is such a young company; it only opened its doors a matter of months ago.

Mae'n drist ofnadwy gweld cwmni ifanc o'r fath, sy'n gwneud ei orau i helpu cynhyrchwyr ac i werthu cynnyrch o Gymru, yn cael ei wthio i sefyllfa lle mae'n rhaid iddo gau ei ddrysau.

Diolch i chi am yr hyn yr ydych wedi'i wneud hyd yn hyn, a'r hyn yr wyf yn sicr y byddwch yn ei wneud yn y dyfodol hefyd. Fodd bynnag, a allwch ateb yr ychydig o gwestiynau a ofynnais?

Elin Jones: Diolch, Brynle, am eich geiriau caredig. Yn gyntaf, o ran rhoi gwybodaeth i ffermwyr, yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod angen y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf, a'r wybodaeth gywir, arnynt cyn gynted ag y bo modd. Mae'r systemau sydd gennym ar y gweill yn caniatáu i hynny ddiwydd i raddau, ond, wrth gwrs, mae angen eu gwella. Bydd dulliau cyfathrebu electronig yn ein galluogi i gyfathrebu'n well; dyna pam yr ydym yn awyddus i sefydlu cysylltiadau testun â ffermwyr erbyn diwedd yr wythnos. Gobeithiaf y gwnewch dderbyn, o wneud penderfyniadau sydyn er lles y diwydiant, ein bod yn gwneud hynny. Y peth pwysig, yn y

yn y blaen, dywedwyd droeon yn y Siambr a dywedwyd wrth y diwydiant ffermio, diwydiant yn gyffredinol a'r sector gwledig mai'r llygrwr sy'n talu. Yn yr achos hwn, sefydliad sy'n perthyn i'r Llywodraeth yw'r llygrwr, fel y mae'n digwydd bod. Ni chredaf y gallwn fynd ar drywydd iawndal unigol i ffermwyr, ond mae nifer o ddulliau y gellid eu rhoi ar waith.

Mae un broblem o ran lledaenu gwybodaeth yn ymwneud â symud gwartheg godro. Soniais am y mater hwn wrthy ch y bore yma ac, yn anffodus, nid yw wedi mynd rhagddo y prynhawn yma—bydd yn rhaid imi siarad â chi am hynny'n ddiweddarach. O ran gwerthu'n rhanbarthol, cyn gynted ag y byddwn wedi sefydlu nad yw'r feirws wedi dod allan o Surrey, mae'n bryd i Gymru edrych eto ar hyn, gan ein bod yn rhanbarth glân, er mwyn inni gael ein stoc tew allan o'r wlad, nid yn unig dros y ffin i Loegr, ond fel allforion i wledydd ymhellach i ffwrdd.

Mae gennyf bryderon difrifol am Cig Cibyn, sy'n gwmni mor ifanc; newydd agor ei ddrysau rai misoedd yn ôl y mae.

It is very sad to see such a young company, which has done its best to help producers and to sell Welsh produce, being forced into a situation where it has to cease trading.

Thank you for what you have done so far, and for what you I am sure you will do in the future. However, can you answer the few questions that I raised?

Elin Jones: Thank you, Brynle, for your kind words. First, in terms of providing information for farmers, I am aware that they need the latest, and correct, information as quickly as possible. The systems that we have in place allow that to happen, to some extent, but, of course, they need to be improved. Electronic communication means will enable us to communicate in a better way; that is why we are keen to be in touch by way of text messages with farmers by the end of the week. I hope that you will accept that, in making quick decisions that will benefit the industry, we are doing so. The important point, in the first place, is that decisions are

Ile cyntaf, yw bod y penderfyniadau yn cael eu gwneud ar sail cyngor milfeddygol a'i bod wedyn yn fater o gyflwyno'r penderfyniadau a'r newidiadau i'r rheoliadau hynny i'r ffermwyr.

O ran rhai o'r newidiadau sydd eu hangen i sicrhau diogelwch a lles anifeiliaid—cyfeiriasoch at hynny yn eich cwestiwn—mae milfeddygon yn edrych ar hynny ar hyn o bryd o ran caniatáu'r math o symudiadau sydd gennych mewn golwg, pan fo'r gwartheg wedi dod â lloi ac ati. Yr wyf yn gobeithio y byddwn mewn sefyllfa i roi gwybodaeth bellach ichi am hynny wrth i'r dydd fynd yn ei flaen.

O ran symud anifeiliaid a masnachu, mae'n flaenoriaeth gennyf ailgyflwyno elfennau o fasnachu yn ôl i'r diwydiant, gan mai dyna'r ffordd orau o sicrhau bod prisiau'n cael eu cynnal a bod y pwysau economaidd ar ffermwyr yn cael ei godi. Mae'n llawer rhy gynnar inni allu meddwl am ailgyflwyno'r mart traddodiadol—dyna'r cyfrwng â'r risg fwyaf o ran lledaenu unrhyw glefyd anifeiliaid—ond mae ffyrdd eraill o fasnachu. Mae fy swyddogion yn gweithio gydag arwerthwyr a chynrychiolwyr ffermwyr i edrych ar ffyrdd eraill o fasnachu a fydd, yn y pen draw, yn caniatáu symudiadau uniongyrchol o fferm i fferm. Pan allwn ganiatáu hynny'n ddiogel, byddwn yn ceisio ei gyflwyno cyn gynted â phosibl.

Alun Ffred Jones: Ni chredaf fod angen inni bwysleisio difrifoldeb y sefyllfa gan fod eich datganiad yn gwneud hynny ac yn amlygu'r cymhlethdod sy'n wynebu ffermwyr a'r diwydiant cig yn gyffredinol.

Cwestiwn syml sydd gennyf, yn sgîl sylwadau Brynle ynglŷn â sefyllfa Cig Cibyn yng Nghaernarfon. Mae'r cwmni wedi gorfod atal ei weithgareddau y bore yma am yr ail waith o fewn ychydig wythnosau. Yr wyf wedi siarad â'r cyfarwyddwyr, ac maent wedi cyrraedd pen eu tennyn. Maent yn gwybod bod y gweithlu wedi sefyll gyda hwy, ond maent yn gorfod eu diswyddo heddiw. Dyna rhwng 40 a 50 o deuluoedd yng Nghaernarfon na fydd yn derbyn cyflog am yr wythnosau nesaf.

Deallaf fod y sefyllfa'n anodd o safbwynt

based on veterinary advice and that it is then a matter of introducing the decisions and changes in regulations to farmers.

In terms of the changes needed in order to secure the safety and welfare of animals—you referred to that in your question—veterinarians are currently looking at that in relation to permitting the kinds of movements that you had in mind, when cattle have calved and so on. I hope that we will be in a position to give you further information on that as the day progresses.

In terms of moving and marketing animals, it is a priority for me to reintroduce elements of marketing to the industry, as that is the best way of ensuring that prices are sustained and that the economic pressures on farmers are lifted. It is much too early to be able to start thinking about reintroducing the traditional mart—that is where the highest risk lies in terms of spreading any disease among animals—but there are other marketing methods. My officials are working with auctioneers and farmers' representatives to look at other marketing methods that will, in the end, allow farm to farm movements. When we can safely allow that to happen, we will try to introduce it as quickly as we can.

Alun Ffred Jones: I do not believe that we need to stress the gravity of the situation, as your statement does that for us and illustrates the complexities of the situation facing farmers and the meat industry in general.

I have a simple question regarding the position of Cig Cibyn in Caernarfon. The company has had to cease its operations this morning for the second time in a matter of weeks. I have spoken to the directors, and they have reached the end of their tether. They know that the workforce has stood by them, but they have had to lay people off today. That equates to between 40 and 50 families in Caernarfon not receiving a salary in the next few weeks.

I understand that the situation is difficult with

cynnig help, ond, oherwydd sefyllfa'r cwmni hwn, sydd yn y sefyllfa hon nid oherwydd ei weithgareddau neu'i ddiffygion ei hun, ond oherwydd diffygion mewn lleoedd eraill, fel y dywedwyd, gofynnaf i chi, eich cyd-Weinidogion a swyddogion yr adrannau droi pob carreg i weld a oes posibilrwydd cynnig cymorth i'r cwmni hwn er mwyn iddo oroesi i'r dyfodol oherwydd ei bwysigrwydd strategol i'r diwydiant.

Elin Jones: Diolch, Alun Ffred, ac ymddiheuriadau i Brynle am beidio â chyfeirio at y pwynt hwnnw wrth ateb ei gwestiynau. Mae sefyllfa Cig Cibyn yn anodd, a derbynias yn llwyr fod y sefyllfa yn bodoli yn benodol oherwydd y gwaharddiadau ar allforio, gan ei fod yn lladd-dy sy'n dibynnu'n helaeth ar ei allu i allforio. Cefais drafodaeth ag un o gyfarwyddwyr Cig Cibyn ym mis Awst ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa hon, ac yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod y Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth hefyd wedi cwrdd â chyfarwyddwyr y cwmni. Ym mis Awst, dywedais wrth y cwmni mai fy mwriad oedd sicrhau bod y farchnad allforio'n cael ei hadfer mor gyflym â phosibl, ac, ym mis Awst, fe lwyddwyd i wneud hynny yn gynt na disgwyl rhai pobl. Erbyn hyn, wrth gwrs, mae'r clwyf wedi taro unwaith eto, mae'r marchnadoedd allforio wedi'u cau ac, ar hyn o bryd, mae'n anodd gwybod pryd y bydd y marchnadoedd hynny'n ailagor a sut ffydd fydd gan Ewrop i ailagor y marchnadoedd hynny gyda'r un cyflymder ag a wnaed y tro diwethaf.

Derbynias y pwynt am yr angen i gynnig cefnogaeth. Mae fy swyddogion yn trafod gyda Cyngor Gwynedd, sydd wedi bod o gymorth mawr i'r cwmni, ac yr ydym yn barod i drafod hynny ymhellach gyda'r cwmni ac yn uniongyrchol gyda chi, Alun Ffred, fel cynrychiolydd etholedig ardal y cwmni penodol hwn.

Alun Cairns: Llongyfarchaf y Gweinidog ar ei phenodiad. Mae wedi cael bedydd tân yn ei hwythnosau cyntaf yn y swydd.

4.40 p.m.

My questions relate to the issue of costs to the industry. What analysis has the Minister

regard to providing assistance, but, because of the position in which this company finds itself, not of its own making or through its own deficiencies, but because of deficiencies elsewhere, I ask you, your fellow Ministers and departmental officials to leave no stone unturned in trying to find a way of assisting this strategically important company so that it survives into the future.

Elin Jones: Thank you, Alun Ffred; I apologise to Brynle for not mentioning that point in my reply to him. The Cig Cibyn situation is difficult, and I fully accept that the situation has arisen as a result of the ban on exports, as it depends heavily on its ability to export meat. I discussed this situation with one of the Cig Cibyn directors in August, and I know that the Minister for the Economy and Transport has also met with the company directors. In August, I told the company that my intention was to ensure that the export market was reinstated as soon as possible, and, in August, that was done sooner than some people had expected. The disease has now struck again, of course, the export markets have been closed and, at the moment, it is difficult to tell when they will reopen and how much faith Europe will have in reopening those markets as quickly as was the case last time.

I accept the point about the need to offer support. My officials are in discussions with Cyngor Gwynedd, which has been of great assistance to the company, and we are willing to hold further discussions with the company and directly with you, as the elected representative of the area where that company is located.

Alun Cairns: I congratulate the Minister on her appointment. She has had a baptism of fire in her first few weeks in post.

Mae a wnelo fy nghwestiynau â mater y costau i'r diwydiant. Pa ddadansoddiad y

conducted thus far, or does she plan to conduct, in relation to the costs to the industry? The Assembly's Finance Committee is hoping to look at this area to see what possible compensation could legally be paid as a result of those costs. Is the Minister or one of her officials happy to support the committee in its efforts to look purely at the financial aspects relating to this issue?

Elin Jones: Diolch i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyllid am hynny. Yr oeddwn yn ymwybodol o fwriad y Pwyllgor Cyllid i gynnal arolwg o gostau'r diwydiant amaethyddol yn sgîl yr achos ym mis Awst. Mae gennym achos arall yn awr, ac, fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad, mae'n debygol y bydd effeithiau economaidd yr achos hwn yn fwy i'r diwydiant amaethyddol na'r achos ym mis Awst.

Cyfeiriais yn fy natganiad at y ffaith bod 1.1 miliwn o ŵyn o Gymru yn cael eu hallforio i gyfandir Ewrop yn bennaf yn ystod y tri neu bedwar mis nesaf—y gwerth a roddwyd ar hynny yw £31 miliwn. Mae diffyg marchnad ar gyfer yr 1.1 miliwn o ŵyn hynny ac mae'r diwydiant yn wynebu methu â chanfod marchnad iddynt. Mae nifer ohonynt yn ŵyn bach ac nid oes marchnad ddomestig i'r ŵyn hyn y mae nifer o ffermwyr Cymru yn eu cynhyrchu—marchnad yn Ffrainc a'r Eidal sydd iddynt yn bennaf. Mae gennym ffigurau cychwynnol ond byddaf fi a fy adran yn barod i gymryd rhan yn y gwaith pwysig y bydd eich pwyllgor yn ei wneud i geisio amcangyfrif hyd a lled cost y clefyd i gefn gwlad Cymru unwaith eto eleni.

Janet Ryder: You made the point in your statement, Minister, that the difference between the handling of this foot and mouth disease outbreak and the outbreak in 2001 is the devolution of powers over animal welfare. Will you take that point further? You also said that the outbreak has, thankfully, so far predominantly affected England and that Wales has remained clear. Will you seek regional status, to allow us to open markets in Wales at a much quicker rate than that in England? What work will you do with your officials to put that view forward to officials in England?

mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud hyd yma, neu y mae hi'n bwriadu ei wneud, o ran y costau i'r diwydiant? Mae Pwyllgor Cyllid y Cynulliad yn gobeithio edrych ar y maes hwn i weld pa iawndal posibl y byddai modd ei dalu'n gyfreithlon o ganlyniad i'r costau hynny. A yw'r Gweinidog neu un o'i swyddogion yn barod i gefnogi'r pwyllgor yn ei ymdrechion i edrych yn benodol ar yr agweddau ariannol yn gysylltiedig â'r mater hwn?

Elin Jones: I thank the Chair of the Finance Committee for that. I was aware of the Finance Committee's intention to review the costs faced by the agricultural industry as a result of the case in August. We now have another case and, as I said in my statement, the economic impact of this case is likely to be worse for the agricultural industry than the case in August.

In my statement I referred to the fact that 1.1 million Welsh lambs are exported to the European continent mainly over the course of the next three or four months—the value of that has been put at £31 million. There is no market for these 1.1 million lambs, and the industry cannot find a market for them. A number of these are small lambs produced by Welsh farmers for which there is no domestic market—the market for them mainly exists in France and Italy. We have initial figures but I am willing, as is my department, to contribute to the important work that your committee will do to try to estimate the cost of this disease once again this year to rural Wales.

Janet Ryder: Gwnaethoch y pwynt yn eich datganiad, Weinidog, mai'r gwahaniaeth rhwng delio â'r achosion o glwy'r traed a'r genau y tro hwn a'r achosion yn 2001 yw bod pwerau dros les anifeiliaid wedi cael eu datganoli. A ewch chi â'r pwynt hwnnw ymhellach? Dywedasoch hefyd fod y clwy hyd yma, diolch byth, wedi effeithio'n bennaf ar Loegr a bod Cymru wedi aros yn lân. A wnewch geisio cael statws rhanbarthol, i ganiatáu inni agor marchnadoedd yng Nghymru yn llawer cyflymach nag yn Lloegr? Pa waith a wnewch gyda'ch swyddogion i gyflwyno'r farn honno i swyddogion yn Lloegr?

Elin Jones: You are right to say that powers over animal health have been devolved to Wales since 2005, as a direct result of the experience of 2001. We have used those powers separately and independently of England and Scotland, and we have used them differently at different times. There was an example last week where we decided, based on veterinary advice, that it was safe to recommence the direct movement to slaughter from farms in Wales, and we did so two days earlier than DEFRA in England and a day after Scotland. There was considerable interest in that from the media and from farmers in the north of England, who were intrigued to know why there was an ability to move to slaughter in Wales when they felt even more geographically remote than farmers in Wales from the disease in Surrey. Of course, it was lost on them that there is devolution in Wales and that we have the ability to make our own decisions.

However, I have stressed from the beginning that this is not a competition between England, Scotland and Wales as to who is the quickest to raise restrictions. I will do so on the basis of independent veterinary advice and I will make those decisions if and when appropriate. This allows us to pursue issues around regionalisation—Scotland, Wales and many parts of England may well consider whether we can identify areas of lower risk and areas of higher risk in the epidemiological unit of Great Britain, so that we are able to allow movements at an earlier stage within the areas of lower risk. It is important that we remember that there is much trade between Wales and England—many upland sheep and lambs will be moved to lowland pastures in England over the next few months—so it is important for us, as a Welsh industry, also to ensure that movements to lowland England are made available to us at as early a stage as possible.

Mick Bates: Thank you for bringing this statement to the Assembly today. I appreciate

Elin Jones: Yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud bod pwerau dros iechyd anifeiliaid wedi cael eu datganoli i Gymru ers 2005, o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i brofiad 2001. Yr ydym wedi defnyddio'r pwerau hynny ar wahân ac yn annibynnol ar Loegr a'r Alban, ac yr ydym wedi eu defnyddio ar adegau gwahanol. Yr oedd enghraifft yr wythnos diwethaf pan benderfynasom, ar sail cyngor milfeddygol, ei bod yn ddiogel ailddechrau symud anifeiliaid yn uniongyrchol oddi ar ffermydd i'r lladd-dy yng Nghymru, a gwnaethom hynny ddau ddiwrnod yn gynharach na DEFRA yn Lloegr a thrannoeth ar ôl yr Alban. Bu cryn ddiddordeb yn hynny ymysg y cyfryngau ac ymysg ffermwyr yng ngogledd Lloegr, oedd yn chwilfrydig i wybod pam yr oedd modd symud anifeiliaid i'r lladd-dy yng Nghymru a hwythau'n teimlo hyd yn oed yn bellach yn ddaearyddol na ffermwyr Cymru oddi wrth y clwyf yn Surrey. Wrth gwrs, nid oeddent yn sylweddoli bod gennym ddatganoli yng Nghymru a bod y gallu gennym i wneud ein penderfyniadau ein hunain.

Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi pwysleisio o'r cychwyn nad cystadleuaeth rhwng Lloegr, yr Alban a Chymru yw hon i weld pwy all godi'r cyfyngiadau gyflymaf. Byddaf yn gwneud hynny ar sail cyngor milfeddygol annibynnol a byddaf yn gwneud y penderfyniadau hynny os bydd hynny'n briodol a phan fydd yn briodol. Mae hyn yn caniatáu inni ystyried materion yn ymwneud â rhanbartholdeb—mae'n bosibl iawn y bydd yr Alban, Cymru a llawer o rannau o Loegr yn ystyried a oes modd inni ddynodi ardaloedd lle y mae'r perygl yn llai ac ardaloedd lle y mae'r perygl yn fwy yn uned epidemiologol Prydain Fawr, fel bod modd inni ganiatáu symudiadau yn gynt yn yr ardaloedd lle y mae'r perygl yn llai. Mae'n bwysig inni gofio bod llawer o fasnach rhwng Cymru a Lloegr—bydd llawer o ddefaid ac ŵyn mynydd yn cael eu symud i borfeydd tir isel yn Lloegr dros y misoedd nesaf—felly mae'n bwysig inni, fel diwydiant yng Nghymru, sicrhau hefyd fod symudiadau i iseldir Lloegr ar gael inni cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Mick Bates: Diolch ichi am ddod â'r datganiad hwn gerbron y Cynulliad heddiw.

your recognition of the seriousness of this situation for the health of farmers and the economic health of the whole industry. I put on record my thanks to all of your officials who, I know, have worked tirelessly to ensure that the industry is well informed and, where possible, have licences as soon as possible. I refer in particular to the work last week when the police had locked up 10,000 sheep in Welshpool market. Only by the good offices of your officials were the special licences there ready, which enabled the market to sell the livestock and the livestock to go to its new home rather than stand on concrete. It would have caused a terrible welfare problem had the livestock been there all night long. Therefore, I thank you for that.

On your statement and the recognition that the outbreak was in Surrey, will you give us more details on the recent outbreak in sheep? I note that you have not confirmed in this statement whether or not it was antibodies or live virus, or both, that were found in this flock. If it was live virus, that means that the disease is still there but if it was antibodies, it means that the disease has been there and moved on, and that is a particular anxiety for the whole industry.

Furthermore, you state that the independent investigations by Professor Spratt of Imperial College concluded that,

‘the most likely source of the ... outbreak was the escape of a live virus from the Pirbright site.’

Most of us would like to know for certain that that was the source, because we remain suspicious that there may have been other sources. Will you confirm that that was the source and not just the most likely source?

The second issue is one that a great many farmers have mentioned to me, having seen film on the news of the infected cattle going for slaughter running through a watercourse. We read with interest that the virus can stay alive for 50 days in water. Is that information

Gwerthfawrogaf eich bod yn cydnabod difrifoldeb y sefyllfa hon ar gyfer iechyd ffermwyr ac iechyd economaidd y diwydiant drwyddo draw. Yr wyf yn cyfleu ar goedd fy niolch i bob un o’ch swyddogion, sydd, fe wn, wedi gweithio’n ddiflino i sicrhau bod y diwydiant yn cael y wybodaeth briodol, a, phan fo modd, yn cael trwyddedau cyn gynted ag sy’n bosibl. Cyfeiriai yn benodol at y gwaith yr wythnos diwethaf pan oedd yr heddlu wedi caethiwo 10,000 o ddefaid ym marchnad y Trallwng. Dim ond oherwydd gwaith da eich swyddogion yr oedd y trwyddedau arbennig yno’n barod, a olygai fod y farchnad yn gallu gwerthu’r da byw a bod y da byw’n cael mynd i’w cartref newydd yn hytrach na sefyll ar goncrit. Byddai wedi peri problem ofnadwy o ran lles petai’r da byw wedi bod yno drwy’r nos. Felly, diolchaf ichi am hynny.

Ynghylch eich datganiad a’r gydnabyddiaeth mai yn Surrey yr oedd yr achosion hyn, a wnewch roi rhagor o fanylion inni am yr achos diweddar mewn defaid? Sylwaf nad ydych wedi cadarnhau yn y datganiad hwn ai gwrthgyrff ynteu firws byw, ynteu’r ddau, a ganfuwyd yn y ddiadell hon. Os mai firws byw ydoedd, golyga hynny fod y clefyd yn dal yno ond os mai gwrthgyrff ydoedd, golyga fod y clefyd wedi bod yno ac wedi symud yn ei flaen, ac mae hynny’n destun pryder arbennig i’r diwydiant drwyddo draw.

Yn ogystal â hyn, dywedwch fod yr archwiliadau annibynnol gan yr Athro Spratt o Imperial College wedi casglu mai,

ffynhonnell fwyaf tebygol yr achosion ... oedd bod firws byw wedi dianc o safle Pirbright.

Byddai’r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn hoffi gwybod i sicrwydd mai hynny oedd y ffynhonnell, oherwydd ein bod yn dal i amau y gallasai fod ffynonellau eraill. A wnewch gadarnhau mai hynny oedd y ffynhonnell yn hytrach na’r ffynhonnell fwyaf tebygol?

Mae’r ail fater yn un y mae nifer fawr o ffermwyr wedi’i grybwyll wrthyf, ar ôl gweld ar y newyddion ffilm o’r gwartheg heintus a oedd yn mynd i’w difa’n rhedeg drwy gwrs dŵr. Darllenwn gyda diddordeb y gall y firws aros yn fyw am 50 diwrnod mewn dŵr. A

correct? What research is being carried out to find out how long the virus can live in water? The report from Professor Spratt indicated that the live virus had escaped into a watercourse and, as I understand it—and perhaps you can confirm this—the research that was taking place in these establishments that were using live foot and mouth virus started on 7 July, and the outbreak was not reported until 3 August.

The third point that I want to raise is on vaccination, because I believe that the area is not densely populated with cattle or sheep. What discussions have you had with your counterparts about the use of vaccination, given that we now have another outbreak? Each outbreak pushes back the time at which the industry can resume normal trading and, in particular, exports.

I am grateful for your recognition, in the third and fourth paragraphs on the second page of your statement, that the Government is responsible for this. Will you clarify your position on that? If Pirbright, a Government establishment, was the source of the virus, what is your view, Minister? Will you be lobbying for the Government to pay compensation to the industry for its incredible losses of income?

As I said in my introduction, I am pleased that you have undertaken extensive discussions with all stakeholders, but you failed to mention whether or not we will have licensing for, for example, health reasons, dairy cattle, fallen stock—sorry, fallen stock has been announced—and, in particular, breeding stock, such as tups, so that they can be moved from farms, because a great many flocks will, obviously, need tups to get their lamb crop up and running.

You mentioned the implementation of the livestock welfare disposal scheme. You identified the issues of the impact on the industry and the possible loss of £30 million as a result of this outbreak. I appreciate what you say about meeting retailers, and I hope that they can sell £30 million of lamb pretty quickly, during this outbreak. Will you use your good offices to ensure that, with the

yw'r wybodaeth honno'n gywir? Pa ymchwil a wneir i gael gwybod am faint y gall y firws fyw mewn dŵr? Awgrymai'r adroddiad gan yr Athro Spratt fod y firws byw wedi dianc i gwrs dŵr ac, yn ôl a ddeallaf—ac efallai y gallwch gadarnhau hyn—dechreuodd yr ymchwil a oedd ar waith yn y sefydliadau hyn a oedd yn defnyddio firws traed a'r genau byw ar 7 Gorffennaf, ac ni chafwyd adroddiad am yr achos tan 3 Awst.

Ynglŷn â brechu y mae'r trydydd pwynt y dymunaf ei godi, oherwydd credaf nad yw'r ardal yn un lle y ceir trwch mawr o wartheg a defaid. Pa drafodaethau a fu rhyngoch a'ch Gweinidogion cyfatebol am ddefnyddio brechiadau, a ninnau'n awr yn gweld cyfres arall o achosion? Mae pob cyfres o achosion yn gohirio'r adeg y gall y diwydiant ailddechrau masnachu'n normal eto, ac, yn benodol, ailddechrau allforio.

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar eich bod yn cydnabod, yn nhrydydd a phedwerydd paragraff ail dudalen eich datganiad, mai'r Llywodraeth sy'n gyfrifol am hyn. A wnewch egluro'ch safbwynt am hynny? Os mai Pirbright, un o sefydliadau'r Llywodraeth, oedd ffynhonnell y firws, beth yw eich barn chi, Weinidog? A fyddwch yn llobio er mwyn i'r Llywodraeth dalu iawndal i'r diwydiant am yr incwm anhygoel a gollir ganddo?

Fel y dywedais yn fy nghyflwyniad, yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi cynnal trafodaethau helaeth gyda phob rhanddeiliad, ond ni wnaethoch sôn a gawn ni drwyddedu, er enghraifft, am resymau'n ymwneud ag iechyd, ar gyfer gwartheg godro, stoc trig—mae'n ddrwg gennyf, cafwyd cyhoeddiad am stoc trig—ac, yn benodol stoc magu, megis hyrddod, fel y gellir eu symud oddi ar ffermydd, oherwydd ei bod yn amlwg y bydd angen hyrddod ar nifer fawr o ddiadelloedd er mwyn cynhyrchu'r stoc wŷn.

Soniasoch am roi'r cynllun lles da byw (gwaredu) ar waith. Cyfeiriwyd at yr effaith ar y diwydiant a'r posibilrwydd o gollu £30 miliwn yn sgîl yr achos hwn. Gwerthfawrogaf yr hyn a ddywedwch am gyfarfod â manwerthwyr, gan obeithio y gallant werthu gwerth £30 miliwn o gig oen yn eithaf cyflym, yn ystod yr achos hwn. A wnewch ddefnyddio'ch dylanwad i sicrhau

industry, it is realised that there are a great number of small lambs in Wales that will not be exported, and that will further depress the price of lamb? This welfare scheme needs to be urgently implemented to ensure that, during this period of restriction, a decent price is received by those farmers who have to get rid of livestock.

4.50 p.m.

Finally, given your enthusiasm for selling more livestock, especially to our great friends the supermarkets, I wonder whether or not you will provide more money to promote Welsh lamb through the good offices of Hybu Cig Cymru.

Elin Jones: I am grateful for your thanks to the officials who work in animal health, and other areas of my department. I am grateful that you accept, as I am sure that everybody does, that they are working very hard to ensure that the disease is kept out of Wales, and that the restrictions that have been imposed here are adhered to, and lifted when appropriate. I have been incredibly impressed, as someone who was outside the Government until recently, by the efforts that officials have made over the last few weeks, working on this outbreak of the disease in Britain.

I do not have the exact results for the sheep in the fifth infected premises with me. I am not able to give you any more information as to whether it was the virus itself or antibodies that were found in the sheep that were tested yesterday in Surrey.

On Pirbright, and the compensation issues around the fact that the report said it was the most likely source for the outbreak, I understand that the fact that this has come from a UK Government laboratory premises increases the frustration and anger of farmers who are now having to comply with movement restrictions, and to deal with their economic effect. However, this Government is not able to pay compensation, and does not pay compensation unless for the loss of animals or farm equipment taken directly as a

eu bod yn sylweddoli, gyda'r diwydiant, fod nifer fawr o wŷn bach yng Nghymru na chânt eu hallforio, ac y bydd hynny yn gwasgu mwy byth ar bris cig oen? Mae angen rhoi'r cynllun lles hwn ar waith ar frys er mwyn sicrhau bod y ffermwyr hynny sy'n gorfod cael gwared ar dda byw'n cael pris teilwng yn ystod cyfnod y cyfyngiadau.

Yn olaf, o gofio'ch brwdfrydedd dros werthu mwy o dda byw, yn enwedig i'n ffrindiau mawr, yr archfarchnadoedd, tybed a rowch ragor o arian i hyrwyddo cig oen Cymru drwy gyfrwng gwaith da Hybu Cig Cymru?

Elin Jones: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich diolchiadau i'r swyddogion sy'n gweithio ym maes iechyd anifeiliaid, ac mewn meysydd eraill yn fy adran. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar eich bod yn derbyn, fel y mae pawb yn gwneud, yr wyf yn siŵr, eu bod yn gweithio'n galed iawn i sicrhau bod y clwy'n cael ei gadw draw o Gymru, a bod pawb yn cadw at y cyfyngiadau sydd wedi'u gorfodi yma, a bod y cyfyngiadau hynny'n cael eu codi pan fydd hynny'n briodol. A minnau'n rhywun sydd wedi bod y tu allan i'r Llywodraeth tan yn ddiweddar, mae ymdrechion y swyddogion sydd wedi bod yn gweithio ar yr achosion hyn o'r clefyd ym Mhrydain yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf wedi gwneud argraff anhygoel arnaf.

Nid yw'r union ganlyniadau gennyf yma ar gyfer y defaid yn y pumed eiddo sydd wedi'i heintio. Ni allaf roi rhagor o wybodaeth ichi ai'r firws ei hun ynteu gwrthgyrff a ganfuwyd yn y defaid a brofwyd yn Surrey ddoe.

O ran Pirbright, a'r ystyriaethau ynghylch iawndal sy'n gysylltiedig â'r ffaith bod yr adroddiad yn dweud mai dyna ffynhonnell fwyaf tebygol yr achosion, deallaf fod y ffaith mai o un o labordai Llywodraeth y DU y daeth hyn yn gwneud y ffermwyr sydd yn awr yn gorfod cydymffurfio â chyfyngiadau ar symud, a delio â'u heffaith economaidd, yn fwy rhwystredig a dig. Fodd bynnag, ni all y Llywodraeth hon dalu iawndal, ac nid yw'n talu iawndal ac eithrio am golli anifeiliaid neu offer fferm a gymerir yn uniongyrchol yn

result of an outbreak of disease. However, I am aware, as I said in my statement, of the economic impact in Wales at this particular time, and the discussion about how that impact can be alleviated is one that I intend to have with Hilary Benn when I meet him, either later this week or next week.

The issue of the livestock welfare disposal scheme is another that may well feature in those discussions, but I go back to the point that I made in the statement: as a result of the 2001 outbreak, the Governments of England, Scotland and Wales decided that there would not, in future, be a funded scheme of welfare disposal, although I am sure that that is an issue that many people, not least the stakeholders whom I meet regularly, will want to impress upon me over the next few weeks. However, even though animal health powers are devolved to Wales, the budget to meet any outbreak of disease, such as foot and mouth disease, is retained at a Great Britain level, and is not a budget that Andrew Davies, the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery, needs to worry about at this particular point in time. It would need to be a scheme that would be developed and funded at a GB level.

You raised a point regarding the television pictures of cattle that were about to be culled running through a water course. My understanding from officials in DEFRA is that this particular water course has been traced and has no connection to the outbreaks last week, which happened outside the original surveillance zone.

On vaccination, it is now a European Union requirement that any member state that has an outbreak of foot and mouth disease consider the option of vaccination. Vaccination has been discussed, and was an agenda item, in the COBRA meetings that I attended in August and again since the outbreak last week, and a decision will be required soon. I have stressed, as has my counterpart in Scotland, the need for devolved administrations to be included and consulted on that decision, because while the vaccination would have a direct impact on south-east England, it could also have quite

sgîl achosion o glefyd. Serch hynny, fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad, yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r effaith economaidd yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd, ac yr wyf yn bwriadu trafod sut y gellir lliniaru'r effaith honno gyda Hilary Benn pan fyddaf yn cyfarfod ag ef, naill ai'n ddiweddarach yr wythnos yma neu'r wythnos nesaf.

Gall y cynllun lles da byw (gwaredu) hefyd fod yn bwnc a drafodir bryd hynny, ond dychwelaf at y pwynt a godais yn y datganiad: yn sgîl y clwyf yn 2001, penderfynodd Llywodraethau Cymru, Lloegr a'r Alban na fyddai cynllun lles (gwaredu) sy'n cael ei ariannu ar gael yn y dyfodol, er fy mod yn siŵr bod hynny'n fater y bydd llawer o bobl, yn enwedig y rhanddeiliaid y byddaf yn cyfarfod â hwy'n rheolaidd, yn dymuno pwysu arnaf yn ei gylch yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf. Fodd bynnag, er bod pwerau dros iechyd anifeiliaid wedi'u datganoli i Gymru, mae'r gyllideb ar gyfer unrhyw achos o glefyd, megis clwy'r traed a'r genau, yn cael ei chadw ar lefel Prydain Fawr, ac nid yw'n gyllideb y mae angen i Andrew Davies, y Gweinidog dros Gyllid a Chyflwyno Gwasanaeth Cyhoeddus, boeni amdani ar hyn o bryd. Byddai angen iddo fod yn gynllun a fyddai'n cael ei ddatblygu a'i gyllido ar lefel Prydain Fawr.

Codasoch bwynt ynghylch y lluniau ar y teledu o wartheg a oedd ar fin cael eu difa'n rhedeg drwy gwrs dŵr. Caf ar ddeall gan swyddogion DEFRA eu bod wedi canfod y cwrs dŵr penodol hwn ac nad oes cysylltiad rhyngddo a'r achosion yr wythnos diwethaf, a ddigwyddodd y tu allan i'r parth gwyliadwriaeth gwreiddiol.

O ran brechu, erbyn hyn mae'r Undeb Ewropeaidd yn mynnu bod unrhyw aelod-wladwriaeth lle y digwydd achosion o glwy'r traed a'r genau yn ystyried y dewis hwnnw, sef brechu. Trafodwyd brechu ac yr oedd yn eitem ar yr agenda, yng nghyfarfodydd COBRA y bûm ynddynt ym mis Awst ac eto ers yr achos yr wythnos diwethaf, a bydd gofyn penderfynu cyn bo hir. Yr wyf wedi pwysleisio, fel y mae'r Gweinidog cyfatebol yn yr Alban, fod angen cynnwys gweinyddiaethau datganoledig ac ymgynghori â hwy ynglŷn â'r penderfyniad hwnnw, oherwydd er y byddai'r brechu'n

significant consequential effects on export and agriculture in Wales.

On movement restrictions and the further lifting of movement restrictions, you mentioned ram movements to sheep and other welfare movements. Those issues are being prioritised at the moment with Animal Health, and once the veterinary advice is that it is safe for those movements to be allowed, we will be keen to sanction those movements in Wales. It is a moving beast as you know, and it moves pretty quickly. I am sure that we will have further information over the next few hours and days on those issues.

Nerys Evans: Fel y mae sawl un wedi dweud eisoes, nid oes modd gor-ddweud pa mor ddifrifol yw'r sefyllfa yn y diwydiant amaethyddol—diwydiant sy'n ddigon bregus fel ag y mae. Un o'r pethau sy'n cythruddo ffermwyr fwyaf yw'r ffaith bod y clwyf wedi dod o sefydliad llywodraethol: Pirbright. Yr wyf ar ddeall bod rheoliadau ynglŷn a cherbydau yn mynd a dod o'r labordy yn wan iawn, a bod diffyg cofnod, hyd yn oed, o'r cerbydau sydd wedi bod yn y labordy. Cymharwch hyn â'r rheolau llym sydd mewn grym mewn marchnadoedd traddodiadol ar draws y wlad, lle mae cofnod o gerbydau yn drefn sylfaenol sy'n cael ei gynnwys â'r trwyddedau defaid, ac yn y blaen.

Yn amlwg, mae'n bryder enfawr bod rheolau mor wan yn un o sefydliadau llywodraethol y Deyrnas Unedig lle mae'r clwyf yn cael ei drin. A fyddai modd codi'r pryderon hyn gyda Gweinidog DEFRA er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa, a sicrhau cysondeb yn y rheolau yn y maes pwysig hwn?

Elin Jones: Diolch, Nerys, am y cwestiwn penodol hwnnw, sydd unwaith eto'n cyfeirio at y ffaith bod y diwydiant a nifer o bobl yn siomedig gyda'r ffaith bod yr argyfwng wedi deillio o sefydliad a safle o eiddo'r Llywodraeth. Mae'r adroddiadau sydd wedi eu gwneud a'r ymchwiliadau sydd eto yn cael eu cynnal ar safle Pirbright yn codi nifer o

cael dylanwad uniongyrchol ar dde-ddwyrain Lloegr, gallai hefyd gael effeithiau canlyniadol ar allforio ac ar amaethyddiaeth yng Nghymru.

O ran y cyfyngiadau ar symud a chodi rhagor ar y cyfyngiadau hynny, soniasoch am symud hyrddod at ddefaid a symudiadau eraill er lles yr anifeiliaid. Mae'r materion hyn yn cael eu blaenoriaethu ar hyn o bryd gyda'r gwasanaeth Iechyd Anifeiliaid, ac ar ôl i'r gwasanaeth milfeddygol ein cynghori ei bod yn ddiogel caniatáu'r symudiadau hynny, byddwn yn awyddus i gymeradwyo'r symudiadau hynny yng Nghymru. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r sefyllfa'n newid yn barhaus, ac yn newid yn weddol gyflym. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd gennym fwy o wybodaeth yn ystod yr oriau a'r diwrnodau nesaf am y materion hynny.

Nerys Evans: As many Members have already said, one cannot exaggerate the gravity of the situation facing the agricultural industry—an industry that is fragile enough as it is. What has enraged farmers the most is the fact that the disease has emerged from a Government establishment: Pirbright. I understand that the regulations for traffic movement to and from the laboratory are very weak, and that there is not even a record of the vehicles that have been to the laboratory. Compare that with the strict rules and regulations in place in traditional marts throughout the country, where a record of vehicles is included with sheep passports and so forth, as a routine procedure.

Obviously, it is of enormous concern that such weak rules and regulations exist at a UK Government establishment where foot and mouth disease is handled. Would it be possible to raise these concerns with the DEFRA Minister so that the situation can be addressed, and to ensure uniformity of regulations in this important area?

Elin Jones: Thank you, Nerys, for the specific question, which once again refers to the fact that the industry and many people are frustrated with the fact that the crisis has emerged from a site belonging to the Government. The reports published and ongoing investigations at Pirbright raise many questions. I am sure that the

gwestiynau. Mae'n siŵr y bydd y Llywodraeth yn awyddus iawn i sicrhau bod argymhellion yr adroddiadau hynny, o ran symudiadau allan o'r safle, yn cael eu gweithredu cyn gynted â phosibl, er mwyn sicrhau nad yw'r clefyd yn cael ei ryddhau unwaith eto.

O ran yr ail argyfwng yr wythnos diwethaf, mewn ffermydd tu allan i'r parth gwyliadwriaeth gwreiddiol, nid ydym yn siŵr ar hyn o bryd a ddeilliodd y clefyd o Pirbright yn uniongyrchol unwaith eto, neu a oedd wedi bod mewn anifail neu mewn amgylchedd arall yn y cyfamser. Bydd yr arbrofion sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd yn rhoi mwy o wybodaeth inni yn ystod y dyddiau nesaf. Byddai'n sefyllfa ddifrifol iawn os yw'r feirws wedi dianc am yr eildro o safle Pirbright.

Kirsty Williams: I represent the largest single rural constituency, and a constituency that has exceptionally high levels of stocking rate. You can only begin to imagine the difficult situation that my constituents are facing. Over the last week or so, we should have seen many thousands of animals pass through the Buih Wells show ground at the various sales. My office is inundated with people who simply do not know what to do next.

I will start with the issue of ram movements. You will be aware that this is the peak time for the trading of rams, and we have a limited timescale in which we need to get those rams moving around the country if we are to avoid seeing the economic impact of this disease hitting us again next year.

5.00 p.m.

Next year's lamb crop will be affected if we do not get our tack livestock moving around the country. I appreciate that you are looking at how this can be done without opening up markets, but many of my constituents are fearful that they will suffer financial losses if they have to rely on farm-to-farm sales or even internet sales in terms of how they can market their stock and get the best price for it.

I also appreciate that you are looking at the

Government will be very keen to ensure that the recommendations made in those reports, in terms of movements from the site, will be implemented as soon as possible, in order to ensure that the disease is not released once more.

In respect of the second emergency last week on farms beyond the original surveillance zone, we are not sure at present whether the disease originated directly from Pirbright yet again, or whether it had been incubating in an animal from another environment in the meantime. Tests currently taking place will provide us with more information over the next few days. It would be a very grave situation indeed if the virus had escaped for a second time from the Pirbright site.

Kirsty Williams: Yr wyf yn cynrychioli'r etholaeth wledig fwyaf un, ac mae'n etholaeth sydd â chyfradd stocio eithriadol o uchel. Ni allwch ond dechrau dychmygu'r sefyllfa anodd y mae fy etholwyr yn ei hwynebu. Dros yr wythnos neu ddwy diwethaf, dylem fod wedi gweld miloedd lawer o anifeiliaid yn mynd drwy faes sioe Llanelwedd yn y gwahanol arwerthiannau. Mae fy swyddfa'n cael ei llethu gan bobl nad oes ganddynt glem beth i'w wneud nesaf.

Dechreuaf gyda mater symud hyrddod. Gwyddoch mai dyma'r cyfnod brig ar gyfer prynu a gwerthu hyrddod, ac mae amser yn brin inni sicrhau bod yr hyrddod hynny'n symud o gwmpas y wlad os ydym am osgoi gweld effaith economaidd y clefyd hwn yn ein taro eto y flwyddyn nesaf.

Effeithir ar niferoedd ŵyn y flwyddyn nesaf os na chawn ein da byw tac i symud o gwmpas y wlad. Sylweddolaf eich bod yn edrych ar sut y gellir gwneud hyn heb agor marchnadoedd, ond mae ar lawer o'm hetholwyr ofn y dioddefant golledion ariannol os bydd yn rhaid iddynt ddibyynu ar werthu o fferm i fferm neu hyd yn oed dros y we o ran sut y gallant farchnata'u stoc a chael y pris gorau amdano.

Sylweddolaf eich bod yn edrych ar

issues of breeding ewes; it is equally important that we move those around the country, particularly when you consider that larger numbers of breeding ewes are currently accommodated on farms. Farmers would have expected to put those ewes out over the next couple of weeks. They are trying to maintain them on fast-diminishing grass levels, and the prospect of feeding them, given the current price of feed, is not appealing.

I appreciate that many people are calling for a regionalisation strategy, which has a great deal of appeal, given, thank goodness, that we are currently disease free. However, do you acknowledge that many of the store animals in Wales, particularly in my constituency, are sold across the border and that we need to find a mechanism for ensuring that the sales of Welsh stock across the border to English farmers can be started as quickly as possible?

The light lamb issue is fundamental. Approximately a million light lambs have to be put out over the next couple of weeks and you describe a situation where farmers will either have to watch them starve or give them away for nothing. That is not an acceptable position for my constituents to be placed in. The swift establishment of a paid welfare scheme must be a priority in order to find a way of solving the light lamb problem. The alternative to that would be to consider the question of intervention—that lambs are slaughtered and stored. That might be one way of tackling the problem. Would it not be hugely ironic if supermarkets, in months to come, complained about a shortage of lamb only to have seen our lambs lost to a welfare scheme and to have to import yet more lamb from New Zealand? Could you comment on the possibility of an intervention scheme?

I am somewhat bemused by your confidence in the supermarkets. I do not know on what basis you think that your appeal to them will work given that they are already taking advantage of the situation and that the price of lamb today is down to 80p a kilo when, at this time of year, it would normally cost around 110p. So, I suspect that our appeals to the supermarkets to do the right thing at this time are already too late. They are already

broblemau mamogiaid bridio; mae yr un mor bwysig ein bod yn symud y rheini o gwmpas y wlad, yn enwedig pan ystyriwch fod niferoedd mwy o famogiaid bridio ar ffermydd ar hyn o bryd. Byddai ffermwyr wedi disgwyl rhoi'r mamogiaid hynny allan yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf. Maent yn ceisio'u cynnal ar laswellt sy'n prysur brinhau, ac nid yw meddwl am eu porthi, o ystyried pris porthiant ar hyn o bryd, yn apelio rhyw lawer.

Sylweddolaf fod llawer o bobl yn galw am strategaeth ranbartholi, sydd â chryn dipyn o apêl, gan ein bod, diolch i'r nefoedd, yn ddiglefyd ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, a ydych yn cydnabod bod llawer o'r anifeiliaid stôr yng Nghymru, yn enwedig yn f'etholaeth i, yn cael eu gwerthu dros y ffin a bod angen inni ganfod peirianwaith i sicrhau y gellir dechrau gwerthu stoc Cymru dros y ffin i ffermwyr yn Lloegr cyn gynted ag y bo modd?

Mae mater yr ŵyn ysgafn yn sylfaenol. Mae'n rhaid rhoi tua miliwn o ŵyn ysgafn allan yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf ac yr ydych yn disgrifio sefyllfa lle y bydd yn rhaid i ffermwyr naill ai eu gwyllo'n llwgu neu eu rhoi i ffwrdd am ddim. Nid yw hynny'n sefyllfa dderbyniol i'm hetholwyr gael eu rhoi ynnddi. Rhaid rhoi blaenoriaeth i sefydlu cynllun taliadau lles ar fyrder er mwyn canfod ffordd o ddatrys problem yr ŵyn ysgafn. Y dewis arall fyddai ystyried cwestiwn ymyrryd—lladd a storio ŵyn. Gallai hynny fod yn un ffordd o fynd i'r afael â'r broblem. Oni fyddai'n hynod eironig pe bai archfarchnadoedd, yn y misoedd i ddod, yn cwyno am brinder cig oen, a hwythau wedi gweld colli'n hŵyn ni i gynllun lles ac yn gorfod mewnfario mwy fyth o gig oen o Seland Newydd? A allech roi sylwadau ar bosibilrwydd cynllun ymyrryd?

Mae eich hyder yn yr archfarchnadoedd yn peri syndod imi braidd. Ni wn ar ba sail y credwch y gwnaiff eich apêl atynt weithio, a hwythau eisoes yn manteisio ar y sefyllfa fel bod pris cig oen heddiw i lawr i 80 ceiniog y kilo, pan fyddai'n costio rhyw 110 ceiniog yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn fel arfer. Felly, yr wyf yn amau ei bod yn rhy hwyr yn barod inni apelio ar yr archfarchnadoedd i wneud y peth iawn ar hyn o bryd. Maent eisoes yn

crucifying producers with the prices that they are willing to pay. On that basis, we have to find a way of getting some money into the bank accounts of these farmers. What consideration have you given to early payment of at least part of the single farm payment at this time?

I appreciate that your officials are doing all that they can and you say that this is a fast-moving situation, but it seems that little has changed since I was given information by officials last week, when they told me, 'Yes, we are looking at tack sales, and yes, we are looking at breeding sales, stores and light lambs.' Each day is crucial in terms of animal welfare and the welfare of these businesses. Unfortunately, we are not seeing the progress that we would like to see.

I remember all too well the huge impact that the 2001 crisis had on my constituents, and perhaps because the people of Wales do not see the burning pyres or the protests on the Epynt they think that we are okay this time—we are not okay this time. I suspect that this outbreak will hit us harder than that of 2001 because of the time of year in which this one has hit us. I am concerned about the mental health of some of my constituents who are frankly despairing about what they can do at this time. What help will be made available to mental health charities to ensure that farmers who are suffering difficulties and mental distress have appropriate outlets through which to talk about some of the situations in which they find themselves?

Elin Jones: You raised many practical issues that face and challenge farmers in your constituency and others throughout Wales. I was slightly surprised that you mentioned that you had heard of no progress since the end of last week on decisions taken by me and my department, because yesterday we allowed collection centres and red-meat auctions to take place in Wales. That has been welcomed and is early on in the disease outbreak. However, I take your point that there are practical difficulties facing farmers. The trading of rams is especially important in your constituency; you have the Bulth Wells ram sale, which was due to take place next

croeshoelio cynhyrchwyr gyda'r prisiau y maent yn fodlon eu talu. Ar sail hynny, mae'n rhaid inni ganfod ffordd o gael rhywfaint o arian i mewn i gyfrifon banc y ffermwyr hyn. Pa ystyriaeth yr ydych wedi'i rhoi i dalu rhan, o leiaf, o'r taliad sengl i ffermwyr yn gynnar yn awr?

Sylweddolaf fod eich swyddogion yn gwneud popeth a allant a'ch bod chi'n dweud bod hon yn sefyllfa sy'n symud yn gyflym, ond mae'n ymddangos nad oes fawr ddim wedi newid ers imi gael gwybodaeth gan swyddogion yr wythnos diwethaf, pryd y dywedasant wrthyf, 'Ydym, yr ydym yn edrych ar werthiannau tac, ac ydym, yr ydym yn edrych ar werthiannau bridio, ŵyn stôr ac ŵyn ysgafn.' Mae pob diwrnod yn allweddol o ran lles anifeiliaid a lles y busnesau hyn. Yn anffodus nid ydym yn gweld y cynnydd yr hoffem ei weld.

Cofiaf yn rhy dda yr effaith aruthrol a gafodd argyfwng 2001 ar f'etholwyr, ac efallai am nad yw pobl Cymru'n gweld y coelcerthi'n llosgi neu'r protestiadau ar yr Epynt, eu bod yn meddwl ei bod yn iawn arnom y tro hwn—nid yw'n iawn arnom y tro hwn. Yr wyf yn amau y gwnaiff y clwyf y tro hwn ein taro'n galetach nag yn 2001 oherwydd yr adeg o'r flwyddyn y mae wedi'n taro. Yr wyf yn bryderus ynghylch iechyd meddwl rhai o'm hetholwyr sydd yn anobeithio, a dweud y gwir, ynghylch beth y gallant ei wneud yn awr. Pa gymorth a roddir i elusennau iechyd meddwl i sicrhau y caiff ffermwyr sydd yn dioddef anawsterau a thrallod meddyliol gyfleon priodol i siarad am rai o'r sefyllfaoedd y cânt eu hunain ynddynt?

Elin Jones: Codasoch lawer o gwestiynau ymarferol sydd yn wynebu ac yn herio ffermwyr yn eich etholaeth chi ac eraill ledled Cymru. Synnais fymryn ichi sôn nad oeddech wedi clywed am ddim cynnydd ers diwedd yr wythnos ddiwethaf ar benderfyniadau a wnaethpwyd gennyf fi a'm hadran, oherwydd ddoe gwnaethom ganiatáu i ganolfannau casglu ac arwerthiannau cig coch ddigwydd yng Nghymru. Mae hynny wedi'i groesawu ac yn gynnar yng nghyfnod y clwyf. Fodd bynnag, derbyniaf eich pwynt bod anawsterau ymarferol yn wynebu ffermwyr. Mae masnachu hyrddod yn arbennig o bwysig yn eich etholaeth chi; mae

week and which I was due to visit, and which I was looking forward to visiting, because the organisers of that particular sale had been keen, in discussions with me in August, to emphasise how important it was to lift restrictions before the big ram sale next week. I was disappointed, as was everyone else, that we had to put restrictions in place again because of a new outbreak of the disease. However, I am sure that you recognise the importance of those restrictions being in place, because we need to ensure that Wales retains its disease-free status and that this disease continues to be contained in the south-east of England.

You mentioned the breeding ewes. It is my understanding that around 700,000 breeding ewes need to be moved at this time of year, and many of them, as you say, to lowland England from upland Wales. Therefore, I am keen to discuss with DEFRA and Scotland the need to have high-risk and low-risk areas, which includes low-risk England, because that will be important for the trade and the movement of animals between Wales and many areas of England, which is important for Welsh farmers.

You alluded to the very real issue that grass is ceasing to grow in the fields and especially in the mountain areas and that the sheep and the lambs that are there will not be able to feed on any growing grass. Therefore, there are significant cost implications for farmers and welfare implications if those animals remain unfed. That is why I am keen to discuss, as I mentioned earlier, with Hilary Benn, the Secretary of State in DEFRA, and with the Scottish Minister, how we can look at the GB-level at what support can be given to the industry for as long as these restrictions remain in place. The ability to lift the restrictions is the best solution for all, but I can only do that on the basis of veterinary advice, as you will appreciate. As there has been a further outbreak today, there are further delays in the system in terms of being safe and secure in the knowledge of when we will be able to lift the restrictions. However, as I said in the statement, I have

gennych arwerthiant hyrddod Llanfair ym Muallt, a oedd i fod i ddigwydd yr wythnos nesaf ac yr oeddwn i fod i ymweld ag ef, ac yr oeddwn yn edrych ymlaen at ymweld ag ef, oherwydd yr oedd trefnwyr yr arwerthiant arbennig hwnnw wedi bod yn awyddus, mewn trafodaethau gyda mi yn Awst, i bwysleisio mor bwysig oedd codi'r cyfyngiadau cyn yr arwerthiant hyrddod mawr yr wythnos nesaf. Yr oeddwn yn siomedig, fel pawb arall, ein bod wedi gorfod ailosod cyfyngiadau oherwydd achos newydd o'r clwyf. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siŵr y sylweddolwch mor bwysig yw cael y cyfyngiadau hynny, oherwydd y mae angen inni sicrhau bod Cymru'n cadw ei statws diglefyd ac y parheir i gyfyngu'r clefyd hwn i dde-ddwyrain Lloegr.

Soniasoch am y mamogiaid bridio. Yn ôl a ddeallaf, mae angen symud tua 700,000 o famogiaid bridio yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn; llawer ohonynt, fel y dywedwch, i iseldir Lloegr o ucheldir Cymru. Felly, yr wyf yn awyddus i drafod gyda DEFRA a'r Alban yr angen i gael ardaloedd sydd mewn perygl mawr a rhai sydd mewn llai o berygl, sy'n cynnwys y rhan o Loegr sydd mewn llai o berygl, oherwydd bydd hynny'n bwysig i fasnach a symudiad anifeiliaid rhwng Cymru a llawer rhan o Loegr, sydd yn bwysig i ffermwyr Cymru.

Cyfeiriasoch at y broblem wirioneddol bod twf y glaswellt yn arafu yn y caeau ac yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd mynyddig ac na fydd y defaid a'r ŵyn sydd yno'n gallu pori glaswellt sy'n tyfu. Felly, mae cryn oblygiadau o ran costau i ffermwyr a goblygiadau o ran lles os pery'r anifeiliaid hynny heb eu bwydo. Dyna pam yr wyf yn awyddus i drafod, fel y crybwyllais yn gynharach, gyda Hilary Benn, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn DEFRA, a chyda Gweinidog yr Alban sut y gallwn edrych ar lefel Prydain ar ba gefnogaeth y gellir ei rhoi i'r diwydiant cyhyd ag y pery'r cyfyngiadau hyn. Gallu codi'r cyfyngiadau yw'r ateb gorau i bawb, ond dim ond ar sail cyngor milfeddygol y gallaf wneud hynny, fel y sylweddolwch. Gan fod achos arall wedi ymddangos heddiw, mae oedi pellach yn y system o ran bod yn ddiogel yn ein gwybodaeth ynghylch pa bryd y gallwn godi'r cyfyngiadau hynny. Fodd bynnag, fel

commissioned a piece of work to ascertain the level of animal movements from the south-east of England into Wales over the last three weeks. If it shows a low level of animal movements, then it will give us greater confidence to move at a quicker pace in terms of lifting restrictions than if we had no information on that. It has made me aware—and I hope that it has also made farmers aware—of the importance of keeping records of animal movements. At a time of disease, such as this, the animal-movement records are key to ensuring that we have the best possible information in order to tackle this disease and to lift restrictions where we are able to do so.

Chris Franks: Will you investigate the possibility of bringing forward a campaign to encourage the purchase of Welsh food? We understand what you have said, that not all of the lambs are appropriate. However, what words of comfort can you give to procurement officers of public authorities in particular in order to assist in purchasing some of this meat?

5.10 p.m.

Elin Jones: I was at the Abergavenny Food Festival on Saturday, helping to promote the need for everyone to buy the best of local and Welsh food at this time—there is no better time to do it. On Kirsty Williams's question on supermarkets and processors taking advantage of the situation by offering lower prices, I would be disappointed if any company were trying to take advantage of this situation. I will not say that I would be surprised, but I would be disappointed. With the First Minister's agreement, I have arranged to convene a meeting with supermarkets, because it is important that they understand that the elected representatives, representing the consumers of Wales, feel strongly that this is a time to support Wales's agricultural and meat-producing industry so that we are able to sustain a meat industry in future. At some point in time, supermarkets would be at a loss if the meat-producing sectors of Wales, England and Scotland were completely put out of business by recurring animal diseases,

y dywedais yn y datganiad, yr wyf wedi comisiynu gwaith i ganfod lefel symudiadau anifeiliaid o dde-ddwyrain Lloegr i mewn i Gymru dros y tair wythnos ddiwethaf. Os dengys lefel isel o symudiadau anifeiliaid, yna rhydd fwy o hyder inni i symud yn gyflymach o ran codi cyfyngiadau na phe na bai gennym ddim gwybodaeth am hynny. Mae wedi fy ngwneud yn ymwybodol—a gobeithio ei fod wedi gwneud ffermwyr yn ymwybodol hefyd—o bwysigrwydd cadw cofnodion o symudiadau anifeiliaid. Pan fo clefyd, megis yr un sydd ar hyn o bryd, mae'r cofnodion symudiadau anifeiliaid yn allweddol i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth orau posibl gennym er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r clwyf hwn a chodi cyfyngiadau lle y gallwn wneud hynny.

Chris Franks: A wnewch ymchwilio i bosibilrwydd hybu ymgyrch i annog pobl i brynu bwyd Cymru? Deallwn yr hyn yr ydych wedi'i ddweud, nad yw'r wŷn i gyd yn addas. Fodd bynnag, pa eiriau o gysur y gallwch eu rhoi i swyddogion caffael awdurdodau cyhoeddus yn benodol er mwyn helpu i brynu rhywfaint o'r cig hwn?

Elin Jones: Yr oeddwn yng Ngŵyl Fwyd y Fenni ddydd Sadwrn, yn helpu i hyrwyddo'r angen i bawb brynu'r bwyd lleol gorau a'r bwyd gorau o Gymru yn awr—nid oes amser gwell i'w wneud. O ran cwestiwn Kirsty Williams am archfarchnadoedd a phroseswyr yn manteisio ar y sefyllfa drwy gynnig prisiau is, byddwn yn siomedig pe bai unrhyw gwmni'n ceisio manteisio ar y sefyllfa hon. Ni ddywedaf y byddwn yn synnu, ond byddwn yn siomedig. Gyda chytundeb y Prif Weinidog, yr wyf wedi trefnu i alw cyfarfod gyda'r archfarchnadoedd, oherwydd y mae'n bwysig iddynt ddeall bod y cynrychiolwyr etholedig, ar ran defnyddwyr Cymru, yn teimlo'n gryf fod hyn yn amser i gefnogi diwydiant amaethyddol a chynhyrchu cig Cymru er mwyn inni allu cynnal diwydiant cig yn y dyfodol. Ryw dro yn y dyfodol, byddai archfarchnadoedd ar eu colled pe bai clefydau anifeiliaid sy'n digwydd dro ar ôl tro, fel yr ydym wedi gweld yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf, yn difa busnes sectorau

as we have seen over the past few weeks.

I believe that the next fortnight is food fortnight. I think that it is called something a bit more catchy than that, but I cannot recall what at the moment. I think that it is being launched in Carmarthenshire on Friday, and it will give us all messages that we can take to our constituencies about the importance of purchasing good-quality Welsh food. It is good-quality Welsh food, and those people producing it need our support more than ever.

Mohammad Asghar: These are dark days for farming communities in Wales and the United Kingdom generally. Central Government is too keen to help a high-street bank within days to get it out of trouble, but it does not help our farmers. This is not a joke; it is serious. Tens of thousands of farmers are suffering because of the export ban. What are our Ministers doing? We should at least be exporting lamb from here, because Wales does not have any cases of foot and mouth disease; those are in England. Please tell me what you are doing about exports of Welsh lamb to other countries. We should be able to export because we do not have any cases of foot and mouth disease. How are you trying to persuade the Government on that?

Elin Jones: The whole of GB is under an export ban. The whole of GB is, in European terms, one epidemiological unit for the purposes of disease control. Therefore, the export ban covers all of GB. However, during August, consideration was given to a regionalisation of GB for the purposes of re-establishing exports, under which Scotland, Wales and perhaps parts of England could look to resume exports or persuade the European Union to allow the resumption of exports earlier than for the whole of GB. At that time it was not considered necessary to follow that approach because there was a GB-wide resumption of exports at an early stage. However, I am aware of the need this time for us to pursue with DEFRA and the European Union the need for Welsh and

cynhyrchu cig Cymru, Lloegr a'r Alban yn gyfan gwbl.

Credaf fod y pythefnos nesaf wedi'i enwi'n bythefnos bwyd. Yr wyf yn meddwl bod ganddo enw ychydig mwy bachog na hynny, ond ni allaf gofio beth ydyw ar hyn o bryd. Yr wyf yn meddwl ei fod yn cael ei lansio yn Sir Gâr ddydd Gwener, a bydd yn rhoi negeseuon i bawb ohonom i'w trosglwyddo i'n hetholaethau ynghylch pwysigrwydd prynu bwyd o ansawdd da o Gymru. Mae bwyd Cymru o ansawdd da, ac mae angen ein cefnogaeth yn fwy nag erioed ar y bobl hynny sy'n ei gynhyrchu.

Mohammad Asghar: Mae'r rhain yn ddyddiau du i gymunedau amaethyddol yng Nghymru a'r Deyrnas Unedig yn gyffredinol. Mae'r Llywodraeth ganolog yn rhy awyddus i helpu un o fanciau'r stryd fawr ymhen dyddiau i'w achub o drybini, ond nid yw'n helpu ein ffermwyr. Nid jôc yw hyn; mae'n ddifrifol. Mae degau o filoedd o ffermwyr yn dioddef oherwydd y gwaharddiad ar allforion. Beth y mae ein Gweinidogion yn ei wneud? Dylem o leiaf fod yn allforio cig oen oddi yma, oherwydd nid oes gan Gymru ddim achosion o glwy'r traed a'r genau; yn Lloegr y mae'r rheini. Dywedwch wrthyf, os gwelwch yn dda, beth yr ydych yn ei wneud ynghylch allforion cig oen Cymru i wledydd eraill. Dylem allu allforio oherwydd nid oes gennym ddim achosion o glwy'r traed a'r genau. Sut yr ydych yn ceisio darbwyllo'r Llywodraeth ynghylch hynny?

Elin Jones: Mae gwaharddiad ar allforion drwy Brydain gyfan. Mae Prydain gyfan, yn nhermau Ewrop, yn un uned epidemiologol at ddibenion rheoli afiechyd. Felly, mae'r gwaharddiad ar allforion yn weithredol dros Brydain gyfan. Fodd bynnag, yn ystod mis Awst, ystyriwyd rhanbartholi Prydain at ddibenion ailsefydlu allforion, fel y gallai'r Alban, Cymru a rhannau o Loegr efallai geisio ailddechrau allforio neu berswadio'r Undeb Ewropeaidd i ganiatáu ailddechrau allforio'n gynharach na Phrydain gyfan. Ar y pryd ni farnwyd bod angen dilyn y trywydd hwnnw oherwydd yr oedd allforion o Brydain gyfan i fod i ailddechrau'n fuan. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r angen y tro hwn inni fynd ar ôl y mater gyda DEFRA a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd o ran yr angen i

Scottish exports and exports from low-risk areas in England to be resumed at an earlier stage than exports from the whole of GB. I am keen to pursue the issue over the next few weeks.

Karen Sinclair: First, I wish to congratulate you on allowing movements at the earliest opportunity. It was a lifeline for many farmers in my constituency who thought that they would be grounded for a considerable time. However, you have touched on the problems that we could have with fodder and bedding, particularly going into the winter and perhaps with a much higher stocking level than they anticipated. That would be a serious problem, given the dreadful problems that we have had with hay this year that mean that it is extremely expensive. I do not know about straw, but I imagine that it is probably also at a premium. I do not want to put a cat amongst the pigeons, but I am seeing many lorries moving around carrying straw at the moment, and on country lanes with overhanging trees the straw falls off and showers everywhere. I understand that one thought is that the contamination may have spread by straw blowing from the infected area to another farm. I am not sure whether that was confirmed or whether it was speculation at the time that has been followed through. However, as we get more wagons moving straw and hay around—and it is a precious commodity—is there any mileage in looking at whether those lorries should be sheeted? It worries me that, as a lorry goes past each farm, it sprays straw everywhere. We would have no idea. We have great records about sheep movements but we have little record of the movement of fodder and bedding.

Elin Jones: I understand that straw can carry the virus, as you suggest. However, any movements of straw from the infected area—the protection zone—are currently prohibited. Therefore, it should be of comfort to you, to your constituents, and to others that no straw was allowed out of the protection zone in Surrey in August, nor is it allowed out of the new protection zone because, as you suggest, straw is a carrier. I agree that the kind of summer that we have had has put extra pressure on the farming community in

aiddechrau allforio o Gymru a'r Alban ac o ardaloedd sydd mewn llai o berygl yn Lloegr yn gynharach nag y caniateir allforio o Brydain gyfan. Yr wyf yn awyddus i fynd ynglŷn â hyn yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf.

Karen Sinclair: Yn gyntaf, hoffwn eich llongyfarch am ganiatáu symudiadau cyn gynted ag yr oedd modd. Yr oedd yn achubiaeth i lawer o ffermwyr yn f'etholaeth i a oedd yn meddwl y byddent yn gaeth am gryn amser. Fodd bynnag, yr ydych wedi cyfeirio at y problemau y gallem eu cael gyda phorthiant a sarn, yn enwedig wrth ddynesu at y gaeaf a hynny efallai gyda lefel stocio lawer uwch nag a ragwelwyd. Byddai hynny'n broblem ddifrifol, o gofio'r problemau ofnadwy a gawsom gyda gwair eleni sy'n golygu ei fod yn eithriadol o gostus. Ni wn am wellt, ond yr wyf yn dyfalu bod hwnnw hefyd yn ddud iawn. Nid oes arnaf eisiau cynhyrfu'r dyfroedd, ond gwelaf lawer o lorïau'n symud o gwmpas yn cario gwellt ar hyn o bryd, ac ar lonydd cefn gwlad gyda changhennau isel bydd y gwellt yn disgyn i ffwrdd ac yn mynd i bob man. Deallaf mai un ystyriaeth yw y gallai'r clefyd fod wedi'i ledaenu wrth i wellt chwythu o'r ardal heintiedig i fferm arall. Nid wyf yn siŵr a gadarnhawyd hynny ai peidio ynteu ai tybiaeth ar y pryd sydd wedi dod i ben ydoedd. Fodd bynnag, wrth i ni gael rhagor o wagenni'n symud gwellt a gwair o gwmpas—ac maent yn nwyddau gwerthfawr—a oes unrhyw ddiben edrych a ddylid gosod cynfasau dros y lorïau hynny? Mae'n fy mhoeni bod lori'n chwalu gwellt i bobman wrth iddi basio pob fferm. Ni fyddai gennym syniad. Mae gennym gofnodion da am symudiadau defaid ond prin yw'r cofnodion am symudiadau porthiant a sarn.

Elin Jones: Deallaf y gall gwellt gludo'r firws, fel yr awgrymwch. Fodd bynnag, mae symud unrhyw wellt o'r ardal heintiedig—y parth gwarchod—wedi'i wahardd ar hyn o bryd. Felly, dylai fod yn gysur i chi, i'ch etholwyr, ac i eraill na chaniatawyd i ddim gwellt fynd allan o'r parth gwarchod yn Surrey fis Awst, ac na chaniateir i ddim gwellt fynd allan o'r parth gwarchod newydd oherwydd, fel yr awgrymwch, mae gwellt yn cludo haint. Cytunaf fod y math o haf a gawsom wedi rhoi pwysau ychwanegol ar y

England, and now in Wales, because we are buying a product from England. The costs of the product—that is, straw and hay—and its input into the agricultural industry is considerably increased this year, which is an additional pressure on the incomes of farmers, and will be an additional factor to consider in the sustainability of their business over the next few months.

gymuned ffermio yn Lloegr, ac yn awr yng Nghymru, oherwydd ein bod yn prynu cynnyrch o Loegr. Mae costau'r cynnyrch—hynny yw, gwellt a gwair—a'i gyfraniad at y diwydiant amaethyddol wedi cynyddu'n sylweddol eleni, sy'n bwysau ychwanegol ar incwm ffermwyr, a bydd yn ffactor ychwanegol i'w ystyried o ran cynaliadwyedd eu busnes dros y misoedd nesaf.

Dadl Frys Urgent Debate

Clwy'r Traed a'r Genau Foot and Mouth Disease

Brynle Williams: I commend the Minister and her staff, as has already been said. I have quite a lengthy speech, but we have already covered much of it; therefore I will pick out what is pertinent.

Brynle Williams: Yr wyf yn canmol y Gweinidog a'i staff, fel y dywedwyd eisoes. Mae gennyf araith weddol hir, ond yr ydym eisoes wedi ymdrin â llawer ohoni; felly dewisaf yr hyn sy'n berthnasol.

The outbreak has been well handled in Wales. However, a host of issues needs to be addressed concerning how the situation was allowed to occur, the extent of the damage to the agricultural industry—and we have heard some horrific stories this afternoon—and what can be done now to help farmers and to compensate them for their loss.

Mae'r achos wedi cael ei drin yn dda yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, mae angen rhoi sylw i lu o faterion sy'n ymwneud â sut y caniatawyd i'r sefyllfa godi, graddfa'r difrod i'r diwydiant amaethyddol—ac yr ydym wedi clywed rhai straeon echrydus y prynhawn yma—a'r hyn y gellir ei wneud yn awr i helpu ffermwyr a gwneud iawn am eu colled.

It is of paramount importance that we stress that this outbreak is squarely the responsibility of the UK Government and the laboratory that it licensed at Pirbright. There is no exception, ladies and gentlemen. Both the report of the Health and Safety Executive and the independent report by Professor Spratt identified the laboratory as the only source of the disease, and that sustained underfunding of the site over the years has allowed an ageing and broken drainage pipe to leak its virus into the surrounding areas. Five years ago, just a year after foot and mouth disease had swept across Britain, the Government's own report said that there was urgent need for investment at Pirbright, and recommended that a complete new build was the only serious way forward. I find it extraordinary that the laboratory that works on the most dangerous and contagious animal disease was allowed to fall into such disrepair, and had such poor biosecurity that not only did it leak live virus, but contractors

Mae'n hynod bwysig inni bwysleisio mai Llywodraeth y DU sy'n gwbl gyfrifol am yr achos hwn a'r labordy a drwyddedwyd ganddi yn Pirbright. Nid oes eithriad foneddigion a boneddigesau. Mae adroddiad yr Awdurdod Gweithredol Iechyd a Diogelwch a'r adroddiad annibynnol gan yr Athro Spratt wedi nodi mai'r labordy oedd unig ffynhonnell y clefyd, a bod tangyllido'r safle'n barhaus dros y blynyddoedd wedi caniatáu i bibell ddraenio hen a oedd wedi torri ollwng ei firws i'r ardaloedd cyfagos. Bum mlynedd yn ôl, ychydig ar ôl i glwy'r traed a'r genau ledaenu ar draws Prydain, dywedodd adroddiad y Llywodraeth ei hun fod angen dybryd am fuddsoddiad yn Pirbright, ac argymhellwyd mai adeilad newydd sbon oedd yr unig ffordd ymlaen o ddifrif. Mae'n rhyfeddol i mi fod y labordy sy'n gweithio ar y clefyd anifeiliaid mwyaf peryglus a heintus yn cael dadfeilio i'r fath raddau, a bod ei fioldiogelwch mor wael nes ei fod nid yn unig wedi gollwng firws byw,

were also allowed to carry the virus out on the wheels of their vehicles and on their feet. That is what we have been told, ladies and gentlemen.

The virus itself has caused particular concern. During the 2001 outbreak, farmers and the public were told that the virus could survive for no longer than 46 hours outside its host, yet, following this latest outbreak, it has emerged that it can survive for more than 50 days in water. If what we are led to believe is true, I want to know how long this virus lives. Can the Minister provide any information on the virulence of this 1967 strain of the virus, and whether it has mutated outside of the laboratory?

5.20 p.m.

There are also questions to be asked over why the initial surveillance zone was not larger, why footpaths were not closed immediately, and why the zone was lifted prematurely. Should there not have been a further six weeks of lockdown in this particular area? As it was contained in Surrey and we knew that it was safe back in August, there should have been a continuous lockdown in this particular area. We were talking about 6,000 animals then, but, as it stands now, we are locking up 1 million animals. I fully accept that this outbreak required an immediate lockdown of all animal movements after it was first detected, but I must question how that was managed, and whether restrictions in Wales could have been relaxed sooner when it became clear that the outbreak was limited to a very specific corner of south-east England.

This has caused an enormous disruption to the whole of the agricultural industry. Wales alone is losing an estimated £285,000 a day, and, as the Minister well knows, that money is badly needed in rural Wales. Livestock production and the processing of meat to reach supermarket shelves will be severely disrupted. We cannot get rams to sheep and we cannot trade breeding ewes, because we have a total lockdown. We have seen the value of the stock that has made it to market during this disruption slashed. I have been in

and bod contractwyr hefyd wedi cael cludo'r firws allan ar olwynion eu cerbydau ac ar eu traed. Dyna a ddywedwyd wrthym, foneddigion a boneddigesau.

Mae'r firws ei hun wedi achosi cryn bryder. Yn ystod y clwyf yn 2001, dywedwyd wrth ffermwyr a'r cyhoedd na allai'r firws oroesi am fwy na 46 awr y tu allan i'r hyn sy'n ei letya, er hynny, wedi'r achos diweddaraf hwn, mae wedi dod yn amlwg y gall oroesi am dros 50 diwrnod mewn dŵr. Os yw'r hyn a ddywedir wrthym yn wir, mae arnaf eisiau gwybod pa mor hir y mae'r firws hwn yn byw. A all y Gweinidog roi unrhyw wybodaeth am fileindra firws 1967, ac a yw wedi mwttadu y tu allan i'r labordy?

Cyfyd cwestiynau hefyd ynghylch pam nad oedd y parth goruchwyliaeth cychwynnol yn fwy, pam na chafodd llwybrau cerdded eu cau ar unwaith, a pham y cafodd y parth ei agor yn rhy gynnar. Oni ddylid bod wedi gwahardd pob symudiad am chwe wythnos arall yn yr ardal benodol hon? Gan ei fod wedi'i gyfyngu i Surrey a ninnau'n gwybod ei bod yn ddiogel yn Awst, dylid bod wedi gwahardd pob symudiad yn yr ardal benodol hon yn barhaus. Yr oeddem yn sôn am tua 6,000 o anifeiliaid bryd hynny, ond, fel y mae pethau ar hyn o bryd, yr ydym yn cloi 1 miliwn o anifeiliaid. Yr wyf yn derbyn yn llwyr fod yr achos hwn wedi peri bod angen gwahardd symud pob anifail ar ôl ei ganfod am y tro cyntaf, ond rhaid i mi gwestiynu sut y cafodd hynny ei reoli ac a ellid bod wedi llacio'r cyfyngiadau yng Nghymru ynghynt pan ddaeth yn amlwg bod yr achos wedi'i gyfyngu i gornel benodol iawn o ddeddwyrain Lloegr.

Mae hyn wedi amharu'n aruthrol ar y diwydiant amaethyddol yn ei gyfanrwydd. Amcangyfrifir bod Cymru ei hun yn colli tua £285,000 y dydd, ac, fel y gwyr y Gweinidog yn dda, mae gwir angen yr arian hwnnw yng nghefn gwlad Cymru. Amherir yn sylweddol ar gynhyrchu da byw a phrosesu cig i gyrraedd silffoedd archfarchnadoedd. Ni allwn fynd â'r hwrdd at y defaid ac ni allwn fasnachu defaid bridio, gan ein bod wedi gwahardd pob symudiad. Yr ydym wedi gweld gwerth y stoc sydd wedi cyrraedd y

discussions with livestock auctioneers over the past week, and their predictions were that lamb would drop no lower in price than about £1.20 a kilogram in 2007-08; yesterday, in Northampton, lamb was down to 75p. That equates to losing around £20 a head for a 40 kg lamb. Ireland has quickly capitalised on this. I was just reading in the *Irish Farmers Journal* that the price of Irish lamb shot up by 70 cents once restrictions were put down. That shows the severity of the problem just in the meat industry.

Therefore, Irish exporters say that their price has shot up while the loss of export markets here means the loss of thousands of pounds. The dairy industry, which was making its first steps on the road to recovery, has been unable to export its beef-type calves to the continent. A lot has been said this afternoon about the small 12 kg to 14 kg lambs that were destined for the Italian and Greek markets. Hybu Cig Cymru has built up a market for Welsh lamb with the education department in Italy.

Mae honno wedi mynd.

Minister, will you give a commitment to work not just with the major supermarkets but also with the whole retail sector to promote Welsh lamb and boost domestic consumption?

Clearly, when the actions of the UK Government have been directly responsible for this outbreak and the disruption, the agricultural industry has an absolutely clear case for compensation. I am not asking for personal compensation for farmers, but we want to look at practical ways for the Government to help. We have heard about a lot of issues this afternoon, and I hope that you will take them back with you, Minister. One suggestion is that we look at relaxing Meat Hygiene Services slaughtering charges, with that money being channelled back to the producer. We could look at a welfare disposal scheme. You seem to be ruling it out at the moment, but I hope that you will look at it again. As you said, there is a 35 per cent oversupply of lamb on the market now, and

farchnad yn ystod yr amhariad yn disgyn yn sylweddol. Yr wyf wedi cynnal trafodaethau gydag arwerthwyr da byw dros yr wythnos ddiwethaf, ac yr oeddent yn rhagweld na fyddai pris cig oen yn disgyn yn is na thua £1.20 y cilogram yn 2007-08; ddoe, yn Northampton, yr oedd cig oen i lawr i 75c. Mae hynny'n gyfystyr â cholli tua £20 y pen ar oen 40kg. Mae Iwerddon wedi manteisio'n gyflym ar hyn. Yr oeddwn yn darllen yn yr *Irish Farmers Journal* fod pris cig oen Iwerddon wedi codi 70 sent ar ôl gosod y cyfyngiadau. Mae hynny'n brawf o ddifrifoldeb y broblem yn y diwydiant cig yn unig.

Felly, dywed allforwyr Iwerddon fod eu pris wedi codi i'r entrychion tra bod colli'r marchnadoedd allforio yma'n golygu colli miloedd o bunnoedd. Mae'r diwydiant llaeth, a oedd yn dechrau cael ei gefn ato, wedi methu ag allforio ei loeau cig eidion i'r cyfandir. Cafwyd llawer o sôn y prynhawn yma am yr ŵyn bach 12 kg i 14 kg a oedd i fod i gyrraedd marchnadoedd yr Eidal a Groeg. Mae Hybu Cig Cymru wedi meithrin marchnad i gig oen Cymru yn yr adran addysg yn yr Eidal.

That has gone.

Weinidog, a wnewch ymrwymo i weithio nid yn unig gyda'r prif archfarchnadoedd ond gyda'r sector adwerthu yn ei gyfanrwydd i hyrwyddo cig oen Cymru a rhoi hwb i fwyta'r cig hwnnw yn y wlad hon?

Yn amlwg, gan mai gweithredoedd Llywodraeth y DU oedd yn uniongyrchol gyfrifol am yr achos hwn a'r amhariad, mae gan y diwydiant amaethyddol achos cwbl glir dros iawndal. Nid wyf yn gofyn am iawndal personol i ffermwyr, ond mae arnom eisiau edrych ar ffyrdd ymarferol y gall y Llywodraeth helpu. Yr ydym wedi clywed am lawer o faterion y prynhawn yma, a gobeithiaf y byddwch yn mynd â nhw'n ôl gyda chi, Weinidog. Un awgrym yw ein bod yn edrych ar roi'r gorau i godi ffioedd lladd y Gwasanaeth Hylendid Cig, a'r arian hwnnw'n cael ei sianelu'n ôl i'r cynhyrchydd. Gallem edrych ar gynllun lles (gwaredu). I bob golwg yr ydych yn ei ddiystyru ar hyn o bryd, ond gobeithiaf y byddwch yn edrych arno eto. Fel y

there are 1.1 million lambs looking for a market somewhere. Regrettably, we cannot eat it all, though I wish that we could. I am trying to, Minister. [*Laughter.*]

Regrettably, we will see the influx of new season New Zealand lamb over the next three and half months. That will exacerbate the problem even further. I hope that money can be channelled into Hybu Cig Cymru, which has done sterling work, and that you will consider providing free advice for livestock keepers on feeding rations for the winter, to ensure the welfare of stock that they must retain on their farms. This could possibly come from farm management services.

We should be considering possible rate relief for livestock auctioneers and ancillary industries. These are all ways to help. I ask you to consider the early payment of single farm payments, which has been mentioned by others today, where possible.

Finally, as a matter of urgency, will you consider relaxing cross-compliance checks on farms that are overstocked and are contravening cross-compliance regulations? Force majeure could be invoked in that regard. Minister, will you take on board these suggestions—and, to be fair, I believe that you will—not just from me, but from all those who have contributed today? This is a serious situation, which is having a dramatic effect on Wales. If the results from Surrey are reasonably good, we should be considering regionalisation status in Wales. I urge you once again, Minister, to do what you can in this regard.

Alun Davies: I start my contribution by congratulating the Minister on her appointment. I wish to discuss some of the approaches taken in dealing with foot and mouth disease. I welcome all of the steps that you have taken, Minister, to deal with this issue up to now. I was very pleased to see that you tried to involve different stakeholders in your response to it and to communicate with people. The need to work together and communicate with people is one

dywedasoeh, mae 35 y cant o orgyflenwad o wŷn ar y farchnad ar hyn o bryd ac mae 1.1 miliwn o wŷn yn chwilio am farchnad yn rhywle. Yn anffodus, ni allwn ei fwyta i gyd, er y byddai'n dda gennyf petai modd i ni wneud hynny. Yr wyf yn gwneud fy ngorau glas, Weinidog. [*Chwerthin.*]

Yn anffodus, byddwn yn gweld mewnlifiad wŷn tymor newydd Seland Newydd dros y tri mis a hanner nesaf. Bydd hynny'n gwaethygu'r broblem ymhellach. Gobeithiaf y gellir sianelu arian i Hybu Cig Cymru, sydd wedi gwneud gwaith rhagorol, ac y byddwch yn ystyried darparu cyngor rhad ac am ddim i geidwaid da byw ar ddogneau bwydo ar gyfer y gaeaf, i sicrhau lles y stoc y bydd yn rhaid iddynt eu cadw ar eu ffermydd. Gallai hyn o bosibl ddod o wasanaethau rheoli ffermydd.

Dylem fod yn ystyried rhyddhad ardrethi posibl ar gyfer arwerthwyr da byw a'r diwydiannau ategol. Mae'r rhain oll yn ffyrdd o helpu. Gofynnaf i chi ystyried talu'r taliad sengl yn gynnar, rhywbeth a grybwyllwyd gan eraill heddiw, lle y bo hynny'n bosibl.

Yn olaf, fel mater o frys, a wnewch ystyried llacio archwiliadau trawsgydymffurfio ar ffermydd sy'n cadw gormod o stoc ac sy'n torri rheoliadau trawsgydymffurfio? Gellid rhoi *force majeure* ar waith i'r perwyl hwnnw. Weinidog, a wnewch ystyried yr awgrymiadau hyn—ac, a bod yn deg, credaf y gwnewch—nid gennyf fi'n unig, ond gan bawb o'r rhai sydd wedi cyfrannu heddiw? Mae hon yn sefyllfa ddifrifol, sy'n cael effaith ddramatig ar Gymru. Os yw'r canlyniadau o Surrey yn weddol dda, dylem fod yn ystyried statws rhanbartholi yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn eich annog unwaith eto, Weinidog, i wneud yr hyn a allwch i'r perwyl hwn.

Alun Davies: Yr wyf yn dechrau fy nghyfraniad drwy longyfarch y Gweinidog ar ei phenodiad. Carwn drafod rhai o'r dulliau a ddefnyddiwyd wrth ddelio â chlwy'r traed a'r genau. Croesawaf yr holl gamau yr ydych wedi'u cymryd, Weinidog, i ddelio â'r mater hwn hyd yn hyn. Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn o weld eich bod wedi ceisio cynnwys rhanddeiliaid gwahanol yn eich ymateb iddo a chyfathrebu â phobl. Mae'r angen i gydweithio a chyfathrebu â phobl yn un o'r

of the key lessons that we have learned over the past few years. I am pleased that you are working with Ministers in the other UK administrations, and that will strengthen how we respond to this threat in Wales.

I do not want to use this opportunity to rehearse some of the arguments that we have heard and the statements that have already been made during the past hour or so, because we are all aware of the potential and real impact of foot and mouth disease on the agricultural industry, the wider countryside, and the economy as a whole. I will, however, take this opportunity to thank the Minister for agreeing to submit a report to the Rural Development Sub-committee, which I chair, on her actions and those of the Government to date. We will examine that report during our meeting on Thursday morning, and I hope that the Minister will be prepared to come to the committee at an appropriate time to allow it to debate and discuss how the Government has responded to the latest crisis and how it has dealt with the disease since the original outbreak in August. In doing so, we must ensure that we learn the lessons from this. There were lessons to be learned from the 2001 outbreak, and there will be new and different lessons to be learned from what has happened over the past few months. It is important that we work together to ensure that that happens. Alun Cairns referred to the work of the Finance Committee earlier. We must work together, as an Assembly, to ensure that we scrutinise the Government's response and help to enable it to learn lessons from it.

Sometimes, when I listen to Brynle and others, I get the sense that they are talking the industry into crisis. *[Interruption.]* Sometimes, Brynle, there is a way to make a point, and there is a way to consider the future. I am concerned that, in learning the lessons from this, we must consider what we can do ourselves within the public sector. I read a statement the other day that stated that £60 million is spent on food procurement—

gwersi allweddol yr ydym wedi'u dysgu dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn gweithio gyda Gweinidogion yng ngweinyddiaethau eraill y DU, a bydd hynny'n cryfhau sut y byddwn yn ymateb i'r bygythiad hwn yng Nghymru.

Nid wyf am ddefnyddio'r cyfle hwn i ailadrodd rhai o'r dadleuon yr ydym wedi'u clywed a'r datganiadau sydd eisoes wedi cael eu gwneud yn ystod yr awr neu fwy ddiwethaf, oherwydd ein bod i gyd yn ymwybodol o effaith bosibl ac effaith wirioneddol clwy'r traed a'r genau ar y diwydiant amaethyddol, cefn gwlad yn gyffredinol, a'r economi yn ei chyfanrwydd. Yr wyf, fodd bynnag, am achub y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am gytuno i gyflwyno adroddiad i'r Is-bwyllgor Datblygu Gwledig, yr wyf yn ei gadeirio, am ei gweithredoedd a gweithredoedd y Llywodraeth hyd yn hyn. Byddwn yn archwilio'r adroddiad hwnnw yn ein cyfarfod fore Iau, a gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn fodlon dod i'r pwyllgor ar adeg briodol i'w alluogi i gynnal dadl a thrafodaeth ynghylch sut y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ymateb i'r argyfwng diweddaraf a sut y mae wedi delio â'r clefyd ers yr achos gwreiddiol ym mis Awst. Drwy wneud hynny, rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn dysgu'r gwersi. Yr oedd gwersi i'w dysgu yn sgîl yr achos yn 2001, a bydd gwersi newydd a gwahanol i'w dysgu yn sgîl yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd dros y misoedd diwethaf. Mae'n bwysig inni gydweithio i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Cyfeiriodd Alun Cairns at waith y Pwyllgor Cyllid yn gynharach. Rhaid inni gydweithio fel Cynulliad i sicrhau ein bod yn craffu ar ymateb y Llywodraeth ac yn helpu i'w galluogi i ddysgu gwersi oddi wrtho.

Ambell waith, pan fyddaf yn gwranddo ar Brynle ac eraill, byddaf yn teimlo eu bod yn codi bwganod gan greu argyfwng yn y diwydiant. *[Torri ar draws.]* Ambell waith, Brynle, mae ffordd o wneud pwynt, ac mae ffordd o ystyried y dyfodol. Yr wyf yn poeni, wrth ddysgu'r gwersi oddi wrth hyn, fod yn rhaid inni ystyried yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud ein hunain yn y sector cyhoeddus. Darllenais ddatganiad y diwrnod o'r blaen a nododd fod £60 miliwn yn cael ei wario ar gaffael bwyd—

5.30 p.m.

Brynle Williams: I am sorry, but, at this point, this is a major crisis. As Kirsty said—and Kirsty is not the only one to say such things—there are people who have been pushed close to the edge and, if you do not mind me saying so, close to suicide. That is how much of a crisis this is. Please, do not say that we are making a crisis out of a drama, because we are not.

Alun Davies: I am sorry, Brynle, but that is not the point that I was making. The point that I am trying to make is that we are trying to promote the industry as a whole. You have to do that, because you cannot, on one hand, promote the industry by saying how important it is to Wales and promote the excellent produce produced by Welsh agriculture while, at the same time, talking about difficulties in the way that you have done. You are undermining the industry by doing that, not supporting it; that is the point that I was trying to make.

Minister, in terms of taking this forward—as I was saying before I took that intervention—I remember a figure of £60 million being quoted in terms of food procurement throughout the public sector in Wales. We should be looking at ways of ensuring that that money is spent in Wales and we should be looking at ways of ensuring that the best Welsh produce is supported by public bodies in this country. Over the summer recess, we saw news of the jailing of a food processor from Bridgend. I felt that one issue in that case was that of the importation of poor quality meat from overseas. To support our producers, public bodies should do their best within existing legal guidelines.

I am anxious that, as we progress through this issue, following how the Government deals with foot and mouth disease outbreaks, we are also able to learn lessons and to review our actions to ensure that, in future, we recognise and understand what works and we work together to enable that to happen.

Brynle Williams: Mae'n flin gennyf fi, ond ar hyn o bryd, mae hwn yn argyfwng difrifol. Fel y dywedodd Kirsty—ac nid Kirsty yw'r unig un i ddweud y fath beth—mae yna bobl sydd wedi cael eu gwthio yn agos i'r pen, a maddeuwch imi am ddweud, yn agos at gyflawni hunanladdiad. Dyna faint o argyfwng yw hwn. Felly peidiwch, os gwelwch yn dda, â dweud ein bod yn creu argyfwng allan o ddrama, oherwydd nid ydym.

Alun Davies: Mae'n flin gennyf fi Brynle, ond nid dyna oedd y pwynt yr oeddwn yn ei wneud. Y pwynt yr oeddwn yn ceisio'i wneud oedd ein bod am hyrwyddo'r diwydiant cyfan. Rhaid i chi wneud hynny, oherwydd ni allwch, ar un llaw, hyrwyddo'r diwydiant gan ddweud pa mor bwysig yw hi i Gymru hyrwyddo'r cynnyrch rhagorol a gynhyrchir gan amaethwyr Cymru, ac ar yr un pryd, sôn am yr anawsterau fel y gwnaethoch chi. Drwy wneud hynny, yr ydych yn tanseilio'r diwydiant yn hytrach na'i gefnogi; dyna oedd y pwynt yr oeddwn yn ceisio'i wneud.

Weinidog, er mwyn symud ymlaen—fel yr oeddwn yn dweud cyn derbyn yr ymyriad—cofiaf fod ffigur o £60 miliwn wedi'i grybwyll o ran caffael bwyd ar draws y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Dylem fod yn edrych ar ffyrdd o sicrhau bod yr arian yn cael ei wario yng Nghymru a dylem fod yn edrych ar ffyrdd o sicrhau bod cyrff cyhoeddus yn y wlad hon yn cefnogi'r cynnyrch gorau yng Nghymru. Dros doriad yr haf, gwelsom stori yn y newyddion am brosesydd bwyd o Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr yn cael ei anfon i garchar. Yr oeddwn o'r farn mai un mater yn yr achos hwnnw oedd mewnfario cig o ansawdd gwael o wledydd tramor. Dylai cyrff cyhoeddus wneud eu gorau glas, o fewn y canllawiau cyfreithiol presennol, i gefnogi ein cynhyrchwyr.

Wrth i ni geisio bwrw ymlaen â'r mater hwn, ac yn dilyn y ffordd y gwnaeth y Llywodraeth ddelio â'r achosion o glwy'r traed ar genau, yr wyf yn awyddus ein bod hefyd yn gallu dysgu gwersi ac adolygu ein gweithredoedd i sicrhau ein bod, yn y dyfodol, yn adnabod ac yn deall beth sy'n

gweithio a'n bod yn cydweithio i sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd.

Mick Bates: Thank you, Minister, for accepting this debate today. Following the comments made by Alun Davies, we all recognise the severity of the situation and that this is a crisis. I hope that that message is not lost on Labour backbenchers. I will now give you the message that I hope that you will take from this debate today, which is a message of security: security of supply of food and biosecurity.

We often talk about our local economy and it is at times like this that, in rural Wales, we see the real impact on our local economy. When trading ceases, it is not only the farmer who suffers, but the local store, the garage, the local auctioneer, and the suppliers of all goods and services to agriculture. It has an immense knock-on effect on the rural economy. There is a message for us all in Alun's comment—although I think that part of it was ill-advised—that we should make sure that we support local food production when we can. I admire Elin's belief in the supermarkets and I look forward to the moment when she and the First Minister emerge from a great summit, announcing that the supermarkets are going to sell the £30-million worth of lamb in Wales that will remain unsold. That is the challenge for us and for the Minister and the First Minister.

This debate about foot and mouth disease is also about the security of food in Wales. Supporting the agriculture industry here is fundamental to ensuring that we have a healthy economy in rural Wales. The other security issue is that of biosecurity. Earlier, I referred to Pirbright and the premises there, and how a live virus, which may have been released on 7 July into a waste system, may have been flushed down the drains into water courses and caused this outbreak. At the time when those of us in farming businesses are being told to look after our biosecurity, what does the Government do? It releases the virus—not just a bit of an old antibody, but the live virus itself—into the environment. What does that tell us about its commitment to local food production and the rural

Mick Bates: Diolch yn fawr, Weinidog, am dderbyn y ddadl hon heddiw. Yn sgîl sylwadau Alun Davies, yr ydym oll yn cydnabod pa mor ddifrifol yw'r sefyllfa a'i bod hi wir yn argyfwng. Gobeithio na fydd meinciau cefn Llafur yn anwybyddu'r neges honno. Yn awr, bwriadaf gyflwyno'r neges y byddwch, gobeithio, yn ei chofio o'r ddadl hon heddiw, sef neges o ddiogelwch; diogelwch y cyflenwad bwyd a bioddiogelwch.

Siaradwn yn aml am ein heconomi leol ac ar adegau fel hyn yr ydym, yng Nghymru wledig, yn gweld y gwir effaith ar ein heconomi leol. Pan fydd y masnachu'n dod i ben, nid y ffermwr yn unig sy'n dioddef, ond y siop leol, y garej, yr arwerthwr lleol, a holl gyflenwyr nwyddau a gwasanaethau i'r diwydiant amaethyddol. Caiff sgîl effaith anferthol ar yr economi wledig. Ceir neges i bob un ohonom yn sylw Alun—er fy mod yn credu bod rhan o'r sylw'n annoeth—sef y dylem wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn gwneud ein gorau glas i gefnogi bwyd a gynhyrchir yn lleol. Edmygaf ffydd Elin yn yr archfarchnadoedd ac edrychaf ymlaen at y diwrnod pan fydd hi a'r Prif Weinidog yn dod allan o uwch-gynhadledd fawr yn datgan fod yr archfarchnadoedd yn mynd i werthu'r £30 miliwn o gig oen yng Nghymru sydd dal heb ei werthu. Dyna'r her i ni ac i'r Gweinidog a'r Prif Weinidog.

Mae'r ddadl hon am glwy'r traed a'r genau hefyd yn ymdrin â diogelwch bwyd yng Nghymru. Mae cefnogi'r diwydiant amaethyddol yma yn hanfodol er mwyn sicrhau bod gennym economi iach yng Nghymru wledig. Y mater arall sy'n ymwneud â diogelwch yw bioddiogelwch. Yn gynharach, cyfeiriais at Pirbright a'r eiddo yn y fan honno, a sut y gallai firws byw, a allai o bosibl fod wedi cael ei ollwng i system wastraff ar 7 Gorffennaf, fod wedi cael ei olchi i lawr y draeniau i'r cwrs dŵr gan achosi'r heintiad hwn. Ar adeg pan yr ydym ni mewn busnesau ffermio yn cael ein siarsio i ofalu am ein bioddiogelwch, beth mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud? Mae'n rhyddhau'r firws—nid rhyw hen wrthgorff, ond y firws byw ei hun—i'r amgylchedd. Pa

economy of Wales?

It strikes me, Minister, that you and the First Minister would be well advised to meet those people in Westminster who are responsible for looking after Pirbright to tell them to get their biosecurity sorted out. We in Wales are doing it; our farmers are looking after our biosecurity. They are obviously not doing so at the Institute of Animal Health or at Meriel Animal Health Ltd. We need a full investigation into how all research establishments that deal with dangerous diseases operate, and we need some assurance from the Minister that these facilities have complete and robust monitoring, so that no live virus is released into the environment.

We also need to know from the Minister what they were doing with this live virus. I am sure that the Minister knows of all the rumours of the loss of phials of live virus that existed six years ago, and one is tempted to ask for an inventory of where this live virus has been used, and who inside that establishment was accountable for experiments using live virus. If we do not find out where this came from and who was responsible, the next time it turns up may well be right here in Wales. That is the seriousness of our security issues in terms of biosecurity.

I see the Deputy First Minister laughing at this matter, and he is responsible for our economy now. If he treats this matter so lightly, he should join the Minister for Rural Affairs and the First Minister and talk to other Ministers about how they will make their establishments biosecure.

Finally, we have heard much today about getting the industry moving, and I believe that there is a genuine desire to do that. I make a plea that, when the announcements are made, licences are made available immediately. All too often, the anxiety levels that already exist, and the pressures of the livestock market—we have called for a

neges y mae hynny'n ei rhoi i ni am ei hymrwymiad i gynnyrch bwyd lleol ac economi wledig Cymru?

Mae'n amlwg i mi, Weinidog, y byddai'n syniad da i chi a'r Prif Weinidog gwrdd â'r bobl hynny yn San Steffan sy'n ysgwyddo cyfrifoldeb dros ofalu am Pirbright a dweud wrthynt wella eu bioddiogelwch. Yr ydym ni yng Nghymru yn gwneud hyn; mae ein ffermwyr yn gofalu am ein bioddiogelwch. Ond mae'n amlwg nad ydynt hwy yn y Sefydliad Iechyd Anifeiliaid nac ychwaith yn Meriel Animal Health Cyf yn gwneud hynny. Mae angen archwiliad llawn arnom ynghylch sut mae'r sefydliadau ymchwil hyn sy'n delio â chlefydau peryglus yn gweithio, ac mae angen rhywfaint o sicrhad gan y Gweinidog bod gan y cyfleusterau hyn systemau monitro cynhwysfawr a chadarn, fel nad oes firysau byw yn cael eu gollwng i'r amgylchedd.

Mae arnom hefyd angen gwybod, drwy'r Gweinidog, beth oeddent yn ei wneud â'r firws byw hwn. Yr wyf yn sicr bod y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol o'r holl sion ynghylch colli'r ffiolau o firysau byw a oedd yn bodoli chwe blynedd yn ôl, a chaf fy nhemtio i ofyn am restr sy'n dangos yn lle y defnyddiwyd yn firws byw hwn, a phwy yn y sefydliad hwnnw oedd yn atebol am gynnal arbrofion gyda firysau byw. Os na ddown o hyd i'r tarddle a phwy oedd yn gyfrifol, efallai mai yng Nghymru y bydd yr achos nesaf. Dyna pa mor ddifrifol yw materion diogelwch mewn perthynas â bioddiogelwch.

Gwelaf y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn chwerrthin am y mater hwn, ac ef sy'n gyfrifol am ein heconomi yn awr. Os yw'n trin y mater hwn mor ysgafn, efallai y dylai ymuno â'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a'r Prif Weinidog a dweud wrth y Gweinidogion eraill sut mae gwneud eu sefydliadau yn ddiogel mewn perthynas â bioddiogelwch.

Yn olaf, yr ydym wedi clywed cryn dipyn heddiw am roi hwb i'r diwydiant, a chredaf fod gwir awydd i wneud hynny. Erfyniaf felly, pan wneir y cyhoeddiadau, y caiff trwyddedau eu rhyddhau ar unwaith. Yn rhy aml, mae'r pryder sydd eisoes yn bodoli a phwysau o du'r marchnadoedd da byw—yr ydym wedi gofyn yn y datganiad y prynhawn

livestock welfare scheme this afternoon in the statement—build up. When a farmer who takes great pride in presenting his livestock wants to get a ram or whatever it may be to his farm, cannot get the licence, that adds to the frustration and reduces confidence in the administration, whose members I know are genuinely trying to help in this matter. Please make sure, therefore, that licences are readily available at all sources, as hard copies and in electronic format, and ensure that local trading standards are there to help the industry, and not hinder it.

Alun Ffred Jones: Ni fyddaf yn hir, gan fy mod yn credu bod y drafodaeth a gafwyd yn sgîl datganiad y Gweinidog wedi mynd dros y tir yn eithaf manwl. Gwn fod llawer o ddrwgdeimlad yn y gymuned amaethyddol oherwydd tarddiad y clwyf y tro hwn, a'r ffaith ei fod wedi ailymddangos wedyn. Mae'r drwgdeimlad i'w deimlo yma'r prynhawn yma, ynghyd â llawer o rwystredigaeth. Nid oes llawer o bwynt inni weiddi a rhefru yn y lle hwn oherwydd, os gwneir y pethau sydd angen eu gwneud, nid oes llawer mwy y gellir ei wneud. Mae pobl yn y gymuned amaethyddol am weld dau beth: maent am wneud yn sicr nad yw'r clwyf yn ymddangos yng Nghymru—dyna'r peth pwysicaf, o bosibl—ac mae awydd mawr i weld yr allforio yn aildechrau. Ni allwch wneud y ddau beth ar unwaith, a chredaf fod pawb yn deall hynny.

Hefyd, rhannaf sgeptigaeth llawer o Aelodau ynglŷn â'r archfarchnadoedd a'r cyfleoedd sydd ganddynt i helpu yn y sefyllfa hon, ond credaf ei bod yn bwysig i'r Gweinidog—gofynnaf iddi ddatgan hyn—ei gwneud yn glir i'r archfarchnadoedd, sydd erbyn hyn mor bwerus yn y farchnad hon a llawer iawn o feysydd eraill, am mai hwy sy'n gwerthu hanner holl gynnyrch Prydain, fod ganddynt ddyletswydd gymdeithasol. Mae pob siop sydd gan archfarchnad yn cymryd arian o'r gymuned leol ac yn mynd â'r rhan fwyaf ohono i'r canolfannau ariannol mawr yn Llundain.

5.40 p.m.

Rhaid gofyn i'r archfarchnadoedd fuddsoddi yn ôl yn y gymuned, yn enwedig yn y cynhyrchwyr, ac i beidio â manteisio ar y

yma am gynllun lles da byw—yn cynyddu. Pan fydd ffermwr sy'n falch iawn o'i anifeiliaid yn ceisio cael maharen neu beth bynnag i'w fferm, ac nid yw'n gallu cael trwydded, mae hynny'n ychwanegu at y rhwystredigaeth ac yn lleihau'r hyder yn y weinyddiaeth, y mae ei haelodau, yr wyf yn gwybod, wir yn ceisio helpu yn y mater hwn. Felly, gwnewch yn siŵr, os gwelwch yn dda, bod trwyddedau ar gael yn rhwydd ym mhob ffynhonnell, ar bapur neu'n electronig, a sicrhewch bod y safonau masnachu lleol yno i helpu'r diwydiant ac nid i'w lesteirio.

Alun Ffred Jones: I will be brief, as I believe that the discussion that we had following the Minister's statement has covered the ground in some detail. I know that there is a great deal of bad feeling in the agricultural community because of the source of the disease this time, and the fact that it has reappeared. That bad feeling can be felt here this afternoon; there is a great deal of frustration. There is not much point in us shouting and screaming in this place because, if the things that need to be done are done, there is not much more that can be done. Those in the agricultural community want to see two things: they want to ensure that the disease does not appear in Wales—that is the most important thing, perhaps—and there is a great desire to see the resumption of exports. You cannot do both things at once, and I think that everyone understands that.

I also share the scepticism of many Members in relation to supermarkets and the opportunities that they have to assist in this situation, but I think it important that the Minister—and I ask her to state this—makes it clear to the supermarkets, who are now so powerful in this market and many other sectors, as they sell half of all British produce, that they have a social responsibility. Every store that a supermarket has takes money from the local community and takes most of it out to the major financial centres in London.

We must ask the supermarkets to reinvest in communities, particularly in the producers, and to not take advantage of the situation, as

sefyllfa, fel y clywsom y prynhawn yma. Bûm yn siarad â chynrychiolwyr un o'r archfarchnadoedd yn ddiweddar a dyna oedd fy neges iddynt, er fy mod yn gwybod nad oeddynt hwy mewn sefyllfa i wneud penderfyniadau. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig bod y Llywodraeth hon yn cyfleu'r neges honno yn glir i'r archfarchnadoedd.

I gloi, yr wyf am gyfeirio eto at y sefyllfa yn ein lladd-dai. Mae rhai ohonynt yn perthyn i gwmnïau mawr sydd â digon o adnoddau efallai i ddal y straen, ond gwyddom ei fod yn fusnes bregus tu hwnt yn ariannol. Mae sefyllfa cwmni Cig Cibyn yng Nghaernarfon, y cyfeiriais ato eisoes, hyd yn oed yn waeth, gan ei fod yn gwmni ifanc. Wrth sôn am iawndal, gan sylweddoli fod gan y Llywodraeth yn Llundain ran yn achosi'r sefyllfa ddifrifol hon, mae'n rhaid inni gofio'r diwydiant hwnnw hefyd. Os yw'n lladd-dai yn diflannu, bydd hynny hefyd yn cael effaith ddifrifol ar hyder y gymuned amaethyddol a'i gallu i werthu anifeiliaid a chystadlu yn briodol.

Mae'r Gweinidog wedi pwysleisio pwysigrwydd y farchnad allforio i ffermwyr Cymru, ac felly mae'n rhaid inni wneud pob ymdrech a phwyso ar y Gweinidog eto i weld a oes unrhyw ffordd y gallwn ailagor y farchnad honno—yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn gwneud hynny—pan fydd y dystiolaeth wyddonol yn caniatáu inni wneud hynny yn ddiogel y tro hwn.

Fe wnaif derfynu ar hynny, ond yr wyf yn apelio eto ar ran cwmni Cig Cibyn a chwmnïau eraill, ac yn gofyn i'r Llywodraeth hon—er mai cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth San Steffan ydyw—wneud pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y cwmnïau hyn yn goroesi'r sefyllfa anffodus hon i'r dyfodol er lles y diwydiant amaeth a'n cymunedau.

Paul Davies: Yr wyf i hefyd yn croesawu'r Gweinidog i'w swydd newydd, a dymunaf yn dda iddi yn ei rôl.

Yr wyf am ailadrodd yr hyn a ddywedodd nifer: bu clwy'r traed a'r genau yn ergyd i'r diwydiant amaethyddol unwaith eto, yn enwedig wrth iddo ddechrau adennill tir ar ôl yr achos cyntaf ym mis Awst. Fel y

we have heard is happening this afternoon. I spoke to supermarket representatives recently and that was my message to them, even though I was aware that these representatives were not in a position to take decisions. However, it is important that this Government conveys that message clearly to the supermarkets.

In conclusion, I will refer again to the position of abattoirs. Some form part of major companies that have sufficient resources to take the strain, but we know that this is an exceptionally vulnerable business financially. The position of Cig Cibyn in Caernarfon, to which I previously referred, is even worse as it is a young company. On the subject of compensation, and bearing in mind that the Government in London has played a part in creating this serious situation, we must not forget that industry. The disappearance of our abattoirs could also have a serious impact on the agricultural community's confidence and its ability to sell stock and compete properly.

The Minister has emphasised the importance of the export market to Welsh farmers, so we must make every effort and press the Minister again to see whether there is any way in which that market can be reopened—I am sure that she will do so—when scientific evidence allows us to do that safely this time.

I will draw my remarks to a close with that point, but I will again make an appeal on behalf of Cig Cibyn and other companies, and ask this Government—even though responsibility lies in Westminster—to make every effort to ensure that these companies survive this unfortunate situation for the sake of the agricultural industry and our communities.

Paul Davies: I also welcome the Minister to her new post, and I wish her well in this role.

I start by reiterating the comments of many Members: foot and mouth disease has once again come as a major blow to the agricultural industry, just as it was starting to regain ground after the first outbreak in

dywedodd y Gweinidog yn ei datganiad, dyma'r amser gwaethaf i ffermwyr gan ei fod yn amser hanfodol o ran gwerthu stoc gwartheg, ŵyn a defaid. Mae'r clwyf eisoes wedi cael effaith ofnadwy ar y diwydiant ac mae'n hollbwysig fod Llywodraeth—ar bob lefel—yn cefnogi diwydiant amaethyddol Cymru drwy annog cyrff cyhoeddus i brynu cynnyrch Cymreig. Tra bo Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio i helpu ffermwyr a'r diwydiant, byddai'n anghywir i gyrff cyhoeddus brynu cynnyrch o safon is o dramor.

Alun Davies has already mentioned that the public sector spends £60 million a year on food procurement, so it is vital that Government bodies—local authorities, health trusts and other bodies—support Welsh agriculture wherever possible, especially at this critical time. I urge the Minister to use her influence to ensure that this happens. I would be interested to hear what steps she intends to take in this particular area.

It is also essential that the public supports the agricultural industry by ensuring that this terrible disease is controlled, and that Wales is kept free of foot and mouth disease. The public, as well as farmers, must be vigilant—people must behave in a responsible manner and take common sense biosecurity measures.

The UK Government must review its rules and regulations in view of a third outbreak, which was confirmed earlier today. It is obvious that controlling the outbreak in Surrey has not worked, so the Government must look at its procedures. This is essential to the future of the farming industry. The UK Government must answer critical questions as to the actual source of the outbreak and it must be transparent. Farmers and the public deserve to be told the truth—lessons must be learned so that we avoid further outbreaks in the future.

The movement tracing of animals into Wales must be completed as soon as possible so that we can ensure that stock from high-risk areas

August. As the Minister said in her statement, this comes at the worst time for farmers as it is a crucial time as regards sales of cattle, lamb and sheep. The disease has already had a detrimental effect on the industry and it is vitally important that the Government—at every level—supports the industry in Wales through encouraging public bodies to buy Welsh produce. While the Assembly Government strives to help farmers and the industry, it would be wrong for public bodies to procure produce of substandard quality from overseas.

Mae Alun Davies eisoes wedi sôn bod y sector cyhoeddus yn gwario £60 miliwn y flwyddyn ar gaffael bwyd, felly mae'n hanfodol bod cyrff y Llywodraeth—awdurdodau lleol, ymddiriedolaethau iechyd a chyrff eraill—yn cefnogi'r diwydiant amaethyddol yng Nghymru lle bo hynny'n bosibl, yn enwedig yn ystod y cyfnod hollbwysig hwn. Anogaf y Gweinidog i ddefnyddio ei dylanwad i sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd. Hoffwn glywed pa gamau y bwriada eu cymryd ar y mater hwn.

Mae'n hanfodol hefyd bod y cyhoedd yn cefnogi'r diwydiant amaethyddol drwy sicrhau bod y clefyd dychrynlyd hwn yn cael ei gadw dan reolaeth, a sicrhau bod Cymru'n rhydd o glwy'r traed a'r genau. Rhaid i'r cyhoedd, yn ogystal â ffermwyr, fod ar eu gwyliadwriaeth—rhaid i bobl ymddwyn yn gyfrifol gan ddefnyddio'u synnwyr cyffredin wrth gymryd camau bioddiogelwch.

Rhaid i Lywodraeth y DU adolygu ei rheolau a'i rheoliadau yn sgil y trydydd achos o'r clwyf, a gadarnhawyd yn gynharach heddiw. Mae'n amlwg nad yw ceisio cadw'r heintiad dan reolaeth yn Surrey wedi gweithio, felly rhaid i'r Llywodraeth edrych ar ei gweithdrefnau. Mae hyn yn hanfodol ar gyfer dyfodol y diwydiant ffermio. Rhaid i Lywodraeth y DU ateb cwestiynau anodd am wir darddiad yr heintiad a rhaid iddi fod yn dryloyw. Mae ffermwyr a'r cyhoedd yn haeddu clywed y gwir—rhaid dysgu gwersi fel ein bod yn gochel rhag rhagor o achosion o'r clwyf yn y dyfodol.

Rhaid gorffen olrhain symudiadau anifeiliaid i Gymru cyn gynted â phosibl er mwyn inni sicrhau nad yw stoc wedi dod yma o

has not entered Wales. As the Minister said earlier, 35 per cent of lamb produced in Wales was exported and that market is now closed. The reopening of export markets is therefore crucial. We need to move quickly to satisfy EU conditions for the resumption of trade. The livestock industry is faced with massive problems through no fault of its own.

I urge the Minister and the Government to act as quickly as practicable to ensure a future for the Welsh farming industry.

Kirsty Williams: I am conscious that I had an opportunity to make points during the statement and I know that not all Assembly Members have an interest in this subject.

I do not know where Alun Davies has been over the last few weeks. It says on his card that he is an Assembly Member for Mid and West Wales, but from his comments I would guess that he is the Assembly Member for the mid and west section of the moon. For him to say that this is not a crisis and that we are talking the industry down is ridiculous. Perhaps you, Alun, have an answer for the farmer who brought 700 sheep onto his farm, ready to out them at the National Sheep Association sales in Builth Wells; those sales were cancelled and he now has 700 ewes ready for sale, with very little grass left and the prospect of feeding them. Perhaps you could explain to that person that it is not a crisis and that he should manage it somehow. Perhaps you have advice for the person who took advantage of the lifting of restrictions, brought the ewes and lambs down off the hill to dip them so that they did not get scab or anything else nasty, only to find restrictions slapped back on. That person now has that stock on the lowlands, in two fields, with no grass, and is having to feed them expensive fodder and has no way of getting them back onto the hillside. Perhaps you have advice for the person who has light lambs and would usually see them sold to the export market in Italy or Greece but now has no market for them and is faced with the prospect of either watching them starve to death or continuing to feed them, with feed prices as they are.

ardaloedd risg uchel. Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog yn gynharach, cafodd 35 y cant o'r cig oen a gynhyrchwyd yng Nghymru ei allforio ac mae'r farchnad honno ar gau bellach. Mae'n hollbwysig felly ailagor marchnadoedd allforio. Mae angen inni symud yn gyflym i fodloni amodau'r UE ar gyfer ailddechrau masnachu. Mae problemau anferth yn wynebu'r diwydiant da byw, a hynny heb ddim bai ar y diwydiant ei hun.

Erfyniaf ar y Gweinidog a'r Llywodraeth i weithredu cyn gynted ag sy'n ymarferol i sicrhau dyfodol i ddiwydiant ffermio Cymru.

Kirsty Williams: Yr wyf yn ymwybodol y cefais gyfle i wneud pwyntiau yn ystod y datganiad ac yn gwybod nad oes diddordeb gan bob Aelod o'r Cynulliad yn y pwnc hwn.

Nid wyf yn gwybod ymhle y bu Alun Davies yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf. Dywed ar ei gerdyn ei fod yn Aelod Cynulliad ar gyfer Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru, ond ac ystyried ei sylwadau byddwn yn dyfalu mai ef yw Aelod y Cynulliad ar gyfer canolbarth a gorllewin y lleuad. Mae'n chwerrhinllyd iddo ddweud nad yw hyn yn argyfwng a'n bod yn bychanu gallu'r diwydiant i ymdopi. Efallai fod ateb gennych chi, Alun, i'r ffermwr a ddaeth â 700 o ddefaid i'w fferm, yn barod i'w rhoi yng ngwerthiannau'r Gymdeithas Ddefaid Genedlaethol yn Llanfair-ym-Muallt, cyn clywed bod y gwerthiannau hynny wedi'u canslo; erbyn hyn, mae ganddo 700 o ddefaid yn barod i'w gwerthu, gydag ychydig iawn o borfa ar ôl a'r tebygrwydd o orfod eu bwydo. Efallai y gallech egluro wrtho nad yw'n argyfwng ac y dylai ymdopi rywsut. Efallai fod gennych gyngor i'r sawl a elwodd ar godi'r cyfyngiadau, a ddaeth â'r defaid a'r ŵyn i lawr oddi ar y bryn i'w dipio i'w hatal rhag cael y clafr neu rywbeth cas arall, dim ond i ganfod bod y cyfyngiadau wedi dychwelyd. Erbyn hyn, mae'r stoc honno ganddo ar lawr gwlad, mewn dau gae, heb unrhyw laswellt, ac mae'n gorfod eu bwydo â phorthiant drud heb unrhyw ffordd o'u cael yn ôl ar y llechwedd. Efallai fod gennych gyngor i'r sawl ag ŵyn ysgafn a fyddai fel arfer yn eu gwerthu i'r farchnad allforio yn yr Eidal neu wlad Groeg ond nad oes marchnad ganddo ar eu cyfer erbyn hyn ac sy'n wynebu eu gwylio'n llwgu i farwolaeth neu barhau

i'w bwydo, gyda phrisiau porthiant fel y maent.

Alun Davies: Over the last two hours, we have debated and discussed the issue and the impact that it is having on individuals, farmers and communities. We all understand that and appreciate it. We need to move forward. The point that I am making is that this is of no help at all. If we sat here and spent two, three, four or five hours simply rehearsing what is wrong and the impact that it has on people, we would not move this policy forward at all. We would not move forward one iota. We all understand and appreciate the crisis facing individuals, farms and communities. I am trying to move forward. I want to move forward with a successful agricultural industry. If you want to spend the next few hours or the next few debates simply rehearsing what is going on, Kirsty, you can do that, but you will not have helped a single farmer, a single community or the agricultural industry in Wales as a whole.

Alun Davies: Yn ystod y ddwy awr diwethaf, yr ydym wedi dadlau a thrafod y mater a'i effaith ar unigolion, ffermwyr a chymunedau. Yr ydym oll yn deall hynny ac yn ei werthfawrogi. Mae angen inni symud ymlaen. Y pwynt yr wyf yn ei wneud yw nad yw hyn yn unrhyw gymorth o gwbl. Pe baem yn eistedd yma ac yn treulio dwy, tair, pedair neu bum awr yn ailadrodd yr hyn sydd o'i le a'r effaith a gaiff ar bobl, ni fyddem yn symud y polisi hwn yn ei flaen o gwbl. Ni fyddem yn symud ymlaen un cam. Yr ydym oll yn deall yr argyfwng sy'n wynebu unigolion, ffermydd a chymunedau, ac yn gwerthfawrogi hynny. Yr wyf yn ceisio symud ymlaen. Yr wyf fi eisiau symud ymlaen gyda diwydiant amaethyddol llwyddiannus. Os ydych eisiau treulio'r ychydig oriau nesaf neu'r ychydig ddadleuon nesaf yn ailadrodd yr hyn sy'n digwydd, Kirsty, gallwch wneud hynny, ond ni fyddwch wedi helpu'r un ffermwr, yr un gymuned na'r diwydiant amaethyddol yng Nghymru drwyddo draw.

Kirsty Williams: I note that the Assembly Member, with his intricate knowledge of agriculture, has no advice for those farmers on how they should manage the situation that they are in, and objects to the fact that people who care about the agricultural industry, and who perhaps have a little more knowledge, have the right to come here today to scrutinise his Minister and ask for practical help for those constituents, through, for example, paying aspects of the single farm payment earlier, establishing a paid-for welfare scheme, looking at the impact on the wider rural economy, or reinstating a rural rate relief scheme, which was good enough last time. I appreciate that it may not have had the widespread, knock-on effect on tourism and so on, but there are auctioneers and agricultural-based businesses that will suffer because there is no cash going in and out of those farm accounts. I will not apologise for coming here and reiterating the concerns of my constituents who have bothered to phone me—and it is a good job that they phoned me, because phoning you would do no good at all.

Kirsty Williams: Sylwaf nad oes gan yr Aelod unrhyw gyngor, â'i wybodaeth fanwl am amaethyddiaeth, i'r ffermwyr hynny am sut y dylent ymdopi â'r sefyllfa sy'n eu hwynebu, a'i fod yn gwrthwynebu'r ffaith bod gan bobl sy'n pryderu am y diwydiant amaethyddol, sydd ag ychydig mwy o wybodaeth efallai, yr hawl i ddod yma heddiw i holi ei Weinidog a gofyn am gymorth ymarferol i'r etholwyr hynny drwy, er enghraifft, dalu agweddau ar y taliad sengl yn gynharach, sefydlu cynllun lles y talwyd amdano, ystyried yr effaith ar yr economi wledig ehangach, neu adfer cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi gwledig, a oedd yn ddigon da y tro diwethaf. Sylweddolaf efallai na chafodd y sgîl-effaith eang ar dwristiaeth ac ati, ond mae arwerthwyr a busnesau amaethyddol a fydd yn dioddef gan nad oes unrhyw arian yn mynd i mewn nac allan o'r cyfrifon fferm hynny. Nid wyf am ymddiheuro am ddod yma ac ailadrodd pryderon fy etholwyr sydd wedi ffwdanu fy ffonio—ac mae'n beth da eu bod wedi fy ffonio i, gan na fyddai unrhyw ddiben o gwbl eich ffonio chi.

5.50 p.m.

To get back to the point, Minister—and thank goodness you were appointed, because we would be lost with him, would we not? Thank goodness that you were there, because at least you understand the difficulties that the industry is facing—

Alun Davies *rose*—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Kirsty Williams is not giving way. She has given way to you twice already.

Alun Davies: Will you give way?

Kirsty Williams: I am not giving way. Which bit of that do you not understand? [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order.

Brynle Williams: Will you give way?

Kirsty Williams: No, Brynle, I will not.

I am grateful that the Minister at least understands the practical difficulties that people face at the moment. I reiterate that there is a need to press the UK Government hard for a Welsh welfare scheme. Ultimately, what my constituents want is to have some idea of a possible timetable for where they are going. I know that it is a dangerous game to play, because you do not want to raise people's expectations, and the decisions that you make here will be fundamentally related to any further outbreaks in the south-east of England. However, people need some kind of basic timetable about where they can expect your Government to go in its policy.

I apologise for my mistake earlier in not mentioning that we have moved from direct-to-slaughter markets to the establishment of red meat markets. However, people need to know when we might be likely to move to farm-to-farm sales of tups or breeding stock, and they need to know how they can plan for the next two to four weeks, which is a crucial period for their businesses. You need to give them some hope that they can get their stock moving as quickly as possible, and there is a

I ddychwelyd at y pwynt, Weinidog—a diolch byth mai chi a benodwyd, achos byddem ar goll gydag ef, oni fyddem? Diolch byth eich bod yno, gan eich bod o leiaf yn deall yr anawsterau sy'n wynebu'r diwydiant—

Alun Davies *a gododd*—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid yw Kirsty Williams yn ildio. Mae wedi ildio ichi ddwywaith eisoes.

Alun Davies: A wnewch chi ildio?

Kirsty Williams: Nid wyf am ildio. Pa ran o hynny nad ydych chi'n ei deall? [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Brynle Williams: A wnewch chi ildio?

Kirsty Williams: Na wnaaf, Brynle.

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar bod y Gweinidog o leiaf yn deall yr anawsterau ymarferol sy'n wynebu pobl ar hyn o bryd. Ailadroddaf fod angen rhoi pwysau mawr ar Lywodraeth y DU am gynllun lles i Gymru. Yn y pen draw, yr hyn y mae fy etholwyr am ei gael yw rhyw syniad o amserlen bosibl ar gyfer eu camau nesaf. Gwm ei bod yn gêm beryglus i'w chwarae, gan nad ydych chi eisiau codi disgwyliadau pobl, a bydd y penderfyniadau a wnewch yma yn gysylltiedig yn sylfaenol ag unrhyw achosion pellach yn ne ddwyrain Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, mae angen rhyw fath o amserlen sylfaenol ar bobl ynghylch i ble y gallant ddisgwyl i'ch Llywodraeth fynd yn ei pholisi.

Ymddiheuraf am fy nghamgymeriad yn gynharach am beidio sôn ein bod wedi symud o farchnadoedd yn syth i'r lladd-dy i sefydlu marchnadoedd cig coch. Fodd bynnag, mae angen i bobl wybod pryd y gallem fod yn debygol o symud i werthiannau hyrddiau neu stoc magu o fferm i fferm, ac mae angen iddynt wybod sut y gallant gynllunio ar gyfer y pythefnos i bedair wythnos nesaf, sy'n gyfnod allweddol i'w busnesau. Mae angen ichi roi rhyw obaith iddynt y gallant ddechrau

balance to be struck between keeping information close to your chest, because you do not want to disappoint people if it cannot happen, and giving people the opportunity to plan for the next few weeks.

Brynle suggested a number of ways in which you can help farmers, not by giving them compensation directly, but by looking at easing costs. One of the great frustrations has been TB testing. People paid for TB testing to move cattle prior to the August outbreak, only to find that their cattle were unable to move. They quickly had cattle retested when the restrictions were lifted, in anticipation of moving cattle this month—again, that opportunity has been lost, and they will have to pay again for TB testing for cattle next month if they want to move them. You could perhaps look at a temporary lifting of those kinds of costs that are falling on the industry at this particular time.

We also need to look at the issue of movement for tack, so that animals can get away to tack. This could perhaps be done through follow-up monitoring from veterinarians in that particular area, to ensure that those animals do not show any sign of disease. If we are moving cattle out of a low-risk area such as Wales into low-risk areas in England, surely it cannot be that difficult to get such a scheme going as quickly as possible.

I would come back, because you did not answer it, to my question during the statement—and there is no criticism implied, because there were lots of questions to answer—about the single farm payment. I know that in the past you have said that there is no mechanism available under EU rules to allow the early payment of some of the single farm payment. However, you will understand the cash-flow difficulties that many businesses are facing, and if you cannot do that, will you do what we did during the last foot and mouth disease crisis, and look to the banking sector to exercise greater understanding in that some of their customers will be experiencing difficulties at this time, and appeal to not only the supermarkets to be understanding, but the banking sector as well?

symud eu stoc cyn gynted â phosibl, ac mae angen cael cydbwysedd rhwng cadw gwybodaeth dan eich cap, gan nad ydych eisiau siomi pobl os na all ddigwydd, a rhoi'r cyfle i bobl gynllunio ar gyfer yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf.

Awgrymodd Brynle sawl ffordd y gallwch helpu ffermwyr, nid drwy roi iawndal iddynt yn uniongyrchol, ond drwy ystyried lleddfau costau. Un o'r rhwystredigaethau mawr fu profion TB. Talodd pobl am brofion TB i symud gwartheg cyn achosion mis Awst, cyn canfod nad oedd eu gwartheg yn gallu symud. Trefnwyd ail set o brofion i'w gwartheg pan godwyd y cyfyngiadau, gan ddisgwyl symud gwartheg y mis hwn—eto, collwyd y cyfle hwnnw, a bydd rhaid iddynt dalu eto am brofion TB i wartheg fis nesaf os ydynt am eu symud. Efallai y gallech ystyried, dros dro, godi'r mathau hynny o gostau, sy'n cwmpo ar y diwydiant ar hyn o bryd.

Mae angen hefyd inni ystyried mater symud ar gyfer tacio, fel y gellir anfon anifeiliaid i dir tac. Gellid gwneud hyn efallai drwy fonitro dilynol gan filfeddygon yn yr ardal benodol honno, i sicrhau nad yw'r anifeiliaid hynny'n dangos unrhyw arwydd o glefyd. Os byddwn yn symud gwartheg o ardal risg isel fel Cymru i ardaloedd risg isel yn Lloegr, nid oes bosibl edi bod mor anodd â hynny sefydlu cynllun o'r fath cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Ni chefais ateb i'm cwestiwn am y taliad sengl i ffermydd yn ystod y datganiad—ac nid beirniadaeth yw hynny, gan fod llawer o gwestiynau i'w hateb—hoffwn ddychwelyd ato. Gwn eich bod wedi dweud yn y gorffennol nad oes unrhyw fecanwaith ar gael o dan reolau'r UE i ganiatáu talu rhywfaint o'r taliad sengl yn gynnar. Fodd bynnag, byddwch yn deall yr anawsterau llif arian sy'n wynebu llawer o fusnesau, ac os na allwch chi wneud hynny, a wnewch chi'r hyn a wnaethom yn ystod argyfwng diwethaf clwy'r traed a'r genau, ac edrych at y sector bancio i ddangos mwy o gydymdeimlad gan y bydd rhai o'u cwsmeriaid yn cael anawsterau ar hyn o bryd, ac erfyn nid yn unig ar yr archfarchnadoedd i ddangos cydymdeimlad, ond y sector bancio hefyd?

Gareth Jones: Nid wyf yn arbenigo mewn amaethyddiaeth, ond yr wyf yn meddwl y gallaf adnabod argyfwng, ac mae'r sefyllfa hon yn argyfyngus. Mae sawl un o fy etholwyr yn nyffryn Conwy wedi fy atgoffa o pa mor drychinebus yw'r sefyllfa hon. Nid oes cwestiwn am hynny. Yr wyf wedi gwrandao ar y drafodaeth, ac yr wyf i, fel pawb arall, yn llongyfarch y Gweinidog ar ei gwaith caled, gan fod y dasg yn un anodd, lle na fydd modd plesio pawb. Fodd bynnag, mae'r sefyllfa yn argyfyngus.

Mae Aelodau wedi cyfeirio at y ffaith y dylem ddysgu gwersi o hyn, a chyfeiriodd Kirsty at yr hyn yr wyf i am ei ddweud, a hynny fel cyfraniad creadigol, adeiladol, gobeithio, i'r ddadl bwysig hon. Pan fo argyfyngau fel hyn yn digwydd, yr ydym fel pe baem yn brin o arian wrth gefn. Nid yw hynny'n wir am bob maes, oherwydd, os deallaf yn iawn, pan fo llifogydd yn taro, mae cynllun o'r enw Bellwin yn dod i rym, ac yn rhoi cymorth i awdurdodau i ddygymod â'r sefyllfa. Efallai ei bod yn rhy hwyr i sefydlu y math hwnnw o arian wrth gefn yn awr, ond erfyniaf ar y Llywodraeth ar ei newydd wedd i ystyried hyn, oherwydd efallai nad dyma'r tro olaf y bydd clwy'r traed a'r genau yn effeithio arnom yng Nghymru. Pwy a wŷr pa argyfyngau sydd o'n blaenau. Doeth fyddai ceisio rhoi rhywfaint o arian wrth gefn, fel y byddai gennym ryw fath o gymorth ac adnoddau wrth gefn wrth wynebu argyfwng mewn unrhyw sector; mae'n digwydd bod mai'r sector amaeth yw hwnnw ar hyn o bryd. Rhywbeth i'w ystyried ar gyfer y dyfodol yw hynny.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this debate as a practising farmer. Over the summer recess I have watched events unfold, and have seen them directly impinge my own business. I am grateful to you, Minister, for the leadership that you have shown, in the baptism of fire that you have had, and to your civil servants who have been working with the industry to try, in the first instance, to alleviate the problems. However, we now seem to be facing a far bleaker picture, with the winter months approaching and key stock season sales being missed. Those arguments have been rehearsed around the Chamber.

Gareth Jones: I am not an agricultural expert, but I can recognise a crisis when I see one, and this is a crisis. Several of my constituents in the Conwy valley have reminded me of how disastrous this situation is. There is no doubt about it. I have listened to the discussion and, like everybody else, I congratulate the Minister on her hard work, because it is a terribly difficult task, and you cannot please everybody. However, this is a crisis.

Members have referred to the lessons that we must learn from this, and Kirsty referred to the point that I wish to make, as a creative and constructive contribution, hopefully, to this important debate. When crises such as this arise, we seem to lack contingency funds. That is not true of all areas, because, if my understanding is correct, when there are floods, a scheme by the name of Bellwin comes into operation, providing support for authorities in dealing with the situation. It may be too late to set up such a financial contingency now, but I urge the new Government to give it some consideration, as this might not be the last time that we in Wales are affected by foot and mouth disease. Who knows what emergencies may lie ahead. It would be wise to try to keep some money in reserve so that we could provide support by way of contingency funds when crises arise; the sector affected now happens to be the agricultural sector. That is something to consider for the future.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gyfrannu at y ddadl hon fel ffermwr sy'n ffermio. Yn ystod gwyliau'r haf, yr wyf wedi gwyllo digwyddiadau'n datblygu, ac wedi'u gweld yn gwrthdaro'n uniongyrchol â'm busnes i fy hun. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i chi, Weinidog, am yr arweiniad yr ydych wedi'i ddangos, yn y bedydd tân a gawsoch, ac i'ch gweision sifil a fu'n gweithio gyda'r diwydiant i geisio lleddfu'r problemau yn y lle cyntaf. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ymddangos bellach ein bod yn wynebu darlun llawer llymach, gyda misoedd y gaeaf ar ein gwarthaf a ninnau'n colli gwerthiannau allweddol y tymor stoc. Cyfeiriwyd at y

Listening to the contributions as a farmer, what I am passionate about is the amount of points that have been missed.

Wales is a store country as such; we do not traditionally finish that much stock. We therefore rely on selling our stock on, and it is being able to sell that stock on that keeps farmers in business. If farmers cannot stay in business, the whole rural economy will suffer. Therefore, while many might think, 'Here they go again, talking about farmers and compensating farmers', the fact is that the whole rural economy will seize up as a result of this foot and mouth disease debacle. I ask you, Minister, and I have written to you about this, to release the single farm payment on 16 October. Kirsty Williams said that there is not a mechanism in place. There is a mechanism for the release to be set in motion, and I appreciate the administrative dilemmas, but today again we hear of another case confirmed, and therefore the timetable for resuming normal trading cannot even be started. We cannot even start the process, and unless we can do that, what hope can you offer to people who are planning their financial projections, if you like, without the ability to sell stock? That is a vital measure that we, as an Assembly, can deliver for the farming community—the delivery of financial liquidity back into their pockets. It does not cost this institution 1p more, because that money would arrive in farmers' pockets in any case. Therefore, Minister, please give it urgent and considered consideration, so that it can happen.

On a welfare disposal scheme, I heard what you said in your statement and what has been said in the Chamber. There has been much debate about the principle of the polluter pays and cost sharing. We have heard it said many times that, sadly, this virus escaped from a Government institution. We know from where the virus came, so if the Government wants to insist that the polluter pays, a welfare scheme would not be a bad start, because we in the livestock sector are really struggling for answers.

Alun Davies's comments, from a Member who represents a large rural constituency,

dadleuon hynny o amgylch y Siambr hon. Gan wrando ar y cyfraniadau fel ffermwyr, yr hyn yr wyf yn teimlo'n angerddol amdano yw nifer y pwyntiau a gollwyd.

Gwlad stoc stôr yw Cymru yn ei hanfod; ni draddodiadol, nid ydym yn gorffen cymaint â hynny o stoc. Dibynnwn felly ar werthu ein stoc ymlaen, a'r gallu i werthu'r stoc honno sy'n cadw ffermwyr mewn busnes. Os na all ffermwyr aros mewn busnes, bydd yr economi wledig gyfan yn dioddef. Felly, er bod llawer efallai'n meddwl, 'Dyma nhw eto, yn siarad am ffermwyr a digolledu ffermwyr', y ffaith yw y bydd yr economi wledig gyfan yn cloi o ganlyniad i'r chwalfa hon gyda chlwy'r traed a'r genau. Gofynnaf ichi, Weinidog, ac yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu atoch am hyn, ryddhau'r taliad sengl ar 16 Hydref. Dywedodd Kirsty Williams nad oes mecanwaith yn ei le. Mae mecanwaith ar gael ar gyfer dechrau'r broses rhyddhau, ac yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi'r penblethau gweinyddol, ond heddiw eto clywn am gadarnhau achos arall, ac felly ni ellir hyd yn oed ddechrau'r amserlen ar gyfer aildechrau masnachu normal. Ni allwn hyd yn oed ddechrau'r broses, ac oni allwn wneud hynny, pa obaith y gallwch ei gynnig i bobl sy'n cynllunio eu rhagamcaniadau ariannol, os hoffwch chi, heb allu gwerthu stoc? Mae hwnnw'n gam hanfodol y gallwn ni, fel Cynulliad, ei gymryd ar ran y gymuned ffermio—rhoi hylifedd ariannol yn ôl i'w pocedi. Nid yw'n costio ceiniog yn fwy i'r sefydliad hwn, oherwydd byddai'r arian hwnnw'n cyrraedd pocedi'r ffermwyr beth bynnag. Felly, Weinidog, a wnewch chi ystyried hyn ar frys ac yn ddwys, er mwyn iddo ddigwydd.

O ran cynllun lles gwaredu, clywais yr hyn a ddywedasoch yn eich datganiad a'r hyn a ddywedwyd yn y Siambr hon. Bu cryn ddadlau am egwyddor y llygrwr yn talu a rhannu costau. Yr ydym wedi clywed sawl gwaith, yn anfoddus, fod y firws hwn wedi dianc o un o sefydliadau'r Llywodraeth. Yr ydym yn gwybod o ble y daeth y firws, felly os yw'r Llywodraeth eisiau mynnu bod y llygrwr yn talu, ni fyddai cynllun lles yn lle gwael i ddechrau, gan ein bod ni yn y sector da byw yn wirioneddol frwydro am atebion.

Mae sylwadau Alun Davies, ac yntau'n Aelod sy'n cynrychioli etholaeth wledig

seem somewhat out of place. I can understand the point about trying to talk up the agricultural industry; we all want to do that. In contrast to Westminster, there are not many Members here who do not have farmers as constituents or large rural enterprises to represent, and that is a benefit of this Chamber and of devolution—being able to understand what is unfolding out there in Wales. We can also see that in the number of Members in the Chamber at this late hour, although they most probably have other commitments. While I understand that the Assembly does not have the resources to initiate a welfare scheme, there is an avenue via the Westminster Government to put that in place, because the clock is ticking.

6.00 p.m.

Thirdly, on 1 January, the older cattle disposal scheme faces a dramatic cut in its payment levels. With the disruption in being able to access that scheme, the timetable is already tight given the end of the year and the advent of the new year. Could you go to Europe with the force majeure proposal and request that that scheme and the rate that we have had for this year be carried forward into the early part of next year, given the situation that we face? Again, that is a simple, but small, measure through which we can bring money back into the industry because that is what the industry now needs—financial stability. That is crucial.

My final point relates to humanitarian issues. Kirsty Williams touched on these, and I did not think that I would ever support Kirsty's comments, but you talked quite a bit of sense today, Kirsty. She raised the human factor of the countryside. These are real men and women working out there at the coalface—pardon the pun—who often work in isolation—

Jeff Cuthbert: Your party put an end to the coalfaces.

Andrew R.T. Davies: There is no need to lower the tone, Jeff. At the end of the day, there is a lot of emotional stress involved in

fawr, braidd yn rhyfedd. Gallaf ddeall y pwynt am geisio codi'r diwydiant amaethyddol; yr ydym oll eisiau gwneud hynny. Yn wahanol i San Steffan, nid oes llawer o Aelodau yma heb ffermwyr yn etholwyr iddynt neu fentrau gwledig mawr i'w cynrychioli, a dyna fudd y Siambr hon a budd datganoli—gallu deall yr hyn sy'n datblygu yn y gymdeithas yng Nghymru. Gallwn weld hynny hefyd yn nifer yr Aelodau yn y Siambr mor hwyr â hyn yn y dydd, er bod ganddynt ymrwymadau eraill fwy na thebyg. Er fy mod yn deall nad yw'r adnoddau gan y Cynulliad i ddechrau cynllun lles, mae cyfle i roi hwnnw ar waith drwy Lywodraeth San Steffan, gan fod amser yn mynd heibio.

Yn drydydd, ar 1 Ionawr, bydd torri sylweddol ar lefelau taliadau'r cynllun gwaredu hen wartheg. Oherwydd yr amharu ar y gallu i gael mynediad i'r cynllun hwnnw, mae'r amserlen eisoes yn dynn gan fod y flwyddyn yn dod i ben a'r flwyddyn newydd ar ddyfod. A allech fynd â'r cynnig ynghylch gorfodaeth i Ewrop a gwneud cais am barhau â'r cynllun hwnnw a'r gyfradd a gawsom ar gyfer y flwyddyn hon yn rhan gyntaf y flwyddyn nesaf, yng ngolwg y sefyllfa yr ydym yn ei hwynebu? Unwaith eto, mae hwnnw'n fesur syml ond bach y gallwn ei ddefnyddio i ddod ag arian yn ôl i'r diwydiant, gan mai dyna sydd ei angen arno yn awr—sefydlogrwydd ariannol. Mae hynny'n hollbwysig.

Mae'r pwynt olaf sydd gennyf yn ymwneud â materion dyngarol. Cyfeiriodd Kirsty Williams at y rhain ac ni thybiais o gwbl y byddwn yn ategu'r sylwadau a wnâi Kirsty, ond yr oeddech yn siarad yn eithaf synhwyrol heddiw, Kirsty. Soniodd am y ffactor dynol yng nghefn gwlad. Dynion a menywod go iawn yw'r rhain sydd yn gweithio ar y ffas lo—maddeuwch y gair mwys—sydd yn aml yn gweithio ar eu pen eu hun—

Jeff Cuthbert: Eich plaid chi ddaeth â'r ffasau glo i ben.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Nid oes angen gostwng lefel y ddadl, Jeff. Yn y pen draw, mae llawer o straen emosiynol yn

working in isolation. While the Labour Party might find it amusing to laugh at such stress, I very much hope—

Karen Sinclair: Will you accept an intervention?

Andrew R.T. Davies: I certainly will.

Karen Sinclair: That is quite a cheap shot. Many of us, who have many farms in our constituencies, are well aware of the hardship faced by farmers. I ask you to withdraw those comments, because no-one is laughing about this; no-one is taking cheap shots and no-one is disregarding how important this is to the rural economy.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I will not withdraw my comment. I can appreciate your point of view, Karen, but your frontbench was sniggering at that point. They might have been sharing a joke between them, but it did not look like much of a joke and it was a bad time to intervene.

There is a high cost of human suffering out there and the relevant agencies need to address that, because we could see a humanitarian crisis unfolding in the countryside.

The Minister for Rural Affairs (Elin Jones): Many points have been raised during this debate that are additional to those raised during my earlier statement, so I will refer to the additional points in my response.

The first issue is the single farm payments, and I apologise to Kirsty Williams because she raised this in her response to my statement and I did not address it then. I was not trying to avoid it, I promise. This issue was raised with me in August by the stakeholders—representatives of the farming unions. Having asked my officials, I can say that it is technically possible to secure an early payment, but it would have to be done with European approval. It would be possible for us to seek that approval, but whether or not we would get it would be a decision for Europe as regards our special circumstances.

gysylltiedig â gweithio ar eich pen eich hun. Tra bo'r Blaid Lafur yn ei chael yn ddifyr chwerrthin am ben straen o'r fath, yr wyf yn gwir obeithio—

Karen Sinclair: A wnewch dderbyn ymyriad?

Andrew R.T. Davies: Gwnaf, yn sicr.

Karen Sinclair: Mae honno'n ergyd ddiangen. Mae llawer ohonom, sydd â llawer o ffermydd yn ein hetholaethau, yn ymwybodol iawn o'r caledi y mae ffermwyr yn ei wynebu. Gofynnaf ichi dynnu'n ôl y sylwadau hynny, gan nad oes neb yn chwerrthin am ben hyn; nid oes neb yn rhoi ergyd salw ac nid oes neb yn diystyru pwysigrwydd hyn i'r economi wledig.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Ni thynnaf y sylw'n ôl. Gallaf ddeall eich safbwynt, Karen, ond yr oedd y rhai ar eich mainc flaen yn cilwenu yn y fan honno. Efallai eu bod yn rhannu jôc, ond nid oedd yn ymddangos yn fawr o jôc ac yr oedd yn adeg anffodus i ymyrryd.

Telir pris uchel o ran dioddefaint gan bobl ac mae angen i'r asiantaethau perthnasol roi sylw i hynny, gan y gallem weld argyfwng dyngarol yn datblygu yng nghefn gwlad.

Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig (Elin Jones): Codwyd llawer o bwyntiau ychwanegol yn ystod y ddadl hon at y rhai a godwyd yn ystod y datganiad a wneuthum yn gynharach, felly cyfeiriai at y pwyntiau ychwanegol hynny yn fy ymateb.

Y mater cyntaf yw'r taliadau sengl ac ymddiheuraf i Kirsty Williams gan iddi godi'r mater hwn yn ei hymateb i'm datganiad ac nid ymdriniais ag ef bryd hynny. Nid oeddwn yn ceisio ei osgoi, yr wyf yn eich sicrhau. Codwyd y mater hwn gyda mi ym mis Awst gan y rhanddeiliaid—cynrychiolwyr yr undebau ffermio. Wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion, gallaf ddweud ei bod yn dechnegol bosibl sicrhau taliad cynnar, ond byddai'n rhaid cael cymeradwyaeth gan Ewrop i wneud hynny. Byddai'n bosibl inni geisio'r gymeradwyaeth honno, ond mater i'w benderfynu gan Ewrop fyddai hynny yng

ngolwg ein hamgylchiadau neilltuol.

Of more importance to farmers in Wales is for me to instruct my officials to look for an early payment of the single farm payment. My officials tell me that they would be able to pay around 60 per cent of farmers before December, therefore 40 per of them would not then receive an early payment, for very real administrative reasons. In addition, it would also put in jeopardy the full payment—the early December payment—at the high payment targets that have been reached in Wales over previous years, which have been welcomed. It would put in jeopardy those payments to over 90 per cent of farmers from 1 December. So, I have had to consider the balance, and it struck me in August, when I looked at this initially, that it would be best to go for the payment in December with the 90 per cent target.

My officials tell me that we are on course to meet that target. However, if we were to make an early payment to only 60 per cent of farmers, there would obviously be constituents in both our constituencies who would not be paid and whose payment in December would then be put in jeopardy. That is the decision that I have taken on early payment of the single farm payment, but I understand the point about the specific cash-flow issues that farmers face at this time. You made a good point, Kirsty, about approaching the banking sector and, hopefully there will be good will in relation to the current position of the agriculture sector. I am perfectly happy to write to representatives of the banking sector in Wales and outside to impress upon them the need to show flexibility at this time.

I think that it was Brynle Williams who raised the issue of cross-compliance with Tir Gofal assessments. My officials have been instructed to be flexible on this, because the restrictions in place mean that farmers cannot comply with the Tir Gofal regulations as they stand.

Kirsty Williams then raised the issue of the cost of TB testing and those farmers who had been caught in movement restrictions having undertaken the TB test. I think that it was lately with the over-30-months scheme.

Yr hyn sydd yn bwysicach i ffermwyr Cymru yw imi gyfarwyddo fy swyddogion i geisio talu'r taliad sengl yn gynnar. Mae fy swyddogion yn dweud wrthyf y byddent yn gallu talu tua 60 y cant o ffermwyr cyn mis Rhagfyr, felly ni fyddai 40 y cant ohonynt yn cael taliad cynnar am resymau gweinyddol dilys iawn. Yn ogystal â hynny, byddai hefyd yn peryglu'r taliad llawn—y taliad ar ddechrau Rhagfyr—gyda'r targedau uchel ar gyfer talu a gyrhaeddwyd yng Nghymru dros flynyddoedd blaenorol ac sydd wedi'u croesawu. Byddai'n peryglu'r taliadau hynny i fwy na 90 y cant o ffermwyr o 1 Rhagfyr. Felly, bu'n rhaid imi bwysu a mesur ac fe'm trawodd ym mis Awst, pan edrychais ar hyn yn gyntaf, ei bod yn well anelu at roi'r taliad ym mis Rhagfyr ac at y targed hwnnw o 90 y cant.

Mae fy swyddogion yn dweud wrthyf ein bod ar y trywydd iawn o ran cyflawni hynny. Fodd bynnag, pe baem yn rhoi taliad cynnar i ddim ond 60 y cant o ffermwyr, mae'n amlwg y byddai etholwyr yn ein hetholaethau ni ein dwy na châi eu talu ac y byddai eu taliad ym mis Rhagfyr mewn perygl wedyn. Dyna'r penderfyniad a wneuthum ynghylch gwneud y taliad sengl yn gynnar, ond yr wyf yn deall y pwynt am yr ystyriaethau penodol ynghylch llif arian y mae ffermwyr yn eu hwynebu ar yr adeg hon. Gwnaethoch bwynt da, Kirsty, am gysylltu â'r sector bancio; gobeithir y bydd ewyllys da mewn cysylltiad â sefyllfa bresennol amaethyddiaeth. Yr wyf yn berffaith fodlon ysgrifennu at gynrychiolwyr y sector bancio yng Nghymru a'r tu hwnt i dynnu ei sylw at yr angen i ddangos hyblygrwydd o'r fath ar yr adeg hon.

Yr wyf yn credu mai Brynle Williams a gododd fater croesgydymffurfio ag asesiadau Tir Gofal. Mae fy swyddogion wedi'u cyfarwyddo i fod yn hyblyg ar hyn, gan ei bod yn amlwg bod cyfyngiadau ar waith sydd yn peri na all ffermwyr gydymffurfio â rheoliadau Tir Gofal fel y maent.

Wedyn cododd Kirsty Williams fater cost profion TB a'r ffermwyr hynny a oedd wedi'u dal gan gyfyngiadau ar symud ar ôl gwneud y prawf TB. Yr wyf yn credu bod hynny wedi codi'n ddiweddar mewn

Those are two issues that are pressing on farmers at this point. I will take those away and raise them with officials.

Alun Davies, the Chair of the Rural Development Sub-Committee, raised the issue of reviewing the Welsh response to the foot and mouth disease outbreak. It was my intention to provide a statement today about the outbreak in August and about my intention to review the outbreak and how we could learn lessons from what we have done in Wales. I have no doubt that we will want to do that once we are at the end of this current outbreak, which will hopefully be very soon. I am in no doubt that more lessons can be learned in Wales as a result of this outbreak.

Brynle Williams, in your introduction, you referred to the restrictions that are in place and about the early lifting of those restrictions. I will not be lifting the restrictions on movements until I am persuaded by my veterinary officials that it is safe to do so and that lifting the restrictions in no way compromises the status of Wales as being disease free. I will take no decision that is against veterinary advice. Those movement restrictions are in place for a reason. They are there to ensure that we can sustain our disease-free position. We know that there have been movements of animals; I have learned today of the movement of animals from the south-east of England, from the protection zone, to Wales in advance of the movement restrictions put in place on Wednesday of last week. That shows the closeness of England, Wales and Scotland where animal movements are concerned. We also need to retain the confidence of the European Commission that the disease-control measures in place in Wales are being adhered to and that we are following the best possible veterinary advice at all stages. A European Food and Veterinary Office investigation is being carried out this week. It is mainly happening in England; I am not aware that the officials will be visiting Wales to inspect our foot and mouth disease restrictions, but it is hugely important at this stage that we do not jeopardise the confidence of European officials with regard to the disease-control restrictions that we

cysylltiad â'r cynllun dros 30 mis. Dyna ddau fater sydd yn pwysu ar ffermwyr ar yr adeg hon. Codaf y materion hynny wedyn gyda swyddogion.

Cododd Alun Davies, Cadeirydd yr Is-bwyllgor Datblygu Gwledig, fater adolygu ymateb Cymru i'r achosion o glwy'r traed a'r genau. Yr oedd yn fwriad gennyf ddarparu datganiad heddiw am yr achosion ym mis Awst ac am fy mwriad i gynnal adolygiad o'r achosion hynny a sut y gallem ddysgu gwersi o'r hyn a wnaethom yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn sicr y byddwn yn dymuno gwneud hynny wedi i'r achosion presennol ddod i ben, a hynny'n fuan iawn, yr wyf yn gobeithio. Yr wyf yn gwbl sicr y gellir dysgu rhagor o wersi yng Nghymru o ganlyniad i'r achosion hyn.

Brynle Williams, yn eich rhagymadrodd cyfeiriasoch at y cyfyngiadau sydd ar waith ac at godi'r cyfyngiadau hynny'n gynnar. Ni fyddaf yn codi'r cyfyngiadau hynny ar symudiadau nes bydd fy swyddogion milfeddygol wedi fy argyhoeddi ei bod yn ddiogel gwneud hynny ac na fydd codi'r cyfyngiadau'n amharu mewn unrhyw fodd ar statws Cymru fel gwlad sydd yn rhydd o'r clwyf. Ni wnafr unrhyw benderfyniad sydd yn groes i gyngor milfeddygol. Mae rheswm dros weithredu'r cyfyngiadau hynny ar symud. Eu pwrpas yw sicrhau y gallwn gadw ein lle fel gwlad sydd yn rhydd o'r clwyf. Gwyddom fod anifeiliaid wedi'u symud; cefais wybod heddiw am symud anifeiliaid o dde-ddwyrain Lloegr, o'r parth diogelwch, i Gymru cyn rhoi'r cyfyngiadau ar symud ar waith ddydd Mercher yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae hynny'n dangos mor agos yw Cymru, Lloegr a'r Alban o ran symudiadau anifeiliaid. Mae angen hefyd inni gadw ffydd y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn y cydymffurfriad â'r mesurau i reoli'r clwyf sydd ar waith yng Nghymru ac yn y ffaith ein bod yn dilyn y cyngor milfeddygol gorau posibl bob amser. Mae Swyddfa Materion Bwyd a Milfeddygol Ewrop yn cynnal ymchwiliad yr wythnos hon. Mae'n digwydd yn Lloegr yn bennaf; nid wyf yn ymwybodol y bydd y swyddogion yn dod i Gymru i archwilio ein cyfyngiadau ar glwy'r traed a'r genau, ond mae'n bwysig dros ben ar hyn o bryd inni beidio â thanseilio ffydd swyddogion Ewropeaidd mewn cysylltiad â'r cyfyngiadau i reoli'r

have in place in Wales, because we want the export ban to be lifted as early as possible.

Yr wyf wedi synhwyro rhywfaint o feirniadaeth yn ystod y drafodaeth hon ynglŷn â bwriad y Prif Weinidog a minnau i gwrdd â'r archfarchnadoedd. Nid wyf yn siŵr os yw'r gwrthbleidiau yn feirniadol oherwydd eu bod yn awyddus i ni beidio â chwrdd â'r archfarchnadoedd. Credaf ei bod yn bwysig inni gwrdd â'r archfarchnadoedd fel bod y rheini sy'n gweithredu yng Nghymru ac yn gwasanaethu cwsmeriaid yn ein hetholaethau ni i gyd yn ymwybodol o ddymuniad y Llywodraeth fod archfarchnadoedd a phawb sy'n ymwneud â'r gadwyn fwyd yn ymrwymo i ddangos cefnogaeth i'r diwydiant bwyd yn ystod yr argyfwng hwn.

6.10 p.m.

Mae diffyg cystadleuaeth ar hyn o bryd yn y farchnad, ac mae'n bosibl bod cwmnïau yn cymryd mantais o hynny. Mae'n beth siomedig iawn bod rhywun yn ceisio cymryd mantais yn ariannol o sefyllfa lle mae ffermwyr o dan bwysau. Yr ydym am sicrhau bod y diwydiant amaethyddol yn gallu cynnal busnes tu hwnt i'r argyfwng hwn. Yr wyf yn awyddus i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd.

Gwnaeth Kirsty Williams bwynt am yr angen i roi amserlen i'r diwydiant fel ei fod yn ymwybodol o'r adeg y bydd y Llywodraeth am wneud newidiadau a chodi'r gwaharddiadau. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r angen i roi amserlen ac i roi mwy o wybodaeth i ffermwyr ynghylch y newidiadau i'r gwaharddiadau. Yr wyf yn trafod hynny gyda fy swyddogion er mwyn ei wneud cyn gynted â phosibl ac er mwyn rhoi mwy o arweiniad i'r diwydiant ynghylch y camau a gymerwn i oresgyn y clwyf a chodi'r gwaharddiadau.

Brynle Williams: I will sum up briefly. I appreciate that this was an emotional debate. I take exception to Mr Davies; I think that he was out of order, but he also made a sensible contribution.

Minister, I thank you for looking at the Tir Gofal restrictions. It will be a step in the right

clwyf sydd ar waith gennym yng Nghymru, gan ein bod am weld codi'r gwaharddiad ar allforio cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

I have sensed some criticism during this discussion of my intention, along with the First Minister, to meet with the supermarkets. I am not sure if that criticism comes from the opposition parties because they are keen for us not to meet with the supermarkets. I believe that it is important that we meet the supermarkets so that those that operate in Wales and which serve customers in all of our constituencies are aware of the Government's wish that supermarkets and everyone involved in the food chain are committed to showing support to the food industry during this crisis.

There is a lack of competition in the market at the moment, and it is possible that companies take advantage of this. It is very disappointing that anyone would try to take financial advantage of a situation where farmers are under such pressure. We would like to ensure that the agricultural community is able to sustain business beyond this period of crisis. I am keen to ensure that.

Kirsty Williams made a point about the need to provide the industry with a timetable so that it is aware of when the Government is looking to make changes and lift restrictions. I am aware of the need to give some sort of a timescale and to give more information to farmers regarding the changes in restrictions. I am discussing this with my officials in order to do that as soon as possible and to give further guidance to the industry regarding the steps that we will take to ensure that we remain disease free and lift the restrictions.

Brynle Williams: Crynhoaf y ddadl yn fyr. Yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi mai dadl emosiynol oedd hon. Yr wyf yn gweld bai ar Mr Davies; yr wyf yn credu ei fod allan o drefn, ond gwnaeth gyfraniad synhwyrol hefyd.

Weinidog, diolch i chi am edrych ar gyfyngiadau Tir Gofal. Bydd yn gam i'r

direction. I said that we wanted to lift restrictions, but as and when your scientists tell us to do so. I am not asking to lift restrictions for the sake of it. I meant that if the situation in Surrey is safe we should move to a regional area basis for Wales.

I am sorry, but as we sit in the Chamber, people are taking advantage of this situation. The price of lamb is being forced down on a daily basis. The consumer is not gaining from that situation either, so it is sad that someone is profiting from a national outbreak of an animal disease.

Y Llywydd: Diolch yn fawr i Brynle ac i bawb a gyfrannodd at y ddatl. Mae'n weddus inni ddatlu 10 mlynedd o ddatganoli drwy weithio'n galed i gynrychioli pobl Cymru. Dyna ddiwedd ein trafodion am heddiw.

cyfeiriad iawn. Dywedais ein bod am weld codi cyfyngiadau, ond dim ond pan fydd eich gwyddonwyr yn ein cyfarwyddo i wneud hynny. Nid wyf yn gofyn am godi cyfyngiadau dim ond er mwyn gwneud hynny. Yr hyn a olygwn oedd os yw'r sefyllfa yn Surrey yn ddiogel y dylem droi at weithredu ar sail ranbarthol yng Nghymru.

Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ond wrth inni eistedd yn y Siambr, mae pobl yn elwa o'r sefyllfa hon. Mae pris cig oen yn cael ei wthio i lawr bob dydd. Nid yw'r prynwr yn cael budd o'r sefyllfa honno ychwaith, felly mae'n drist bod rhywun yn elwa o glwyf sydd ar anifeiliaid yn y wlad hon.

The Presiding Officer: I thank Brynle and everyone who contributed to the debate. It is appropriate that we celebrate 10 years of devolution through working hard to represent the people of Wales. That brings today's deliberations to a conclusion.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.13 p.m.
The meeting ended at 6.13 p.m.*

Aelodau a'u Pleidiau Members and their Parties

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
Asghar, Mohammad (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
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, Michael (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)